



SITE PLAN BACKGROUNDER & SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Block EW007B

SITE PLAN PURPOSE
<p>The Site Plan identifies the location of roads and/or block boundaries for cutblocks. It is consistent with the Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) for Sechelt Community Projects Inc. and identifies how the intended <i>Results and/or Strategies</i> outlined in the FSP apply to the site. This document serves to support the Site Plan and provides rationales for identified values. As well, this document may address sections of the SCPI's Operational Plan where policies within the plan require clarification or a rationale.</p>
SUPPORTING INFORMATION
<p>1. TERRAIN/SOILS (FPPR Sections 34(1), 35 & 36)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Terrain Field Assessment is required if in-block slopes are greater than 60% or if unstable terrain is observed in the block.
<p>A terrain report completed by Madrone Environmental (Dossier 10.0003). The report recommended that a low terrain hazard of clearcut harvest with ground-based machinery in Polygon B is dependent on GBS machinery operating on terrain with slope gradients less than 40% or on skid trails with slope gradients less than 60%. Trees should not be dragged along the ground or over terrain breaks, such as at the edges of benches in order to avoid disturbing the loose glaciofluvial outwash deposits. A group of large Fd outside the block near FC 2 (and outside CFA) is a stability concern. These trees will be topped or pruned to reduce the likelihood of windthrow induced slope failure.</p>
<p>2. WILDLIFE (FPPR Section 7(2))</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildlife Assessments are required when impact from proposed operations is anticipated with identified FSP wildlife value. A search of the Conservation Database Centre is required. As well, note any other wildlife concerns and prescribe management actions.
<p>TAILED FROG (<i>Ascaphus truei</i>)</p> <p>Not applicable. An area of Tailed Frog habitat has been identified within the Chapman Landscape Unit which fulfills the requirements of the notice for Tailed Frog. This area is outside of the CFA FDU. This block is not in vicinity to any of these areas or has creeks that exhibit favourable stream conditions for habitation (S5 stream class and permanent flow characteristics).</p>
<p>QUEEN CHARLOTTE (NORTHERN) GOSHAWK (<i>Accipiter gentilis laingi</i>)</p> <p>Not applicable. Sufficient suitable Queen Charlotte (Northern) Goshawk habitat has been identified within the SCFD to fulfill the requirements of the notice for Queen Charlotte (Northern) Goshawk. This area is outside of the CFA FDU. This block is not in vicinity to any known Goshawk habitat or nest sites.</p>
<p>MARbled MURRELET (<i>Brachyramphus marmoratus</i>)</p> <p>Not applicable. (1) To meet the requirements of Section 1 of the notice, SCPI will identify and conserve an amount of MAMU habitat of class 1, 2 or 3 equal to the amount of class 1,2, or 3 habitat in the NC landbase. (2) SCPI will not carry out or authorize timber harvesting or road construction in a manner that is inconsistent with retaining the amount of habitat specified in the MAMU notice. (3) Sufficient suitable Marbled Murrelet (MAMU) nesting habitat has been identified within the SCFD to fulfill the requirements of section 1 of the notice for MAMU. This area is outside of the CFA FDU. This block is not in vicinity to any of these Marbled Murrelet Habitat Areas.</p>
COMMENTS
<p>A search through the Conservation Data Center identifies <i>Cuscuta campestris</i> (field dodder) as being present in the vicinity of Sechelt, covering most areas between Seargeant Bay to Tuwanek to east of Wilson Creek. This is a provincially Blue listed species, identifying it as being of "special concern because of characteristics that make them particularly sensitive to human activities or natural events". It is parasitic, depending on <i>Beta vulgaris</i> (a member of the beet/chard family) as its host. Neither species were noted during field work for this Site Plan.. In BC, the provincial Identified Wildlife Management Strategy (IWMS) manages endangered or threatened plants and plant communities that are negatively affected by forest or range management on Crown land. Field dodder is not listed under the IWMS, indicating that is not negatively affected by forest management activities.</p> <p>Field dodder is also not listed by COSEWIC (Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada) or SARA (Species at Risk Act)</p> <p>Evidence of Deer was observed in area. As harvesting will increase foliar browse potential, monitor browse seedling damage post harvest.</p>

3. WATER AND FISH (FPPR Sections 12(3), 12.1(2), 47-51, 52(2) & 53)

- Fish Presence/Absence surveys are to be conducted by a Qualified Professional as part of the Riparian Assessment. Procedures will follow the Fish Stream Identification Guidebook as required for identifying fish stream reaches. At minimum, if the stream gradient is less than 20%, then the stream is assumed to be fish unless a) the stream is simultaneously dry (i.e. ephemeral) , b) is not connected by known fish lakes or fish streams upstream AND c) cannot have recruitment from downstream resources.

No streams are within or adjacent to the block, therefore no actions are prescribed.

4. WATERSHEDS

- Applicable only within Community Watersheds or within 100m of a known licensed waterworks intake.

This block is not within a community watershed.

5. RECREATION

- Note recreation inventory management for designated polygon

Section 1.5.5 of the FSP "Recreation Site Objectives" relates to the Sechelt Coast Heritage Interpretive Forest Site. Block EW007B is not in the vicinity of this recreation site.

Due to the block's proximity to Sechelt and residential areas, the area and road network in the vicinity of the block gets used for walking, biking, equestrian use, and motorized recreational use. The mainline and pipeline roads will not be used for logging activities, except for machine transport, road maintenance, hauling, and possible safety closure closures when falling adjacent to these roads.

No specific management actions are prescribed.

6. VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

- Visual Impact Assessments are required if block is within a Known Scenic Area.

As stated in the Site Plan, the block is within a visual polygon with an established Visual Quality Objective of Partial Retention. A Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) has been completed by Chartwell Consultants Ltd. (Warren Hansen, RPF, dated Feb 4, 2010). The block is not visible from designated viewpoints and therefore meets the Visual Quality Objective (VQO) Partial Retention (PR) for VLU #1324. The VIA is included in the Site Plan file.

7. CULTURAL HERITAGE

Site Plan addresses possible impacts to Aboriginal Resources that is identified during the Forest Stewardship Plan review, or as directed by the District Manager or through other information sharing sessions provided by the affected First Nation. Pre-1846 resources are protected by the BC Heritage Act and Post 1846 resources are protected in agreement with the Licencee, affected First Nations group and the Ministry of Forests.

The Forest Practices and Planning Regulation defines cultural heritage resources as those resources that are the focus of a traditional use, by an aboriginal people, and that are of continuing importance to that people. Cultural heritage resources do not include archaeological sites, which are managed under the *Heritage Conservation Act*. This Act provides for the protection and conservation of British Columbia's archaeological resources.

Examples of cultural heritage resource may include such things as non-timber forest products, such as medicinal plants, and post-1846 culturally modified trees (culturally modified trees older than 1846 will be considered under the *Heritage Conservation Act*).

Cultural heritage resources may also include "traditional use sites". These are defined as any geographically defined site that has been traditionally used by one or more group of people for some type of activity. These sites will often lack the physical evidence of human-made artifacts or structures, but will retain cultural significance to a living group of people. Examples include such things as ritual bathing pools and resource gathering sites.

Cultural heritage resources will be specific to each First Nation and, therefore, may differ between First Nations.

Government's objective for cultural heritage resources is to conserve or, if necessary, protect cultural heritage resources that are:

- the focus of a traditional use by an aboriginal people,
- of continuing importance to that people, and
- not regulated under the *Heritage Conservation Act*.

The following factors should be taken into consideration when proposing results and strategies to conserve and/or protect cultural heritage resources:

- value or importance to traditional use to an aboriginal person,
- relative abundance or scarcity of the resource,
- historical extent of the resource,
- impact on timber harvesting rights, and
- options available for mitigating impact of forest practice on the resource

A Traditional Use Study was conducted on Blocks EW007B. Details of this report are held in confidence by agreement with the Sechelt Indian Band. Conclusions of the report are as follows and actions within the report are integrated within Site Plan and Reforestation Plan.

No site specific actions are prescribed based on recommendations of the TUS report. Access to the block will be gated to prevent unauthorized access to Teresen Gas facilities and will restrict access to the block. Restricted access will help alleviate hunting pressure concerns in the block.

8. RANGE

- **Required where cattle grazing is being managed for.**

There is no range use in the vicinity of this block.

9. RETENTION TARGETS

- **Forest Influence Calculation (Silv System, patch arrangement, Targets), leave tree specifications**

The block will be harvested as an even-aged Retention Silviculture System. The intent of this system is to maintain structural characteristics at the stand level for at least one rotation. The block has at least 60% forest influence where more than 50% of total area of the cutblock within one tree height from the base of a tree or group of trees, whether or not the tree or group of trees is inside the cutblock.

10. OTHER RESOURCES

- **Mineral Tenures**
- **Guider/Outfitter**
- **Minimum Harvest Ages**
- **Higher Level Plans**

Mineral Tenure – The block is adjacent to a gravel tenure. There is an underground natural gas pipeline south of the block; this pipeline supplies the Sunshine Coast and Vancouver Island with natural gas. Permits to cross the pipeline are on file. There will be no falling or machine use on the pipeline right of way.

Guider/Outfitter – no guide/outfitter use within the block.

Minimum Harvestable Ages – these are referred to in the Sunshine Coast TSA Analysis Report dated June 2001. The report states the “minimum harvestable ages are meant to approximate the timing of merchantability and are not legal or policy requirements”. Average stand age is estimated to be 70 years, with some vets age 110 years. The minimum harvestable age assumption used in the timber supply review for Fir/M (medium) sites is 60 years. Block meets TSR assumption.

Higher Level Plans – As identified in the FSP. The block resides in the Chapman Landscape Plan. Block is consistent with the objectives of the plan.

11. FOREST HEALTH MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Block was walked by a Forest Health Specialist and no forest health issues were noted during field work for this site plan.

11. OPERATIONAL PLAN STRATEGIES

The purpose of the Community Forest Operational Plan (CFOP) is to guide the operations of the community forest in accordance with the values of the community and, at the same time, to provide the public with a comprehensive means of reviewing the planned operations of the CF. It consists of these written guidelines and maps, providing information regarding:

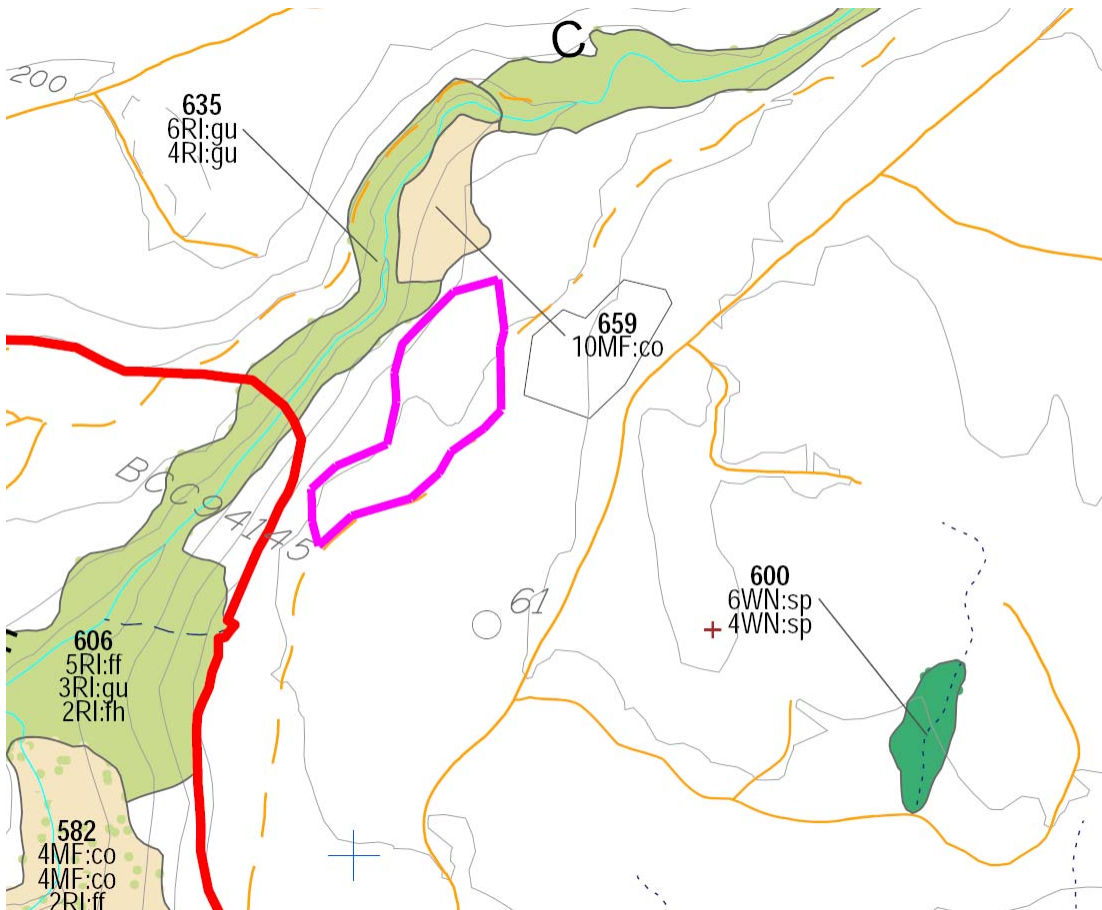
- Resources and resource values that are being managed, and their locations,
- The locations of planned operations,
- Types of harvesting, silviculture and other activities that will be carried out within the community forest tenure area,
- What products the CF will produce and provide, and
- Guidelines regarding development, harvesting and management of timber and non-timber resources.

Although the operational plan is not a requirement of provincial legislation, the level of public involvement expected by the Sunshine Coast Community in the forest management of the CF necessitates producing this type of plan. The CF Management Plan, part of the original community forest application, specifically stated that an operational plan will be developed in order to address public involvement and incorporate public input. The CFOP has been presented to the public and comments integrated into the document. The CFOP has been approved by the SCPI Board of Directors.

Specific to Block EW007B:

Water: The block is out of the designated community watersheds as per the CFOP.

Streams and Riparian: No streams are within the block. No rationales are required for the retention of trees with a RMA as at least 70% of the stand will be retained.



Biodiversity: A WTP is planned for the block. The SEI map for the area was reviewed and Block EW007B is not within any identified SEI polygons.

Recreation:

Block EW007B is a not within or adjacent to the known recreation sites and trails that are identified in the CFOP.

Non-timbered Products: No commercial harvesting within the block has been identified within the CFOP. The understory is minimal due to the closed canopy of the second-growth forest. Intact areas of older timber exist to the west, along Chapman Creek and to the south.

Aesthetics: The block lies within a visual polygon as seen from Georgia Strait. Computer renders have been completed to ensure that the MOF regulations have been met. The block is not visible from the ocean and therefore meets the requirements of the Partial Retention category. The Sechelt First Nations have asked to maintain a visual buffer of regeneration, or small merchantable trees along main roads to deter hunting from the road. Non-merch buffer of 5m will be left where possible.