



Coast Forest Conservation Initiative

*New thinking about forest conservation*

**Coast Forest Conservation Initiative Society**  
**Forest Stewardship Council Management Plan**  
**Mid Coast Timber Supply Area**  
**July 2010**

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## Introduction

The purpose of the Forest Stewardship Council Management Plan (FSCMP) is to communicate the Coast Forest Conservation Initiative Society's (CFCI) intention and commitment to maintain certification to the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Regional Certification Standards for British Columbia for defined areas managed by its members within the Mid Coast Timber Supply Area (TSA). There are a number of existing plans and agreements in place governing management of the Mid Coast TSA as referenced throughout this document and in the **Summary of Existing Management Plans and Agreements** section of the plan. It is not our intent to duplicate the requirements of other plans and agreements here but instead to highlight areas of collaboration and cooperation among the members with respect to maintaining FSC certification as well as to provide a point of reference to other information that is required by the FSC BC Standard.

## Forest Stewardship Council

The Certificate Code applicable to CFCI is [SW-FM/COG-004545](#)

For more information regarding the Forest Stewardship Council and the use of trademarks go to <http://www.fsccanada.org/default.htm>

### FSC TRADEMARKS – “the mark of responsible forestry”

- **FSC logo:** This refers to the 'check-tree', the initials 'FSC' and the copyright symbol.
- **FSC**
- **Forest Stewardship Council**



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## Coast Forest Conservation Initiative Society

The Coast Forest Conservation Initiative Society (CFCI) is a collaborative effort of five British Columbia forest organizations committed to new approaches to forest conservation and management in BC's Central and North Coast. Its purpose is to support development of an ecosystem-based conservation and management plan for the region that contains one of the largest intact temperate rainforests in the world.

The CFCI is lead by a Board of Directors with representation from the five member organizations. Reporting to the Board of Directors is the CFCI Steering Committee also, with representation from the five member organizations. The role of Group Manager is fulfilled by the CFCI steering Committee. They prepare the CFCI annual report for the Board of Directors and review all assessment reports. Reporting to the CFCI Steering Committee as a consultant is the FSC Coordinator. Supporting the both the Steering Committee and the Coordinator is the Technical Committee with representation from the three member organizations with operations in the mid coast TSA. More information about the CFCI is available on the website at the link below.

[http://www.coastforestconservationinitiative.com/about\\_us/the\\_region.html](http://www.coastforestconservationinitiative.com/about_us/the_region.html)

The CFCI members are:

BC Timber Sales (BCTS)	<a href="http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts">www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts</a>
Howe Sound Pulp and Paper Limited Partnership	<a href="http://www.hspp.ca/">http://www.hspp.ca/</a>
Catalyst Paper Corporation (Catalyst)	<a href="http://www.catalystpaper.com">www.catalystpaper.com</a>
International Forest Products Limited (Interfor)	<a href="http://www.interfor.com">www.interfor.com</a>
Western Forest Products Inc. (WFP)	<a href="http://www.westernforest.com">www.westernforest.com</a>

Three CFCI members, BC Timber Sales (BCTS), International Forest Products Limited (Interfor) and Western Forest Products Inc. (WFP), have forest operations within the Mid Coast TSA.

Roles and responsibilities for the CFCI Group Certification are included in a separate document; "CFCI Group Certification Policies and Procedures". It includes a complaints and disputes resolution mechanism and is stored and maintained by the CFCI Group Manager.

## Forest and Environment Policies

Each member company of the Coast Forest Conservation Initiative Society has its own forestry-related environment policy, which are reproduced here.

### BC Timber Sales

#### SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT POLICY

BC Timber Sales is committed to managing and administering forest management activities on our operations through effective measures that ensure *sustainable forest management (SFM)*.

***It is the policy of BC Timber Sales to:***

**Conduct** our forest management activities to comply with relevant legislation, regulations, policies and other requirements to which we subscribe.

**Provide** public participation opportunities.

**Confer** with, and provide opportunities for participation by, Aboriginal Peoples.

**Respect** and recognize Aboriginal title and rights, and treaty rights.

**Maintain** an organizational culture where all staff proactively participate in providing conditions and safeguards for the health and safety of staff, clients and the public.

**Honour** all international agreements and conventions to which Canada is a signatory.

**Improve** knowledge of the forest and SFM, monitor advances in science and technology, and incorporate these advances where applicable.

**Promote** awareness of SFM to our clients and the public.

**Strive** for excellence in forest management by continually improving the performance of resource management activities and practices.

### Howe Sound

#### BUSINESS MANAGEMENT POLICY

Our focus on excellence in performance has resulted in us being a leader in:

- delivering outstanding pulp and paper products;
- safety management for our employees;
- work place productivity; and
- environmental stewardship.

We will:

- **COMPLY** with all applicable legal and other requirements;
- **PREVENT** pollution and injuries;
- **IMPROVE** our performance on a continual basis;
- Consider safety, social, economic, product quality, and environmental factors when setting goals and objectives; and
- Communicate our results to our employees, owners, customers and community.

## **Catalyst**

### **Environment Policy**

Catalyst Paper is accountable for the effect of its operations on the environment and we accept responsibility for conserving, sustaining and making efficient use of the resources we consume.

While the company's products play an important role in society, we are mindful that they must also represent the highest standards of environmental integrity we can provide.

Catalyst is committed to the principle of continuous improvement and reviews its policies and practices against external benchmarks with the help of independent advisors and partners. We work cooperatively and collaboratively with those who contribute positively, through advice or criticism, to improving our environmental performance. Day-to-day, the responsibility for environmental performance rests with all employees.

In applying this policy, Catalyst commits to:

- Adhere to the principles of conservation and sustainability
- Meet the requirements of relevant environmental legislation and other voluntary programs
- Be fully transparent in publicly disclosing our environmental performance
- Reduce pollution at its source
- Set objectives and targets to support continual improvement of our environmental performance
- Operate our facilities with respect for the values of surrounding communities

## **Interfor**

### **Environment Policy**

International Forest Products Limited is committed to responsible stewardship of the environment.

- We will minimize environmental impact, prevent pollution and strive for continuous improvement of our environmental performance.
- We will operate in compliance with all applicable laws pertaining to the environment.
- We will regularly review our practices and procedures to monitor and report on environmental performance.
- We will provide training for employees and contractors in environmentally responsible work practices.
- We will manage our forest resources in a sustainable manner that is environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial and economically viable.
- We will promote the use of our wood products as a good choice for the environment.

## **Western Forest Products**

### **Sustainable Forest Management Statement – Timberlands**

At Western Forest Products Inc. (WFP) forests are more than a critical timber resource - they are our heritage and our future. Responsible forest stewardship is essential to our success as a company. WFP is committed to sustainable forestry practices on the public and private forest lands in our care. We will strive to be leaders in supplying quality, competitive forest products to global markets through the practice of sustainable forest management.

WFP will ensure that all forest management activities meet or exceed relevant legislation, regulations or policies. We will assure the public, First Nations and our customers that we are protecting the environment and the resources under our stewardship.

WFP's Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) system is based on three major principles consistent with Canadian and international forest certification principles. Our forest management will be environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial and economically viable. Under these principles, our company is committed to:

- Manage operations to safeguard the health and safety of employees, contractors and the public
- Maintain a team of dedicated managers, professional foresters and planners committed to implementing and practicing SFM with respect to all forest and social values
- Enhance our ability to plan and manage by promoting improved knowledge about the forest and SFM as well as to monitor advances in SFM science and technology and incorporate them where applicable
- Perform regular, internal and independent audits to ensure conformance with our SFM commitments
- Maintain and improve all aspects of our SFM system through adaptive management, review and improvement
- Provide for public participation
- Respect First Nations aboriginal and treaty rights, and provide participation opportunities with respect to their rights and interests in SFM.

## **CFCI Commitment to Forest Stewardship Council Principles & Criteria**

The Coast Forest Conservation Initiative Society has chosen to collectively implement a forest management plan for the purpose of certification to the Forest Stewardship Council Regional Certification Standards for British Columbia. This plan along with other documents, most notably Forest Stewardship Plans, meets the standard requirements of a management plan.

The CFCI is committed to adhering to the FSC Principles & Criteria as described in the FSC-BC Regional Standard over the long term for the management unit within the Mid Coast TSA as defined in this plan.

The members of CFCI have made a commitment to FSC Group Certification as outlined in the FSC Group Certification Consent Form which is attached as Appendix 1 and maintained by the CFCI Board Secretary.

## Defined Forest Area

### Description

The Defined Forest Area (DFA) can be divided into two broad categories. These are:

1. The “*Management Unit*” which is comprised of the Interfor and WFP chart areas in the Mid-Coast Timber Supply Area (TSA), as well as the current BCTS pricing unit area
2. Protected Areas, a portion of Tweedsmuir Provincial Park and Biodiversity, Mining and Tourism Areas (these areas are listed in Appendix 2)

The DFA does not include Tree Farm Licences 25 or 39, the Bella Coola Forest Corporation Community Forest Agreement, Nuxalk Community Forest Agreement, private land or land within municipalities, communities or Indian Reserves. The DFA has been the bases for the analysis of Environmental Risk and the determination of High Conservation Values. The reports associated with this work are stored by the CFCI Group Manager.



## Forest Tenures

Forest tenures within the DFA and part of the Management Unit are listed in the following table.

Licensee	Licence or Operating Area	AAC (m <sup>3</sup> )
BCTS	Burnt Island Harbour	101,448
BCTS	Chatfield Island	
BCTS	Greaves Island	
BCTS	King Island	
BCTS	Lake Island	
BCTS	Link Lake	
BCTS	Naysash Inlet	
BCTS	Nusash Creek	
BCTS	Nygaard Point (King Island)	
BCTS	Pierce Bay	
BCTS	Sheep Passage	
BCTS	Snass Lake	
BCTS	Spiller Channel/Tom Bay	
BCTS	Stone Point/Rivers Inlet	
BCTS	Susan Island Blk 1 & 2	
BCTS	Yeo Island	
Interfor	FL A16850	131,368
Interfor	FL A82001	89,950
Interfor	FL A82002	32,779
Interfor	TO 398	N/A*
Interfor	TO 474	N/A*
Interfor	TO 483	N/A*
Interfor	TO 572	N/A*
Interfor	TO 608	N/A*
Interfor	TO 964	N/A*
Interfor	TO 973	N/A*
Interfor	TO 980	N/A*
Interfor	Portions of TO 742 in FDU MC 38	N/A*
SWC Holdings Ltd. (managed by Interfor)	FL A16848	14,693
WFP	FL A16845	200,635
WFP	FL A16847	29,017

\* Timber Licence (TO) is an old temporary tenure that grants exclusive rights to harvest merchantable timber from a defined area of Crown land and does not have an Allowable Annual Cut.

## Legal and Customary Tenure and Use Rights of Others

Legal and customary tenure and use rights of other interests within the **management unit** are identified, described, and mapped. Legal tenure rights are obtained from the Crown Registry and Geographic Base Branch at <http://geobc.gov.bc.ca/>. From this data-base a list of rights holders is produced and reviewed annually and utilized during stakeholder involvement processes. It is provided as Appendix 3. First Nations Customary Rights are discussed in some of the documents listed in the **Summary of Existing Management Plans and Agreements** section of this Plan. The list of First Nations with customary rights in the *management unit* is maintained as Appendix 4. These lists are reviewed and updated annually by the CFCI Group Manager. They are also a component of the “Monitoring Plan” provided as Appendix 5. A map of the First Nation’s Territories is maintained by the Provincial Government at <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/DNI/external!/publish/Aboriginal%20Affairs/OpMapFN.pdf>

## Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA) - Summary

An Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA) is the process of examining trends for key environmental values and comparing them to appropriate scientific benchmarks to determine the extent to which ultimate ecological goals are likely to be met.

The process of ERA generally consists of:

- Identify key environmental pressures
- Identifying appropriate environmental values and indicators
- Characterize Environmental Trends, Indicator Relationships and Establish Risk Classes
- Establishing benchmarks against which to understand the significance of the trends through time, and where possible identifying low and high risk thresholds to categorize the significance of changes
- Presenting results and identifying key assumptions and uncertainties so decisions can be made with full knowledge of the potential environmental implications and adaptive management processes can test the hypotheses being generated.

The context for the ERA includes a long time frame and a large landbase at a regional scale. The CFCI have decided to go with a broad scale assessment due to the level of detail, the amount of data required and geographic limits that the assessment requires. The broad scale approached will be used so that we can focus on maintaining ecosystem elements that provide for a vast majority of species.

Terrestrial Biodiversity, Hydro-riparian and Aquatic Ecosystems, Fish and Wildlife Habitat and specifically Grizzly Bear habitat are the environmental values that are potentially at risk within the DFA. In this ERA analysis, because of limited inventory data available for the suite of potential risk elements, coarse filter indicators, ecological representation and old-forest representation will be used. In these analyses we measure “coarse filter” ecological risk using three indicators:

- Amount of protected area
- Amount and trends in natural old forest abundance and distribution for individual ecosystems
- Number and area of ecosystems in one of five rarity classes that are then grouped into two risk classes

The Coast Land Use Decision, coupled with existing legislation and policy (i.e. Forest and Range Practices Act, Forest Act) support Ecosystem Based Management implementation in the DFA.

Implementation applies to the Defined Forest Area as part of the North Coast and Central Coast Land and Resource Management Plan areas and subsequent Land Use Orders. The coast land use decision and emerging framework is designed to support a low environmental risk outcomes depicted in this Environmental Risk Assessment. Updating and future improvements in forest information and increased understanding of ecological function will continue to guide sustainable forest management under structured adaptive management principles.

## High Conservation Value Forests (HCVF) - Summary

Identification and management of *High Conservation Value Forests (HCVF)* and *High Conservation Values (HCV)* is an important component of the FSC Regional Certification Standards for BC. CFCI have compiled and analyzed available existing data to identify HCVs and describe appropriate management strategies for protecting HCVs within the Mid Coast Defined Forest Area. The results of this work are incorporated in a separate report, ***High Conservation Value Forests within the Coast Forest Conservation Initiative Managed Forest Areas of the Mid-Coast Defined Forest Area.***

The primary basis for high conservation management in the Mid Coast DFA is Ecosystem Based Management (EBM) which is intended to achieve healthy ecosystems and healthy human communities. EBM allows for management flexibility by focusing on overall low-risk management at broad scales, but allowing higher-risk activities at finer scales. This approach is grounded in the EBM Framework, which lists the maintenance of ecological integrity and the application of the precautionary principle to ecological risk among its guiding principles.

A basic principle of HCVF assessment is that it be carried out by qualified specialists, including consultation with directly affected persons and relevant interests (e.g., First Nations, regulatory agencies, local communities, conservation organizations). CFCI consulted various specialists (government organizations, NGOs, academia, and conservation organizations) during the assessment of High Conservation Values (HCV). In addition, most of the supporting documentation was provided through the multi-year Land and Resource Management Plan process (1996-2004) and the Coast Information Team (CIT), the supporting science body to the LRMP table. During the LRMP process these materials were peer reviewed and involved review and input from affected interest groups as a process. The determination of HCVs for the CFCI report involved reviewing very recent science. Several peer-reviewed papers still "in press" were also considered during the HCVs determination.

Isolated areas and several components of HCVs (e.g. endemic species) are not fully understood but are largely protected through coarse filter landscape unit planning (e.g., reserves such as conservancies), fine filter planning (e.g., forested swamp reserves) and management strategies (e.g., WFP, Interfor and BCTS best management practices for species at risk). Species specific data for the DFA (as for the rest of BC) is lacking and will need to be analyzed as it becomes available (e.g. Ecological Based Management Working Group data on habitat supply management approaches and coastal wolf data).

The identified HCVPs in the Mid-coast DFA include forest areas with globally, nationally or regionally significant concentrations of biodiversity values such as habitat for endangered species at risk (e.g., grizzly bears), various levels of protected areas, large landscape level forests, naturally rare ecosystem types and areas of cultural, ecological, economic and religious significance .

Due to the nature and the complexity of these values, it was decided that the whole DFA would be treated as one High Conservation Value Forest. Measures which are supplemental to FSP results and strategies and address HCVs are described in appendix 6. A matrix which lists FSP results and strategies and other measures, and a summary report are also included in appendix 6. All three documents are available for public review and comment at <http://www.coastforestconservationinitiative.com/certification.html>

## Summary of Existing Management Plans and Agreements

There are a number of existing land use plans, government decisions, government and First Nations Agreements, Forest Stewardship Plans, etc. governing forest management in the Mid Coast TSA which support and are effectively part of the Management Plan. A brief description of their content and a link to their website location is included in the table below.

<b>SFM Plan Supporting Documents</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Content</b>
Central Coast LRMP – Final Report Consensus Recommendations	<a href="http://ilmbwww.gov.bc.ca/slrp/lrmp/nanaimo/cencoast/plan/reports/table_rec.htm">http://ilmbwww.gov.bc.ca/slrp/lrmp/nanaimo/cencoast/plan/reports/table_rec.htm</a>	Sub-regional land use plan covering approximately 4.6 million ha of BC's central coast. Recommendations have been developed to direct management of public lands and resources for terrestrial portions of the plan area.
Coast Land Use Decision	<a href="http://ilmbwww.gov.bc.ca/slrp/lrmp/nanaimo/central_north_coast/index.html">http://ilmbwww.gov.bc.ca/slrp/lrmp/nanaimo/central_north_coast/index.html</a>	Enabling protected areas, ecosystem based management and government-to-government negotiation
South Central Coast Order	<a href="http://ilmbwww.gov.bc.ca/slrp/lrmp/nanaimo/cencoast/plan/objectives/index.html">http://ilmbwww.gov.bc.ca/slrp/lrmp/nanaimo/cencoast/plan/objectives/index.html</a>	Land use objectives to support ecosystem based management
Central and North Coast Order	<a href="http://ilmbwww.gov.bc.ca/slrp/lrmp/nanaimo/cencoast/plan/objectives/index.html">http://ilmbwww.gov.bc.ca/slrp/lrmp/nanaimo/cencoast/plan/objectives/index.html</a>	Land use objectives to support ecosystem based management
BC Timber Sales Seaward (Tlasta) Business Area 2006-2011 Forest Stewardship Plan Approved October 12, 2006 Amendment #1 Approved September 22, 2008 Amendment #2 Approved February 20, 2009 Amendment #4 Approved September 11, 2009	<a href="http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts/areas/tst/tst_FSP.htm">http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/bcts/areas/tst/tst_FSP.htm</a>	Development related to primary forest activities for cutblocks and roads within the Seaward Business Area
Interfor – SWC North Island-Central Coast Forest District Mid Coast Multi-Licensee Forest Stewardship Plan Amendment #7 Approved February 23rd 2010	International Forest Products Limited 1250A - Ironwood Street Campbell River B.C. V9W 6H5	Interfor and SWC Holdings operations in the Mid Coast Timber Supply Area

<b>SFM Plan Supporting Documents</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Content</b>
Western Forest Products Inc. Mainland Coast Forest Stewardship Plan  Amendment #1 Approved April 30, 2009 Amendment #3 Approved October 29, 2009	<a href="http://www.westernforest.com/fstew/download/WFP%20Mainland%20FSP%20April%2028%202008.pdf">http://www.westernforest.com/fstew/download/WFP%20Mainland%20FSP%20April%2028%202008.pdf</a>	WFP operations within Forest Licences A16845 and A16847 in the Mid Coast Timber Supply Area
Protocol Agreement between the Coastal First Nations (Turning Point) and BC March 23, 2006	<a href="http://ilmbwww.gov.bc.ca/slrp/legalobjectives/pdf/protocol_agree.pdf">http://ilmbwww.gov.bc.ca/slrp/legalobjectives/pdf/protocol_agree.pdf</a>	Establishes Land and Resource Forum and agreement to implement EBM
Land Use Planning Agreement-In-Principle between KNT First Nations and the Province of BC March 27, 2006	<a href="http://www.ilmb.gov.bc.ca/slrp/lrmp/nanaimo/central_north_coast/docs/KNT_FN_AIP_Signed.pdf">http://www.ilmb.gov.bc.ca/slrp/lrmp/nanaimo/central_north_coast/docs/KNT_FN_AIP_Signed.pdf</a>	Establishes Land and Resource Forum, negotiation of land use zones and agreement to implement EBM
Mid Coast Timber Supply Area Timber Supply Review	<a href="http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hts/tsa/tsa19/">http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hts/tsa/tsa19/</a>	Timber Supply Review process documents
Coast Opportunity Funds	<a href="http://www.coastfunds.ca/index.htm">http://www.coastfunds.ca/index.htm</a>	Total of \$120 Mil available for socio-economic and conservation based project funding to assist First Nations community transition.
Coast Sustainability Trust	<a href="http://www.coastsustainabilitytrust.com/">http://www.coastsustainabilitytrust.com/</a>	Trust exists in three parts; to support economic diversification and community sustainability; deal with any negative impacts of full EBM implementation; and a sub trust to fund scientific work by the EBM Working Group
Definition of full implementation of Ecosystem Based Management	<a href="http://ilmbwww.gov.bc.ca/slrp/lrmp/nanaimo/central_north_coast/docs/Full_Implementation_(Final%20July%2010%202007).pdf">http://ilmbwww.gov.bc.ca/slrp/lrmp/nanaimo/central_north_coast/docs/Full_Implementation_(Final%20July%2010%202007).pdf</a>	Joint Land and Resource Forums definition agreed to in government to government agreements
Heiltsuk/Province of BC Strategic Land Use Planning Agreement	<a href="http://www.ilmb.gov.bc.ca/slrp/lrmp/nanaimo/central_north_coast/docs/Heiltsuk_FN_Signed_SLUPA.pdf">http://www.ilmb.gov.bc.ca/slrp/lrmp/nanaimo/central_north_coast/docs/Heiltsuk_FN_Signed_SLUPA.pdf</a>	Confirms outcome of government to government discussions and provides a framework to assist implementing land use planning

## **Management Objectives**

### **CFCI Legal Objectives from Forest Stewardship Plans**

Each of the CFCI Operating Companies has its own Forest Stewardship Plans which cover operations in the Management Unit. The management objectives, strategies for achieving them, and targets are detailed in the respective Forest Stewardship Plans as referenced in the Summary of Existing Management Plans and Agreements. Each of the FSPs addresses a common set of management objectives. These are:

#### Provincial Order Establishing Non-Spatial Old Growth Objectives

#### Ministerial Order Objectives for South Central Coast

- First Nations' traditional forest resources
- First Nations' traditional heritage features
- Culturally modified trees
- Monumental cedar
- Stand level retention of western red and yellow cedar
- Important fisheries watersheds
- High value fish habitat
- Aquatic habitat that is not high value fish habitat
- Forested swamps
- Upland streams
- Active fluvial units
- Landscape level biodiversity
- Red-listed and blue-listed plant communities
- Stand level retention
- Grizzly bear habitat

#### Ministerial Order Objectives for Central and North Coast

- First Nations' traditional forest resources
- First Nations' traditional heritage features
- Culturally modified trees
- Monumental cedar
- Stand level retention of western red and yellow cedar
- Important fisheries watersheds
- High value fish habitat
- Aquatic habitat that is not high value fish habitat
- Forested swamps
- Upland streams
- Active fluvial units
- Landscape level biodiversity
- Red-listed and blue-listed plant communities

- Stand level retention
- Grizzly bear habitat
- Kermode Bear

#### Objectives Prescribed under FRPA Sec 149

- Soils
- Timber
- Wildlife
- Water, fish, wildlife and biodiversity within riparian areas
- Fish habitat in fisheries sensitive watersheds
- Water in community watersheds
- Wildlife and biodiversity-landscape level
- Wildlife and biodiversity – stand level
- Visual quality
- Cultural heritage resources

#### Objectives Jointly Managed by CFCI

##### Non Legal Objectives Jointly Managed

In addition to the management objectives included in individual Forest Stewardship Plans, the CFCI operating companies have identified the following objectives that are jointly managed by the CFCI Group Manager.

##### Adequate and Stable Workforce

##### Objectives for Adequate and Stable Workforce from Local Communities

- 1) Provide employment and training for people from identified local communities (Bella Bella, Bella Coola, Hagensborg, Ocean Falls, Shearwater Dawson's Landing, Klemtu, and Wuikinuxv Village). In the case of First Nations, local communities also include any reserves assigned to those First Nations listed in Appendix 4.
- 2) **Short Term** (by 2011)– establish a baseline of direct local employment provided to the identified local communities, from operations deemed covered by the scope of the certification
- 3) **Long Term** (2012 and forward) – maintain or increase on an annual per m3 harvest basis direct employment from the identified local communities.

##### Measures to meet Objective

The CFCI Group Manager reviews on an annual bases, the efforts of operating companies to broaden and maintain employer awareness, with respect to the standard requirement.

He consolidates employment and harvest data provided by Operating Companies and reviews the performance of the group. Where the result is insufficient he develops a list of opportunities for improvement for review with the Operating Companies This measure is part of the Monitoring Plan

## **Local Procurement**

### **Objectives for Local Procurement of Goods and Services**

- 1) Promote local business opportunities through local advertising for the provision of goods and services from Bella Bella, Bella Coola, Hagensborg, Ocean Falls, Shearwater, Dawson's Landing, Klemtu, Wuikinuxv Village, Campbell River, Port Hardy and Port McNeill.
- 2) Develop and maintain a list of local businesses capable of providing goods and services for the forest industry.

### **Measures to meet Objective**

The CFCI Group Manager reviews on annual bases the efforts of Operating Companies to broaden and maintain employer awareness with respect to the standard requirement. He reviews the advertising of the Operating Companies and their Contractors/Licencees from the previous year. He collects general information which describes the proportion of local procurement and maintains the list of local businesses in Appendix 7. Where the result is insufficient he develops a list of opportunities for improvement for review with the Operating Companies This measure is part of the Monitoring Plan

## **Non-Timber Forest Products**

### **Objectives for Non-Timber Forest Products**

- 1) Ensure that operations do not unnecessarily impede access for harvesting or gathering of known non-timber forest products.
- 2) Document procedures on how provisions for non-timber forest products are incorporated into forest planning.

### **Measures to meet Objective**

Operating Companies forward any complaints or concerns that they receive with respect to access to non-timber forest products to the CFCI Group Manager These items are reviewed and potential opportunities for improvement explored. Operating Companies maintain procedures for non-timber forest products and provide a copy of this with evidence of training to the CFCI Group Manager annually.

## **Legal Objectives Jointly Managed by CFCI**

The following objectives and associated results and strategies described in the FSP previously referred to will be reviewed annually by the CFCI manager to ensure adequate protection is maintained at the landscape and watershed level.

### **Objectives for Important Fisheries Watersheds**

### **Objectives for Upland Streams**

### **Objectives for Landscape Level Biodiversity**

### **Species and Plant Communities at Risk.**

The species and communities at risk are listed in Appendix 6 (High Conservation Values) along with measures and strategies for protection.

## **Ongoing Public Participation**

On annual bases the CFCI group manager reviews the previous year's public participation processes and those planned for the upcoming year. Considering any feed-back provided from previous participation, he then determines if any supplemental process is required as indicated by this plan and standard requirement. If required, he implements an "Annual Supplemental Public Participation Plan" He maintains the list of rights holders, First Nations with Customary Rights and others and ensures that the plan addresses those with concerns.

## **Economic, Environmental and Social Costs**

On annual bases the CFCI group manager reviews the "CFCI Economic, Environmental and Social Costs Trackers" as provided in Appendix 8 (also listed in the Monitoring Plan). Where the costs or benefits are not indicating improvement, he undertakes a review of objectives and associated measures to determine if modifications are required.

## **Riparian Assessments and Management**

On annual bases the CFCI group manager reviews the "Riparian Assessments and Management Timetable" provided as Appendix 9. (listed in the Monitoring Plan). Where there are indications that the previous year's performance is behind schedule he undertakes a review to determine if modifications are required.

## **Pesticides and Forest Management**

On annual bases the CFCI group manager collects evidence that demonstrates that seedlings scheduled for planting in the upcoming year are subject to a nursery management regime that supports requirements to minimize pesticide use.

## **Safety Management**

On annual bases the Operating Companies provide a safety summary to the CFCI group manager that describes the safety performance of their workers in the *management unit* and efforts to improve that performance.

## Timber Supply Review and Allowable Annual Cut

The *Forest Act* requires that the Chief Forester of the province determine an Allowable Annual Cut (AAC) for the Crown land in each Timber Supply Area. In carrying out this legislated requirement the Chief Forester uses evidence provided by the Timber Supply Review (TSR) program. The objectives of the TSR are:

- To identify economic, environmental and social information that reflects current forest management practices, including their effects on short and long-term timber supply;
- To identify where improved information is required for future timber supply forecasts;
- To provide the Chief Forester with information to use when making an AAC determination.

In making the AAC determination the Chief Forester considers technical reports, analyses and public input as well as government's social and economic objectives. The *Forest Act* states that the Chief Forester shall specifically consider the following factors:

- The rate of timber production that may be sustained taking into account forest composition, rate of growth, silviculture treatments, utilization standards and constraints on timber production due to other forest use.
- The short and long-term implications of alternative rates of timber harvesting.
- The economic and social objectives of government for the area.
- Abnormal insect or disease infestations and planned salvage programs.

Ultimately, the Chief Forester's AAC determination is an independent professional judgement based on the best available information.

## Mid Coast TSA Timber Supply Review and Allowable Annual Cut History

The first Timber Supply Review for the Mid Coast Timber Supply Area was completed in 1994 and resulted in an AAC determination of 1,000,000 m<sup>3</sup> effective January 1, 1995. The second Timber Supply Review was completed in 1999 and led to an AAC determination of 998,000 m<sup>3</sup> effective June 1, 2000. On July 3, 2002 the Chief Forester ordered a 203,000 m<sup>3</sup> reduction under Section 173 of the *Forest Act* resulting in an AAC of 795,000 m<sup>3</sup>. A subsequent Chief Forester order replaced the earlier order and reduced the AAC by 230,000 m<sup>3</sup> to 768,000 m<sup>3</sup> effective September 28, 2006, which remains the current AAC. Timber Supply Review information for the Mid Coast TSA is available at <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hts/tsa/tsa19/>.

The following are planned as of early March 2010:

- Government acceptance of the Analysis report is projected for March 25, 2010
- Review and Comment is scheduled to commence March 25, 2010
- A determination meeting is scheduled for June 23/24, 2010

The following table shows the AAC history, including the indicated steady long-term harvest level (LTHL).

<b>Determination</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>AAC (m<sup>3</sup>)</b>	<b>Indicated LTHL (m<sup>3</sup>)</b>
TSR 1	January 1, 1995	1,000,000	550,000
TSR 2	June 1, 2000	998,000	730,000-770,000
Section 173 Order - 203,000 m <sup>3</sup> reduction	July 3, 2002	795,000	NA
Section 173 Order - 230,000 m <sup>3</sup> reduction	September 28, 2006	768,000	NA

A third Timber Supply Review is underway.

### **Mid Coast TSA Harvest Volume History**

The timber harvest volume billed for the entire Mid Coast TSA for last four calendar years, based on data from the Ministry of Forests and Range Harvesting Billing System, is shown in the following table.

<b>Calendar Year</b>	<b>Volume Billed (per HBS) (m<sup>3</sup>)</b>
2008	419,251
2007	595,330
2006	546,325
2005	889,101
2004	605,796

The average timber harvest volume billed over the last five completed calendar years is 611,160m<sup>3</sup>, well below the current AAC of 768,000 m<sup>3</sup> and the indicated Long Term Harvest Level from TSR 2 of 730,000-770,000 m<sup>3</sup>.

## **Training and Supervision**

Each of the CFCI Operating Companies operates under an Environmental Management System (EMS) The purpose of the EMS is to enable the organizations to develop and implement policies and practices which take into account the legal requirements and environmental aspects of forest management in their operations.

An important requirement of the EMS is training and awareness. Each of the organizations is required to deliver training and ensure the competence of forest workers for compliance with legal requirements and forest management plan objectives appropriate to their responsibilities.

On annual bases each CFCI Operating Company reviews their EMS to ensure it adequately addresses the training required by this plan and the standard. Where requested by these companies, the CFCI Group Manager develops training materials that allow for standardized training. To date two general awareness training packages have been prepared. Species training is scheduled for May 2010.

The training, the training of the trainers and the maintenance of the training records are the responsibility of the Operating Companies.

## **Monitoring and Assessment**

The Monitoring Plan provided in appendix 5, incorporates the required monitoring associated with the standard. It provides a schedule and describes who is responsible to complete the work. On annual bases the CFCI group manager reviews the Monitoring Plan and where there are indications that performance is not on schedule he undertakes a review to determine if modifications are required. One component of the plan is the "CFCI utilization Control Procedures," which are designed to prevent excessive levels of wood waste.

## **Chain of Custody**

The BC system of identifying and tracking harvested wood from the forest to a designated scale site is entrenched in a regulatory requirement under the forest act (see link below). The issuance of cutting authorization and its associated Timber Mark allows the tracking and movement of coastal wood to a designated place of scale to ensure proper identification of grade occurs for the purpose of deriving the stumpage payment owed to the Crown for the consumptive use of the public resource.

<https://www15.for.gov.bc.ca/hbs/>

Users of wood from the Management Unit can identify this legal system to effectively communicate the point source of the wood and wood fibre origins.

## **Adaptive Management and Management Plan Maintenance**

CFCI recognizes that this FSC Management Plan is not static but will need to change over time through the iterative process of adaptive management in response to the results of monitoring, assessment and new information. Revisions to the Plan are made in response to:

- The results of monitoring,
- New technical or scientific information,
- New social and economic information and
- Relevant comments and suggestions from First Nations, stakeholders and members of the public.

The CFCI manager collects this information and reviews it as it arrives. Modifications to the plan are made and communicated as required. As CFCI strives to continuously improve performance comments and suggestions from First Nations, stakeholders and members of the public are always welcomed and can be submitted to those listed as contacts at

[http://www.coastforestconservationinitiative.com/contact\\_us.html](http://www.coastforestconservationinitiative.com/contact_us.html)