



**REVELSTOKE COMMUNITY
FOREST CORPORATION
TREE FARM LICENCE 56**

**Support Document for
FOREST STEWARDSHIP PLAN
2015 – 2020**

October 18, 2015

CONTENTS

1.0	Introduction	1
2.0	Forest Development Units	1
3.0	Declared Areas	1
4.0	Other Plans	1
5.0	Objectives Strategies and Results	2
6.0	Other Measures	6
6.1	Stocking Standards	
6.2	Invasive Plants	
6.3	Range Barriers	
6.4	Commercial Helicopter and Backcountry Recreation	
6.5	Forest Health Strategy	
7.0	Cumulative Effect of Multiple FSP's	9
8.0	Review	9
9.0	Revisions	9
10.0	Maps	10

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to provide extra information in support of the Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP). **This document is not part of the FSP.** The Support Document and the FSP itself have been prepared for TFL 56 by RCFC staff. Azimuth Forestry and Mapping Solutions has prepared the FSP Map.

2.0 FOREST DEVELOPMENT UNITS

Forest Development Units (FDU's) indicate areas that will contain forest development activities, and that will have a common set of objectives, results, and strategies.

The FDU's were determined simply by using the boundaries of the Landscape Units. During the review process, it was noted that there was some confusion around the inclusion of private land adjacent to the Tree Farm Licence. No private land is included in FDU's. As well, the abandoned provincial park at Downie Reach (labelled "Provincial Park Reserve" on the FSP map) is not included. Nor is TL2980 included. Only lands within TFL 56 are included in the FDU's.

3.0 DECLARED AREAS

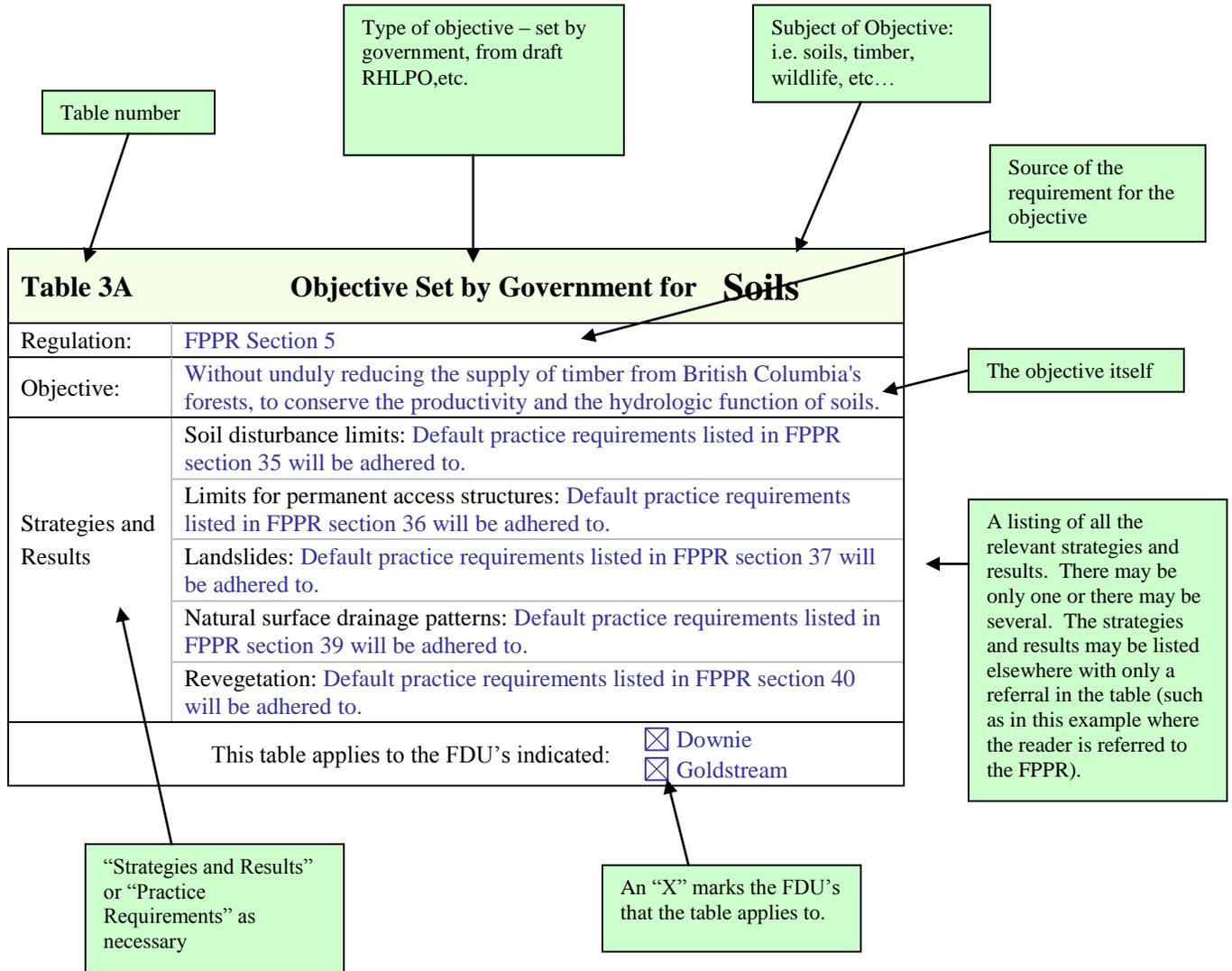
Declared areas can be found in Appendix 4.

4.0 OTHER PLANS

The Government Actions Regulation Order (Ungulate Winter Range #U-3-005) (GAR) and Revelstoke Higher Level Plan Order (RHLPO) are law that prevail over this FSP.

5.0 OBJECTIVES, STRATEGIES, AND RESULTS

The key to the FSP is the objectives, strategies, and results (or practice requirements). In the FSP document, these are summarized in Tables 2A to 2D. Then each objective with its strategy(s) and result(s) is displayed in a table that looks something like this:



The following table was in the originally submitted FSP but was moved to this support document at the request of legal staff of the Ministry of Forests. The intention of the table is to indicate that RCFC reviewed all of the GAR categories or measures and concluded that none were applicable to RCFC at this time.

Category of Objective or Measure	Legislation	Relevance to TFL 56	FSP Table
<i>From Government Actions Regulation¹</i>			
Resource feature	GAR s.5	No “notice” posted	None
Lakeshore management zones and objectives	GAR s.6	No “notice” posted	None
Scenic areas and visual quality objectives	GAR s.7	No “notice” posted	None
Community watersheds and water quality objectives	GAR s.8	No “notice” posted	None
General wildlife measures	GAR s.9	No “notice” posted	None
Wildlife habitat areas and objectives	GAR s.10	No “notice” posted	None
Wildlife habitat features	GAR s.11	No “notice” posted	None
Ungulate winter ranges and objectives	GAR s.12	No “notice” posted	None
Species at risk, regionally important wildlife and ungulate species	GAR s.13	No “notice” posted	None
Fisheries sensitive watersheds and objectives	GAR s.14	No “notice” posted	None
Temperature sensitive streams	GAR s.15	No “notice” posted	None

GAR Objectives and Their Relevance in TFL 56

The tables below were crafted to show RCFC’s commitment to the Keystone Standard Basin Local Resource Use Plan (KSBLRUP). However, these plans apparently have no legal place in “the FRPA world” and as such the Forest Service staff have asked RCFC to remove any reference to the KSBLRUP from the FSP document itself. RCFC wishes to show its commitment to the principles of the KSBLRUP by undertaking to comply with the Tables below.

Category of Objective or Measure	Relevance to TFL 56	FSP Table
<i>From Keystone Standard Basin Local Resource Use Plan (KSBLRUP)</i>		
Forest management in visual quality objective zone	Areas deemed visually sensitive within TFL 56 by KSBLRUP	Table 5A
Forest management in wilderness zone	No harvesting or other forest management activities	none

Keystone Standard Basin Local Resource Use Plan Objectives and Their Relevance in TFL 56

¹ Strategies, results or measures need not be developed unless a “notice” is posted as per GAR s. 4(1)

Keystone Standard Basin LRUP: Visual Quality	
KSBLRUP:	Keystone Standard Basin Local Resource Use Plan: Section 3.112
Objective:	Minimize impact on visual landscape while allowing limited timber harvesting
Strategies and Results	<p>Strategy: Limit harvesting impacts on visual landscape by employing techniques to reduce visual impacts and reduce harvesting to that allowed by the Visual Quality Objective of <i>partial retention</i>.</p> <p>Result: A landscape with less than 15% of the viewable area in a non-greened up stated (trees less than 5 metres tall). The viewpoints used for this assessment will be along the Keystone trail.</p>
Objective, strategies, and results apply to these Forest Development Units:	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Downie <input type="checkbox"/> Goldstream

Large Cutblocks

Cutblock size is limited to 40 hectares by regulation. However, larger cutblocks can sometimes be allowed. RCFC will, in the following circumstances, plan harvest of cutblocks larger than 40 hectares:

- Salvage of timber damaged by fire, insects, wind, or similar events.
- To create openings consistent with the structural characteristics and the temporal and spatial distribution of openings that would result from a natural disturbance. However:
 - The structural characteristics of the cutblock after timber harvesting has been substantially completed will substantially resemble an opening that would result from a natural disturbance. A qualified registered professional will be retained to review the harvest plans and ensure that they will conform to this point.

Keystone Standard Basin Local Resource Use Plan

There are a series of management strategies in this LRUP. For several, such as those relating to mining and snowmobiling, RCFC has no jurisdiction. We have considered only those that have a forest management component – visual management and caribou habitat management. Caribou management has been covered by the *Government Actions Regulation Order* (Ungulate Winter Range #U-3-005), so there was no need to create additional objectives, strategies, and results. Only visual management remained, so we have created objectives, strategies, and results for visual quality (These have been moved to the Support Document from the FSP document).

Recreation Sites

The Columbia Forest District published objectives for the two recreations sites within TFL 56 – *Keystone Standard Basin*, and the *Goldstream Canoe Route*. Both sets of objectives are quite broad, so we have created strategies for the parts of the objectives that RCFC, as the holder of the TFL, has control or influence.

For the Keystone Standard Basin trail, we have stated that harvesting is allowed along the trail, but will be partial cutting. When reviewing this, one must keep in mind that the portion of the trail in the timber harvesting landbase is on a few hundred meters of the 17 or 18 km length. Also, the portion in question is not the historical portion, but is a connector, built within the last 30 years to connect the end of the logging road with the historic trail.

Mature Forest Retention Areas

RCFC must maintain certain levels of certain age classes as once defined in the RHLPO. In 1999, RCFC completed a spatial analysis of these requirements. This analysis was described in the Management Plan #3 and it designated a series of Mature Forest Retention Areas (MFRA's) throughout TFL 56 – these MFRA's are mapped.

The process has been updated in 2014 and the areas adjusted to meet the requirements of the RHLPO and incorporating the Ungulate Winter Range #U-3-005 areas. As long as all cutblocks are proposed outside of the MFRA's, all of our old forest requirements specified in the RHLPO are met.

5.0 Other Measures

5.1 Stocking Standards

RCFC has simply adopted – **without change** -- the stocking standards created by the local office of the Ministry of Forests. These are entitled “DCO FSP Stocking Standards V 3.0” and were received April 13, 2010 from Columbia Forest District Staff

6.2 Invasive Plants

See section 6.1 of the RCFC FSP for reducing the introduction or spread of Invasive Plants on the TFL.

6.3 Range Barriers

There is no known present or historic use of the TFL 56 area for range purposes.

6.4 Commercial Helicopter and Backcountry Recreation

There are two commercial helicopter skiing and outdoor recreation companies operating in TFL 56. They are Canadian Mountain Holidays (CMH) who operate two lodges within or adjacent to TFL 56, and Selkirk Tangiers Heliskiing (STH) who operate in the southern portion of the TFL. Selkirk Tangiers’ clients are lodged at Revelstoke. There is currently one major commercial backcountry recreation operation in TFL 56. It is operated by Selkirk Mountain Experience (SME). SME clients stay at a lodge just South of the TFL in the Carnes Creek Valley – or in a satellite chalet in the Tumbledown area within TFL 56.

All of the above noted companies commented on the draft FSP. Their letters are contained in the *Review and Comment Document*. Their concerns are summarized in the Referral and Comment Summary, also in Appendix 4.

The two helicopter ski companies (CMH and STH) were concerned about the impacts of RCFC’s forest management activities on their operations and the lack of a means of input into RCFC’s planning. CMH urged RCFC to craft a set of objectives strategies and results tailored for commercial heli-skiing and heli-hiking while STH recommended that the plan include and address the interests and values of tourism.

To deal with the two heli-ski company’s interests, we will carry out the following actions:

1. Continue to maintain a mapping system that includes information on location of ski runs, skier drop-off points, skier pick-up points, and infrastructure such as lodges².
2. Refer for comment, any cutblocks that are within ski runs or that interfere with skier drop-off or pick-up points.
3. Determine, in conjunction with heli-ski company staff, informal visual quality management around lodges.
4. Meet periodically to share information on forest management and heli-ski issues.

² The heli-ski company must continue to provide RCFC with location information of runs, pickups, drop-offs and other infrastructure.

To deal with the issues identified by SME, RCFC will:

1. Not build road in an area within the Tumbledown Valley (see orthophoto map on following page). The purpose of this restriction is to limit the likelihood of providing a travel corridor for snowmobile access.
2. Refer harvest plans in the Tumbledown Valley to SME for comment.
3. Continue to work with SME to discourage winter motorized use in times and places where it would unduly damage SME's business.

6.5 Forest Health Strategy

RCFC works with the Ministry of Forest and Range (MFR) to manage a forest health strategy. RCFC conducts yearly TFL inspection flights where forest health issues are noted. Annual detection flights are also conducted by the MFR and the results are shared with RCFC.

The main forest health issues on the TFL 56 that results in tree mortality include Western hemlock looper, *Armillaria* root rot, Douglas-fir bark beetle and Spruce bark beetle. Where operationally and financially feasible, RCFC follows the strategies outlined below.

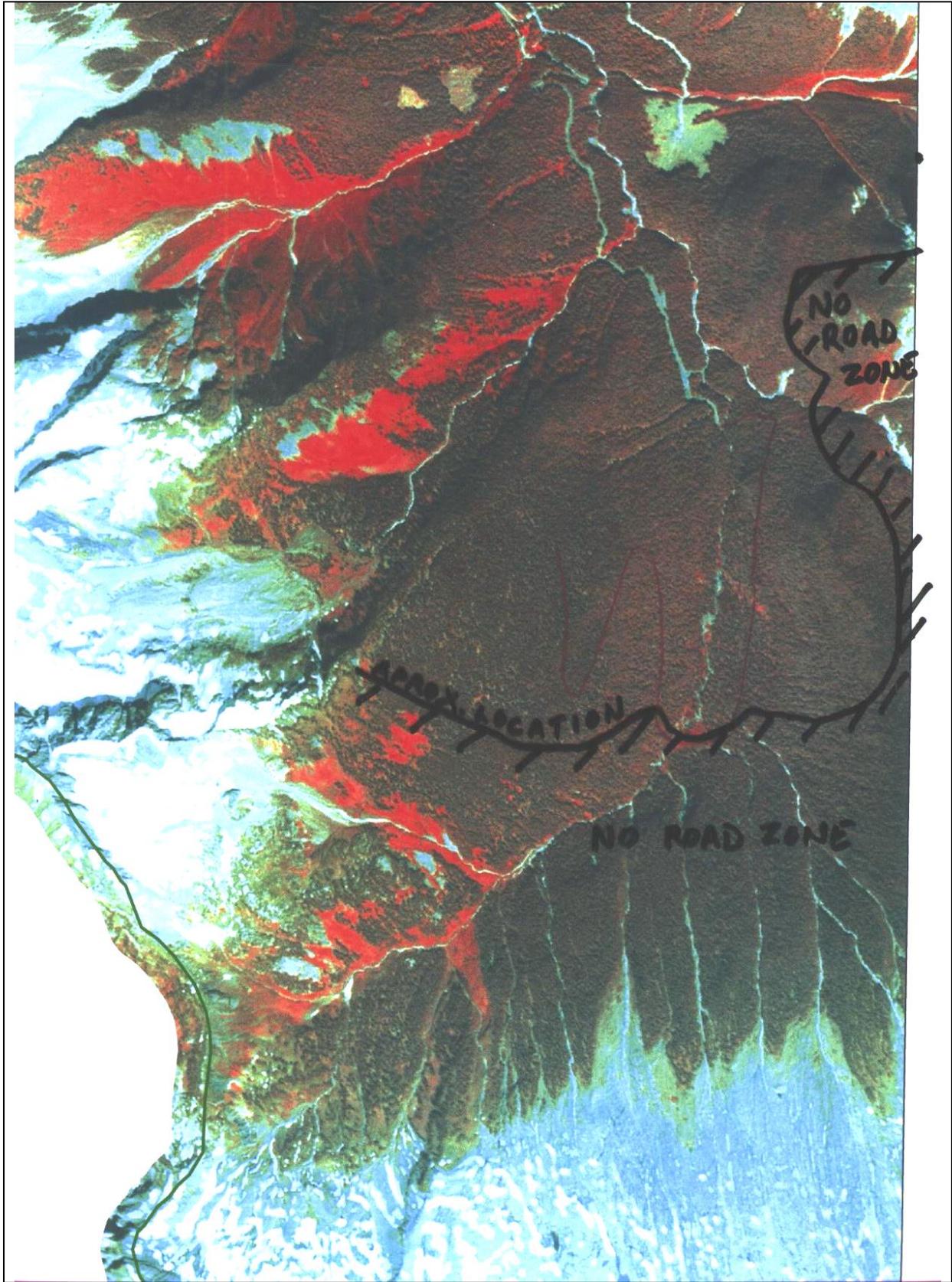
Western hemlock looper typically appears on the TFL in 10-year cycles and last for two to three years. The last looper outbreak resulted in the MFR spraying high hazard areas to reduce the populations. Spraying is the only known controlling agent for western hemlock looper besides natural controlling agents. RCFC will harvest killed timber resulting from looper outbreaks but this is to reduce losses rather than a controlling mechanism.

Armillaria root rot commonly occurs in drier sites where Douglas-fir is present. It tends to kill trees in small groups and radiate out from infection sites. RCFC's strategy is to harvest areas affected by *Armillaria* root rot and replant with multiple species. Destumping is another option for *Armillaria* root rot that has been tried on the TFL where mechanical destumping can occur.

Douglas-fir bark beetle tree mortality appears to be similar to *Armillaria* root rot, with infection sites that typically radiate outward. Infestations can also occur from windthrow of Douglas-fir trees that are infected by the beetle and then spread to surrounding trees. RCFC's strategy is to harvest infected areas as soon as possible and burn any Douglas-fir slash to reduce the spread of the beetle.

Spruce bark beetle typically results from spruce that blows down, gets attacked by spruce beetle and spreads to surrounding standing spruce trees. RCFC's strategy is to harvest infected areas as soon as possible and burn any slash to reduce the spread of the beetle.

These treatments do not salvage all the timber killed by pathogens and pests in the TFL but do reduce the amount of timber lost. It is also not meant to remove all pests from the TFL but to reduce the populations to manageable levels. Some level of pathogen and pest incidence is endemic in our forests and desired for biodiversity.



Excerpt from Orthophoto showing Tumbledown Area with “No Road Zone”
Mapsheet 82M040, Approximate scale 1:20,000

7.0 CUMULATIVE EFFECT OF MULTIPLE FSP'S

There is one other FSP's within TFL 56. BCTS operates within TFL 56 in the Daydream and Nightmare drainages.

8.0 REVIEW AND REFERRAL

The Revelstoke Community Forest Corporation is completing a 60-day First Nations information sharing process with affected First Nations. A 30-day public review will also be completed by RCFC. Comments will be reviewed, assessed and incorporated into the final document if applicable.

Full information on review and comment can be found in the *Review and Comment Document*.

9.0 REVISIONS

An area for future revisions to the FSP is provided in Appendix 5 of the FSP.

10.0 MAPS

One map of 1:50,000 scale was sufficient to provide all the necessary information. The map specifications are:

Scale 1:50,000

FPPR Requirements displayed on map:

- ◆ FDU's – LU R19, LU R12
- ◆ Ungulate Winter Range: #U-3-005 Areas - pink
- ◆ Wildlife Habitat Areas: None
- ◆ Fisheries sensitive zones: None
- ◆ Scenic Area: None
- ◆ L1 Lakes:
- ◆ Community watersheds: None
- ◆ OGMA's: Covered off through Ungulate Winter Range #U-3-005 Areas
- ◆ Areas where timber harvesting is prohibited by enactment: None
- ◆ Cutting Permits
- ◆ Road Permit roads

Non-FPPR items shown on map:

- ◆ Old blocks and CP numbers
- ◆ Planned blocks and Development numbers
- ◆ Status – NSR/SR
- ◆ Private land
- ◆ Everything is shaded except areas available timber (above and below operability)
 - MFRA's - green
 - Non timbered - grey