



7-Dec-20

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# Forest Harvest Plan

PU070254



**ALBERTA  
PACIFIC**  
FOREST INDUSTRIES INC



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# Report

## **1.0 Introduction**

Alberta – Pacific Forest Industries Inc. (Alberta–Pacific) has prepared a Forest Harvest Plan (FHP) for the harvest of stands within Planning Unit 070254.

The Planning Unit is located Northwest of Lawrence Lake and located along the Fish Creek Road within Forest Management Unit (FMU) S23.

Copies of this Forest Harvest Plan are available on the Alberta–Pacific website, at [www.alpac.ca](http://www.alpac.ca).

## **2.0 General Planning Unit Information /Design Considerations**

This FHP has been validated by a Registered Forestry Professional from Alberta-Pacific.

This FHP includes maps and reports that clearly show and document the planned harvest area boundaries, roads and water crossings within the Planning Unit.

This plan is being submitted for appraisal, for a 5-year FHP approval under the 2020-2021 Alberta-Pacific Annual Operating Plan (AOP).

### **2.1 Operating Ground Rules**

This Planning Unit is designed in accordance with the Northeast Alberta Operating Ground Rules (OGRs). Alberta–Pacific is requesting certain deviations from the OGRs, due to field verified factors. These requests, along with corresponding information are listed under the section “OGR Deviations”.

## **3.0 Maps**

Individual block maps have been included in the submission package, outlining the information pertinent to these blocks. A Planning Unit overview map and a Spatial Harvest Sequence (SHS) Planning Unit map have been included in the submission package. These maps can be viewed in the *Appendices* of this document.

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## **4.0 Block Information**

A *Block Summary Table* has been included below outlining the expected volumes of the harvest area.

### 4.1 Utilization

Deciduous and coniferous stands will adhere to the 15/10 utilization standard.

### 4.1 Field verification

Field verification was conducted to assess the timber quality, potential sensitive and historical sites, operability of the harvest area, and classification of water courses within the Planning Unit boundary. Where applicable, the findings of the layout team have been noted in the corresponding section of this report.

### 4.2 Understory Assessment

White Spruce understory within deciduous landbase will be protected utilizing high effort understory protection in stands identified as greater than 600 stems/ha by the Alberta Vegetation Inventory (AVI), as well as any potential areas found to have understory present that is not identified by the AVI. Any deciduous blocks found to have understory amounting to between 400 stems/ha and 600 stems/ha will be protected utilizing the avoidance method.

Blocks requiring understory protection or understory avoidance are noted within the *Block Summary Table*.

## Block Summary Table

(Values rounded to whole numbers)

**Table 1: Block Summary Table**

This table provides a brief description of the proposed harvest blocks within the Planning Unit.

<b>Deciduous Blocks</b>						
<i>Source ID</i>	<b>Opening Number</b>	<b>Harvest Season (Frozen/ Non-Frozen)</b>	<b>Area (ha)</b>	<b>Deciduous Volume (m<sup>3</sup>)</b>	<b>Incidental Conifer Volume (m<sup>3</sup>)</b>	<b>Total Volume (m<sup>3</sup>)</b>
FC07025416891	4250701689	Frozen	28.3	6,751	844	7,594
FC07025420831**	4250702083	Non-Frozen	129.0	26,469	2,600	29,069
FC07025410051	4250701005	Non-Frozen	43.0	8,880	1,138	10,018
FC07025416041	4250701604	Non-Frozen	156.6	35,111	2,425	37,536
FC07025416701	4250701670	Frozen	4.7	1,128	112	1,241
FC07025421421	4250702142	Frozen	23.0	5,265	502	5,767
FC07025420821	4250702082	Non-Frozen	20.4	4,449	361	4,810
<b>Total</b>			<b>405.0</b>	<b>88,054</b>	<b>7,981</b>	<b>96,035</b>

\*Understory Block: White Spruce understory within deciduous landbase will be protected utilizing high effort understory protection in stands identified as greater than 600 stems/ha.

\*\*Any blocks found to have understory amounting to between 400 stems/ha and 600 stems/ha will be protected utilizing the avoidance method.

### 4.3 Structure Retention

For Alberta-Pacific and Commercial Timber Permits, an average of 5% representative of all harvested area at the FMU level by stewardship reporting period will be retained. A harvest area may have zero structure but the FMU average shall be 5%. Non merchantable structure is not to be tracked as part of the 5%. Structure retention will be left in the following methods:

- Laid out patches
- Individual trees
- Small clumps left at the operators' discretion

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#### 4.4 Debris Management

The Planning Unit is situated within Alberta's Fire Control Zone number 45 as identified by Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (AAF). Planning Unit 070254 partially overlaps with the Community FireSmart Zone for the Summer Village of Baptiste Lake.

Debris management of the Planning Unit will be accomplished in a manner consistent with Section 7.3 of the OGRs.

#### 4.5 Camp Location

The companies have identified a camp location for logging operations within this Planning Unit. The campsite will be reclaimed as indicated in Section 11.3.4.4 of the Northeast Alberta Timber Harvesting Planning and Operating Ground Rules (OGRs).

<b>Block Number</b>	<b>Opening Number</b>	<b>GRID</b>	<b>LAT</b>	<b>LONG</b>
FC07025416041	4250701604	1654	55.05919	-113.756
FC07025410051	4250701005	1006	55.04704	-113.742
FC07025420831	4250702083	2076	55.07663	-113.776

### **5.0 Watercourse Protection**

During the potential watercourses were identified during preliminary planning using wet areas mapping, LiDAR data, aerial imagery, as well as the available AVI data.

Where harvest blocks are in proximity to any potential watercourses, the field layout team conducted field assessments utilizing the methodology and classification standards outlined in Section 6.0 of the OGRs. Any confirmed watercourses have been buffered in accordance with the OGRs Section 6.0.

Any deviations from the OGRs in relation to the watercourse buffers are noted in this report; please refer to the *OGR Deviations* section of the report for further information.

## Watercourse Crossing Summary Table

**Table 2: Watercourse Crossing Summary**

A list of road crossings over field verified watercourses within the Planning Unit.

<i>Road ID</i>	<i>Crossing ID</i>	<i>Watercourse Classification</i>
RC07025410051	987	No watercourse
	996	Ephemeral
	998	No watercourse
	1005	Small Permanent
	1008	Ephemeral
	1052	No watercourse
RC07025416041	1606	No watercourse
	1607	No watercourse
	1608	No watercourse
	1634	No watercourse
	1635	Ephemeral
	1645	Ephemeral
	1646	Ephemeral
	1657	Ephemeral
	1776	No watercourse
	1777	No watercourse
	1779	Ephemeral
	1785	No watercourse
	1786	No watercourse
	1787	Ephemeral
	1788	No watercourse
	1789	No watercourse
1793	Ephemeral	
1795	No watercourse	
RC07025416041	1798	No watercourse
RC07025416701	969	Transitional
	978	Ephemeral
	1670	Ephemeral
RC07025416891	1504	Ephemeral
	1653	Ephemeral
	1697	Ephemeral
	2180	Ephemeral
RC07025420821	2090	Ephemeral
	2081	Ephemeral



<i>Road ID</i>	<i>Crossing ID</i>	<i>Watercourse Classification</i>
RC07025420831	2069	Ephemeral
	2072	Ephemeral
	2073	No watercourse
	2076	No watercourse
	2077	No watercourse
	2080	Small Permanent
	2086	Ephemeral
	2087	No watercourse
	2106	No watercourse
	2107	No watercourse
	2127	No watercourse
	2137	Ephemeral
	2146	No watercourse
	2147	No watercourse
	2801	Ephemeral
	2971	No watercourse
	2972	No watercourse
2982	No watercourse	
RC07025421421	1667	Ephemeral
	1668	No watercourse
	2124	Small Permanent
	2142	Ephemeral

## 6.0 Road Information

Overview maps have been attached showing roads in accordance with Section 3.4.7. of the OGRs; all spatial data requirements have also been included with this submission.

Roads will be constructed, maintained, and reclaimed in a manner consistent with Section 11.3 of the OGRs.

When new access is necessary, reclamation processes will adhere to Section 11.3.4, Section 11.3.4.3 and Section 11.3.4.4 of the OGRs. To enable for silviculture activities, all-terrain vehicle (ATV) access may be left throughout the harvest area.

### Road Attributes Table

(Values rounded to whole numbers)

Table 3: Road Attributes

Summary of the proposed in-block roads of the Planning Unit.

<b>Road ID</b>	<b>Road Classification</b>	<b>Haul Season</b>	<b>Length, m</b>
RC07025410051	Temporary	Non Frozen	3497
RC07025416041	Temporary	Non Frozen	5757
RC07025416701	Temporary	Frozen	774
RC07025416891	Temporary	Frozen	1933
RC07025420821	Temporary	Non Frozen	234
<b>Road ID</b>	<b>Road Classification</b>	<b>Haul Season</b>	<b>Length, m</b>
RC07025420831	Temporary	Non Frozen	5041
RC07025421421	Temporary	Frozen	1654
MSL 797976	Temporary	Non Frozen	105
LOC 770385	Temporary	Non Frozen	529

## 7.0 Land Use Information

A search of the Geographic Land Information Management and Planning System (GLIMPS) and Digital Integrated Dispositions (DIDs) yielded active dispositions within the FHP. Any necessary agreements with the disposition holder will be in place prior to the commencement of harvest operations. None of the dispositions within the FHP will restrict harvest operations in the FHP.

### Land Use Summary Table

Table 4: Land Use Summary Table  
Active dispositions in the Planning Unit

<b>Disposition Number</b>	<b>Disposition Holder</b>	<b>Disposition Type</b>
LOC770385	CANADIAN NATURAL RESOURCES LIMITED	License of Occupation
LOC930239	CANADIAN NATURAL RESOURCES LIMITED	License of Occupation

The FHP design incorporates pipeline crossings, for temporary roads. The agreements will be in place prior to the construction of these crossings.

## 8.0 Integration with Other Forest Users

### 8.1 Integration with Other Harvest Operators

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This FHP is not integrated between the FMA and a CTL holder.

8.2 Registered Fur Management Areas (RFMAs)

Notification letter were sent to RFMAs within the FHP who will be affected by operations. Any requests from the RFMA holders have been considered, and, where possible, the harvest design has been planned to accommodate the request.

## Trapper Areas Table

Table 5: Trapper Areas Table

RFMA ID	Notification Method
1400	Letter
1408	Letter
2082	Letter

### 8.3 Wildlife Management Unit(s) (WMU)

Planning Unit is located within WMU 510 . The Guides and Outfitters operating within this unit have been sent notification, via registered mail, on the FHP design, as well as a timeline for the commencement of harvest operations. Any requests from Guides and Outfitters have been considered, and, where possible, the harvest design has been planned to accommodate the request. A table with the active Guides and Outfitters in the WMU is included below.

## Guide and Outfitters Table

Table 6: Guide and Outfitters

OG ID Number	Date	Contact Method
Robert Esau	09/28/2020	Letter
Northern Wilderness Outfitters	09/28/2020	Letter
North Alberta Outfitters	09/28/2020	Letter
L J Guiding o/a Elite Outfitters	09/28/2020	Letter
Martin Kirschner	09/28/2020	Letter
Kevin Loades	09/28/2020	Letter
McKinnon & Co. Outfitters Inc.	09/28/2020	Letter
James Mercier	09/28/2020	Letter
North River Outfitting Ltd.	09/28/2020	Letter
Moose Creek Outfitters Ltd.	09/28/2020	Letter
Alberta Goose Outfitters	09/28/2020	Letter

<b>OG ID Number</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Contact Method</b>
Jamie Williams	09/28/2020	Letter
Willis Outfitters	09/28/2020	Letter
Wayne Zaft Hunting Adventures Ltd.	09/28/2020	Letter
1704932 AB Ltd.	09/28/2020	Letter

#### 8.4 Indigenous Groups

During the General Development Plan (GDP) process, Alberta – Pacific conducts consultations with indigenous groups every year. There have not been any issues identified prior to FHP submission.

#### 8.5 Other Forest Users

There are no forest user groups identified as operating within the Planning Unit area.

#### 8.6 Forest Aesthetics

As outlined in Section 5.5. of the OGRs, Alberta – Pacific follows the objective to mitigate the impact of timber operations on the visual quality of the forest landscape.

This FHP is not adjacent to any park or recreational areas, and no other aesthetics concerns have been noted to date by other forest users.

### **9.0 Species and Areas of Concern**

#### 9.1 Woodland Caribou

Planning Unit 070254 is not located within Woodland Caribou Range.

#### 9.2 Key Wildlife and Biodiversity Zone (KWBZ)

Planning Unit 070254 is not located within a Key Wildlife and Biodiversity Zone; all operations will be consistent with Section 7.7.5 of the OGRs

#### 9.3 Other Species

All known sensitive wildlife sites have been buffered in accordance with Section 7.7.5 of the OGRs.

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#### 9.4 Sensitive Sites

A review of the block design and landscape of the FHP was completed by professional archaeologists. Any sites identified as being of high historical significance (historical resource sites) have been removed from the harvest design.

Upon completion of cutblock and road layout, a second review of the harvest blocks, and temporary roads is completed to identify potential conflicts, and to determine if any further changes are required to the Planning Unit.

There were no signs of rare plants, including signs of terrestrial lichen found within the Planning Unit.

If any sites are identified post submission, Alberta – Pacific will take the appropriate action to protect these sites.

#### 9.5 Forest Health

During the field verification, a team evaluated the current state of the forest health in the FHP area, as outlined in Section 10.1 of the OGRs.

If any sites are identified post submission, Alberta – Pacific will take the appropriate action to protect these sites as per Section 10.1.2 of the OGRs.

### **10.0 SHS Information / Variance Summary**

Variances from the Spatial Harvest Sequence (SHS) within the Planning Unit boundary are shown in Appendix 3 - *Spatial Harvest Sequence Summary Table*.

## 11.0 OGR Deviations

**Table 7: Road Percent Deviations Table**

Road deviations which contain blocks that are greater than 7 hectares, with potentially more than 5% road disturbance.

Source ID	Opening Number	Block Area (ha)	Harvest Season (Frozen/ Non-Frozen)	Road Percentage	Road Percentage Reason
FC07025416891	4250701689	28.1	Deciduous	Frozen	5.6
FC07025420831	4250702083	128.8	Deciduous	Non-Frozen	6.3
FC07025410051	4250701005	42.0	Deciduous	Non-Frozen	6.1
FC07025416041	4250701604	152.4	Deciduous	Non-Frozen	5.3
FC07025421421	4250702142	23.1	Deciduous	Frozen	6.1
FC07025420821	4250702082	20.4	Deciduous	Non-Frozen	6.6

**Table 8: Roads deviating from OGR watercourse buffers: Temporary roads requiring a deviation from the operating ground rule for distance of roads from watercourses.**

Road ID	Harvest Season (Frozen/ Non-Frozen)	Buffer	Reason
RC07025416891	Frozen	Beaver Pond	Inter-block road comes within 30m due to utilizing existing access

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## **12.0 Validation by Registered Forest Practitioner**

This plan is being prepared and submitted on behalf of Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries Inc.

### **ALBERTA-PACIFIC FOREST INDUSTRIES INC.**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Bannard', is positioned above the printed name.

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