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File: 19505-55/2010-2016 SFMP

November 23, 2010

Darrell Regimbald, R.P.F.  
Planning Coordinator – North – East  
Forest Management Group  
Fort St. John Pilot Project Participants  
c/o Canadian Forest Products Ltd.  
RR#1, Site 13, Compartment 2  
Fort St. John, British Columbia  
V1J 4M6

Dear Darrell Regimbald et al:

Your proposed Sustainable Forest Management Plan (SFMP) #2 for the Fort St. John Code Pilot, dated September 22, 2010, is hereby approved for the period of November 1, 2010 to March 31, 2016.

As required by Section 38(7) of the FSJPPR, public notice was given and First Nations Consultation was carried out, and written comments and responses were included in the submitted draft. We also appreciate the inclusion of written comments and responses to government input.

In accordance with Section 39(1) of the FSJPPR, we are satisfied that the plan is consistent with the requirements of the regulation and the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act*; provides at least the equivalent protection for forest resources and resource features as provided by the *Act* and the FSJPPR; and will adequately manage and conserve forest resources.

Although we believe that SFMP #2 can be implemented largely as proposed, the following are some conditions that need to be addressed during the term of SFMP #2:

a) Mixed wood management; the participants committed to apply “*mixed wood regimes for intimate mixtures of conifer and deciduous*” on an area greater than or equal to 10% of the mixed wood area harvested as operational trials in the 2004 SFMP. Although the results from these trials are not available at the moment, it is expected that the participants will continue to manage a portion of the area under reforestation obligation as intimate mixed woods, and that



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Ministry of Forests  
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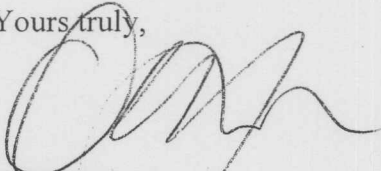
Darrell Regimbald, R.P.F.

they will work with ministry staff to further refine the *Mixedwood Management Strategy for the Fort St. John TSA*.


b) Old Growth Management Areas; under the approved 2004 SFMP, spatial rotating reserves were implemented to achieve the seral stage target for 'old' forest areas. Under FRPA, Old Growth Management Areas (OGMAs) have been spatially delineated in other TSAs, ensuring that other industry activities do not negatively impact the amount of old forest area. It is expected that the participant will work with ministry staff to delineate and designate specific areas as OGMAs over the term of this SFMP.

In closing, we consider management of the Fort St. John Timber Supply Area to be a good example of results-based forest management and that it is functioning within the professional reliance environment. We intend to take some of the lessons learned from the FSJ Code Pilot and recommend transferring them to *Forest and Range Practices Act*.

Yours truly,



Dale Morgan,  
Deputy Regional Executive Director  
Northern Region  
Ministry of Forests and Range



Maurice Lirette  
Regional Manager,  
Peace Region  
Ministry of Environment

pc: ✓ Dale Morgan, District Manager, Peace Forest District  
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