



Peace Natural Resource District Fibre Supply / Forest Sector Viability

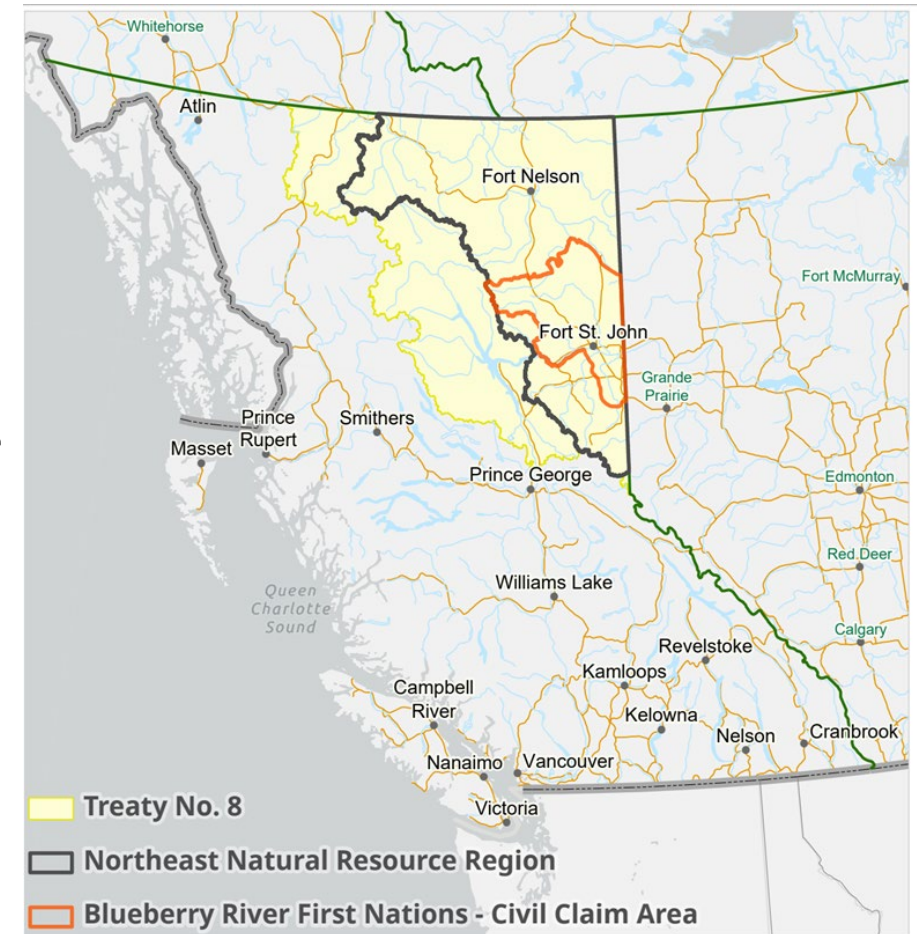
FSJ Pilot Project – Public Advisory
Group

Sept 2025

NE Context



- June 2021 – BC Supreme Court determined the Province infringed Blueberry River First Nations' (BRFN) Treaty 8 rights.
 - Province choose to not appeal and to negotiate with BRFN – *Implementation Agreement* (Jan 2023)
 - Given that Treaty 8 rights are held across the Region the Province chose to negotiate in parallel with 6 Treaty 8 Nations – *Consensus Agreement* (includes individual Letters of Agreement with each Nation) (Jan 2023)



January 2023

Litigation Overview



Court declarations re: Blueberry River's case:

1. "...The Province's mechanisms for assessing and taking into account cumulative effects are lacking and have contributed to the breach of its obligations under Treaty 8,"
2. "...there are not sufficient and appropriate lands in the Blueberry Claim Area to allow for Blueberry's meaningful exercise of their treaty rights,"
3. "The Province may not continue to authorize activities that breach the promises included in the Treaty, ...or that unjustifiably infringe Blueberry's exercise of its treaty rights,"
4. "...establish timely enforceable mechanisms to assess and manage the cumulative impact of industrial development...ensure these constitutional rights are respected."

Overview of B.C. and Treaty 8 First Nation Commitments



In 2023 BC signed several Government-to-Government Agreements with Treaty 8 First Nations that commit to reducing the cumulative impact of natural resource development on Treaty 8 First Nations' rights including:

- Blueberry River First Nations – B.C. Implementation Agreement (Yahey decision)
- Treaty 8 First Nations – B.C. Consensus Agreement

Further – additional commitments and potential impacts to timber supply need to be accounted for.

- Treaty Land Entitlement and Land Agreements (*Treaty settlements & Site C agreement*)
- Caribou Recovery measures (*boreal and southern mountain, implemented and proposed*)

In addition, the 2023 catastrophic wildfire season contributed to significant impacts to short & mid term fibre supply

Treaty 8 Consensus Agreement – Shared Assurance Statements:

- *“The continuation of Economic and social opportunities for Treaty 8 Nations and local communities in northeast BC including viable oil and gas and forestry sectors, and*
- *The avoidance of significant negative economic effects in the region or large compensation liabilities for the Province.”*

Assessment

Between 2021 and 2024 BC initiated various assessments in order to understand Northeast Region forest sector fibre requirements and potential impacts to fibre supply.

- Worked with Forest Licensees to understand mill / facility fibre requirements
- Conducted analysis, under contract, to assess total potential fibre supply impacts from all commitments and impacts not yet accounted for in Timber Supply Review.

Objectives

- Understand potential implications to Northeast forest sector to assist in clarifying what a “viable forest sector” is in the Northeast.
- Better inform FOR’s position at various ongoing planning tables
- Identify potential fibre supply risks & challenges
- Assist in identifying how much potential volume for forest tenure might be available following completion of planning processes
- New: Alignment with the Provincial “Path to 45” mandate (2025 Ministers Mandate Letter:

“Work with all partners, including Indigenous governments, toward ensuring a sustainable land base to enable harvest of 45,000,000 cubic meters per year, while fulfilling our commitment to protect old growth.”

Towards a Forest Harvest Transition Strategy in the Peace Natural Resource District, Post Yahey v. British Columbia BCSC 1287

March 2022

Prepared for

Greg Van Dolah
District Manager
Peace Natural Resource District
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

Prepared by:

The Controller, IFS
INDUSTRIAL FORESTRY SERVICE LTD.
2018-01-10

AIFS

Independent Review of
Future Fibre Availability to Support the Forest Industry
in Northeast BC

January 5, 2024.

Prepared for
BC Ministry of Forests

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AIFS

Peace Natural Resource District

Current AAC's

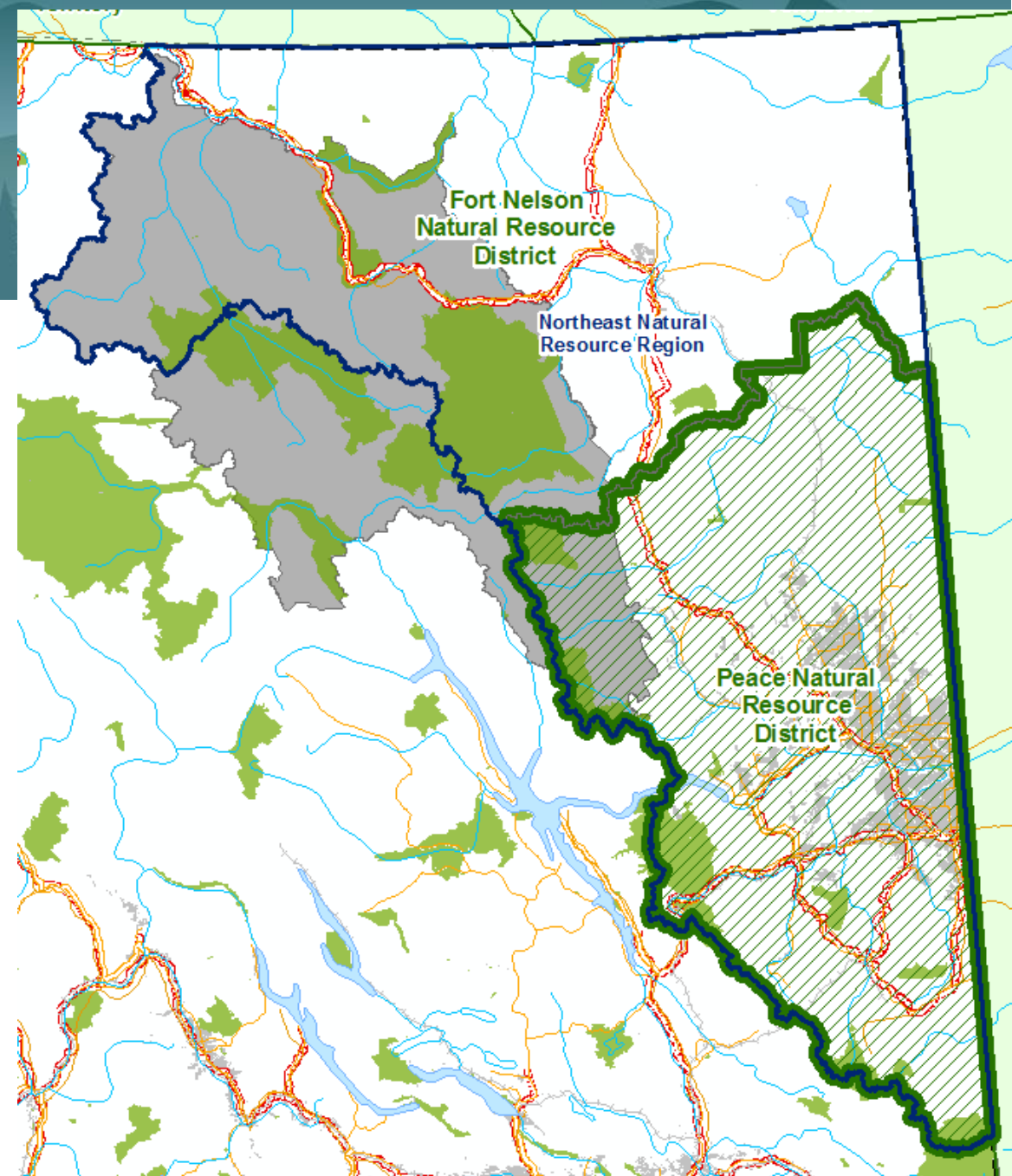
Current AAC's and Mandate Letter considerations (TSA's & TFL Only)

Management Unit	Peace District Allowable Annual Cut (current)		
	Conifer AAC (m3/yr)	Deciduous AAC (m3/yr)	Totals (m3/yr)
Dawson Creek TSA	928,722	863,124	1,791,846
TFL 48	679,417	100,000	779,417
Fort St. John TSA	1,200,000	915,000	2,115,000
Total DPC	2,808,139	1,878,124	4,686,263

**additional volume available in woodlots, CFA's Private Land, Fort Nelson TSA etc.*

Provincial 45Mm3/yr AAC mandate objective

- equates to approximately 80% of total AAC's - provincially from all TSA's and TFL's





Facilities & Fibre Requirements

Current Peace District AAC – (DCTSA, FSJ TSA & TFL 48) = 4,846,000m³/yr

Peace District Facility Fibre and Profile Requirements			
Facility	Facility Status	Volume Requirement	Species Profile
West Fraser Chetwynd	Operational – currently only operating @ 1 shift	1,100,000m ³ /yr. (at full capacity)	Conifer
Louisiana Pacific – Dawson Creek SmartSide	Operational	415,000 m ³ /yr.	Deciduous
Canfor Fort St. John	CLOSED	1,026,000 m ³ /yr.	Conifer
Louisiana Pacific – Peace Valley OSB	Operational	1,103,000 m ³ /yr.	Deciduous

- **Canfor Chetwynd and Canfor Taylor Pulp previously closed in 2022**

Minimum Total Fibre Need for remaining operational facilities

= 2.6M m³/yr at full capacity (w/ WF @ 2 shifts) – from all sources

- 1.5Mm³ of Deciduous
- 1.1Mm³ of Conifer

Minimum Total Fibre Need for 4 operational facilities

= 3.6M m³/yr at full capacity – from all sources

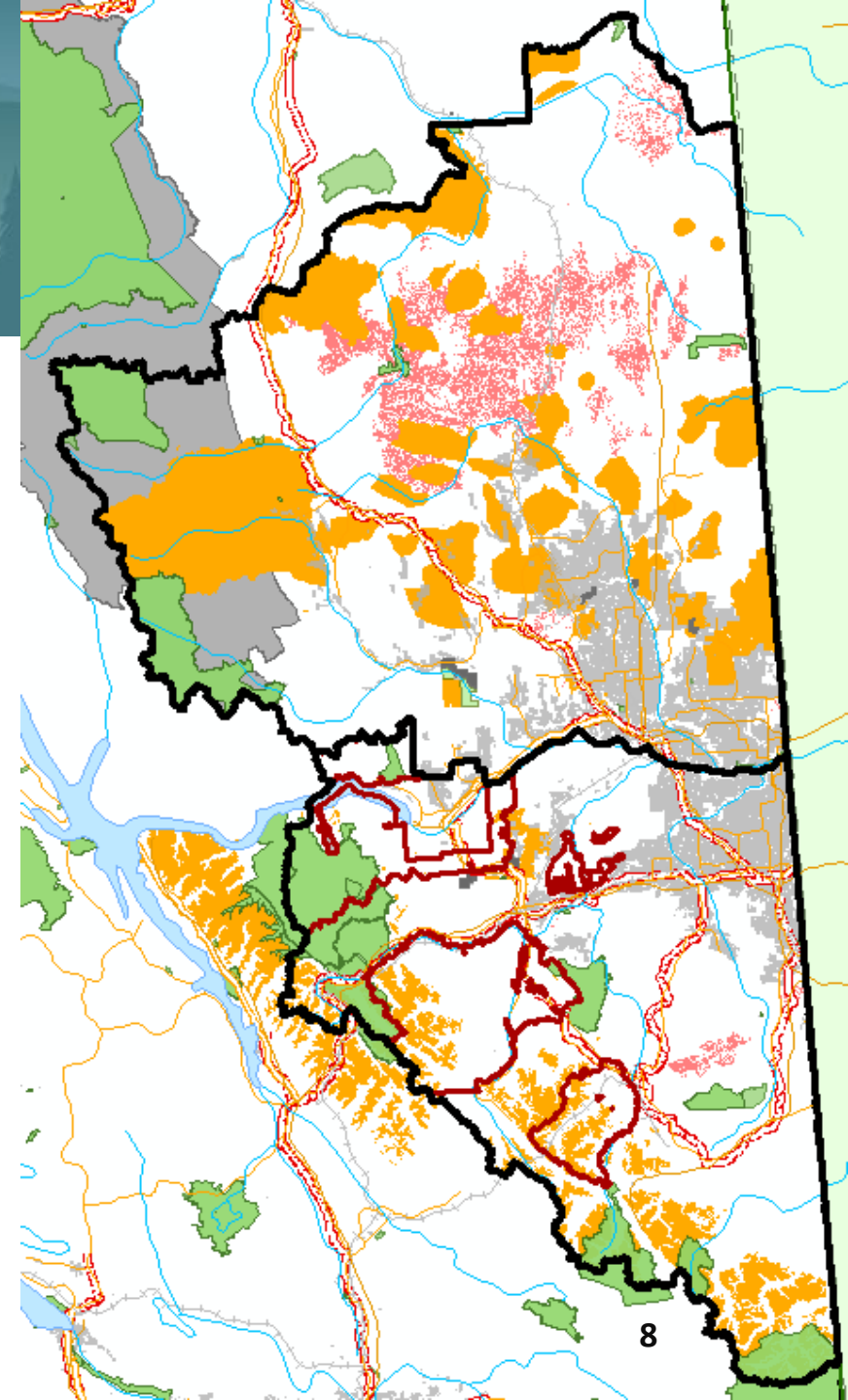
- 1.5Mm³ of Deciduous
- 2.1Mm³ of Conifer



Current Known Impacts - Peace District

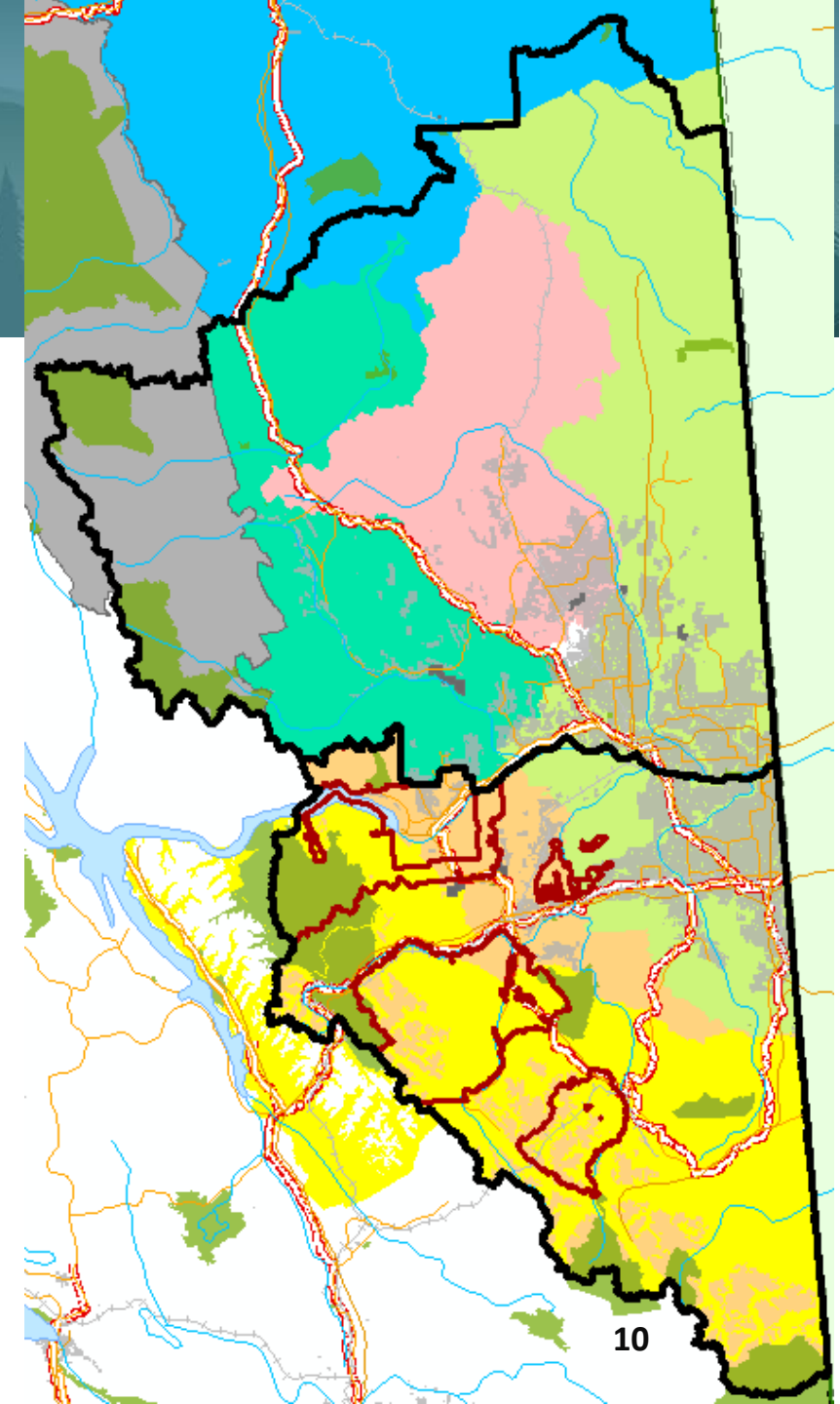
Peace District Facility Fibre and Profile Requirements

Impact category	Estimated Conifer Impact (m3/yr)	Estimated Deciduous Impact (m3/yr)	Estimated Total impact (m3/yr)
TLA / TLA	533,000	449,000	982,000
Blueberry HV1			
Caribou Part 13 orders (Partnership Agreement)			
Treaty 8 consensus Protection & DRFN EPA 2			
Wildfire impacts (2023)			
Currently Remaining AAC	2,275,00	1,430,000	3,705,000



Ongoing Planning Processes

- Several outstanding planning commitments through BRFN IA and T8 Consensus Agreement with multiple significant overlaps
 - Completion of Land Use Plan and First Nations Land Use Planning commitments and Watershed Management Basin Planning
 - Caribou recovery and management planning (primarily South Peace)
 - Old Growth & Other
- Completion of planning initiatives is anticipated to help address questions & concerns regarding Cumulative Effects, and provide more clarity & predictability for resource sectors
- Potential future downward AAC pressures
 - **Still to be defined** – anticipated to be through operational practices & landscape level values management, potential examples:
 - Increased riparian retention / WTP percentages etc.
 - Special management considerations for moose licks, caribou etc.
 - Higher Old Forest targets
 - New targets or management approaches for different values



Moving Forward



Key Principles / Considerations for planning process

- Ensure sufficient fibre volume and species composition to allow for ongoing operation of remaining facilities
 - Work to move West Fraser from 1 shift, back to 2
 - Consider opportunities for availability of additional forest tenure
- Ensure sufficient volume for tenure commitments (License Replacements, First Nations tenure commitment)
- Ensure FSJ Sawmill remains an ongoing consideration
- Consideration for potential future wildfire or forest health impacts

Next Steps

- Continue to Model / Monitor potential THLB / AAC impacts of planning commitments / approaches
- Ensure potential Forest Sector implications are appropriately considered in planning processes (acceptable AAC impacts are senior Gov decision).
- Consider interim AAC adjustments as necessary (next FSJ TSR – 2028)
- Explore alternate fibre opportunities
- Future amendments to SFMP likely required to align with future plans