

PAC Feedback Summary

Values & Objectives Comments	Comment to be addressed in DFMP	Which Value Category?	Comment to be incorporated into DFMP objective	SLS Follow-up Comments
Commitment to preserve wetlands (AM)	Yes	Protection & Maintenance of Water Resources; Conservation of Biological Diversity	Under Review	SLS will add a wetlands section to the Protection of Water Resources section of the DFMP.
Conduct research into the significance of buffer zones for wetlands and other sensitive sites (AM)	Yes	Forestry Research Science & Technology; Protection & Maintenance of Water Resources & Conservation of Biological Diversity	No	SLS participates in various research programs in support of sustainable forest management. SLS will note that a stakeholder recommended wetland buffer research. SLS forest operations are and will be in compliance with the Provincial wetland Policy
Wetlands – prioritize or evaluate where buffer management is appropriate (EB)	Yes	Protection & Maintenance of Water Resources; Conservation of Biological Diversity	No	SLS will note that a stakeholder recommended evaluation of buffer sizes for wetlands. Wetlands that qualify as water source areas are currently buffered accordingly in the Operating Ground Rules.
Clear definition of a wetland (CS)	Yes	Protection & Maintenance of Water Resources; Conservation of Biological Diversity	No	SLS will add a DFMP wetlands section to include a definition of wetlands.
Better understanding of hydrological function of the watershed	Yes	Protection & Maintenance of Water Resources; Forestry Research, Science & Technology	No	SLS participates in various research programs in support of sustainable forest management. SLS will note that a stakeholder recommended developing a better understanding of hydrological function. Related Protection & Maintenance of Water Resources; Forestry Research, Science & Technology will be developed.

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Incorporate climate change impacts into forest harvesting practices and forecasting	Yes	Forestry Research Science & Technology	Under Review	A climate change section will be incorporated into the DFMP to Broaden the awareness of climate change impacts on forests, wildlife and biological diversity.
Commitment to most up-to-date peer-reviewed scientific knowledge	Yes	Forestry Research Science & Technology	No	SLS participates in various research, science and technology upon which sustainable forest management decisions are based.
Humility in the face of precautionary principle when impacts are not fully understood (AM)	N/A	N/A	N/A	Comment does not relate to a value or objective.
Listen better to those outside the company & not bury them in verbiage and masses of self-serving justification (AM)	Yes	Public Involvement	No	Our promise to stakeholders is to keep them informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations and provide feedback on how public input influenced decisions. SLS's public involvement policy is to carefully consider feedback and then respond to stakeholders by addressing their concerns. Related Public Involvement objectives will be developed.
Values proposed are statements, need to read more like values (AM)	Yes	Public Involvement		Noted.
Have a conflict resolution process (JS)	Yes	Public Involvement	No	Generally all higher level planning programs SLS initiates have a conflict resolution process. Currently there are dispute resolution mechanisms for members of the public and the PAC. The Pac process has been outlined in the ToR. The DFMP process will have a mechanism as well for the plan development team.
Volume being planned in B9 south is sticker shock for people that live there.	No	Managing of Visual Quality & Recreational benefits	No	Current plan is following approved, spatial harvest sequence, approved forest harvest plan and approved annual operating plan, outside the scope of the DFMP.

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Spread volume out over time (EB)	Yes	Managing of Visual Quality & Recreational benefits	No	The DFMP will address visual quality management. Related Managing of Visual Quality & Recreational benefits objectives will be developed.
Challenge of maintaining a high as possible percentage of young vibrant forest as opposed to old and mature forest (HB)	Yes	Sustainable Timber Supply	No	Forest stands will be managed sustainably overtime to emulate natural processes. Related Sustainable Timber Supply objectives will be developed.
Forest management programs have an 80-100 year time frame and the public or community perception is immediate or one year at best (HB)	Yes	Managing of Visual Quality & Recreational benefits	No	Dealt with in multiple sustainable forest management VOITs. SLS strives to educate the public about sustainable forestry and the need to renew the forest to support biological diversity and forest health.
A healthy, sustainable, commercial forest (JS) - Producing wealth for foresters and prosperity for local communities	Yes	Sustainable Timber Supply	No	Reflects current values and objectives as well as Alberta planning standard VOITs. Related Sustainable Timber Supply objectives will be developed.
- Reforestation as monoculture may not produce a healthy sustainable forest	Yes	Forest Health & Productivity; Conservation of Biological Diversity	No	Include as an explanation in silviculture strategy section. Describe how stocking of natural seedlings is promoted by silviculture activities. Related Forest Health & Productivity and Conservation of Biological Diversity objectives will be developed.
A healthy ecosystem to support a healthy, sustainable, commercial forest (JS)	Yes	Forest Health & Productivity; Conservation of Biological Diversity	No	Related Forest Health & Productivity and Conservation of Biological Diversity objectives will be developed.

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- Sustainable quality of water and good water quality	Yes	Protection & Maintenance of Water Resources	Yes	Reflects current values and objectives as well as Alberta planning standard VOITs
- Water features (stream corridors, riparian lands, ponds etc.) are protected for their water storage and treatment functions	Yes	Protection & Maintenance of Water Resources; Conservation of Biological Diversity	No	Reflects current values and objectives, Alberta planning standard VOITs and operating ground rules. Water features are deleted from the operable forestry landbase in timber supply as well as during ground truthing before field operations. Related Protection & Maintenance of Water Resources and Conservation of Biological Diversity objectives will be developed.
- Landscape connectivity & healthy soils	Yes	Conservation of Biological Diversity; Forest Health & Productivity	Yes (soils) Under Review (landscape connectivity)	A soil conservation objective reflects current values and objectives, Alberta planning standard VOITs and operating ground rules. A landscape connectivity objective will be reviewed. The FMP planning will evaluate strategic areas to be retained in the passive land base.
Cumulative impacts at a regional landscape scale that may affect society (JS)	Yes	Protection & Maintenance of Water Resources	No	Cumulative impacts analysis is outside the scope of the FMA – will note the issue for review with ESRD. SLS has a number of standards that requires use of existing roads and reclamation of new roads. SLS has a 100% road reclamation policy. Related Protection & Maintenance of Water Resources objectives will be developed.
- Establish baseline landscape condition	Yes	Conservation of Biological Diversity	No	Part of the DFMP is a landscape assessment (chapter 2) that evaluates the current state of the forest management agreement area. As well, baseline landscape condition for the region is reported in the SSRP. Related Conservation of Biological Diversity Objectives will be developed.

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- Continuous feedback in the system is required	Yes	Forestry Research Science & Technology	Yes	Although it is not explicit to cumulative impacts, the adaptive management mechanism provides for continuous feedback. As well, renewing management plans every 10 years or as needed after a large scale environmental disaster (such as a wildfire) is a mechanism for feedback into the system.
Minimize footprint – whenever possible use selective logging to meet objectives (JS)	Yes	Conservation of Biological Diversity	No	Selective logging is a prescription that is not appropriate in our region for meeting ecological or forest health objectives. Partial cutting, such as variable retention harvesting or clear cutting with reserves are appropriate strategies. SLS uses both of the latter strategies to accomplish silvicultural and ecological objectives. Related Conservation of Biological Diversity Objectives will be developed.
Incorporate sense of well-being and private property owners' desire for high quality of life and peace and quiet enjoyment of property adjacent to forest operations (JS)	Yes	Managing of Visual Quality & Recreational benefits	No	SLS follows land use zoning regulations (i.e. public landuse zone designated trails, Provincial park legislation etc.). The current DFMP addresses aesthetics and integration with non-commercial users. SLS will continue to incorporate feedback into operational plans that address visual quality & recreational benefits. SLS will develop objectives and targets for Managing of Visual Quality & Recreational benefits.

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Proper trails and recreational areas can be identified during forestry operations (JS)	Yes	Managing of Visual Quality & Recreational benefits	Under Review (trail identification)	Designated trails are identified though the governments recreation management plan (to be incorporated into the SSRP) and identified in the landscape assessment of the DFMP. Trail and recreational area identification may be used in conjunction with a indicator and target for measuring a Managing of Visual Quality & Recreational benefits value.
The FMA has some small areas of different plant/tree species that may not show on the vegetation maps - ground truthing is exceptionally important. (SF)	Yes	Conservation of Biological Diversity	Yes	Very close to Alberta Planning Standard VOIT – maintain plant community uncommon in DFA or Province. Ground rules deal with protection of protected tree species (Whitebark pine, Douglas fir etc.). As well, in our last plan the AAC was reduced by a percentage to incorporate the unknown deletions that would be encountered in forest harvest planning.
Much of the FMA is second cut forest already, but when replanting with monocultures, maintaining the genetic diversity could be a challenge. (SF)	Yes	Conservation of Biological Diversity	No	Fulfills the Alberta Planning Standard's Value of gene integrity of natural tree populations. As well in Silviculture section will include as an explanation of how stocking of natural seedlings (that is from forest floor's seedbank) is promoted by silviculture activities. Related Conservation of Biological Diversity objectives will be developed.

Identified Value/Objective	Value to be addressed in DFMP	Which Value Category?	Comment to be incorporated into DFMP objective	SLS Follow-up Comments
1. Access Management				

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Long-term and ongoing protection of the environment from impacts of new and existing access (AM)	Yes	Protection & Maintenance of Water Resources; Conservation of Biological Diversity	Yes	SLS will have an objective based on road density levels.
Can we add something here about reclaiming / decommissioning forestry roads as fast as possible? (2 separate comments) (GR) & (AM)	Yes	Protection & Maintenance of Water Resources; Conservation of Biological Diversity	Under Review	Will consider adding a metric about the duration that temporary forestry roads are kept open.
2. Adaptive Management and Research				
Change to - Openness to change management strategies and practices in light of new peer-reviewed research from range of sources	Yes	Forestry Research Science & Technology	No	This is a general judgment statement that implies SLS and the Alberta Government are not open to change. When evaluating the SLS forestry program and the various AESRD land management programs, there are multiple examples where both organizations have incorporated significant changes. One example is SLS's FSC certification. SLS will continue to make changes to continually improve forest management plans. The government has developed a provincial wetlands policy. Forestry Research Science & Technology Objectives will be developed.

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Recommend beefing up to get across idea of “scientific” adaptive management, including careful prediction and testing of alternative hypotheses (not learning by just random ‘trial and error’ or responding to issues).	Yes	Forestry Research Science & Technology	No	This is a general judgment statement that implies SLS is not scientific about adaptive management. Related Forestry Research Science & Technology Objectives will be developed.
3. Aesthetic Values				
Commitment to placing top priority on preserving scenic and natural values in areas of high visual significance	Yes	Managing of Visual Quality & Recreational benefits	Under review	Will review what management strategies can be incorporated to preserving scenic areas in areas of high visual significance.
4. Biodiversity and Wildlife				
Better understanding of impact of long-term timber harvesting on biological diversity, wildlife habitat, and ecosystems	Yes	Conservation of Biological Diversity	No	SLS will continue our growth and yield monitoring program to increase understanding of vegetation dynamics in our FMA. Regional level biodiversity is a responsibility of ESRD & is dealt with in the SSRP (bio-diversity monitoring framework to be developed). Related objectives will be developed to protect biodiversity.
6. Soil Conservation (Change to Forest Health & Productivity)				
Research and better understanding of the impacts of industrial activity on soil productivity and health	Yes	Forestry Research Science & Technology; Forest Health & Productivity	No	SLS participates in various research programs in support of sustainable forest management. SLS will note that a stakeholder recommended soils research in conjunction with industrial use. A related objective will be developed to protect forest soils.
7. Forest Health (Forest Pest Management)				

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Flexibility to deal with threats to forest health from diseases, insect infestations and other potentially harmful phenomena.	Yes	Forest Health & Productivity	Under Review	Fits with promoting a healthy forest. Also provides ability to manage forest health threats as they develop
8. Forest Landbase				
Security of land base for the company.	Yes	Sustainable Timber Supply	Yes	Security and maintenance of landbase fulfills Alberta forest planning standard VOITs.
Consideration of compensation for the company in the event of imposed variances.	No	Sustainable Timber Supply	No	Consideration of compensation will represent changes to the existing tenure system. Can recommend comment to ESRD.
9. Forest Fire Protection				

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<p>Large forest fires have been identified as one of the greatest risks facing The City of Calgary's source water quality, as shown by the Lost Creek wildfire study and other papers published by the Southern Rockies Watershed Project (Dr. Uldis Silins, UofA, Dr. Monica Emelko, University of Waterloo, etc.). -Under Issue/Value, please add: "Water quality impacts downstream after large widespread fires", and under "Objective" add: "9.2 Mitigate the intensity and rate of spread of potential wildfires through forest landscape design" (GR)</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Protection & Maintenance of Water Resources</p>	<p>Under review</p>	<p>Alberta Planning Standard VOIT. Need to consult with fire management professional to incorporate into DFMP</p>
<p>10. Historical Resources and Unique Areas</p>				
<p>High priority on preserving historical resources and unique sites within the FMA (AM)</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Historical Resources and Unique Areas</p>	<p>Under development</p>	<p>Need to review wording of objective statement. Dealt with in land base stratification of historic resource potential as well as historic resource assessment base on annual operating plan.</p>
<p>11. Integration of Other Values and Non-Commercial Uses</p>				
<p>Greater acceptance and increased commitment to integrating other land-use values, including non-commercial uses, into harvest planning and operations (AM)</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Managing of Visual Quality & Recreational benefits</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Will look at the wording as well as additional indicators and targets to create an objective for this value.</p>
<p>13. Protected Areas</p>				

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Full recognition of sanctity of protected areas (AM)	Yes	Protected Areas	Under Review	Will review the wording of the objective. Fulfills Alberta Planning standard 1.4 – Protected Areas- Respect protected areas identified through government process.
Both the Issue/Value and the Objective are very unclear as written – does this even belong here or is this a GOA / Regional Planning issue? (GR)	NA	Protected Areas	NA	Yes it is dealt with at the SSRP and FMA level. Need to include to cover off Alberta planning standard VOITs. This is a GOA requirement (see above) .
Protected areas need to be refined to focus on rare and unique ecosites & habitats, unique areas & historical or cultural resources. It is important to mesh the language so it fits with the FSC area of concern regarding protected/protecting rare/unique areas (SF)	Yes	Protected Areas	Under Review	Rare and unique ecosites & habitats, unique areas & historical or cultural resources protection objectives will be incorporated. Will evaluate rewording the value. Rare and unique habitat analysis will be completed with the new inventory information. as part of the next DFMP and as well the set aside key areas of the landbase for connectivity (currently and FSC requirement)
14. Public Involvement				
Commitment to a meaningful, honest and fully-consultative process of public participation in the decision-making affecting crown resources	Yes	Public Involvement	No	SLS is committed to a meaningful, honest public participation process. SLS is currently following a government approved public participation program and the operating ground rules for consultation.
15. Public Safety				
Important item that is not identified in the Alberta planning standard	Yes	Public Safety		Noted
16. Reforestation				

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Commitment to best practices available for regeneration success in harvested areas	Yes	Forest Health & Productivity	Under Review	Need to review wording, a related objective will be explored
17. Sustainable Timber Supply				
Maintenance of security for timber supply based on a commitment to balance ecological, social and economic needs	Yes	Sustainable Timber Supply	Under Review	Multiple VOITs from the Alberta planning standard will be used to ensure that this value can be achieved
18. Water Quality and Quantity and Fisheries Resources				
Please split water quality, water quantity, and fisheries resources as separate issues/values with separate objectives as they are interrelated but all very different (GR)	Yes	Protection & Maintenance of Water Resources; Protection & Maintenance of Fisheries Habitat	NA	Will update the values to separate fisheries
Water Quality: Potential effects of timber harvesting and access roads on downstream water quality (GR)	Yes	Protection & Maintenance of Water Resources	Under Review	Will explore an objective that relates to this statement. Water quality monitoring is the responsibility of the Alberta government.
Objective: -Maintain water quality by minimizing erosion and suspended sediment export downstream (GR)	Yes	Protection & Maintenance of Water Resources	Under Review	Will explore an objective that relates to this statement. Fits with Alberta planning standard VOIT - Maintain aquatic biodiversity by implementing BMP's. Water quality monitoring is a responsibility of the Alberta government.
Objective: -Mitigate the impacts of forestry activities on nutrient export and changes to chemical cycling (GR)	Yes	Protection & Maintenance of Water Resources	Under Review	Will explore an objective that relates to this statement. Water quality monitoring is a responsibility of the Alberta government.

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Objective: -Mitigate the potential for large, widespread forest fires that would impact on water quality (also see points above under 9.) (GR)	Yes	Protection & Maintenance of Water Resources	Under Review	Will explore an objective that relates to this statement.
Water Quantity Potential effects of timber harvesting and access roads on hydrology (GR)	Yes	Protection & Maintenance of Water Resources	Under Review	Will explore an objective that relates to this statement.
Objective: -Minimize the impacts of forestry activities on average water yield through the ECA modeling analysis (GR)	Yes	Protection & Maintenance of Water Resources	Under Review	Fits with Alberta planning standard VOIT – Limit impact of timber harvesting on water yield. Will explore an objective that relates to this statement.
Objective: -Minimize the potential risk that forestry activities will contribute incrementally to downstream flooding during extreme events (note: existing research shows that impacts on drought are likely to be less of a concern overall). (GR)	Yes	Protection & Maintenance of Water Resources	Under Review	Will explore an objective that relates to this statement.
Potential effects of timber harvesting and access roads on fish habitat resources (GR)	Yes	Protection & Maintenance of Fisheries Habitat	Under Review	Will explore an objective that relates to this statement and fish habitat. Measurement of fish populations are the responsibility of the Alberta government.

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Objective: Minimize the effects of SLS activities on watercourses (GR)	Yes	Protection & Maintenance of Water Resources; Protection & Maintenance of Fisheries Habitat	Yes	Will explore an objective that relates to this statement. Fits with Alberta planning standard VOIT – Minimize impact of operations in riparian areas. Also is captured in the ground rule renewal stage, after DFMP is developed.
Objective: Protect fish and fish habitat (GR)	Yes	Protection & Maintenance of Fisheries Habitat	Under Review	Fits with Alberta planning standard VOIT – Maintain aquatic biodiversity by minimizing impact of water crossings. Captured in the ground rule renewal stage, after DFMP is developed
Water Quality and Quantity cannot be separated out from the fisheries resources for a variety of reasons, as they are integrally inter-related. (SF)	N/A	Protection & Maintenance of Water Resources; Protection & Maintenance of Fisheries Habitat	Under Review	SLS will look at splitting these two values.
19. Trans-boundary Management				
		Delete Value		Evaluate the possibility of moving or deleting this value.
20. Carbon Sequestration				
Attention must be paid to emerging info, research results and regulatory requirements (SF)	Yes	Change value from Carbon Sequestration to: Forest Health & Productivity	Yes	Yes. Fits with Alberta planning standard VOIT. Will develop a section to address carbon storage.

PAC Feedback Summary

Draft DFMP Values

- 1 Forest Health & Productivity (Soil productivity was added to this & Carbon Sequestration was added to this)
- 2 Protection & Maintenance of Fisheries Habitat
- 3 Protection & Maintenance of Water Resources
- 4 Sustainable Timber Supply
- 5 Public Safety
- 6 Public Involvement
- 7 Protected Areas
- 8 Managing of Visual Quality & Recreational benefits
- 9 Historical Resources & Unique Values
- 10 Forestry Research Science & Technology
- 11 Conservation of Biodiversity
- 12 Integration with commercial
- 13 Access Management
- 14 Community Timber Program
- 15 Forest Protection (fire)
- 16 Forest Landbase
- 17 Integration of other Values and Noncommercial uses

Deleted Trans boundary Issues
Moved - Carbon Sequestration
Moved - Soil Productivity