

March 12, 2025

To: Jill Thompson
Cowichan Watershed Board
4335 Riverside Rd,
Duncan, BC V9L 6M8

Via email to: info@cowichanwatershedboard.ca

RE: New Forest Stewardship Plan for Community Forest Agreement K1K

Dear Jill Thompson and the Cowichan Watershed Board,

On behalf of Khowutzun Forest Services Limited, a Cowichan Tribes company, licensee of Community Forest Agreement (CFA) K1K, I am providing you with their new draft Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) for your review prior to it being submitted to the District Manager of the South Island Natural Resource District for approval.

CFA K1K is a 1673 ha area south of the Cowichan River just downstream from Skutz Falls.

We would like to know if you have any comments regarding this draft FSP including questions or concerns that you would like to discuss. I am available to meet in person, by web meeting (Zoom), or by telephone to discuss any aspects of the draft FSP. I can be contacted at (250) 337-5588 or by e-mail at: brian@econ.ca. Alternatively a written response may be submitted via email or to the Econ Consulting mailing address above. Comments must be received by May 30, 2025. Any comments received will be submitted with the new WLP to the District Manager of the South Island Natural Resources District, Ministry of Forests. Depending on responses received the Ministry may contact respondents to conduct follow-up consultation.

With best regards,



Brian Smart, RPF 2813 Econ Consulting

Attachments:

.kmz file of CFA K1K tenure area for locating it on Google Earth
Draft FSP and map for CFA K1K

DRAFT

**Community Forest Agreement K1K
Forest Stewardship Plan
2025-2030**

**Khowutzun Forest Services Limited
Partnership
Cowichan Tribes**

March 10, 2025

Prepared by:

Authorized by:

Brian Smart R.P.F. 2813
Econ Consulting Ltd.

I certify that this draft Forest Stewardship Plan replacement is authorized on behalf of the Alberni Valley Community Forest Corporation.

Board Member
Chair, Khowutzun Forest
Services Limited Partnership

Approved by:

.....
James Proteau, District Manager
Ministry of Forests, South Island Natural Resources District
4885 Cherry Creek Road
Port Alberni, B.C. V9Y 8E9

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

A Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) must be prepared by forest agreement holders (Licensees) and approved by the Provincial government before associated permits can be issued. As per the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA), a FSP must specify results or strategies that describe how the Licensee will ensure that their operations on the ground are consistent with government set objectives for soil, timber, wildlife, water, fish, biodiversity, visual quality, cultural heritage, recreation, invasive plants and natural range barriers. A FSP also describes how a Licensee will re-establish a healthy productive forest stand after harvest.

This FSP will replace the Community Forest Agreement (CFA) K1K FSP approved on June 26, 2018, which expired on June 26, 2023. This replacement FSP outlines how the Licensee, Khowutzun Forest Services Limited Partnership (KFS) will be accountable for all the management strategies and actions to which they have committed as either a result or a strategy. By ensuring that every action is measurable and verifiable KFS can demonstrate sustainable forest management and continual review and improvement in their ongoing practices.

The Khowutzun Community Forest Agreement K1K is situated within the traditional territory of Cowichan Tribes as well as the following First Nations:

- Stz'uminus First Nation
- Tsu'uubaa-asatx First Nation
- Penelakut Tribe
- Halalt First Nation
- Malahat Nation
- Ditidaht First Nation

The Community Forest Agreement K1K is 1672.8 ha and has an AAC of 10,000m³/year. It is comprised of predominantly second growth coniferous forest and is located to the south of the Cowichan River, approximately 10 km west of Duncan B.C. The CFA is accessed via Mayo Road over the Skutz Falls bridge. See CFA K1K Location map on the following page.

This FSP takes direction from the Vancouver Island Land Use Plan (VILUP), the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA), the Land Act (LA), the Government Actions Regulation (GAR), the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation (FPPR), grandfathered sections of the Forest Practices Code Act of British Columbia (FPC), and other pertinent legislation that governs forest practices in British Columbia.

Throughout the FSP there are numerous references to the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation (FPPR) and the sections therein that are relevant to the FSP document. The FPPR can be viewed at the BC Laws website:

http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/14_2004

Community Forest K1K Location Map



1.1 Acronyms used in this FSP

In this forest stewardship plan:

“BEC”	Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification
“CHR”	Cultural Heritage Resource
“CWAP”	Coastal watershed assessment procedure
“FDU”	Forest development unit.
“FPPR”	Forest Planning and Practices Regulation B.C. Reg 14/2004.
“FRPA”	Forest and Range Practices Act.
“FSP”	Forest Stewardship Plan.
“K1K”	Community Forest Agreement K1K
“KFS”	Khowutzun Forest Services Limited Partnership
“MAMU”	Marbled Murrelet
“MOE”	Ministry of Environment.
“MOF”	Ministry of Forests.
“OGMA”	Old growth management area.
“SID”	South Island Natural Resource District.
“VILUP”	Vancouver Island Land Use Plan Higher Level Plan Order
“VQO”	Visual quality objective.
“WHA”	Wildlife habitat area

1.2 Definitions used in this FSP

"Qualified Professional" means

A qualified person is one who possesses the specified knowledge, skills, training, experience and other requirements to perform a specified type of work as:

- set out in legislation,
- set out in government policy or
- required by an organisation satisfactory to government that has the responsibility for specifying the requirements.

"Forest Practice" means

A prescribed activity (including but not limited to: road construction, reactivation or deactivation, road maintenance, harvesting, and/or silviculture treatment) that is carried out by KFS on the community forest (see FRPA definition)

2.0 DATE OF SUBMISSION

The date of submission of this Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) is the date received by the Ministry of Forests, South Island Natural Resources District (the "Date of Submission").

3.0 TERM OF THE FSP AND COMMENCEMENT

The term of this plan is 5 years from the date specified in the approval.

4.0 FSP FDU

The area to which this Forest Stewardship Plan applies, including the boundaries of the FDU and all designations in effect, are indicated on the 1:20,000 scale FSP map located in Appendix 3.

4.1 Forest Development Unit

Forest Development Units (FDUs) identify areas of planned development activities that have a common set of objectives, results and strategies. FDUs are general in nature and do not reflect specific development plans such as roads and blocks.

There is one FDU designated for the CFA K1K covering the entire tenure area. See the map in Appendix 3 showing the K1K tenure boundary and the one FDU for this FSP.

4.2 Designations in Effect at Date of Submission of this FSP

The FSP map identifies the designations and requirements described in FPPR S.14(3) that apply and were in effect on the Date of Submission. These designations are listed below:

Table 1: FPPR 14(3) Designations in effect for the K1K FSP:

FPPR 14 (3)(b)	Date Designated
Wildlife Habitat Areas (WHA): WHA 1-034 Marbled Murrelet	GAR Order, December 4, 2006. GAR Order - amendment for boundary change, June 28, 2007
FPPR 14 (3)(e)	Date Designated
Scenic Areas: Visual Landscape Inventory polygon 721 and Visual Quality Objectives	VQOs established by GAR Order Dec 15, 2005, GAR Order amended December 30, 2011
FPPR 14 (3)(j)	Expiry Date
Cutting Permit "R" Road Permit R15041	2025 02 26 N/A

4.3 Areas to which FRPA S196(1) or (2) or FPPR S.110 Applies

There are no areas to which FRPA Section 196 (1) or (2) apply within this FSP's FDU.

4.4 Areas within FDUs Subject to a RP but not subject to this FSP

There are no roads within the FDU, other than Forest Service Roads, that are subject to an existing road permit (RP) but not to this FSP as per *FPPR S.14(3)(j)*.

5.0 RESULTS, STRATEGIES AND MEASURES

- Landscape level objectives for the Cowichan Landscape Unit have not been established.
- The Vancouver Island Land Use Plan (VILUP) Higher Level Plan Order Establishes the K1K tenure area as within the General Resource Management Zone. There are no VILUP management requirements beyond Provincial legislation.
- All results and strategies are applicable to the one FDU that covers all of the CFA K1K tenure area.

5.1 Land Use Objectives Established by Order

5.1.1 Provincial Old Growth Deferrals

The British Columbia Government and the Ministry of Forests announced on November 2, 2021 the deferment of priority old growth stands in BC as a step in implementing the Old Growth Strategy. There are no deferred old growth stands located within the K1K tenure area so no result or strategy is required.

5.1.2 Marbled Murrelet Notice and Order

5.1.2 Order for the Recovery of Marbled Murrelet (<i>Brachyramphus marmoratus</i>), Nov. 2021	
	The K1K tenure is within the East Vancouver Island Conservation Region of the Order for the Recovery of Marbled Murrelet (MAMU).
Result	All identified MAMU suitable nesting habitat within the East Vancouver Island Conservation Region is to be conserved. There is one 7.1 ha polygon of suitable MAMU habitat identified within the K1K CFA tenure area which is conserved within WHA 1-34 as shown on the FSP map.

5.1.3 Order Establishing Provincial Non-Spatial Old Growth Objectives

5.1.3 Order Establishing Provincial Non-Spatial Old Growth Objectives, June 30, 2004	
	Objectives have not been established for the Cowichan Landscape Unit, however, draft Old Growth Management Areas (OGMA) have been delineated and are filed in the Provincial database.
Result	One non-legal OGMA is located within the CFA K1K tenure area. Although it is very roughly drawn it is clear that the intent of it is to completely overlap with WHA1-034. The non-legal OGMA is 69.4 ha. No harvesting, including salvage, will occur within this WHA/OGMA.

5.2 Objectives prescribed under FRPA S.149

5.2.1 Soils

5.2.1 Objectives set by government for soils [FPPR S.5]	
Objective	<i>The objective set by government for soils is to conserve the productivity and the hydrologic function of soils.</i>
Result	In accordance with FPPR s. 12.1(5) the CFA K1K agreement holder will comply with Sections 35 and 36 of FPPR during the term of this plan and is therefore exempt from the requirement to specify a result or strategy.
Practice Requirements	KFS will comply with FPPR S.35 (<i>soil disturbance limits</i>) and s.36 (<i>permanent access structure limits</i>).

5.2.2 Wildlife

5.2.2 Objectives set by government for wildlife [FPPR S.7]	
Objective	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>The objective set by government for wildlife is to conserve sufficient wildlife habitat in terms of amount of area, distribution of areas and attributes of those areas, for</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <i>the survival of species at risk,</i> b. <i>the survival of regionally important wildlife, and</i> c. <i>the winter survival of specified ungulate species.</i> 2. <i>A person required to prepare a forest stewardship plan must specify a result or a strategy in respect of the objective stated under subsection (1) only if the minister responsible for the Wildlife Act gives notice to the person of the applicable</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <i>species referred to in subsection (1), and</i> b. <i>indicators of the amount, distribution and attributes of wildlife</i>

	<p><i>habitat described in subsection (1).</i></p> <p>3. <i>If satisfied that the objective set out in subsection (1) is addressed, in whole or in part, by an objective in relation to a wildlife habitat area or an ungulate winter range, a general wildlife measure, or a wildlife habitat feature, the minister responsible for the Wildlife Act must exempt a person from the obligation to specify a result or strategy in relation to the objective set out in subsection (1) to the extent that the objective is already addressed.</i></p> <p>4. <i>On or after December 31, 2004, a notice described in subsection (2) must be given at least 4 months before the forest stewardship plan is submitted for approval.</i></p>
Context	<p>The Notice specifies the amount, distribution and attributes of wildlife habitat required for “Queen Charlotte” Goshawk, MAMU, and Scouler’s Corydalis.</p> <p>Exemptions from the obligation of preparing a result or strategy for the South Island Forest District have been provided as set out FPPR S. 7(1) for the Queen Charlotte Goshawk and the Scouler’s Corydalis. Therefore this FSP does not contain any results or strategies for these two species.</p> <p>The Notice does specify the amount, distribution and attributes of wildlife habitat required for Marbled Murrelet (MAMU), however, the Nov. 2021 <i>Order for the Recovery of Marbled Murrelet (Brachyramphus marmoratus)</i>, overrides the Dec. 4, 2004 Notice.</p>
Result	<p>Results and strategies relating to MAMU can be found under the MAMU Order in section 5.1.</p>

5.2.3 Water, Fish, Wildlife and Biodiversity within Riparian Areas

5.2.3 Objectives set by government for water, fish, wildlife and biodiversity within riparian areas (FPPR S. 8)	
Objective	<i>The objective set by government for water, fish, wildlife and biodiversity within riparian areas is to conserve, at the landscape level, the water quality, fish habitat, wildlife habitat and biodiversity associated with those riparian areas.</i>
Results	<p>In respect of FPPR Section 8, the holder of the FSP will adopt FPPR Sections 47(1) to (3), 47(5) to (8), 48(1) and (2), 48(4) to (7), 49(1), 49(3) to (5), 50, 51, 52(2) and 53, except in those circumstances as described below.</p> <p>1) For areas of primary forest activity authorized or carried out by the holder of the FSP, the widths of the riparian management area, riparian reserve zone and riparian management zone will be:</p> <p>a) As specified in FPPR Sections 47(4) to (6), 48(3) to (5) and 49(2) to (3) or</p> <p>b) As per FPPR 12.1(2), is specified in a written rationale that:</p> <p>i) takes into consideration the Factors in Schedule 1, section 2</p>

	<p>of the FPPR,</p> <p>ii) is consistent with <i>Legislated Riparian Assessments in BC Professional Practice Guidelines (APEGBC/ABCFP/CAB) and</i></p> <p>iii) is prepared by a qualified professional.</p> <p>2) In respect of FPPR Section 50, for construction of roads through a stream, wetland or lakeshore Riparian Management Area, the Riparian Management Area will be as specified in FPPR Section 47(4), 48(3) and 49(2).</p> <p>3) In respect of FPPR Section 12(3), if the holder of the FSP authorizes or carries out a primary forest activity in a riparian management zone in a cutblock, retention of trees will:</p> <p>be based upon the factors in FPPR Schedule 1 Section 2 and be specified and prescribed in a written rationale signed by a qualified professional prior to the commencement of timber harvesting and/or road construction.</p>
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5.2.4 Community Watersheds

5.2.4	Objectives set by government for water in community watersheds (FPPR S. 8.2)
	No Parts of the CFA K1K tenure are within a Community Watershed, therefore no result or strategy has been proposed.

5.2.5 Wildlife and Biodiversity – Landscape Level

5.2.5	Objectives set by government for wildlife and biodiversity – landscape level [FPPR S. 9]
Objective	<i>The objective set by government for wildlife and biodiversity at the landscape level is to the extent practicable, to design areas on which timber harvesting is to be carried out that resemble, both spatially and temporally, the patterns of natural disturbance that occur within the landscape.</i>
Strategy	KFS will adopt FPPR Sections 64 (<i>cutblock size</i>) and 65 (<i>cutblock adjacency</i>), as a strategy under this FSP.

5.2.6 Wildlife and Biodiversity – Stand Level

5.2.6	Objectives set by government for wildlife and biodiversity – stand level [FPPR S 9.1]
Objective	<i>The objective set by government for wildlife and biodiversity at the stand level is to retain wildlife trees.</i>
Strategy	As per FPPR Section 12.5(1) KFS adopts, as a strategy, sections 66 (<i>wildlife tree retention</i>) and 67 (<i>restriction on harvesting</i>) of the FPPR,

except:

- 1) where:
 - a) A tree or trees must be felled to safely establish one or more tail holds or guy-line tiebacks in a WTRA to facilitate cable harvesting operations, or
 - b) Trees inside a WTRA require modification (pruning or topping) to maintain wind firmness and the integrity of the WTRA, or
 - c) Timber may be harvested in a WTRA where the licensee specifies one or more replacement WTRAs that provide an equivalent area, age, number of trees and habitat that is of roughly equal or better ecological value to the WTRA being harvested and is documented in a manner consistent with the conditions listed under sections (3) and (4) below.
- 2) Where wildlife tree retention targets are specified in a higher-level plan that covers this CFA K1K FDU they will be the levels of wildlife tree retention applicable to this FSP.
- 3) Where timber harvesting or road construction is planned or authorized within a WTRA, replacement area of equivalent area, age, or habitat that is of roughly equivalent or better ecological value must be retained as WTRA that is:
 - a) Within the cutblock to which the WTRA is related, or
 - b) In an area contiguous to the cutblock to which the WTRA is related or
 - c) In an area that is sufficiently close to the cutblock to which the WTRA is related that the wildlife trees could have an ecological effect on the cutblock area.
- 4) The process to replace a WTRA
 - a) Includes a rationale as part of the Site Plan or Site Plan Amendment prepared by a Qualified Professional describing the WTRA removed and the ecological equivalency of the replacement WTRA and
 - b) Includes all data required to be submitted for annual reporting as per FPPR Section 86(3).
- 5) The percentage of a cutblock to be retained as WTRA is a percentage of the sum of the net area to be reforested (NAR) plus the area of Permanent Access Structures (PAS).

5.2.7 Cultural Heritage Resources

5.2.7 Objectives set by government for cultural heritage resources [FPPR S. 10]	
Description	<p>The CFA K1K FDU is within the traditional territories of the following First Nations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cowichan Tribes • Penelakut Tribe • Ditidaht First Nation • Ts'uubaa-asatx First Nation • Halalt First Nation • Stz'uminus First Nation • Lyackson First Nation • Malahat Nation <p>These 8 First Nations will be referred to in the strategies of this section as "the First Nations".</p>
Objective	<p><i>The objective set by government for cultural heritage resources is to conserve, or, if necessary, protect cultural heritage resources that are</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>a. the focus of a traditional use by any of the First Nations that is of continuing importance to them and</i> <i>b. not regulated under the Heritage Conservation Act.</i>
Strategies	<p>The following steps will be undertaken by KFS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. KFS will information share to the First Nations cutting permit applications within their traditional territories and will also use the Ministry of Forests' Forest Operations Map (FOM) system to show the locations of planned road construction and harvesting. Through these processes the First Nations may provide information regarding the presence of cultural heritage resources (CHR) within the identified areas and what measures may be required to manage them appropriately. Cultural heritage resources identified through this process will then be "known" for the particular development. 2. When designing a cutblock or road KFS will, prior to harvest or construction, identify: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. the presence and nature of any known CHRs within the planned road or harvest areas, b. the area occupied by a known CHR, c. whether the known CHR can be appropriately managed given the road building or harvesting objectives,

	<p>considering the characteristics and abundance of the CHR within the development area and elsewhere.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. If planned operations would not result in appropriate management of the known CHR the First Nation(s) that identified the CHR will be contacted to discuss management options such as: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. whether the known CHR needs to be protected or conserved on the specific site of the planned operations, or could the identification of the known cultural heritage resource in another protected location meet the needs of the First Nation(s) that identified it, b. What level of operational constraints would be required for the appropriate management of the known CHR. 4. For each CHR that has been identified by one of the First Nations, KFS will carry out a forest practice only to the extent that it is consistent with operational constraints specified under sections 3a and 3b above. 5. If a previously unidentified occurrence of an identified CHR is encountered where KFS is carrying out harvesting or road construction, KFS will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. cease or modify operations within the cutblock or road to the extent necessary to protect the CHR, b. Undertake steps 3 and 4 above. 6. KFS recognizes that mature western red cedar located within the FDU is a CHR important to the First Nations and KFS will ensure that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. western redcedar will be planted where ecologically suited in accordance with the stocking standards specified in this FSP, b. if a strategy for monumental western red cedar has been developed by one of the First Nations and agreed upon by KFS, KFS will assist in implementation of the strategy.
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5.3 Objectives and Measures Set Under the Government Actions Regulation (GAR)

5.3.1 Visual Quality

5.3.1 Visual Quality

Objective	Visual Quality Objectives (VQO) have been established for the South Island Natural Resource District, including areas of the Cowichan Valley and within CFA K1K, by an approved GAR order dated December 15, 2005 and amended effective December 30th, 2011. These VQOs apply to the scenic areas identified as known in the District Manager’s letter dated November 13, 1998 and grandparented under Section 180 of the Forest and Range Practices Act.
Strategy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In these results: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> “applicable scenic area” means a scenic area that was made known in the South Island Forest District by letter dated November 13, 1998, and “applicable visual quality objective” means the visual quality objective established for a scenic area in the South Island Forest District pursuant to Section 7(2) of the Government Actions Regulation and as defined in the FPPR Section 1.1. 2. Within each applicable scenic area, KFS will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. ensure that each cutblock or road is designed in a manner such that the alteration to the forest landscape of the applicable scenic area, when assessed from a significant public viewpoint, will be consistent with the applicable visual quality objective and b. carry out forest practices only if the forest practices are consistent with the design for the cutblock or road referred to in paragraph (a) and that the result is consistent with the applicable visual quality objective.

5.3.2 Recreation

5.3.2 Interpretative forest sites, recreation sites and recreation trails [FRPA 56(1)]	
Description	<p>There are no legally established (FRPA 56(1)) interpretative forest sites, recreation sites or recreation trails within the community forest area and consequently no legally established objectives for these features.</p> <p>Although not legally required, this section is provided within the FSP for information purposes only reflecting the importance of recreational features within the community forest.</p> <p>The Cowichan Valley trail is located along the north boundary of the CFA K1K tenure area. This is a well used trail and is part of the Trans Canada Trail.</p> <p>Roads within the community forest are often used for motorized recreation. Other non-motorized recreation usage levels are not known and are unmanaged.</p>
Objective and Strategies	<p>The KFS objective is that the community forest operations will coexist with recreational opportunities within the community forest.</p> <p>The intention is not to make K1K operations invisible, but to avoid large open cuts immediately along the edge of trails to maintain a forested setting.</p>

5.3.3 Resource Feature Order Establishing Karst Elements as Resource Features

5.3.3 Resource Feature Order Establishing Karst Elements as Resource Features, January 15, 2010	
	<p>As per the December 11, 2009 GAR Order, karst caves, significant surface karst features and important features and elements within high and very high vulnerability karst terrain are identified as a resource feature wherever they are found within the South Island Forest District.</p>
Strategy	<p>The BC iMap karst layer does not show karst potential within CFA K1K, although it is known to be present nearby in the Cowichan Valley. If karst features are identified within K1K during field surveys and engineering KFS will consult the <i>Karst Management Handbook for British Columbia (May2003)</i> and the Provincial guidance document <i>Karst Inventory Standards and Vulnerability Assessment Procedures for British Columbia version 2.0 (January 2003)</i> to ensure that forest operations will not damage or render ineffective any karst resource feature.</p>

5.4 Measures

5.4.1 Measures to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive plants

5.4.1	Measures to Prevent the Introduction and Spread of Invasive Plants
Requirements	<p>Measures to Prevent the Introduction and Spread of Invasive Plants (FRPA S.47, FPPR S.17) FRPA S. 47 requires that:</p> <p>A person carrying out a forest practice or a range practice must carry out measures that are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) specified in the applicable operational plan, or (b) authorized by the minister to prevent the introduction or spread of prescribed species of invasive plants. FPPR S. 17 <p>For the purpose of section 47 [invasive plants] of the Act, a person who prepares a forest stewardship plan must specify measures in the plan to prevent the introduction or spread of species of plants that are invasive plants under the Invasive Plants Regulation, if the introduction or spread is likely to be the result of the person’s forest practices.</p>
Objectives and Measures	<p>The KFS objective with regards to invasive plants is to prevent the introduction or spread of species of plants that are listed under the Invasive Plants Regulation if the introduction or spread is likely to be the result of KFS’s forest practices.</p> <p>Where KFS carries out a forest practice KFS will, within one year of completing the forest practice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • revegetate contiguous areas of exposed soil resulting from forest practices that exceed 0.1 ha. This includes roadsides, spoil sites, stream crossings, temporary access structures or areas of soil disturbance within or adjacent to cutblocks. • use only Common # 1 Forage grade seed mixtures or better that: are of native origin, and have been certified by the Canadian Seed Growers Association for varietal purity and free of weed and/or invasive species. • use sod forming mixtures on permanent access sites where reforestation is not planned, otherwise use legume-based mixtures in areas within the NAR (net area to be reforested)

Current Status	<p>The Provincial Invasive Alien Plant Program (IAPP) currently lists the following invasive species within the CFA K1K tenure area, all of which have been located along the Skutz FSR mainline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BT Bull Thistle • OD Oxeye Daisy • CD Curled Dock • CT Canada Thistle • SJ St John's Wart • SB Scotch Broom • TC Common Tansy • SS Sheep's Sorrell • Himalayan Blackberry, • English Ivy • English Holly
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5.4.2 Measures to Mitigate the Effect of Removing or Rendering Ineffective Natural Range Barriers

5.4.2	Measures to Mitigate the Effect of Removing or Rendering Ineffective Natural Range Barriers.
	<p>This is not applicable to the CFA K1K: there are no agreements under the range act in the vicinity of the community forest nor livestock grazing within the FDU.</p>

6.0 STOCKING STANDARDS

6.1 Situations or Circumstances that determine whether Free Growing is assessed on a Block Basis or Across Blocks

FPPR S. 44(1) applies in all situations or circumstances under the FSP where a free growing stand is required to be established under FRPA S. 29.

6.2 Regeneration Date and Stocking Standards, Free Growing Height

The Stocking Standards specify the regeneration date, free growing height and stocking standards for the situations or circumstances where FPPR S. 44(1) applies.

The stocking standards for K1K CFA are found in Appendix 1, Table A.

6.3 Situations or Circumstances that Determine when FPPR S. 44(4) and the Standards Applicable Under FPPR S.16(4) Applies

If KFS carries out harvesting of special forest products (other than woodchips or hogged tree material), intermediate cuts, commercial thinning or the removal of individual trees from within the area under this plan, then the Stocking Standards found in Appendix 1, Table B will apply. KFS will ensure that harvested areas to which these stocking standards apply will conform to these stocking standards for a period of 12 months after the completion of harvest.

For salvage of timber resulting from windthrow, root rot mortality, or other similar events, openings of up to 0.1 ha in size are acceptable and do not require a site plan or associated requirements for the regeneration and establishment of a free growing stand. No long-term impact on timber yield is expected as the subject areas are likely to regenerate naturally or will be planted concurrent with harvest in adjacent areas.

For openings larger than 0.1 ha even-aged stocking standards will apply.

7.0 REVIEW AND COMMENT

The KFS K1K Forest Stewardship Plan has gone through the required referral process. It was referred directly to the Hul'qumi'num Nations (Cowichan Tribes), Penelakut Tribe, Ditidaht First Nation, Ts'uubaa asatx First Nation, Halalt First Nation, Stz'uminus First Nation, Lyackson First Nation and the Malahat Nation. This plan was also forwarded to the following community organizations and local governments:

Cowichan Tribes
Halalt First Nation
Lyackson First nation
Ts'uubaa-asatx Nation
Ditidaht First Nation
Snuneymuxw First nation
Penelakut Tribe
Stz'uminus First Nation
Malahat Nation

Cowichan Valley Regional District, Parks and Trails
Cowichan Watershed Board
Cowichan Valley Naturalists' Society

9.0 SIGNATURES

Khowutzun Forest Services Limited Partnership

RPF Signature: _____

Name: Brian Smart RPF

Position: Consulting Forester, Econ Consulting Ltd.

Date:

KFS Signature: _____

Name:

Position: Board Member Khowutzun Forest Services Limited
Partnership

Date: _____

APPENDIX 1: STOCKING STANDARDS

Table A: Stocking Standards

Vancouver Forest Region			South Island Forest District								Community Forest Agreement K1K									January 2025				
Standards ID	BEC		Preferred Species								Acceptable Species						Stocking (w/s)			Min Inter Tree Dist (m)	Regen Delay	FG Date	Tree Ht > Brush (min %)	Comments:
	Zone & variant	Site Series	1	Ht (min)	2	Ht (min)	3	Ht (min)	4	Ht (min)	1	Ht (min)	2	Ht (min)	3	Ht (min)	Target P&A (sph)	Min P&A (sph)	Min P (sph)	MITD (m)	Max (yrs)	Late (yrs)		
1058986	CWHmm2	01	Hm ¹³ Hw	1.0/ 1.25	Cw	1.0	Fd ⁹	2.25	Yc	1.0	Ba	0.75					900	500	400	2.0	6	20	150	
1058987	CWHmm2	02	Pl	1.25	Fd	1.5					Cw	0.75					800	400	400	2.0	6	20	150	
1058988	CWHmm2	03	Fd	1.5	Hw	1.0					Hm ¹³	0.75	Yc	0.75	Cw	0.75	800	400	400	2.0	3	20	150	
1058989	CWHmm2	04	Fd	1.5							Pw ³¹	2.5	Yc	0.75	Cw	0.75	900	500	400	2.0	3	20	150	
1058990	CWHmm2	05	Ba ⁴⁷	0.75	Cw	1.0	Yc	1.0	Fd ⁹	2.25	Pw ³¹	2.5					900	500	400	2.0	6	20	150	
1058991	CWHmm2	06	Cw	1.0	Hw	1.25	Yc	1.0			Hm ¹³	1.25	Ba ⁴⁷	0.75	Fd ¹⁴	2.25	900	500	400	2.0	6	20	150	
1058992	CWHmm2	07	Ba	0.75	Cw ¹	0.75	Hw	1.0			Hm ¹³	0.75	Yc ¹	0.75			800	400	400	2.0	3	20	150	
1058993	CWHmm2	08	Cw	1.25	Yc	1.25	Ba ⁴⁷	1.0			Hw	1.75	Fd ⁹	3.0			900	500	400	2.0	3	20	150	
1058994	CWHmm2	10	Cw ¹	0.75							Pw ³¹	2.5	Yc ¹	0.75			800	400	400	2.0	3	20	150	
1058941	CWHxm2	01	Fd	3.0							Hw ²⁴	2.0	Cw	1.5	Pw ³¹	2.5	900	500	400	2.0	3	20	150	
1058942	CWHxm2	03	Fd	2.0	Pl ⁶	1.25					Cw	1.0					800	400	400	2.0	3	20	150	
1058943	CWHxm2	04	Fd	3.0							Cw	1.5	Pw ³¹	2.5			900	500	400	2.0	3	20	150	
1058945	CWHxm2	05	Cw	2.0	Fd	4.0					Pw ³¹	2.5					900	500	400	2.0	3	20	150	
1058946	CWHxm2	06	Cw	1.50	Hw	2.0	Fd ¹⁸	3.0									900	500	400	2.0	6	20	150	
1058947	CWHxm2	07	Cw	2.0	Fd	4.0					Bg ⁴⁷	3.5					900	500	400	2.0	3	20	150	
1058948	CWHxm2	12	Cw ¹	1.0							Hw ¹	1.25	Pw ³¹	2.5	1	1.5	800	400	400	2.0	3	20	150	
1058949	CWHxm2	13	Bg ⁴⁷	3.5	Cw	2.0					Fd	4.0	Ss ³	4.0			900	500	400	1.5	3	20	150	Fluctuating water table
1058950	CWHxm2	14	Bg ⁴⁷	3.5	Cw	2.0					Ss ³						900	500	400	1.0	3	20	150	Fluctuating water table
	CWHxm2	01	Fd	3.0	Cw	1.5					Hw ²⁴	2.0	Pw ³¹	2.5			900	500	400	2.0	3	20	150	Root Rot SS
	CWHxm2	03	Fd	2.0	Pl ⁶	1.25	Cw	1.0									800	400	400	2.0	3	20	150	Root Rot SS
	CWHxm2	04	Fd	3.0	Cw	1.5					Pw ³¹	2.5					900	500	400	2.0	3	20	150	Root Rot SS

Reference Notes for stocking standards

Tree Species

'Ba' is amabilis fir
'Bg' is grand fir
'Cw' is western red cedar
'Fd' is coastal Douglas fir
'Hm' is mountain hemlock
'Hw' is western hemlock
'Pl' is lodgepole pine
'Pw' is white pine
'Ss' is Sitka Spruce
'Yc' is yellow cedar

'Biogeoclimatic unit' or 'BGC classification' means the zone, subzone, variant and site series described in the most recent field guide published by the Ministry of Forests for the identification and interpretation of ecosystems, as applicable to a harvested area.

MIN' or 'Min' means minimum

- 1 - Suitable on elevated microsites
- 3 - use resistant stock to mitigate risk of spruce weevil damage - See Ss Weevil Decision Tool: <http://pubs.cif-ifc.org/doi/abs/10.5558/tfc2013-042>
- 9 - Suitable on warm aspects
- 13 - Suitable at upper elevations
- 14 - Suitable at lower elevations
- 31 - Must use of blister rust resistant stock
- 47 - Risk of balsam wooly adelgid

This table is based on the Vancouver Forest Region *Reference Guide for FDP Stocking Standards* dated September 2022 except for late free growing dates.

Where standards units (SUs) are comprised of an un-mappable mosaic of site series, the practice will be to manage for the stocking standards of the dominant site series provided that the tree species are suitable in all site series contained within the SU.

Reduction of inter-tree spacing to 1.5m is acceptable for site-specific conditions involving bedrock, large blocky colluvium or hygric sites on disturbed roadside areas. Roadside areas generally contain high percentages of mineral and morainal type soils.

Pruning regime for western white pine

If white pine is to be counted in a free-growing survey as one of the well-spaced stems, it will have been pruned in accordance with the following regime:

First Lift –

- Trees will be pruned when mean height of white pine is 1.0 to 2.5 m for plantations.
- Natural white pine will be pruned when height is 1.5 to 3.0 m
- Trees will be pruned to 50 to 65% of total tree height.
- Infected branches above target pruning height will be selectively pruned
- In high hazard areas, early pruning will be considered

Second Lift –

- Trees will be pruned when mean height of white pine is > 5m
- Trees will be pruned to 3.0 m or 50% of total height
- Trees < 5 m will be pruned to 50% of total height

Stocking Standards for FPPR S.44(4) areas

FPPR S.44(4) areas include areas subject to commercial thinning, the removal of individual trees, areas subject to single/group tree selection, salvage of scattered windthrow or root rot mortality or other types of intermediate cutting as well as areas subject to the harvest of special forest products.

Application of these stocking standards applies to single layer stands. Post harvest assessments will focus on remaining layer 1 trees only. Retained trees should have suitable silvical characteristics as well as sufficient live crown (typically >30%) to respond to increased light availability and be of suitable form to increase in volume and value over time. These stocking standards are not intended to act as a guide for commercial or pre-commercial thinning prescriptions. They provide minimum stocking standards that ensure adequate site occupancy and stocking such that a free growing stand is maintained and subsequent regeneration is not required.

Stocking Standards for FPPR S.44(4) areas:

Target from Table A standards (stems/ha)	Layer	Stocking** (Layer 1)		
		Target pa	MIN pa	MIN p
		(well-spaced/ha)		
900	Single	400	200	200
800	Single	300	150	150

** pa - preferred and acceptable species p - preferred species

"Target from Table A standards' are as specified in Table A and according to biogeoclimatic ecosystem classification (BEC) site series.

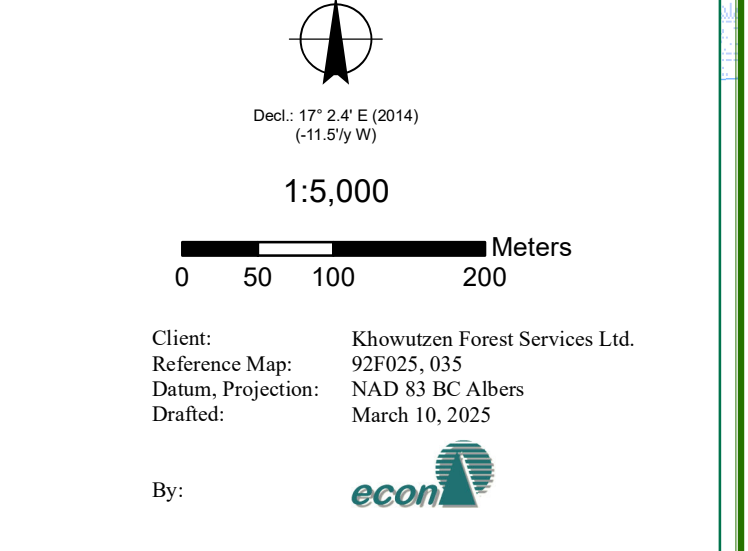
The inclusion of layer one requirements only indicates that no multilayered uneven aged management regimes are intended within the Community Forest.

APPENDIX 2: RATIONALE IN SUPPORT OF STOCKING STANDARDS

The Stocking Standards in this FSP are based on the Vancouver Forest Region *Reference Guide for FDP Stocking Standards* dated September 2022 except for the late free growing dates of 20 years which corresponds to FPPR section 44(1)(b)

APPENDIX 3 - FSP MAP

**Khoutzen Forest Services Ltd.
Community Forest K1K
Forest Stewardship
Plan Map**



Symbol	Watercourse	Water Feature	Special Area
● Current, Existing	— S1	— Lake	— Riparian Use Zone
○ Current, New	— S2	— Pond	— Riparian Mgmt. Zone
■ WRC, Existing	— S3	— Wetland	—
■ WRC, New	— S4	—	—
■ Bridge, Existing	— S5	—	—
■ Bridge, New	— S6	—	—
■ Landing	— S7	—	—
■ Landing, Temp.	— S8	—	—
■ Station	— S9	—	—
■ Quarry	— S10	—	—
■ Gate	— S11	—	—
■ Leave Tree	— S12	—	—
■ Hole	— S13	—	—
■ Dam	— S14	—	—
■ Fish Lifting	— S15	—	—
■ Road Pit	— S16	—	—
■ Log Pile	— S17	—	—
■ Water Stake	— S18	—	—
■ Fish Barrier	— S19	—	—
■	— S20	—	—
■	— S21	—	—
■	— S22	—	—
■	— S23	—	—
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