



Postal Bag 4004
Dryden, Ontario, P8N 3J7
807-223-9090 (phone)
807-223-9401 (fax)

WABIGOON FOREST COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

April 2022

The following information is a summary of recent and proposed changes to the current Annual Work Schedule (AWS) and Forest Management Plan (FMP), and current and planned operations. This notice is broken up into four (4) sections, Planning, Operations, Silviculture, and Safety. For convenience, selected relevant map products have been made available at the page hosting this notice or by following the below link. These maps are also available online through the Natural Resources Information Portal (NRIP).

ATTENTION: Please be advised that the current and planned operations listed in this update are subject to change without warning or notice unless otherwise required. Circumstances may arise which may cause operations to change quickly (such as weather or fire). The intent of this document is to supplement the reader with up-to-date information regarding operations that are likely to occur within the next few months of the AWS year. The reader should always consider any blocks in the AWS as eligible for harvest at any time (subject to any AOC prescriptions or specific agreements).

PLANNING UPDATE

The following section provides an update to the 2019-2029 FMP and amendment to the plan. It also briefs progress on Annual Report (AR), AWS and revision of the AWS.

Amendment 001 (Approved) Amended the 2019 FMP to include changes to the text of the plan – In the event that a block has been harvested but not brought to roadside for processing by March 31, 2020, the block will be re-designated as regular harvest to enable skidding and processing. There will be no changes to tables and spatial data. As a result, Block 2540 was changed from bridging to regular harvest on the map.

Amendment 002 (Approved) Changes were made to the 2019 FMP regarding Operational Road Boundary (i.e., 18 added and 5 removed). Road use management strategy (RUS) assigned RUS-5 (i.e., SFL retain roads responsibility) in the 2008 FMP and the contingency plan was changed to RUS-T or RUS-2 (decommissioned) in Table FMP-18. Addition of four Aggregate extractions Areas (AEA) to allow the establishment of gravel pit area to access gravel for purposes of road construction. Table FMP-11b included for non-water AOC crossing, such as specific location on Beaver Road where the crosses into W01 AOC due to no other feasible alternative available to access allocated wood.

Amendment 005 (Approved) Text of the FMP updated with new wording stating that bridging areas must be completed by March 31, 2023. Bridging block 2540 was changed in amendment 1 to regular harvest and was changed back to bridging area to be consistent with its original intent.

Amendment 006 (Approved) The amount of total bridging area in the text of the FMP is being amended by adding new bridging blocks. The blocks (i.e., block 1949, 1950, 2079, 2244, 2537, and 2605) were in the 2018 Contingency Plan (CP) as regular harvest. These bridging areas were planned to be depleted in the CP before implementation of the 2019 FMP, but harvest was not completed in the blocks. Three new operational road boundaries were also added to access the bridging areas.

Amendment 007 (Approved) Addition of a primary road corridor for extension of Joli Road on the Dryden Forest to connect with the White Pine Road on the Wabigoon Forest. The amendment will provide future access to harvest areas on the Wabigoon Forest and access for harvest blocks on the Dryden Forest.

Amendment 008 (Approved) Operational Road boundary (ORB) expansion for access to sections of harvest blocks DO106.

Amendment 009 (Approved) Operational Road boundary expansion on the Wabigoon Forest off the Ghost Lake North Road to facilitate access to harvest blocks on the Dryden Forest.

Amendment 010 (Approved) Operational Road boundary expansion on the Wabigoon Forest off the Ghost Lake North Road to facilitate access to harvest blocks on the Dryden Forest.

Amendment 011 (Approved) Addition of Ila primary road corridor to facilitate access to harvest blocks on the English River Forest and expansion of ORB within AOC T90 to access allocated wood on the Wabigoon Forest.

Amendment 012 (Approved) Area of Concern prescription changes in Table FMP-11 and changes to text of the plan for Conditions on Roads, Landings and Aggregate Pits (CORLAPS) which relates to Moose Emphasis Areas (MEAs): In particular, the FMP text was changed within the section under MEA CORLAPS that Sneak and Peak roads, the Desserre and Savage roads are not to connect to make a loop road.

Amendment 013 (Approved) Agimak road length in Table FMP-11 corrected from 0.1 km to 9.4. The total length of 9.4 km consists of about 4 km of operational road reclassified as a branch road.

Amendment 014 (Draft) Changes include revision to AOCs prescriptions in Table FMP-11. AOC M18 (MAFAs) updated by removing MAFAs ranked 1 and 2. Corrections to planned harvest area (FMP-12), and corresponding changes to volumes estimates in FMP-13 to FMP-15.

Annual Work Schedule:

We are currently operating in the **2022/2023 Annual Work Schedule**, after completion of MNRF review, posting for public inspection on NRIP, public notices done by MNRF and First Nations consultation. The AWS is a summary of planned forest operations which includes harvest area, road construction, forest renewal and tending activities.

AWS Revisions:

Revision 018 (Approved) brings into the AWS three blocks (GW141, GW142 and GW154) for harvesting at Whipper Road. The revision of the AWS includes two water crossing installs and portions of operational road boundaries (ORB 235) added to access block GW153, this aligns with amendment 10 of the FMP.

Revision 019 (Approved) brings into the AWS replacement of two washed out culverts and one culvert install on the Reveen road. The changes are necessary to access allocated wood in the AWS.

Annual Report:

The **2020-2021 AR** will be resubmitted to MNRF Dryden District for review after addressing review comments. The annual report summarizes operations undertaken during the operating year for harvest area, volume harvested, utilization by mills, natural disturbances, forest renewal, tending and protection, renewal support, pesticide use, road construction, maintenance and access controls, revenues generated from stumpage and silviculture expenditures, and forest operations inspections.

OPERATIONS UPDATE

This section briefs current and planned operations on the Wabigoon Forest such as road maintenance, road building (ROW clearing, sub-grading, grading), and harvest operations. The main operation areas to be aware of at this time are the Bumblebee, North Road and Ghost Lake Road which are presented below:

- Harvest and chipping operation at Bumblebee Road, blocks BO169 and BO194.
- Harvest operation and processing of wood at Titan Road in blocks BL78 and BL79. As well as 4 skidders, 1 buncher, and 2 backhoes sent to Bear Narrows Road for harvest operation in blocks BB131, BB132 and BB133.

SILVICULTURE UPDATE

This section briefs current and planned renewal activities (planting, seeding, etc.), tending activities (e.g., spray), and burn plans.

- Aerial seeding completed on the forest. Target areas for seeding areas were Gilbert Road – GW147, Crossover Road – GW138, Centrefire – GW139, GW140, and Basket Lake Road – BL66.

SAFETY NOTICE

“Nothing we do is worth getting hurt for; with this mind set we entreat every forest user to make safety a priority at all times”.

- Please report any road safety issues to *Steve Tepylo, Domtar's Operations Forester*, through email (Stephen.Tepylo@domtar.com) or by phone on 8073556867. Road safety issues include but are not limited to washouts, missing signs (km markers, road signs, bridge tiger tails, etc.), and unsafe driving by haul truck drivers. Together we can keep the forest safe.
- Please be careful when approaching workers and corners. Vehicles with radios please maintain good communication with traffic in the areas. Vehicles without a radio are reminded to approach and proceed with caution.
- Always keep a safe distance from vehicles ahead of you allowing time to respond to changes in the lead vehicles pace. Not all roads will be plowed. Keep an eye on soft shoulders.
- We caution the public about active haul operation off Bear Narrows and North Roads.

For all approved maps, text, and other related products please visit the NRIP website: https://nrip.mnr.gov.on.ca/s/?language=en_US. Up to date maps may also be viewed at the Dryden MNR District office, or the Domtar Dryden Forestlands Office. If you have questions, or comments contact me at your convenience (contact information below).

Daniel Yeboah (R.P.F)
Management Forester
Domtar Inc.
P: (807) 223-9090
E: daniel.yeboah@domtar.com