

Forest Stewardship Planning



CORTES FORESTRY GENERAL PARTNERSHIP

COMMUNITY FOREST AGREEMENT K4G

October 2019

Purpose of Forest Stewardship Plans



- A forest stewardship plan (FSP) is a map-based, landscape-level plan of potential forest development activities that are intended to take place within the plan holders' area.
- As a forest tenure holder, the CFGP must prepare, and have approved by government, a forest stewardship plan before harvesting or road building activities can begin.
- The forest stewardship plan has a term of five years. Our FSP expires in May 2020, so we are currently replacing the FSP for another 5 year term.

Before Forest Stewardship Plans



- Before FSPs during the era of the Forest Practices Code, the Plan that was required prior to any forest development activities being conducted on the land was the Forest Development Plan (FDP).
- The FDPs showed every block and every road planned for each tenure holder and these Plans always seemed to be tied up in complicated amendments that needed approval from government.
- The government changed in 2001 and after much cry for change, things did change

What Happened in 2001?



- Some of the major changes in the forest industry after 2001 were the following:
 - Tenure take-back, Bill 28 was brought in during 2003 and over a period of a few years 20% of the Allowable Annual Cut was taken away from the major licence holders and was re-allocated for Community Forests, First Nations, Woodlots, other small tenure opportunities. (8% FNs, 12% “other”)
 - The old *Forest Practices Code of BC Act* was replaced with the *Forest and Range Practices Act* which was meant to revitalize (sound familiar?) the industry and move to a more results-based style of management.

Forest Stewardship Plans

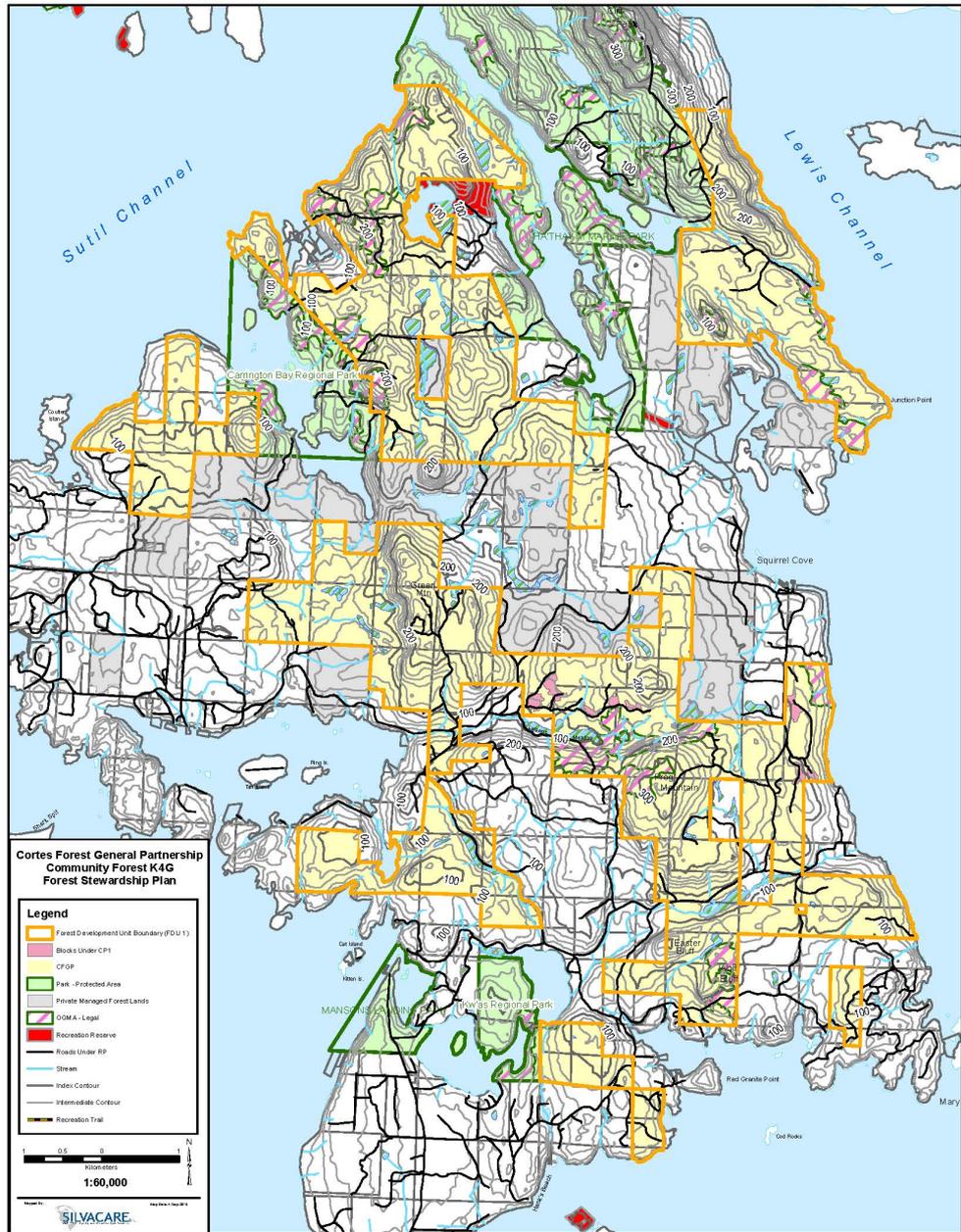


- The *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation* was brought in as the legislation behind *FRPA* to guide forest practices with a simpler, more results-based approach and outlined the requirements for Forest Stewardship Plans (FSP).
- FSPs are meant to ensure that forest practice operations are consistent with B.C. government objectives and values and set out how forest tenure holders would meet government objectives for the values on the land (e.g. soils, water and water quality, fish and fish habitat, wildlife, watersheds, traditional resource features and resources, visual quality, recreation and old growth).
- The results and strategies set out in the FSP describe how we will meet the government objectives

Cortes Forestry GP CFA K4G

- What is the purpose of our FSP?
 - The following map shows the outline of the FSP areas covered by the FSP in draft at this time
 - The document describes the results and strategies for how we will meet the government objectives for those values set out under *FRPA* and the regulations associated
 - On the detailed FSP map all those areas that are legally spatially identified including wildlife habitat areas, existing roads and blocks under permit, parks, protected areas, scenic areas, old growth management areas, visual quality objectives are shown

FSP Overview Map





**FRPA
objectives
that the FSP
holder must
develop
results and
strategies to
meet**

- **FRPA Objectives:**
 - Old Growth
 - Soils
 - Timber
 - Wildlife
 - Cultural Heritage Resources
 - Water Quality, fish, wildlife and biodiversity in Riparian Areas
 - Fish Habitat in Fisheries Sensitive Watersheds
 - Water in Community Watersheds
 - Biodiversity at the landscape (large cutblocks/adjacency) and stand levels (WTRA)

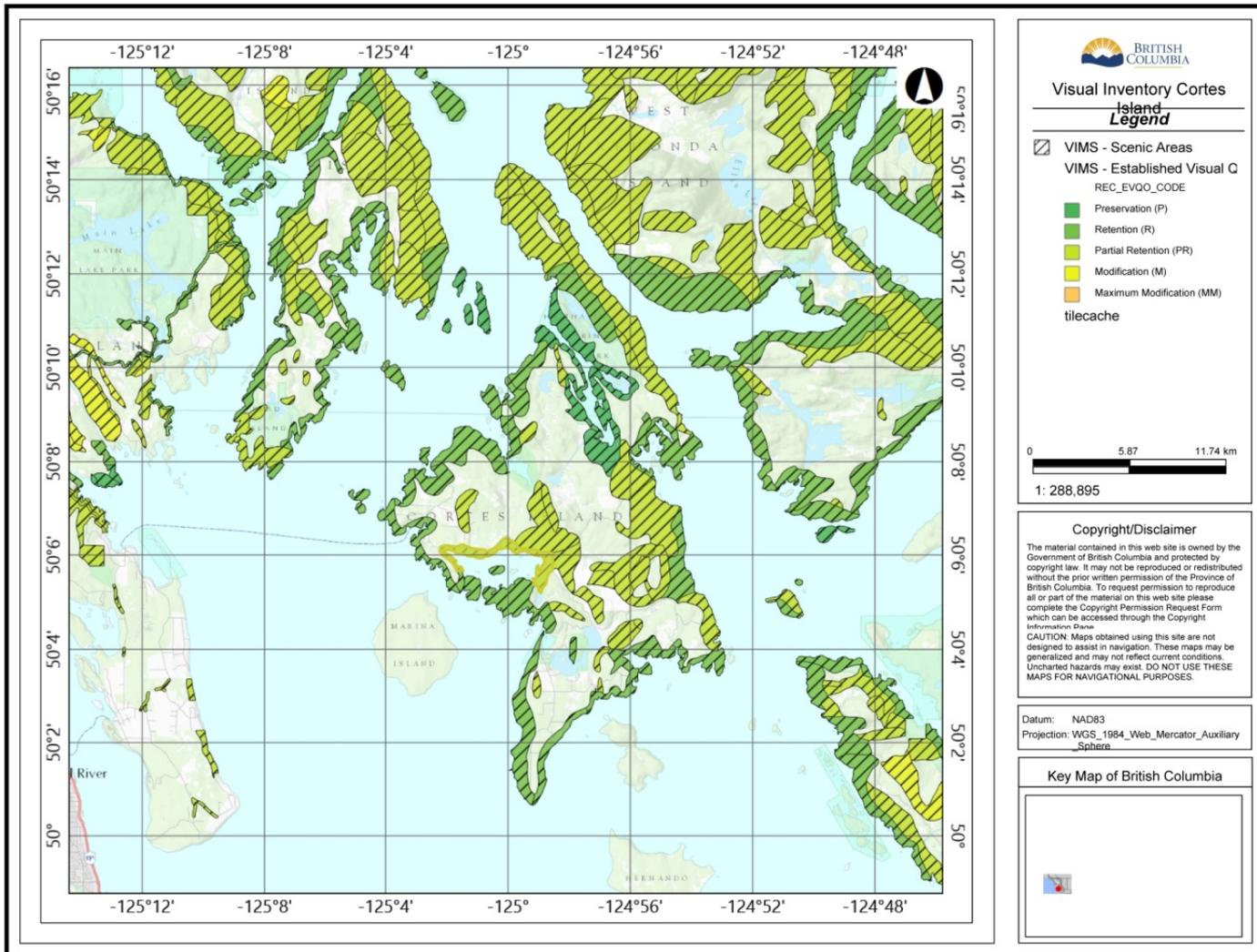


Invasive Plants are an additional item to manage for under the FSP. The FSP holder must describe and commit to measures to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive plant species



Knotweed and Scotch Broom are examples of invasive plant species

Visual Quality Objectives



Stocking Standards – specified where a Free Growing Stand is required to be established

- **Intermediate Cut**
 - Stands suitable for an Intermediate Cut harvest will be >1.0 ha with no openings that are >0.1 ha in size and will be fully stocked with ecologically suitable species. No regeneration objectives
- **Even-Aged**
 - Stands that will be managed for regenerating primarily Douglas-fir, on open (>0.1 ha) areas with mineral soil and exposure to sun (fir are very shade-intolerant)
- **Single Entry Dispersed Retention**
 - Stands that fall in between the two above, the retention is more dispersed and the basal area (retained) is between 9 - 40 m²/ha. The objectives for these stands will be other than fir regeneration, they may be planted with cedar or other shade tolerant species (white pine, lodgepole pine, balsam)

Intermediate Cut



Single Entry Dispersed Retention



To Support the FSP, there is also Background Information

- In addition to the requirements found in legal government objectives, there is other information used to guide operations and as support for the results and strategies in the FSP. These include:
 - Cortes Landscape Unit Plan, sets out legal Old Growth Mgmt Areas
 - Vancouver Island Summary Land Use Plan – provides other objectives set through regional planning for these areas, including recreation, visuals, resource mgmt, etc
 - MAMU and NOGO implementation plans and guidance for other species at risk and wildlife habitat requirements
 - Stocking standards/silviculture guidance regarding climate change, partial harvesting, silviculture obligations, etc

What's Next?



- The FSP will be advertised and available for stakeholder review and comment until on or about December 13th.
- A copy will be here and anyone can contact Mark, Matt, myself or the Directors for a copy. The FSP will be posted on the website, with the mapping as well.



- After December 13th (or before), I hope to have received draft comments from the MFLNRORD and will incorporate those comments, plus those I received from the community and any others that will be considered for incorporation into a FSP revision prior to submission to the MFLNRORD for review and approval.
- Our goal is to have the FSP approved before April 2020, soon after which the existing FSP will expire.



Please don't hesitate to contact me at any time with questions and feel free to send comments on the FSP.
Thank you and I look forward to continued collaboration on this work.

Ione Brown, RPF
250 902-9604
ibhecate@gmail.com