



September 19, 2024

Cariboo Regional District
Suite D, 180 North Third Avenue,
Williams Lake, BC V2G 2A4

Dear Cariboo Regional District Directors:

We are reaching out to share information about the new Forest Landscape Planning (FLP) process being initiated in the Cariboo Natural Resource Region (CAR), in partnership with First Nations. Everyone's contributions and valuable input are crucial to the success of this initiative. The FLP process is a collaborative effort that seeks to integrate diverse perspectives and expertise to create sustainable and resilient forest landscapes. We believe that inputs from a wide variety of knowledge and experience can greatly enhance the quality and effectiveness of our planning efforts.

In February 2023, the Ministry of Forests announced establishing eight new Forest Landscape Planning tables in collaboration with First Nations communities. (<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2023FOR0009-000191>). Two of these eight new FLPs are being developed in the Cariboo are in within the 100 Mile House and Williams Lake Area. The Province is committing to this initiative to advance positive change within the British Columbia's Forest Sector, starting with reconciliation with Indigenous People, addressing sustainability issues, focussing on ecosystem health, and responding to societal values and expectations.

A FLP is a tactical plan at the landscape level and will be used to guide forest management and forest operations that are subject to an agreement under the *Forest Act* in British Columbia. FLPs are developed in partnership with First Nations, with input from forestry operators, local governments, interested parties and the public. The FLPs are intended to replace and enhance the existing licensee developed Forest Stewardship Plans (FSPs).

The key goals of Forest Landscape Plans are to:

- Identify where and how forest management activities can occur (i.e. timber harvesting, road layout, silviculture activities).
- Provide clarity on overlapping direction from strategic plans and land use objectives including wildfire risk reduction plans and access management plans.
- Efficiently address changing conditions (e.g. climate change, wildfires).
- Address the potential environmental impacts of timber harvesting activities.
- Consider cumulative effects to prepare for possible future forest conditions.

Information on the forest landscape planning framework can be found here:

[Forest Landscape Plans - Province of British Columbia \(gov.bc.ca\)](http://gov.bc.ca)

There are 5 phases for each FLP, as follows:

| Phase | Milestone |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Pre-Planning | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Terms of reference, work plan and Indigenous consultation and cooperation process developed |
| Values Identification and Assessment | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Current conditions evaluation• Confirmation of Values to be considered in the FLP |
| Plan Development | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Outcomes and planning guidelines established for each of the 5 objectives.• Finalize draft plan recommendations |
| Plan Establishment | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• FLP order |
| Plan Implementation and Monitoring | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Forest Act Agreement Holders (Licensees) develop Forest Operations Plan that identify roads, blocks and operations for a 5- year period.• Implement monitoring plan• 5 year public report completed |

The Ministry of Forests and partnering First Nations are currently in the Pre-Planning phase where they are exploring the scope, structure, area of focus and vision of the project, as well as developing working guidelines and Terms of Reference with the partner First Nations.

As we progress in the development of the FLPs we will provide further information and updates, including the planning of community meetings. These will be an opportunity for the local communities and interested parties to attend to learn more about FLPs and any possible involvement. In the meantime, if you are interested in learning more, please let us know.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this topic. Please contact Lindsey Wood, Director of Strategic Initiatives in the Cariboo Natural Resource Region, at 250-302-5791 or Lindsey.Wood@gov.bc.ca, for any assistance you may require.

Yours truly,



Lindsey Wood,
Director of Strategic Initiatives
Cariboo Natural Resource Region