



FOREST ANALYSIS AND INVENTORY BRANCH

**2007 - 2008
Vegetation Inventory Business Plan**

Introduction

In coordination with the Vegetation Inventory Strategic Plan, a three-year rolling Business Plan has been developed to guide Forest Investment Account (FIA) funding for the Vegetation Inventory program. The purpose of the Business Plan is two-fold: first, for each forest management unit, Vegetation Inventory projects (photo interpretation and ground sampling) will be prioritized including an estimate of the cost of their completion, to guide investment in a fiscal year; second, activities and projects required to support the realization of the goals and objectives of the Vegetation Inventory Strategic Plan will be identified, including an estimate of their cost, to allow for the evolution of the forest inventory program.

Project Ranking and Allocation of Funding

In the absence of an established set of criteria for prioritizing vegetation inventory projects and assigning funding to those projects, an interim process was put in place for the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

A series of yes/no criteria were established to evaluate each of the identified projects in comparison to each other. All of the units that received FIA focussed funding in the 2006-2007 fiscal year were considered eligible for 2007-2008 funding. This was put in place in an attempt to finish off existing projects to the largest extent possible. Next, projects were evaluated as to whether a contract had been awarded to begin work on either photo interpretation or ground sampling in the current fiscal year which would require funding in the next fiscal year in order to continue. Photo acquisition, in isolation, was not considered to be a continuation of a project as a new contract would be required to complete the photo acquisition. Third, projects were evaluated as to whether specific inventory activities were identified in existing Timber Supply Review documentation or if they contributed to Ecosystem Based Management (EBM) requirements. Last, projects were given a higher priority if the identified activity (photo interpretation or ground sampling) could be completed in the 2007-2008 fiscal year with the allocated amount of funding.

In the final evaluation, projects with the greatest number of 'yes' votes were assigned the highest priority and generally given the largest funding allocation. Where possible, projects with the highest prioritization were given their full funding request.

2007-2008 FIA Funding Request Summary

Activity	2007 / 08 funding allocation
Photo Interpretation	\$6,340,000
Ground Sampling	\$1,370,000
VIAC	\$255,000
Total	\$7,965,000

Inventory Activities and Projects by Unit

Photo Interpretation							
Unit	Lead Recipient	Activity	2006 / 07 FIA Allocation	2007 / 08 FIA Funding Request	2007 / 08 Funding Allocation	Comments	Approved VSIP in Place (Y/N)
Coast Region							
Mid Coast	International For. Prod.	VSIP, photo acquisition, scanning and Phase I	\$500,000	\$980,000	\$550,000		N
North Coast	International For. Prod.	VSIP, photo acquisition, scanning and Phase I	\$908,520	\$900,000	\$550,000		N
Soo	International For. Prod.	Continuation of photo interpretation	\$150,000	\$485,000	\$485,000		Y
Sunshine Coast	International For. Prod.	Continuation of photo interpretation	\$650,000	\$620,000	\$550,000	Including TEM work	Y
QCI		VSIP, photo acquisition	\$325,000	\$350,000	\$350,000		N
Northern Interior Region							
Bulkley	West Fraser	Photo interpretation	\$273,723	\$1,200,000	\$500,000		Y
Fort Nelson	Canadian Forest Prod.	Photo interpretation; possible photo acquisition	\$750,000	\$1,663,008	\$700,000		Y
Mackenzie	Abitibi Consolidated	Continuation of photo interpretation	\$500,000	\$2,224,265	\$550,000		Y
Fort St. John	Canadian Forest Prod.	Continuation of photo interpretation; phase II VPIP	\$700,000	\$1,610,000	\$700,000		Y
Dawson Creek	Louisiana Pacific	Continuation of photo interpretation	\$500,000	\$1,390,000	\$700,000		Y
Southern Interior Region							
Kootenay Lake	Tembec Industries	Photo interpretation	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	\$500,000		Y
Okanagan	Okanagan Innovative For. Society	Photo interpretation; NVAF sampling	\$750,000	\$992,347	\$550,000		Y
TFL 18	Canadian Forest Prod.	Continue LiDAR photo interpretation pilot project				FSP/FFT funded 06/07	Y
Quesnel	West Fraser	Photo interpretation				MPB funded	Y
		Total	\$6,507,243	\$13,414,620	\$6,685,000		

Inventory Activities and Projects by Unit

Ground Sampling							
Unit	Lead Recipient	Activity	2006 / 07 FIA Allocation	2007 / 08 FIA Funding Request	2007 / 08 Funding Allocation	Comments	Approved VSIP in Place (Y/N)
Coast Region							
Strathcona	Western Forest Prod.	Complete ground sampling	\$185,000	\$281,535	\$281,535		Y
TFL 46	Teal Cedar Products Ltd.	Complete ground sampling	\$200,000	\$180,000	\$180,000		Y
TFL 47	TFL Forest	Ground sampling	\$150,000	\$310,000	\$250,000		Y
Northern Interior Region							
Prince George	Canadian Forest Prod.	Complete ground sampling	\$350,000	\$395,360	\$395,360		Y
Lakes		Complete ground sampling and NVAF				MPB funded	Y
Peace		Monitoring plots (tentative)				MPB funded	N
Southern Interior Region							
Golden	Louisiana Pacific	NVAF Sampling	\$25,000	\$15,000	\$15,000		Y
Invermere	Tembec Industries	Ground sampling	\$175,000	\$435,000	\$250,000		Y
TFL 49	Tolko	Finish ground sampling		\$180,000	\$110,000	FIA discretionary funded 06/07	N
Merritt		Complete NVAF; monitoring plots (tentative)				MPB funded	N
Kamloops		Complete ground sampling and monitoring plots				MPB funded	Y
Okanagan		Complete monitoring plots				MPB funded	Y
		Total	\$1,085,000	\$1,616,895	\$1,371,895		

Grand Total FIA

\$7,592,243

\$15,031,515

\$8,056,895

Activities to Support the Evolution of the Inventory

		Strategy	Actions		Outputs	Outcomes (if appropriate)	Budget (\$,000 / technical working group involvement)					
Goal	Objective	Title/Description	#	Description			2007	2008	2009	Beyond		
							TWG (Y/N)	TWG (Y/N)	TWG (Y/N)	(Y/N)		
2. Collaborative Governance	2.1 Establish Council	2.1.3 Build VIAC Capacity	2.1.3.1	Establish Secretariat to support Council; support FIA activities in the vegetation inventory program	Dedicated human resources	Effective support to Chief Forester	\$100		\$100	\$100	Y	
			2.1.5.1	VIAC to define and prioritize non-data collection actions and activities for next 2-3 years	Recommended prioritization for non-data collection projects	Confirmed strategic direction		\$5	\$5			
	2.2 Stabilize Program funding	2.2.1 Develop Strategic Plan	2.2.1.1	Strategic Plan recommended to CF	Decision Note	Plan to guide program implementation						
			2.2.2.1	Business Plan recommended to CF and Forest Investment Council (FIC)	Identified activities and priorities	Known and identified priority units						
			2.2.3.1	Criteria established to monitor and report on Business Plan implementation	Annual assessment and maintenance of Business Plan	Revision of Business Plan activities as appropriate	\$20	Combination of internal resources and consultant	\$5	\$5	Y	
	2.3 Assure adequate practitioner capacity	2.3.1 Assess program needs regarding training	2.3.1.1	Review existing practitioner availability / capacity; assess other capacity / ability of resources (MoFR internal).	Report	Awareness of practitioner availability / capability; recommendations to improve	\$20	Combination of internal resources and consultant	\$10	\$10	Y	

		Strategy	Actions		Outputs	Outcomes (if appropriate)	Budget (\$,000 / technical working group involvement)						
Goal	Objective	Title/Description	#	Description			2007	2008		2009		Beyond	
							TWG (Y/N)	TWG (Y/N)	TWG (Y/N)		(Y/N)		
	2.5 Monitor, assess and report program implementation	2.5.2 Update Status of the Forest Inventory Report to form baseline monitoring information	2.5.2.1	Revise / update maps for Status of Forest Inventory Report	Annual report	Understanding of impact program actions are having on the inventory	\$5		\$5		\$5		
3. Complete provincial VRI coverage	3.1 Complete inventories to VRI standard	3.1.1 Apply criteria developed in Strategy 5 to prioritize inventory units	3.1.1.1	Application of the ranking criteria from 5.1.1	Ranked list of inventory projects beyond 07/08	Ability to plan for completion of the "provincial inventory"							
4. Updates	4.1 Depletions and growth updated annually	4.1.2 Seek innovative methods to update the inventory	4.1.2.1	Part of Update Group function; use of softcopy as a sampling technology; softcopy tool development	Report	Allows for non-harvest depletions to be reflected in the inventory			\$25		\$25		
5. Inventory review and evaluation (currency)	5.1 Criteria and ranking for inventory replacement or enhancement	5.1.1 Establish criteria to assess each inventory unit with respect to the need for new or additional data collection	5.1.1.1	TWG to confirm business and technical issues which should be considered	Report	Transparency and fairness	\$25	Y	\$10	Y	\$5	Y	
			5.1.1.2	TWG to develop procedures and criteria for assessing an inventory for possible replacement	Report	Transparency and fairness	\$25	Y	\$10	Y	\$5	Y	
		5.1.2 Assess use of variable inventory	5.1.2.1	TWG to develop business case for variable vs set	Business Case Report	Decision on replacement cycle							

		Strategy	Actions		Outputs	Outcomes (if appropriate)	Budget (\$,000 / technical working group involvement)					
Goal	Objective	Title/Description	#	Description			2007	2008		2009		Beyond
							TWG (Y/N)	TWG (Y/N)	TWG (Y/N)		(Y/N)	
		replacement cycle		inventory replacement cycles								
6. Attribute accuracy, attribution and area of coverage	6.1 Increased attribute accuracy in priority areas	6.1.1 Investigate implications of variable-intensity data collection (photo interpretation and ground sampling)	6.1.1.1	Assemble one or more TWG to assess the matching of business needs and considerations to the level of polygonal reliability (photo calibration / sampling) and overall inventory accuracy required	Assessment of accuracy / reliability needs	Improved linkage of inventory quality to business requirements			\$25	Y	\$10	Y
	6.2 Improved reporting ability and different scales	6.2.1 Investigate alternatives in variable-intensity collection and management of data at different scales	6.2.1.1	Assemble a TWG to define the criteria that would generate a need for sub-management unit data collection and reporting	Report	Improved linkage of inventory quality to business requirements			\$25	Y	\$25	Y
	6.3 Attributes match business needs	6.3.1 Identification of core attributes	6.3.1.1	Assemble a TWG to define / assess attributes that are considered core to the inventory and which are optional; create preliminary assessment on emerging data needs (i.e. MPB, EBM)	Report	Improved linkage of inventory quality to business requirements	\$25	Y	\$20	Y	\$20	Y
	6.5 Enable inclusion of all lands within the province that impact forest	6.5.1 Investigate impacts and develop plan to acquire federal and private land	6.5.1.1	FAIB to review further and present to VIAC for decision	Decision note	Ensures the benefits of including all land is equal to or exceeds the cost			\$25			

		Strategy	Actions		Outputs	Outcomes (if appropriate)	Budget (\$,000 / technical working group involvement)				
Goal	Objective	Title/Description	#	Description			2007	2008	2009	Beyond	
							TWG (Y/N)	TWG (Y/N)	TWG (Y/N)	(Y/N)	
	management	data that affects forest management decisions and reporting									
8. Continuous improvement	8.1 Use innovation to enhance inventory standards	8.1.1 Review process for managing / updating VRI standards	8.1.1.1	Assemble TWG to review and assess the existing change management process	Report	Improved efficiency and/or value/cost ratio	\$10		\$10		
9. Accessibility	9.1 Ensure efficient access to and understanding of corporate data	9.1.1 Work with ILMB to maintain / improve access to corporate data	9.1.1.1	Assemble contract / TWG to determine what problems exist with respect to access to data and provide recommendations	Assessment and recommendations	Business improvement for users	\$20		\$20		
		9.1.2 Communicate with users to foster better understanding of the data	9.1.2.1	Deliver information to users of the inventory data on the components of the data and the use and utility of the data.	Plan, communication outputs	Raised awareness of inventory components and utility.	\$5		\$5	\$5	
			Total				\$255		\$300		\$220

Key Performance Indicators

Goal	Objective	KPI	Measure	Current Status	Target 07/08	Achieved
1 Set high level direction	1.1 Endorse Guiding Principles	Council endorsement	Y/N		Y	March 2007
2 Collaborative governance	2.1 Establish Council	Council established	Y/N		Y	November 2006
	2.2 Stabilize funding	3 year funding commitment	\$'s		+/- \$8MM annually	
	2.3 Practitioner capacity	Need/available human resources	%		100%	
	2.4 Risks managed	Risk Management Plans/known risks	%		100%	
	2.5 Monitor Program implementation	Reports	#		1 per year	
3 Complete Provincial coverage (VRI)	3.1 Complete inventory projects	Provincial coverage	% photo	40% Photo	46%	
			% ground	35% Ground	40%	
4 Current for disturbance and growth	4.1 Inventories accurately reflect depletions and growth	Units current within 2 years	Units			
5 Inventories replaced based on established criteria	5.1 Criteria and ranking	Criteria in place	Y/N	N	Y	
6 Inventory improvement	6.1 Increased attribute accuracy	Opportunities identified	Report	N	?	
	6.2 Supporting sub-management unit inventories	Opportunities identified	Report	N	?	
	6.3 Attributes matched to business needs	Opportunities identified	Report	N	?	
	6.4 Increase coverage on Provincial Crown land	TFLs included	%	X	X +5%	
			Parks	%	X	?
	6.5 Increase coverage on all lands within Province	Federal Lands	%	?	?	
Private Land			%	?	?	
7 Re-establish GY Program	7.1 Cooperative approach to GY investment	GY Program Plan	Report	N	Y	
8 Standards based on continuous improvement	8.1 Innovative ways to review and improve standards	Opportunities identified	Report	N	Y	
9 Improve accessibility	9.1 Work to ensure efficient data access	Opportunities identified	Report	N	Y	