

Forestry Division  
Forest Management Branch

7th Floor, Great West Life Building  
9920 - 108 Street NW  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T5K 2M4

Telephone: (780) 427-8474  
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06322-010

December 23, 2008

Mr. Dan Rollert  
Woodlands Manager  
Hinton Wood Products, West Fraser Mills Ltd.  
760 Switzer Drive  
Hinton, Alberta  
T7V 1V7

Dear Mr. Rollert:

**RE: FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENT AND DATE EXTENSION**

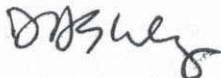
I have reviewed your December 16, 2008 request to submit a Mountain Pine Beetle (MPB) Plan Amendment by September 30, 2009 and extend the Forest Management Plan (FMP) submission date to September 30, 2010.

The request is approved subject to the details of the December 16, 2008 letter.

Please ensure the current Terms of Reference (ToR) for plan development is revised in accordance with the requirements for the MPB amendment, and the revised FMP deadline. In addition, identify the completion dates for major milestones of the plans. The revised ToR will require department approval.

I wish you well in the development of your plans.

Sincerely,



D. (Doug) A. Sklar  
Executive Director

cc: Bill Tinge, Forestry Program Manager, Foothills Area  
Robert Stokes, Senior Manager, Forest Management Branch  
Daryl Price, Senior Manager, Forest Management Branch



**Hinton Wood Products**  
*A Division of West Fraser Mills Ltd.*

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December 16, 2008

Mr. Robert Stokes  
Manager - Forest Planning Section  
Sustainable Resource Development  
8th fl Great West Life Building  
9920 - 108 Street  
Edmonton, AB T5K 2M4

Dear Mr. Stokes:

**Re: Hinton Wood Products Forest Management Plan Submission Timeline**

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On the 10<sup>th</sup> of October, 2008, a meeting was held in Edmonton between yourself, Doug Sklar, Jim LeLacheur and Richard Briand regarding the submission timelines and expectations of the Hinton Forest Management Plan (FMP). By way of this letter, we are formally requesting agreement to proceed with the direction that was discussed at the meeting.

The Government of Alberta and the forest industry are facing several significant strategic planning initiatives, including the landuse framework, the water-for-life strategy and grizzly bear and caribou recovery programs. Given the high level of uncertainty related to these issues and the implications they may have on forest management planning, it is likely that an FMP would have a very short shelf life. However, the Government of Alberta and HWP are committed to mitigating the susceptibility of the FMA to Mountain Pine Beetle.

The decision was made that HWP would submit a "beetle plan" by September 30, 2009. This plan will focus on MPB risk reduction and will include the recommendation of a new AAC and address water, caribou, trumpeter swan and grizzly bear issues. A 5 year spatial harvest sequence will also be produced. We will complete a new landbase classification (using the new forest inventory) and will also create new yield curves for the timber supply analysis. HWP also agrees to complete an FMP that meets the requirements of the Alberta Forest Management Planning Standard by the end of September 2010, although we will jointly re-evaluate that timeline in September 2009 to review any developments related to the high level planning issues mentioned earlier.

On a related note, HWP and SRD have been working cooperatively on revising the Operating Ground Rules for the Hinton FMA area. This process is nearing completion and we look forward to having them approved early in 2009.

We would appreciate written confirmation that this plan is acceptable to the Government of Alberta. Please contact Richard Briand at 780-865-8181 if you have questions or would like to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

Dan Rollert, RPF  
Woodlands Manager  
Hinton Wood Products

cc: Jim LeLacheur – West Fraser Mills, Richard Briand – Hinton Wood Products

Reference No: 06322-010  
06322-F02-02

September 14, 2007

Mr. Dan Rollert  
Woodlands Manager  
Hinton Wood Products  
(A Division of West Fraser Mills Ltd.)  
760 Switzer Drive  
Hinton, Alberta  
T7V 1V7

Dear Mr. Rollert:

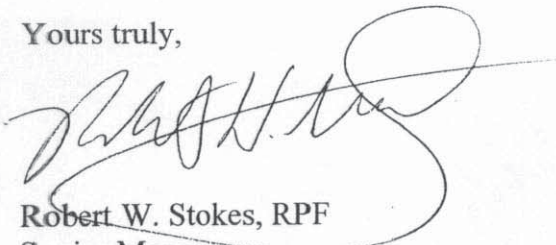
**RE: APPROVAL - DETAILED FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN TERMS OF REFERENCE**

I have received your company's July 2007 submission of the amended Terms of Reference for the Hinton Wood Product's Detailed Forest Management Plan.

The Terms of Reference is approved.

I wish you well in the development of your plan.

Yours truly,



Robert W. Stokes, RPF  
Senior Manager  
Forest Planning Section, FMB

cc: Brent Schleppe, Forestry Program Manager, Foothills Area  
Stephen Wills, Lead-Forest Plan/Perform Monitor, Forest Planning Section, FMB  
Daryl Price, Senior Manager, Resource Analysis, FMB

*Richard - good work  
RH*



## Hinton Wood Products

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July 31, 2007

Mr. Robert Stokes  
Manager, Forest Planning Section  
Sustainable Resource Development  
8th fl Great West Life Building  
9920 - 108 Street  
Edmonton, AB T5K 2M4

Dear Mr. Stokes:

**Re: Hinton Wood Products DFMP Revised Terms of Reference**

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Please find enclosed, for your review and approval, a revised copy of the Hinton Wood Products Detailed Forest Management Plan Terms of Reference. The significant changes to the document, from the last approved version, include:

- Plan to include mountain pine beetle pine management strategies in the DFMP.
- Change in coniferous and deciduous utilization to the 15/10 standard.
- Updated timeline to reflect new submission date of September 30, 2009.
- Updates to dispute resolution process, which clarifies the role of the Area Manager.
- Change in names of key individuals involved in the preparation of the DFMP.

I can be reached by phone at 780-865-8181 or by email at [Richard.Briand@WestFraser.com](mailto:Richard.Briand@WestFraser.com) if you have any questions or concerns about the enclosed document.

Best Regards,

Richard Briand, RPF  
Management Forester

Hinton Wood Products, a Division of West Fraser Mills Ltd.

cc: Bill Tinge – Integrated Planning Forester, Forestry Management – Foothills Area  
Dan Rollert – Woodlands Manager, Hinton Wood Products  
Rick Bonar – Chief Biologist and Planning Coordinator, Hinton Wood Products

06322-F01-10

April 20, 2007

Mr. Dan Rollert  
Woodlands Manager  
Hinton Wood Products  
A Division of West Fraser Mills Ltd.  
760 Switzer Drive  
Hinton, AB T7V 1V7

Mr. Rollert:

**RE: APPROVAL - DETAILED FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN (FMP) EXTENSION**

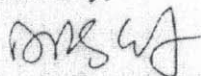
I have received Mr. Briand's letter requesting a deadline extension for submission of your company's FMP from June 14, 2008 to September 30, 2009. The request is approved. While the department believes adherence to approved timelines is an important matter, the new information the letter mentions will result in a more informed plan.

Though the extension is approved, Hinton Wood Product's current Operating Ground Rules (OGRs) must be brought into line with the current policy *Alberta Timber Harvest Planning and Operating Groundrules Framework for Renewal*. Please work with the Forest Operations Section, Forest Management Branch to revise your current OGRs and have them approved by April 30, 2008. These revised ground rules can be further discussed during the development of the FMP, and necessary changes to the OGRs needed to align with the DFMP will be approved with the FMP in 2009.

Please ensure that the current Terms of Reference (ToR) for plan is revised to align with the extended deadline, and that completion dates for major milestones of the plan are identified. The revised ToR will require the approval of the Senior Manager of the Forest Planning Section, Mr. Robert Stokes.

I wish you well in the development of your plan.

Sincerely,



D. (Doug) A. Sklar, RPF  
Executive Director  
Forest Management Branch

Cc: Richard Briand, Management Forester, Hinton Wood Products  
Brent Schleppe, Foothills Area Manager, Forestry Division  
Robert Stokes, Senior Manager, Forest Planning, FMB  
Daryl Price, Senior Manager, Resource Analysis, FMB  
Scott Milligan, Senior Manager, Forest Operations, FMB



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April 17, 2007

Mr. Doug Sklar  
Executive Director  
Forest Management Branch  
Sustainable Resource Development  
7th fl Great West Life Building  
9920 - 108 Street  
Edmonton, AB T5K 2M4

Dear Mr. Sklar:

**Re: Hinton Wood Products 2008 Detailed Forest Management Plan**

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As you are aware, Hinton Wood Products has been working with your staff on the development of a new Detailed Forest Management Plan (DFMP) for the company's Forest Management Area (FMA). The DFMP is due for submission to Alberta on June 14, 2008. We have encountered several significant planning issues which have put our timelines at risk. These include:

- The new AVI for the FMA area is still not approved. The review and approval process to date has taken several months longer than expected.
- Uncertainty about the extent of any mountain pine beetle (MPB) infestations across the FMA. We are not currently aware of any naturally occurring MPB attack trees on our FMA. However, the situation immediately to the north of our FMA is of great concern to us. It would seem prudent to wait for the results of the aerial surveys this summer to determine the most appropriate direction for the DFMP.
- We are in the process of negotiating a new Forest Management Agreement with Alberta. Some changes to FMA boundary are likely to be identified which would have to be incorporated into the new DFMP.
- Caribou recovery plans are under development which may influence how we manage portions of the FMA.
- We have announced an enhanced planning process for the DFMP. A great deal of the work completed to date will have to be re-evaluated given likely impacts of the MPB. Some of the strategies that had been developed may no longer be appropriate. We need some additional time to consult with our stakeholders to find acceptable solutions to these challenging issues. We have enclosed a document which describes our enhanced planning process in some detail, for your reference and information.

- We have invested significant resources into the acquisition of new digital elevation data for our FMA area. Secondary products generated from the new data will include improved watercourse mapping, more accurate identification of riparian areas and inoperable areas (steep slopes). These data will greatly improve our confidence in generating some of the inputs to be used in the landbase classification for the DFMP. These products were originally scheduled to be completed by October 2006. Unfortunately, the project has been delayed. We now expect to receive these products in June 2007.

We have re-evaluated our timelines and believe that we can submit a DFMP which will meet or exceed Alberta's requirements by September 30, 2009. By way of this letter, we are requesting your approval to amend the deadline for the submission of the next DFMP to that date.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss this further. I can be reached by telephone at (780) 865-8181 or by email at [Richard.Briand@westfraser.com](mailto:Richard.Briand@westfraser.com).

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request.

Best Regards,



Richard Briand, RPF  
Management Forester  
Hinton Wood Products

cc: Dan Rollert – Hinton Wood Products  
Rick Bonar – Hinton Wood Products  
Robert Stokes – SRD, Manager – Forest Planning Section  
Stephen Wills – SRD, Forest Planning Section  
Bill Tinge – SRD, Foothills Area

Public Lands and Forests Division  
Forest Management Branch

8<sup>th</sup> Floor 9920 - 108 Street  
Edmonton, Alberta  
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Telephone (780) 427-8474  
Fax (780) 427-0084

June 2, 2005

Ref: 06322 - 008  
06322 - F02 - 02

Ms. Sharon Meredith  
Planning Forester  
Hinton Wood Products-Woodlands  
A Division of West Fraser Mills Ltd.  
760 Switzer Drive  
Hinton, Alberta  
T7V 1V7

Dear Ms. Meredith:

**RE: APPROVAL - TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR HINTON WOOD PRODUCTS  
DETAILED FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN**

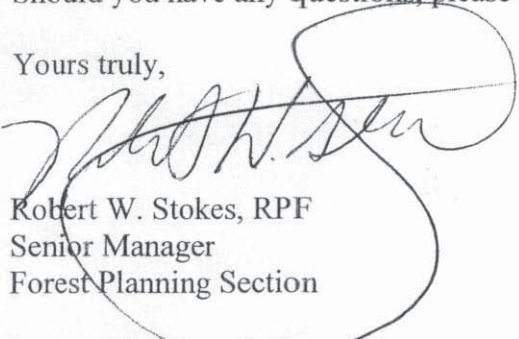
The Terms of Reference for the Hinton Wood Products DFMP (FMA 8800025) is approved.

Thank you for addressing the department's comments regarding the Terms of Reference for your Detailed Forest Management Plan (DFMP).

The Terms of Reference describes the development process from the start of the work on this DFMP to the start of the next DFMP. During that time unforeseen issues can still arise. Therefore, it must be viewed as a "Living" document and any issues not identified within the Terms of Reference must still be addressed. Please continue to work closely with the planning team to insure all issues and DFMP requirements are addressed effectively.

Should you have any questions, please contact me directly at (780) 422-2690.

Yours truly,



Robert W. Stokes, RPF  
Senior Manager  
Forest Planning Section

cc: Mark Storie, Manager, Foothills Area  
Bill Tinge, Senior Forester, Foothills Area  
Ted Edwards, Area Forester, Foothills Area  
Brad Epp, Forester, Forest Planning Section





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May 31, 2005

Mr. Robert Stokes  
Senior Manager  
Forest Planning Section  
8th Floor, 9920 - 108 Street  
Edmonton, AB T5K 2M4

Dear Mr. Stokes;

**RE: Submission of Terms of Reference for Hinton Wood Products 2008 Detailed Forest Management Plan.**

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Enclosed is the Terms of Reference for the Hinton Wood Products 2008 Detailed Forest Management Plan (DFMP).

After extensive review by the Plan Development Team and your department, we are seeking approval for the Terms of Reference.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (780) 865-6654.

Sincerely,

Sharon Meredith, RPF  
Planning Forester

cc: Dan Rollert, Woodlands Manager  
Rick Bonar, Chief Biologist and Planning Coordinator