

INTERPRETIVE BULLETIN

In-Block Roads and Processing Area Requirements for Timber Supply Analysis

The Alberta Forest Management Planning Standard requires forest companies to address productivity losses on reforested areas in the forest management (FMP) plan timber supply analysis. Specifically:

“5.9.9 Productivity losses from road, decking and processing areas on reforested areas have been applied.

i. A 5% reduction in reforested area following harvest shall be incorporated into the TSA to account for losses from unsuccessfully reclaimed temporary roads, decking and processing areas. Organizations may minimize this reduction through analysis of survey data on actual losses in each FMP.”

The intent of this provision is to account for lands used as roads, decking or processing areas within reforested cutovers, based upon these lands being reforested with the cutover or not.. Companies can address this requirement using one of several methodologies, as described below. Other methods, acceptable to the Senior Manager, Resource Analysis Section, Forest Management Branch, may be used however companies are cautioned to seek acceptance very early in the TSA process.

1. Commitment to Reforest: Productivity losses from road, decking and processing areas on reforested areas can be addressed by presenting the silviculture strategies to be used to reclaim roads and decking areas in the “Silviculture Strategy Table” of the FMP. In combination with this, for those roads and landing areas not to be treated and left open, these areas must be “captured” and added to the roads or geophysical/trails layers. Areas treated and reforested will be included as part of the block area in subsequent establishment and performance surveys.
2. No Commitment to Reforest: Those companies not intending to reforest road, decking and processing areas and therefore not committing to reforestation of road, decking and processing areas as a FMP strategy must account for this loss of productive forest land using one of the following methods:
 - a. Remove the actual area from the contributing landbase by “capturing” the road, decking and processing areas not reforested and adding them to the roads or geophysical/trails layer as a permanent deletion.
 - b. Undertake a survey, acceptable to the Senior Manager, Resource Analysis Section, Forest Management Branch, of actual road, decking and processing areas to establish a value which can be used to adjust the timber supply analysis to reflect the loss in productive forest land..

- c. Where a company has not elected to use one of the above methodologies, or received acceptance for an alternative, a 5% reduction in reforested area shall be applied to the net landbase used in the timber supply analysis.

N.B. “capture” means use of GPS, ALS surveys, or photogrammetry