

## Start

Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Limited

Linkages between the Goals and Objectives

Identified in

The Adaptive Forest Management Planning Process

And

Five-Year Operating Plans

Registered with Environmental Assessment

Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Limited entered into the new Adaptive Forest Management Planning Process in 1994 in an effort to prepare a 5 Year Operating Plan that would be registered with the Department of Environment and be registered under the existing Environmental Assessment Act.

Throughout this past seven (7) years many goals and objectives have been discussed at the planning team meetings, and in some cases they have been incorporated into the Forest Ecosystem Strategy Document.

Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Limited recognizes the values of the forest resources to the many other users of the Province of Newfoundland, who use the forest for employment, recreation and other purposes and has tried to deal with these values as follows:

### **Timber Resources:**

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One of the major resource values of the forest ecosystem is the production of fibre to provide for forest products.

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- CBPP manages over 2 million hectares of forestland on the Island of Newfoundland, of which only about 900,000 are productive, and only about 700,000 are used to obtain our Annual Allowable Cut (AAC).
- The Corner Brook mill consumes approximately 1.1 million meters of fibre annually consisting of round wood harvested from our own timber limits, purchased pulp chips from local sawmills, pulpwood purchased from off Island sources such as P.E.I and Nova Scotia, and the importation of approximately 170,000 cubic meters of recycle fibre.

- The Corner Brook mill provides a contribution of \$150 million to the Provincial GDP.
- CBPP employs more than 1,500 people located in more than 50 rural communities across the Island.
- CBPP has invested more than \$650 million in the Corner Brook Mill since 1984.
- Silviculture expenditures of \$3 million annually on PCT and Planting.
- We have adopted a Forest and Environmental Policy which states “We will carry out our forest management activities to provide long term sustainability and maintain natural biodiversity while supplying the fibre requirements for the Corner Brook mill”

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### **Environmental and Ecosystem Protection:**

Corner Brook Pulp and Paper carries out all of its forest management activities according to the Environmental Protection Guidelines for Timber Management, which were developed by the Department of Forestry and Agriculture Newfoundland Forest Service in May 1992.

- These guidelines are intended for use by Forest Managers as environmental protection guidelines for ecologically based forest resource management at the stand level. They are intended to be used by forest managers to help conserve and manage the ecosystems of the Province which sustain forests and wildlife populations and to provide for the utilization of these resources by the people of the Province under the principles of sustainable development, an ecologically based management philosophy, and sound environmental practices.
- These guidelines are an integral part of all of CBPP's five-year operating plans, and form the basis for all forest management activities proposed in these plans.
- CBPP operates under the authority of a **Certificate of Managed Land**. Attached to this Certificate are schedules that set out the conditions that must be followed in order to maintain managed land status. Schedule five contains the Environmental Protection Guidelines.
- Newfoundland Forest Service staff and other Government Agencies monitor for compliance to the Environmental Protection Guidelines to ensure all guidelines and regulations pertaining to environmental protection, harvesting, road construction, and silviculture are followed.
- In addition to the monthly Government monitoring for compliance, Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Limited has put in place an Environmental Management System (EMS), which was registered to the internationally recognized environmental standard ISO 14001, in July 2001. As part of this EMS, many monitoring activities take place throughout the year (checking for non-compliances) including:
  - o monthly field inspections completed by Operations Superintendents,
  - o yearly internal EMS audit,
  - o yearly external EMS and field surveillance audits,

- o external compliance audit every five (5) years,
- o external communication from the public through our web site, cbppl.com.
- o All non-compliances are documented and reported to the EMS Management Review Committee. All non-compliances are reviewed by the EMS Committee, and corrective action is implemented where and when required.

As part of EMS registration, all of our 800 Woodlands employees received one day of Environmental Awareness Training.

#### **Outfitters:**

In each case where our proposed harvesting impacts on an outfitter's operating zone, we have tried to mitigate the impacts of our harvesting by:

- Leaving wider buffers around lodges.
- Changing road locations to keep away from lodges as far as possible in order to reduce access local hunters.
- Scheduling harvesting operations around the hunting season.
- Considered the implementation of view-shed management around the lodge.
- Meeting with individual outfitters to discuss issues, and meetings with the Outfitters Association.
- Involved in a 12-year study with Main River Lodge in FMD 16 to test Landscape Design harvesting techniques around Main River Lodge.

#### **Historic Resources:**

The Provincial Archaeologist Martha Drake reviews all 5 Year Operating Plans registered for Environment Assessment.

- Recommendations received from her are included in our Annual Operating Plans for implementation.

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#### **Wildlife:**

We meet regularly with Wildlife Division staff to discuss issues around the impacts of our harvesting plans on wildlife such as:

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- Pine Marten studies in the Main River, and Red Indian Lake areas.
- Working with Wildlife staff to identify marten habitat in FMD's 14, 15, and 16.
- Establishment of wildlife reserves such as the Little Grand Lake Reserve for Pine Marten, and caribou migration corridors in FMD 9 and 17.
- Caribou calving areas, denning sites, and moose yards are buffered when identified by Wildlife staff.
- Implementing retention cutting techniques to protect sub-merchantable trees, providing faster green up and wildlife habitat.
- Working with DFO to identify fish habitat issues and installing more habitat friendly stream crossing structures such as open bottom arches, installing plunge pools for all culverts where required, and in all cases we strive to maintain the natural stream bed and flows.

## Soil and Water:

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CBPP is implementing strategies to protect soil and water across its limits by:

- Applying the regulation of a 20 meter treed buffer on all streams that show on a 1:50,000-topo map.
- Agreeing to leave a 100 meter treed buffer on the main stem of all Salmon Rivers.
- Applying to Water Resources Division for permits to operate within protected watershed areas.
- CBPP is a member of Watershed Monitoring Committees established in Corner Brook, Gander, Deer Lake, and Cox's Cove, and we meet with any and all Community Councils where we plan harvesting operations within their watersheds.
- Implementing many new harvesting techniques into its current harvesting operations to protect soil such as wide track, low ground bearing pressure harvesters and forwarders working on brush mats, erosion control on cutovers, retention cutting, and cable logging.
- All of our sites are equipped with ULC approved fuel storage tanks and emergency response spill kits.
- Implementing a water quality-sampling program for all major stream crossings.

## Recreation/Ecotourism:

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Corner Brook Pulp and Paper is responding to concerns from local planning teams with respect to recreation and ecotourism issues as follows:

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- Meeting with local snowmobile clubs to review our annual plans so that we will not be in conflict with each other, and develop plans to avoid any conflicts identified.
- Working with local recreation committees to determine if there are any impacts of our plans on their planned developments, such as with the Blomidon, Baie Verte, and Gander Cross Country Ski Club.
- Facilitating the construction of an extensive trail system established along the Corner Brook Stream in Corner Brook on private property owned by CBPP.
- Working with local cabin owners to provide them with information on our planned harvesting operations around their cabin development areas. Deal with issues such as width of buffers, road locations and view sheds.
- All CBPP primary and secondary forest access roads are open year round to public access for many recreational activities such as hunting, fishing, walking, biking, berry picking, and cutting of domestic fuel wood.

### **Parks and Special Areas:**

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Corner Brook Pulp and Paper supports the Provincial Government initiative to set aside 12% of the Province in reserves.

- CBPP's commitments to the Little Grand Lake Reserve System and Main River Heritage Plan have been substantial. Through the planning process we are continuing to work with planning teams and Parks Division to find an acceptable compromise between the needs of all the users of the forest resource.
- We are also working very closely with Gros Morne National Park to assess any potential impacts of our proposed harvesting operations adjacent to the park on the greater Gros Morne Park ecosystem. We have formed a science-working group to discuss issues such as connectivity, fragmentation, wildlife, and are actively working on projects to help with the assessment of these issues.

### **Socio-Economic:**

In all planning teams the issue of what is the most appropriate use of the forest for the citizens of Newfoundland and Labrador always came to the table. The debate always centered on how much development and what kind should occur, never was there a feeling among planning teams that no resource development should occur.

- As part of the FMD 16 planning process, the Newfoundland Forest Service and the Western Newfoundland Forest Service approved a project that will initiate a socio-economic analysis for FMD 16. Information obtained from this analysis may be helpful to us in our decision making process as we implement these five year operating plans.

### **Sawmills:**

Corner Brook Pulp and Paper have put in place three Transfer Agreements with the Crown to provide access to sawlogs on CBPP timber limits to integrated sawmills located in Baie Verte, Hampden, and Cormack. These agreements provide sawlogs to these sawmills, in return for pulp chips delivered to the paper mill. CBPP also has other exchange agreements with local integrated sawmills whereby sawlogs are either sold or exchanged for pulp chips.

**Mining:**

From time to time CBPP receives requests from the Mining Industry to carry out mineral exploration operations on timber limits controlled by CBPP. We have implemented a Mineral Exploration Policy for our limits and work with the Mining Industry to allow their activities to proceed wherever and whenever possible without causing any major loss of forest land base.

**Agriculture:**

In the past we have not worked closely with the Department of Agriculture to identify land of high potential for agriculture and determine if there are ways that this land can be made available for agriculture without having a negative impact on the Class I forest land base. We have agreed to investigate the possibility of exchanging agriculturally viable forestry land with unsuitable agriculture land within agriculture development areas.

**Public Participation and Communication:**

Corner Brook Pulp and Paper recognizes the importance and need for public and user group consultation as an important component of forest management planning.

- We have been involved in the planning process preparing 5 Year Operating Plans since 1994.
- To date we have prepared 5 Year Operating Plans in Forest Management Districts 17, 16, 15, 14, 9 and are actively working on plans in FMD 5, 6, and 8.
- This process has involved the formation of seven (7) Planning Teams since 1994, located across the Island in communities such as Hampden, Hawkes Bay, Stephenville, Corner Brook, Deer Lake, Springdale, Lewisporte and Gander.
- The planning process has resulted in hundreds of public information meetings, planning team meetings, workshops and field trips. In addition we have conducted numerous presentations and field trips for members of Town Councils, interest groups, and school kids, and the public in conjunction with our annual Woodlands Tour.