



Revised September
2018

WORKPLAN

The Workplan....

The FMP Workplan will include timelines and interim approval steps that are consistent with the overall FMP development timeframe. This FMP Workplan will be used to monitor progress in the development of the FMP.



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2019 FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

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1.0 Introduction

Mistik Management Ltd. (Mistik) is a woodlands management company based out of Meadow Lake, Saskatchewan providing timber procurement and forestry services to NorSask Forest Products Inc., Meadow Lake Mechanical Pulp Inc. and L&M Wood Products. Mistik is dedicated to the sustainable use and stewardship of 1.9 million hectares of boreal forest in northwest Saskatchewan.

On June 24, 2009, the Province of Saskatchewan approved Mistik's 2007-2017 20-Year Forest Management Plan (FMP) and related documents. During the 2019-2029 FMP process, and in collaboration with L&M Wood Products and the Province of Saskatchewan, Mistik intends to incorporate the L&M FMA area into the Mistik FMA area as an additional management unit for the purposes of forest management planning.

On behalf of these companies, Mistik has initiated a new Forest Management Plan (FMP). The planning process is guided by the Government of Saskatchewan's Forest Management Planning Standard along with other legislation and standards/guidelines.

This document provides the outline of steps to complete the FMP with associated timelines.

2.0 License Area

The Mistik Forest Management Agreement (FMA) area is located in northwest Saskatchewan adjacent to the Alberta border and encompasses 1,867,311 hectares of forests, water and non-forested land. Most of the FMA area is located north of Meadow Lake extending north to the Kimowin River (north end of Peter Pond Lake), bordered on the west by the Alberta/Saskatchewan border and the Cold Lake Air Weapons Range and on the east by Dore Lake, Lac la Plonge and Lac Ile a la Crosse. An additional portion of the FMA area occurs south of Meadow Lake. Common tree species are trembling aspen, jack pine, black and white spruce, balsam fir, balsam poplar and white birch.

Mistik's mandate since its inception has been to:

- provide wood fiber to both mill facilities;
- work with local communities within the FMA area in providing employment and business opportunities related to harvesting and forest renewal-related activities;
- consult and cooperate with stakeholders and forest-users with interests in the Mistik FMA area;
- consider wildlife and other ecosystem values in planning and implementing forest use activities.

3.0 Overview of Key FMP Deliverables

Table 1. Key FMP milestones and deliverables

Deliverable	Draft Submission Date	Final Submission Date	Response Date / Status
Terms of Reference		13 February 2015	24 September 2016 (Approved)
Public Engagement Plan		13 February 2015	31 August 2016 (Approved)
Work Plan	27 August 2018 (V. 10)		
FMP Volume I		14 June 2017	August 2017 (Approved)
FMP Volume II	11 September 2018	26 October 2018	
FMP Volume III	24 September 2018	5 November 2018	
Minister Approval (Target Date)	1 April 2019		

4.0 Planning Team Updates

A complete list of planning team members can be found in the *Planning Team Terms of Reference* document

Table 2. Recent planning team changes:

Name	Organization	Role in FMP	Reason for Change
Niska Hodgson	Mistik	Plan Author	R. Nesdoly retirement

5.0 Stakeholders & Groups Affected by the FMP

Approximately 20 northern communities exist within or adjacent to the Mistik FMA area. The majority of these settlements are comprised of First Nation and Métis populations. Commercial fishing, ranching, farming, market gardening, logging and sawmilling and various non-timber extraction from the forest (berry picking, etc.) now contribute to the local industries of these communities.

Mistik works cooperatively with eight local co-management/advisory groups, one regional public advisory group and other interested provincial government, industrial and non-governmental organizations. The eight local co-management/advisory groups are generally open to participation by any member of the community and are comprised of representatives from various forest stakeholder groups. Mistik will be meeting with each of the co-management/advisory groups and the regional public advisory group specifically to discuss Mistik's 2019 FMP process according to the timeline shown in this Workplan. To augment the existing public participation processes, openhouses will also be held in several communities within and adjacent to the Mistik FMA area.

For a complete list of stakeholder groups and descriptions, refer to Mistik's 2017 *Public Engagement Plan*

6.0 Government & Agencies having Jurisdiction over Activities in the License Area

Dave Linden and Al Balisky have compiled a list of Ministry of Environment (MOE) branches and other government agencies that may have specific interests to be addressed in the development of the FMP (Table 1). A letter of invitation to participate in the FMP process will be sent to all listed agencies.

Table 3. Provincial and federal government agencies invited to participate in the FMP process

Date of Invitation Letter	Government Type	Government Agency
January 14, 2015	Province of Saskatchewan	First Nations, Metis and Northern Economic Development
January 14, 2015	Province of Saskatchewan	Lands Branch
January 14, 2015	Province of Saskatchewan	Advisory Services and Municipal Relations
January 14, 2015	Province of Saskatchewan	Strategic Planning and Policy
January 14, 2015	Province of Saskatchewan	Lands and Mineral Tenure
January 14, 2015	Province of Saskatchewan	Saskatchewan Water Security Agency
January 14, 2015	Province of Saskatchewan	Labor Market Services
January 14, 2015	Province of Saskatchewan	SaskEnergy
January 14, 2015	Province of Saskatchewan	SaskPower
January 14, 2015	Province of Saskatchewan	Heritage Conservation Branch
January 14, 2015	Province of Saskatchewan	Tourism Saskatchewan

Date of Invitation Letter	Government Type	Government Agency
January 14, 2015	Province of Saskatchewan	Wildfire Management Branch
January 14, 2015	Province of Saskatchewan	Forest Service Branch
January 14, 2015	Province of Saskatchewan	Landscape Stewardship Branch
January 14, 2015	Province of Saskatchewan	Environmental Assessment Branch
March 17, 2015	Province of Saskatchewan	Highways and Infrastructure
January 14, 2015	Government of Canada	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
January 14, 2015	Government of Canada	Canadian Wildlife Service - Prairie and Northern Region
Green-shaded text indicates agencies who responded and desire to participate in the process		

7.0 Known Issues and Concerns regarding the Management of Forest Resources (timber and non-timber) in the License Area

There are several issues regarding the management of forest resources (timber and non-timber) within the Mistik FMA area:

- Lack of clarity related to 'species at risk' management** – particularly woodland caribou – potential for jurisdictional conflict between federal and provincial governments on this matter – potential for impacts to forestry operations – uncertainty related to the biology, predator/prey relationships and key habitat requirements – and lastly, it is unclear as to how forestry operations may impact woodland caribou survival;
- Big Island Lake Cree Nation's request for forest harvest moratorium on traditional lands** – this matter was formalized in a statement of claim (2000) against Mistik and other industrial operators undertaking resource use activities within the traditional territory of Big Island Lake Cree Nation;
- Ongoing balancing of equitable distribution of socio-economic benefits and maintenance of a variety of land use values** – it is necessary for forestry operations to be sensitive to market conditions for forestry products and as such must be undertaken in as economically-efficient manner as possible at all times – this means that local forestry contractors must be competitive with other forest industry peers in neighboring jurisdictions – challenges on the Mistik FMA area include ensuring that forestry employment and economic benefits stay local and that required production (m³) and rates (\$) are favorable for sustainable outcomes at the mills – many land use values exist within the Mistik FMA area – it is an ongoing mandate of Mistik to accommodate as many of these values as possible through meaningful dialogue and joint-planning with forest stakeholders;
- Absence of forestry use of the northern portion of the Mistik FMA area since ~ 2008** – a large portion of the Mistik FMA area has not been utilized for a number of years (since the downturn of the lumber market commencing in ~ 2007) – re-engaging forestry operations in the north is a challenge and is an ongoing discussion item between both of Mistik's shareholder mills – timing of when forestry operations may commence in the north is contingent on a number of mill-related and economic factors beyond Mistik's influence; and
- Incorporation of climate change considerations and potential responses into strategic and tactical forest management planning** – the scientific consensus is that major environmental change caused by man-made impacts to Earth's climate is now a global reality – planning in order to best accommodate these environmental changes and potential outcomes to boreal forestry operations is critical.

8.0 Other Issues/Concerns regarding Inventory or other Information Sources

The Mistik FMA area has a fully modern and relatively recent (~ 10-yrs old), 'wall to wall', digital forest inventory coverage based on the Saskatchewan Forest Vegetation Inventory (SFVI). In addition, Mistik has a fully modern and relatively recent (~ 10-yrs old) 80,000 tree temporary sample plot dataset for deriving estimates of forest stand volume. There are no concerns with the availability of adequate information sources that may affect the development of the FMP.

9.0 Detailed FMP Work Plan including anticipated Timelines and Interim Approval steps (Table 4)

Table 4. Planned completion schedule of FMP deliverables¹

FMP Deliverable	Anticipated Submission Date	MoE Approval Date of Current Revision
1. Planning Team Terms of Reference	13-Feb-15	24-Sep-16 (Rev. #2)
2. Public Engagement Plan	13-Feb-15	31-Aug-16 (Rev. #3)
3. Workplan	17-Aug-18	20-Mar-17
4. FMP Volume I (Final)	14-Jun-17	Approved August 2017
5. Tactical Plan (Draft)	31-Oct-16	n/a
6. Tactical Plan (Final)	01-Oct-17	
7. Planning Inventory Report	13-Sep-17	
8. Forest Development Report	20-Oct-17	
9. Identification of Silviculture Ground Rules	10-Jun-17	
10. Identification of Values, Objectives, Indicators and Targets (VOITs)	11-Sept-18	
11. Modeling Assumptions Report	25-Oct-17	
12. Forest Estate Modeling Report	06-Feb-18	
13. FMP Volume II (Final)	26-Oct-18	
14. FMP Volume III (Draft)	24-Sept-18	n/a
15. FMP Volume III (Final)	5-Nov-18	
16. Final FMP Approval by Minister	1 April 2019	

¹The Environmental Assessment Act, Section 16 process will be an integral part of the FMP development process. Mr. Brady Pollock will ensure that key aspects of the development process address specific Section 16 requirements.

9.1 Schedule for production of the FMP that includes progress checkpoints, anticipated timing of deliverables and the manner in which deliverables will be produced

Refer to **Table 2** and **Figure 1** of this document. Meetings of the Planning Team will occur on a monthly basis according to the schedule identified in the Planning Team Terms of Reference. On a monthly basis, the Planning Team will review **Table 2** and **Figure 1** of this document. Deliverables associated with the itemized FMP tasks will be produced in digital and hardcopy format and made available for circulation and review. Hardcopies of deliverables will be made available at Planning Team meetings. Digital copies of deliverables will also be posted on the Silvacom Online website (www.silvacom.com).

9.2 Requirements from both the licensee and MOE regarding meeting requirements, including preparatory work and minute-taking

Meetings of the Planning Team will occur on a monthly basis according to the schedule identified in the Planning Team Terms of Reference. Mistik's Public Advisory Group will be involved in the FMP development at key stages to provide input (refer to **Table 2** and **Figure 1** of this document). Mistik, and Mistik's primary consultant (Silvacom Ltd.), will conduct the majority of work related to preparation of the FMP. Ministry of Environment will be responsible for providing guidance, and review and comment during the development of the FMP. Mistik staff will undertake minute-taking of 'action items' arising at all Planning Team meetings.

9.3 MOE interim review and approval steps

The 23 FMP deliverables identified in **Table 2** of this document will be treated as separate deliverables for review by MOE. For most submitted deliverables, MOE staff will review and provide comment to Mistik within 21 working days of receipt of the deliverable. MOE staff will take a minimum of three months to provide written comment to Mistik with respect to the final submission of FMP Vols. I, II and III.

9.4 A listing of all analysis tools that will be used along with a description of the manner in which they will be used

The following forest estate modeling tools will be used during the FMP development:

- SILVASYM (Silvacom Ltd.'s proprietary, fully-spatial resource supply model);
- Woodstock (Remsoft Inc.'s aspatial resource supply model); and
- Stanley (Remsoft Inc.'s spatial resource supply model for sequencing of resource supply).

The three forest resource analysis and modeling tools will be used to undertake the:

- Modeling of objectives, targets and preliminary forecasts;
- Scenario forecasting; and
- Preferred strategy and spatial scheduling of forest resource values.

9.5 Possible issues that may affect the schedule for plan production

There are no foreseen issues that affect the schedule for plan production.

9.6 Identify resources or assistance that may be required from MOE, other government agencies or other sources to address identified issues or as otherwise required to develop the FMP

Mistik requires MOE's assistance in:

- Compilation of MOE inventories;
- Information regarding independent operators ('3rd party forestry operations');
- Review and comment related to staged FMP deliverables.

9.7 A consultation plan describing the proposed public consultation process to be used in the FMP preparation including the meeting schedule of the Public Advisory Group and general public relative to the FMP development process

Refer to Mistik's Public Consultation Plan and **Table 2** and **Figure 1** of this document.

9.8 Progress related to the approved FMP Workplan must be reported upon at intervals agreed to at the outset of planning. Progress reports will include an update reflecting changes in the schedule and changes in the Planning Team membership or their responsibilities

The Planning Team for Mistik's 2019-2029 FMP will meet monthly for the duration of the FMP development process. At every meeting:

- the Planning Team Terms of Reference will be reviewed and updated for any changes in membership or responsibilities;
- the Workplan will be reviewed and updated based on review of **Table 2** and **Figure 1** of this document. The ongoing review and update of the Workplan will serve as the ongoing progress report related to FMP development.

Table 3 of this document will identify any major changes to the production schedule. Action items will be specified in **Table 3** and may prescribe that notification be sent to the Executive Director of the Forest Service Branch.

Table 5. FMP Planning Team & PAG meeting schedule

Date	Group	Location / Time
October 3, 2018	FMP Planning Team	Mistik Boardroom 10:00
October 24-25, 2018 (tentative)	Public Advisory Group	United Church, Meadow Lake (Time T.B.D.)
November 8, 2018	FMP Planning Team	Mistik Boardroom 10:00
December 6, 2018	FMP Planning Team	Mistik Boardroom 10:00
January 10, 2018	FMP Planning Team	Mistik Boardroom 10:00
February 7, 2018	FMP Planning Team	Mistik Boardroom 10:00

Meeting dates can be changed if needed. A March meeting will be scheduled if necessary.

9.9 The Executive Director of the Forest Service and senior representative for the licensee approval of the FMP Workplan and any amendments to the FMP Workplan



Aaron Kuchirka
Executive Director
Forest Service Branch
Ministry of Environment

Sept. 25, 2018
Date



Niska Hodgson RPF
Planning Manager
Mistik Management Ltd.

12 September 2018
Date