

# Boreal Forest Conservation Framework

## *Annual Action Plan Template*

TEMBEC

### Strategic Context

#### **Link between actions and core Tembec organizational/business strategies**

*Briefly describe how the planned Framework-related actions are connected to your organizations overall strategy and development. The purpose of this section is to gain insight in to how a commitment to the Boreal Forest Conservation Framework will create value for Tembec in its mission and purpose.*

Tembec's programs that operate in concert with the Boreal Forest conservation Framework support the Company in terms of market acceptance and access. The development and achievement of FSC certification, for example, is showing increasing importance in most product segments. There also are an increasing number of customers whose supplier requirements or procurement policies include demonstration, development and application of leading edge practices in the Canadian Boreal.

The environmental commitments and achievements by Tembec position us as a global leader in sustainable forest management practices. The latter is part of our corporate responsibility engagement and contributes to the external positioning and reputation of the Company.

#### **Short term plans nested within long term actions.**

*Briefly describe how the short term, annual action plans presented here fit within the long term planned actions of Tembec. (e.g. land use planning and designation of protected areas with provincial government to take place this year, long term plans in all provinces to be completed in 3 years.)*

In 2001, Tembec set a goal to have FSC certification on 13 million hectares of company forestry operations in Canada. Adjusting for tenure changes since 2001, 100% of company managed/tenured forests are FSC certified (9.7 million hectares). Many of the following actions are in concert with meeting conditions of existing FSC certifications, strengthening Aboriginal relations, moving candidate protected areas to permanent protection status, protecting endangered species and positive positioning of Tembec forest products in an international marketplace.

### Specific Actions

#### **1) Scientific and traditional ecological knowledge research**

*What research actions are you planning that will inform better conservation planning? (e.g. Participation in the Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Program)*

#### Forest Community/Model Forests Program

- The Manitoba Model Forest

- Key initiatives include development of Caribou management and tree retention strategies and evaluation of pre-industrial forest condition
- [www.manitobamodelforest.net](http://www.manitobamodelforest.net)
- <http://cfs.nrcan.gc.ca/index/fcpgm>
- [www.modelforest.org](http://www.modelforest.org)
- Northeast Superior Forest Community (Chapleau)
  - Focus on non-timber forest products
  - [http://wikinorth.ca/index.php?title=northeast\\_superior\\_forest\\_community](http://wikinorth.ca/index.php?title=northeast_superior_forest_community)

### Academic Partnerships

- In Quebec, Tembec is involved in a significant Ecosystem Management project in partnership with the U. Quebec at Abitibi/Temiscamingue where Tembec funds a Research Chair
- For a description of the work of at UQAT view [http://web2.uqat.ca/cafd/accueil\\_e.htm](http://web2.uqat.ca/cafd/accueil_e.htm)

### Forestry Research Partnership/Canadian Ecology Centre

- For a summary of projects visit [www.forestresearch.ca](http://www.forestresearch.ca)

### Sustainable Forest Management Network (SFMN)

- Tembec is a partner in this leading Canadian forest research organization. Engagement of Tembec personnel is identified through our support for various projects currently underway across Canada. For a listing visit: [http://www.sfmnetwork.ca/html/research\\_current\\_project\\_page\\_1\\_e.html](http://www.sfmnetwork.ca/html/research_current_project_page_1_e.html)

### Species at Risk

- Ontario Endangered Species Act Fund – Caribou habitat project
- CPAWS Manitoba - Independent Science Advisory Team

## **2) Land use planning**

*What actions are being undertaken to improve land-use planning and the designation of areas for sustainable development and preservation? (e.g. Undertake assessments of High Conservation Value Forests concurrent with FSC certification on company forest licenses.)*

### HCVF Assessment as a Planning Tool

The High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) assessment framework is used as a tool to meet the requirements of Principle 9 of FSC standards as well as to engage in a dialogue with World Wildlife Fund Canada and CPAWS (and other regional ENGO's) to identify candidate areas for

protection, modified management or enhanced monitoring. Tembec initiated the development of the current toolkit for HCVF application in Canada with WWF in 2002.

By the end of 2008, the HCVF methodology will have been applied in the following forest areas:

British Columbia

- 1 TFL 14, Golden
- 2 Invermere Timber Supply Area
- 3 Kootenay Lake Timber Supply Area
- 4 Cranbrook Timber Supply Area
- 5 Chetwynd\*(b)

Manitoba

- 1 Forest Management License 01, Pine Falls (b)

Ontario

- 1 Gordon Cosens Forest, Kapuskasing (b)
- 2 Smooth Rock Falls Forest, Smooth Rock Falls (b)
- 3 Romeo Malette Forest, Timmins (b)
- 4 Martel Forest, Chapleau (b)
- 5 Big Pic Forest, Marathon\* (b)
- 6 Nipissing Forest, North Bay\*\*
- 7 French/Severn Forest, Parry Sound\*\*

Quebec

- 1 Abitibi Region, La Sarre (b)
- 2 Temiscamingue Region, Bearn (b)
- 3 Abitibi Region, Rouyn-Noranda (b)
- 4 Gaspesie Region, Nouvelle (b)
- 5 Senneterre\* (b)

\* new for 2008

\*\* in partnership with Tembec

(b) in the Boreal Region as defined by CBI

Northern Boreal Initiative (Ontario)

Moose Cree First Nation is developing its terms of reference for land use planning in the Northern Boreal. Various community consultation committees have been struck. Tembec is open to supporting MCFN in those efforts if invited and to encouraging their outreach efforts to the environmental community and CBI.

East Side Land Use Planning Process/World Heritage Site (Manitoba)

Tembec will remain engaged as a participant in the First Nations Council process and continue to push for a structured and timely approach to land use planning in advance of development.

Tembec will work with advocates of the World Heritage Site to understand what it means and the process by which its designation will be formalized.

Tembec is open to be engaged by First Nations in community-led land use planning initiatives if invited.

### **3) Protected areas designations**

*What actions will you undertake to identify deferrals and protected areas? (e.g. Establish areas of protection or benchmark areas through special designations through legislation or other programs.)*

#### Quebec – L’Aire Protegee

- Bearn region – advance candidates identified with WWF through Quebec process

#### Manitoba

- Springer Lake Ecological site
- Poplar River Park Reserve

#### Ontario

- Big Pic Forest
- Superior Forest
- Biodiversity Project in NE Ontario

### **4) Innovative policy development supporting Framework principles**

*Provincial and federal policy development that supports the vision of the Framework signatories is critical to the long-term success of the Boreal initiative. What policy and regulatory actions have been undertaken to advance Framework goals? (e.g. Advocacy to provincial officials for land use planning on unallocated lands.)*

- Promote legislative reform in Quebec compelling government support for certification which is now integrated into the *Loi sur les Forêts*
- Participants in the evolution of co-op SFL approach across N.E. Ontario.

### **5) Promotion of economic and cultural sustainability in the boreal region**

*What actions will you undertake to support sustainable economic benefits to boreal communities? (e.g. Supporting sustainable community development opportunities, or creating market demand for Boreal products)*

Cost reduction efforts are critical to ensuring the competitiveness of Tembec. Major initiatives with contractors are underway to reduce the cost of wood delivered to mill to support facilities in northern communities.

Tembec will maintain an active First Nations relations agenda. Partnerships with approximately 30 communities will continue in support of economic development, coordinated joint forestry planning, scholarships and education initiatives and various employment initiatives.

Expanded efforts will occur in the Superior North region (Missanabie Cree FN, Pic River FN and Pic Mobert FN) and Abitibi region (Moose Cree FN, Constance Lake FN, Taykwa Tagamou Nation) of Ontario.

#### **6) Recognition of aboriginal rights**

*Will any actions affect aboriginal lands or involve an issue of aboriginal rights? Please describe how your actions will address/support aboriginal rights and what types of collaboration are planned. (e.g. Support for full consultation with affected groups and incorporation of local and traditional knowledge prior to resource allocation or permitting)*

All company forestry operations occur on the traditional lands of Aboriginal People, in many cases on lands where multiple communities have overlapping interests.

A Tembec representative is chair of the FPAC (internal) Aboriginal Affairs Committee to identify opportunities to jointly advance education/employment and economic development issues.

Throughout the Boreal, Tembec will continue to develop and implement agreements with First Nations using a variety of approaches:

- Joint Management and Advisory Committee (3 communities in NE BC)
- Government/Company/ First Nation agreements (3 communities in NE ON)
- FN/Tembec Harmonization Agreements (6 in place in QC)
- FN/Tembec Long Term Forestry Agreements (3 in place in NE ON, QC)
- Community Consultation (multiple communities in MB, ON, QC, BC)

#### **7) Actual or potential impediments and problem solving**

*Briefly summarize areas of concern where other signatories may be of assistance in addressing. (e.g. Need collaboration across group of signatories and non-signatories to advocate for provincial policy change on protected area designation.)*

None anticipated.

#### **8) Planned communications around Boreal issues**

*If actions are planned around communicating results or progress please broadly describe them. Please include any anticipated support being sought from other Framework Partners. (e.g. Once mapping of HCVFs is completed, planning a press conference and desire assistance of CBI and other partners to be there in support.)*

Tembec is currently reviewing its Communications plan for 2008-2010. Our leadership on sustainable forest management practices will be part of our communication endeavors in the next few years.

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Mr. Michel Lessard holds a degree in Forestry Engineering and is a member of the Quebec Order of Forestry Engineers (OIFQ). Mr. Lessard has extensive experience as a forester and an administrator of forestry operations.

He has notably worked as Manager of Forestry Operations and Chief Forester for Tembec. He joined Kruger in 2003 as Chief Forester. He quickly thereafter attained the position of Vice-President Forestry Operations and successfully led a major reorganization of the forestry operations in the Forest Products division. In 2007, Mr. Lessard was named Vice-President responsible for the Quebec Division operations, which included forestry as well as mill transformation operations. In March 2008, Mr. Lessard returned to Tembec as Vice-President, Forest Resource Management. In this position, Mr. Lessard is responsible to provide the strategic direction for the management of forestry resources for all Tembec operations.



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