

HFHC 2013 DIALOGUE RECOMMENDATIONS

2016 Update Opinion Summary

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UPDATE ASSESSMENT - BASIS

The 2011-2013 *Healthy Forests-Healthy Communities: A conversation of BC forests* (HFHC) community dialogue initiative generated a report that included a number of nested recommendations to address the issues of BC communities and forest professionals concerned about the future of BC forests. A quick review of the community priorities identified they remain valid in 2017. Twenty-one (21) priority HFHC recommendations were selected for assessment as priority areas for moving forward regarding achieving the stated vision and goals. Action on climate change adaptation was added even though it was not identified as a priority during the HFHC dialogue but has become a priority for communities. The consistency of priority issues over the last four (4) years suggests these priority areas should be the focus for the next decade.

British Columbians have given Government the responsibility to manage BC forests to deliver the public expectations from the forest asset. This is achieved by providing legislation, regulations and policies to frame forest management and manufacturing performed by the industry. **The focus MUST be on long-term stewardship of the forest for the benefits of communities and British Columbians.**

It is recognized some Government and industry activities conducted may not be reflected in this performance assessment. This report is intended as a compendium of identified community and concerned citizens' priority issues that provide a general indication of progress and a basis for further discussion and action. It is recognized exceptions to the general statements may exist.

The categories of recommendations selected for the assessment were:

- **Long-term forest stewardship infrastructure** which provides the foundation for forest management strategic decision-making and operational practices,
- **Landscape unit planning** which provides the mechanism to identify practices leading to the vision and goals of long-term forest stewardship and minimizing cumulative impacts of resource activities,
- **Community influence on strategic local forest decision-making** which provides a mechanism for meeting the local forest contribution to long-term community resiliency, and
- **Community economic diversification** which provides a major contribution to long-term community resiliency.

Since the generation of the HFHC vision and goals, the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (MFLNRO) should be congratulated in developing a vision in response to the BC Auditor-General’s questions regarding timber management objectives and strategies. These two statements are presented below for reference.

HFHC LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY VISION¹	MFLNRO SFM VISION
<p>British Columbia’s forest lands asset is protected, managed and restored to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the health, protection and long-term viability of forest values, • Support healthy, diverse and resilient communities, and • Support viable and sustainable forest sector community businesses. 	<p>The ministry’s vision for sustainable management of B.C.’s provincial forests includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing forests to meet present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs, • Providing stewardship of forests based on an ethic of respect for the land, • Maintaining and restoring proper ecosystem function and promoting ecological resilience for influences such as climate change, • Balancing economic, social, spiritual, ecological and recreational values of forests to meet the needs of peoples and communities, including First Nations, and • Conserving biological diversity, soil, water, fish, wildlife, scenic diversity and other forest resources.
HFHC LONG-TERM GOALS	TIMBER MANAGEMENT GOALS
<p>The HFHC long-term goals to achieve the vision are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A productive, resilient and healthy BC forest, • Demonstrated practice of SFM based on up-to-date data, science and planning, • Effective and efficient strategic forest lands decision-making process involving First Nations, stakeholders and communities, • Forest management that contributes to community identified local-regional forest land needs, and • A vibrant and innovative forest management sector. 	<p>The MFLNRO timber management goals are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote resilient and diverse forest ecosystems that will provide a sustainable flow of economically valuable timber that generates public revenues, supports robust communities, healthy economies that provide an opportunity for a vigorous efficient and world competitive timber processing industry, • Maintain a diversity of timber-related economic opportunities through time, • Maintain or enhance timber and non-timber values, forest health, and resilience, through the management of tree species composition, • Maintain or improve stand productivity, and • Maintain the inherent site capacity of B.C.’s forested ecosystems.

¹ **Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) definition:** *The stewardship and use of forests and forest lands in a way, and at a rate, that maintains their biological diversity, productivity, regeneration capacity, vitality and their potential to fulfill, now and in the future, relevant ecological economic and social functions, at local, national and global levels, and that does not cause damage on other ecosystems. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Canadian Institute of Forestry’s The Forestry Chronicle Vol 70 (6): 666-674, 1994).*

PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The specific priority HFHC recommendations and critical shortcomings of actions are presented in the Data Analysis Section as Tables 1 and 2.

Overall Progress

Forests will continue to grow as long as the management does not cause irreversible negative impacts on forest productivity. However, if BC is to utilize the asset to its potential as a major contributor to the BC economy and capitalize on the other values they provide, it has to have investment directed toward a long-term vision, not unlike that of any personal or business asset. A forgotten asset leads to its decline and eventual demise.

Question for British Columbians:
“How have we progressed over the last four (4) years in moving toward achieving the HFHC vision and goals?”

The assessment of progress made in each of the HFHC priority recommendations identified that actions taken were limited in regards to moving toward the HFHC vision and goals. Regardless of the lack of formal Government public commitments to forest management actions in 2013, 82% of the HFHC priority action areas in the assessment had some action taken over the last four (4) years, albeit limited at best. On the surface these results indicate a positive movement forward. However, upon further thought, the actions reflect limited impact regarding

BC needs strong, technically sound long-term forest stewardship goals and a strategic action plan to guide forest related decision-making and minimize spontaneous political responses to priority strategic forest management issues.

movement toward long-term forest stewardship. There were no actions in themselves viewed as making a sound and significant contribution to long-term forest stewardship. Eighteen (18) percent of the recommendations had no action taken and actions on thirty-six (36) percent appear to be responding to political issues without strong and technically sound long-term forest stewardship goals and a strategic action plan as a basis. Although these actions are welcomed and a large number may be useful, without a significant and in-depth action plan supported by policy and resources over the next decade the actions will not move us toward long-term forest stewardship in BC. “One-off” actions responding to issues rather than a well

thought out strategic action plan dilutes scarce resources (staff and dollars) essential in moving toward the vision for BC forests. It would be prudent for Government to develop the long-term forest stewardship goals and action plan to deliver on the vision, given they are responsible for long-term management of 93% of the public forest management units. A 2017 change in focus will require the Minister of FLNRO to provide a directive and allocation of existing and additional resources in this regard. Without these, actions moving forward will be limited with the potential of significant negative impacts to communities due to reduced timber availability for harvesting and manufacturing.

The 2017 Government needs to take a leadership role in promoting and insisting upon long-term forest stewardship of the BC forest asset as a priority.



Recommendation #1: The 2013 HFHC recommendations be updated to reflect the 2017 conditions and used as a basis for a decade or more commitment to long-term stewardship goals and action plan for BC forests.

Forest Management Progress

Actions by Government and in some cases forest companies, suggest long-term forest stewardship is not a priority, even with public announcements to the contrary. The actions, as identified in this report, question the commitments. Fortunately, there are foresters quietly working as individuals on small projects focused on moving toward long-term stewardship in their specific areas of responsibility. Information from an ad hoc “foresters’ network,” identified projects or actions on 41% of the priority areas. These actions are small but can be used to encourage other forest professionals and decision-makers to do the same. The Association of BC Forest Professionals (ABC FP) could be a contributor to advancing this practice through informing their membership of these leadership actions. Communication and celebration of successes and lessons learned is essential to broaden their application while providing awareness and information to concerned citizens and communities.

Recommendation #2: Government, industry and forest professionals commit to a concerted effort regarding the forest management related priorities currently identified as having limited benefits.

Community Issues Progress

In 2011-2013, communities identified the need to focus on long-term forest stewardship versus short-term economics. Based on comments from Local Governments and concerned citizens, this remains a position in 2017. Assessment of the actions taken to date indicates very little, if any, progress on this issue has occurred. The necessity of a short-term economic focus is accepted during tough forest industry financial times but this cannot extend to the level where it will become the norm and significantly impact long-term forest stewardship. BC is on the cusp of this occurring. Global competitiveness will always be a concern of the Province and the forest industry but there needs to be balance with long-term forest stewardship. Implementing the HFHC 2013 recommendations would provide this balance.

Government and the forest companies have not shown an interest in encouraging communities to develop their vision and goals for the local forests. Communities can make a significant contribution to achieving resiliency and sustainability from their forests by creating a vision and goals and communicating these to forest managers. Examples of this exist in a few BC communities. Government approval is not necessary to develop these guiding statements. The documents could be used as a basis for communities to influence forest management decisions and encourage community economic development and diversification.

Recommendation #3: Government to support and encourage forest dependent communities in developing a vision and goals for their local forests and expect forest managers to reflect them in forest management plans.

Moving Forward

Although important, the current primary focus on industry markets, commodity products and industry objectives, needs to change. **The BC forest needs a Government-supported long-term forest stewardship strategic action plan to achieve a stated set of goals.** If this does not occur, BC will be on the way to not having the timber to create jobs and satisfy markets or corporate objectives. Long-term forest stewardship is paramount.

One of the major challenges facing Government, the forest industry and communities is timber availability. The Mountain Pine Beetle (MPB) epidemic in the interior and movement to more second growth harvesting on the coast are resulting in declines in available timber supply. These situations have and will continue to reduce the Allowable Annual Cut (AAC). Care will be required not to bend to the expected pressures to adopt actions focused on maintaining existing harvest levels which would significantly impact long-term forest stewardship. Reductions in AAC have already resulted in mill closures with more forecast. It is recognized this will be a major impact on both mill and forest employees. If the BC forest sector is to continue to provide the current level of jobs and economic benefits, Government and the forest industry have to adapt to the future conditions. This will be required if the impacts on communities and forest sector employees are to be minimized. It is not good enough to just protect the primary wood products producers. Diversification of the forest sector is a critical part of the future, especially in areas of full fibre utilization and expanding the secondary wood manufacturing sector to increase jobs and community economic development, thereby, mitigating the community impact of the new forest sector business environment. Certainty of fibre supply and removal of barriers to investment related to secondary wood manufacturing businesses are essential.

The BC forest sector needs to adapt to the declining timber supply while at the same time minimizing job loss. An expanded secondary wood manufacturing sector is an essential component of the solution.

BC needs a forest culture as identified by the current Government. However, creating this entity has to expand beyond just the focus on the “Wood First” program. A major action item should be for Government to require forest companies to move from currently being “forest harvesters” to an emphasis on being “forest managers.” The associated actions and communications of results and opportunities will go a long way in realizing and capitalizing on the importance of the forest sector to the future of the Province and its citizens.

Moving forward is a shared responsibility. Government and the forest industry need to be active in developing and implementing actions that have a significant positive impact on long-term forest stewardship. Communities must be more assertive in becoming involved in strategic decision-making regarding their local forests. If they do not, they will bear the brunt of the Government and industry actions that have a high probability of negatively impacting community resiliency. Forest professionals need to become more outspoken advocates and activists for long-term forest stewardship to fulfill their mandate under the Foresters Act. MFLNRO needs to review their actions or non-action on the HFHC nested series of recommendations when planning programs for the next 10 years. Strong programs in all of these areas would result in significant movement to long-term forest stewardship and community resiliency.

Recommendation #4: Government, forest industry, communities and forest professionals collaborate in developing goals to achieve the vision and a strategic action plan to deliver on the goals that will benefit all under the expected lower timber supply.

Climate change adaptation has become a major concern of communities since the HFHC dialogue. Addressing the issues identified by communities during the 2011-2013 dialogue will work toward achieving this critical aspect of community resiliency.

- 1) **Long-term forest stewardship** will continue the sequestration of carbon by BC's forest asset, thereby contributing to climate change adaptation while at the same time providing a sustained forest-related input into community resiliency.
- 2) **Community influence** in strategic local forest decision-making will ensure climate change adaptation is incorporated into moving toward community resiliency.
- 3) **Community forest education** will be a major factor in building a forest culture within the community and thus generating both an informed input into forest-related decisions and influence on forest management decision-makers relative to climate change adaptation.
- 4) **Community forest sector diversification**, through increasing secondary wood manufacturing, will reduce or eliminate the burning of forest harvesting and manufacturing residue (waste) thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions while increasing community economics.

Recommendation #5: Government, industry and communities adequately address the priority issues identified in the HFHC dialogue as a major contributor in adapting to climate change and moving toward community resiliency.



DATA ANALYSIS

The 22 priority recommendations used in the Performance Assessment are presented in Table 1. The associated specific actions with each recommendation and the critical shortcomings are presented in Table 2.

Table 1 HFHC 2013 DIALOGUE RECOMMENDATIONS ASSESSMENT

PRIORITY RECOMMENDATIONS		PERFORMANCE		
		NONE	POLITICAL RESPONSE	LIMITED IMPACT
PERFORMANCE LEGEND				
None identifies there has been no action relative to the recommendation				
Political response involves no substantive actions/commitments & based on available information, appear to be responding to political issues				
Limited impact are valuable actions but not substantive in addressing the issue				
1.0	Long-term Forest Stewardship Infrastructure			
1.1	Adopt provincial resource management & extraction principles, a forest lands vision & goals		X	
1.2	Provide laws & policies to increase stable, long-term forest stewardship funding			X
1.3	Require forest management unit plans demonstrate they contribute to the provincial and community visions & goals	X		
1.4	Provide mechanisms to update land use plans	X		
1.5	Provide up-to-date forest resources foundational information (inventories) for long-term forest stewardship decision-making			X
1.6	Increase protection of susceptible forest stands to insect & disease attack			X
1.7	Reforestation of wildfire & MPB stands as part of the Climate Action Plan		X	
1.8	Develop a transparent & trustworthy monitoring & assessment system			X
1.9	Provide resources for a stable & world recognized research sector			X
1.10	Provide the resources to restore fish & wildlife habitats necessary to achieve the provincial vision & goals			X
2.0	Landscape Unit Planning			
2.1	Landscape unit planning			X
2.2	Integrating wildfire management into management plans		X	
2.3	Updating Professional Reliance			X
2.4	Increase District Manager's influence on Forest Stewardship Plans		X	

Table 1 (cont'd) HFHC 2013 DIALOGUE RECOMMENDATIONS ASSESSMENT

PRIORITY RECOMMENDATIONS		PERFORMANCE		
		NONE	POLITICAL RESPONSE	LIMITED IMPACT
PERFORMANCE LEGEND				
None identifies there has been no action relative to the recommendation				
Political response involves no substantive actions/commitments & based on available information, appear to be responding to political issues				
Limited impact are valuable actions but not substantive in addressing the issue				
2.0	Landscape Unit Planning			
2.5	Climate change adaptation policy, plans & operations			X
2.6	Cumulative impacts		X	
3.0	Rural Community Influence			
3.1	Establish regulations & policies to enable communities to influence long-term forest stewardship decisions		X	
3.2	Embark upon a forest knowledge extension initiative to develop & maintain a community forest culture	X		
3.3	Laws & policies enabling communities to influence long-term forest stewardship decisions	X		
4.0	Community Diversification			
4.1	Develop an integrated forest-products-finance system to support community diversification		X	
4.2	Encouraging secondary wood manufacturing		X	
4.3	Expanding First Nations Woodlands Licenses and Community Forest Agreements			X
ACTION SUMMARY OF 22 PRIORITY RECOMMENDATIONS		4 18%	8 36%	10 46%

Table 2

HFHC 2013 DIALOGUE RECOMMENDATIONS ASSESSMENT
Relative Actions Taken and Critical Shortcomings

POLITICAL RESPONSE ACTIONS - no substantive actions/commitments & based on available information, appear to be responding to political issues		
	Relative Actions Taken	Critical Shortcomings
1.0	LONG-TERM FOREST STEWARDSHIP INFRASTRUCTURE	
1.1	<p>Adopt provincial resource management & extraction principles, a forest lands vision & goals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) vision was generated as context in meeting the BC Auditor-General’s request for more information on timber objectives <p><i>Ecosystem management (EM) is a process that aims to conserve major ecological services and restore natural resources while meeting the socioeconomic, political and cultural and needs of current and future generations. The principal objective of ecosystem management is the efficient maintenance and ethical use of natural resources.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MFLNRO is using Government Action Regulations (GAR) Orders to address the issue related to official operating principles • Developed timber goals, objectives, targets and strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of goals and targets for resources other than timber (e.g., biodiversity conservation) prevents measuring whether balancing of values and goals is actually occurring to an acceptable level • Although the SFM vision is not legally binding & prevents measuring whether legislation & policy are consistent with its achievement, the hope is the statement will guide policy and decision-making; However, the SFM vision statement does not currently appear to influence decisions regarding other resources (e.g., biodiversity conservation) • No specific BC biodiversity goals or targets have been established but BC has signed-on to Canada’s biodiversity goals and targets for 2020; However, the impact of the Forest & Range Practices Act on timber availability remains notionally at 6% maximum as a working guide from the previous Forest Practices Code Act • Biodiversity BC report (“Taking Nature’s Pulse”) provides a guide to biodiversity conservation & would be a positive contribution in developing policies, legislation & decisions • GAR Orders are being issued on an issue specific basis and not integrated within SFM planning; it is a piecemeal approach with the potential of unexpected cumulative impacts • Timber goals and objectives remain the focus of management with other resources considered as constraints (i.e., not applying the preferred use of EM principles where timber is a product, not the decision-making driver)

Table 2 (cont'd)

HFHC 2013 DIALOGUE RECOMMENDATIONS ASSESSMENT
Relative Actions Taken and Critical Shortcomings

POLITICAL RESPONSE ACTIONS - no substantive actions/commitments & based on available information, appear to be responding to political issues		
	Relative Actions Taken	Critical Shortcomings
1.0	LONG-TERM FOREST STEWARDSHIP INFRASTRUCTURE	
1.7	<p>Reforestation of wildfire & MPB stands as part of the Climate Action Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government included reforestation of a limited amount of wildfire & Mountain Pine Beetle (MPB) denuded areas as part of the Climate Leadership Plan • One-time commitment by Government of \$235M into the newly established <i>Forest Enhancement Society</i> to reforest & rehabilitate damaged forests to contribute to greenhouse gas reduction • MFLNRO initiated a classification system that focuses on reforestation of only those areas within the Timber Harvesting Land Base (THLB) to reflect the economic justification for reforestation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment is to treat 300,000 ha over 5 yrs but the estimated minimum Not-Satisfactorily Restocked (NSR) area within the THLB needing treatment is estimated to be 2.3M ha suggesting the commitment is important but minimal relative the need • The funding for increasing productivity of these areas is helpful but given it is a one-time contribution does not send a convincing message regarding a long-term investment in the forest asset, especially making the announcement leading up to an election • The classification system justified removal of significant areas (33M ha-FPB 2012 report) for reforestation due to low economic value resulting in the areas being intentionally left for natural rejuvenation
2.0	LANDSCAPE UNIT PLANNING	
2.1	<p>Landscape unit planning pilot projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 pilot projects have been initiated that apply Type 4 silviculture strategies (approaches to forest management) to determine expanding opportunities of the Timber Harvesting Land Base and justify maintenance or increase of the Allowable Annual Cut (AAC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timber supply is the focus of the pilots with an emphasis on reducing non-timber value constraints where possible; however, scenarios that balance forest values spatially and temporally to demonstrate conservation of other resource values are missing raising questions regarding whether long-term stewardship is a focus
2.2	<p>Integrating wildfire management into management plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In most cases management plans have been prepared • Pilot projects are proposed in Nelson & Williams Lake areas regarding integration of wildfire plans with overall management plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insufficient funding is available for implementation of the plans

Table 2 (cont'd)

HFHC 2013 DIALOGUE RECOMMENDATIONS ASSESSMENT
Relative Actions Taken and Critical Shortcomings

POLITICAL RESPONSE ACTIONS - no substantive actions/commitments & based on available information, appear to be responding to political issues		
	Relative Actions Taken	Critical Shortcomings
2.5	<p>Climate change adaptation policy, plans & operations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MFLNRO operating unit climate action plans have been produced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funds are limited or not available for implementation but Treasury Board approval of funding has been requested at the time of this assessment • Although available information on climate change is imperfect, communications of this information requires improvement for use in adaptation implementation
2.6	<p>Cumulative impacts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a cumulative effects framework policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The framework remains a work in progress & limited to areas where data currently exists, thereby leaving many other critical resources absent in the analysis • Although information is being collected, it is not being compared to a desired future condition, level of resiliency, thresholds of impact, etc.
3.0	RURAL COMMUNITY INFLUENCE	
3.1	<p>Establish regulations & policies to enable communities to influence long-term forest stewardship decisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A framework has been established to guide MFLNRO staff regarding level of public consultation on each issue • MFLNRO responded to Forest Practices Board (FPB) recommended changes to the Forest Stewardship Plans (FSP) process and content, including increased opportunity for public input • MFLNRO did engage in actions to improve the meaningfulness of FSPs • Communities, through UBCM resolutions based on a survey of their members, identified a need for influence of forest management decision-making in their local forests 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The framework allows Government to determine significance of the concern & can limit community input; the focus is on a case by case basis with no formal commitments • MFLNRO rejected the aspect of “enhancements to public engagement in forest planning” & instead proposes to use technology to communicate to the public • Although the use of technology is valuable, it is not a substitute for community involvement in vision & goal setting • Results of the decision are still forthcoming • Outcomes of the Government - UBCM discussions regarding how this recommendation could be accommodated are yet to be outlined.

Table 2 (cont'd)

HFHC 2013 DIALOGUE RECOMMENDATIONS ASSESSMENT
Relative Actions Taken and Critical Shortcomings

POLITICAL RESPONSE ACTIONS - no substantive actions/commitments & based on available information, appear to be responding to political issues		
	Relative Actions Taken	Critical Shortcomings
4.0	COMMUNITY DIVERSIFICATION	
4.2	<p>Develop an integrated forest-products-finance system to support long-term, stable community economic diversification opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established \$25M/yr for 3 years <i>Rural Dividend Fund</i> to reinvigorate & diversify local economies; recently increased this commitment to 4 years <p>Encouraging secondary wood manufacturing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing market competitiveness assistance through a <i>Value Added Sector Action Plan</i> Development of high level strategies are in progress Developed draft guidelines for Business to Business (B2B) procedures in utilizing roadside logging residue as part of <i>Fibre Action Plan</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding is close to being adequate when compared to the HFHC dialogue estimates of \$30M/yr for forest sector diversification within communities; the question is whether this will continue beyond 4 years; limiting the time of commitment does not provide confidence regarding willingness to address the issue on a long-term basis Funding is made available through the <i>Forestry Innovation Initiatives (FII)</i> and <i>FP Innovations</i> organizations with a focus on marketing & not addressing priority issues previously identified High level strategies are slow in development & do not appear to address primary operational issues Removal of barriers that prevent business development for current & future secondary wood manufacturing companies are lacking Focus is on B2B with the primary logger having the power to decide on utilization or not; guidelines do not have associated policy or regulation support

Table 2 (cont'd)

HFHC 2013 DIALOGUE ASSESSMENT RECOMMENDATIONS
Relative Actions Taken and Critical Shortcomings

LIMITED IMPACT ACTIONS - valuable actions but not substantive in addressing the issue		
	Relative Actions Taken	Critical Shortcomings
1.0	Long-term Forest Stewardship Infrastructure	
1.2	<p>Provide laws & policies to increase stable, long-term forest stewardship funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Created <i>Forest Enhancement Society Fund</i> with a one-time \$85M & subsequent \$150M funding contributions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adequate funding was estimated during HFHC dialogue to be \$185M/yr but current contributions are one-time leaving concern over commitments to long-term investments Eligible projects focus on specific field operations & do not include the gaps in landscape level planning, objective/goal setting & community resilience building (all of which are under resourced) as these are the responsibility of Government & funding cannot be funnelled back into Government
1.5	<p>Provide up-to-date forest resources foundational information (inventories) for long-term forest stewardship decision-making</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government made a commitment in 2013, & continues to uphold it, to increase the forest inventory budget to \$8.5M/yr for 10 yrs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding level is insufficient as the Association of BC Forest Professionals (ABCFP) recommended a minimum of \$15M/yr needed to provide adequate resource data for long-term forest stewardship management
1.6	<p>Increase protection of susceptible forest stands to insect & disease attack</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some effort has been spent on treating stands attacked by insects & disease 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staffing levels for monitoring & treatment remain insufficient, especially due to the increased outbreaks of insect attack due to climate change

Table 2 (cont'd)

HFHC 2013 DIALOGUE ASSESSMENT RECOMMENDATIONS
Relative Actions Taken and Critical Shortcomings

LIMITED IMPACT ACTIONS - valuable actions but not substantive in addressing the issue		
	Relative Actions Taken	Critical Shortcomings
1.8	<p>Develop a transparent & trustworthy monitoring & assessment system</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MFLNRO added Compliance and Enforcement staff to 2013 levels but not up to those of 2001 when most reductions occurred • Forest & Range Evaluation Program (FREP) provides annual reports on operational practices for short & long-term stewardship of the eleven (11) FRPA values 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FPB remains critical of current levels • FREP annual reports are intended to encourage its use by forest managers to improve practices but do not include legally binding legislation or policy adjustments arising from the recommendations • FREP recommendations provide the basis for local conversations with MFLNRO & industry regarding improvements in management but no incentive is provided for change other than through depending on professionalism of operations foresters
1.9	<p>Provide resources for a stable & world recognized research sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently developing a research strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a research strategy is positive but the dissolving of the MFNRO Research Branch reduced effectiveness of research capability of Government & industry
1.10	<p>Provide the resources to restore fish & wildlife habitats necessary to achieve the provincial vision & goals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary funding source is the Land-Based Investment Program (LBIP) • Strategic approach to Conservation Data Centre database update developed & implemented using various collaborative funding sources • Conservation Framework developed & assignment of priorities & actions to all species & ecosystems identified • 5 year Species At Risk plan developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information on the extent of LBIP funding for these issues is limited due to only one annual report being available to the public, preventing any substantive data on activities & accomplishments • Insufficient funding available to deliver on recommended actions; actions dependent upon collaborative funding opportunities

Table 2 (cont'd)

HFHC 2013 DIALOGUE ASSESSMENT RECOMMENDATIONS
Relative Actions Taken and Critical Shortcomings

LIMITED IMPACT ACTIONS - valuable actions but not substantive in addressing the issue		
	Relative Actions Taken	Critical Shortcomings
2.0	LANDSCAPE UNIT PLANNING	
2.3	Updating Professional Reliance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ABCFP/MFLNRO Task Force Committees provide clarifications and respond to issues affecting forester implementation of the Professional Reliance model 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FPB reported there is still confusion within the public as to who is responsible & accountable for forest management decisions • The Task Force Committees have not fully addressed the public concerns noted in the HFHC dialogue or those of the FPB
2.4	Increase District Manager's influence on Forest Stewardship Plans (FSP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In response to FPB report, MFLNRO is investigating opportunities for District Managers to influence FSPs • District Manager Expectations Letters are available across the province & include a list of all forest management considerations & concerns in FSPs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extent of the change is yet to be announced • This guidance is positive but impact due to application is unclear
4.0	COMMUNITY DIVERSIFICATION	
4.3	Expanding First Nations Woodlands Licenses (FNWL) and Community Forest Agreements (CFA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MFLNRO continues to increase FNWL (7) and CFA (13) license agreements since 2013 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Although increasing the number of these small tenures is positive, the size of the license AAC continues to be much too small for stand-alone woodlands businesses