

"This executive summary has been reproduced in its exact format from the original proposal received from the proponent."
For contact information regarding this proposal and other community forest pilot proposals, please visit to the [Community Forest Pilot Program Home Page](#)

Esketemc First Nation Community Forest Pilot Agreement Proposal

Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Esketemc First Nation is applying for this Community Forest Pilot Agreement as a means to express its philosophy on forest management and as a means to improve its economic and social stability.
- 1.2 The Community Forest Land Base is 15,064 hectares of Crown land in two parcels, 2025 hectares of Crown land identified as Specific Land Claim area within the Esketemc Traditional Territory and 2515 hectares of Indian Reserve land near the Alkali Lake Reserve (IR#I). The units are approximately 40 kilometers south of Williams Lake near the Fraser River.

The traditional cultural activities on the land base are trapping, hunting, fishing and other natural foods & medicine.

The land base is fully accessed by main roads. The only new roads required will be operational.

Most of the timber is Interior Dry Belt Douglas fir (in IDFdk3, NDT4), within Mule Deer Winter Ranges. The seral stage distribution is evenly spread across age classes. There are opportunities for harvest, commercial and pre-commercial thinning, and for enhanced forest management planning to improve timber and other resource yields.

The land base is shared with the Alkali Lake Ranch and the Springhouse Ranch for cattle grazing and range use. The management plans will incorporate their interests.

We expect the AAC contribution for the Crown land base to be 10,000 m³. The Indian Reserve contribution to the AAC is expected to be 1000 m³. The principle management strategy will be ecosystem based with the intention of improving fish and wildlife habitat and timber harvest values. The harvest rates will be confirmed through a Ministry of Forests approved AAC model. The harvest schedule will be matched to the final AAC as developed with the detailed management plan.

- 1.3 The Esketemc First Nation Community Forestry Committee will be the lead agents in managing the community forest under the direction of the new corporation headed by the Chief, Council and Band Administrator. Their objective is to create and operate the Community Forest within ecosystem based principles.

The Forestry Committee will be consulting with other resource users, the government agencies, and local citizens to ensure their views are heard and incorporated in the final plans.

- 1.4 The Esketemc Community Forest will be managed by the Band Company the benefit of the Esketemc First Nation with consideration from 3rd parties.

The Esketemc First Nation Band Council General Meeting held January II, 1999 reviewed the proposal and unanimously endorsed the Community Forest.

- 1.5 The Community Forest will initially generate 16 direct jobs in year one and 13 direct jobs thereafter at Alkali Lake. It will produce at least double that in indirect employment throughout the Cariboo.

Major activities will be reviewed with Band Council and the Treaty Office prior to preparation of plans to consider interests of other parties and traditional use.

The Community Forest Activity Report will be prepared by the company for the Band Council quarterly. Financial status will be reported monthly. An annual report will be prepared summarizing the year's accomplishments and outlining goals and objectives for the next year.

Positive financial results will be directed to improving the Community Forest land base, to creation of a value-added manufacturing facility, to education, to cultural enhancement, and to other projects as determined by the Band Council.