

PUBLIC AND FIRST NATIONS REVIEW REPORT

TIMBER SUPPLY REVIEW 2003/2004

Arrow Timber Supply Area

**Prepared for:
The Arrow Forest Licence Group**

**Prepared by:
Timberline Forest Inventory Consultants Ltd.
Victoria, B.C.**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Timberline Forest Inventory Consultants Ltd., on behalf of the Arrow Forest Licence Group, is preparing timber supply information for the Provincial timber supply review. The DFAM and TSR processes require that the public and first nations groups have an opportunity to review and comment on the timber supply analysis prior to the the AAC determination. This *Public and First Nations Review Report* documents the steps taken to carry out the review process.

This first draft version documents the steps followed during the initial public and first nations review stage of the review process. The results of the review process and feedback are provided in Appendix I.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0	INTRODUCTION.....	1
2.0	INITIAL PUBLIC AND FIRST NATIONS REVIEW	2
2.1	SUBMISSION OF THE INFORMATION PACKAGE	2
2.1.1	Public Stakeholders	2
2.1.2	First Nations Stakeholders.....	6
2.1.3	Review Website.....	8
2.1.4	Advertising	9
2.2	REVISIONS	10
2.3	FIRST NATIONS CONSULTATION	11
2.4	STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTATION	11
3.0	SECOND PUBLIC AND FIRST NATIONS REVIEW	12
4.0	REFERENCES.....	13

LIST OF FIGURES AND TABLES

FIGURE 2.1.	PUBLIC STAKEHOLDERS LETTER.....	5
FIGURE 2.2.	FIRST NATIONS STAKEHOLDERS LETTER PAGE 1	7
FIGURE 2.3.	FIRST NATIONS STAKEHOLDERS LETTER PAGE 2	8
FIGURE 2.4.	REVIEW WEBSITE HOME PAGE	9
FIGURE 2.5.	ANNOUNCEMENT ADVERTISEMENT	10
TABLE 2.1.	PUBLIC REVIEW RECIPIENTS CONTACTED THROUGH EMAIL.....	2
TABLE 2.2.	PUBLIC REVIEW RECIPIENTS CONTACTED BY LETTER	3
TABLE 2.3.	PUBLIC REVIEW RECIPIENTS WITH NOW DEFUNCT ADDRESSES	6
TABLE 2.4.	FIRST NATIONS GROUP RECIPIENTS.....	6

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix I – Initial Public and First Nations Review Feedback Documentation

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Timberline Forest Inventory Consultants Ltd., on behalf of the Arrow Forest Licence Group, is preparing timber supply information for the Provincial timber supply review. These reviews are conducted every five years and assist the B.C. Forest Service's Chief Forester in re-determining allowable annual cuts (AACs). For the Arrow Timber Supply Area (TSA), the Chief Forester will determine a new AAC by September 2004.

Under proposed defined forest area management (DFAM) legislation, the responsibility to conduct timber supply analysis within a TSA will be transferred to the licencees operating within the TSA. The DFAM legislation requires the formation of a DFAM group to carry out this process that includes the holders of replaceable forest licences, BC Timber Sales (BCTS), and other holders of agreements that meet the prescribed requirements.

Integral to the DFAM and TSR processes, the Arrow Forest Licence Group has the responsibility to ensure that the public and First Nations groups have an opportunity to review and comment on the timber supply analysis prior to the AAC determination by the Chief Forester. This *Public and First Nations Review Report* documents the steps taken to ensure that this is accomplished.

Public review is accomplished in two steps. One 60 day review period following publication of the first draft information package and one 60 day review period following publication of the analysis report. This draft report is published after the first review period.

2.0 INITIAL PUBLIC AND FIRST NATIONS REVIEW

2.1 SUBMISSION OF THE INFORMATION PACKAGE

The *Arrow TSA Timber Supply Review First Draft Information Package* was submitted on October 20, 2003. A letter announcing the release and requesting feedback was sent out to a broad list of public stakeholders residing and operating within and in the vicinity of the Arrow TSA. These stakeholders included First Nations groups, governing bodies, environmental groups and recreation groups. The list of stakeholders was originally compiled for the Timber Supply Review 2 (TSR 2). The contact information was reviewed for currency prior to the announcement date.

2.1.1 Public Stakeholders

The main method of distribution to public stakeholders was through email when an email address was provided. A copy of the formal letter announcing the review (Figure 2.1) was delivered as an attachment to the email along with a simplified version of the letter in text format within the body of the email. The recipients of the email notification letter are listed in Table 2.1.

Table 2.1. Public review recipients contacted through email

Municipal Government - City and Village
Mayor and Council City of Castlegar
Mayor and Council City of Rossland
Mayor and Council City of Trail
Mayor and Council Village of Fruitvale
Mayor and Council Village of Montrose
Mayor and Council Village of Nakusp
Mayor and Council Village of New Denver
Mayor and Council Village of Salmo
Mayor and Council Village of Silverton
Mayor and Council Village of Slocan
Mayor and Council Village of Warfield
Municipal Government - Regional District
Chairperson Regional District Central Kootenay
Chairperson Regional District Kootenay Boundary
Chairperson Regional District Columbia Shuswap
Woodlot Licensees
Kevin Marr
Selkirk College
Interest Groups
Silva Forest Foundation
Chairperson Valhalla Wilderness Society
Recreation Groups
West Kootenay-Boundary Region Trails Society of BC
Slocan Valley Heritage Trail Society

Black Jack Cross Country Ski Club
Kootenay Mountaineering Club
Commercial Recreation Operators
Valhalla Mountain Touring
Great Northern Snowcat Skiing

When email contact information was not provided for the stakeholder, the formal announcement letter was mailed to the contact address given. The recipients of the notification letter through mail are listed in Table 2.2.

Table 2.2. Public review recipients contacted by letter

Government Ministries / Agencies
Energy and Minerals Division B.C. Access Centre
BC Assets and Land Corporation Land Management
Ministry of Water Land and Air Protection Kootenay Regional Office
Woodlot Licensees
David Bakka
Tom Bradley
Breakaway Enterprises Ltd.
Gary Burns
Ronald D'Andrea
Donald Kirk
Melvin Matchett
Bob & Greg Sahlstrom
Narrows Timber Co. Ltd.
Noel Weldon
Interest Groups
Western Canada Wilderness Committee West Kootenay Chapter
Recreation Groups
Silverton Historical Society
Sandon Historical Society
Salmo Historical Society
Castlegar & District Wildlife Association
Trail Wildlife Association
Arrow Lakes Naturalists Club
West Kootenay Naturalists Association
Nakusp Conservation Association
Friends of Parks and Trails
Trails for Rossland Society
Friends of K & S Railroad
Rossland Mountain Biking Society
Kaslo Riding Club Society
Trail Horseman Association
Nakusp Launch Club
Arrow Lakes Yacht Club
Columbia Canoe Club

West Kootenay Sailing Club
Ladybird Nordic Ski Club
Castlegar Nordic Ski Club
Arrow Lake Cross Country Ski Club
Salmo SnoDrifters
Castlegar Snowmobile Association
Slocan Valley Snowmobile Association
West Kootenay Sno-Goers
Commercial Recreation Operators
Kootenay Helicopter Skiing Ltd.
Canadian Mountain Holidays

A copy of the letter delivered is provided below in Figure 2.1.



October 17, 2003

File: 4041002-3-1

*Reference: Arrow Timber Supply Area
Allowable Cut Determination Process
Public and First Nations Review*

Timberline Forest Inventory Consultants Ltd., on behalf of the Arrow Forest Licence Group, is preparing timber supply information for the Provincial timber supply review. These reviews are conducted every five years and assist the B.C. Forest Service's Chief Forester in re-determining allowable annual cuts (AACs). The Chief Forester will determine a new AAC For the Arrow Timber Supply Area (TSA) by September 2004. For more information on the timber supply review program, see: www.for.gov.bc.ca/hts/tsr.htm.

An important component of the AAC determination process is provision of information to the public. The licencees are required to ensure that the local public and First Nations have an opportunity to review and comment on the analysis documents prior to the Chief Forester's allowable annual cut determination. You have received this letter because you were on the B.C. Ministry of Forests' contact list for the previous analysis process.

The first analysis document available for review is the Information Package. The Information Package describes the current forest management practices and information related to timber supply for the Arrow TSA. This information will be reflected in the upcoming timber supply analysis that will evaluate timber availability under current management objectives and practices.

The draft Information Package is now available for review and comment for a 60-day period.

A website (www.timberline.ca/arrowtsa) has been established to facilitate access to the materials for review. The Information Package can now be downloaded from the website. Also available are related maps and background documents.

Should you be interested in reviewing the materials, but do not have Internet access, please contact Gordon Nienaber at 250-480-3310.

If you wish to provide comments, please forward them in writing to Gordon Nienaber before December 19, 2003. Complete contact information for feedback is available on the website.

Yours truly and on behalf of the Arrow Forest Licence Group,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Nienaber", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Gordon Nienaber, M.F., F.I.T.

Suite 310 - 1207 Douglas Street, Victoria, BC V8W 2E7 • Tel: (250) 480-1101 • Fax: (250) 480-1412
www.timberline.ca

Figure 2.1. Public stakeholders letter

Some of the addresses provided from the TSR 2 stakeholders list were no longer valid. Letters were returned undelivered for the following stakeholders listed in Table 2.3.

Table 2.3. Public review recipients with now defunct addresses

Woodlot Licensees
Diamond 4 Ranch Ltd.
Henry Stykel
Interest Groups
Slocan Valley Watershed Alliance
Slocan Valley Equal Access to Public Resources Society
Recreation Groups
Beaver Valley Cross Country Ski Club
Scaia Scamps Snowmobile Club
Salmon Arm Snowmobile Club BC Snowmobile Federation

2.1.2 First Nations Stakeholders

Printed hard copies of the draft information package were sent by courier on October 20, 2003 to the stakeholder first nations groups. An accompanying announcement letter was written to specifically address first nations concerns and to encourage their active role in the review process. The following additional background literature on the TSR process and DFAM was also included with the letter:

- Timber Supply Review (TSR) Backgrounder (MoF, 2003a);
- Defined Forest Area Management (DFAM) TSR Information Sheet (MoF, 2003b); and
- DFAM and TSR Frequently Asked Questions (MoF, 2003c).

The first nations groups on the recipient list are shown in Table 2.4.

Table 2.4. First nations group recipients

Administrator Ktunaxa-Kinbasket Tribal Council
Administrative Director Okanagan Nation Alliance
Chairperson Shuswap Nation Tribal Council
Chief and Council Lower Similkameen Band
Chief and Council Okanagan Band
Chief and Council Osoyoos Band
Chief and Council Penticton Band
Chief and Council Upper Similkameen Band
Chief and Council Westbank First Nation
Chief and Council Spallumcheen Band

A copy of the first nations letter is provided below in Figure 2.2 and Figure 2.3.



October 17, 2003

File: 4041002-3-1

Address

Attention: *Name, title*

*Reference: Arrow Timber Supply Area
Allowable Cut Determination Process*

Dear **[Salutation]**:

Timberline Forest Inventory Consultants Ltd., on behalf of the Arrow Forest Licence Group, is preparing timber supply information for the Provincial timber supply review. These reviews are conducted every five years and assist the B.C. Forest Service's Chief Forester in re-determining allowable annual cuts (AACs). For the Arrow Timber Supply Area (TSA), the Chief Forester will determine a new AAC by September 2004.

Prior to the determination, First Nations will have two opportunities to review timber supply information and provide input; first during the completion of the information report (also known as a data package) and second during the completion of the timber supply analysis report.

Along with this letter, B.C. Forest Service staff has asked that we provide you with a copy of the Timber Supply Review Brochure and the draft information report. The information report describes the current forest management practices and information related to timber supply for the Arrow TSA. This information will be reflected in the upcoming timber supply analysis that will evaluate timber availability under current management objectives and practices. The brochure briefly explains the timber supply review process. At this time, the draft information report is available for public and First Nations review and comment for a 60-day period. Once we have completed the timber supply analysis, we will forward that report to you.

A website (www.timberline.ca/arrowtsa) has been established to facilitate distribution of the analysis materials. A digital version of the enclosed information report can be downloaded from the website. Also available are related maps and background documents.

We encourage you to please forward (as noted below) your written comments concerning any information regarding your aboriginal interests as they relate to the AAC determination for the Arrow TSA. If you wish to meet to discuss any interests and concerns related to these documents and the upcoming AAC determination, please contact Gordon Nienaber. He can work with you to schedule a meeting and arrange for attendance of the appropriate government staff.

Suite 310 - 1207 Douglas Street, Victoria, BC V8W 2E7 • Tel: (250) 480-1101 • Fax: (250) 480-1412
www.timberline.ca

Figure 2.2. First nations stakeholders letter page 1

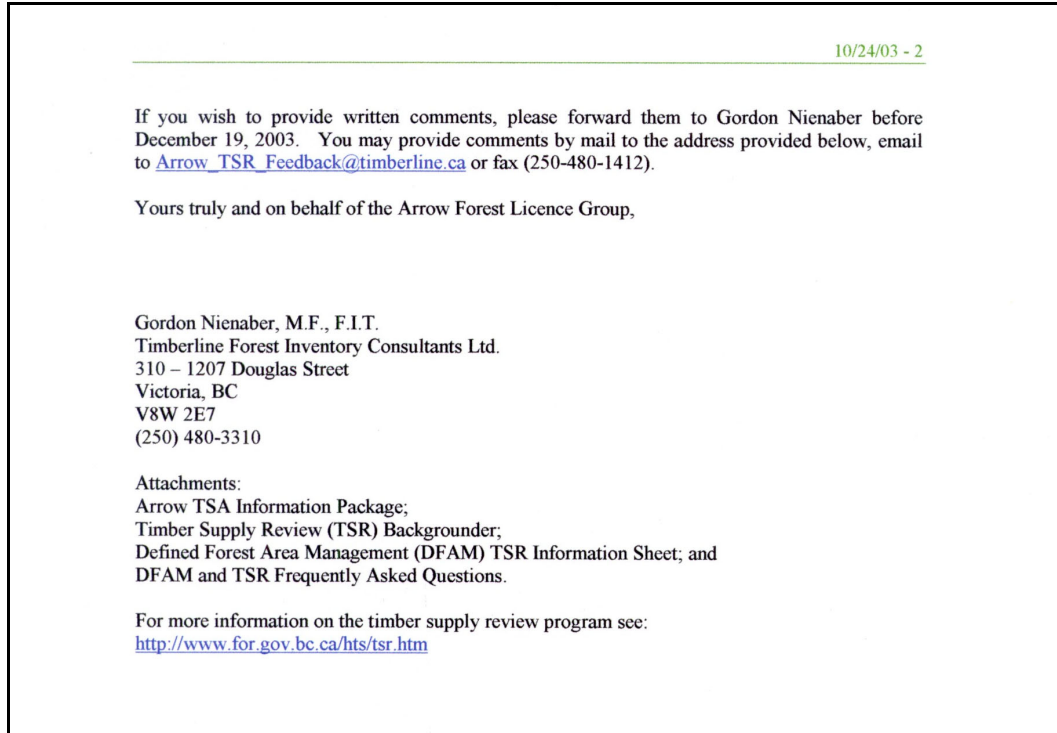


Figure 2.3. First nations stakeholders letter page 2

2.1.3 Review Website

The draft information package was not sent directly to the stakeholders groups. Instead, the announcement letter invited the public to review the document made available on a website established for the review process. An image of the website is provided in Figure 2.4. The recipients of the announcement letter were also invited to contact Timberline if they did not have access to the internet.

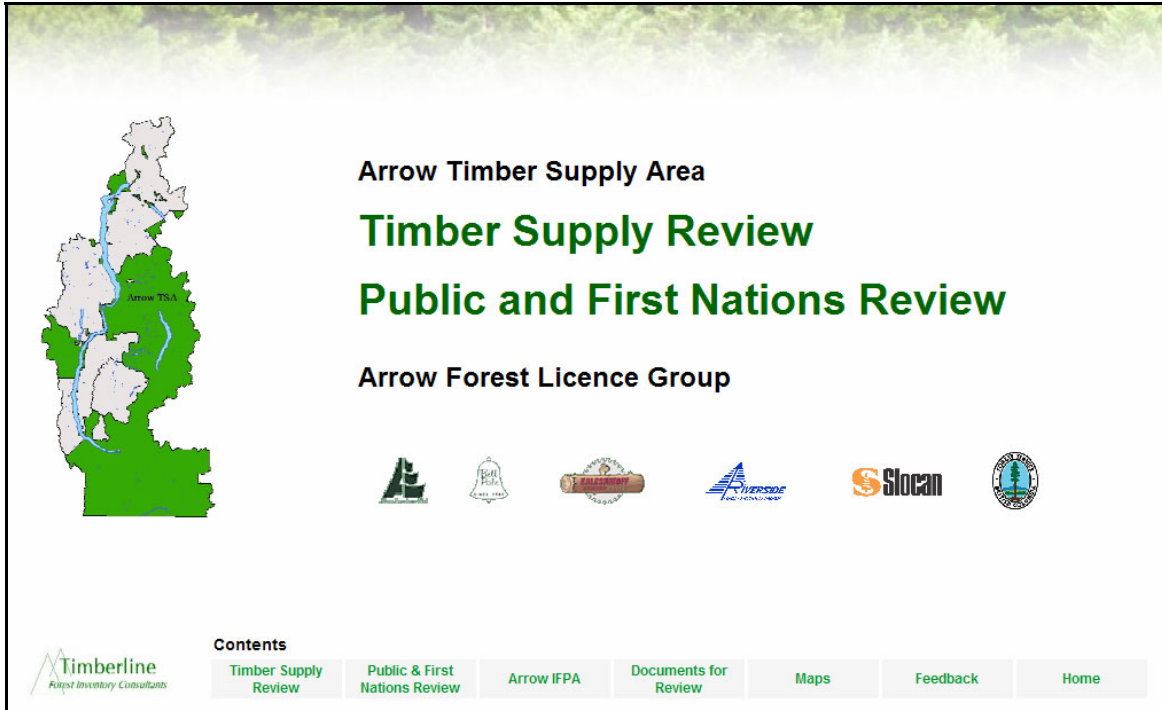


Figure 2.4. Review website home page

An additional hard copy of the report was sent to the MoF office in Castlegar along with plotted copies of the supporting maps. These were sent to ensure that a copy of the report was available for review by interested parties without access to the digital version. This report was sent on October 23, 2003.

2.1.4 Advertising

Advertising for the initial public review consisted of placement of an advertisement in the Arrow Lakes News on October 23rd and 30th, the Nelson Daily News on October 22nd and 29th, the Valley Voice on October 30th and November 13th, the Trail Daily Times on October 22nd and 29th, and the Castlegar Citizen on October 24th and 31st. The advertisement is shown below in Figure 2.5.

**Timber Supply Review, Arrow Timber Supply Area
Public and First Nations Review**

You are invited to review and comment on the Arrow Timber Supply Area Information Package as part of the Ministry of Forests Timber Supply Review (TSR) program.

This program will provide the chief forester with the information to make any necessary adjustments to the allowable annual cut (AAC)—the allowable rate of timber that can be harvested from a specified area of land—for the next five years.

Before determining a new AAC, the chief forester will consider information ranging from technical forestry reports to public input and the government's social and economic objectives as expressed by the minister of forests.

The Forest Licence holders and BC Timber Sales in the Arrow Timber Supply Area are inviting comments on the draft information report. The public and First Nations are invited to review the draft information report and other data now available on the web (see address below) and provide feedback as directed on the website.

To review the Arrow TSA draft information report and provide feedback, see the website www.timberline.ca/arrowtsa . For more information on the timber supply review program see www.for.gov.bc.ca/hts/tsr.htm .

Written comments will be accepted until December 19, 2003. If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact:

Gordon Nienaber, M.F., F.I.T.

Timberline Forest Inventory Consultants Ltd.

Figure 2.5. Announcement advertisement

2.2 REVISIONS

Two additional maps were placed on the website on October 22, 2003. The link to the Arrow IFPA website was also removed at this time because the site had been deactivated during the time since the initial posting of the website on the 20th.

Feedback on October 24, 2003 noted that the email address link did not work. This was due to confusion over the acronyms TSR and TSA. To avoid further confusion, a second email address Arrow_TSR_Feedback@timberline.ca was created.

2.3 FIRST NATIONS CONSULTATION

One month after the delivery of the information package to the first nations groups the consultation process was started. This process involved phoning the individual band offices to identify whom the document had been forwarded to in each office. Once this person was identified, an attempt was made to contact the person to offer support or clarification of detail to aid the review process. This contact also had the objective to specifically encourage the contribution of feedback from First Nations groups.

If a First Nations group indicated that the Arrow TSA was outside of their particular area of interest, an offer was made to remove the group as a contact for the next review stage.

2.4 STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTATION

Individual consultation with stakeholder groups was not required under the DFAM process. The contact address was provided to all stakeholders in order to request consultation. No requests nor feedback was received from any of the stakeholder groups notified. Therefore, there was no stakeholder consultation for the information package review stage of the review process.

3.0 SECOND PUBLIC AND FIRST NATIONS REVIEW

At this draft version the second review process has not been initiated.

4.0 REFERENCES

B.C. Ministry of Forests. 2003a. *Timber Supply Review (TSR) Backgrounder.*

B.C. Ministry of Forests. 2003b. *DFAM timber supply review technical information sheet.*

B.C. Ministry of Forests. 2003c. *DFAM and TSR Frequently Asked Questions.*

B.C. Ministry of Forests. 2003d. *DFAM interim standards for public and First Nations review.* Timber Supply Branch.