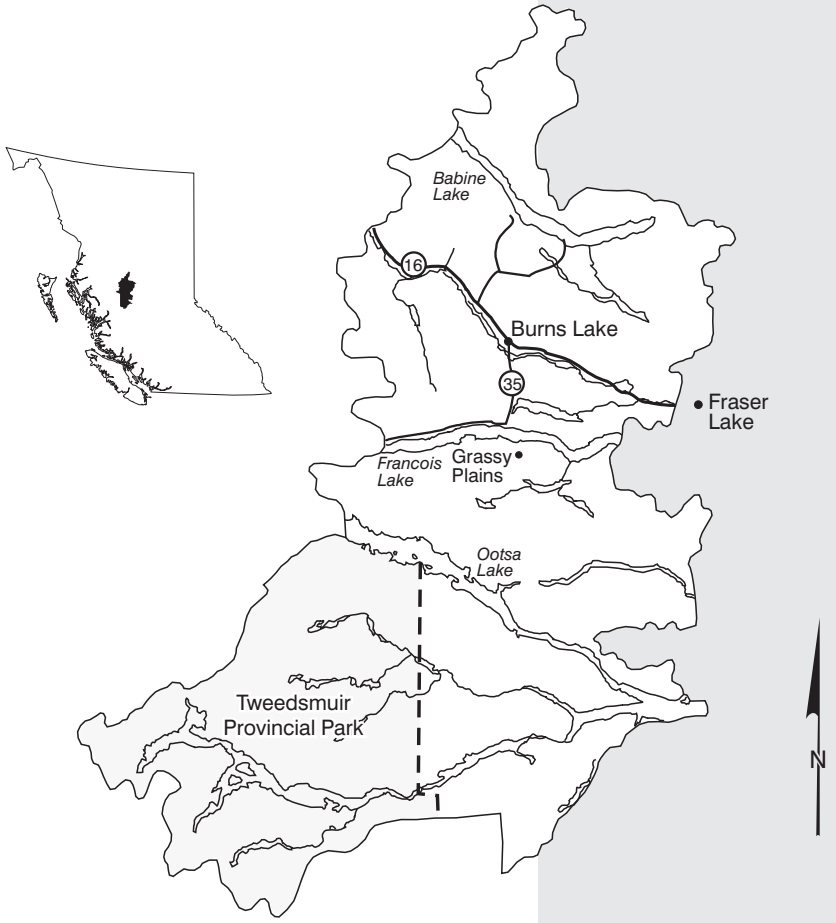
Timber Supply Review

Lakes Timber Supply Area

Information Report

March 1999



BRITISH COLUMBIA

Ministry of Forests

Introduction

The British Columbia Forest Service is required by law to formally review the timber supply* in all timber supply areas* and tree farm licence* areas in the province. A review of each of the areas is completed at least once every five years. The main objectives of the five-year reviews are:

- to identify the economic, environmental and social information that reflects the current forest management practices—including their effects on the short- and long-term timber supply
- to identify where improved information is required for future timber supply forecasts
- to provide the chief forester with information to make any necessary adjustments to the allowable annual cuts* for the next five years

* Throughout this document, an asterisk at the end of a phrase or word indicates that a definition can be found in the margin.

Objective of this document

The objective of this document is to provide an opportunity for public review of the draft data and management assumptions that will be applied in reviewing the timber supply for the Lakes timber supply area. This document represents the early stages of the timber supply review process and is intended to provide a non-technical overview of the draft data and management assumptions that will be used in the upcoming *Lakes Timber Supply Area Analysis Report*.

The *Lakes Timber Supply Area Analysis Report* will be one of the documents that the chief forester will consider in making the allowable annual cut determination under Section 8 of the *Forest Act*. Public input is encouraged to ensure the best information is used in determining allowable annual cuts.

This report contains a general description of the data assumptions and current forest management practices related to timber supply for the Lakes timber supply area. For the purpose of this timber supply review, current practices can be defined as the set of land-use decisions and forest management practices that are currently implemented and enforced. Future forest management objectives that may be established but are not currently implemented and enforced are not included.

The draft data and management assumptions are summarized on pages six through nine. For a more detailed description of the information, please contact the Lakes Forest District Office in Burns Lake or the Prince Rupert Forest Region Office in Smithers and request a copy of the data package. The public will have 30 days to review and comment on the information report and data package. A response form at the end of this document will assist you in providing your comments. Written comments will be accepted until April 6, 1999.

Timber Supply Review process

In British Columbia, a process of determining allowable annual cuts has been in place since the late 1940s. However, the process has changed significantly since then. More recently, the process has had some minor revisions designed to improve efficiency and encourage earlier public review through the release of this report.

Figure 1 (next page) illustrates the five-step process that has been developed for the Timber Supply Review of timber supply areas. The diagram indicates the current status of the timber supply review for the Lakes timber supply area, and the estimated time required for each step.

Timber supply
The amount of timber that is forecast to be available over a specified time period, under a particular management regime.

Timber supply area
An integrated resource management unit established in accordance with Section 7 of the *Forest Act*.

Tree farm licence
Provides rights to harvest timber, and outlines responsibilities for forest management, in a particular area.

Timber Supply Review
in the Lakes TSA

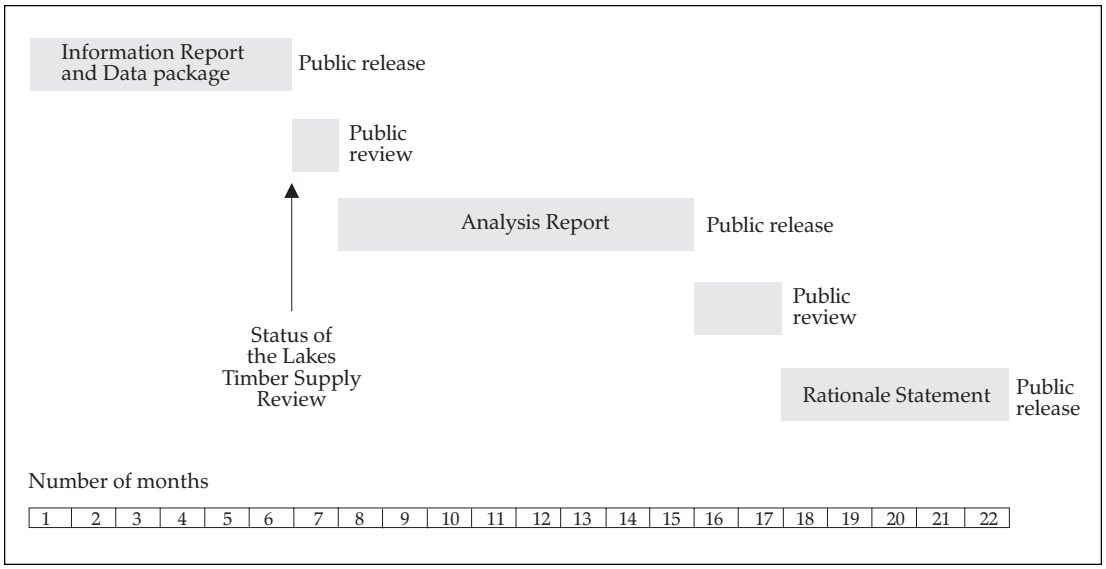


Figure 1.
Review process for the Lakes timber supply area.

The process for reviewing the timber supply and establishing the allowable annual cut for tree farm licence areas is based on similar principles; however, the process takes 30 months from start to completion.

The chief forester's responsibility

Determining the allowable annual cuts for Crown forest lands in British Columbia is the responsibility of the province's chief forester. It is one of the chief forester's most important responsibilities since it affects the local and provincial economies and environment—now and in the future. Section 8 of the *Forest Act* requires the chief forester to consider the following factors to determine allowable annual cuts for timber supply areas and tree farm licence areas:

a) the rate of timber production that may be sustained from the area, taking into account:
   - the composition of the forest and its expected rate of growth
   - the time in which the forest will become re-established
   - silvicultural treatments, including reforestation
   - standards of timber utilization
   - constraints on the amount of timber produced from the area due to use of the forest for purposes other than timber production
   - any other information which relates to the capability of the area to produce timber

b) the short- and long-term implications to the province of alternative rates of timber harvesting from the area
c) the nature, production capabilities and timber requirements of established and proposed processing facilities
d) the economic and social objectives of the Crown for the area, the region and the province, as expressed by the minister of forests
e) abnormal insect or disease infestations and major salvage programs planned for the timber on the area

Some of these factors can be measured and analyzed—others cannot. Ultimately, the chief forester's determination is an independent, professional judgement based on the best available information. Information that is relevant to the factors listed above is provided to the chief forester by government agencies, the minister of forests and the public.

One of the objectives of the Timber Supply Review is to incorporate changes arising from new information, new practices and new government initiatives that may have an impact on timber supply.

In the event of significant change, the allowable annual cut may be reviewed in less than the required five years.

Following the release of the allowable annual cut determination by the chief forester, the minister of forests apportions the cut to the various licences and programs.

Principles of the Timber Supply Review

In determining allowable annual cuts—in addition to the requirements outlined in Section 8 of the *Forest Act*—the following principles have been developed.

The Timber Supply Review:

- is a decision-making process for establishing the allowable annual cut for timber supply areas and tree farm licence areas by the chief forester on a maximum five-year cycle, as required under Section 8 of the *Forest Act*; **it is not a process for making land-use or management decisions**
- incorporates the best information available including all relevant current practices, and identifies where new information is needed
- reflects the results of implemented plans and land-use decisions, and provides a benchmark for future planning processes
- involves other agencies, affected groups and the public

Lakes Land and Resource Management Plan

The planning process for the development of the Lakes Land and Resource Management Plan began in the spring of 1994. The planning process provided an opportunity for the public, interest groups and government to make recommendations regarding proposed protected areas and future management of public forest lands in the Lakes timber supply area and North Tweedsmuir Provincial Park. It is anticipated that the Lakes Land and Resource Management Plan will be endorsed by government in 1999.

Once the proposed protected areas have been confirmed and designated by government, they will no longer contribute to the timber harvesting land base*. If the proposed protected areas are established prior to setting the allowable annual cut, then they will be accounted for accordingly. However, the impact of potential changes in the size and management of the timber harvesting land base will be examined through sensitivity analyses*.

Timber harvesting land base
Crown forest land within the timber supply area that is currently considered feasible and economical for timber harvesting.

Description of the timber supply area

The Lakes timber supply area covers approximately 1.12 million hectares in north-central British Columbia. It extends from Babine Lake in the north to the Entiako River in the south and lies along the northeastern boundary of Tweedsmuir Park. The timber supply area is administered by the Lakes Forest District office located in Burns Lake.

Forest land resources

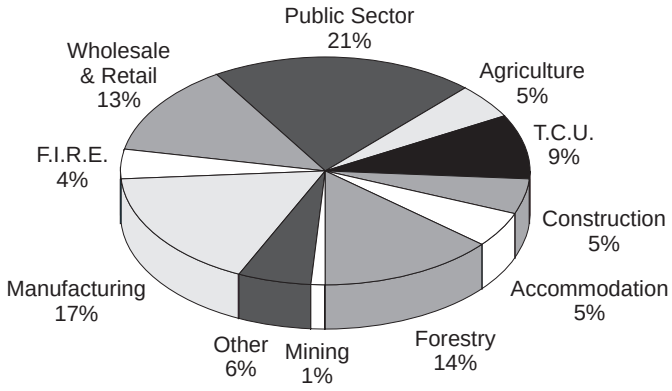
Numerous natural resources are associated with the forest land base. Forest products, recreation and tourism amenities, and a variety of wildlife habitat are among the wide range of values and uses found in the Lakes timber supply area.

The landscape of the Lakes timber supply area is characterized by rolling uplands and numerous lakes including Babine, Francois and Ootsa Lakes. Almost 10 per cent of the total timber supply area is classified as lake. Recreation and visual resources are important considerations for forest management largely due to the high

Sensitivity analysis
Examines how uncertainty in data and management assumptions affect timber supply.

density of lakes which provide abundant scenic landscapes for both residents and tourists.

There are four biogeoclimatic zones* in the Lakes timber supply area. The distinct ecological features and the unique nature of the area contribute to high biodiversity values. The timber supply area hosts a wide variety of wildlife and fish species including caribou, moose, grizzly bear, lake trout, trout and salmon. Many of these are regionally or provincially significant while others are commercially important.



Notes: the employment figures are for the Lakes Forest District and include employment that relies on other regional TSAs as well as on TFL timber. 'Forestry' consists of harvesting related activity, while processing is included in the 'Manufacturing sector'. Forestry headquarters employment is captured in business services of the FIRE category. 'FIRE' consists of finance, insurance, real estate and other business services; 'TCU' consists of transportation, communications and utilities; and the 'Public Sector' consists of local and provincial government services, health and education.

Source: Statistics Canada / Census of Canada

Figure 2.
Major employment by sector for the Lakes area, 1996.

Biogeoclimatic zones
A large geographic area with broadly homogeneous climate and similar dominant tree species.

There are a number of special habitat management areas such as the ungulate winter range (including the regionally and provincially significant Tweedsmuir-Entiako caribou herd and a major share of provincially important moose winter range), the significant grizzly habitat areas of the Sutherland Valley and Klaytunkut Creek, and the caribou migration corridor from Chief Louis Lake to Tetachuck Lake.

The communities

The Lakes timber supply area includes the community of Burns Lake and the smaller communities of Decker Lake, Tintegal, Francois Lake, Southbank, Grassy Plains, Danskin, Takysie Lake and Ootsa Lake.

According to the 1996 Census, since 1991 the population of the timber supply area increased by approximately 15 per cent since 1991 to 6,450. The population of the timber supply area is concentrated in Burns Lake (2,050 persons). By 2001, the population of the Lakes timber supply area is expected to grow by another 10 per cent.

First Nations

The First Nations have traditional lands within the Lakes timber supply area. Currently six First Nations (Burns Lake, Cheslatta Carrier, Nee-Tahi-Buhn, Skin Tyee, W'etsuwet'en and Lake Babine) resident communities are located in the timber supply area with a combined population of approximately 4,000.

Several First Nations have submitted comprehensive land claims covering portions of the timber supply area. Once the treaties have been finalized, they will be considered in the timber supply review.

All of the First Nations have expressed concerns about timber harvesting in areas with high cultural and economic values. Archaeological overview assessments, which identify sites of potential cultural and heritage significance, are underway. Once impact assessments and traditional-use surveys have also been completed, this information will be considered in the timber supply review.

The economy

The economy of the Lakes timber supply area is well diversified. Figure 2 illustrates total employment by industry sector for the

area. While forestry is an important sector of the timber supply area's economy, commercial and recreational fishing, tourism, ranching and the public sector are also important sources of employment.

Forestry employment in the timber supply area is supported by harvesting and silviculture activity and the processing of wood products at two major facilities: Babine Forest Products and Decker Lake Forest Products in Burns Lake. During 1996 almost 350 people were employed at mills in the Lakes timber supply area.

The forestry sector supports numerous other jobs in the region through companies and employees purchasing goods and services from local businesses. This spending is another indicator of the role forestry has in the economy. For every 100 direct forestry jobs in the Lakes timber supply area, another 25 to 40 indirect and induced jobs are supported, depending on the type of forestry activity (logging or manufacturing) and the associated level of income. In comparison, every 100 jobs in the public sector or tourism supports another eight to ten positions.

History of the allowable annual cut

On July 16, 1996 the chief forester set the allowable annual cut at 1.5 million cubic metres, unchanged from the previous determination.

As part of the 1996 determination, the chief forester gave direction to resolve uncertainties with respect to the timber supply in the Lakes timber supply area. In preparation for the next allowable annual cut determination, the following issues were examined:

- **site productivity** - at the time of the last allowable annual cut determination, the base case forecast* did not include the results of a site productivity study completed for the Morice, Lakes, and Vanderhoof timber supply areas.

  The results of the study showed that site productivity for some lodgepole pine stands had been underestimated. Adjustments that reflect higher site productivity will be included in the base case harvest forecast for this timber supply review.

- **problem forest types** - the previous allowable annual cut determination noted that some areas with marginally economic forest types may now be economically operable or have the potential for rehabilitation.

  Since then, the definition of these forest types has been examined and refined based on the harvesting performance of licensees. In addition, a project has been initiated to examine these types and when the results of this project are available, they will be considered in the timber supply review.

- **visual quality objectives** - the previous determination noted that forest cover requirements for areas with visual quality objectives should be reviewed.

  The forest cover agreement for managing visual resources has been updated and follows new provincial standards. These changes will be reflected in this timber supply analysis.

- **estimates of existing mature forest volumes** - at the time of the previous determination, there was a concern that the existing mature forest volumes may be overestimated.

  Recently, an inventory audit of the Lakes timber supply area was completed. The results of the audit indicated that the inventory provides an accurate estimate of volumes for the Lakes timber supply area as a whole.

Note: For more information on these points, please refer to the Lakes Timber Supply Area Rationale for Allowable Annual Cut Determination, July 16, 1996.

Biogeoclimatic zones
A large geographic area with broadly homogeneous climate and similar dominant tree species.

Base case forecast
The timber supply forecast which illustrates the effect of current forest management practices on the timber supply using the best available information, and which forms the reference point for sensitivity analysis.

Current timber supply review

Public forest lands in British Columbia provide recreational enjoyment, fish and wildlife habitat, water supplies, timber resources and many other benefits. The Ministry of Forests manages the timber, range and recreation resources on public lands, while the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks is responsible for the management of fish, wildlife, water resources and parks. Both agencies subscribe to the principle of integrated resource management*, where all resources are considered when making forest management decisions.

Integrated resource management
The identification and consideration of all resource values, including social, economic and environmental needs, in resource planning and decision-making.

The Forest Practices Code* is now law and has been fully implemented in the timber supply area since June 15, 1997. The new practices may influence both the short- and long-term timber supply.

The data and management assumptions that will be used in the timber supply analysis will be based on the existing land-use designations and resource management practices that are currently approved and implemented in the Lakes timber supply area. The chief forester will also consider any new information, based on implemented changes, at the time of the allowable annual cut determination.

Forest Practices Code
Legislation, standards and guidebooks that govern forest practices and planning, with a focus on ensuring management for all forest values.

Draft data and management assumptions for public review

The public is encouraged to review the data and management assumptions for completeness and accuracy. In determining an allowable annual cut, the chief forester will consider these assumptions as required by Section 8 of the *Forest Act*. The following general outline contains some of the more pertinent information that will be used in the timber supply analysis and, subsequently, in the chief forester's allowable annual cut determination for the Lakes timber supply area. More detailed information can be found in *Appendix A: Data Package*. This appendix is available upon request from the Ministry of Forests offices listed at the end of this report.

Environmentally sensitive areas
Areas with significant non-timber values, fragile or unstable soils, or impediments to establishing a new tree crop, or areas where timber harvesting may cause avalanches.

Land base factors

- **Operable area** - the forested area in the Lakes timber supply area has been assessed for operability based on economic attributes, timber types and physical accessibility. Only those areas that are considered operable will contribute to the timber harvesting land base.
- **Low productivity sites** - in addition to the above, forest types that are not considered fully available for harvesting due to forest characteristics such as low timber volumes or low growth productivity will not contribute to the timber harvesting land base.
- **Marginal timber types** - deciduous and older predominantly subalpine fir stands are not currently harvested in the Lakes timber supply area. Also, stands that do not reach merchantable heights have marginal economic value. These stands will not contribute to the timber harvesting land base.
- **Environmentally sensitive areas*** - an evaluation of the environmental concerns and the past level of harvesting within these areas was used to determine their contribution to the timber harvesting land base. In the Lakes timber supply area, environmentally sensitive areas include important recreation areas, areas with sensitive soils or forest regeneration problems, and areas with moderate to high value for caribou winter range. Sixty to 100 per cent of each environmentally sensitive area will not contribute to the timber harvesting land base.
- **Forest roads** - harvesting and road construction follow provincial

guidelines. Currently, it is estimated that 5.24 per cent of the timber harvesting land base is occupied by existing roads, trails and landings in the Lakes timber supply area. Also, it is estimated that an additional 5.24 per cent of the remaining unharvested areas will be occupied over time by future roads, landings and trails construction.

Inventory factors

- **Forest inventory** - the current inventory has been updated to 1995 to take into account recent harvesting and silviculture activities.

  The dominant tree species in the Lakes timber supply area are lodgepole pine, spruce and subalpine fir.

- **Minimum harvestable ages** - for the purposes of the timber supply analysis, the minimum harvestable age is defined as the earliest age at which a forest stand is projected to reach a merchantable size. This age is based on the time required for regenerated stands to achieve desired physical characteristics such as a minimum stand volume of 140 cubic metres per hectare and a minimum height that varies by species.

Forest re-establishment factors

- **Basic silviculture** - British Columbia laws require that areas that are harvested and expected to produce timber in the future must be reforested with ecologically suitable species within a specified time frame. The most common silvicultural practice is to harvest; then if necessary prepare the site for reforestation; reforest by planting a mix of species or by relying on natural regeneration; and control competing vegetation.

  In the Lakes timber supply area, reforestation is achieved predominantly by planting a mixture of coniferous species with a component of natural regeneration. In the timber supply analysis it is assumed that areas will be reforested within one year after the completion of harvesting.

Timber utilization factors

- **Timber utilization** - volume estimates will be based on the utilization of all trees which meet or exceed the following standards: a minimum 10-centimetre top diameter; a maximum 30-centimetre high stump; and a minimum diameter—at 1.3 metres above the ground—of 12.5 centimetres for lodgepole pine, 15.0 centimetres for spruce and 17.5 centimetres for subalpine fir and Douglas-fir.

Cutblock
A specific area, with defined boundaries, authorized for harvest.

Infestations, devastations, and salvage of timber

Each year portions of the forests in the Lakes timber supply area are damaged by natural agents such as fire and wind. It is anticipated that some of the damaged timber will not be salvaged due to access and economic limitations. The unsalvaged volume is estimated to be 22,976 cubic metres annually.

Factors to be considered for purposes other than timber production

Forest management guidelines used to manage forest resources such as biodiversity, scenic values, wildlife habitat and water quality will be included in the timber supply analysis through the use of forest cover requirements, and volume and land-base reductions.

- **General forest cover requirements** - under current forest management practices, cutblocks* must achieve green-up* before adjacent areas are permitted to be harvested. For example, to account for forest cover requirements in the integrated management area, a

Green-up
The time needed after harvesting for a stand of trees to reach a desired condition (usually a specific height) — to ensure maintenance of water quality, wildlife habitat, soil stability or aesthetics — before harvesting is permitted in adjacent areas.

maximum of 33 per cent of the timber harvesting land base will be allowed to have forests less than three metres tall at any time.

- **Visually sensitive areas** - these are areas where the maintenance of scenic landscapes is a priority for recreation and tourism management, particularly in areas that are adjacent to major travel corridors and waterways. Road construction and logging within these areas are planned and implemented to minimize visual impacts. Within the Lakes timber supply area, visual quality objectives, which vary according to the degree of visual sensitivity will be reflected in the timber supply analysis.

Riparian habitat
The stream bank and flood plain area adjacent to streams or water bodies.

- **Riparian habitat*** - to meet the requirements of the Forest Practices Code, a portion of the timber harvesting land base will be considered unavailable for timber harvesting to account for riparian habitat areas along streams and lakes. Currently, it is estimated that two and five per cent of the timber harvesting land base will be excluded to account for riparian management zones and reserves, respectively.

Wildlife tree
A standing live or dead tree with special characteristics that provide valuable habitat for conservation or enhancement of wildlife.

- **Biological diversity** - or biodiversity, is the full range of living organisms, in all their forms and levels of organization, and includes the diversity of genes, species, and ecosystems, and the evolutionary and functional processes that link them. The Forest Practices Code requires that biodiversity be examined at both the stand and landscape level.

Coarse woody debris
Logs and stumps that provide habitat for plants, animals and insects, and a source of nutrients for soil development.

Leaving wildlife tree* patches and coarse woody debris* for stand-level biodiversity is current practice in the Lakes timber supply area. Generally, coarse woody debris objectives can be met by the contributions of non-merchantable timber left on site after harvesting. The current practice for leaving wildlife tree patches requires that a percentage of each cutblock be retained. This requirement can be partially met by riparian habitat areas and other areas outside of the timber harvesting land base. To account for wildlife tree patches within the timber harvesting land base, a three per cent reduction will be applied.

Seral stages
Sequential stages in the development of plant communities that successively occupy a site and replace each other over time.

Landscape-level biodiversity, primarily old-growth requirements, will be addressed in the timber supply analysis by applying averaged seral stage* requirements to each draft landscape unit* and biogeoclimatic variant. This approach has been taken because at this time the landscape units and biodiversity objectives are still draft and have not yet been formally established.

Sensitivity analyses will be undertaken to examine the potential impact on timber supply of applying the draft biodiversity emphasis objectives from the Prince Rupert Regional Landscape Unit Planning Strategy.

- **Caribou habitat** - high-value caribou winter range will not contribute to the timber harvesting land base. To account for the caribou migration corridor from Chief Louis Lake to Tetachuck Lake, forest cover requirements will be applied to reflect forest management practices in the corridor.
- **Ungulate winter range** - to account for ungulate winter range, a maximum of 33 per cent of the timber harvesting land base within this habitat will be allowed to have forests under three metres tall, while a minimum of 30 per cent of the habitat area must be older than 100 years. For highly significant deer habitat, a maximum of 25 per cent of the timber harvesting land base within this habitat will be allowed to have forests under five metres tall, and a minimum of 50 per cent of the habitat area must be older than 100 years.
- **Grizzly habitat** - in the Sutherland Valley and Klaytunkut Creek, a maximum of 33 per cent of the timber

harvesting land base within significant grizzly habitat will be allowed to have forests under five metres tall, while a minimum of 50 per cent of the area must be older than 120 years.

- **Backcountry lakes** - forest cover requirements for backcountry lakes will allow a maximum of five per cent of the timber harvesting land base to have forests under five metres tall, and a minimum of 50 per cent of the forests in the area must be older than 120 years at anytime.

Implications of alternative rates of harvesting

- **Alternative rates of harvesting** - There are many alternative harvest forecasts that can be produced for a given set of forest conditions and management assumptions. Each alternative usually represents a trade-off between the harvest level in the short term and the subsequent rate of decline to the long-term harvest level. For the projected base case forecast, the initial harvest forecast will be based on trying to achieve the current rate of harvest in the short term without compromising the long-term harvest level. The implications of alternative short-term rates of harvest will be tested in sensitivity analyses.
- **Implications related to community dependence** - The impact of timber supply adjustments on local communities and the provincial economy is an important consideration in the timber supply review. The June 1995 *Lakes Timber Supply Area Socio-Economic Analysis* reported that, provincially, harvesting, silviculture and processing activities associated with the harvesting of the Lakes timber supply supported 1,164 direct person-years* and 1,746 indirect and induced* person-years of employment. About 40 per cent of these jobs are located in the Lakes timber supply area.

The socio-economic section of the upcoming timber supply analysis report will review the role of the forest sector in the timber supply area. To provide this update, current information on employment and fibre flows will be gathered from licensees, processing facilities, the B.C. Forest Service and other stakeholders. Indirect and other related employment at both local and provincial levels will also be estimated using employment multipliers provided by the Ministry of Finance and Corporate Relations.

To examine the implications of alternative rates of harvest, employment co-efficients, reported in person-years per 1,000 cubic metres, will be developed and used to estimate changes to employment levels now and in the future from any potential harvest level changes.

Timber processing facilities

The socio-economic analysis will examine the implications of potential changes in timber supply for the area's two major processing facilities: Babine Forest Products' and Decker Lake Forest Products' sawmills near Burns Lake. Implications for other manufacturing plants outside of the Lakes timber supply area, but reliant on its timber supply, will also be examined. These include the West Fraser Mills' Fraser Lake sawmills in Lejac, the Northwood Inc. sawmill in Houston, and the L & M sawmill in Vanderhoof. During 1997, the Burns Lake facilities processed approximately one million cubic metres of timber.

Economic and social objectives of the Crown

In a letter and a memo to the chief forester, the minister of forests has expressed the Crown's economic and social objectives for the province. The harvest flow objectives to be used in the timber supply analysis (see above, "Alternative rates of harvesting") are consistent with the minister's stated objectives.

Landscape unit
A planning area based on topographic or geographic features, that is appropriately sized (up to 100,000 hectares), and designed for application of landscape-level biodiversity objectives.

Person-year(s)
One person working the equivalent of one full year, defined as at least 180 days of work. If someone works full-time for 90 days, he or she accounts for 0.5 person years.

Indirect and induced jobs
Indirect jobs are supported by direct business purchases of goods and services. Induced jobs are supported by employee purchases of goods and services; for example, at retail outlets.

In addition, economic and social objectives for the area and the general region will be derived from public input.

Your input is needed

Establishing the allowable annual cut is an important decision which requires well-informed and thoughtful public input. Feedback is welcomed on any aspect of this *Information Report*, the *Data Package Appendix* and other topics related to the timber supply in the Lakes timber supply area. The response form at the end of this document will assist you in preparing your comments. As well, Forest Service staff would be pleased to discuss questions or concerns that may help you prepare your response.

Please mail the completed response form and your comments to the Forest Service district manager located at the address below. Your comments will be accepted until April 6, 1999.

After receiving public input, the B.C. Forest Service will finalize the data and management assumptions that will be applied in this timber supply analysis. The timber supply analysis will be completed and available for review by Summer 1999. You may also wish to participate in the second public review period, which will follow the release of the *Lakes Timber Supply Area Analysis Report*.

Following the second public review period, the chief forester will examine all the information available in order to review the timber supply for the Lakes timber supply area. The chief forester will then establish the allowable annual cut based on his consideration of the factors as required under Section 8 of the *Forest Act*.

You may identify yourself on your response if you wish. If you do, you are reminded that responses will be subject to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and may be made public. If copies of the responses are requested, personal identifiers will be removed before the responses are released.

For more information contact and/or mail your comments to:

District Manager
Lakes Forest District
B.C. Forest Service
Bag 3500
185 Yellowhead Highway
Burns Lake, B.C.
V0J 1E0

Phone: (250) 692-2200
Fax: (250) 692-7461

or electronically mail to:

Gunter.Hoehne@gems7.gov.bc.ca

Lakes Timber Supply Area
Timber Supply Review

Information Report Response Form

The *Forest Act* requires the chief forester to consider the following factors to determine the allowable annual cut for timber supply areas and tree farm licence areas in the province, as follows:

- the rate of timber production that can be sustained from the area;
- the short- and long-term implications to the province of alternative rates of timber harvesting from the area;
- the nature, production capabilities and timber requirements of established and proposed timber processing facilities;
- the economic and social objectives of the Crown for the area, the general region, and the province, as expressed by the minister of forests, and;
- abnormal insect or disease infestations and major salvage programs planned for the area.

We welcome your review to ensure the best available information is considered for the Lakes timber supply area. Please provide your comments on this form, or in another format. Input will be accepted until April 6, 1999.

A. Economic and social objectives

Please use the space below to provide your comments regarding the economic and social information contained in this report or other information that you believe should be considered in completing the social and economic analysis for the Lakes timber supply area.

B. Reviewing the draft data and management assumptions

Please use the space below to provide your comments regarding the draft data and management assumptions contained in this report or other information that you believe should be considered in the timber supply analysis for the Lakes timber supply area.

Name (optional): _____

Address (optional): _____

Mail or fax your comments to:

District Manager
Lakes Forest District
B.C. Forest Service
Bag 3500
185 Yellowhead Highway
Burns Lake, B.C.
V0J 1E0

or electronically mail to:

Gunter.Hoehne@gems7.gov.bc.ca

APPENDIX A

Data Package
Description of Data Inputs and Management Assumptions

This appendix is available upon request from the Ministry of Forests.

Offices are located at:

Lakes Forest District
185 Yellowhead Highway
Burns Lake, B.C.
V0J 1E0

Phone: (250) 692-2200

Prince Rupert Forest Region
3726 Alfred Avenue
Smithers, B.C.
V0J 2N0

Phone: (250) 847-7500

Timber Supply Branch
3rd Floor - 595 Pandora Avenue
Victoria, B.C.
V8W 9C3

Phone: (250) 356-5947