

Issue ID#	A1 – Project Management Meta-data
Contact Info	Guillaume Thérien
Issue Description	Description: There should be a table in the VRI database with project information. Information that would go in the tables should include : project number, land base identification, total area, total number of plots, who wrote the sample plan, when was it approved, special comments, etc.
Technical Lead	Gary Johansen
Priority Assessment	High
Reference Information	Revised VPIP standards, Oracle adjustment meta-data
Background	<p>Most of this information was previously submitted for inclusion in the Oracle adjustment meta-data table as part of the VDYP7/Baseline Adjustment project. The meta data table will provide links to the VRI planning documents. The database delivery is planned for the end of fiscal 04.</p> <p>In the interim SRM propose to make this information mandatory in the VPIP planning standards. These documents will be posted on the web.</p>
Benefit of Change	Analysis and auditing of VRI ground sample information will be made more efficient. The information will also facilitate the reuse of ground sample data in future readjustments.
Resources Required	Staff time to make changes to the VPIP planning documents. Database development costs.
RIB Recommendation	Ensure the meta-data identified is included in the Oracle database, and that hyperlinks to planning documents are included in the database. Update VPIP standards.
Client Comment	<p>Albert Nussbaum: MoF FAB agree that VRI resource information should be made available to stakeholders.</p> <p>Nand Kayshap: MSRM Systems: Being done under VDYP7 implementation</p>
Final Resolution	Implement RIB recommendation
Action:	GJ to update Oracle DB / KT to post VPIPs and final analysis summaries on web.

Issue ID#	A2 – Sample/Analysis Meta-data
Contact Info	Guillaume Thérien
Issue Description	It's sometimes difficult to track down the relative importance of a plot, especially if we want to group different projects together or the plots do not have equal probabilities. In the sample plan, with the sample list, the number of ha each plot represents should be standard information. This information should be kept in the database. This probably means creating a new table called: Original Sample List with cluster id, UTM, forest cover map, forest cover polygon, map version, area the plot represents, stratum it was selected from

Technical Lead	Gary Johansen
Priority Assessment	High
Reference Information	Revised VPIP standards, Oracle adjustment meta-data
Background	This issue is the same as A1. Relative weighting of a ground sample is important in generating statistics and adjustments. It is critical to keep this information readily available where calculations need to be checked or to be repeated in the future. If the sample target population changes the original weighting may need to be adjusted. This calculation requires the area and the strata definition for the sample when it was installed.
Benefit of Change	Analysis of VRI sample data made easier, more reliable and facilitates reuse.
Resources Required	Changes to the Oracle phase 1 database are taking place and we have the ability to influence them without additional funding/staffing. The information identified above is scheduled to be included.
RIB Recommendation	Ensure the meta-data identified is included in the Oracle database, and that hyperlinks to planning documents are included in the database for that information not included in the Oracle database. Update VPIP planning standards documents to ensure this information is provided. Post VPIPS on the web.
Client Comment	Albert Nussbaum: MoF FAB agree that VRI resource information should be made available to stakeholders. Nand Kayshap: MSRM Systems: Being done under VDYP7 implementation
Final Resolution	Implement RIB recommendation
Action:	GJ to update Oracle DB / KT to post VPIPs and final analysis summaries on web.

Issue ID#	A3 & S13 (Same Issue)
Contact Info	Guillaume Therien
Issue Description	Description: VRI ground sample design changes are needed to address diverse polygon conditions where more than one VRI sample cluster is required and WPV represents an unsuitable alternative. <i>(Note, this description represents a major rewrite of the one originally submitted.)</i>
Technical Lead	Sam Otukol
Priority Assessment	High – several VRI sampling projects have already used WPV or a modified cluster in an attempt to better capture the variation within a polygon.
Reference Information	WPV and VRI ground sampling standards and procedures, Oracle database, TIMVEG data collection software, compilers
Background	JS Thrower and Associates, in three VRI sampling projects (Adams Lk., Okanagan and TFL 15), have piloted a modified VRI cluster design in an attempt to increase sampling efficiencies with respect to volume/age

	<p>and height attributes. The sampling inefficiencies that are produced by the regular plot cluster are due to highly variable stand conditions that can be found in dry belt fir, Interior cedar-hemlock and spruce-balsam stands. The sample sizes required to obtain the desired sample error became overly large because of the high variation around the differences between the phase 2 and 1 volumes. WPV was not found to an acceptable alternative due to the high sampling costs and inflexible design.</p> <p>RIB recognizes that the current VRI ground sample plot design may be inefficient for certain forest conditions and supports, in principle, the development of more flexible sampling designs. The cost to VRI data systems to support these changes is substantial.</p>
Benefit of Change	Increased sample design flexibility may lower VRI sampling costs.
Resources Required	<p>Resources are required to design, test and analyze alternative sampling designs. MSRSM should seek partnerships with industry and attempt to pilot new designs in 04/05.</p> <p>If the new designs are proven effective additional resources are required to modify: ground sampling standards and procedures documents, data capture systems and compiler software. The costs associated with remodelling the Oracle database and data capture systems are substantial.</p>
RIB Recommendation	RIB recommends that testing of alternative designs should be undertaken in 04. Field testing could potentially occur in a training area in the southern interior.
Client Comment	<p>Albert Nussbaum: MoF FAB agrees with RIB that additional studies should be undertaken to determine if changes to the VRI sample design will increase sampling efficiency. We recognize that the systems costs associated with making these changes may be substantial; however, the existing database system should not be the limiting factor to allowing for the most efficient sampling design...</p> <p>Gord Nigh: I looked over the change management issue and I thought the recommendations sounded very reasonable, and I don't have anything substantial to add</p>
Final Resolution	Implement RIB recommendation and in addition develop partnerships with industry to further test alternative/more flexible sample designs and attribute collection standards for VRI and monitoring.
Action:	The Statistical Support Team within RIB should develop a series of field sampling design and minimum attribute trials that could be undertaken during the summer of 04. The trials should suggest non-Oracle minimum attribute data collection standards / processes. The preliminary designs/options should be reviewed by

	industry partners.
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Issue ID#	A4
Contact Info	Keith Tudor
Issue Description	Quality Assurance Reports: Currently MSRM does not formally receive copies of 3rd party QA reports. Without these reports it is difficult for MSRM to efficiently set audit priorities. QA ground sample standards need to be updated requiring that qa reports are sent to MSRM service centres.
Technical Lead	Keith Tudor
Priority Assessment	medium
Reference Information	VRI Quality Assurance Standards
Background	For some VRI ground sample inventory projects in 03, MSRM staff did not receive the 3 rd party quality assurance reports. In order for MSRM to provide the assurances to our primary clients that the inventory was successfully completed to current standards it is imperative that MSRM staff in the contact and service centres receive copies of these reports. The requirement to ensure these reports are provided to MSRM can be accommodated by revising the i) ground sample operational planning standards (VPIP) ii) QA standards documents iii) contract template documents (under development).
Benefit of Change	The benefits of sending 3 rd party qa reports to MSRM staff are: - Less MSRM, contractor and licensee staff time will be spent tracking down the QA reports. - MSRM staff will be better able to provide assurances to our clients that the inventory meets current standards
Resources Required	RIB staff time
RIB Recommendation	Update standards
Client Comment	This issue is of a general nature and was not sent for client review
Final Resolution	Implement RIB recommendation
Action:	KT to update standards docs.

Issue ID#	A5
Contact Info	Joe Kavanagh
Issue Description	Private Land spatial coverage needs to be updated and accessible. In the northern and central interior private land is either logged or converted to agricultural land. In some instances smaller lots are residential acreages with very slight modification to the forest cover. All private land holdings with associated forest cover are netted out or excluded in a TSR determination. In all Crown land planning initiatives private holdings are excluded. On a recent VRI /Terrain inventory project the exclusion of private land resulted in significant savings permitting

	the stretching of scarce funds to increase mapping on Crown land. The difficulty or issue regards attaining relatively current coverage of private land; boundaries and location (coverage). Eventually industry had to produce a coverage although MSRM is the custodian of the file.
Technical Lead	Dick Nakatsu
Priority Assessment	High
Reference Information	Ownership cadastre
Background	<p>The recent change in Business delivery model assigns responsibility for project management and administration of funds to industrial licence holders. Consequently those held responsible for efficiently managing the funds are concerned that expenditures offer value to government and industry. Significant savings can be realized by excluding private land.</p> <p>The responsibility for providing and maintaining ownership coverage belongs to the Surveyor General Branch; Registry Data Section of the Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management.</p> <p>This issue will forwarded to the Surveyor General Branch for their consideration.</p>
Benefit of Change	Current and accessible coverage will facilitate planning efficiency and cost
Resources Required	Communicate with Surveyor General Branch
RIB Recommendation	This issue should be forwarded to the Surveyor General Branch.
Client Comment	Don Gosnell/ Graham Hawkins : RIB has raised the issue of cadastral access for industry and other agencies (e.g. Forest Analysis Branch) with the Base Mapping and Geomatic Service Branch and with the Crown Land Registries Department, for resolution. The Integrated Cadastral Initiative Society is also involved with cadastral access issues
Final Resolution	Implement RIB recommendation
Action:	D N to develop a briefing note that will be sent to Surveyor General.

Issue ID#	A6
Contact Info	Keith Tudor
Issue Description	Planning standards documents need to be updated to reflect that Strategic (VSIPS) and Operational (VPIPS) inventory planning documents must be reviewed by SRM and Forests to ensure standards and business issues are addressed
Technical Lead	Keith Tudor
Priority Assessment	medium
Reference Information	VRI Planning Standards : Strategic (VSIP) and Operational (VPIP) Planning standards
Background	In order to ensure that VRI inventory projects (photo-interpreted and ground sample inventories) are successfully completed it is critical that these plans are reviewed by MSRM to ensure the appropriate standards are being applied and that the scope of the project will meet the business

	needs of the MoF. MSRM recommends that VRI strategic and operational planning standards are updated to reflect this requirement. Prior to approving these types of projects, Price Waterhouse Coopers on behalf of the Forest Investment program will ensure the plans are forwarded to Mr. Jon Vivian for review coordination.
Benefit of Change	The benefits of having MSRM review these plans for standards and coordinating a business review with the MoF are: - the likelihood of the final project deliverables being rejected due a technical oversight is reduced. - the likelihood of the information not being fully accepted by clients in the forest management decision process is reduced.
Resources Required	RIB staff time
RIB Recommendation	Update standards
Client Comment	Albert Nussbaum: Given the cost of VRIs and the impact VRI inventories can have on the timber supply process it is critical that MoF and MSRM review inventory plans for business and standards. MoF works collaboratively with MSRM in reviewing these plans. We encourage stakeholders to include MSRM/MoF in the development of these plans.
Final Resolution	Implement RIB recommendation
Action:	KT to update standards.

Issue ID#	A7
Contact Info	Joe Kavanagh
Issue Description	Improve the existing process to quantify non recoverable losses for TSR. There are significant areas of dead and dying timber in the north as a result of the mountain pine beetle epidemic. The area requires aerial flying of photography and inventory to accurately determine the amount of non recoverable/unsalvaged losses. A process to identify the amount of dead/killed timber in the polygon is required. Many of the existing polygon tree and site attributes would be maintained. The identification and amount of residual trees which survive the infestation will influence silvicultural activities as well as support salvage operations.
Technical Lead	Dick Nakatsu
Priority Assessment	High
Reference Information	VRI photo-interpretation, ground sampling and planning standards.
Background	The single biggest issue impacting TSR and AAC determination in the interior is management dealing with the mountain pine beetle epidemic. In 2003 the Chief Forester has estimated that approx. 4.2 million hectares of mature lodgepole pine has been infested. The dead lodgepole pine has a shelf life estimated to be 10 to 15 years.

	<p>Expansive tracts of lodgepole pine have been infested in the central interior of BC. The current VRI inventory and previous forest cover inventory classification procedures have focused on describing attributes of living trees. The expectation is that negative effects from forest pests, caused by global warming will continue and likely increase.</p> <p>A new classification system may need to be designed or existing standards modified, to better describe the attributes associated with stands where the majority of trees have been killed by catastrophic events.</p> <p>A review of existing standards or the development of new standards for the assessment of dead timber should be developed by industry and both provincial and federal governments. The planning costs could be supported by FIA under strategic inventory planning.</p> <p>While the classification system is being developed a pilot project area could be selected for testing. This pilot area may require new aerial photography.</p>
<p>Benefit of Change</p>	<p>A strategic planning session identifying the issues and possible solutions would provide a basis for the potential development of revised dead timber standards.</p> <p>This planning session may also provide recommendations to support short term harvest/silvicultural activities.</p>
<p>Resources Required</p>	<p>MSRM staff participation to support VSIP Preparation. Staff support on a possible standards classification task team. FIA funding for planning and pilot testing.</p>
<p>RIB Recommendation</p>	<p>RIB supports the development of a strategic planning initiative to discuss this issue.</p>
<p>Client Comment</p>	<p>Albert Nussbaum: The MoF FAB agrees that a planning session should be undertaken to address this issue. Careful consideration should be given to the timing of the photography/remote sensing data as the infestation is still ongoing. The Williams Lk. TSA developed a reclassification system for pine attacked stands that should be considered prior to developing any new methodology.</p> <p>Gord Nigh: I looked over the change management issue and I thought the recommendations sounded very reasonable, and I don't have anything substantial to add</p> <p>Paul Rehler: Forest Practices Branch (FPB) is the lead on aerial overview surveys used to estimate the amount of mpb attack in BC. A standardized Aerial Overview survey method and digital mapping</p>

	protocol that was approved by the provincial Resources Inventory Committee (RIC) in 1997 and revised and approved in September, 2000. This method should be considered. More details can be found at http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/FORSITE/overview/overview.htm FPB contact for MPB related issue is Tim.Ebata@gems8.gov.bc.ca.
Final Resolution	MSRM should provide staff resources to assist in the development of a strategic plan for PL.
Action:	DN to develop Briefing note for MSRM management outlining the need to assist in the development of these plans.

Issue ID#	A8
Contact Info	Keith Tudor
Issue Description	Contract planning standards documents (eg. Schedule A's) should be updated to reflect the requirement that for DFAM/TSA level VRI ground sample analysis projects, the lead consultant should ensure government staff (MSRM/MoF) are provided with the opportunity to review the analysis as it progresses. This type of communication has worked well in numerous projects reducing licensee analysis costs and government review and approval time
Technical Lead	Keith Tudor
Priority Assessment	low
Reference Information	VRI Planning standards and Contract template documents (under development)
Background	See issue description. MSRM will update relevant documents and encourage proponents to include MSRM/MoF in the analysis process
Benefit of Change	The benefits of including MSRM/MoF staff in the analysis process are: - Reduced analysis costs to industry (MSRM/MoF can provide advice and experience.) - Reduced time delay in MSRM/MoF final review.
Resources Required	Staff time
RIB Recommendation	Update contract template and VPIP ground sample inventory planning documents
Client Comment	This issue is of a general nature and was not sent for client review
Final Resolution	Implement RIB recommendation
Action:	MM to develop appropriate documents.

Issue ID#	A9
Contact Info	Shawn Meisner
Issue Description	<i>Accuracy statements for VRI.</i> How do you know how to modify the VRI sampling procedure if it has not been tested for accuracy and precision against reality? How do you know you are getting value for the money spent?

	<p>In addition: the VRI will be used for determining timber growing stock but more importantly it will help define timber availability and accessibility as constrained by biodiversity, seral stage and life form specific habitat availability models. From this perspective five of the attributes of most interest are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • coarse woody debris (m³/ha) • snag density (dead standing stems/ha > Xcm dbh) • total basal area • species composition • large live tree density (stems/ha > Xcm dbh) <p>The accuracy and precision of estimates should be known in order for the analysis results to be interpreted and communicated.</p>
Technical Lead	Sam Otukol
Priority Assessment	Moderate
Reference Information	VRI data analysis and attribute adjustment procedures.
Background	<p>Clarification: What is being referred to as “reality” for a polygon cannot be know unless all trees in the polygon are felled. The best we can do is to take sample observations and then make inferences about the population from the sample. If the sampling is applied using principles of random sampling, then accuracy statements can be provided for continuous attributes in the form of sampling error.</p> <p>The methodologies for determining sampling error statistics for net merchantable volume, age and height are documented within the current VRI ground sampling standards.</p> <p>With the upcoming release of the VDYP 7 yield model, sampling error statements will be provided for the following additional timber attributes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Basal area at 7.5cm utilization 2. Basal area at 12.5 cm utilization 3. Ht of the leading species 4. Age of the leading species 5. Trees per hectare at 7.5cm 6. Lorey Ht @ 7.5cm 7. Whole stem volume @ 7.5cm 8. Whole stem volume @ 12.5cm 9. Volume net top and stump @ 12.5cm 10. Volume net top, stump, decay @ 12.5cm 11. Volume net top, stump, decay, & waste @ 12.5cm 12. Volume net top, stump, decay, waste, & breakage @ 12.5cm (interior) or 17.5cm (coastal). 13. Coarse Woody debris
Benefit of Change	Generating additional sampling error statistics will provide stakeholders with the ability to better define the risk and uncertainty

	associated with the inventory.
Resources Required	RIB staff time in developing standards documents.
RIB Recommendation	Additional statistics should be generated.
Client Comment	This issue is of a general nature and was not sent for client review
Final Resolution	A summary document outlining the statistics that can be generated from VRI inventory products should be developed.
Action:	SO to produce document.

Issue ID#	A10
Contact Info	Keith Tudor
Issue Description	The current vri analysis standards require updating: In particular the document needs to address: - PPSWR variance and ratio functions -minimum standards regarding summary submissions. - Roles and responsibilities
Technical Lead	Sam Otukol
Priority Assessment	High
Reference Information	VRI Attribute Adjustment Procedures v4.4 Draft
Background	The current Draft VRI Adjustment Standards are somewhat vague and have caused some confusion within industry with respect to VRI ground sample inventory analysis deliverables. This is an outstanding item from 03/04 change management. A revised standard has been developed and is attached to this item. The client reviewer is asked to review this document. <i>A new VRI ground sample inventory analysis standard using VDYP 7 is planned for testing in 04/05..</i>
Benefit of Change	The benefits of updating the analysis standards are: - Reduced ambiguity regarding analysis deliverables. - Reduced analysis costs to industry - More efficient and rapid government review/approval - Data will load directly to LRDW.
Resources Required	Revised standards are already completed. Staff resources may be required to make revisions.
RIB Recommendation	Distribute revised standards to client reviewer and then to select consultant and industry contacts.
Client Comment	Albert Nussbaum: I have reviewed the document "Vegetation Resource Inventory - Procedures and Standards for Data Analysis, Attribute Adjustment and Implementation of Adjustments in the Corporate Database" (Version 4.7.2). My review was focused on ensuring that the adjustments of the VRI using ground data would meet our needs for

	<p>TSR.</p> <p>There are no significant issues I noted during my review and I was reassured by the emphasis placed on ensuring height, age and volume adjustments reflect temporal trends.</p> <p>Under section 4.2.2 Data Assembly/Edit Procedures - 4. Determine post-strata criteria, I would suggest that addressing possible post stratification criteria at the initial sample plan stage would be far preferable to assuming it can simply be addressed after the analysis is complete. Sample sizes may preclude addressing temporal trends in adjustments if they are not considered at the time sample number and strata are developed.</p>
Final Resolution	Implement RIB recommendation
Action:	Standards were released to industry for review and comment. As of April 1st no comments received. Standards are currently on the web.

	A 11
Contact Info	<p>Joe Kavanagh – Canfor (Prince George)</p> <p>jkavanagh@mail.canfor.ca</p> <p>Phone: (250) 962-3337</p>
Issue Description	<p>Description: There currently exists no process to update existing forest cover/vri between re-inventories. Excellent data (field measurements) are collected over the province, but no mechanism exists to update or revise the affected polygon descriptions. This issue largely concerns the use of cruise data.</p> <p>Given that TSR is done on a 5 year cycle and cruises can have a lifespan of 5 to 10 years, this data can provide a better estimate of volume on the land base for one or possibly 2 TSR periods. Polygons which would be updated with the more accurate data would be excluded from statistical adjustment..</p>
Technical Lead	Dick Nakatsu
Priority Assessment	High
Reference Information	<p>Localization by Ad-Hoc Observations</p> <p>http://srmwww.gov.bc.ca/risc/pubs/teveg/local/localization-04.htm</p>
Background	<p>The primary objective of cruising is to sample for stand volume to support operational planning and the appraisal system. The current expectation is that cruise plot measurements have a short shelf life, therefore the information is not added to MSRM corporate inventory systems.</p> <p>The addition of cruise or other new inventory information, if improperly managed, could compromise the rigor of adjusted VRI inventories. MSRM database systems can recognize new inventory information without compromising the overall statistical validity of</p>

	<p>the inventory. (New inventory information would be adjusted by a factor of 1.0)</p> <p>MSRM currently maintains a set of standards for the incorporation of additional ad hoc types of inventory information. (Vegetation Resources Inventory Localization Procedures v 1.0). The current standards do not specifically recognize the use of cruise data.</p> <p>The new cruise information would have to be scheduled with a VRI re-inventory project or with a disturbance and silviculture update cycle</p>
Benefit of Change	The addition of cruise information into VRI inventory systems would provide increased operational confidence in the information without significantly compromising the statistical rigour.
Resources Required	MSRM staff to review existing Localization Standards and Procedures and make revisions if necessary. At this time, funding responsibility is unclear.
RIB Recommendation	Revise Ad-Hoc Observation Procedures to include and recognize polygon attribute correction using Cruise Plot data. Leave the statistical re-adjustment process optional.
Client Comment	<p>Jon Aleman: Trillium Pacific: The idea of incorporating cruise data into an existing inventory makes logical sense, but there are a few issues to be considered:</p> <p><u>Methodology:</u> Unlike an update for depletion or for another form of disturbance, the cruise summary does not provide a new set of spatial lines that will be directly incorporated into an existing mapsheet. There is of course a proposed area (cutblock) boundary, but the rationale for determining those lines certainly isn't linked to any VRI delineation criteria. Rather, the cruise summary provides useful information for a given area that may, or may not, be different from adjacent areas. For this reason, incorporating the cruise data would need to be undertaken by someone with enough photo interpretation skill to make subjective decisions regarding line and attribute modification. It would also require access to the source materials (i.e., photos or softcopy images). It could be a rather cumbersome process if the original source material is softcopy and requires a setup of all applicable files (dgn, mod, sdt, and sjs which could be on separate hard drives). The data that gets incorporated should not be subject to later (Phase II) adjustment.</p> <p><u>Schedule:</u> As suggested by Joe, it could be incorporated along with another scheduled map and attribute file modification process, but it would need to be arranged that all required materials are available on time.</p> <p><u>Cost:</u> Like anything, it may not be feasible to undertake this operation if the</p>

	<p>costs outweigh the benefits. The costs are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - acquisition of cruise data (summaries and maps with strata boundaries and other land features that make it clear where the cruise is located). - acquisition of previous inventory images (hard or softcopy). - modifications to the spatial files. - modifications to the attribute file. - Quality control. <p><u>Summary</u></p> <p>I suspect there is more value in having cruise data available as ancillary data while conducting a new inventory (since all setup operations are already ongoing), but a pilot test of incorporation into an existing inventory would be interesting.</p> <p>This proposal seems reasonable and worthy of further investigation. From past experience (Clayoquot VRI 1999), there are several potential problems (primarily due to differences in objectives, procedures and standards between the two disciplines). For example:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Will VRI polygon boundaries be adjusted to match Cruise strata boundaries? If so, how reliable are the field based boundaries and are they compatible with a photo based strategic level inventory? 2) Or will Cruise data be recompiled to match VRI strata? <p>Frank Scheithauer:</p> <p>This proposal seems reasonable and worthy of further investigation. From past experience (Clayoquot VRI 1999), there are several potential problems (primarily due to differences in objectives, procedures and standards between the two disciplines). For example:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3) Will VRI polygon boundaries be adjusted to match Cruise strata boundaries? If so, how reliable are the field based boundaries and are they compatible with a photo based strategic level inventory? 4) Or will Cruise data be recompiled to match VRI strata? <p>I suggest a pilot project with a cost/benefit analysis be conducted.</p>
Final Resolution	Prior to adopting the RIB recommendation, any impacts (database and methods/standards) with the update group must be assessed.
Action:	CM to develop Briefing note and provide to MSRM update group for review.

Issue ID#	A12
Contact Info	Will Smith
Issue Description	Description: Ensure NVAF sampling is not done in the winter season. The ability to determine decay in NVAF

	sample trees is negatively affected by frozen wood
Technical Lead	Will Smith
Priority Assessment	Moderate
Reference Information	NVAF standards and procedures
Background	This item reflects a need to make official a past unwritten policy of prohibiting sampling of frozen trees. The recent shift in the role of MSRM around VRI sampling has required the careful and comprehensive articulation of standards and procedures around VRI sampling.
Benefit of Change	Eliminates a possible source of poor quality field data.
Resources Required	Staff time to update standards.
RIB Recommendation	Update standards
Client Comment	Gord Nigh: I looked over the change management issue and I thought the recommendations sounded very reasonable, and I don't have anything substantial to add.
Final Resolution	Implement RIB recommendation
Action:	WS to update standards.