

PART C - PLAN MONITORING AND REVIEW

Monitoring of ongoing activity and management direction is essential to determine the appropriateness of management decisions and the success of implementation methods. Monitoring provides the basis for determining whether the desired conditions for the plan are being achieved. Monitoring will also serve to indicate required amendment to implementation and plan direction.

Plan review is required to amend resource management direction as social values change and as new information becomes available. It is also recognized that adaptive resource management may lead to refinements of the plan, based on monitoring results or other factors. The Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management will co-ordinate any required review of, or amendment to, the SRMMP.

C.1.0 Role of Provincial Government Inter-Agency Committee (IAC)

The provincial government's role in plan amendments, monitoring and implementation occurs at both an individual agency level and at an inter-agency level. Inter-agency co-ordination is a critical factor in ensuring successful implementation of strategic land use plans. At the local level, inter-agency co-ordination will occur through the Southern Rocky Mountain Advisory Committee (see C.2.0 below). At the Regional level, the regional Inter-Agency Committee (IAC) will provide a venue for discussion, as necessary, of proposed plan amendments and plan implementation as they relate to other government agencies.

C.2.0 Advisory Committee for SRMMP (SRMAC)

A Southern Rocky Mountain Advisory Committee (SRMAC) will be established by the Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management (MSRM). It will have a broad and balanced representation from government agencies, the Ktunaxa Nation, the private sector, and public interests.

The Southern Rocky Mountain Advisory Committee (SRMAC) will be composed of sectors that have either participated in or are familiar with the plan's development, and represent a diverse cross-section of interests. The role of the SRMAC will be twofold:

1. To provide advice to government on plan monitoring, implementation and effectiveness
2. To recommend to MSRM changes in plan direction and content

To achieve these roles, the committee will convene on a regular basis, and will operate as per the Terms of Reference found in Appendix 4.0 of this plan.

C.3.0 Plan Monitoring

Monitoring of the Southern Rocky Mountain Management Plan should help achieve the following objectives:

- To identify if plan implementation is occurring as intended;
- To provide data for the review of the effectiveness of implemented management direction, and identify required changes to implementation methods;
- To ensure correct mapping boundaries and provide clearer interpretation for implementation and plan support; and
- To identify required changes to strategic management direction resulting from changes in social, economic and environmental conditions which may lead to the development of more detailed and appropriate management direction where necessary.

C.3.1 Monitoring Factors, Indicators and Procedures

The role of monitoring will be a function of both government and the SRMAC. Much monitoring will take the form of subjective evaluation of anecdotal information. As resources allow, this process will occur more formally via new inventories and research projects or recording of information gathered either directly or through user input regarding use patterns, public sentiment, and incidents.

An Implementation Monitoring Report, covering progress, implementation issues and/or constraints, will be prepared on a periodic basis. This report will provide an assessment of how well the direction from the Plan is being reflected in operations.

Effectiveness assessment should analyze trends based on a set of indicators to be developed and maintained by the SRMAC (see Appendices 2.0 and 4.0). The results from this monitoring will be used as a primary adaptive management tool, to indicate adjustments in the SRMMP and potentially in other government programs, policies and procedures that may be warranted in order to more effectively realize the stated objectives. An Effectiveness Monitoring Report will be prepared periodically, as resources permit, to determine whether the SRMMP is meeting its desired outcomes.

C.4.0 Plan Review and Amendments

Major or minor plan review and amendments may be initiated through scheduled plan revisions or through unscheduled plan revisions as a result of unforeseen events.

A major scheduled review of the plan will occur within five to ten years. However, local or operational planning processes may, through more detailed mapping, research or public involvement, recommend unscheduled minor or major amendments to the SRMMP. The MSRMC will be responsible for assessing whether unscheduled amendment proposals should proceed and for determining what action will be taken. Examples of events that may trigger the need to consider, or proceed with, an unscheduled amendment are:

- the conclusion of a major project proposal review (e.g. an Environmental Assessment process decision) which results in a management decision that differs from the management direction expressed in the SRMMP;
- a significant disturbance to a particular area within the region (e.g., fire, insect/disease outbreak);
- the outcome of SRMAC meetings (see Section C.2.0);
- a government decision in the form of a Cabinet directive, or the adoption of new legislation or regulations.

Whether scheduled or unscheduled, proposed plan amendments will be discussed at SRMAC meetings, and then forwarded to the MSRM Regional Director for decision. The Regional Director will review the proposed amendments, assess whether it is major or minor in nature, potentially review with IAC, and make a decision whether to: 1) adopt the amendment proposal; 2) reject the amendment proposal; or 3) if considered a major amendment, forward the amendment proposal on to the Deputy Minister for further consideration and recommendation to the Minister of MSRM.

C.4.1 Major versus Minor Plan Amendments:

Major amendments to the plan include changes that potentially result in a substantive alteration to the balance of the plan. Examples of such alteration may involve:

- amendment to a particular objective or strategy that would significantly change the priority given to the use of resources in the area for which the change is proposed (e.g. change to strategic guidelines that the forest industry must follow when harvesting timber);
- changes to recreation access or development designations in areas that are highly contentious;
- addressing future issues concerning the balance between commercial and public recreation;
- amendment of the planning area boundary to either take in or delete a substantial amount of land area.

Comment from the general public will be solicited concerning all proposed major strategic amendments to the plan.

Major plan amendments will be approved by the Minister of Sustainable Resource Management or their designate. All major changes to the plan will be documented and made available to SRMAC representatives and the general public.

Minor amendments to the plan include changes that do not result in a substantive alteration to the balance of the plan. Examples of such changes include:

- revisions of wording;
- change to recreation access or development designations in areas which are not highly contentious;
- refinement of different types of recreational motorized uses in motorized zones or between different types of recreational non-motorized uses in non-motorized zones;

- changes to the location of motorized road corridors which maintain the original plan intent
- minor changes to guidelines affecting industry - such as a minor change to connectivity matrix based upon better scientific information;
- incorporation of new resource inventory or research data

Minor plan amendments will be approved by the Regional Director of MSRM or their designate. All minor changes to the plan will be documented and made available to SRMAC representatives and the general public.