

Forests for Tomorrow

2008/2009 BUDGET OVERVIEW



Mandate

Forests For Tomorrow (FFT) was established as the Provincial Government's response to the stewardship issues associated with the increasing area of Not Satisfactory Restocked Crown forest land associated with natural disturbances. FFT is designed to improve the future timber supply and restore environmental values through strategically implemented silviculture treatments, focusing initially on wildfires and the mountain pine beetle epidemic. Forests for Tomorrow activities will reduce the risks to biodiversity, water, fish, and wildlife.

Partners

- First Nations
- Ministry of Community Development
- Ministry of Environment
- Ministry of Forests and Range (BC Timber Sales, Forest Practices Branch, Forest Analysis and Inventory Branch, Tree Improvement Branch, Northern and Southern Interior Forest Regions; Forest Districts)
- Ministry of Tourism, Sports and Arts
- Recipient Agreement Holders
- Third Party Administrator – Pricewaterhouse Coopers LLP

Reforestation Targets 2008/2009

Activities	Targets 2008/2009
Planting (ha)	7,000 ha
Seedlings (M)	7 M
Surveys (ha)	110,000 ha
Brushing (ha)	TBD
Funding (\$M)	\$44 M

First Nations

Many First Nations communities have been negatively impacted by the MPB and major wild fires. First Nations are invited to participate in FFT strategic planning as well as take advantage of opportunities for employment in silviculture activities such as surveying, site preparation and planting. FFT is working to increase the amount and quality of First Nations engagement and information sharing in the program over time.

Challenges

Treatment Areas – Until the MPB has run its course, candidate treatment areas are not readily apparent. FFT treatment areas must be carefully selected with due consideration to all other interests and environmental values in the MPB impacted landscapes.

Climate Change – FFT is monitoring the success of trees planted to understand and adapt to the effects of climate change and developing carbon sequestration estimates for FFT investment strategies.

Adaptive Management – FFT is addressing new uncertainties associated with reforestation of MPB areas by employing adaptive management trials. Learning's from evaluations, monitoring and research feeds back into program Improvement.

Mid-term Timber Supply – FFT treatment activities include fertilization and brushing/weeding of immature non-pine leading stands to increase the short and mid - term timber supply.

Community Focus - Keeping B.C.'s forestry sector strong is important to the prosperity of forest communities. FFT is evaluating ways to increase new forestry job opportunities at the community level.

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Activity	Lead	Description	\$ Million
Reforestation Treatments	Recipients & Program Administrator	Reforestation treatments include surveys, site preparation, planting, brushing and other treatments: MPB and major wildfires \$25.9M Impeded Stands \$0.6M By Region: SIFR \$19.6M NIFR \$6.3M	\$26.5
Seedlings, cone collection and seed acquisition	BCTS Branches Regions Recipients	Seedlings are purchased and sown through the BC Timber Sales Program. In 2008, final payment will be made on 15M seedlings and up to another 17 M seedlings will be sown. Projected cone collection and seed acquisition investments are \$800,000.	\$4.5
Information Gathering	Forest Analysis Inventory Branch	Continued analysis of uplift impacts, biomass/energy assessment (completed); 100 000 km digital camera flight line, 40 000 ha of ground truthing surveys, identification of FFT footprint on 22 management units, SIBEC (productivity) and PEM (predictive ecosystem mapping).	\$3.3
Staff / Program Support	Branches, Regions	Program support includes 18 staff, expenditures for quality assurance, monitoring, assessments, training, meetings, travel, communications, and other functions supporting the program.	\$3.0
FRPA S108	Major Licensees	FRPA Section 108 is a legislative provision which provides compensation to major licensees to re-establish young plantations destroyed by fire.	\$2.0
Program Administrator	Pricewater-house Coopers	Pricewaterhouse Coopers LLP administers the field work including management of the recipients and monitoring and auditing of recipient work and expenditures.	\$1.2
Strategic Planning	Branches Regions Districts	Strategic Planning work involves the setting of goals, targets and standards for the Program through consultation with districts, regions, First Nations and stakeholders.	\$1.3
Watershed and Wildlife Habitat Assessments	Ministry of Environment	Assessment of selected MPB impacted watersheds and caribou, moose, Lewis woodpecker habitat, identification of remediation opportunities and restoration treatments.	\$0.8
Future Forest Ecosystems	Forest Practices Branch	The Chief Forester has established the Future Forest Ecosystems Initiative to examine forest management options and possible adaptations to changing climatic conditions.	\$0.6
Evaluation and Monitoring	Forest Practices Branch	Projects include implementing the Multiple Accounts Decision Analysis framework for silviculture treatment options to address both timber and environmental values; forest health and forest productivity issues associated with exempted openings; adaptive management and ongoing research projects.	\$0.3
Research	Research Branch	Project related to analysis of Pli genetic resistance to MPB.	\$0.2
Access	Districts	Access and infrastructure for FFT field activities.	\$0.2
Restoration of Forest Recreational Sites	Ministry of Tourism, Sports and Arts	Rehabilitation of forest recreational sites to mitigate environmental issues and prepare sites for planting seedlings to restore recreational values and aesthetics.	\$0.08
Total Budget			\$44.0