



Forest Stewardship Plan
For

Kaslo and District Community Forest Society
Probationary Community Forest Agreement – K3C

in the
Kootenay Lake Forest District

Final Submission

For the period of April 1st 2008 to April 1st 2013

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"I certify that the work described herein fulfills the standards
expected of a member of the Association of British Columbia
Forest Professionals and that I did personally supervise the work"

Kootenay Lake District Manager Approval Signature: _____

Date: _____

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1.0 Introduction

Incorporated in May 1996, the Kaslo and District Community Forest Society (KDCFS) is a non-profit Society which has been managing a non-replaceable forest license in the Kootenay Lake Forest District, with an existing allowable annual cut of 10,000 m³. On January 23rd, 2008 the Minister of Forest, offered the Society the option to convert their volume based forest license (A54215) to a Probationary Community Forest Agreement (PCFA) (K3C – Area Base forest tenure). A Management Plan submitted by the KDCFS was approved in December 2007 with a substantial increase in the landbase area to be managed and an increase in the Annual Allowable Cut (AAC). The AAC of the new forest license has been determined to be 25,000 m³ per year.

The mandate of the KDCFS is to manage local forests in the interests of the community, and to manage for the protection of identified forest values in a manner that is consistent with the government's forest stewardship objectives. The KDCFS Mission Statement is:

The Kaslo and District Community Forest Society (KDCFS) will manage the diversity of values of the Community Forest in an ecologically responsible and fiscally accountable manner on behalf of the people of Kaslo and Area D.

The purpose of this Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) is to provide KDCFS with an operational level plan (with landscape level objectives) which will establish results and strategies to conserve and protect timber and other natural resources values while conducting primary forest activities for the next five years. This FSP is the primary referral process for notifying the public, First Nations, and government agencies where primary forest activities will be conducted. This FSP provides the natural resources stakeholder with a process to identify areas of concerns prior to field work.

1.1 Kaslo and District Community Forest Society K3C Operating Area

This Forest Stewardship Plan covers a geographical area within the Kootenay Lake Timber Supply Area, on the north arm of Kootenay Lake (see figure 1 – Overview Map). The area on which this plan will take effect surrounds Kaslo, which encompasses Kemp Creek, Mount Buchanan area west of Kaslo (as far west as Seven Mile Creek) and the east-facing slopes above Kootenay Lake north of Kaslo (up to but not including Schroeder Creek). The following drainages are also included in the FSP area: Fletcher creek (northern half of creek), Keen Creek and Bjerkness Creek to the west and south, Lost Ledge, Davis Creek, and the southern half of Cooper Creek drainage, located at the north end of Kootenay Lake.

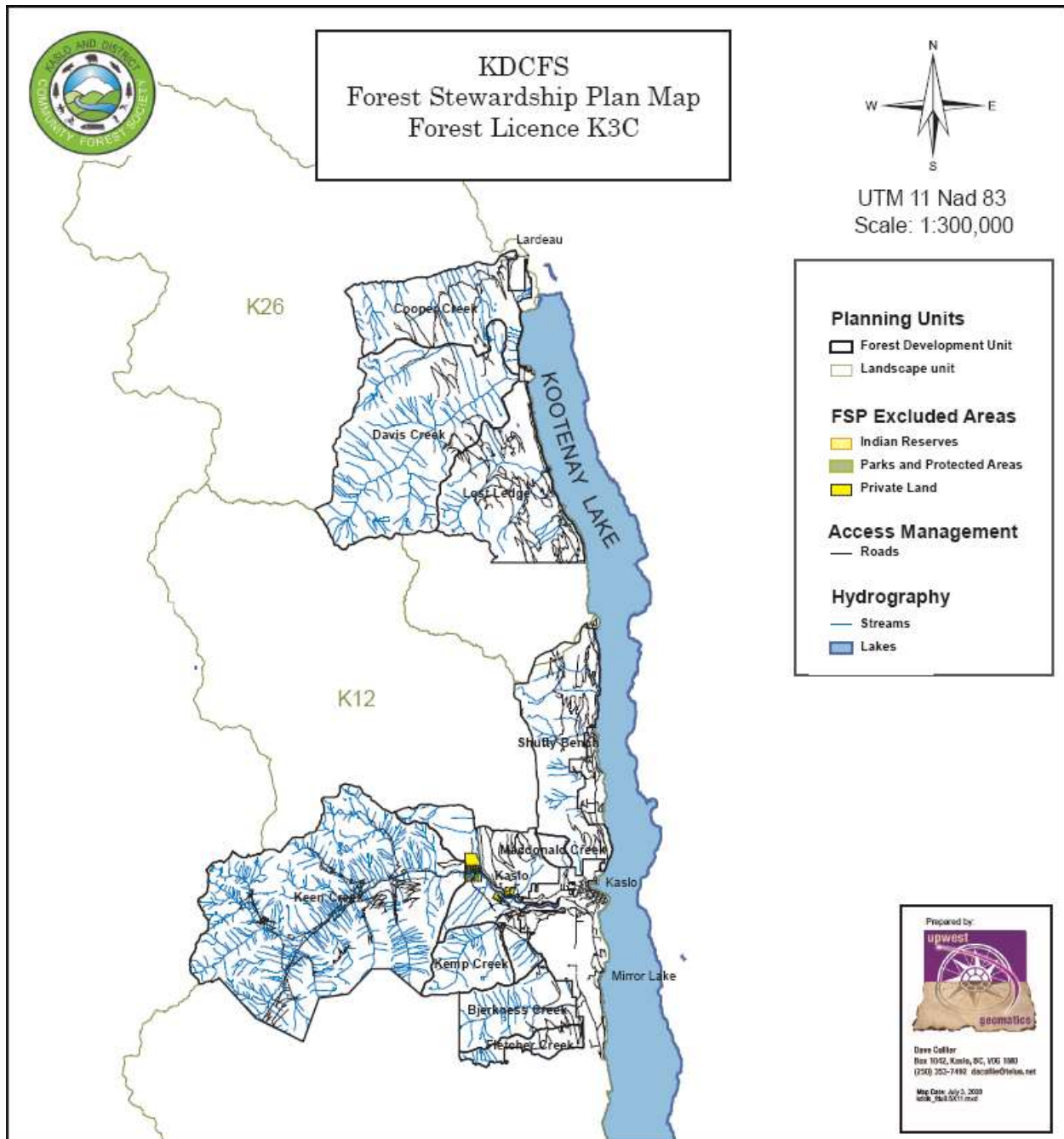
This FSP covers areas spanning elevations from 540m at Kootenay Lake level to 2300m in the alpine and is characterized by glaciated, benched slopes dissected by steep stream channels. Seeps and springs are frequent along these benches and require consideration in development planning for down slope values. Most of the lower lying areas adjacent to the license area have been developed for residential and agricultural settlement. Domestic water developments have been added over the past century by means of small stream diversions and water intake structures along creeks, seeps and springs.

Forests within the FSP area have been impacted and modified by humans including; old and present human habitation, historic large fire events, high graded stands linked to mining and early timber extraction, recent harvesting and recreational structures. The majority of the area covered by this FSP contains existing roads and old skid trails networks.

1.2 Term of the Forest Stewardship Plan

This Forest Stewardship Plan will expire at the term of the KDCFS Probationary Community Forest Agreement K3C on April 1st 2013 or from five years from the approval date of this plan for the Community Forest Agreement license K3C whichever is the longest. This will ensure that a valid FSP will be in effect after the Minister of Forests and Range converts the KDCFS Probationary Community Forest Agreement (PCFA - K3C) to a Community Forest Agreement (CFA - K3C).

Figure 1 Overview Map



1.3 Interpretation

In this Forest Stewardship Plan:

"Community watershed" means a Community watershed continued under section 180 (e) [*grand parented specified designations*] of the Forest and Range Practices Act.

"DDM" means Designated Decision Maker

"FDU" means Forest Development Units

"FRPA" means Forest and Range Practices Act

"FPPR" means Forest Planning and Practices Regulation

"FSP" means Forest Stewardship Plan

"GAR" means Government Action Regulations

"KBHLPO" means Kootenay Boundary Higher Level Plan Order

"KDCFS" means Kaslo and District Community Forest Society

"PCFA" means Probationary Community Forest Agreement

"Primary Forest Activities" means timber harvesting, silviculture treatments, road construction, maintenance and deactivation.

"Primary Licensee" means Major Licensee other than KDCFS

"Qualified Registered Professional" means a person who has appropriate education and experience to carry out the activity and is a member (or licensed) of a regulatory body in British Columbia that has legislated authority to regulate its members performing that activity.

"Scenic Area" means an area continued under section 180 license [*grand parented specified designations*] of the Forest and Range Practices Act, or an area established under the Government Actions Regulation

1.4 Forest Development Units

Future primary forest activities will be located in defined geographical areas called Forest Development Units (FDU) where specific objectives have been set for forest management activities. These specific objectives have been established under:

- 1- The Kootenay Boundary Higher Level Plan Order (KBHLPO)
- 2- The Forest Planning and Practices Regulation (FPPR) (under FRPA section 149 (1))
- 3- The Government Actions Regulation (GAR)
- 4- Other objectives from the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA)

The KDCFS will have 10 FDU which will cover the operating area within the K3C PCFA. Our Results and Strategies described in this plan will be applicable to each FDU. Table 1 and figure 1 identifies the KDCFS FDUs and their geographical description.

Table 1 KDCFS FDU

<u>FDU Name</u>	<u>Geographical area</u>
Cooper Creek	Landscape Unit K26
Davis Creek	Landscape Unit K26
Lost Ledge	Landscape Unit K26
Shutty Bench	Landscape Unit K12
McDonald Creek	Landscape Unit K12
Kaslo	Landscape Unit K12
Keen Creek	Landscape Unit K12
Kemp Creek	Landscape Unit K12
Bjerkness Creek	Landscape Unit K12
Fletcher Creek	Landscape Unit K12

1.5 Declared Areas

The KDCFS will periodically submit "Declared Areas" notification for those future cutblocks and roads that are substantially developed and that can be measured against the results and strategies of this FSP.

2.0 Public Review and Comment Period

This Plan was submitted to the Kootenay Lake Forest District, District Manager on March 20th 2008. The review and comment period was for 60 days commencing on March 25th 2008 and ending May 23rd 2008. Referrals letters were sent to First Nations and affected stakeholders. The details of the referral process including advertisement, Public Review, comments received and the responses from the licensee can be found in a separate binder submitted with this FSP.

3.0 Results or Strategies Enacted by Legislation

3.1 Land Use Objectives in Kootenay Boundary Higher Level Plan Order (KBHLPO)

This FSP refers to the KBHLPO (October 26, 2002) and associated variances.

3.1.1 Biodiversity Emphasis

Legal Reference: KBHLPO – Objective 1

FDU	Strategy for KDCFS
ALL	The licensee will follow Objective 1 of the KBHLPO when undertaking primary forest activities while managing for biodiversity.

3.1.2 Old and Mature Forest

Legal Reference: KBHLPO – Objective 2 and variance order #6

FDU	Strategy with embedded Results for KDCFS
All	The licensee will follow Objective 2 of the KBHLPO when undertaking primary forest activities while managing for Old and Mature Forest.

3.1.3 Caribou

Legal Reference: KBHLPO – Objective 3 (replaced by variance Order #4 and the addition of variance #6)

FDU	Strategy with embedded Results for KDCFS
All	The KDCFS FDU area is fully outside of identified caribou habitat areas, and therefore objective 3 of the KBHLPO does not apply.

3.1.4 Green Up

Legal Reference: KBHLPO – Objective 4

FDU	Strategy with embedded Results for KDCFS
All	The licensee will follow Objective 4 of the KBHLPO when undertaking primary forest activities in visually sensitive areas and Community Watersheds. The licensee will follow the legislation requirements on minimum tree height except as specified under section 3.2.7 of this plan.

3.1.5 Grizzly Bear Habitat and Connectivity Corridor

Legal Reference: KBHLPO – Objective 5

FDU	Strategy for KDCFS
All	An exemption under FPPR sec. 12(7) to prepare a result or strategy for this objective has been approved by the DDM on July 8 th 2008 given that a map showing critical Grizzly bear habitat is not yet completed. In the absence of an official government objective, the Kootenay Boundary Land Use Plan Implementation Strategy section 3.4 will be used, in part, to guide management as described in the supporting document.

3.1.6 Consumptive Use Streams

Legal Reference: KBHLPO – Objective 6

FDU	Strategy with embedded Results for KDCFS
All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The licensee will follow Objective 6 of the KBHLPO. b) Individual water license holders were provided with direct referrals during the public advertising of this FSP. In addition, individual water licensees will be notified of proposed development activities as developments are proposed if forest management activities may impact their water source. Points Of Diversions for water intakes (PODs) are shown on the FSP map. Prior to primary forest activities in a stream side management zone and in proximity to a POD, field verification and specific measures will be established by a qualified registered professional to safeguard water licensed for human consumption as described in section 3.2.4. c) Water quality point samples will be taken prior to harvest on streams that may be impacted by KDCFS operations. d) The procedures are further explained in the support document.

3.1.7 Enhanced Resource Development Zones

Legal Reference: KBHLPO – Objective 7

FDU	Strategy for KDCFS
All	The KDCFS FDU area is fully outside of Enhanced Resource Development Zones – Timber, and therefore objectives 7 of the KBHLPO is not applicable.

3.1.8 Fire Maintained Ecosystems

Legal Reference: KBHLPO – Objective 8

FDU	Strategy for KDCFS
All	An exemption under FPPR sec. 12(7) to prepare a result or strategy for this objective has been approved by the DDM on July 8 th 2008 given that a map showing Fire maintained Ecosystems is not yet completed and it is not generally applicable within the Kootenay Lake Forest District.

3.1.9 Visuals

Legal Reference: KBHLPO – Objective 9

FDU	Strategy for KDCFS
All (only within the VQOs linework)	The licensee will follow Objective 9 of the KBHLPO by completing visual impact assessments when undertaking timber harvesting or road construction within Scenic Areas. Where timber within a Scenic Area has been damaged by fire, insect, or blowdown it may be salvaged. Salvage operations will be designed to mitigate visual impact wherever possible and will be implemented as described in section 3.2.9.

3.1.10 Social and Economic Stability

Legal Reference: KBHLPO – Objective 10

Objective 10 does not require action by tenure holders and therefore does not apply to this FSP.

3.2 Objectives Set by Government under FRPA section 149(1)

3.2.1 Soils

Legal Reference: FPPR section 5 and 12.1 (1)

FDU	Result for KDCFS
All	The licensee will undertake to comply with the requirement of the FPPR section 35 – 36 when undertaking primary forest activities.

3.2.2 Timber

Legal Reference: FPPR section 6 and 12(8)

Results and strategies are not required for the objectives set by government for timber.

3.2.3 Wildlife

Legal Reference: FPPR Section 7

FDU	Section 7 Strategy for KDCFS
All	The licensee is exempt from the preparation of strategies or results in relation to an objective if a GAR order is addressing the requirements of the objective. Objectives enacted under the GAR will be followed as described in section 3.3.1 and 3.3.2 when proposing primary forest activities within the UWR linework and within areas containing species at risk.
All	If the Licensee identifies an occurrence of species at risk outside its normal range within an FDU, the findings will be forwarded to the Ministry of Environment, the Conservation Data Center and plans will be developed in consultation with a wildlife technician, biologist or qualified registered professional to protect the specie(s). The support document describes the procedure that will be followed

3.2.4 Water, Fish, Wildlife and Biodiversity within Riparian Areas

Legal Reference: FPPR section 8, 12.1(2), 52(1) and 12(3)

FDU	Strategy with embedded Results for KDCFS
All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) When planning and designing primary forest activities in or adjacent to a Riparian Management Zone of a classifiable stream, the Licensee will complete a Riparian Assessment report by a qualified registered professional to support the Site Plan and, b) the licensee will undertake to comply with the requirement of the FPPR section 47-51, 52(2), 53 and schedule 1. A Riparian Assessment report will be prepared to incorporate the legislated requirements when proposing primary forest activities in accordance with table 2 below:

Table 2 Riparian Management Zone Strategy

Stream, Wetland and Lake classification	Target Retention within the Riparian Management Zone (RMZ)
S1-A,S1-B, S2,	20-100% of the basal area (>12.5 cm DBH)
S3, S4, S5, W1, W3, W5, L1-A, L1-B, L3	10-100% of the basal area (>12.5 cm DBH)
S6	0-100% of the basal area (>12.5 cm DBH)
<p>The location and tree selection for the retention within an RMZ as listed above will be determined on a site specific basis considering local conditions including (target may be reduced by a qualified registered professional if the QRP believes the indicated levels would not be sustainable in the long run and may pose environmental hazards):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • windfirmness • insect infestations • wildlife habitat • large wood debris contribution to the stream • stream bank stability of trees • erosion potential • soil stability • landscape level requirements for wildlife tree retention • visual quality • operational constraint • other Licensee requirements 	

3.2.5 Fish Habitat in Fisheries Sensitive Watersheds

Legal Reference: FPPR section 8.1

There are no Fisheries sensitive watersheds currently designated within the Kootenay Lake Forest District.

3.2.6 Water in Community Watersheds

Legal Reference: FPPR section 8.2

The strategy and results related to community watersheds applies only to the portion of the FDU that falls within the boundaries of the community watersheds when the Licensee is proposing primary forest activities within Community Watersheds.

FDU	Strategy with embedded results for KDCFS
<p>All within the Community Watershed linework</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Individual water license holders were provided with direct referrals during the public advertising of this FSP. In addition, individual water licensees will be notified of proposed development activities as developments are proposed if forest management activities may impact their water source. Points Of Diversions for water intakes (PODs) are shown on the FSP map. Prior to primary forest activities in a stream side management zone and in proximity to a POD, field verification and specific measures will be established by a qualified registered professional to safeguard water licensed for human consumption as described in section 3.2.4. b) Water quality point samples will be taken prior to harvest within watersheds that may be impacted by KDCFS operations. c) The licensee will undertake to comply with the requirement of the FPPR section 59-61. d) Prior to carrying out or authorizing primary forest activities within an established community watershed, the Licensee will meet with any existing watershed committees pertaining to the proposed area of operations. e) Prior to carrying out or authorizing primary forest activities within an established community watershed, a hydrological assessment including cumulative effects, will be prepared by a qualified registered professional. f) A qualified registered professional will ensure that all primary forest activities are consistent with the recommendations of the hydrological assessment and meet the requirements of sections 3.1.6 and 3.2.4.

3.2.7 Wildlife and Biodiversity – Landscape Level

Legal Reference: FPPR section 9

FDU	Strategy with embedded Results for KDCFS
All	The licensee will undertake to comply with the requirement of the FPPR section 64 and 65 except that the 3 m minimum height requirement will be changed to 2.5 m in section 65 (3) (a) and section 65 (3) (b) (ii). This reduction of minimum height will be applied when proposing primary forest activities for areas outside community watersheds and in areas which are not visually sensitive. This commitment will follow the requirement of section 3.1.4.

3.2.8 Wildlife and Biodiversity – Stand Level

Legal Reference: FPPR section 9.1, 12.5 (1)

FDU	Results for KDCFS
All	<p>In relation to the objective set by government for wildlife and biodiversity at the stand level set out in section 9.1 of the FPPR, the intended results for the licensee are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) At the completion of harvesting the total area covered by wildlife tree retention areas calculated at the block level is a minimum of the percentage of the total area of the cutblock as per the table 3 below. b) Where there is more than one BEC subzone and variant located within a given cutblock or timber sale license, the predominant BEC variant is to be used when determining the wildlife tree retention requirements c) The biogeoclimatic ecosystem classification (BEC) subzone and variant will be assessed per block within each Landscape Unit (LU). d) The minimum wildlife tree retention percentage is established for the entire term of this FSP. e) Where the site plan prescribes dispersed retention, it is to be included along with the aggregate patches in the total amount of wildlife tree retention to achieve the site plan objectives (stand level biodiversity). Areas of individual trees, clumps or patches which are less than 0.25 hectares in size are to contribute on the basis of the total basal area of the trees divided by the average basal area/ha of the stand.

Table 3 Stand Level Wildlife Tree Retention

Landscape Unit	Biodiversity Emphasis	Natural Disturbance Type	BEC Variant (cutblock level)	Minimum Wildlife Tree %
K12 – Kaslo	Intermediate	1	ESSFwc4	1
K12 – Kaslo	Intermediate	2	ICHmw2	5
K12 – Kaslo	Intermediate	3	ICHdw	7
K12 – Kaslo	Intermediate	5	Atp	0
K26-Cooper-McKian	Intermediate	1	ESSFwc4	0
K26-Cooper-McKian	Intermediate	2	ICHmw2	1
K26-Cooper-McKian	Intermediate	3	ICHdw	0
K26-Cooper-McKian	Intermediate	5	Atp	0

3.2.9 Visual Quality

Legal Reference: FPPR section 9.2

FDU	Strategy for KDCFS
All within the VQO linework	<p>Within designated Scenic Areas (grand parented objectives identified in FRPA sec. 180-181 for scenic areas designated by the DM letter of July 12 1999 establishing the VQOs for DKL), the licensee will complete a visual impact assessment of the potential effects of planned harvesting with respect to achievement of the established VQOs for the area. KDCFS will be following the District Manager Instruction letters on good design techniques (September 2005) prior to harvesting or road construction. This visual impact assessment will be made from a significant public viewpoint (QRP will choose the best viewpoints in accordance with the FPPR). The assessment will evaluate both the extent of visual impact and propose designs in order to mitigate visual impact (principles of landscape design will be utilized). This strategy will meet the VQO objective of the area but may exceed the short term requirements for the purpose of addressing Forest Health factors such as fire, insects, disease and blowdown. When this occurs, harvesting will, to the extent practicable, conform to good visual design techniques and achieve the required VQO in the shortest time frame unless not practicable. This strategy is consistent with the requirements of section 3.1.9.</p>

3.2.10 Cultural Heritage Resources

Legal Reference: FPPR section 10.

FDU	Strategy for KDCFS
All	<p>First Nations affected by forest activities in a FDU will be provided with a map showing the location of the planned forest activities and they will be provided with an opportunity to communicate their traditional use interest. This will be completed prior to cutting permit submission. Efforts will then be made to conserve or protect those interests when conducting primary forest activities. If the KDCFS becomes aware of a cultural heritage resource that may be impacted by KDCFS' proposed development, the KDCFS will follow the procedure outlined in FPPR Schedule 1 (4) and will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. carry out an evaluation of the planned development's direct impact on the cultural heritage resource 2. if recommended in the evaluation, alter the planned development to conserve, protect, or mitigate its effect on the cultural heritage resource 3. share the above results with the First Nation whose cultural heritage resource may be affected. <p>If the KDCFS becomes aware of a cultural heritage resource in the location of an approved road permit or cutting permit, the KDCFS will modify or cease operations to the extent necessary to protect the resource, until the above measures are carried out. All correspondence with First nations will be kept confidential. A summary of the correspondence with First Nations and activities taken to protect the culturage heritage resource will be produced prior to the expiry of the PCFA.</p>

3.3 Objectives Prescribed under the Government Actions Regulation (GAR)

3.3.1 Ungulate Winter Range

Legal Reference: GAR section 9 (2) and 12 (1)

FDU	Strategy with embedded Results for KDCFS
All within the UWR linework	The licensee will follow the requirement of order – <i>Ungulate Winter Range #U-4-001</i> when proposing primary forest activities within the UWR linework.

3.3.2 Wildlife Habitat Area

Legal Reference: GAR section 9 (2) and 10 (1)

FDU	Strategy for KDCFS
All	The PCFA area is fully outside of areas identified as having a wildlife habitat area. As a result, no strategies and/or results are specified for KDCFS licence area.

3.4 Other Objectives under the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA)

3.4.1 Interpretive Forest Sites, Recreation Sites or Recreation Trails

Legal Reference: FRPA section 180 and 181

FDU	Strategy for KDCFS
All	The licensee will follow the established objectives grandfathered from FRPA sections 180-181. Prior to proposing primary forest activities in an area, a discussion with a representative of the Ministry of Tourism, sports and Art will take place to discuss the potential impact of the primary forest activities on Forest Sites, Recreation Sites or Recreation Trails. A list of Interpretive Forest Sites, Recreation Sites or Recreation Trails with objectives is provided in Appendix I.

3.4.2 Measures for Preventing the Introduction or Spread of Invasive Plants

Legal Reference: FRPA section 47 and Invasive Plant Regulation

FDU	Strategy for KDCFS
All	Where the introduction or spread of invasive plants is expected, the licensee will follow measures to prevent the introduction or spread of invasive plants when proposing primary forest activities. These measures are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Minimize soil disturbance b) Seed cut slopes of new roads and designated skid trails to reduce the available seedbed for invasive plants within 90 days of completion of harvest or road construction (or after snow free) c) Monitor roadsides and cutblocks for invasive species, and where seeding is undertaken, obtain seed from reputable suppliers (Canada #1) to ensure that introduction of invasive plant seed is minimized.

3.4.3 Natural Range Barrier

Legal Reference: FPPR section 18

FDU	Strategy for KDCFS
All	Currently, no range tenures overlap the PCFA area boundaries. As a result, no range objectives, strategies and/or results are specified for this licence area.

4.0 Additional FSP Information

4.1 Areas under CP/RP

Areas under existing road permit (in effects) are shown on the Forest Development Unit map and are listed in appendix III (Table 5). These existing road permits will not be rolled into FRPA thus they will continue to be administered under the statutes in place at the time of their approval.

4.2 Stocking Standards

Legal Reference: FPPR section 44

FDU	Results for KDCFS
All	The licensee will follow the requirements of section 44 of the FPPR and use the established Stocking Standards for Kootenay Lake District when proposing primary forest activities. Stocking Standards are provided in Appendix II

4.3 Cumulative Effect of Multiple FSP

Legal reference: FPPR section 19

FDU	Strategy for KDCFS
All	The licensee makes the commitment to cooperate with other Primary Licensees in their respective FDUs in order to achieve the objectives for shared Landscape Units.

4.4 Map

A map showing KDCFS FDU is provided in appendix IV.

APPENDIX I
Interpretive Forest Sites, Recreation Sites or Recreation Trails

Table 4 Trails in the PCFA Area with Legally Established Objectives

Name	Project Number	Legal Objective
Buchanan Lookout	2105	98/03/31. The objective is to manage Buchanan Lookout recreation site for a subalpine, roaded resource recreation experience. The Lookout and trails will be maintained; the subalpine vegetation will be conserved. Opportunities for viewing, hiking, picnicking, interpretation and hang gliding will be available at the site.
Kaslo River Trailway	6115	98/03/31. The objective is to manage the Kaslo River Trailway recreation trail for a forested, semi-primitive recreation experience. The trail will be maintained and adjacent vegetation conserved. Opportunities for historic interpretation, cross-country skiing, mountain biking, hiking and equestrian use. Sections for motorized use are available.
Milford Lake	2111	98/03/31. The objective is to manage the Milford Lake recreation site for a lakeside, roaded recreation experience. The campsite will be maintained; the lake shoreline and natural vegetation will be conserved. Opportunities for camping, picnicking, and car top boat launching will be available at the site.
Davis Creek trail	2194	
Fletcher lake trail	2109	
Montezuma Basin	6500	
Kaslo Horse trail	5034	
Buchanan trail	6786	

APPENDIX II
Stocking Standards

APPENDIX III
Declared Road Permits in effect

Table 5 Existing Road Permits for KDCFS

Road Permit	Location
R04871	Keen creek
R09864	Kaslo river junction
R11153	Agreement land
R11400	Buchanan face
R11512	Branch 3
R11834	Kemp creek
R12150	Fletcher creek
R12159	Branch 7 & 11
R12400	Branch 8
R12830	Bjerkness creek
R16083	Cooper face

APPENDIX IV

Map