2022 – 2027 Operating Plan Tolko Area Based Term Supply Licence

December 15th, 2021

Prepared for:

Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment PO Box 607 Unit 1, 101 Railway Place Meadow Lake, SK S9X 1Y5

By:

Tolko Industries Ltd., Meadow Lake OSB Division 460 South Industrial Drive Prince Albert, SK S6V 7L8



This plan was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Code, the Forest Operating Plan Standard (Nov 2012), the Forest Operations Standard (July 2020), the Tolko Industries LTD. Area Term Supply Licence (TSL), TSL No. A-TOLKO-03, the approved Forest Management Plan for the Tolko TSL including the Harvest Volume Schedule and associated utilization standards.

Michelle Young, R.P.F.

Woodlands Manager, Forestry, Tolko Industries Ltd.

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1 Introduction

This Operating Plan has been prepared in accordance with the Forest Operating Plan Chapter and Standard of the Saskatchewan Environmental Code, and the Tolko Industries Ltd Area Based Term Supply Licence (TSL) for the area. It is also aligned with a strategic 20-Year Forest Management Plan (FMP) for the TSL area, which was prepared in accordance with the Forest Management Planning Chapter and Standard of the Environmental Code and came into effect on April 1, 2018.

The plan is being submitted by Tolko, as the Licensee, to gain approval for consumptive and non-consumptive activities on the TSL area. These activities include, but are not limited to, harvesting, road construction, road maintenance / reclamation, tree planting, scarification, and surveying. The operating plan covers the period April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2027. Approval is being sought for year 1 activities. Future years are shown to illustrate intent and inform stakeholder engagement.

The Tolko Term Supply Licence was recently amended with an effective date of April 01, 2021. Tolko is in discussion with the Ministry of Environment (MoE) regarding transitioning the licence from a Term Supply Licence to a Forest Management Agreement (FMA) prior to the expiration of the current licence on March 31st, 2026.

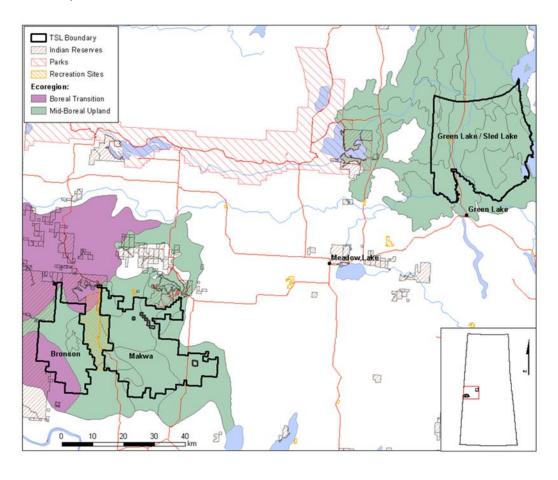


Figure 1 Tolko Term Supply Licence Area – the Bronson Green Timber Supply Area (TSA)

2 Variances from the FMP, Operating Plan Standard, Licence, HVS

2.1 Variances from FMP

This operating plan is aligned with the 2018 Forest Management Plan (FMP) for the Tolko TSL area which came into effect on April 1, 2018. Operating plan variances from approved FMP strategies and commitments are monitored, reported on, and reviewed annually by an FMP Management Implementation Team (MIT).

A list of FMP variances to report on in this operating plan under section 1-3(1)(b) of the Forest Operating Plan Standard was also developed by the Forest Service, and that report follows.

1. Proposed blocks occurring outside of tactical plan (TP) areas (FMP Indicator 13)

There are 238.9 ha in 13 operating plan blocks that fall outside of the FMP tactical plan area boundaries with 2 times the expected harvest volume included in the plan. Of the 13, 2 blocks account for 75% of the area outside the TP. The FMP allows for up to 15% of the actual harvest area to fall outside of tactical plan areas. This area represents 3.9% of the total planned hectares of 6,185.6. The FMP Annual Report will continue to track progress towards this target.

The blocks and areas in hectares are listed in Appendix A. The reasons for the variances include but are not limited to:

- Onsite conditions have resulted in operational adjustments. For example, significant rainfall in past years in the TSL area has resulted in alterations to planned harvest areas.
- Most of the area planned outside the tactical plan area is due to inventory errors (example shown in Appendix A). As per the Tolko FMP, "The target can be exceeded only where approved salvage harvesting is required, or where the inventory data used to create the tactical plan blocks was incorrect and harvesting is following the intent of the plan (these instances do not count toward the target)." The hectares harvested and not included in the FMP tactical plan because of inventory error will be excluded in the FMP Annual Report.
- The Forest Management Plan allows for blocks to be planned from either decade 1 (D1) or decade 2 (D2) of the tactical plan. There is approximately 2,810 ha included in this operating plan from D2. Block level details, including a rationale are provided in tables referred to in Appendix C. This would not be considered a variance but provided as notification and information.

2. Proposed blocks with old seral deferral areas (OSD) (FMP Indicator 2) located within.

There are 253.3 ha of old seral deferral areas that are located, to some degree, within 26 proposed operating plan blocks. Those blocks are listed in Appendix A. The OSD areas within harvest blocks will be excluded from logging and be incorporated into retention patches or replacement areas will be found and reported in the FMP Annual Report.

Modifications to the deferral areas can be made under the circumstances described in Indicator

2 and will be managed and tracked during the operating year. The FMP Annual Report will summarize any areas impacted by harvesting or road building, and any impacts from natural disturbances. It will also summarize any offsetting additional reserves put in place.

3. Deviations from the FMP approved utilization standard being requested in operating plan.

No deviations are being requested in the operating plan.

4. Planning units with potential to exceed the 5-year maximum harvest area targets by planning unit and species grouping. (Indicator 21)

Planned areas summarized by the 8 stratums (4 species groups in each of 2 management units), are shown in Appendix A.

It is difficult to assess this indicator at the Operating Plan level as the planned areas will likely always exceed FMP annual harvest targets. Reasons for this include:

- The indicator is reported on actual harvest area, not on planned area.
- The planned blocks are maximized in the high value areas (most desirable wood sources) to their sustainable limit.
- The planned blocks are weighted towards summer ground to provide options for summer harvesting. These tend to be the hardwood dominant types (H/HS).
- The planned blocks do not remove targets for retention or other non-timber values (e.g., stakeholder commitments, old seral deferrals, riparian buffers...).
- The targets may be exceeded some years in order to accomplish the goal of event design, size, and duration.

The harvest distribution targets will be managed for throughout the operating year. A post-harvest evaluation of performance against them will show the actual variances and be included in the FMP Annual Report.

5. Blocks occurring in the Green / Sled Caribou Habitat Management Area (Indicator 7c).

None

6. Blocks occurring in an event that will cause event to go beyond 10 years (Indicator 3).

There are none to report currently. Harvest events duration will be reported in the FMP Annual Report.

7. Blocks with forest health concerns preventing insular retention (Indicator 4).

There are no blocks with salvage mistletoe (SM) identified in the plan. When mistletoe is identified a request for an amendment will be submitted to declare the block as a salvage mistletoe block.

8. Identify if operating plan is expected to result in variance greater than 20% of the annual limit

(20 ha) of Managed Forest Land Base (MFLB) converted to other land uses (Indicator 10).

The roads identified in this Operating plan do not exceed the annual limit of conversion of MFLB to other land uses (i.e., roads, gravel pits...). The annual limit is <20 ha, with a 20% variance (< 24 ha).

There is 8.5 km (8.5 ha) planned construction in 2022-2023. Hectares are calculated using the distance of the road multiplied by the running and ditch surface distance of 10 m (as detailed in the FMP).

9. Identify blocks within a natural disturbance event >100 ha that is salvage harvested (Indicator 12).

No salvage harvest blocks are planned in this operating plan.

10. Identify blocks within the traditional territory of an Aboriginal community where an opportunity to review operating plan has not occurred (Indicator 23).

None. Advertising and letters about the opportunity to review draft forestry plans reached all areas within and adjacent to the Tolko TSL area.

11. Identify blocks where a known culturally significant aboriginal site exists but was not given consideration under the operating plan (Indicator 24)

None. Any known site was given consideration.

2.2 Variances from Forest Operating Plan Standard

Alternative solutions to requirements in the Forest Operating Plan Standard (FOPS), used in preparing this operating plan, are listed below. These alternatives were requested in a letter to the Forest Service on December 3, 2021. The Forest Operating Plan Standard (FOPS) is currently under review and many of the requested variances align with expected amendments to the current standard.

Alternative solutions:

Plan Submission FOPS 1-1 (3)

The operating plan will be submitted to the Minister in a digital format including text, tables, georeferenced portable document format maps, and ESRI-compatible Geographic Information System (GIS) vector files with explicit attributes and definitions.

Planned Volumes FOPS 1-3 (1) (i)

The plan submitted will show proposed harvest blocks for the first year of the operating plan, to a maximum of 2.0 times the allowable harvest volume specified in the licence. The FOPS allows for 2 times the approved harvest volume schedule (HVS) although does not specifically identify whether this

is total or by species. During the 2021-2022 operating plan round table review, Tolko and MoE agreed to total volume for the current year and address at the FOPS review currently underway.

The plan will not include blocks anticipated to be harvested in the current (2021-2022) operating year as in previous years. Should any of those blocks end up not being harvested in the current operating year, an amendment to the 2022-2023 operating plan may be required.

Map Production FOPS 1-6

- The License Area map is not submitted as per the scale required in the standard (1:250,000 or 1:300,000). It is submitted at 1:200,000 which better illustrates the timber supply area.
- Visual Sensitive Areas are identified on the 1:200:000 map but not shown on the 1:15,000 map as required in FOPS 1-6(c)(ix).
- Maps showing existing and proposed harvest areas at the licence area scale will not include the regeneration status of the existing blocks, which is reported separately, and will show class 1 and 2 roads only.
- Maps showing existing and proposed harvest areas at an intermediate scale will not include existing or proposed class 4 roads (as they are all to be reclaimed), or the operating year of harvest for existing blocks.
- Maps showing existing and proposed harvest areas at the large (operating area) scale will not display planned reclamation of class 4 roads, as the strategy to reclaim class 4 roads within 2 years is described in this operating plan document. Approval will be requested to leave Class 4 roads open beyond the 2 years if required.
- Reclaimed roads and reclaimed surface water crossings are not shown on operating plan maps (FOPS 1-6 (c) (viii))). This information will be submitted in accordance with the Data Submission standard.
- Large scale maps showing locations of renewal activities and renewal retreatments proposed in year one will include:
 - existing class 1 and 2 roads;
 - existing harvest blocks;
 - harvest year;
 - existing surface water crossings; and
 - planned renewal treatment areas and appropriate treatment symbology for:
 - site preparation
 - planting
 - tending

Volume Tables

A summary of proposed harvesting activities for the first year of the operating plan in the form of a table or tables that identify the following information for all blocks for the first year of the operating plan, including proposed fire/blowdown and insect and disease salvage activities, summarized by planning unit:

- the harvest block identification number;
- the gross and net volumes in cubic metres to be harvested from each harvest block, including the source of data used to determine the volume estimate, with volumes summarized by hardwood vs. softwood;
- the total volume of hardwood and softwood combined for the licence, and where proposed, a rationale for the for harvest block volume estimates;
- the total licence area volume expressed in cubic metres to be harvested, with volumes summarized by hardwood vs. softwood and total volume of hardwood and softwood combined.;
- Volumes in tables will be reduced by 9% to reflect retention being left. They will be submitted in excel format to facilitate analysis by the Ministry; and
- the harvest distribution by species group and planning unit (VOIT Indicator) for proposed harvest in year one.

Renumbering Blocks FOPS 1-3 (2)

For harvest blocks that have not been completely harvested within three years of harvest commencement, a new block number will be assigned to any unharvested portion of a block that is planned for future harvest.

Renewal Summary

A summary of proposed renewal activities in tabular format that identifies the following information for all blocks, portions of blocks, and roads, where renewal treatments are proposed, summarized as follows:

- the harvest block identification number;
- year of harvest;
- blocks and roads planned for initial treatment, including the types of renewal treatments proposed;
- areas planned for retreatment, including the types of renewal treatments proposed
- renewal treatments and retreatments to include planting by species and site preparation by type;
- areas in which renewal treatments are proposed to be conducted beyond the normal three-year timeline from the date of harvest commencement; and
- area, expressed in hectares, of proposed renewal treatment;

Stakeholder Engagement

The Operating Plan will include an overview of the communications held between stakeholders about forest management activities proposed for the term of the operating plan. Overviews shall be supported by a searchable record of communications that:

- is to be included as a confidential appendix to the operating plan, and
- contains the following information associated with concerns raised:
- the date when the communications took place
- the type of communications
- the names and contact information of the people involved in the communications and
- the commitments made to address the concerns, together with
- the actions taken to realize the commitments, and
- a reference to the physical locations associated with the concerns, such as
 - the operating area
 - the event
 - the harvest block, and
 - the segment of road

2.3 Variances from TSL and HVS

This operating plan is aligned with provisions of the Tolko TSL and the approved HVS (Table 4). Specifically, planned area at 2 times volume is consistent with the HVS in the approved FMP and the Tolko TSL Licence.

3 Engagement and Information Sharing

Resources on the TSL support the various activities of other forest users. The forest plays an active role in people's lives including trapping, outfitting, grazing, sawmilling, tourism, fishing, hunting, farming and outdoor recreation. In preparation for the submission of the 2022-2027 Operating Plan, Tolko has met on a regular basis and documented feedback received from rural and urban municipalities, First Nations and Métis communities, trappers, outfitters, and other stakeholders, including third-parties. Stakeholder input was received through one on one meetings, phone calls, email communication, mail outs and field tours. In addition, internet-based communications such as the Tolko webpage and the Tolko Facebook page are utilized by stakeholders.

Section 1-3 (1) e) of the Forest Operating Plan Standard requires a schedule of public and First Nation and Métis community information sessions to be conducted during the period of the operating plan development (see section 3.2). To continue to receive input and address concerns, Tolko had to adapt to Covid-19 precautions and adapt public engagement efforts. This was building on the success of increased media outreach and website development completed for the 2021-2026 Operating Plan. Rather than offer community open houses / information sessions, a "Virtual Open House" was offered. Stakeholder letters and emails were sent on November 8th directing individuals to a www.tolko.com where simplified stakeholder maps were uploaded. A sample letter is provided in Appendix B. As well, newspaper (online and paper) and radio ads in Meadow Lake, Lloydminster and Green Lake provided information regarding the Virtual Open House.

Stakeholder engagement mechanisms are continually being modified and adjusted to meet people's needs and expectations, and legal requirements. The goal is to reach interested people and communities in whatever manner is most effective.

Tolko documents engagement in the form of a Stakeholder Database which summarizes the engagement with stakeholders. With this submission, the most up to date Commitment and Communications Report, has been provided to the Ministry in digital format. In preparing this plan, Tolko has accommodated other forest users where possible. Commitments and changes made to the plan, if spatial, are identified on the 1:15,000 and 1:50,000 scale maps as a Stakeholder Commitment. The stakeholder commitment is identified spatially as either "special harvest" or "no harvest." In addition to the Stakeholder Commitment layer on the operating maps, Tolko also created an additional GIS layer to further inform the planning and engagement process. This is the Active Stakeholder Trail layer which identifies known active trails to ensure that this or similar access is retained upon completion of harvest. Many of these trails were identified through field tours and communication with local stakeholders.

3.1.1 Trapping and Outfitting Maps

Custom made maps are being mailed to the chairs of trapping fur blocks and outfitters, for their applicable areas, in mid-January 2022.

Only trapping or outfitting boundaries, proposed blocks, and landmarks like lakes and roads will be shown on the maps to make it very clear to outfitters and trappers if there are any plans in their areas.

3.1.2 Advertising

In addition to ongoing communication and notification letters, Tolko endeavored to reach the public through various advertising methods. Information about the opportunity to review draft forestry plans was spread through radio ads, newspapers, online news sites, community bulletin boards, and the Tolko website. All advertisements directed individuals to Tolko's website for information and instructions for viewing and providing input on the draft operating plan maps. Details of the 2021 advertising include;

- Northern Pride Meadow Lake newspaper, November 11th and November 18th
- 102.3 CJNS Meadow Lake radio ads between November 8th and November 21st
- Missinipi Broadcasting Corporation (MBC Radio) radio ads between November 8th and November 21st
- Lloydminster Meridian Source, November 11th and November 18th
- Lloydminister Meridian Source Online, November 8th to November 19th
- Splash Fluid Billboard on Meadow Lake NOW, November 13th and November 15th

An example of the Northern Pride newspaper advertising is shown below.



3.1.3 Virtual Open House

The Virtual Open House went live November 8, 2021. The website link is https://tolko.com/responsibility/managing-our-forest/prairies/meadow-lake-woodlands. The Meadow Lake Woodlands site is a page within Tolko's overall corporate website. This also provides interested stakeholders with the opportunity to explore other Tolko sites such as products, divisions and indigenous partners. As well, there is a link to the current 20-Year Forest Management Plan. A poster is displayed which details the process and includes an email (sk.tolkowoodlands@tolko.com) for comments.

View of the Website poster and Maps:

VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

2022-2027 Forest Operating Plan MEADOW LAKE, SK

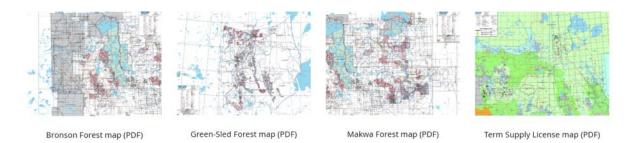
Click on image to open PDF:



The maps on the Tolko website (shown below) were tailored to be more readable and more easily downloaded. All information other than landmark features such as roads and lakes, recent harvest blocks, and proposed harvest blocks was removed.

MAPS

Click on the maps below to view their PDF.



3.2 First Nation and Métis Communities

It is the duty of the Government of Saskatchewan to consult, and if appropriate accommodate, First Nation or Métis if the actions contemplated by the Government could adversely affect Treaty or Aboriginal rights and carry out traditional uses. Tolko also has an obligation to engage with First Nations and Métis communities where proposed operations could adversely affect Treaty or Aboriginal rights and carry out traditional uses. Tolko attends Duty to Consult meetings when invited.

Tolko engages with First Nations on a regular basis through letters, emails, phone calls, field tours, and meetings.

Examples of engagement with First Nations and Métis Communities in the development of this plan include;

- Makwa Sahgaiehcan First Nation In April of 2021 Tolko organized a field meeting / tour with Chief and some members of Council to map gravesites that were mentioned at past meetings. In addition, a representative for the First Nation has been in contact with Tolko and meeting dates for January 2022 are being discussed.
- Green Lake Co-Management Board although no meetings have been held, Tolko remains in contact with the Board Chairperson Dale Hounsel.
- Flying Dust First Nation The First Nation has been in contact with Tolko and a field tour is planned with Chief and Council during the third week of January 2022.
- Makwa / Loon Lake Métis Members attended a PAG field tour in the fall of 2021. As well, a
 meeting was held on December 1st in Meadow Lake with a representative for Makwa/Loon Lake
 Métis. At this meeting maps were distributed and a plan for a meeting with membership was
 scheduled for mid- January.
- Northern Village of Green Lake a meeting with Mayor and Council is planned for December 16th, 2021 at 1:30.

In addition to communication throughout the year, Tolko sent registered letters communicating the opportunity to view draft maps on the Tolko website to each of the First Nation communities and Métis locals listed below.

First Nation Communities

Onion Lake First Nations Makwa Sahgaiehcan First Nation Canoe Lake Cree First Nation Thunder Child First Nations
Flying Dust First Nation
Buffalo River Dene Nation

Ministikwan Lake Cree Nation English River First Nation Red Pheasant Cree Nation

Métis Locals

Beauval Sipishik (#37) Dore/Sled Lake (#67) Green Lake (#5) Makwa / Loon Lake (#32) Brightsand (#118) Pierceland (#71)

Tribal Councils

Meadow Lake Tribal Council

4 Proposed Forest Operations

The operational activities that will be carried out under this operating plan involve:

- > Forest harvesting (including felling, skidding, processing, log hauling, stock piling and staging of wood)
- Road construction, maintenance, and reclamation
- Forest renewal

4.1 General

4.1.1 Harvesting and Hauling

The primary method proposed for harvesting blocks within the Tolko TSA follows an even- aged silviculture system using a modified clear-cut with variable retention harvesting technique. Snag recruitment (dead standing and/or low utilization trees), diversity and stand structure features (clumps, islands, patches) will be provided by retention of coniferous understory, immature commercial deciduous species and representative trees.

Harvesting will be mechanical using feller bunchers, grapple skidders and processor. Trees are processed mainly at roadside. Once processed and piled roadside, the trees are loaded onto primarily B Train 8 axle trucks and brought to the destination mill.

4.1.2 Bush Staging and Stockpile Sites

Tolko is proposing to stage wood roadside in harvest blocks within the TSA and to stage wood in two stockpile sites. Staging roadside in harvest blocks and in stockpile sites is a critical strategy to manage moisture content within the Meadow Lake OSB mill.

Focusing on managing dry and green wood in the mill has proven to substantially improve production. The strand dryers are the bottle neck in the mill and feeding the right mix (50/50 green and dry wood) is essential. The most critical time for the mill to have the proper mix of green and dry is October through to April, when aspen is at its highest moisture content. The mill requires an adequate supply of dry wood during the winter period to keep up with the dryers. Without the supply of dry wood (roadside staged from the previous year) the mill production drops substantially.

Tolko requests approval for the 2022-2023 operating year to:

- exceed the 90-day time frame and allow for all forest products to be removed from harvest areas anytime throughout the operating year until March 31, 2023, as per Section 39(1) of the Forest Resources Management Regulations, and
- leave wood in staging and stockpile areas listed in Table 1 beyond March 31, 2023. The list presented in Table 1 will be amended by March 15th, 2023 as locations required for staging and stockpiling of timber in the forest beyond the end of the operating year are more certain.

Within the TSL approximately 46,000 m³ of hardwood and 3,000 m³ of softwood harvested in the 2022-2023 operating year is to be left roadside in harvest blocks or in stockpile sites and hauled by March 31st, 2024. Tolko is requesting permission to leave harvested volume in the areas identified in the Table 1. This represents Tolko's current proposed plan for in bush staging and stockpiling.

Table 1 Proposed Bush Staging and Stockpile Locations

Area Name	Description	Estimated Volume	Estimated Volume
		Swd (m3)	Hwd (m3)
G5 – Hillyer North	In bush stage	500	5,000
G1 – Stewart Lake	In bush stage	500	10,000
M4 - North Tower	In bush stage	500	2,500
M3 – Shack Lake	In bush stage	250	2,500
M16 – Exner Lake	In bush stage	250	1,000
B21 – Bronson Lake N	In bush stage	500	10,000
B18 – Bronson Lake S	In bush stage	500	15,000
	Total	3,000	46,000

4.1.3 Ribbon Colour Scheme

Tolko equips harvesting contractors with Global Positioning System (GPS) units for the feller bunchers to facilitate ribbonless boundary harvest. The maps used in the bunchers also highlight sensitive features such as water, stakeholder commitments, old seral targets, and known trails. The use of GPS equipped bunchers is a significant technological advancement in the forest industry and recently incorporated as a practice in the Forest Operations Standard (July 2020).

There may be times where boundaries and other features with flagging tape will be marked. In those cases, the following table lists the standardized flagging tape colors that will be used.

Table 2 Standard Flagging Tape Colours

Ribbon Colour	Use
Pink "Harvest Area Boundary"	Harvest area boundary locations and sensitive sites where
	harvesting will not occur
Orange "Road Line" or "Road Centerline"	Road location
Day-glo Green "Machine Free Zone"	Areas where equipment is not permitted to travel
Yellow "Special Management Zone"	Areas with special management conditions
	(i.e. no harvest zones in riparian management areas)
Yellow	Planting boundaries

4.1.4 Temporary Work Camps

As per section 1-1 (2) of the Temporary Camp Standard (October 2021), Tolko requests a blanket Temporary Work Camp Permit (TWCP) to cover all forestry activities carried out on the TSL area during the 2022-2023 operating year. Temporary work camp locations will be provided to the Forest Service 24 hours prior to installation and 10 days prior to decommissioning. In addition, all requirements identified within section 1-1 (2) (b) of the Temporary Work Camp Standard (October 2021) will be provided prior to camp establishment. Harvesting camp locations will be kept updated in the Weekly Operations Report made available to the Ministry of Environment Forester and Inspecting Officer on an ongoing basis.

4.1.5 Heritage Resource Surveys

Maps and operating information, including pre-harvest site prescriptions, will be provided to the Heritage Conservation Branch (HCB) of the Saskatchewan Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport, for all areas included in Year 1 of this operating plan. HCB screens all proposed harvest areas and roads for heritage resource potential based on location, topography, known heritage resource information and professional judgement. Each site is rated for heritage potential. A qualified professional archaeologist is contracted to carry out field surveys on sites where the heritage potential is moderate or high and the roads or renewal methods involved are expected to exceed specified minimums for ground disturbance. If heritage resources are found during the survey planned forestry activities are modified to avoid disturbing the sites.

In addition to the HCB annual review sites of archaeological or cultural significance may be identified during the operating plan consultation / engagement process or during forestry activities. They will be reported to the HCB in accordance with provincial requirements and appropriate management actions identified.

4.2 Harvesting

4.2.1 Utilization Standards

The utilization standards approved in the 2018 Forest Management Plan, shown in Table 3, will be followed in this plan.

Table 3 Utilization Standards in 2018 FMP

Product	Stump Height (cm)	Minimum Top Diameter inside Bark (cm)	Log Length (m)
SWD Sawlog	30	10	2.6
SWD Pulp (ws/other)	30	8	n/a
Swd Pulp (jp)	30	10	n/a
Hardwood	30	8	n/a

4.2.2 Proposed Year 1 Harvest Volumes and Attributes

The plan includes 522,258 m³ of softwood and hardwood combined. This represents just under 2.0 x the annual allowable harvest (softwood and hardwood combined) specified in the Tolko licence (280,124) and the 16,978 m³ allocated to the Northern Village of Green Lake. The volume of wood is to provide operational flexibility, allow for changes in markets, accounts for potential volume overestimates, and stakeholder concerns identified after plan submission. Table 4 details the approved harvest volume schedule (HVS) resulting from the 2018 Forest Management Plan and the allocations to Tolko and the Village of Green Lake.

Appendix C details the location of the complete list of proposed harvest areas and their volume summaries. Section 4.3.5 further describes how the Village of Green Lake allocation is represented in the plan.

Table 4 Forest Management Plan (2018) Harvest Volume Schedule

Description	Softwood Sawlog (m³/yr)	Hardwood Volume (m³)	Softwood Pulp (m³)	Total (m³)
2018 FMP HVS	91,000	197,000	12,000	300,000
Tolko Licence	74,500	195,800	9,824	280,124
Village of Green Lake Allocation	15,000		1,978	16,978
Grand Total Included in OP	89,500	195,800	11,802	297,102

4.2.3 Silviculture Systems and Stand Level Retention

The silviculture systems used will be modified harvest with retention.

Consistent with the currently approved Forest Management Plan, at least 9% (a range of 3-15% by block) of a harvested event area will be left as insular or proximal retention.

Silviculture prescriptions (forest renewal) are guided by the silviculture ground rules found in the 2018 Tolko FMP.

4.2.4 Riparian Area Harvesting

Harvesting and silviculture activities in riparian areas will comply with requirements in the recently updated Forest Operations Standards (July 2020) for riparian management areas.

4.2.5 Visually Sensitive Areas

Visually sensitive areas were identified during development of the 2018 Forest Management Plan. Currently these include Highway 26 and Highway 21 in the Makwa / Bronson area as well as the Beaver River in the Green / Sled area. New areas can be identified through the development of the operating plan.

There are no year 1 blocks in the Makwa / Bronson Management Unit which include these identified VSAs.

In the Green / Sled Management Unit there are blocks planned in Hillyer South and Forks South areas which are adjacent to the Beaver River. It should also be noted that there are blocks adjacent to Beatty Lake, but they are far enough away from the recreation site and lake that no additional measures are needed. There are no other VSA areas affected.

The plan for the visually sensitive areas is as follows.

Hillyer South - G6 and Forks South - G4

Hillyer South block T04-06-616 and Forks South blocks T04-04-001, T04-04-002 and T04-04-004 are adjacent to the Beaver River. Generally, VSA objectives will be achieved through the 90 m hard buffer required on the river. A buffer larger than 90 m is not expected to be required for visual quality reasons.

4.3 Roads and Crossings

4.3.1 Proposed Roads and Watercourse Crossings

Proposed year 1 road construction and watercourse crossings are summarized in the tables provided with submission (location of files detailed in Appendix D). In total, 265.4 km of road is planned for construction (Table 5). The roads and crossings have been planned for 2 times the harvest volume and exceed what is expected to be constructed.

Table 5 Summary of Proposed Year 1 Road Construction

Road class	Road Length (km)
Class 1 Major IBR	0.0
Class 2 Minor IBR	8.5
Class 3 Bush Road	130.6
Class 4 Bush Road	126.3
Grand Total	265.4

Class 2 Minor Improved Bush Road (IBR) Construction

There is 8.5 km of planned IBR construction with all occurring in the Makwa / Bronson Management Unit.

The Fowler IBR (4.2 km) connects a Rural Municipality road to an oil and gas road. Currently there is a private road located on the property of Dayna Harrison that was utilized by oil and gas to access their wellheads, but this road is near the Harrison's house. Tolko is proposing the Fowler Road to potentially avoid access across the Harrison's land and beside the residence. Tolko has spoken to Dayna Harrison about the option of a long-term agreement to use the existing infrastructure as an alternative to building the Fowler Road. If an agreement can be reached for this private access, then only a small portion of the proposed Fowler Road will be required to access the future blocks in the Round Lake/Central Makwa areas.

In the 2021-2022 Operating Plan, the 4.4 kilometer Class 2 Bronson South IBR (within 2 separate Operating Areas – Bronson Lake South and Pipestone Creek) was planned for construction. This planned IBR utilizes existing oil and gas infrastructure and is designed to connect the Canoxi Road with the Bronson Lake Road and will be a major artery for hauling timber out of the Bronson Forest. Construction of this road began in the fall of 2021 however there are portions of the road that remain unfinished. For this reason, the entire road is shown as proposed in the 2022-2023 Operating Plan.

Road Length (km)					
Road Class	Operating Area	Road Name	Total		
Class 1 Major IBR	n/a			0	
Class 1 Major IBR Total				0.0	
Class 2 Minor IBR	B18 - Pipestone Creek	Bronson South IBR		2.1	
	B19 - Bronson Lake South	Bronson South IBR		2.3	
	M14 - Fowler Lake	Fowler IBR		2.6	
	M11 - Central Makwa	Fowler IBR		1.6	
Class 2 Minor IBR Total				8.5	
Grand Total 8					

4.3.2 Road Closures

Temporary and permanent road closures align with provincial resource protection methods. They are used to restrict vehicle access to help prevent overfishing or overhunting of an area, protect road infrastructure, and reduce liability. Road closures proposed for installation in Year 1 are provided in the submission documents (see Appendix D for file location and name).

The ability to install some short-term, temporary closures that don't block access to a large area may also be requested, particularly in the fall during hunting season. The purpose of those closures would be to help secure camps and equipment from vandalism and theft and prevent damage to newly developed roads.

Tolko requests approval to access any closed roads within the FMA area to conduct approved forest management activities. Once those activities are completed the roads will be closed again.

4.3.3 Road Reclamation

Roads no longer needed for forest management purposes are generally reclaimed and returned to productive status. Road reclamation will be carried out in the manner specified in the Forest Operations Standards (July 2020). In-block roads (Class 4) are reclaimed within two years of harvest completion. Inter-block roads are reclaimed at the same time if no longer required.

There is no planned reclamation of any Class 1 or 2 roads in the Operating Year.

4.3.4 Area Specific Wildlife Concerns

North Tower and West Muckingham Lake

The area south of Muckingham Lake (M4-North Tower and the western portion of M7-Muckingham Lake) have been identified by stakeholders and in previous Operating Plan reviews as important elk areas. Tolko, in discussion with MoE and local stakeholders, has developed strategies to mitigate concerns with respect to the construction of the Makwa South IBR and forest harvest activities which include;

- Access Control. There are currently many access points into this area for primarily quad access but occasional truck access in dry years. The completed Makwa South IBR has 4 gates installed to control access into the area. There are 2 gates on both ends of the road. There are also 2 gates that are located on creeks to ensure access control from vehicle traffic (i.e. half tons). All gates will be closed during periods of inactivity.
- **Access Control**. In-block roads will be reclaimed in a timely fashion or blocked off to minimize public traffic in newly harvested blocks.
- **Log Hauling Restrictions**. Tolko has committed to not haul during elk calving period (April 15th to June 15th). This specifically relates to the Makwa South IBR in North Tower and West Muckingham Lake areas. If hauling is required due to unforeseen circumstances, MoE will be notified.
- Hunting Pressure. To minimize sight lines into blocks, a 90-meter buffer was established along the
 entirety of the Makwa South IBR. This buffer is temporary, and will eventually be harvested, once
 regrowth of the adjacent harvested blocks is sufficiently high enough to hide ungulates
- Block Design. In this area, blocks are designed to ensure retention of mature forest structure. This does result in a more traditional cut and leave pattern along the proposed Makwa IBR. Block T01_04_217 was redesigned to exclude the eastern portion of the block. This removal from the plan will be part of a larger wildlife travel corridor connecting the farmland in the south to the forested Muckingham area in the north. Tolko has agreed to not harvest in this corridor until the adjacent cuts have regenerated to a sufficient height (to be determined by a joint Forest Service / Tolko discussion). Another Elk travel corridor was identified at the 2020/2021 open house in St Walburg. This travel corridor contained 3, year 3-5 blocks, that have been removed from this Operating Plan. These blocks 01_07_006, 007, and 008 will be added back into the Operating Plan at a future date once regeneration in the Berry Lake event areas have become established.

M3 Shack Lake

- A local stakeholder indicated that the area around Little Caribou Lake (T01-03-105 and T01-03-108) is an important moose calving area and has a good population of resident moose. Through engagement with the stakeholder, a strategy was devised to leave significant areas of vertical structure. This will involve strategically placed "no harvest" commitments as well as fisheries buffers, retention, and non-merchantable areas.

B 18 Pipestone Creek

- A local stakeholder provided Tolko with the GPS location of a bear den located within T02-18-005 after reviewing maps online in the Virtual Open House. A 90 meter no harvest zone was placed on the den to ensure its protection.

B19 Bronson Lake South

- A past siting of a Whooping Crane was identified in the CDC (Conservation Data Centre) database.
 This particular area was reconned in the summer of 2021, and no nest or evidence of usage was found.
- A gate is planned for construction on the Bronson South IBR to deter half ton loop road access from the Canoxi Road to the Bronson Lake Road

Green / Sled Lake

Generally, caribou concerns are addressed largely through planning, specifically avoiding planning any harvesting on the eastern portion of the TSL. The eastern and northeastern portions of the TSL contain the most attractive caribou habitat. This area was identified as a Caribou Habitat Management Area in the Tolko 2018 Forest Management Plan. There are no blocks planned within this area. The Range Plan for Woodland Caribou in Saskatchewan (SK2 West) was released in October of 2021. Work is underway to align the Tolko 2018 FMP with the Range Plan. There are no blocks planned in the Tier 1 or Tier 2 zones identified in the Range Plan. The operating area here is S3 – Sled South, and harvesting is completed in this area.

All harvest blocks are relatively close to the highway and major roads (Stewart Lake Road). Virtually all the proposed blocks are in areas with significant hardwood components identified as 'low value' caribou habitat by the MoE.

The Cowan River South area has been planned to minimize the number of years of active operations in the area. These areas are previously disturbed with an existing right of way through them and dozens of existing cut blocks throughout the area. The area already has a network of trails through it, is dominated by hardwood and mixed wood stands, and is actively used by deer outfitters who use baits to attract deer. Considering all these factors, this area is unsuitable for caribou and is already heavily disturbed and very attractive to moose and deer, and therefore predators.

4.3.5 Third Party Operators and the Northern Village of Green Lake

There are no blocks being submitted on behalf of Third-Party Operators in this operating plan.

The Northern Village of Green Lake has an allocation of 15,000 m³ per year of sawlogs on the Tolko TSL. This volume has been included in the development of this plan. The Northern Village of Green Lake will obtain a Forest Products Permit from the Ministry. The blocks that are expected to produce the Northern Village of Green Lake allocation are identified below. All currently identified blocks are softwood leading and as such harvesting responsibility has been identified as the Northern Village of Green Lake (see block level details Appendix C). It is expected that the blocks required to meet the Northern Village of Green Lake's allocation may change. Tolko will work with the village and the purchaser of the softwood to ensure their interests are accommodated.

Block Number	Block Resp.	Softwood Total (m3)	Hardwood Total (m3)	Total Volume (m3)
T04-01-018	NV Green Lake	5,526	3,451	8,977
T04-01-028	NV Green Lake	1,435	371	1,805
T04-04-002	NV Green Lake	8,772	7,205	15,976
T04-06-614	NV Green Lake	1,192	354	1,546
T04-06-615	NV Green Lake	1,756	1,642	3,398
T04-06-617	NV Green Lake	801	254	1,055
	Total	19,481	13,278	32,759

4.4 Renewal

4.4.1 Planned Year 1 Renewal Activities

Tables that identify blocks planned for initial treatment (leave for natural, scarify or plant), are included in the submission documents and the file location is provided in Appendix E. There are no blocks requiring retreatment.

In the 2022-2023 operating year, approximately 103,600 white spruce seedlings are planned to be planted and there is 87 ha of planned scarification. In addition, there is 1,331 ha of hardwood leave for natural areas planned. The renewal activities include areas harvested by other operators on the Bronson / Green TSA area including areas where volume was delivered under the Northern Village of Green Lake's allocation.

There are 2 blocks where scarification remains unfinished from previous operating seasons. These blocks are listed below. The Cache Lake South blocks were identified last year and although not scarified were found to have jack pine and aspen growing. A ground survey is planned for the summer of 2022 and to verify treatment. The blocks may be left for natural softwood and hardwood regeneration.

Operating Area	Harvest Year	Block Number	Planned Treatment	Planned Area (ha)
M1-Cache Lake South	2018/19	T01-01-114	LFN-SCAR	71
M1-Cache Lake South	2019/20	T01-01-116	LFN-SCAR	16

No site preparation for tree planting, herbicide or insecticide treatments are planned for the 2022-2023 operating year.

4.4.2 Regeneration Assessments

Regeneration assessments to be completed in 2022-2023 involve:

- Establishment surveys on areas harvested in 2015-2016, by Tolko or third-party operators.
- Free to Grow assessments on areas harvested in 2008-2009, by Tolko or third-party operators.

Tolko continues to work with the Forest Service on an Alternative Solution to regeneration surveys of hardwood leave for natural (LFN) areas. In consultation with Ministry renewal staff, dependent on an analysis of the results from the past 3 years, this solution may be applied operationally. Determination will be made in collaboration with MoE.

5 Forest Protection

5.1 Fire Protection and Suppression

The Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency (SPSA) is a Treasury Board Crown Agency responsible for: provincial emergency management, fire safety and wildfire management in the province. Responsibilities include the prevention, detection, and suppression of forest fires where identified values, including tracts of valuable timber, are at risk. The Wildfire Act and Regulations provide legislative requirements for industrial and commercial operators related to wildfire preparedness and response. Tolko will submit a Fire Protection and Suppression Plan by March 31, 2022 to the Vice President of Operations of the Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency (SPSA) (formally Executive Director of the Wildfire Branch). A copy will be provided to the Forest Service.

5.2 Insect and Disease Protection

At a provincial level, the surveillance, monitoring and management of insects and disease are completed by MoE. At the time of preparing this plan, there are no significant insect and disease concerns on the Tolko TSL area.

Efforts to control the spread of jack pine dwarf mistletoe are focused on reducing the chance of current infestations becoming established in new regenerating stands. Strategies used include ensuring retention (including in riparian areas) is made up of species not susceptible to mistletoe and sanitizing areas adjacent to the block. There are no mistletoe control blocks planned in 2022-2023. If identified during harvest operations, activities will align with the Forest Operations Standard (July 2020).

6 Reporting and Self-Inspections

6.1.1 Activities Reporting

The following reporting will be done during the implementation of this plan:

- Active Operations. A weekly Operations Report detailing the locations and status of active operations
 will be submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forester, and Inspecting Officer or to other Ministry
 staff as directed by the Forest Service. This report will also include all camp locations.
- Crossings. A monthly crossings report outlining where active construction or maintenance work on crossings has occurred is emailed to the Ministry of Environment, Forester, and Inspecting Officer or to other Ministry staff as directed by the Forest Service.
- As per the AHPP 4 days notification will be given to the Forester and the Forest Ecosystem Protection Specialist before the start and completion of any in-stream work including construction, maintenance, and reclamation of crossings except ephemeral and intermittent courses. Notification for ephemeral and intermittent will be given prior to work starting. Notification will be provided to other Ministry staff as directed by the Forest Service.
- Forest Data Submission. A Report of all activities completed in the 2020-2021 Operating Year will be submitted by February 15th, 2022 as agreed to by the Ministry of Environment and in accordance with the Forest Data Submission Standard.
- As per the Temporary Work Camp Standard (October 2021), notification of construction will be provided to the Forester (or other Ministry staff as directed by the Forest Service) prior to construction and will include information as per section 1-1 (2) (b). Removal and reclamation of camps will be reported within 10 days of the work occurring.

6.1.2 Self-Inspection and Reporting

Section 32(e) of the Forest Resources Management Regulations requires Tolko to self-inspect landbase activities.

- Prior to operations beginning, a pre-work Form is completed with the contractor. This form details
 requirements of how each harvesting block is to be developed and any approval commitments. This
 form is completed digitally in Tolko's online environmental management system (EMS) site.
- An EMS Monitoring Completion Form is completed following completion of each harvest area. This form is completed digitally and stored in Tolko's EMS.
- Non-compliances will be reported either verbally, by e-mail or by letter to the Ministry of Environment, Forester or designate as soon as practical after they are discovered and verified. The notice will contain the location and the specifics around the non-compliance as well as the Action Plan to be taken to correct the issue if applicable.
- EMS documentation (pre-works and inspection reports) will be made available to MoE upon request.

7 Amendments

Request for amendments to this operating plan will be submitted by email or letter to the Area Forester or Forester. Where it's deemed there may be impact to stakeholders, engagement will normally be done before the request is submitted and information about the outcome of the discussions will be included with the amendment request. If this is not the case, the submission will indicate this.

Appendix A Variances from FMP

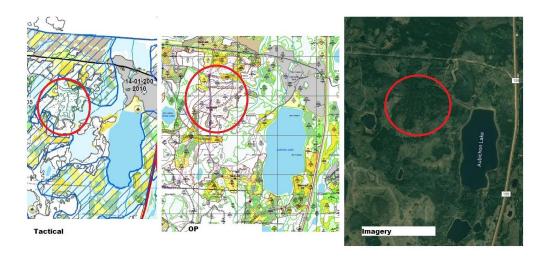
Proposed blocks occurring outside of tactical plan (TP) areas (FMP Indicator 13)

Block #	Block Area (ha) Outside TP	Total Block Area (ha)	Percent of Block (%) Outside TP
T01-03-112	0.5	305.3	0%
T01-04-227	9.5	103.2	9%
T01-05-009	8.4	25.6	33%
T01-05-010	6.2	72.6	9%
T01-05-011	45.4	228.1	20%
T02-18-008	2.0	55.2	4%
T02-18-012	2.2	15.1	15%
T04-01-018	6.7	188.2	4%
T04-01-019	134.2	361.5	37%
T04-01-030	1.0	93.4	1%
T04-04-004	1.6	32.9	5%
T04-06-616	16.6	16.6	100%
T04-06-617	4.6	22.8	20%
Grand Total	238.9	1,520.5	

Note – blocks with less than 0.5 ha were removed from the table above however the full listing is available on the FTP site (file name: Tolko TSL Variance Tactical Plan 2022.xls). These were edges / slivers of blocks.

Example of inventory error resulting in blocks proposed outside of tactical plan – block T04-01-019

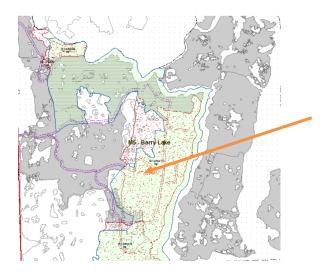
Block T04-01-019 represents 134 ha (56%) of the 239 ha reported to be outside the tactical plan. This area is shown as an historical depletion so was not included in the tactical plan, however past harvest (pre-Tolko) did not identify the area correctly. Historically, some of the softwood was harvested and merchantable timber remains and is now planned for harvest.



Note: Block T04-01-119 was included in the 2021-2026 Operating Plan and was not harvested during the 2021-2022 season.

Block T01-05-011

This block represents 45.4 ha (19%) of the 239 ha planned to be outside the tactical plan. It was part of an event harvest being conducted at the time of drafting of the Tactical Plan and it was assumed that it would be completed. As a result, the block was not shown in T1 or T2 of the tactical plan. The orange arrow points to the area within the block outside the tactical plan (green is within tactical plan).



 $Note: Block\ T01-05-011\ was\ included\ in\ the\ 2021-2026\ Operating\ Plan\ and\ was\ not\ harvested\ during\ the\ 2021-2022\ season.$

Proposed blocks with interior old seral deferral (OSD) (FMP Indicator 2)

Block #	Area (ha) OSD within	Total Block Area
	Blocks	(ha)
T01-03-112	45.9	305.3
T01-03-114	3.2	119.7
T01-03-115	7.2	59.2
T01-04-208	6.1	392.9
T01-04-209	5.1	53.4
T01-04-210	0.8	221.2
T01-04-218	0.1	159.9
T01-05-009	0.5	25.6
T01-05-010	3.2	72.6
T01-05-011	1.1	228.1
T01-16-003	0.4	264.7
T02-18-013	1.7	95.4
T02-19-006	17.3	188.9
T02-21-006	6.6	107.7
T02-21-008	0.3	114.3
T04-01-002	8.4	121.5
T04-01-017	5.8	61.4
T04-01-019	91.6	361.5
T04-01-020	15.2	163.6
T04-01-025	6.6	48.4
T04-01-029	0.4	40.9
T04-01-030	7.3	93.4
T04-04-001	5.8	135.2
T04-06-614	2.4	24.6
T04-06-615	1.6	40.8
T04-06-616	8.7	16.6
Grand Total	253.3	3,516.7

Profile Analysis - Area (ha) by Species Association by Management Unit

			Spec	ies Association	
	WS	BS or JP	SH	H/HS	Total
<u>Makwa / Bronson</u>					
OP Area	279	195	88	3,564	4,026
FMP Annual Target	100	50	70	1,405	1,625
Sled Lake / Green Lake					
OP Area	101	157	18	1,443	1,719
FMP Annual Target	30	120	135	290	575

Appendix B Engagement and Information Sharing

Stakeholder Letter:



November 8, 2021

Re: Opportunity to Review Forestry Plans

Tolko, Meadow Lake OSB has a Timber Supply License (TSL) for the Bronson / Green Timber Supply Area (TSA). The TSA includes 2 areas one of which is north from Green Lake to the Waterhen River and the other is south from Loon Lake to St. Walburg.

We are currently preparing a Forest Operating Plan to be submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forest Service. The Plan details activities such as harvesting, road construction, and reforestation scheduled to occur between April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023. Plans for years 2-5 are outlined more generally. The Plan is in draft form, and there is currently an opportunity to provide feedback before it is submitted to the Forest Service on December 15, 2021.

The maps will be available for viewing on the following website on November 15th.

https://tolko.com/responsibility/managing-our-forest/prairies/meadow-lake-woodlands

Please take the time to review the maps and contact us at sk.tolkowoodlands@tolko.com. We can then determine the best way to meet with you, options include.

- √ a one-on-one phone call or online meeting
- √ an online meeting with a small group
- √ a small field tour with the following restrictions:
 - Maximum of 10 people, including the Tolko reps
 - Tolko cannot provide transportation
 - · Adhere to social distancing, mandatory masks, and hand sanitizing
 - · No food/beverages supplied, or shared

If you have difficulty viewing the maps online, please contact us at sk.tolkowoodlands@tolko.com.

Also of interest on this webpage is a link to the 20-Year Forest Management Plan documents including the most recently submitted Annual Report. If you have any comments or questions about any of these documents, please also connect with us via the email above.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Michelle Young, RPF Woodlands Manager, Forestry

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Appendix C Harvest Areas and Volumes

See files or folder titled:

File location:

outgoing/2022_TSL_Operating_Plan/Tables

File Name:

Tolko TSL Planned Harvest 2022.xls

Appendix D Roads, Watercourse Crossings, Closures

See files or folder titled:

File location:

outgoing/2022_TSL_Operating_Plan/Tables

File Name:

Tolko TSL Proposed Closures 2022.xls Tolko TSL Proposed Crossings 2022.xls Tolko TSL Proposed Roads 2022.xls

Appendix E Renewal Activities

See file or folders titled:

File location:

outgoing/2022_TSL_Operating_Plan/Tables File Name:

Tolko TSL Reforestation Plan 2022.xls