

MANAGING BC FORESTS FOR VALUE AND SUSTAINABILITY

Are we or will we be practicing SFM?

Sustainable Forest Management

Sustainable forest management (SFM) is concerned with maintaining the long-term health of forest ecosystems while providing environmental, economic, and social opportunities for present and future generations.





Sustainable Forest Management Montreal Process

- To develop and implement internationally agreed-upon criteria and indicators for the conservation and sustainable management of temperate and boreal forests
- 7 criteria & 54 indicators
- Adopted by BC Government





- Government British Columbia is an international leader in sustainable forest management
- Industry supports Government position
- ABCFP mandate is to ... uphold principles of stewardship of forests, forest lands, forest resources and forest ecosystems

ARE THESE SUPPORTED THROUGH OUR SFM SYSTEM, PROCESSES & ANALYSES?



BC SFM Components Government (BC Liberals) apparent approach

Political components

- Abdicating leadership role in long-term forest stewardship
 - Off-loading responsibilities to industry, professionals & Government established NGOs
 - Lacking overall direction & performance Ref Auditor General reports
- Pleading poverty
- Focusing on:
 - Program maintenance
 - Low risk minor improvement projects
 - Projects with direct short-term political benefits
- Reducing staff and budgets especially related to monitoring



BC SFM Components

Instruments & limitations

Legislative & Technical components

- Legally binding BC forest vision & goals do not exist
- State of Forest Report lacking goals & targets to measure performance
- Montreal Process C&I performance on 50% of indicators inadequate
- FRPA inadequate relative to non-timber SFM requirements & resource targets
- Professional Reliance lacks adequate public oversight
- FPB mandate limited to FRPA & Wildfire Act not SFM
- Forest certification frequently based on non-scientifically based measures
- Resources inventory inadequate budget (\$8.0M/yr cf \$15M/yr advised)
- Climate change strategy minimal operations action regarding implementation



BC SFM Components

Instruments & limitations

Public components

- Public trust lacking relative to Government & industry
- Professional Reliance lacks public understanding & oversight
- Public input system limited & dependent upon issues achieving public outcry level (crisis management)



- Government British Columbia is an international leader in sustainable forest management
- Industry supports Government position
- ABCFP mandate is to ... uphold principles of stewardship of forests, forest lands, forest resources and forest ecosystems

WELL, DOES OUR SYSTEM & PERFORMANCE JUSTIFY
THESE STATEMENTS NOW & IN THE FUTURE OR
DOES IT JUST GIVE US A "WARM AND FUZZY"
FEELING BY CONTINUING TO SAY WE ARE?

