

# Forest Industry Plan Referrals

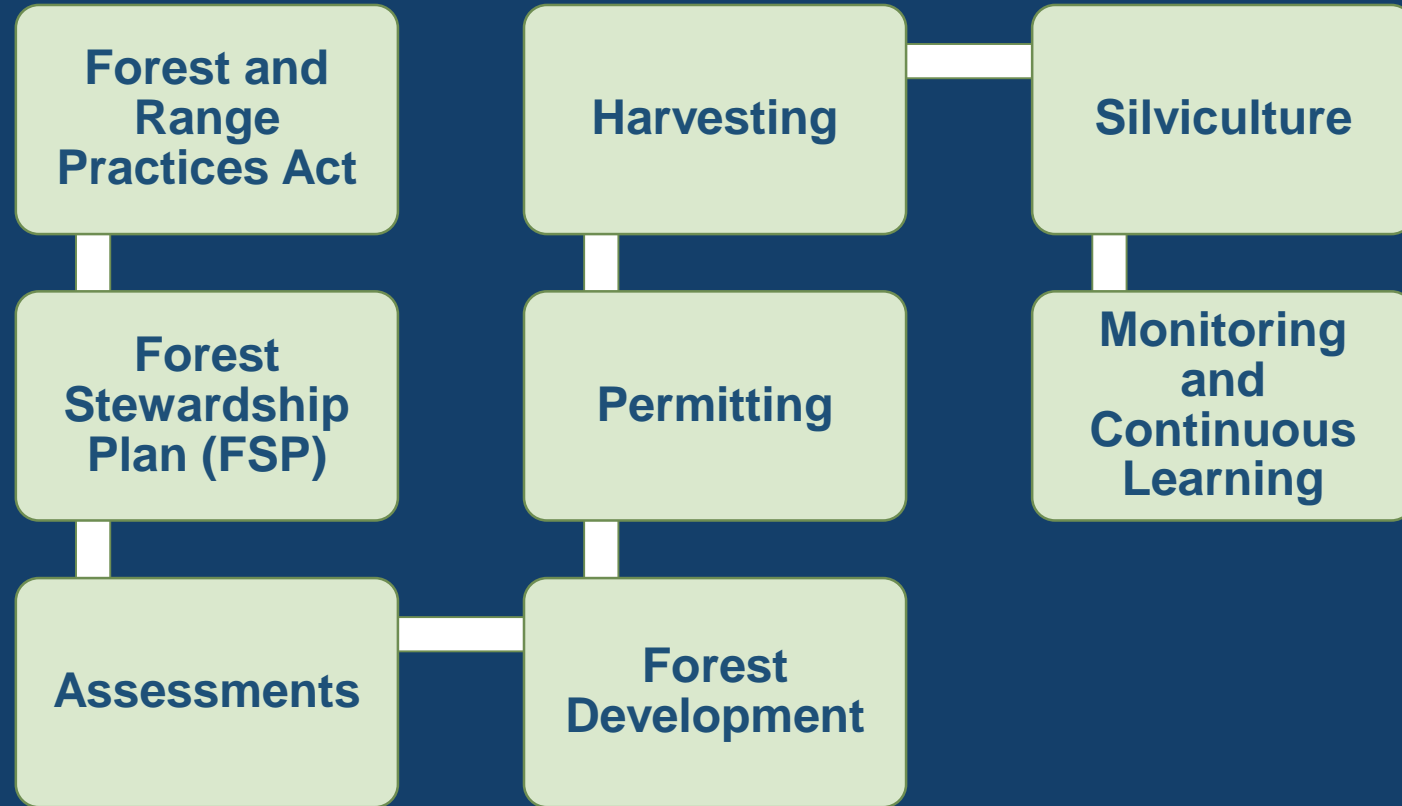
## Review of referral and response process



Development Services

- Overview of forest industry plan and review process
  - Forest Stewardship Plans (FSP)
- Explanation of CSRD referral review and response process
- Considerations for future referrals and responses
- Next steps

# Forest Industry Plan and Review Process



# Forest Stewardship Plans (FSP)

- FSPs are approved by the Province for a term of 5 years and the term may be extended to up to 10 years
- All FSPs in BC are being updated at the direction of BC's Chief Forester. Once this round of FSPs are approved it will likely be another 5-10 years until the CSRD receives new proposed FSPs. FSP amendments will take place in the interim between approvals and consultation will occur
- The FSP referral list is public and is an appendix/schedule to the FSP. The referral list may be provided upon request

# FSP Consultation

## Legal Requirements

- Tenure holder must provide a 60 day review and comment period during which the public, First Nations and stakeholders may provide input
- Crown Tenure holders and First Nations must receive the referral

## Non-Legal Expectations

- Information sharing with the greater public, singular public, government, and stakeholders
- Forestry companies decide who receives referrals and may refer the FSP to local government
- Forestry companies may hold a public community meeting at the request of the Ministry

# CSRD Referral Review and Response Process

- Referral gets assigned to a Development Services Planner to coordinate and prepare response
- Planner forwards referral notification and package with deadline to Electoral Area Director and internal departments (i.e. Operations Management)
  - Referral packages will typically include a proposal letter, draft FSP document, and an FSP map
- Planner to review proposal and prepare comments based on the relevant CSRD land use regulations, policies, and bylaws (OCP and Zoning)

# CSRD Referral Review and Response Process

Development Services staff to determine if the referral requires Board consideration and response. Staff to consult with Electoral Area Directors and Board Chair.

## **Board consideration required:**

- Planner to prepare board report
- Assigned to board agenda
- Board review and decision
- Planner to prepare/send final referral response letter or complete electronic referral
  - cc response to Team Leader and Electoral Area Directors

## **Board consideration not required:**

- Planner to prepare draft referral response and include internal referral comments provided
- Planner to prepare/send final referral response letter or complete electronic referral
  - cc response to Team Leader and Electoral Area Directors

# Considerations for Future Referrals and Responses

How can this process be more effective/efficient for the CSRD, Province, and forest companies?

- Understand the role and expectations of the CSRD, Province and Forest Companies in the referral process

CSRD referral response includes comments from Electoral Area Directors and staff

- Staff do not facilitate or coordinate public or community stakeholder comments
- Public and community stakeholders need to contact the Forest Company directly for information and to submit their comments
- CSRD referral responses do not include comments attributed to the public and community stakeholders
- Electoral Area Directors may include public and community stakeholder concerns as part of their comments



# Considerations for Future Referrals and Responses

What are the expectations for CSRD referral comments from Electoral Area Directors?

- Focus on providing comments about community concerns and local knowledge
- Detailed comments about the technical information in the FSP can be provided, but is not required
- It is optional for Electoral Area Directors to provide comments.

Are there different referral circumstances when the Board, rather than individual Electoral Area Directors, should review and provide the CSRD referral comments?

# Considerations for Future Referrals and Responses

What are the expectations for CSRD referral comments from staff?

- Staff comments include relevant Official Community Plan policies and Zoning Bylaw information, as well as any other CSRD bylaw, plan or policies information
- Staff may provide, where known, comments about community concerns and local knowledge. However, the primary responsibility for these concerns and knowledge will rest with the Electoral Area Directors

# Considerations for Future Referrals and Responses

What information can staff provide to assist Electoral Area Directors in preparing/formulating their comments?

DS staff to provide Electoral Area Director(s) where the referral applies with the following:

- Referral package
- An overview map of where the referral applies
- For a referral that proposes amendments to a current plan, identify where possible the proposed changes
- Draft CSRD referral response including the draft Development Services Department comments
- Deadline for Electoral Area Director(s) to submit comments to the Development Services Department

## Next Steps

- The Ministry is working on a 'strategic communications plan' for the Okanagan/Shuswap. The purpose is to inform local government and stakeholders and set requirements for Ministry and Industry communications for forest planning
- Ministry staff have offered to organize a meeting with CSRD Electoral Area Directors and staff to explain Forestry 101 and strategic communication plan
  - CSRD staff to invite Ministry staff to organize meeting