



## **Information Package**

**For the**

***General Development Plan  
2021-2026***

*"Sustainable Stewardship of Alberta's Forests"*

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## Introduction

The purpose of this information package is to describe Vanderwell Contractors (1971) Ltd.'s (Vanderwell's) five-year General Development Plan (GDP). This includes proposed activities, locations of activities, and potential impacts to other resource users.

Vanderwell carries out forest management activities on Forest Management Areas (FMA's) held by; Vanderwell, Alberta - Pacific Forest Industries Inc. (Al-Pac), Slave Lake Pulp Corporation, and a joint FMA held by Vanderwell, Tolko Industries Ltd., and Alberta Plywood.

This Information Package will review the following items:

- Consultation Process
- Current company profile
- Forest Management in Alberta
- Fibre Production
- Road planning and development
- Silviculture Activities
- Integrated Resource Management
- Conclusion

## Consultation Process

Consultation between Vanderwell and Aboriginal Groups is part of our commitment to sustainable development and community building goals. Consultation will follow the process detailed in the Government of Alberta's Guidelines on Consultation, which includes sharing information and exploring site specific concerns, however our commitment to ongoing consultation and information sharing with Aboriginal groups is not limited to the Government of Alberta consultation process. We are committed to ongoing and meaningful communication with Aboriginal groups.

## Current Company Profile

Vanderwell Contractors (1971) Ltd. operates a modern sawmill/planer mill complex located 20 km east of Slave Lake. The mill typically will produce approximately 150 million board feet annually. Vanderwell produces lumber products in 2x6, 2x4, 2x3 and 1x4's random lengths to a minimum of 7 feet.

As part of Vanderwell's commitment to full utilization, chips are captured from slabs, edgings and unmerchantable pieces and sold to pulp mills. Shavings produced in the planer mill are bagged and used in the livestock/agriculture industry. Other waste material such as fines from shavings and some sawdust are separated, dried and manufactured into crumbled wood pellets that are used as livestock bedding and as fuel for pellet burning wood stoves. Bark and sawdust (hog fuel) are currently sold as a source of fuel to generate electricity.

## Forest Management in Alberta

Alberta's 660,000 km<sup>2</sup> of land has been classified into green (61%) and white zones (39%). Much of the green area in Alberta is divided into ecologically distinct areas called Forest Management Units (FMUs) (Figure 1). Inside those FMUs, long term Forest Management Agreements and timber quotas give Vanderwell legal rights to harvest crown timber.

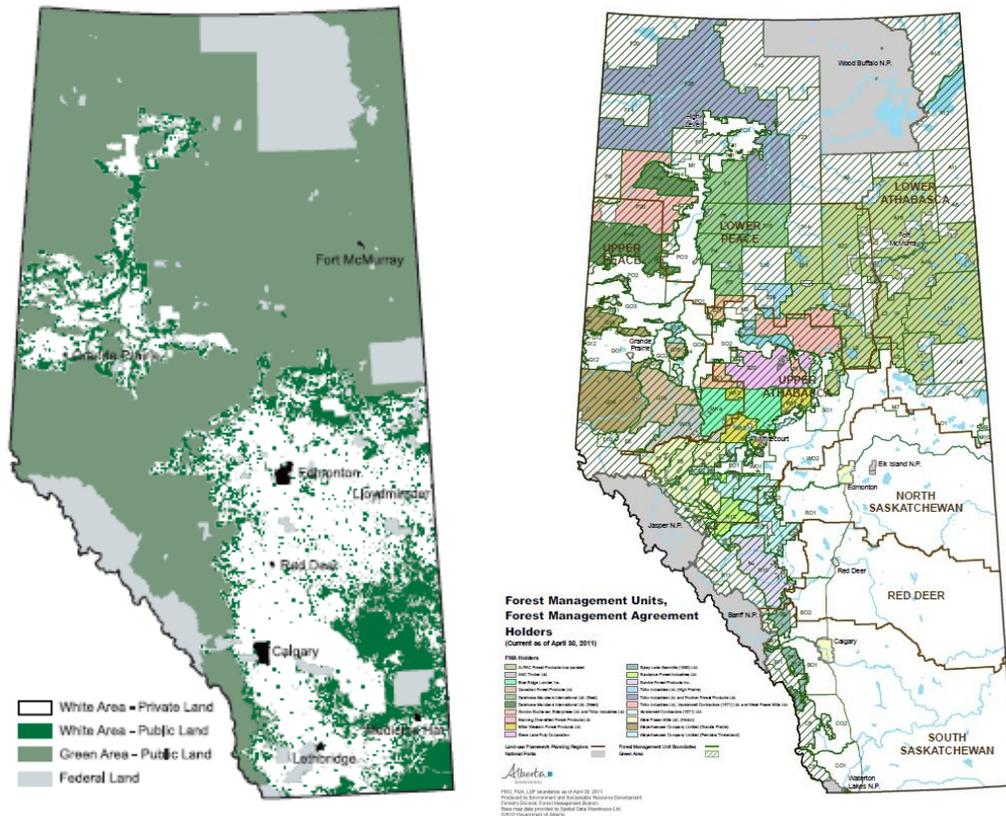


Figure 1. Map of Alberta showing Green/White areas (left) and current Forest Management Units (right).

The rights Vanderwell has to harvest crown timber are subject to regulations put in place by the Government of Alberta to ensure sustainable forest management. Sustainable forest management includes the sustained or enhanced capacity of

- Forests
- Wildlife values
- Diversity
- Habitat
- Other non-timber values

Crown land on which Vanderwell operates is managed under long term Forest Management Plans (FMPs).

- FMPs ensure a continuous supply of timber for the mill.
- FMPs are updated every 10 years.
- Non-timber values are incorporated to calculate available timber.
- Forest characteristics are forecasted 200 years to ensure sustainability.

Vanderwell aims to meet goals which directly affect Aboriginal people, including:

- Maintain uncommon plant communities when found.
- Maintain integrity of sensitive sites.
- Give local businesses, contractors, and stakeholders consideration for opportunities.
- Make timber volume available through the Miscellaneous Timber Use (MTU) program.
- Identify and protect historic sites.
- Aboriginal Consultation.

## Fibre Production

The following pie chart diagrams show Vanderwell's most up to date harvest distribution over the past five years, and the current proposed harvest distribution for the next five years, by Forest Management Unit (Figure 2). The General Development Plan map and the accompanying smaller scale maps clearly show the locations of each of the FMUs. More detailed information about the past five years harvest volumes, and the predicted harvest volumes for the upcoming five years can be found in Appendix I.

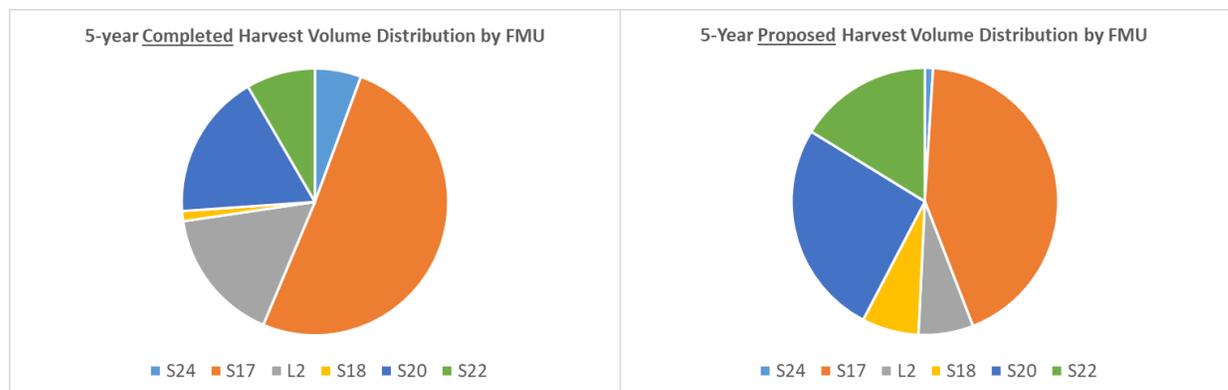


Figure 2. Vanderwell harvest volume distribution over the past five years (left), and proposed volume distribution for the upcoming five years (right).

## Road Planning and Development

The attached GDP map shows the locations of roads that are described within this section.

In this section the following topics will be discussed:

- Road construction
- Road maintenance and reclamation
- Access management
- Annual creek crossing and road monitoring program

### Road Construction

There are no plans to construct any Class I, II or III (permanent) roads during the period of this GDP.

### Road Maintenance and Reclamation

Vanderwell permanent roads, called Department Licence of Occupation (DLO) roads, are inspected annually (if permanent crossings are in place) to ensure that erosion and road surface degradation is minimized. If crossings are removed on a Vanderwell DLO road, the road will be assessed annually until vegetation is re-established and erosion is no longer a concern.

Vanderwell also uses temporary roads to access harvest blocks. In-block roads and previously forested roads are filled in and revegetated (reclaimed) after hauling activities have ended. This excludes entry from the public and allows the area to regenerate with minimal disturbance.

### Access Management

Access management structures can be used to protect the road surface, to minimize the risk of timber and equipment theft and/or to limit potential disturbance to wildlife such as caribou.

Access may be controlled through locked gates, dirt berms, or wooden construction barriers at entrances. The barrier is intended to restrict motorized vehicles, with the exception of all-terrain vehicles.

### Annual Creek Crossing Monitoring Program

Vanderwell will ensure that all creek crossings are maintained and reclaimed in a manner that allows creek water to flow as it did prior to crossing installation. No deleterious material is to enter the watercourse, and no person is to carry out any work that would cause harm to fish habitat.

## DLO Roads & Non-DLO Roads

DLO's that have permanent crossings will be inspected annually. Non-DLO roads are always non-permanent (temporary) roads.

Any temporary crossing that has been removed will be assessed as having either a low, medium or high likelihood of having additional environmental issues. Crossings with either medium or high likelihood of having additional environmental issues will be inspected annually until the crossing is determined to have a low likelihood of having additional environmental issues.

## **Other Incidental Activities within Operating Areas**

Harvest blocks may be used for the following:

- Log storage
- Temporary work camps
- Mix sites

Camps will be situated either within harvested stands, or within existing disturbed areas that are not currently under disposition. Upon removal of camps, land will be reclaimed and reforested as part of our land management obligations. Although the current location of work camps is not known, possible camp locations are shown on the General Development Plan map that has been submitted with this document.

Log Storage Sites (Offsite Yards) are locations outside of harvested stands used to temporarily store logs to aid with hauling the harvested wood. These sites are important in aiding the reclamation process of the harvested blocks while ensuring sustainable access to the harvested wood for Vanderwell. These locations are identified on the accompanying GDP map.

Mix sites are locations where herbicide solution is prepared and loaded for application.

## **Silviculture Activities**

Vanderwell Contractors (1971) Ltd. commonly undertakes the following silviculture activities:

- Mechanical site preparation
- Tree planting
- Tending of crop trees
- Regeneration Surveys

Reforestation is a required component of forest management on public land in Alberta. Silvicultural activities such as site preparation, tree planting, crop tending

(commonly herbicide use), and regeneration surveys ensure that forest stands are being maintained over the long term, and that they consist of the same tree species and species composition that have previously existed on the landscape.

## Integrated Resource Management

It is important for Vanderwell to consider the needs of other forest users when planning and conducting our operations. Vanderwell strives to integrate our planning and operations with all resource users.

Resource users include groups such as:

- Aboriginal Groups
- Trappers
- Other Forestry Companies
- Oil and Gas Companies
- Government of Alberta
- Tour Operators and Outfitters
- General Public

### Aboriginal Groups

If Vanderwell has operations planned on any Aboriginal groups' traditional areas, Vanderwell will consult with the affected Aboriginal groups to ensure that best management practices are being met, and site-specific concerns are being addressed.

### Trappers

Vanderwell contacts registered trappers that could be impacted by our operations. This is done by:

- Sending Forest Harvest Plan copies to any trapper with a trap line that intersects a harvest area.
- Discussing concerns that the trapper may have.
- Contacting the trappers approximately two weeks prior to operations commencing, to allow the trapper time to remove any traps and caches that may get damaged if not moved.

### Other Resource Users

#### Forest Companies

Vanderwell provides copies of the GDP to forest companies with overlapping dispositions for their comments.

### Oil and Gas Companies

Vanderwell attempts to integrate plans with Oil and Gas Industry where possible to utilize common roads and crossings.

### Government of Alberta

Vanderwell submits copies of all General Development Plans, Final Harvest Plans, and Annual Operating plans, as well as other plans as required, to the Government of Alberta for review and approval.

### Tour Operators and Outfitters

If a tour operator or guide has a disposition within the planning area, Vanderwell will notify them of our operations. If a tour operator or outfitter is known to Vanderwell as being active in a planned harvest area, Vanderwell will notify them of planned operations.

### General Public

Vanderwell participates with the Slave Lake Forest Public Advisory Committee. At these meetings, any member of the public can bring up and discuss issues. Participating companies (Tolko Industries Ltd., West Fraser Ltd., and Vanderwell) will schedule a meeting (either virtual or in-person) to present this year's GDPs.

In our Public Involvement Plan, Vanderwell has committed to placing a copy of the GDP in the public library in the Towns of Athabasca, Smith, Slave Lake, Wabasca and Swan Hills.

## **Conclusion**

This Information Package for the 2021-2026 General Development Plan provides an overview of the direction Vanderwell will be following over the next five years. Factors may influence this plan, such as Mountain Pine Beetle, forest fires or economics that cannot be planned for that may require an amendment.

## Appendix I

Vanderwell five year past and future volume summaries

**Table 4: Fibre Production History by allocation**

Conifer Allocation	Timber Year					Total Quadrant Volume
	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21 <sup>1</sup>	
FMA 9700036	15,234	33,652	0	0	0	33,652
FMA 0600043-2	6,030	100,910	20,677	19,233	146,649	293,499
FMA 0600043-2 (TD)	9,586	1,431	12,593	25,712	0	49,322
FMA 0600043-4	36,618	93,957	301,673	77,947	24,819	535,014
FMA 0600043-6	68,682	84,272	70,741	2,871	25,200	251,766
FMA 0600043-6 (TD)	1,827	273	2,399	4,898	0	9,397
CTQ L020026	21,327	96,086	13,387	0	136,010	266,810
CTQ S180002	0	2,087	0	0	17,849	19,936
CTQ S200001	108,225	0	102,457	78,501	0	289,183
CTQ S220001	0	18,629	0	0	118,383	137,012
<b>Deciduous Allocation</b>						
FMA 9700036	24,572	18,196	0	0	0	18,196

1: 2020/21 volumes are based on best currently available information. Final volume will be available at the end of the timber year.

2: Timber Damage (TD) for the 2020-21 season has not yet been determined.

  Indicates current quadrant

Table 7: Schedule by license and year of the proposed five-year conifer supply strategy.

Allocation (Quota/FMA)	License	Harvest Year				
		2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
<b>FMA 9700036</b>	FMA	0	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>5,000</b>
<b>FMA 0600043-2</b>	C27	0	2,000	8,000	6,000	10,000
	C34	5,000	12,000	11,000	10,000	10,000
	C39	5,000	15,000	60,000	15,000	35,000
	C41	2,000	5,000	10,000	5,000	0
	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>34,000</b>	<b>89,000</b>	<b>36,000</b>	<b>55,000</b>
<b>FMA 0600043-4</b>	C24-P1	35,000	20,000	10,000	0	0
	C29	40,000	35,000	10,000	35,000	5,000
	C31	5,000	8,000	13,000	0	0
	C32	50,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	5,000
	C36-P1	10,000	40,000	10,000	0	0
	C37	5,000	30,000	15,000	30,000	12,500
	C38	5,000	5,000	0	5,000	5,000
	C42-P1	0	0	0	12,000	0
	C45	20,000	30,000	25,000	5,000	10,000
	C46	5,000	35,000	0	0	0
C47-P3	15,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	
	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>190,000</b>	<b>218,000</b>	<b>98,000</b>	<b>102,000</b>	<b>42,500</b>
<b>FMA 0600043-6</b>	Tolko Incidental	37,931	37,931	37,931	37,931	37,931
	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>37,931</b>	<b>37,931</b>	<b>37,931</b>	<b>37,931</b>	<b>37,931</b>
<b>CTQ L020026</b>	CTLL020083 (L2-L83)	5,000	35,000	10,000	35,000	50,000
	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>35,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>35,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>
<b>CTQ S180002</b>	S18-LJ6	20,000	10,000	0	25,000	25,000
	PU80224	0	0	35,000	0	0
	PU80234	0	0	0	20,000	5,000
	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>35,000</b>	<b>45,000</b>	<b>30,000</b>
<b>CTQ S200001</b>	CTLS200008	175,000	75,000	125,000	80,000	75,000
	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>175,000</b>	<b>75,000</b>	<b>125,000</b>	<b>80,000</b>	<b>75,000</b>
<b>CTQS220001</b>	CTLS22J001 (PU91234)	35,000	20,000	0	0	0
	CTLS22J001 (PU91244)	15,000	5,000	25,000	10,000	0
	CTLS22J001 (PU92234)	0	5,000	15,000	30,000	45,000
	CTLS22J001 (PU92244)	0	5,000	0	50,000	70,000
	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>35,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>90,000</b>	<b>115,000</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>489,931</b>	<b>449,931</b>	<b>439,931</b>	<b>430,931</b>	<b>410,431</b>

Indicates contingency areas; described as areas that are scheduled for harvest although not likely due to current mill production and current operational plans

NOTE: 2021/22 Total volume includes all contingency values.

## Appendix II

### General Development Plan Map