



## Measuring the Benefits of Community Forestry

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### Community Forest Indicators Framework & Methodology

#### Survey #9

January 2023

#### Introduction

Community forestry is an innovative form of forest management; whereby local communities gain the right to manage local forests for local benefit. Every community forest is unique and each one strives to return benefits as defined by the local community. To better understand these benefits, in 2014 the British Columbia Community Forest Association (BCCFA) developed a system to measure and track the benefits of community forests.

The BCCFA worked together with community forest practitioners and in collaboration with the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and several independent advisors, to identify the most compelling indicators that demonstrate the tangible social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that community forests bring to their communities and to the province. The indicators chosen represent the most common, universal and easy to measure indicators that can be applied regardless of the organizational structure of a community forest or the location and ecosystem of the land base.

#### Objectives

Every community forest is unique, and they all strive to meet the needs of their communities. While each may have a different focus, collectively their efforts support the Provincial Government's objectives. Through the course of this project, we have focused on the most common objectives shared by all.

Eighteen indicators will measure progress towards the following **four key objectives**:

***A. Community forests provide economic benefits to their communities and to British Columbia.***

***B. Community forests provide social benefits to their communities and to the province; they promote community involvement and participation, and forest worker safety.***

***C. Community forests promote communication and strengthen relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities and persons.***

***D. Community forest management is consistent with sound principles of environmental stewardship that reflect a broad spectrum of values.***

## 18 Community Forest Indicators

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***Objective A: Community forests provide economic benefits to their communities and to the province of British Columbia.***

This is measured by:

1. The number of jobs the community forest creates
2. The total economic activity generated by the community forest
3. The cash and in-kind contributions made by the community forest
4. The additional funds leveraged by those contributions
5. The active role the community forests play in the forest sector through harvesting
6. The support for the full spectrum of milling and manufacturing facilities
7. Investments in the future economic return of the forest through intensive silviculture
8. Efforts to diversify the economic activities of the community forest.

***Objective B: Community forests provide social benefits to their communities and to the province; they promote community involvement and participation, and forest worker safety.***

This is measured by:

9. The accountability of the community forest agreement holder to the local community
10. The range and depth of engagement with different sectors of the community
11. Investments in education
12. Investments in recreation
13. Proactive efforts to reduce the wildfire hazard to communities
14. Forest worker safety.

***Objective C: Community forestry promotes communication and strengthens relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities and persons.***

This is measured by:

15. The breadth and depth of First Nation involvement in community forests.

***Objective D: Community forestry is consistent with sound principles of environmental stewardship that reflect a broad spectrum of values.***

This is measured by:

16. The management of sensitive areas
17. Investments in forest stewardship incremental to legal requirements
18. Compliance with environmental standards.

## Notes

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### **Community Forest Stories Compliment Indicators Data**

There is agreement that reporting on a set of common indicators help the BCCFA and our members promote community forestry and will support government decision-makers to expand and improve the program. It is also very important to continue to collect stories of the ways in which individual community forests are benefiting their communities. **Stories are at the heart of who we are and what we do.** This qualitative information continues to be of great importance. In addition, reporting on the provincial objectives for the program and on each CFA's commitments is likely to require this qualitative information. Indicators are a complimentary methodology to the narrative story telling.

We also ask for photos to accompany the stories. A picture is worth 1,000 words is the operating principle when we build the next Indicators Report. Send us your photos to emphasise the story you want to tell.

## Indicator #1: Number of Jobs

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### **Indicator Linkage to Objectives:**

*A. Community forests provide economic benefits to their communities and to the province of British Columbia.*

### **Rationale**

This indicator will measure both the number of jobs per year & the number of jobs per cubic metre. Local employment in rural communities is one of the primary benefits of community forests. This indicator measures the total direct employment & contract labour generated by the community forest. Further, the number of jobs/m<sup>3</sup> shows the value, in terms of employment, of the harvest volume allocated to community forests.

### **Methodology**

Survey respondents will report:

1. The total number of workers with the community forest during the reporting year in each category.
2. The total number of hours for workers in each category.
3. The number of m<sup>3</sup> harvested in the reporting year.
4. AAC - Allowable Annual Cut.
5. The number of total volunteer hours. Includes board, staff, contractors and community partners and members.

### **Instructions**

The number of workers and number of hours will be asked in two separate questions. Your total number of workers and total hours of all workers will include direct, contracted and any subsidized employment. This only includes workers that are run through the community forest books.

### **Calculations & Analysis**

The survey references "Person Years" (PY). This is the third year we have used PY and it replaces "Full Time Equivalent" used in previous reports. In accordance with BC Stats, a PY is equivalent to 1750 hours. In this Indicator we measure both the number of jobs per year & the number of jobs per m<sup>3</sup>. When members report on the number of employment hours, the BCCFA will be able to report on the average number of PYs per m<sup>3</sup> of community forest volume, and to make a comparison with the rest of the industry.

We also know that in community forestry, many volunteer hours are contributed to the successful operation of community forests that are not accounted for in contracts, wages and budgets. The volunteer hours that you report will help to inform BCCFA policy advocacy efforts, including tab rates

discussions. Please estimate the total number of volunteer hours contributed by your board, staff, contractors to make the licence successful and meet the [8 goals of the community forest program](#).

### **Indicator Monitoring Plan**

Measurement Interval: Annual

## Indicator #2: Total Economic Activity

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### **Indicator Linkage to Objectives:**

*A. Community forests provide economic benefits to their communities and to the province of British Columbia.*

### **Rationale**

As long-term area-based tenures, community forests support long-term community economic development resulting in more self-reliant rural communities. The total annual cost of sales and expenditures is an indicator of the total economic activity generated by the community forest.

### **Methodology**

Survey respondents report:

1. The total value (\$) of sales and expenditures in the last year.

### **Instructions**

Value of sales and expenditures should be available on the annual income statement of the community forest. This figure represents total operating expenses and include fixed and production costs.

### **Calculations & Analysis**

The BCCFA will tally the results and derive the figures to be reported.

### **Indicator Monitoring Plan**

Measurement Interval: annual

## Indicator #3: Community Contributions

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### **Indicator Linkage to Objectives:**

*A. Community forests provide economic benefits to their communities and to the province of British Columbia.*

*B. Community forests provide social benefits to their communities and to the province; they promote community involvement and participation, and forest worker safety.*

### **Rationale**

The cash and in-kind contributions made by the community forest are an important indicator of the distribution of economic benefits locally. In many cases, these contributions serve social objectives, in addition to economic ones.

### **Methodology**

Survey respondents will report:

1. The total cash contributed to the community through shareholder dividends, grants, infrastructure improvements, special projects etc. in the past year.
2. The total in-kind contributions to the community measured in dollars.

### **Instructions**

Tally the total cash contributions made by your community forest in the reporting year. Next, tally the total of in-kind contributions for all projects and activities, estimated in dollars. For example, donation of 3 hours of machine time to a community project can be calculated using the going rate for the piece of equipment. Likewise, the dollar amount for volunteer time (including that of your board) can be estimated by using an average community wage.

### **Calculations & Analysis**

The BCCFA will tally the results and derive the figures to be reported.

### **Indicator Monitoring Plan**

Measurement Interval: annual

## Indicator #4: Funds Leveraged by the Community Forest

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### **Indicator Linkage to Objectives:**

*A. Community forests provide economic benefits to their communities and to the province of British Columbia.*

*B. Community forests provide social benefits to their communities and to the province; they promote community involvement and participation, and forest worker safety.*

### **Rationale**

In many cases, the revenues generated, and contributions made by community forests are used as seed money to grow larger projects and generate even more local benefits. This indicator will show how CFA funds are used to leverage additional funds for community priorities. As with Indicator #3, in often these projects serve social objectives, in addition to economic ones.

### **Methodology**

Survey respondents will report:

1. The total dollars raised from outside sources for local projects, leveraged by CFA profits.

### **Instructions**

Respondents to tally the total dollars raised from outside sources for local projects, leveraged by CFA revenues. Tally the total dollars raised from outside sources for local projects, accessed due to the availability of community forest dollars for leveraging. For example, as noted in the 2019 Indicators Report, Lower North Thompson CF reported that \$34,210 in cash and in-kind contributions were leveraged to receive a \$100,000 grant from the BC Rural Dividend Fund. Tally the total dollars raised from outside sources for local projects accessed due to the availability of community forest dollars for leveraging.

### **Calculations & Analysis**

The BCCFA will tally the results and derive the figures to be reported.

### **Indicator Monitoring Plan**

Measurement Interval: Annual



## Indicator #5: Cut Control

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### **Indicator Linkage to Objectives:**

*A. Community forests provide economic benefits to their communities and to the province of British Columbia.*

### **Rationale**

Community forests play an active role in the forest sector through harvesting. This indicator will measure their success at meeting cut control requirements, keeping the supply of logs flowing.

### **Methodology**

Survey respondents will report:

1. Whether your community forest is on target to meet the cut control in the current period and if not, why.
2. The total cubic metres of undercut in the last cut control period. Enter numerical values only.
3. Relevant comments. If you are operating in your first cut control period, please let us know in this comment section

### Instructions

1. Whether they are on target to meet their cut in the current period: Yes/NO
2. Provide the total cubic metres of undercut in the last cut control period.
3. Give any relevant comments or rationale that explains the answers provided.

### **Calculations & Analysis**

The BCCFA will tally the results and derive the figures to be reported.

### **Indicator Monitoring Plan**

Measurement Interval: Annual

## Indicator #6: Distribution of Log Sales

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### Indicator Linkage to Objectives:

***A. Community forests provide economic benefits to their communities and to the province of British Columbia.***

### Rationale

Community forests primarily supply wood on the open market to major industry, and to small and medium sized mills and value-added manufacturers. In doing so, they contribute to the diversification of manufacturing while supporting small and medium sized mills.

The data from this question will be linked with the responses from Indicator #1. We will then use the standard BC employment coefficients for each mill category to generate more facts on the employment benefits of community forest logs in comparison to the rest of the industry. When linked with results from Indicator #1, data from this Indicator provides the BCCFA with one of our most important advocacy tools.

**Some of you may feel reluctant or uncomfortable to disclose sensitive information about your markets. We want to emphasize that your responses are confidential and will not be shared unless you are in agreement.**

The BCCFA would also like to better understand how our members are marketing their logs and learn about any multi-year arrangements you have with the major mills in their area. We also want to know if/how you are dealing with post-harvest waste.

### Methodology

Survey respondents will report:

1. The volume of sales to mills in each of the categories, based on the annual log input of a mill/manufacturing facility as described below.
  - a. Large > 200,000 m<sup>3</sup>/yr
  - b. Medium 50,000 to 200,000 m<sup>3</sup>/yr
  - c. Small < 50,000 m<sup>3</sup>/yr
  - d. Value Added: specialty project manufacturing facilities such as flooring, log homes, soundboards etc.
  - e. Facility that utilizes low quality fibre (bio-energy, pellet plants etc)
  - f. Other: Please describe
2. How you market your logs.
3. Your involvement and/or interest in markets for wood waste.
4. Your activities to increase utilization and reduce burning.
5. Interest in operating or owning a small/micro mill

## **Instructions**

To assist respondents in answering this question, upon request the BCCFA will provide scale site data, provided by Ministry of Forests. Contact Jennifer to access. Note: responses to this question will be kept confidential.

## **Calculations & Analysis**

The BCCFA will tally the results and derive the figures to be reported.

## **Indicator Monitoring Plan**

Measurement Interval: Annual

## Indicator #7: Investments in Intensive Silviculture

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### **Indicator Linkage to Objectives:**

*A. Community forests provide economic benefits to their communities and to the province of British Columbia.*

### **Rationale**

As long-term, area-based tenures, community forest agreements create strong incentives for investment in the future. This indicator will measure investments in the future economic return of the forest. By measuring the investments in intensive silviculture, incremental to legal requirements, it will demonstrate efforts to increase the growing capacity in community forest, with the intent of increasing the AAC.

### **Methodology**

Survey respondents will report:

1. The total value, in dollars and in-kind, of the community forest's investment in intensive silviculture, incremental to legal requirements in the listed categories. Respondents will report the total treatment cost, including planning, development, and administration of these projects.
2. The number of hectares treated.
3. Brief description of the incremental activities.
4. Investments in incremental activities/silviculture past the free to grow stage

### **Instructions**

This is an economic indicator where we are looking to find out about your investments to improve opportunities in the future. You will report separately on work paid for by the community forest, and work paid for with outside sources such as the Land Based Investment Program: Forests For Tomorrow. Enter numerical value only and round your figures up to a whole number. No decimals or dollar signs, please.

### **Calculations & Analysis**

The BCCFA will tally the results and derive the figures to be reported.

### **Indicator Monitoring Plan**

Measurement Interval: Annual

## Indicator #8: Economic Diversification

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### **Indicator Linkage to Objectives:**

*A. Community forests provide economic benefits to their communities and to the province of British Columbia.*

### **Rationale**

One of the provincial objectives for the community forest program is to diversify the use of and benefits derived from the community forest agreement area. The CFA tenure is one of only two forest tenures in BC that has the right to develop and manage Non-Timber Forest Resources (NTFRs). Section 43.3 of the Community Forest Legislation through the Forest Act gives rights to harvest and collect fees for NTFRs.

The indicator will show the degree to which community forests are generating revenue from sources other than timber. These include botanical forest products and other prescribed products (such as carbon credits) as listed in Schedule C of the Community Forest Agreement Licence. While little development has occurred in this realm to date, this indicator will provide baseline data.

### **Methodology**

Survey respondents will report:

1. The total value in dollars of revenue from diversified sales for the reporting period.
2. The activity in which dollars were earned.

### **Instructions**

Report the total value in dollars of revenue from diversified sales for the reporting period including all products for which the CFA holder has the authority to manage according to Schedule C of the CF Agreement, for example, sales of berries, jams, herbs, floral greens, or the provision of services off the community forest land base, for example, Wildland Urban Interface management and consulting services or value-added milling.

### **Calculations & Analysis**

The BCCFA will tally the results and derive the figures to be reported.

### **Indicator Monitoring Plan**

Measurement Interval: Annual

## Indicator #9: Community Accountability

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### **Indicator Linkage to Objectives:**

*B. Community forests provide social benefits to their communities and to the province; they promote community involvement and participation and forest worker safety.*

### **Rationale**

One of the elements of community forests that set them apart from other forest tenures is their accountability to their local communities. This accountability is the cornerstone of local decision-making. In community forestry, management decisions are made by those who have to live with them. Furthermore, when local people have a hand in management of the forests adjacent to their rural communities, they are more likely to be innovative in the integration of multiple values in their decision-making. This indicator measures whether the community forest reports out annually to its community on its progress towards objectives as identified in the Community Forest Agreement Management Plan.

### **Methodology**

Survey respondents will report:

1. Did you report annually to the community on the commitments made in your current Management Plan. Yes/No
2. Select from the list, all of the various strategies you employ to share information and report to to the local community. Tick all that apply.
3. The number of in-kind and volunteer hours contributed to community accountability activities.

### **Instructions**

1. Answer Yes/No to annual reporting to the community.
2. The survey will provide a list of potential strategies & tools used to communicate the community forest's performance on the commitments made in the Management plan. Tick all that apply.

### **Calculations & Analysis**

The BCCFA will tally the results and derive the figures to be reported.

### **Indicator Monitoring Plan**

Measurement Interval: Annual

## Indicator #10: Public Engagement

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### **Indicator Linkage to Objectives:**

*B. Community forests provide social benefits to their communities and to the province; they promote community involvement and participation and forest worker safety.*

### **Rationale**

While Indicator #9 focuses on reporting out to the community, this indicator measures the efforts of the community forest to engage with the diversity of community members. Outreach to the full array of forest users and community members leads to an improved awareness of forest management among members of the public and increases potential to resolve conflicts over timber harvesting in watersheds and other sensitive areas.

### **Methodology**

Survey respondents will report:

1. The community sectors that the community forest engages in targeted outreach and consultation activities.
2. The number of formal agreements with community organizations and user groups.
3. Report on those relationships where shared decision making or co-management are a mutually understood principle of the relationship.
4. The number of volunteer and in-kind hours contributed by board, staff and contractor engagement

### **Instructions**

Select from the list the community sectors that the community forest engages in targeted outreach and consultation activities: water users, property owners, tourism associations, chamber of commerce, environmental groups, hunters, firewood cutters, ranchers, miners, trappers, mountain bike groups, hiking groups, motorized vehicle recreation groups, horseback riding groups, cross country ski etc.

Report the total number of formal agreements with these groups.

### **Calculations & Analysis**

The BCCFA will tally the results and derive the figures to be reported.

### **Indicator Monitoring Plan**

Measurement Interval: Annual

## Indicator #11: Investments in Community Education

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### **Indicator Linkage to Objectives:**

*B. Community forests provide social benefits to their communities and to the province; they promote community involvement and participation and forest worker safety.*

### **Rationale**

Community forests provide an opportunity to link community members to the forest, and to increase their understanding of forest ecosystems and management. As long-term, area-based tenures, community forests provide enhanced opportunities for education and research. Community forests can be laboratories for testing innovative forest practices. This indicator measures the investments the community forest is making in education and capacity building.

### **Methodology**

Survey respondents will report:

1. Number of hours spent on coordination and delivery of educational activities in the community in the reporting year.
2. The total value, in dollars and in-kind, of all community forest investments in education in the reporting year.
3. Your involvement in a K-12 educational program.
4. Your involvement in National Forest Week.
5. Number of volunteer or in-kind hours contributed by board, staff and contractors for education.

### **Instructions**

Respondents will include the time spent by community forest staff, contractors, employees and volunteers on all educational activities. This includes school presentations, field trips, public events, as well as training supported by the community forest (such as first aid, faller certification, etc.).

### **Calculations & Analysis**

The BCCFA will tally the results and derive the figures to be reported.

### **Indicator Monitoring Plan**

Measurement Interval: Annual



## Indicator #12: Investments in Recreation

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### **Indicator Linkage to Objectives:**

*B. Community forests provide social benefits to their communities and to the province; they promote community involvement and participation and forest worker safety.*

### **Rationale**

One of the most significant benefits for many communities that have community forests are the investments the organization makes in creating, improving and maintaining recreational infrastructure and opportunities. This indicator will measure the value of the cash and in-kind investments in recreation that the community forest has made in the reporting year and to date.

### **Methodology**

Survey respondents will report:

1. The estimated cash and in-kind investments in recreation features by type.
2. The amount of community forest money invested and the amount of funding from outside sources invested.
3. Total amount of CFA money invested in recreation to date.
4. The total amount of money from outside sources invested to date.
5. The total number of kilometres of trail the community forest, or its partner community organizations, have built or maintained.
6. The total number of kilometres of trail the community forest, or its partner community organizations, have built or maintained to date.

### **Instructions**

Respondents estimate cash & in-kind investments in recreation features. Respondents to estimate the total number of kilometres of trail the community forest has built or maintained both in the reporting year and to date. This can include work done by recreation groups that partner with the community forest organization.

Respondents can include investments & trails outside the boundaries of the community forest.

### **Calculations & Analysis**

The BCCFA will tally the results and derive the figures to be reported.

### **Indicator Monitoring Plan**

Measurement Interval: Annual

## Indicator #13: Proactive Management of Wildfire Hazard

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### Indicator Linkage to Objectives:

*A. Community forests provide economic benefits to their communities and to British Columbia.*

*B. Community forests provide social benefits to their communities and to the province; they promote community involvement and participation and forest worker safety.*

*D. Community forest management is consistent with sound principles of environmental stewardship that reflect a broad spectrum of values.*

### Rationale

The combined effects of climate change, the mountain pine beetle, past management increasing forest fuels and the province's limited fire suppression capacity are leading to an increase in wildfire incidence and severity. Community forests are situated in the interface between communities and wild forest lands and are uniquely positioned to serve as a leader in the coordination and management of these areas to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire. Efforts to manage the wildfire hazard to communities are primarily driven by social objectives, however depending on the ecosystem type, history and outcome of the treatments; they may also bring economic and environmental benefits.

### Methodology

Survey respondents will report:

1. The value of investments in reducing wildfire hazard, which includes the community forest's own funds in the reporting period.
2. The value of investments in reducing wildfire hazard, which includes the community forest's own funds to date.
3. The amount of funds from outside sources, cash and in-kind, to reduce wildfire hazard in the reporting period.
4. The amount of funds from outside sources, cash and in-kind, to reduce wildfire hazard to date.
5. The number of in-kind and volunteer hours contributed by board, staff and contractors for wildfire risk reduction activities
6. The number of hectares treated in the reporting period.
7. The number of hectares treated to date.
8. If you have collaborated with your local or Indigenous government on wildfire planning and preparedness (for example through funding from BCCFA, FESBC, FINESSE, SWPI or CRI Program)

**Instructions**

You will report separately on the total dollars invested, which includes the community forest's own funds as well as funds from outside sources. Tally the amount for the fiscal year and for the amount invested to date.

**Calculations & Analysis**

The BCCFA will tally the results and derive the figures to be reported.

**Indicator Monitoring Plan**

Measurement Interval: Annual

## Indicator #14: Forest Worker Safety

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### **Indicator Linkage to Objectives:**

*B. Community forests provide social benefits to their communities and to the province; they promote community involvement and participation and forest worker safety.*

### **Rationale**

One of the provincial government's objectives for the community forest program is to advocate forest worker safety.

### **Methodology**

Survey respondents will report:

1. Whether or not your organization is Safe Certified with the BC Forest Safety Council
2. Whether or not your organization requires employees and/or contractors to be Safe Certified with the BC Forest Safety Council or an equivalent program.
3. The number and severity of recordable safety incidents in the reporting year.
4. The activity associated with the incident/s.
5. Description of the incident/s.

### **Instructions**

1. Does the CFA holder require its employees and/or contractors to be Safe Certified with the BC Forest Safety Council? Yes/No
2. Does the CFA holder require its employees and/or contractors to participate in an equivalent program includes a sign in requirement and a safety discussion? Yes/No
3. The number of recordable incidents. This is the number of incidents requiring a visit to a doctor or nurse.
4. The number of recorded incidents that prevented a worker from returning to work.

### **Calculations & Analysis**

The BCCFA will tally the results and derive the figures to be reported.

### **Indicator Monitoring Plan**

Measurement Interval: Annual

## Indicator #15: First Nations Involvement and Collaboration

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### **Indicator Linkage to Objectives:**

*C. Community forests promote communication and strengthen relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities and persons.*

### **Rationale**

The BC Community Forest Association promotes forest management which respects First Nation rights and cultural values, and which fosters understanding and cooperation between rural communities and First Nations. Many community forest agreements are held by First Nations, and even more are partnerships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities. This indicator will measure the breadth and depth of First Nations involvement in the community forest. It will serve to demonstrate how effective community forest organizations are at working with the First Nation within whose territory the community forest is located.

### **Methodology**

Survey respondents will report:

1. The types of involvement with First Nations in the reporting year.
2. Your CFA's responses to the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (DRIPA) and current government policy direction.
3. The number of volunteer and in-kind hours contributed by board, staff and contractor hours on First Nations relationship building and engagement.

### **Instructions**

Respondents will be given a list of types of involvement with First Nations. These will include:

- The community forest is held by a First Nation
- The governance structure is a partnership with local First Nation(s)
- There is designated First Nations representation on the board
- Employment contracts with First Nations
- Cooperative planning
- Memoranda of Understanding
- Capacity building activities such as training and education.

### **Calculations & Analysis**

The BCCFA will tally the results and derive the figures to be reported.

### **Indicator Monitoring Plan**

Measurement Interval: Annual

## Indicator #16: Management of Sensitive Areas

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### Indicator Linkage to Objectives:

*D. Community forest management is consistent with sound principles of environmental stewardship that reflect a broad spectrum of values.*

### Rationale

Community forests, by their design, must integrate the values of the communities that manage them. This unique model of forest management sees CFA managers gaining the social license to operate in highly constrained areas that have not been previously accessible due to local values. And, while taking all that into consideration, they also comply with the tenure regulations and Acts of British Columbia.

### Methodology

Survey respondents will report:

1. The total number of hectares in the Community Forest Agreement area.
2. The number of hectares within the community forest that are considered sensitive.
3. The number of hectares within the community forest that are considered sensitive and operable.
4. The number of hectares within the community forest that are set aside in permanent or long-term reserves.
5. The number of hectares in community watersheds.
6. The total area that is identified in an old growth deferral.
7. The area in the THLB that is identified in an old growth deferral area.
8. The area identified as an old growth deferral area that is not already in an OGMA or set aside in a permanent or long-term reserve or no-go area.

### Instructions

Respondents to use Vegetation Resources Inventory (VRI) data or better. Questions are designed to differentiate the areas where no forestry can occur from areas where modified management practices can occur. **Please do not include the old growth deferral areas in questions 106 to 112. Questions about the deferrals are in questions 113 to 115.**

Sensitive areas are defined as: domestic and community watersheds; riparian areas ; visually sensitive areas ('preservation', 'retention', and 'partial retention' VQO's--not 'modification' VQO);'potentially unstable' and 'unstable' terrain (Terrain Class IV and V); areas with archaeological values or cultural heritage (e.g., per Archaeological Overview Assessments); identified/critical wildlife habitat (e.g. ungulate winter range, wildlife habitat areas, caribou habitat, anything covered by a GAR order); fisheries sensitive watersheds; (buffers on) recreation trails and sites; areas identified as sensitive by the community.

### Calculations & Analysis

The BCCFA will tally the results and derive the figures to be reported.

**Indicator Monitoring Plan**

Measurement Interval: Annual

## Indicator #17: Investments in Forest Stewardship

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### **Indicator Linkage to Objectives:**

*B. Community forests provide social benefits to their communities and to the province; they promote community involvement and participation and forest worker safety.*

*D. Community forest management is consistent with sound principles of environmental stewardship that reflect a broad spectrum of values.*

### **Rationale**

This indicator will demonstrate the investments the community forest is making in enhanced forest stewardship, incremental to legal requirements.

### **Methodology**

Survey respondents will report:

1. The value in dollars of investments made by your community forest in enhanced or modified management for ecological or social reasons within the community forest boundaries.
2. The number of volunteer and in-kind hours contributed by the board, staff and contractors in forest stewardship activities.
3. The number of hectares treated within the community forest and outside the boundaries.
4. The CFA's involvement in long-term (60+ years) planning.
5. CFA plans for management of old growth.
6. CFA usage of LiDAR.
7. CFA monitoring programs in place.

### **Instructions**

The survey will provide a list of possible activities incremental to legal requirements. This includes:

- Enhanced management of sensitive areas (as listed in Indicator 16)
- Information gathering & planning, monitoring and research. Including inventory and extra surveys that are incremental to legal requirements.

Respondents to answer separately the questions above for investments made and hectares treated within the Community Forest Agreement area and all outside.

It is understood that there will be overlap (i.e. some areas are sensitive for multiple reasons).

### **Calculations & Analysis**

The BCCFA will tally the results and derive the figures to be reported.

### **Indicator Monitoring Plan**

Measurement Interval: Annual



## Indicator #18: Compliance with Environmental Standards

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### Indicator Linkage to Objectives:

*D. Community forest management is consistent with sound principles of environmental stewardship that reflect a broad spectrum of values.*

### Rationale

This indicator shows that the management of the community forest is compliant with statutory requirements for resource management.

### Methodology

Survey respondents will report:

1. The number of Ministry of Forests Compliance and Enforcement inspections conducted, as well as the number of determinations issued against the community forest organization/contractors/employees in the reporting year that related to the potential for environmental damage.
2. The results of a Forest Practices Board audit or investigation, if applicable.
3. The results of other agency investigations, if applicable. For example: Department of Fisheries and Operations or the Association of BC Forest Professionals.
4. Self-assessment of management practices.

### Instructions

1. Respondents will request a compliance report from their District's Compliance and Enforcement staff on their license.
2. Use this report to report on the number of non-compliance actions that were issued.
3. Respondents will report on the results of Forest Practices Board audits and investigations

### Calculations & Analysis

The BCCFA will tally the results and derive the figures to be reported.

### Indicator Monitoring Plan

Measurement Interval: Annual