



# **WELCOME**

***Help us develop our  
Detailed Forest Management Plan  
for 2017-2027.***



# MILLAR WESTERN FOREST PRODUCTS LTD.

## 2017-2027 DFMP

### OUR OPERATIONS

Millar Western is Alberta's largest home-grown, privately-owned forest products company. In addition to a full-time workforce of over 500 people, we employ hundreds of seasonal contractors in logging and hauling, reforestation and mill maintenance, making us a major employer in the communities where we operate. Each year, we use approximately 2.4 million m<sup>3</sup> of softwood and hardwood logs at our lumber and pulp operations in Whitecourt and Fox Creek. These facilities produce a total of 450 million board feet of dimension lumber and 320,000 metric tonnes of pulp annually, for shipment to customers in Canada and around the world.



**Whitecourt Sawmill** - The high-speed, high-efficiency sawmill was built in 2001, on the same site where the company has operated a succession of sawmills since 1922. The facility produces about 330 million board feet of spruce-pine-fir (SPF) dimension lumber annually.



**Whitecourt Pulp Mill** - Opened in 1988, the mill produces a variety of pulp grades for application in a range of paper products, using hardwood timber and residual softwood chips from the company's neighboring sawmill. In 2016, the pulp mill will begin operating an innovative bioenergy plant that will convert a waste stream into bioenergy, for mill use.



**Fox Creek Sawmill** - The Fox Creek operation was purchased in 2007 and was rebuilt in 2010, after it was destroyed in a 2008 fire. The state-of-the-art replacement facility produces 120 million board feet of SPF lumber per year, twice the output of the original mill.



**Woodlands** - Our Woodlands operations are responsible for all forest management activities involved in meeting our timber needs at Whitecourt and Fox Creek while protecting non-timber values and sustaining healthy forests for the future.





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## FOREST FACTS

- In Canada, the **annual rate of deforestation**, or permanent removal of trees, is **less than 0.02%**, with most attributed to agriculture, resource extraction and urban expansion and recreation. (Source: The State of Canada's Forests 2015)
- **The vast majority of Canadian forests - 94% - are publicly owned** and subject to stringent land-use regulations designed to sustain multi-value forests for the benefit of present and future generations. (Source: FPAC Legality Fact Sheet)
- **Canada retains more than 91% of its original forest area** – more than any other country in the world. (Source: Canadian Wood Council)
- Only **one quarter of Canada's forests are managed for commercial use**. Most of the boreal region (70%) remains un-accessed. Of the managed portion, approximately 0.5% is harvested annually. By law, all harvested areas must be promptly regenerated. (Source: Canadian Wood Council)
- **Canada is a leader in forest certification**. Only 10% of the world's forests are certified to independently audited standards for sustainable forest management, yet 43%, or 161 million hectares, of those certified areas are in Canada. (Source: FPAC Certification Fact Sheet)
- Since 1920, fire and insects have accounted for more than 80% of the disturbances in the boreal forest; **harvesting was responsible for only 15% of boreal forest disturbances**. (Source: FPAC)
- **Wood building materials are good for the environment:** they are renewable, biodegradable and recyclable, and they store carbon, resulting in a smaller environmental footprint than other building materials. In fact, a typical North American wood-frame home stores about 30 tonnes of carbon. (Source: NRCAN)







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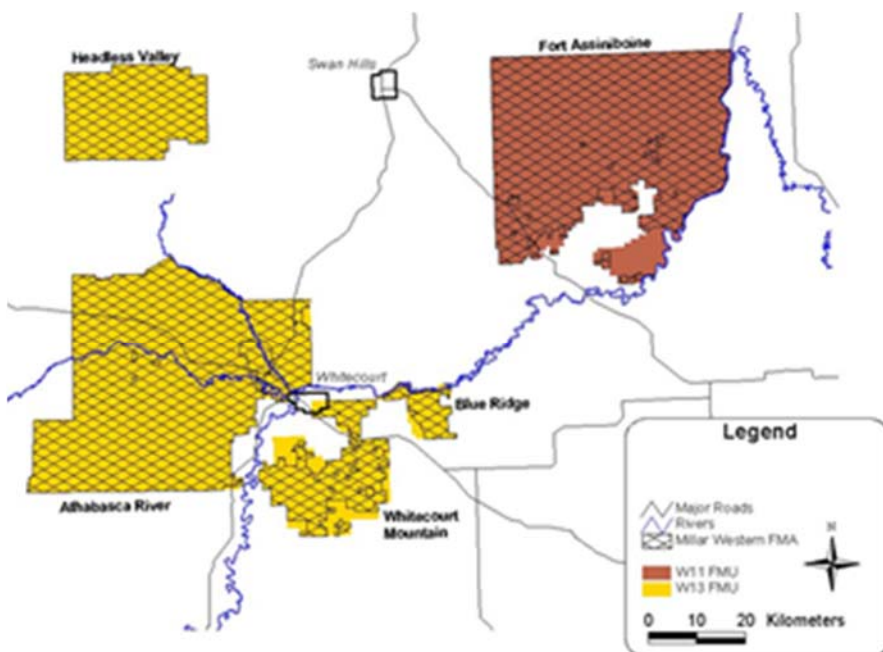
## WHAT IS A DFMP?

**A Detailed Forest Management Plan**, or DFMP, is a long-range plan that sets objectives, strategies and commitments for a Forest Management Agreement (FMA) area. Millar Western's FMA with the Government of Alberta provides access to timber in Forest Management Units (FMUs) W13 and W11 (see map below). Two other companies – Weyerhaeuser and Spruceland Millworks – also have access to fibre within our FMA area and are part of our plan development team.

Building a DFMP is a complex undertaking involving government, forest professionals, other forestry and non-forestry companies operating on the land base, aboriginal peoples and forest users. A typical plan takes about two years to complete.

DFMPs must be prepared every 10 years. They must balance ecological, economic, social and cultural considerations within the FMA area, accommodating values ranging from wildlife habitat and soil and water quality, to jobs and culturally significant sites, such as community gathering places. They must capture and represent local values and concerns through effective public consultation. Most importantly, a DFMP must demonstrate that management practices are sustainable over a 200-year timeframe and ensure renewal of healthy, diverse and dynamic forest ecosystems.

### Millar Western's FMA Area



*In addition to its FMA, which is a land-based tenure agreement, Millar Western obtains timber from volume-based coniferous and deciduous quotas in other companies' FMAs, as well as from fibre-exchange agreements with other forest companies. A small amount - about 10% - comes from private sources.*





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## SUPPORTING MULTIPLE-USE FORESTS

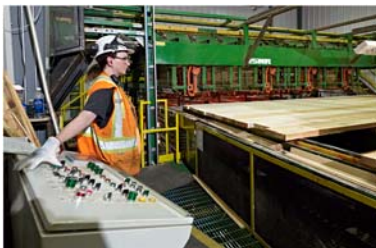
Canada's forest industry is unique in that it operates primarily on "Crown", or publicly owned, land. Because forests are available for the use and enjoyment of all, we work hard to **understand, respect and accommodate** other land users. Consultation is key to reflecting local priorities in our forest management plans, avoiding conflicts among overlapping activities and minimizing our collective footprint on the land.

**Join the discussion. Check out maps showing potential future harvest areas. Tell us if there are any special forest features that are important to you - hiking trails, camping spots, berry patches, areas of high aesthetic value - so we can take steps to reduce impacts.**

### Other ways to get involved:

- Visit the DFMP virtual open house on our website ([www.millarwestern.com](http://www.millarwestern.com)), to access additional plan materials and learn how to contribute to the development of long-term and annual plans.
- Belong to an interest group? Ask us to come to a meeting and share our plans with you.
- Join our Public Advisory Committee, a stakeholder group that meets regularly to review forest management plans and discuss issues of concern to the forest industry.

*Working together to build healthy, diverse and productive forests*



**Jobs and economic development**



**Traditional land uses**



**Wildlife habitat**



**Recreation**



**Carbon sinks**



**Education and exploration**





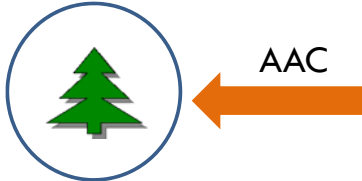
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## 2017-2027 DFMP

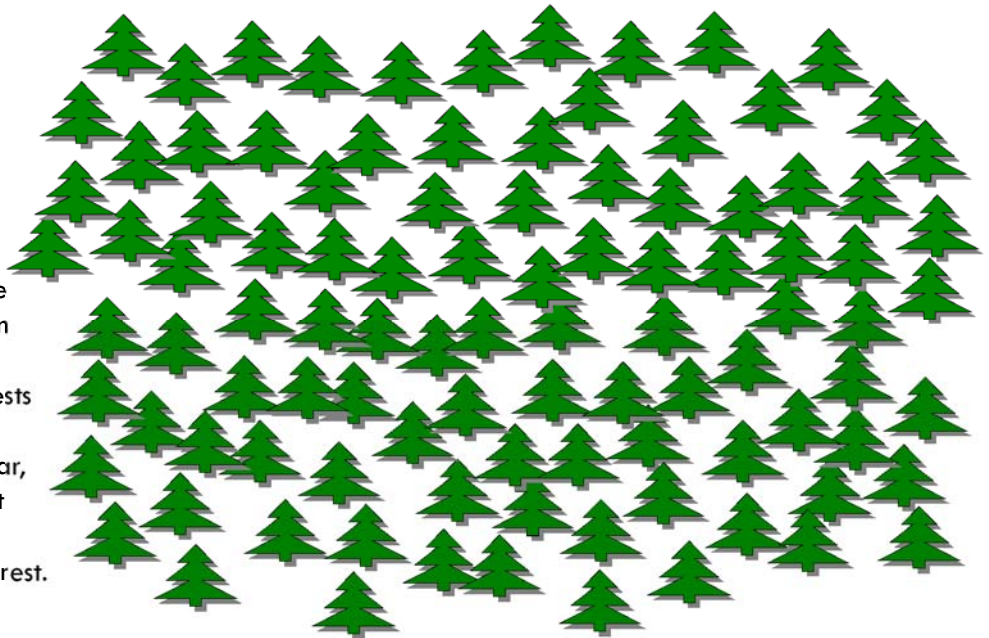
## FORESTS FOR THE FUTURE

*How do we achieve forest sustainability?*

### 1. Limited harvests



Only 1/4 of Canada's forests are available for commercial use. In the "working forest" area, the Alberta government limits harvests to volumes roughly equal to the amount the forest grows per year, called the Annual Allowable Cut (AAC). The AAC represents less than 1.0% of the commercial forest.



### 2. Forest renewal

We plant 3 sturdy seedlings for every conifer harvested, to ensure renewal of robust forests.

### 3. Stand monitoring

We monitor young trees until forests are successfully re-established. If needed, we replant areas that fail to meet regeneration standards. Where seedlings face competition from other vegetation, inhibiting forest renewal, we may apply herbicide treatments, in accordance with government regulations, to promote growth.



### 4. Independent certification

We are certified to the SFI standards for sustainable forest management and fibre sourcing, providing third-party verification that our forest management practices are sustainable and our timber procurement activities are legal and ethical.

