



Sarah Sullivan, R.P.F.
Planning Superintendent
Tembec Chapleau
175 Planer Road, Box 280
Chapleau, ON. P0M 1K0

November 26, 2008

RE: Review of Martel Protected area gap analysis

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

I have completed my review of the report titled:

Martel Forest Proposed FSC Protected Areas Candidate Sites by Susan Pickering and Sarah Sullivan, November 2008.

My review is intended to provide a peer review as required under section 6.4 of the Forest Stewardship Council – Canada. National Boreal Standard.

The Martel Forest document closely follows a template used for the Romeo Mallette forest, which I reviewed on Oct 21, 2008. I identified some deficiencies in the Romeo Mallette report which I have again checked in the Martel report.

I have used the same key indicators and verifiers of the gap analysis identified in the FSC standard which include:

1. Using a suitable gap analysis methodology.
2. Identifying enduring features and High Conservation Value Forest's within and adjacent to the management unit to permit landscape level planning.
3. Assessing the representation and regional significance of the values to be conserved in order to maximize the contribution of proposed new protected areas.
4. Documenting consultation with interested parties.

I will address each of these key elements below.

1. Analysis methodology

The report (Pickering and Sullivan 2008) uses the WWF gap analysis methodology and software which is recommended by FSC. The ranking criteria and scores for the 3 scenarios relevant to the Martel forest have been clearly presented.

2. Mapping priority resources (enduring features and HCVF's)

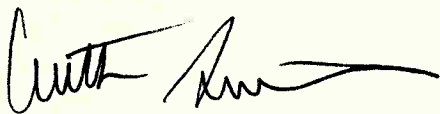
The WWF analysis focuses on enduring features which have been mapped for the Province to provide a landscape level assessment of representation. The other values (HCVF) of areas selected are also discussed although they are not a primary input for the AoR analysis. The map provides clear definition of the areas proposed by Tembec and their location relative to other protected areas.

3. Assessing representation and optimizing protected area selections

The report (Pickering and Sullivan 2008) provides area statistics and AoR scores which clearly show the benefits of selecting the areas proposed by Tembec. The report also provides a good description of the HCV's within the areas selected by Tembec, so the reader can appreciate not only how the areas contribute to the Provincial landscape level goals, but also how the areas contribute to local objectives.

4. Consultation

FSC does require public and aboriginal consultation regarding the values that are used to plan for protected areas. The primary data sources, particularly the enduring features, have undergone some extensive development with public and agency input. Their use implies that Tembec is taking advantage of other consultation processes, which cover larger areas than their forest management areas and may be most appropriate for landscape level conservation planning.



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