

NE Roundtable Update on Organizational Changes – FOR and WLRS

Prepared by:
Shane Ford & Karrilyn Vince
Feb 28, 2024



Organizational Change – Update

- October 19, 2023, public announcement on ‘Transfer of natural resource ministerial responsibilities’
 - Staff remain in their current units; no layoffs
 - New functional Org Charts
- Building capacity in both Ministries to respond to increasing complexity on the land base:
 - Wildlife management - increasingly complex (e.g., Roundtable discussion today) (WLRS)
 - Partnership with First Nations - sustainability of resources and broader ecosystem management
 - Enhanced focus on forest and range management, fibre flow and Forest Landscape Planning (FOR)
- Summary:
 - WLRS – Front Counter BC & decisions for land, water, hunting and fishing
 - FOR – decisions for forestry, range and archaeology
 - WLRS – Revitalization of Northeast Regional Management Committee (NE RMC)

Organizational Change – FOR Update

Ministry of Forests Functional Organization Chart

Deputy Minister Rick Manwaring



Executive Operations (Andrea Wood, Director)
Records and FOI Information Management, Correspondence, Intergovernmental Relations, Executive Issues

Strategic Priorities Group (Rose Ellis, Executive Director)
Corporate Priorities and Planning, Internal Communications and Online Content, Legislation, Litigation

Strategic Communications (Paul Corns, Executive Director)

Associate Deputy Minister Eamon O'Donoghue



Operations (Hilary Wheeler, Executive Director)
Strategic Projects, Ministry Initiatives, Operations Priorities, Forestry Digital Services, Apparel Program, Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM)

Indigenous Relations (Ariel Taylor, Executive Director)
Strategic reconciliation policy, Consultation effectiveness, Declaration Act implementation

Chief Negotiator (Justin Calof, Chief Negotiator)



Office of the Chief Forester
Shane Berg
ADM
Chief Forester

Lead strategy and policy development for Old Growth Action Plan and coordinate implementation

Forest genetics, research, tree improvement (seed orchards and seed centre)

Forest inventory, timber supply, AAC determinations

Forest climate change and carbon management

Indigenous bioeconomy and innovation

Forest management legislation, including planning (landscape), FREP and FLP approvals

Forest Investment Program



Timber, Range and Economics
Melissa Sanderson
ADM

Forest Sector and Forest Policy Transformation, including forest sector stakeholder engagement and governance

Timber Pricing, including waste and fibre utilization

Business Competitiveness & Compensation

Economic Analysis & Export Policy, including the Softwood Lumber file

BCTS Provincial Operations

Value-Added Sector Strategies

Range Branch including Invasive Plant Management & Ecosystem Restoration



Integrated Resource Operations
Matt Austin
ADM

Coordination of the provincial Engineering Program, management of Forest Service Roads, engineering support to other programs (BCTS and RSTBC)

Forest tenure policy, coordination of tenure replacements, tenure transfers and negotiation and implementation of access agreements

Inspections and investigations related to contraventions of a wide range of natural resource legislation

Forest Worker Safety



Forest Resiliency and Archaeology
Jillian Rousselle
ADM

Lead strategy and policy development for implementation of Forest Landscape Planning

Old Growth deferrals

Heritage Conservation Act and Archaeology permitting



CSNR
Sonja Martins
ADM/EFO

Human Resources, including new recruitment services

Financial Services

Facilities

Fleet and Assets

Corporate Security and Business Continuity



BC Wildfire Service
Jan Meier
ADM

Wildfire and All Hazards

Premier's Task Force on Emergencies

Managing elements of climate change risks through four pillar approach to hazard management

Emergency and Disaster Management Act implementation Coordination (EMBC & ENV)

Risk Reduction

TEAMS 2.0

BCWS FN and non-indigenous community partnerships



South
Jamie Jeffreys
ADM



North
Mike Hykaway
ADM



Coast
Sarah Fraser
ADM

Regional Operations

Forest Landscape Planning Operations

First Nations relations and shared decision-making

Forest Service and Resource Roads

Wildfire Risk Reduction (funding from BCWS), Rehabilitation and Recovery

BCTS Regional Timber Sales

Investment and reporting on forest management to OCF and TSRs for all regions

Silviculture project delivery

Forest and range authorizations and consultation

Stewardship monitoring, FREP management and Range monitoring

Scaling, waste and revenue management

Stakeholder engagement

Organizational Change – FOR Update



VISION
Resilient forests and rangelands are sustainably managed for the benefit of all people in British Columbia, now and for future generations.

PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE

FOR is a high-performing organization with a strong culture promoting safety, leadership, and strategies for being a great place to work for the benefit of British Columbians.

MISSION
To take an integrated and collaborative approach to natural resource management.


January 2024

Ministry of Forests Goals and Priority Objectives



<p>Economic Benefits and Resilience for All People in British Columbia The Ministry's actions are increasing the value and resilience of forests and rangelands to achieve the highest economic returns possible for the people of B.C., and ensuring that the forest industry can respond and adapt to the challenges and opportunities facing the forest sector.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streamline permitting to achieve greater certainty and operational predictability. • Improve reliability of fibre flow, increase wildfire salvage, expand commercial thinning, and strengthen B.C.'s value-added manufacturing sector. • Enhance BC Timber Sales to support high-value production to build a more diverse, competitive and inclusive forest sector.
<p>Partnerships to Advance Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples The Ministry is expanding opportunities for First Nations to collaborate in forest stewardship, engage in shared decision-making, and realize benefits from forestry and the forest economy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advance forest landscape plans, a new fiscal framework and forestry revenue-sharing. • Co-develop legislation, regulations and policy to reflect a shared strategic vision that upholds the rights of the UN Declaration. • Support protection and mitigation of impacts to cultural resources. • Improve forest service roads to enhance access to remote First Nations communities.
<p>Proactive and Collaborative Natural Hazard Management The Ministry delivers the very best wildfire mitigation, preparedness, response and land-based recovery to support strong, healthy, resilient forests and communities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the Premier's Expert Task Force on Emergencies, and implement changes to improve natural hazard incident management. • Address the impacts of natural hazard incidents through efficient wildfire salvage, land-based recovery, and archaeology permitting. • Implement a year-round, all-hazards approach to address the threat of extreme fire and other climate change induced events.
<p>Sustainable Forest Stewardship for All Values The Ministry is meeting its stewardship objectives in order to ensure that ecological, economic, cultural and recreational values connected to B.C.'s forests and rangelands are enhanced over time through management, including enforcement, and informed by Indigenous Knowledge and scientific research.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accelerate forest landscape plans and implement the Old Growth Strategic Action Plan in collaboration with First Nations. • Provide innovative scientific research to guide resource management decisions and strengthen the role of B.C.'s forests in climate change mitigation and adaptation. • Develop a Climate Adaptation Policy Framework to guide legislative and regulatory amendments connected to investment decisions in forest management activities.

Organizational Change – WLRS Update

			Deputy Minister Lori Halls	Functional Organization Chart		
Land Use Planning and Cumulative Effects	Resource Stewardship	Water, Fisheries and Coast	Reconciliation, Lands and Natural Resource Policy	Permitting Transformation	Natural Resource Information and Digital Services	Corporate Services for Natural Resource Ministries
ADM David Muter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Nations Strategic Relations • Land and Watershed Planning • Land Use Policy • Strategic Land Stewardship Initiatives* • Cumulative Effects • Northeast Hub • Collaborative Indigenous Stewardship Framework • Regional Management Committee Leadership • Together for Wildlife Implementation • Ecosystem Management Planning and Operations 	A/ADM Jen Psyllakis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity and Ecosystem Health • Together for Wildlife Strategy • Wildlife Policy and Allocation • Ecosystem and Habitat Policy • Terrestrial Species Recovery • Fish and Wildlife Management, Data and Licensing • Terrestrial Conservation and Wildlife Science • Invasive Terrestrial Fauna • Wildlife Health • Nature Agreement 	ADM James Mack <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watershed Stewardship and Security • Water Comptroller • Water Allocation • Flood/Drought Policy and Strategy • River Forecast Centre • Dams and Dikes • Provincial Fish Policy and Allocation • Fisheries, Aquaculture and Wild Salmon • Coastal Marine Stewardship • Aquatic Ecosystems 	ADM Colin Ward <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lands Policy and Administration • Crown Land Opportunities and Restoration • First Nation Land Transfers • Natural Resource Sector Reconciliation Policy and Strategies • Natural Resource Sector Strategic Partnerships, Policy and Legislation • Natural Resource Sector Governance Secretariat • Natural Resource Sector Economic Analysis and Insights • First Nations Leadership Council Liaison • Alliance of BC Modern Treaty Nations Liaison • Declaration Act Secretariat Liaison • Strategic Consultation Initiatives • Regional Management Committee Coordination 	ADM Jen Anthony <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permitting Solutions Office • FrontCounter BC Policy and Standards • FrontCounter BC Operations • Authorizations • First Nations Consultations 	ADM & CIO Andy Calarco <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural Resource Sector IT Application Infrastructure • Field Tech and Provincial Infrastructure • Geospatial Analysis and Base Mapping Services • Field Technology Services • Conservation Data Centre and Species/Ecological Community Assessments • Natural Resource Sector Library and Research Publication Services 	ADM & EFO Sonja Martins <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human Resources, including New Recruitment Services • Financial Services • Facilities • Fleet and Assets • Corporate Security and Business Continuity

* Initiatives including 30%-by-2023, Other Effective Conservation Measures (OECMs), and Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (ICPAs)

- Updated Vision, Mission, and Goals coming soon
- New Executive Lead proposed for NE to support First Nation agreement implementation
- **Roari Richardson, ED Stakeholder Engagement**
- **Local Contacts:**
 - **Alysha Holte – Regional Manager, Front Counter BC**
 - **Marianne Johnson – Director of Authorizations**
 - **James Jacklin – Director Resource Management**

Organizational Change – WLRS Update

We're responsible for leading BC's land stewardship strategies, which promote and guide the province's goals for:

- Reconciliation
- Ecosystem health & biodiversity
- Conservation of wildlife & habitat
- Economic diversity & sustainability

We believe in transparency and accountability through engagement with the communities that we serve.



Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship

Existing Functions and Responsibilities:

- Provincial water leadership:
 - Watershed Security Strategy & Fund; Coastal Marine Strategy; Wild Salmon Strategy
 - Water sustainability planning
 - Lead coordination on government's strategy on source to tap, including drinking water
 - Water quality objective setting
 - Marine use policy and planning
- Integrated land management frameworks to guide land use decisions in B.C., modernized land use policy and planning and land base objective setting
- Provincial cumulative effects regime
- Strengthen partnerships, collaboration, and engagement with Indigenous Peoples on the management of natural resources and the land base (e.g., Collaborative Indigenous Stewardship Forums)
- Development of a co-management/shared decision-making regime with First Nations
- Consultation and accommodation policy, including the Area Based Approach & First Nations Consultation System
- Fish and wildlife leadership:
 - habitat/ecosystems; fisheries, aquaculture & wild salmon strategic policy
- BC/CAN Nature Agreement
- Integrated, science-based land, aquatic, terrestrial, resource data/information, and geographic/geospatial data, systems and analysis
- Strategic marine, land and resource management policies to support the effective operationalization of DRIPA in the natural resource sector
- Permitting Solutions Office
- Support for governance, organizational effectiveness, performance monitoring and reporting on progress
- Corporate Services for the Natural Resource ministries
- Natural Resource Information & Digital Services
- Crowns, Agencies, Board and Commissions:
 - Wildlife Advisory Council
 - Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board
 - Skagit Environmental Endowment Commission
 - Mackenzie River Basin Board

NEW From FOR

Water Management Functions:

- Full suite of authorities for managing water use, authorizations and orders for drought (e.g., Water Comptroller)
- River Forecast Centre & Flood Safety
- Flood strategy, policy and management
- Dams, Dam Safety and Utility Regulation (e.g., BC Hydro)
- Dikes, drainage and ditches
- Water allocation
- Source water protection

Fish and Wildlife Functions

- Fish and wildlife policy, research, allocations and authorizations
- Fisheries licensing
- Fish stock assessments
- Rivers and lakes management
- Data and reporting
- Wildlife and aquatic specialists
- Provincial wildlife veterinarian

Land Functions:

- Full suite of authorities and for lands authorizations (and related permitting support functions, including business transformation and First Nations engagement).
- FrontCounter BC
- Crown Land Opportunities and Restoration (including Contaminated Sites)
- Land programs
- Policy (Crown land and strategic)
- Land returns

NEW Crown Responsibilities (From FOR):

- Creston Valley Wildlife Management Authority
- Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC
- Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation
- Association of BC Land Surveyors
- Integrated Cadastral Information Society

*BC Land Title and Survey Authority to FIN

Ministry of Water, Land, & Resource Stewardship
Land Use Planning & Cumulative Effects Division
Strategic Land Use, Noth Area – Northeast Region

James Cuell

Sr. Area Executive Director
North Area
James.Cuell@gov.bc.ca

Kelly Cook

Director, Resource
Stewardship Operations
Kelly.Cook@gov.bc.ca

Heather Onstage

Director, Strategic Initiatives
North Area Wildlife Strategy
Heather.Onstage@gov.bc.ca

Shane Ford

Director, Strategic Initiatives
Shane.Ford@gov.bc.ca

- Questions ?

