

## Summary of Member Questions to the BMFC

Question	Response
<b>Forestry – road issues</b>	
○ Clarification is sought on the timeline, locations, days and hours of operations on Fallowfield	Bryan Kernohan is planning to begin his operations mid-late August. This plan is tentative, and subject to change based on several influencing factors. As mentioned in the meeting at the boat launch, Bryan and his crew will likely start access directly across from the boat launch, directly at the entrance to the D4.
○ What changes will be happening on Fallowfield? Improvements, closures, delays?	As per the FMP, the operators are required to leave Fallowfield road as found or better condition then operation commencement It is highly unlikely there will be any road closures on Fallowfield road. If road closure is necessary, the road association will be notified well ahead of time.
○ How can we ensure staging areas and access roads will not be used by vehicles by planting several rows of trees at the entrances adjacent to or on top of the berms that you have committed to build?	The BMFC is not permitted to restrict access to Crown land. As required by Township within approval for “Temporary Access Permit”, entrances will be removed, and ditches established again.
○ Will there continue to be logging trucks on Telephone Bay Road?	Yes, once operations commence it will be necessary for log trucks to use Telephone Bay until at minimum early winter and operations have moved to Fallowfield Road.
○ Will there be more roadside landings on Telephone Bay?	There will likely be more landings near to both Telephone Bay road and Fallowfield road.

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Fallowfield is a one-lane road, how will logging trucks be making entrances?</li> </ul>	<p>The log truck drivers and operators are highly experienced with traveling on narrow roads that are shared with cottagers and residents. In addition, they will most often be travelling at non-peak visit times (on weekdays). This is not to say they will not haul some weekends, but it is more likely they will be hauling weekdays. In addition, the road will have plenty of clearly visible signs so that people travelling on the road are aware that there are logging operations ahead.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Will the cutting on Fallowfield be as obvious as on Telephone Bay?</li> </ul>	<p>The harvest occurring directly off Fallowfield road is a selection harvest, which is the same type of treatment used previously along Telephone Bay Road (Block 1704). Therefore, the appearance will be similar due to similarities in the removal patterns.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Please confirm the landing areas for Fallowfield and Telephone Bay</li> </ul>	<p>Once Brian has reviewed the updated maps with the newly found creeks and gets a general idea of where the landings will be located, we will provide a hand-drawn map of the proposed landing locations.</p>
<p><b>Forestry – methods</b></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Why is so much “slash” (debris) left on site, why not take it all?</li> </ul>	<p>It is ecologically better for the forest to leave the debris on the forest floor. The debris will quickly begin to decay (breaking down, and becoming almost unrecognizable in 10yrs), creating habitat for many species – especially insect/reptile species that play major roles in our environment. In addition, the decaying matter provides an abundance of nutrients back into the soils. This in turn creates a healthier forest for the future.</p>

## Question

## Response

- 30-40 foot trees have been left on the ground, are they considered “slash” or will they be cleaned up?

Any trees that are deemed merchantable will be removed from the harvest area. If not, they will remain on the ground to act as Downed Woody Debris, as per the comment above.

- Will any trees be planted? Why or why not? Why is there no obligation to plant trees in logging areas?

Trees will not be planted on Blocks 1704 or 1703. This is because the treatment type used on these blocks regenerate trees **naturally**. Selection and shelterwood systems purposely leave specific canopy openings and legacy trees to seed in and support growth of the next generation. Planting is unnecessary, as the forest is “used” to regenerating naturally after natural disturbances common to the region. Our harvest treatments emulate these disturbances. Therefore, re-growth occurs without human intervention in these treatments.

- What will be done in areas where existing trees have been damaged?

As per the FMP, logging damage standards apply to operations where there is a residual basal area following the harvest of 10m<sup>2</sup>/ha or greater, with 4m<sup>2</sup>/ha or greater of AGS stocking. Where the residual basal area criteria following harvest has been met, not greater than 15% of the total residual basal area and not greater than 10% of the residual “acceptable growing stock” basal area may have major damage. The small percentage of standing trees that may have been damaged (allowably) will become

**Question****Response**

- Explain what “shelter wood” cutting means and how it will appear compared to “select” cutting? Will there be greater amount of tree removal with shelterwood cutting near boat launch?
- Areas where logs are stored are still a mess – are these “completed”? There are blasting blankets made of tires left behind on one site.
- What does BMFC do with the wood once removed?
- Will the large cherry tree be damaged among maples that are marked red for cutting?

wildlife trees, used to better the forest floor to encourage regrowth and support healthy wildlife populations.

Shelterwood cutting is done in hardwood on poorer quality site classes. This particular type of treatment removes the overstory (the bigger, poor-quality trees that are declining) to promote growth of the better-quality pole and small sized trees. The goal of this treatment is to remove the trees that have poor genetic quality and are declining towards death. Leaving the smaller, good genetic quality healthy trees will allow them to shoot up and become the new forest – this time healthier and more stable. Selection treatments are different, in that they are typically prescribed on better quality sites that have all size/age classes present. They are treated with a 1/3<sup>rd</sup> removal. This can be done on these sites because there is a higher amount of good quality trees. The regenerated forest will be uneven aged. Shelterwood cutting often results in higher removal than selection cutting, therefore there will likely be a greater amount of tree removal near to the boat launch.

Any type of debris that is required for the operator to remove, will be removed.

Once removed from the site, the wood extracted gets taken to a mill (typically locally), to get processed into wood product.

If the cherry tree does not have orange paint on it but the maples surrounding it do, then

## Question

## Response

- Who decided where the first access road on Telephone Bay was to be located? Why was a spot that was at the closest location to cottagers chosen and cutting starting 3<sup>rd</sup> week of July? Why was there no consideration given to the impact on cottagers in terms of the location of this road (on a blind curve) and the timing? Work started closest to cottagers in the summer and moved further from cottages in the winter.

the unmarked cherry tree will be left in its condition to seed the next generation. The intention behind removing the maples surrounding it is to open the canopy around the cherry to increase its chance of seeding, in turn increase the seedlings chance of survival.

Unfortunately, the wood product market is difficult to predict. The operators are generally tied to harvest what they can sell at the time and when they can harvest in certain areas based on other factors, such as Area's of Concern for Species at Risk. While we understand that harvesting close to cottages in the peak of summer is not ideal for the seasonal visitors, we are often restrained to certain timelines.

### Forestry – environment

- How will runoff from cleared areas affect water quality in the lake? If logging negatively impacts calcium concentrations, why is it permitted close to lakes?
- An arborist has looked at the damage and disagrees about natural regeneration/ reforestation
- When will we see visual improvements in how the cut areas near the road look?

The BMFC puts in place a setback of a minimum 15-meter reserve from any water bodies. Please reference the FMP for more information on harvesting buffers surrounding water bodies.

The types of treatment types used in 1704 and 1703 foster **natural regeneration** based off the openings made and the trees remaining (and site conditions, etc.). The openings in the canopy and the appearance of the forest floor following a harvest can be deceiving – however, in a few years the forest floor will once again regenerate.

It typically takes minimum two years for a harvest to begin to have an aesthetic improvement. By this time the understory

**Question****Response**

- The first access road constructed between Wolverine and JM Drive opens up access to two lakes that were previously very difficult to access. Are the cumulative or additive environmental effects considered when identifying location for access roads/staging areas?

will begin to regenerate to a noticeable length, and it will become a “sea of green”.

Yes, many factors come into every decision made on an operation. A new operational road must follow the required setback from any water system. This road meets those requirements.

Once the access point on the municipal road and the ditch is established again it will limit some access to the area.

**Forestry – Regulatory issues**

- Is there a requirement for independent forest audit?
- Can we know when the audit is going to occur? Can we see the report?
- What happens if BMFC is found not compliant with the audit?

Yes, we are audited with an independent forest audit. We cannot say for sure when it will occur, as they typically happen every 5-7 years. We recently had one within the last two years, so it could be several years until our next audit.

Timeline mentioned in answer above. The published version of the report is available to the public. That being said, it is not a guarantee that the audit will include blocks 1703 and 1704. They choose a sample of blocks to audit, and we do not have any control over which ones get chosen or not.

If the BMFC is not found compliant with the audit, then corrective action will need to be

**Question****Response**

- Is there Ministry oversight?

taken to ensure the issue is resolved. There is a list of criteria that must be met before the issue can be officially deemed as resolved.

- Has the MNRF been on sight to look at the damage?

Yes, the MNRF oversees operations done within the BMFC by auditing a sample of prescriptions, tree-marking, and compliance on post-harvest operations. The MNRF works closely with the BMFC at all stages of implementing the 10-year Forest Management Plan.

- What are logging setbacks from bodies of water and tributaries?

The MNRF has not been on site to examine any post-harvest area but, BMFC staff has been in close communication and MNRF is aware of some trail repair and landing cleanup that is planned before the completion of operations.

- What are the setbacks from private property lines?

Modified Management Zones from water bodies start at a 15m minimum. This is determined with the classification of the water body. Lakes, Rivers and High potential water systems receive slope dependent MMZ's, meaning that the steeper the slope is, the wider the MMZ is.

There are not any setbacks from property lines, however, any landowner that owns property adjacent to any harvest block are contacted prior to harvest. They have opportunity to review the harvest line, and if they agree with the boundary then they sign

**Question****Response**

- Will there be additional logging as part of the 2021-2031 plan?

a line agreement form that is kept on file at the BMFC office. If you have not been contacted, then you do not have private land adjacent to Block 1703.

Following the harvest on 1703, there are not any blocks proposed that are directly connected to Koshlong Lake. Or Telephone Bay/Fallowfield Road.