

# SITE PLAN CP 410 BLOCK 1 COOPER CREEK CEDAR LTD.

### A. TENURE IDENTIFICATION

LICENCE NO.: <b>FL A30171</b>	CP: <b>410</b>	BLOCK: <b>1</b>	TIMBER MARK: <b>FE5410</b>	UTM: <b>498784 E, 5497969 N</b>	LICENSEE NAME: <b>Cooper Creek Cedar Ltd.</b>
AREA UNDER TENURE (ha): <b>34.7</b>	MAPSHEET/OPENING #: <b>082F066</b>		ELEVATION: <b>830-1165m</b>	LOCATION: <b>Laird Creek</b>	

## B. AREA SUMMARY

AREA OF NO PLANNED REFORESTATION (ha) (NPR)									
PERMANENT ACCESS	ROCK	WATER	SWAMP	OTHER NP	NC>4ha	WILDLIFE TREE RETENTION AREA (HA):	IMMATURE	OTHER	TOTAL NPR AREA
0.9	-	-	-	-	-	10.7	-	-	11.6
NET AREA TO BE REFORESTED (ha)									
SU	SU AREA DESCRIPTION								NET AREA TO BE REFORESTED:
A	<p><b>ICHdw1 101<sub>g</sub>104<sub>1</sub></b> The block is located in the Laird Creek Watershed on the western sidewall of Laird Creek in close proximity to the community of Balfour.</p> <p>The aspect of SU A is mainly southeast facing, slopes range from 10 to 50% with an average of 30%. The elevation of SU A is 830-1010m. Surface soil texture is Sandy Loam (SL), and subsoil texture is Loamy Sand (LS). Soils are moderately to well drained. Coarse fragment content is Low (20%) in surficial soils, and Moderate in subsoils (30-50%). Moisture regime is mesic and nutrient regime is medium. Humus form is a moder (6.0cm thickness) and rooting depth is 33cm. Soils in SU A exhibit <b>non-sensitive</b> characteristics.</p> <p>SU A includes one Wildlife Tree Retention Area comprised of timber representative of the rest of the SU, patches of non-valuable (immature or dead useless) timber, rich wildlife features, and will act as a visual aide to help achieve a partial retention Visual Quality Objective.</p> <p>SU A will be harvested using Conventional harvest method utilizing a Retention silviculture system while retaining 10-12 m<sup>2</sup>/ha Basal Area evenly spaced throughout the block in single stems or small groups, in addition to the WTRA retention.</p>								13.9
B	<p><b>ICHdw1 104</b> The aspect of SU B is mainly southeast facing with slopes ranging from 35 to 65% with an average of 50%. The elevation of SU B is from 1005-1120m. Surface soil texture is Sandy Loam (SL), and subsoil texture is Loamy Sand (LS). Soils are well drained. Coarse fragment content is Low in surficial soils (15%), and Moderate to High in subsoils (50-90%). Moisture regime is submesic and nutrient regime is medium. Humus form is a thin moder (4.0cm thickness) and rooting depth is 30cm. Soils in SU B exhibit <b>non-sensitive</b> characteristics. Growing season moisture deficits can be expected in this submesic SU particularly in drier years.</p> <p>SU B includes one Wildlife Tree Retention Area comprised of timber representative of the rest of the SU, patches of non-valuable (immature or dead useless) timber, rich wildlife features, and will act as a visual aide to reflect a partial retention Visual Quality Objective.</p> <p>SU B will be harvested using Conventional harvest method utilizing a Retention silviculture system while retaining 10-12 m<sup>2</sup>/ha Basal Area evenly spaced throughout the block in single stems or small groups, in addition to the WTRA retention.</p>								4.4
C	<p><b>ICHdw1 104</b> The aspect of SU C is mainly east facing with slopes ranging from 35 to 75% with an average of 60%. The elevation of SU C is from 980-1165m. Surface soil and subsoil texture is Sandy Loam (SL). Soils are well drained. Coarse fragment content is Moderate in surficial soils (50%), and High in subsoils (80%). Moisture regime is submesic and nutrient regime is medium. Humus form is a thin moder (3.5cm thickness) and rooting depth is 35cm. Soils in SU C exhibit <b>non-sensitive</b> characteristics. Growing season moisture deficits can be expected in this submesic SU particularly in drier years.</p> <p>SU C does not include any Wildlife Tree Retention Areas. No leave trees prescribed in SU C due to safety issues involved with downhill yarding.</p> <p>SU C will be harvested with <b>Cable Based</b> methods and a clearcut with reserves silviculture system.</p>								4.8
TOTAL NET AREA TO BE REFORESTED:									23.1
TOTAL AREA UNDER THE PLAN:									34.7

## SOIL DISTURBANCE

SU	Max. Allowable Soil Disturbance (%)	Max. Amount TAS May Exceed MASD Prior to Rehab (%)	Max. Allowable Soil Disturbance For Roadside Work Areas (%)	Maximum Permanent Access Structures (%)
A	10.0	5.0	25%	2.6
B	10.0	5.0		
C	10.0	5.0		

SU	CRITICAL SITE CONDITIONS THAT AFFECT THE TIMING OF OPERATIONS AND HOW THEY AFFECT THEM
A & B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avoid machine travel during periods of soil saturation to reduce risk of soil compaction. Utilize designated harvesting trails, or a supporting snow pack in the winter.</li> <li>Spot piling along roadsides, landings and within the NAR may be necessary to remedy high levels of coarse woody debris.</li> </ul>
C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure adequate deflection is achieved to reduce excessive soil gouge during cable yarding activities.</li> <li>Refrain from using machines on steep slopes if slippage results in excessive rutting or erosion to mineral soil.</li> </ul>

## RESULTS AND STRATEGIES

Biodiversity Objectives	Landscape Unit K10
Result or Strategy Description	<b>3.5.3 - Old and Mature Forest</b>
Applies:	YES
How the Result or Strategy Applies to the Site (or Rationale if it does not apply)	<p>'KBHLP Objective 2 – Old &amp; Mature Forests'</p> <p>Field data collection found this block to be ICH dw1, and the block lies within Connectivity Corridor. CP410 falls within Landscape Unit K10: West Arm</p> <p>For the ICH dw1, there is a Mature + Old forest requirement in this landscape unit.</p> <p>Analysis completed by Timberland (August, 2018) shows that post-harvest there will be a surplus of Mature + Old within the Landscape Unit ICH dw1 as a whole, and also within connectivity corridor.</p>
Result or Strategy Description	<b>3.5.3 - Green-up</b>
Applies:	YES
How the Result or Strategy Applies to the Site (or Rationale if it does not apply)	'KBHLP Objective 4 – Green-up' – The proposed cutblock is consistent with FPPR Section 65(2).
Result or Strategy Description	<b>3.5.1 - Objectives set by Government for Wildlife and Biodiversity – Landscape Level</b>
Applies:	YES
How the Result or Strategy Applies to the Site (or Rationale if it does not apply)	<p>'KBHLP Objective 4 – Green-up'.</p> <p>The proposed cutblock complies with Sections 64 and 65 of the FPPR. Adjacent existing cutblocks are consistent with FPPR Section 65.</p>
Cultural Heritage Resources	
Result or Strategy Description	<b>3.7 - Objectives set by Government for Cultural Heritage Resources</b>
Applies:	YES
How the Result or Strategy Applies to the Site (or Rationale if it does not apply)	<p>A referral letter dated February 14, 2018, was sent to the appropriate individual(s) and/or group(s). Cooper Creek Cedar Ltd did not receive any comments from First Nations identifying any concerns with the proposed development that had the potential of impacting cultural heritage values.</p> <p>No cultural heritage values were noted in this area.</p>
Recreation Resources	
Result or Strategy Description	<b>4.3 - Recreation Sites</b>
Applies:	NO
How the Result or Strategy Applies to the Site (or Rationale if it does not apply)	The proposed cutblock is not located within a designated Recreational Area or Trail with legal objectives; therefore, managing for Recreation Resources in not applicable.

<b>Riparian Management</b>	
Result or Strategy Description	<b>3.4.1 Objectives set by Government for Fish, Water, Wildlife &amp; Biodiversity in Riparian Areas</b>
Applies:	NO
How the Result or Strategy Applies to the Site (or Rationale if it does not apply)	No riparian areas are present within Block 1. Laird Creek (S3) RMA=40m is completely reserved outside the harvest area. S6-1 RMA=20m is completely reserved outside the harvest area; the stream channel and RMA are crossed by Spur 3.
<b>Soil Objectives</b>	
Result or Strategy Description	<b>3.1 - Objectives set by Government for Soils [FPPR Section 5 and 12.1(1)]</b>
Applies:	YES
How the Result or Strategy Applies to the Site (or Rationale if it does not apply)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>SU A B and C</b> do not contain sensitive soils and soil disturbance will not exceed <b>10%</b>. Specific measures for mitigating soil disturbance levels are addressed in Section F of this Site Plan.</li> <li>2) Areas of the block where temporary access structures are required will be rehabilitated. Specific rehabilitation measures are addressed under Section F of this Site Plan.</li> <li>3) PAS will not exceed the recommended limit of <b>7.0%</b> and is estimated at <b>2.6%</b>.</li> <li>4) Areas within the block assigned to roadside work areas will not exceed <b>25%</b>.</li> </ol>
<b>Visual Objectives</b>	
Result or Strategy Description	<b>3.6 – Visual Quality</b>
Applies:	YES
How the Result or Strategy Applies to the Site (or Rationale if it does not apply)	<p><b>CP 410</b> falls partially within a polygon with a PR objective.</p> <p>A Visual Impact Assessment was completed by Timberland Consultants in March 2018, and the proposed blocks meet the definition and requirements of PR. Irregular shaped boundaries that follow natural terrain features, and large reserve areas serve to improve visual quality from viewpoints. In block 1, a mature retention of 40-45 stems/ha in SU A, and 60-65 stems/ha in SU B will enhance visual quality.</p> <p>The proposed development of <b>CP410</b> meets the established VQO of PR from the selected viewpoints.</p>
<b>Water Management Objectives</b>	
Result or Strategy Description	<b>3.4.4 - Consumptive Use Streams</b>
Applies:	Yes
How the Result or Strategy Applies to the Site (or Rationale if it does not apply)	<p>'KBHLP Objective 6' – <b>Block 1</b> falls within the Laird Creek Domestic Watershed.</p> <p><b>Laird Creek (S3 Class)</b> has 10 licensed PODs for human consumption, the closest of which is &gt;250m downstream. Referral letters dated April 5, 2018 were sent to POD licensees with a 30 day response period. Several comments were received from water users. Management with regard to these comments took into consideration the following recommendations from qualified professionals:</p> <p><b>Comments from TSA:</b> Laird Creek, CP410, Block 1, and Spurs 1, 2, and 3 from August 7, 2018 by Perdue Geotechnical Services:</p> <p>A harvest boundary amendment was undertaken to increase the WTRA to encompass the catchment area above the potentially unstable, lower slopes (below the convex slope break).</p> <p><b>Comments from Hydro Assessment:</b> Laird Creek Hydrogeomorphic Assessment from May 22, 2018 by Apex Geoscience Consultants Ltd:</p> <p>The above stated boundary amendment which reduces the net area harvested from 30.1ha to 23.1ha also serves to pull back harvest boundaries from the headscarp of debris flow gullies.</p> <p>The RMA of Laird Creek is completely reserved outside of the harvest area to avoid or minimize disturbance to water quality.</p>
<b>Wildlife Objectives</b>	
Result or Strategy Description	<b>3.3.1 - Objectives set by Government for Wildlife - Species at Risk – Section 7 of the FPPR</b>
Applies:	NO
How the Result or Strategy Applies to the Site (or Rationale if it does not apply)	<p>The block is not within a Wildlife Habitat Area.</p> <p>There were no sightings of Species at Risk during field development of this cutblock.</p>

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Result or Strategy Description	<b>3.5.2 - Objectives set by Government for Wildlife and Biodiversity – Stand Level</b>
Applies:	YES
How the Result or Strategy Applies to the Site (or Rationale if it does not apply)	Two internal Wildlife Tree Retention Areas are planned for this block, totalling <b>10.7 ha</b> . Overall wildlife tree retention percentage for block 1 is approximately <b>30.8%</b> . Total WTRA for CP410 is 22.9ha which constitutes approximately <b>24.1%</b> of the gross area of the permit. The WTRA area meets the minimum percent requirements stated in the FSP for each block (3.5%) and for the whole cutting permit (7%).
Result or Strategy Description	<b>3.3.2 - Ungulates</b>
Applies:	YES
How the Result or Strategy Applies to the Site (or Rationale if it does not apply)	The proposed development CP410 is located within UWR Management Unit 178 and overlaps five distinct polygons with specific requirements in the ICHdw. Analysis completed by Timberland (August 29, 2018) shows that post-harvest, Ungulate Winter Range Management Unit 178 meets the minimum retention and maximum disturbance requirements for snow interception cover and forage areas.

## ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

<b>Consistency Statement</b>
This block is consistent with the approved <b>2017 to 2022 Forest Stewardship Plan for Cooper Creek Cedar Ltd – Forest Licence A30171</b> . This Site Plan is prepared for <b>FL A30171 CP 410 Block 1</b> , in accordance with FRPA Section 10(1), (2) & (3).
<b>Climate Change and Wildfire Resiliency</b>
<b>Leave Trees</b>
<b>SU A: Retain 40-45 stems per hectare of Fd, Lw, and Py in the &gt;=50cm DBH classes</b>
<b>SU B: Retain 60-65 stems per hectare of Fd, Lw, and Py in the &gt;=40cm DBH classes</b>
<b>Give preference to larger diameter, wind-firm dominants and/or vets</b>
Py, Fd, and Lw are more likely to survive a fire than the other species on site. Thinning the stand from above while retaining fire resilient stems and minimizing the surface fuels to meet the minimum CWD requirements is a recognized fire mitigation management plan. The objective is to retain larger, healthy stems with live crowns while maintaining a 3-5-m spacing between the crowns. The larger leave trees have higher crowns, which means a longer distance between surface fuels and tree crowns; reducing the effective ladder fuels, and reducing the likelihood of the fire moving into the canopy. Regularly spaced leave trees will shade the understory, which will help reduce ground temperatures and prevent brush species from becoming established, further reducing the ladder fuels. Leave tree distribution is expected to be regular where large stems exist and is operationally feasible to do so. Adequate inter-crown spacing prevents the spread of a potential wildfire between leave trees, while still providing ground shading. Post harvest the stand will be easier to protect should a fire occur – fire will move more slowly through the stand due to less ground fuel, an open stand with clean ground & a more open canopy that will let more water and fire retardant through to the ground from air drops than a full canopy stand. The roads and trails constructed to access the block will provide better access for the fire fighters.
The current stand is heavy to Fd; therefore planting Lw & Py will make the stand more resilient to adapt to changing climate conditions & to adapt to species specific pest.
<b>Community Watersheds</b>
FSP Section <b>3.4.3</b> Not applicable - The proposed block is not located within a Community Watershed.
<b>Enhanced Resource Development Zones</b>
FSP Section <b>3.2.1</b> 'KBHLP Objective 7 – Enhanced Resource Development Zones – Timber' <b>Block 1</b> is not within an Enhanced Resource Development Zone.
<b>Fire Maintained Ecosystems</b>
FSP Section <b>3.5.3</b> 'KBHLP Objective 8 – Fire maintained Ecosystems'. There are no NDT 4 ecosystems in the FDUs under this FSP, therefore the requirement to create a Result/Strategy for this objective does not apply.
<b>Fisheries Sensitive Watersheds</b>
FSP Section <b>3.4.2</b> At the time the FSP was developed there were no designated "Fisheries Sensitive Watersheds" in FDUs under this FSP, therefore the requirement to create a Result/Strategy for this objective does not apply.
<b>Invasive Plants</b>
FSP Section <b>4.1 – Invasive Plants</b> The IAPP website was checked on May 31, 2018. The following invasive species were reported in nearby areas to <b>CP 410</b> , mainly at low elevations within the first km of Balfour Face FSR in the general area of the Balfour Transfer Station: Canada thistle, Chicory, Common tansy, Himalayan blackberry, Hoary alyssum, Japanese knotweed, and Spotted knapweed.

Measures to prevent the introduction or spread of invasive plants noted in the FSP include:

- Cleaning equipment before moving from a worksite with existing infestations to a new work site.
- Minimizing soil disturbance during primary forest activities (PFA).
- Reseed exposed mineral soil, resulting from a PFA in the first available fall or spring within 12 months following the soil disturbance. Plan planting of cutblocks as soon after harvesting as possible.
- During PFAs minimize soil disturbance by:
  - Harvest on a snowpack, when feasible
  - Random skid to designated skid trails to minimize skidder traffic on the ground
  - Utilize benches for skid trails to minimize side cuts
  - Utilize brush to construct skid trails to reduce contact with the ground
  - Use overhead cable harvesting systems on steep ground
- Where grass seeding is undertaken, CCC will use certified grass seed (Canada common #1 or better grade) from reputable suppliers to ensure premium quality free of invasive plant seed, or a seed mix recommended by a MFLNRO range specialist.
- See FSP for additional strategies and practices regarding invasive plants.

#### Natural Range Barriers

FSP Section – 4.2

Not applicable. There are no range tenures located in the FDU covered by this FSP.

#### Timber

FSP Section 3.2 - Timber

As per Sec 12(8) of the FPPR, results or strategies are not required for an objective set by government for timber.

#### Wildlife - Caribou

FSP Section – 3.3 and 3.5.3

'KBHLP Objective 3 – Caribou' was cancelled and replaced by *GAR Order #U-14-012 – Mountain Caribou – Southwest Kootenay Planning Unit*. This block does not fall within a Caribou Management Zone.

#### Wildlife – Grizzly Bear Habitat - Connectivity

FSP Section 3.3 and 3.5.3

'KBHLP Objective 5 – Grizzly Bear Habitat & Connectivity Corridors'. Not applicable to the FDU which includes this block.

**Block 1** falls within Connectivity Corridor area. Applicable targets for Old and Mature forest will be met following harvest.

## STOCKING REQUIREMENTS

SU	NAR (ha)	Standards ID #	Other Performance Standards
A	13.9	1057445	See Section H - Stocking Requirements
B	4.4	1057452	
C	4.8	1057452	

## C. MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES & STRATEGIES

### C.1 MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

- Objectives for **CP 410 Block 1** include meeting visual quality objectives, protecting nearby streams, maintaining water quality, managing for a changing climate, contributing to fire mitigation strategies, and maintaining rich biodiversity and wildlife values: All of these objectives are carefully considered, and in some cases there are trade-offs in strategies (e.g. Leave tree density for visuals vs. fire mitigation), but a balance between all management objectives is the goal.
- Harvest this mature stand of **FdBgCw(LwPIHw)** for sawlogs, chips and value-added products and manage for a healthy, free growing stand of planted and natural **FdCwLwPwPy(BgHwPI)** for similar end products.
- **Wildlife Tree Retention Area (WTRA)**: Two large group reserves are planned for retention, totalling **10.7 ha** in size (30.8% of the block). The reserves shelter mature stand values, wildlife values, and portions of stand structure that are similar to the harvest area.
- **Kootenay Boundary Land Use Plan – Implementation Strategy (June 1997)**: This block is located within the designated **Landscape Unit K10** (West Arm) – Intermediate BEO Assignment.

### C.2 CONDITIONS THAT MUST EXIST AFTER HARVEST OR TREATMENT TO ACCOMMODATE KNOWN FOREST RESOURCES

#### C.2a WILDLIFE

Stand Level attributes/ concerns identified:

#### Ungulate Winter Range:

The proposed development CP410 is located within UWR Management Unit 178 and overlaps five distinct polygons with specific requirements in the ICHdw.

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Analysis completed by Timberland (August 29, 2018) shows that post-harvest, Ungulate Winter Range Management Unit 178 meets the minimum retention and maximum disturbance requirements for snow interception cover and forage areas.

**Migratory Bird Habitat Assessment:** Block 1 is within a Migratory Bird Risk Rating 4 polygon (VRI Age Class 6/Mixed Conifer) – ICH Mixed Conifer (FdCwBgLwHw). The management matrix therefore requires the implementation of at minimum one Best Management Practice with a Degree of Protection rank of at least moderate. BMP PL1, PL2 and LO2 have been implemented on site to reduce the likelihood of incidental take and to conform with CCC's adopted management strategy. PL1 refers to a high retention silviculture system that will be prescribed for SU B, where 40-45 stems per hectare will be retained. PL2 refers to the implementation of a patch/edge retention system around biodiversity anchors encompassed in WTRA 1. LO2 refers to higher levels of retention prescribed surrounding riparian features: This has been implemented with mature timber reserves adjacent to S6-1 and Laird Creek (75-100m RMA).

Slope values are low to moderate in the southern portion of the unit, with a few smaller areas of short, steeper slopes. Slope values in northern portion of unit are moderate to high. Middle to upper elevation ICH dw1 site conditions. Aspect is mainly southeast facing, with broken discontinuous slopes. Mid-low slope location. Vegetation cover is low to moderate over most of the unit. An S3 class stream (Laird Creek) is located at the east side of the block, greater than 50m from the harvest area. An S6 stream channel located 100m west of the block. All road access will be new construction. Old stumps were seen at the lower (southern) boundary. Existing coarse woody debris levels are low to moderate (>35cm diameter) in most areas. One disturbed patch with several snags and thick brush layer is located in the north western area of the unit.

**SU A:** stand type is: Fd<sub>6</sub>Cw<sub>2</sub>Bg<sub>2</sub>(Lw) with 425 stems/ha. Few Fd and Bg snags are present.

**SU B:** stand type is: Fd<sub>9</sub>Cw<sub>1</sub> with 584 stems/ha. Few Bg snags are present.

**SU C:** stand type is: Fd<sub>5</sub>Bg<sub>2</sub>Lw<sub>2</sub>Pl<sub>1</sub>(Hw) with 540 stems/ha. Few Fd snags are present.

Average stand density (all species) is 462 stems/ha. Most stems fall within the 20-60cm DBH classes, with 0.9% of stems in the 65-85cm DBH classes. Approximate species densities are Fd 256 stems/ha, Cw 104 stems/ha, Bg 43 stems/ha, Pl 26 stems/ha, Lw 26 stems/ha, and Hw 7 stems/ha. Stand age ranges from 54-148 with an average of 107 years old. The understory contains low densities of Bg Hw Cw regen, saplings and poles that are mainly in poor (suppressed) to moderate condition but growing well in openings.

Forest cover adjacent to the block includes similar mature stands with natural openings outside the West, North and East boundaries, and previous harvesting to the South-west.

#### Actions prescribed:

Total Area specified for the retention of wildlife trees: **10.7 ha** (30.1% of gross area)

#### Wildlife Tree Retention Patch (WTRA):

**WTRA-1 (6.4ha) Fd5Bg5(CwLw):** This WTRA is located on the east (lower) side of Spur-1 and contains a Fd Bg leading stand. Density is 500-600 sph; Height range is 20 - 30m; DBH range is 30 – 50cm; Age class is 5 - 7. Slope values are moderate, and crown closure is 40%. Values within the area include some large diameter vets with large branching patterns and old large CWD. Bear scat, ungulate scat, and wildlife trails were seen within the WTRA. Vegetation cover includes maple and alder 1-4m tall, and falsebox/prince's pine ground cover.

**WTRA-2 (4.3 ha) Fd8Bg2(CwLwHw):** This WTRA is located on the west (upper) side of Spur-1 and contains a Fd Bg leading stand. Density is 600-700 sph; Height range is 20 - 35m; DBH range is 30 – 60cm; Age class is 5 - 7. Slope values range from moderate to steep, and crown closure is 40%. Values within the area include some large diameter vets with large branching patterns and old large CWD. Bear scat, ungulate scat, and wildlife trails were seen within the WTRA. Vegetation cover includes maple and alder 1-5m tall, and falsebox/prince's pine ground cover.

The WTAs have been established in part, as a best management practice for the reduction of migratory bird incidental take (**BMP PL2**), to ensure compliance with Visual Quality Objectives, and to mitigate risk to downslope terrain hazards into the Laird Creek drainage.

#### Snags

Retain safe snags <5m tall in **SU A and B** where operationally feasible. Snags with evidence of wildlife use are preferred.

#### C.2c FISHERIES

There are no fish streams within or directly adjacent to the block.

See Section E.1 for Riparian Management Strategies.

Drainage from the majority of the cutblock area flows downslope to the East, towards Laird Creek.

## C.2d WATERSHEDS

**CP 410 Block 1** falls within the Laird Creek Domestic Watershed.

**Laird Creek (S3 Class)** has 10 licensed PODs for human consumption, the closest of which is >250m downstream. Referral letters dated April 5, 2018 were sent to POD licensees with a 30 day response period. Several comments were received from water users. Management with regard to these comments took into consideration the following recommendations from qualified professionals:

**Comments from TSA:** Laird Creek, CP410, Block 1, and Spurs 1, 2, and 3 from August 7, 2018 by Perdue Geotechnical Services:

A harvest boundary amendment was undertaken to increase the WTRA to encompass the catchment area above the potentially unstable, lower slopes (below the convex slope break).

**Comments from Hydro Assessment:** Laird Creek Hydrogeomorphic Assessment from May 22, 2018 by Apex Geoscience Consultants Ltd:

The above stated boundary amendment which reduces the net area harvested from 30.1ha to 23.1ha also serves to pull back harvest boundaries from the headscars of debris flow gullies.

## C.2e RECREATION

Not applicable. The proposed cutblock is not located within a designated Recreational Area or Trail with legal objectives.

## C.2f BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

**Landscape Unit - K10 (West Arm):** Intermediate BEO Assignment.

## C.2g VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**CP 410** falls partially within a polygon with a PR objective.

A Visual Impact Assessment was completed by Timberland Consultants in March 2018, and the proposed blocks meet the definition and requirements of PR. Irregular shaped boundaries that follow natural terrain features, and large reserve areas serve to improve visual quality from viewpoints. In Block 1, a mature retention of 40-45 stems/ha in SU A, and 60-65 stems/ha in SU B will enhance visual quality.

The proposed development of **CP410** meets the established VQO of PR from the selected viewpoints.

## C.2h CULTURAL HERITAGE

A referral letter dated February 14, 2018, was sent to the appropriate individual(s) and/or group(s).

Cooper Creek Cedar Ltd did not receive any comments from First Nations identifying any concerns with the proposed development that had the potential of impacting cultural heritage values.

No cultural heritage values were noted in this area. See section E.5 for Archaeological information.

## C.2i RANGE

Not applicable. There are no range tenures located in the FDUs covered by this FSP.

## C.2j OTHER RESOURCES

### Trapping / Guiding:

Trappers or guiding license holders in the area will be identified and notified through the Forest Stewardship Planning process.

### Windthrow:

Windthrow hazard is **Low** for adjacent immature stands that were harvested in the past (10 – 15m tall)

Windthrow hazard is **Low to Moderate** for adjacent mature stands. These stands have already been partially exposed to winds from past harvesting. Mature stands surrounding the harvest area are similar to the block with moderately well to well drained soils. The block is broken up into two smaller openings by WTRA, with dispersed internal retention in the southern (conventional) opening.

Soils are fine and well drained with 30-33 cm rooting depths.

## CONDITIONS NOT APPLICABLE TO THIS SITE PLAN

THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS WERE CONSIDERED, AND FOUND NOT TO BE APPLICABLE TO THIS SITE PLAN:

None identified.

## D. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

D.1 STANDARDS UNITS AND CRITICAL SITE CONDITIONS						
BIOGEOCLIMATIC						
SU	TREATMENT UNIT	ZONE	SUBZONE	VARIANT & PHASE	SITE SERIES	SITE TYPE
A	1	ICH	dw	1	101 <sub>9</sub> 104 <sub>1</sub>	-
B	2	ICH	dw	1	104	-
C	3	ICH	dw	1	104	-

## E. MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

E.1 RIPARIAN MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES				
RIPARIAN RESERVE ZONE (RRZ)				
RIPARIAN/ LAKE ID	RIPARIAN/ LAKE CLASS	HARVESTING Y/N	SU XREF	DESCRIPTION OF THE PURPOSE AND EXTENT OF REMOVAL OR MODIFICATION OF TREES AND ANY RELATED FOREST PRACTICES IN RIPARIAN RESERVE ZONE(S)
Laird Creek	S3	N	N/A	Harvest boundary established on slope break into stream gully >75m off Laird Creek. No harvesting within RRZ.
RIPARIAN MANAGEMENT ZONE (RMZ)				
RIPARIAN/ LAKE ID	HARVESTING Y/N	SU XREF	MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES FOR RIPARIAN OR LAKESHORE MANAGEMENT AREAS INCLUDING PROTECTING STREAM BANKS (if there is no RRZ), MAINTAINING SHADE, AND DEBRIS MANAGEMENT. IF FELLING AND/OR YARDING ACROSS STREAMS. INCLUDE EITHER THE RESIDUAL BASAL AREA <u>OR</u> DENSITY FOR RMZ (S) AND LMZ (S).	
Laird Creek	N	N/A	Harvest boundary established on slope break into stream gully >75m off Laird Creek. No harvesting within RMZ.	
NON-CLASSIFIED (NC) RIPARIAN AREAS				
RIPARIAN/ LAKE ID	SU XREF	MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES		
N/A				
No riparian areas are present within Block 1.				

E.2 FOREST HEALTH MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES					
SU	Code	Nelson Region DRA Risk Factors	Points	Relative Risk	Comments
A,B, C	DRA	Site factors	8	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Armillaria is absent or present at low levels within the stand. Occurrence is likely opportunistic and compounded by other pathogens (DRN, DDE) weakening this stand.</li> <li>The Nomographic Zones in Section 3.0 of the "Armillaria Root Disease Management Guidelines for the Nelson Forest Region" (June 1998) indicate that Alternative or Intensive deferred treatments for root disease management are appropriate for this site, should Armillaria become a problem.</li> <li>Alternative treatments will include planting a species mixture that includes species tolerant and /or moderately susceptible to Armillaria (e.g.: Lw, Cw, Pw, Py). Fd (highly susceptible) may be included but should be limited to a maximum of 50% of the mix. Microsite selection should reflect buffer zones around infected stumps, if they can be identified.</li> <li>Hand-pulling (preferred) or pop-up spacing (alternative) should be considered in the future should Armillaria become a limiting factor in meeting regeneration or free growing requirements (see section H).</li> <li>Stumping or pushover harvesting treatments are not suitable due to low sign of Armillaria, steep slopes in SU C, and high soil hazards.</li> </ul>
		Host factors	5	M	
		Inoculum potential	0	L	
		Disease factors	11	M	
			24	M	
Other Forest Health Factors					
SU	Code	%	Comments		Current risk to inventory
A,B	IBD	1	Approximately 5% of stems show signs of IBD, of which nearly all are grey attack, with very little red or green attack noted. Several down green Fd stems showed signs of IBD which corroborates with MoF AOS completed in 2017. Due to the presence of frass, beetles and pupae/larva the infestation is presumed to be ongoing at endemic levels. Due to the risk rating of the stand and the high consequence should an epidemic occur a treatment plan has been designed to manage the infestation.		High

			<p>Funnel traps and subsequent trap trees in the area may be utilized if required based on the results of post-harvest spillover probes conducted by a Qualified Professional.</p> <p>Leave tree prescriptions require Douglas Fir that exhibits signs of stress, scarring, decay or general poor health are not to be selected for retention. Depending upon the severity of the infestation post-harvest, MCH packets may be applied to dispersed retention in areas of high IBD presence determined by the assessment of a Qualified Professional.</p> <p>Trap trees may be considered for beetle management if timing of road building and block harvesting permits. This is to be determined by a qualified professional.</p>	
A, B	DSB	0	<p>Pw is absent or present in minor amounts in the current stand. A small amount of Pw may be planted in SU A and B. Plant only rust resistant stock. Expect high incidence of white pine blister rust on any naturally regenerated Pw.</p>	nil
<b>Expected future risks and actions</b>				
<p>A forest health/pest incidence assessment is not required. Forest health information was collected during SP field data collection in <b>November 2017</b>.</p> <p>Stand health risks in the future include a warm aspect and possible moisture deficits during the growing season.</p> <p><b>SU A:</b> Timber type of the pre-harvest stand by volume is Fd<sub>5</sub>Bg<sub>2</sub>Lw<sub>2</sub>Pl<sub>1</sub>(Hw)</p> <p><b>SU B:</b> Timber type of the pre-harvest stand by volume is Fd<sub>9</sub>Cw<sub>1</sub></p> <p><b>SU C:</b> Timber type of the pre-harvest stand by volume is Fd<sub>6</sub>Cw<sub>2</sub>Bg<sub>2</sub>(Lw)</p>				

<b>E.3 VEGETATION MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES</b>
<p>LIVESTOCK TO BE USED FOR VEGETATION MANAGEMENT: YES: <input type="checkbox"/> NO: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>Current Brush Hazard:</b> <b>SU A:</b> Low levels of brush inside the block with patches of moderate levels of brush in openings outside the block.</p> <p><b>SU B:</b> Moderate levels of brush distributed regularly in more open patches inside harvest boundaries.</p> <p><b>SU C:</b> Moderate levels of brush distributed regularly in more open patches inside harvest boundaries.</p> <p><b>Future Brush Hazard:</b> Moderate to High. Mesic to submesic moisture regime, warm southeast aspect, and dry brush complex in steeper areas of the block. Potential competitor species exist outside the block and at block boundaries, and include aspen, alder, maple, and thimbleberry.</p> <p><b>Brushing Methods:</b> Should brushing become necessary, manual treatments are the preferred methods.</p> <p><b>Risks and Considerations:</b> Woody brushing or stand tending treatments must be carefully assessed due to pathogen ability to colonize wounds on stocked trees that may be damaged by brushing treatments.</p> <p><b>Anticipated Timing:</b> Treatment needs will be assessed through periodic walkthroughs and silviculture surveys. Treatment timing will be prescribed at the time of brush assessment.</p>
<b>E.4 COARSE WOODY DEBRIS (CWD) MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES</b>
<p>CWD levels are low (&lt;3% ground cover). CWD is predominantly composed of 10-40cm diameter stems. Fd Pl Bg and Lw are the dominant CWD species. The stand has a dead standing and down component.</p> <p>Manage for minimum CWD levels post-harvest in accordance with wildfire mitigation strategies. Post-harvest CWD will consist of non-merchantable existing levels and snags, along with residue and breakage. A reduction of CWD levels is anticipated through fire mitigation.</p> <p>(FPPR Section 68): <b>Manage for the minimum of 4 logs per hectare</b>, each being at least <b>2 metres</b> in length and at least <b>7.5cm</b> in diameter at one end.</p> <p>See the SITE PREP section (K.1) for additional CWD management strategies.</p>
<b>E.5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT</b>
<p><b>Archaeological Overview Mapping</b> of the <b>CP 410</b> area shows that <b>block 1</b> does not fall within a polygon that has a potential rating. An Archaeological Impact Assessment is not required.</p>

## F. SOIL CONSERVATION

F.1 SITE DISTURBANCE						
SU	HAZARD RATINGS			SOIL CHARACTERISTICS		
	SOIL COMPACTION	SOIL DISPLACEMENT	SURFACE SOIL EROSION	DEPTH TO UNFAVOURABLE SUBSOIL (cm)		TYPE OF UNFAVOURABLE SUBSOIL
				MIN(cm)	MAX(cm)	
A	Moderate	High	Moderate	28	28	Sands/Gravels
B	Moderate	High	High	50	55	Dense Parental Material, Fragmental (>70% CF)
C	Moderate	High	High	40	40	Fragmental (>70% CF)

## F.2 SOIL DISTURBANCE LIMITS

**SU A:** ARE THERE SENSITIVE SOILS? ☐ YES ☒ NO

**SU B:** ARE THERE SENSITIVE SOILS? ☐ YES ☒ NO

**SU C:** ARE THERE SENSITIVE SOILS? ☐ YES ☒ NO

MAX. PROPORTION OF TOTAL AREA UNDER THE PRESCRIPTION ALLOWED FOR PERMANENT ACCESS STRUCTURES (PAS): **2.6%**.

**Roadside harvesting or temporary landings will be used.**

**DEACTIVATION OF PERMANENT ACCESS STRUCTURES:** Any landings will be deactivated – debris will be piled & burned, water control will be installed around all landings.

### Terrain Stability Assessment, Laird Creek, CP 410 Block 1 and Spurs 1, 2, and 3 (report dated August 7, 2018)

Block 1, and the associated Spur 1, 2, and 3 roads, were reviewed by Christopher Perdue, P.Geo., Eng.L. of Perdue Geotechnical Services on August 1, 2018.

The likelihood of landslide initiation as a result of the proposed timber harvesting is rated as **Low**.

### **Recommendations from TSA: Harvest Boundary Amendment:**

The topographically-defined catchment area (within Block 1) upslope of seasonal groundwater emergences and existing tension cracking was originally proposed to be harvested with a relatively small Wildlife Tree Retention Area (WTRA) established across the upper, northwestern harvest boundary. The original Equivalent Clearcut Area (ECA) above the lower slopes exhibiting signs of gradual slope instability is expected to increase seasonal groundwater levels and increase the likelihood of a rapid mass wasting event (i.e. a landslide). As a result, recommendations were forwarded to PWP to increase the WTRA to encompass the catchment area above the potentially unstable, lower slopes (below the convex slope break).

The recommendations were put in place with a significant increase in WTRA area, which reduced the net area to be harvested from 30.1 hectares (originally) to 23.1 hectares (present).

General Timber Harvesting Recommendations are included in the TSA report and are noted on the Harvest Plan map.

SU	MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE SOIL DISTURBANCE WITHIN THE NET AREA TO REFOREST (%)	MAXIMUM EXTENT SOIL DISTURBANCE LIMITS MAY BE TEMPORARILY EXCEEDED TO CONSTRUCT TEMPORARY ACCESS STRUCTURES OR EXCAVATED OR BLADED TRAILS (%)
A,B,C	10%	5%

### **MASD for Roadside Work Areas: 25%**

Any temporary access structures or excavated or bladed trails will be rehabilitated to the extent necessary to bring the SU net area back into compliance with the specified soil disturbance limits.

See **Section F.4** below for description of temporary access structures or excavated or bladed trails, if any.

Avoid harvesting during spring freshet/breakup conditions when soils are moist to reduce soil displacement and compaction.

Steep slopes >35% are present in parts of SU A and B (ground based harvest methods) and are noted on the **Harvest Plan Map**. In SU C cable based harvest methods will be utilized.

## F.3 REHABILITATION TIME FOR TEMPORARY ACCESS STRUCTURES

MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE TIME TO COMPLETE REHAB (MEASURED FROM COMPLETION OF HARVEST): **2 YEARS**

#### F.4 MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES FOR TEMPORARY ACCESS STRUCTURES

SU	GENERAL LOCATION:	MAX ALLOWABLE HEIGHT OF CUTBANKS (m)	AVERAGE HEIGHT OF CUTBANKS (m)	EQUIPMENT TO BE USED (IF OTHER THAN EXCAVATOR)
A,B	Blading or excavating is expected to occur in parts of the unit with moderate to steep slopes.	0.8	0.3	Skidder, cat.

##### Proposed Roads (permanent):

SU A: Spur 2\* = 278m x 10m = **0.28ha**

SU B: Spur 1 = 315m x 10m = **0.32ha**

SU C: Spur 1 = 92m x 10m = **0.09ha**

WTRA: Spur 1 = 192m x 10m = **0.19ha**

Total PAS = **0.88ha**

##### Proposed Roads (temporary):

SU A: Spur 3: 73m x 10m = **0.1ha**

##### Proposed Landings (temporary):

SU A: 3 landings @ 0.2 ha = **0.6 ha**

SU C: 1 landings @ 0.2 ha = **0.2 ha**

- **SU A: Roadside harvest with landings. Favourable skidding with minor amount of adverse skidding on the southeast corner, below Spur 3.**
- **SU B: Roadside harvest with landings. Favourable skidding on steep slopes down to spur 1.**
- **SU C: Downhill cable harvest to roadside / landing. Small amount (80m) of uphill yarding or hoe-chuck.**
- **See Section E.1 for stream management strategies.**

##### The following will apply for any excavated/bladed trails that are required:

- Maximum trail width is 4m.
- Actual dimensions of bladed trails may vary depending on topography.
- The amount of bladed trail constructed will be kept to a minimum.

Short sections that become bladed trails where a non-bladed trail crosses a hump or ridge will be exempt from rehabilitation requirements provided that the soil disturbance limits in this SP are not exceeded.

##### Rehabilitation for bladed or excavated trails:

Any bladed or excavated trails will be rehabilitated as follows:

- De-compact the trail, including removing woody debris that is conducting subsurface moisture
- Place fill material that was sidecast on the excavated portion of the trail
- Re-contour the slope
- Re-establish natural surface drainage
- Place some woody debris over exposed mineral soil

\*Spur 2 is a temporary road, but is considered as permanent for the purposes of the SP as it is planned to be deactivated but not fully rehabbed upon completion of harvesting due to silviculture obligations.

## G. SILVICULTURAL SYSTEMS

SILVICULTURAL SYSTEMS	
SU	SYSTEM / VARIANT / PHASE
A, B, C	Clear-cut with reserves silviculture system.
SU	STAND STRUCTURE AND SITE CONDITION - COMMENTS
A,B	<p>Post-harvest stand structure will be even-aged with one age class. Planted trees and natural regeneration will include <b><u>Fd Cw Lw Pw Py (Pl Bq Hw)</u></b>.</p> <p><b><u>2 Wildlife Tree Group Reserve Areas (WTRA):</u></b> totalling 10.7 ha</p> <p><b><u>Leave Trees</u></b>  <b>SU A: Retain 40-45 stems per hectare of Fd, Lw, and Py in the <math>\geq 50</math>cm DBH classes</b>  <b>SU B: Retain 60-65 stems per hectare of Fd, Lw, and Py in the <math>\geq 40</math>cm DBH classes</b>  <b>SU C:</b> No mature leave trees are planned in SU C due to safety concerns associated with downhill yarding.  The purpose of this mature retention is to provide stand structure, biodiversity, visual and wildlife values. Give preference to larger diameter, wind-firm dominants and/or vets. Individual stems may be removed if required for safety or operational reasons. Douglas-fir stems that exhibits signs of stress, scarring, decay or general poor health are not to be selected for retention.</p> <p><b><u>Wildfire Mitigation</u></b>  Py, Fd, and Lw are more likely to survive a fire than the other species on site. Thinning the stand from above while retaining fire resilient stems and minimizing the surface fuels to meet the minimum CWD requirements is a recognized fire mitigation management plan. The objective is to retain larger, healthy stems with live crowns while maintaining a 3-5-m spacing between the crowns. The larger leave trees have higher crowns, which means a longer distance between surface fuels and tree crowns; reducing the effective ladder fuels, and reducing the likelihood of the fire moving into the canopy. Regularly spaced leave trees will shade the understory, which will help reduce ground temperatures and prevent brush species from becoming established, further reducing the ladder fuels. Leave tree distribution is expected to be regular where large stems exist and is operationally feasible to do so. Adequate inter-crown spacing prevents the spread of a potential wildfire between leave trees, while still providing ground shading. Post harvest the stand will be easier to protect should a fire occur – fire will move more slowly through the stand due to less ground fuel, an open stand with clean ground &amp; a more open canopy that will let more water and fire retardant through to the ground from air drops than a full canopy stand. The roads and trails constructed to access the block will provide better access for the fire fighters.</p> <p>The current stand is heavy to Fd; therefore planting Lw &amp; Py will make the stand more resilient to adapt to changing climate conditions &amp; to adapt to species specific pest.</p> <p>Snags  No snags or stubbed trees are prescribed to be left behind in the block, as they are a hazard from a fire management perspective. Live vets and larger stems selected as leave trees will provide wildlife values post-harvest.</p>







