

## 2018 Monitoring Report – Executive Summary

As part of Taan Forest's Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) Certification, we are required to develop and implement Monitoring Plans that address FSC requirements. An annual monitoring report is also required to be completed to assess performance in relation to the targets that have been established. *Xaayda Haida* and public consultation of the Monitoring Plan and Report is required by FSC.

The following table summarizes the results of the 2018 FSC Annual Monitoring Report for each indicator and has been developed to help improve dialogue by providing a summary report that is much shorter than the full report. The full report is available on the Taan Website: <http://www.taanforest.com/index.php?page=sustainability>.

For simplicity, the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development will be referred to with the MFLNRO acronym.

In 2018, Taan achieved the established targets for 34 of the 36 indicators (94%). The indicator where the targets were not achieved are noted below and include: Invasive Plants reporting and Windthrow Management Effectiveness.

Yield of all Forest Products			
Indicator ID	Target	Target Met	Comments
Forest Products	Harvest Volumes within 5% over a 10-year period; report the amount of monumental cedar provided to the Cultural Wood Program.	Yes	Harvest volume data not available yet for the ten-year period reporting set for this indicator but appears to be on track for meeting the target. Taan provided 7 logs to the Haida Gwaii Cultural Wood Program.
Non-Timber Forest Products	Cooperate with local organizations/groups requesting access to NTFPs	Yes	Taan continues to cooperate with local <i>Xaayda Haida</i> for Ts'uu/SGaahlan <i>red/yellow cedar</i> bark collection and consult with local Kaagan daajing <i>mushroom</i> pickers. In 2018, on-going communication was held with a group of local Kaagan daajing mushroom pickers regarding a submitted Grievance under our FSC® Certification, which was concluded/ closed.
Sustainable Harvest Rates	Annual harvest rate is ≤125% of the projected LTHL	Yes	Taan continues to harvest at a rate that is well within the long-term sustainable level, although it is below the AAC. Taan harvested 288,891m <sup>3</sup> in 2018 and the AAC was 460,000m <sup>3</sup> .
Waste & Residue	Avoidable Waste is ≤ 100 m <sup>3</sup> /ha	Yes	The average waste and residue was 72.5m <sup>3</sup> /ha (8 blocks sampled). The level of avoidable waste decreased slightly this year and continues to remain lower than the average for the coast region.

Growth Rates, Regeneration & Condition of the Forest			
Indicator ID	Target	Target Met	Comments
Growth & Yield Plots	No MFLNRO PSP/ G&Y plots are harvested unless 'approval' is received	Yes	There were no growth and yield/ permanent sample plots that were harvested in 2018. Harvesting of Ts'uu/SGaahlan <i>red/yellow cedar</i> plots is not permitted. There are 145 plots established in Taan tenures (22 MFLNRO and 123 Taan plots).
Stand Development	Develop and implement monitoring plan; respond to results	No	There has not been any MFLNRO Forest and Range Evaluation Program (FREP) stand development monitoring completed for Taan tenures since 2012. There are several Taan indicators that rely on the results of the FREP monitoring program. The MFLNRO shares the data/ results for the Taan tenure areas with Taan.
Planting	≥85 % of seed source is from <u>Xaayda Gwaay,yaay Haida Gwaii</u>	Yes	In 2018, a total of 279,325 trees were planted, with 95% of the seed originating from <u>Xaayda Gwaay,yaay Haida Gwaii</u> . Some SGaahlan <i>cypress</i> seedlings were sourced from the Mamquam River (Sea to Sky). Contrary to previous planting trends, substantially more pine was planted, and no spruce was planted. <u>K'aang Hemlock</u> is being under planted as it regenerates naturally where the sites are suitable.
Reforestation Monitoring	Report on the areas monitored for reforestation; 100% of areas with free growing due are declared FG (5% variance is acceptable with rationale)	Yes	All Taan FG blocks were declared before the FG due date. Taan completed 1386ha of surveys in 2018, which included the use of a drone to complete some of the surveys. BCTS completed surveys within the FLTC but did not report back to clarify if all were completed prior to the FG deadline.
Forest Health	Act on trends of importance that can be managed; minimize possibilities of outbreaks; early detection of any new species	Yes	In 2018 pine sawfly decreased in occurrence. SGaahlan <i>Yellow cedar</i> decline continues to be an issue on the Haida Tenure. Taan continues to collaborate with UBC on research aimed at identifying suitable sites and strategies for successful regeneration. The total number of windthrow, floods and Jiidaal <i>landslides</i> remained relatively consistent to 2017 events with some changes within severity categories.
Soil Conservation Effectiveness	Maintain average of ≤ 7% permanent access; 100% of cutblocks achieve soil conservation objectives	Yes	Taan had an average permanent access of 4.5% in a 5-yr period (2014-2018) and 4.9% in 2018. In 2018, post-harvest inspections prescribed the removal of machine trails in a few blocks and noted that some issues regarding respecting machine free zones along streams.
Stand-level Biodiversity Effectiveness	Various targets exist for SLBD (including range of opening size, range of internal retention patch size, Coarse Woody Debris, and Windthrow) Skidegate LU: maintain an average of 20% stand-level retention	Yes	This indicator is a FREP monitoring indicator that is reported every five years (to be reported in 2020). Taan continues to have a significant portion of the harvested blocks with high levels of stand level retention (52%) and forest influence (48% of blocks have >50% forest influence). In 2018 there was no old forest harvesting within any eco-rep areas identified as having a deficit of old forest.
Environmental Incidents	Minimize the number and size of environmental incidents; ≤ 5 events	Yes	In 2018 there were no reportable spills, zero fires and zero avalanches. There was a total of 10 landslide reports, all occurring on October 24, 2018 with more than 300mm of rainfall over a 48-hour period; none required additional investigation.

Composition & Observed Changes to Flora & Fauna			
Indicator ID	Target	Target Met	Comments
Species at Risk	Species status is tracked/ management responses undertaken	Yes	Many species and populations were assessed in 2018 resulting in rank changes. In December 2018 MFLNRO published the Recovery Strategy for the Stads K'un <i>Northern Goshawk laingi</i> subspecies.
Sensitive Species Habitat	Maintain reserves; protect Ts'allang.nga <i>MAMU</i> habitat; maintain Stads K'un <i>NOGO</i> foraging habitat	Yes	Targets set by the LUOO are being followed. Taan is keeping apprised of the progress of the Stads K'un <i>NOGO</i> Recovery Team and the development of the Haida Gwaii Recovery Strategy. In 2018, 2 new Taan <i>bear</i> dens were identified, and two new Stads K'un <i>goshawk</i> nests added, one in Feather and one in Hancock River.
Environmental & Social Impacts			
Indicator ID	Target	Target Met	Comments
Watershed Disturbance	# of watersheds exceeding the established thresholds improves	Yes	In 2018 the following Sensitive Watersheds that currently exceed the allowable 20% ECA threshold under the LUO, and where no harvesting is permitted: Brent Creek, Maamin <i>Mamin</i> River 4. The following non-sensitive watersheds that have ECA restrictions under FSC requirements (>25% ECA), where no harvesting is currently permitted under FSC are: Bill Creek, Brent Creek, Brian Creek 2, Diinan <i>Dinan</i> Bay Residua I2, Heather Lake, Log Creek 3. These results are consistent with 2017 results which show significant improvement in watershed condition with the full implementation of the LUO.
Riparian Management Effectiveness	Continually improve the percentage of properly functioning streams	N/A	This indicator is a FREP monitoring indicator that is reported every five years (to be reported in 2020)
FSC Riparian Budgets – Watershed Level	100% of streams meet FSC Budgets	No, but stand level management implemented to address.	Not updated in 2018, as this requirement is not included in the new DRAFT FSC Standard, expected to be published in 2019
FSC Riparian Budgets – Stand Level	100% of Riparian budgets maintained at the stand level	No	In 2018, all 22 cutblocks that were harvested were reviewed for conformance with the FSC Riparian Budget requirements (Riparian Budget Trackers). Conformance with Stand-level FSC Riparian Budget requirements was 95.4% with one block having a small watershed and block level deficit of only 0.15ha. This requirement is not included in the new DRAFT FSC Standard, expected to be published in 2019
Water Quality Effectiveness	≥90% of areas measured have very low-low potential for amount of fine sediment entering a stream	N/A	This indicator is a FREP monitoring indicator that is reported every five years (to be reported in 2020)

Indicator ID	Target	Target Met	Comments
Research & Monitoring Projects	Report on participation and cooperation levels	Yes	Taan continued support for the collaborative data sharing initiative (CHN & BC Government), UBC research projects, FREP monitoring program and Stads K'un <i>Northern Goshawk</i> monitoring projects. In 2018 Taan worked with NWIPC and ISC to developed Taan-specific Invasive Plant cards and training and aided the province with delivery of Basic Wildfire Safety and Suppression training initiatives for all of <u>Xaayda Gwaay.yaay Haida Gwaii</u> .
Government Revenue	100% of required payments are completed in a timely manner	Yes	Taan has completed all payments to government within the required timeframes. Payments for 2018 totaled \$615,084.
Local Support & Agreements	Report on support/ donation levels; maintain completed agreements	Yes	In 2018, Taan supported several organizations and community groups through donations and support as well as firewood. Total approximately \$126,342.
Local Supplies & Services	Preference is given to local supplies and services	Yes	Taan supported 81 local vendors in 2018, and expenditures for vendors in <u>Xaayda Gwaay.yaay Haida Gwaii</u> was 44% of the total budget spent on local supplies and services.
Local Employment	Employment opportunities are advertised locally, and preference is given to local hires	Yes	Taan has 56% <u>Xaayda Haida</u> employment and 63% local employment. Contractors are 28% <u>Xaayda Haida</u> and 84% local employment.
Accident Frequency Rate	Taan - MIR $\leq$ 8.00	Yes	Accident rate has significantly improved over the last four years and was 4.6 for 2018. There were four recordable incidents, three lost time and one restricted work. Incidents included a sprained shoulder, twisted ankle from misplaced footing, a cut/puncture from metal shard, and a muscle strain resulting from a truck that rolled on its side.
Public Consultation	100% of comments, complaints and disputes resolved in a timely manner	Yes	No FSC complaints or disputes received. Closure of a grievance filed by a group of local residents related to proposed harvesting in <u>K'aasda Siiwaay Skidegate Lake</u> and potential for loses to livelihood related to Kaagan daajing <i>mushroom</i> picking. Taan continues to work with many local residents and groups to improve communications and dialogue. Taan has established a public advisory group consisting of <u>Xaayda Haida</u> representatives. The group has had several meetings and meets regularly.
Dryland Sort (DLS) Wood Waste	DLS waste disposal is $\leq$ 10% of the volume harvested	Yes	DLS waste comprised 0.9% of the harvest volume (1,183m <sup>3</sup> ). Some of the wood waste was donated for firewood.
Inorganic Waste - Seedling Protectors	Implementation of removal plans	Yes	90,241 cones were removed from the FLTC in 2018, mostly from previously declared FTG blocks.

Costs, Productivity & Efficiency			
Indicator ID	Target	Target Met	Comments
Forest Management Efficiencies	Pro-formas are completed and evaluated for every development area	Yes	A total of 55 pro-Formas (cost and margins analysis) were completed for 2018 to ensure that proposed cublocks are financially viable.
High Conservation Value Forests			
Indicator ID	Target	Target Met	Comments
Landscape Level Biodiversity – Overview	Maintain at least 30% of an LU in old seral, minimize roads, and maintain a geographic distribution of forest interior.	Yes	No change from the 2016 report (analysis is completed every 5 years).
Landscape Level Biodiversity - Connectivity	Linkages of reserves exist, stand retention creates a permeable matrix for old forest species	Yes	No change from the 2016 report (analysis is completed every 5 years). Taan has not completed any harvesting within the <u>XuulGaaws Kaahlii Sewell</u> Landscape Unit, which is the only landscape unit identified as requiring improvements in connectivity.
Landscape Level Biodiversity - Ecosystem Rep.	Maintain representation levels as set by LUO (by site series)	Yes	Ecosystem Representation is monitored spatially for compliance with the Forest Stewardship Plan and the LUOO targets. Harvesting did not occur in any deficit areas in 2018.
HCVF Large Landscape Level Forests (LLLLF)	≤20% disturbance in LLLF Polygons (measured in relation to the portion of the LLLF within Taan Tenures)	Yes	The “allowable disturbance” threshold of 20% of the portion within the MU is 210.8 ha. Taan has never completed, nor has any plans for harvesting within the small narrow section of intact forest located in the north-west section of TFL 60 (in LLF polygon 1).
Invasive Species	Ensure monitoring and reporting of invasive plants is occurring	No	In 2018, Common Tansy, Fox Glove, and Canadian Thistle were identified during surveys, but were not reported to MFLNRO/ Invasive plants APP. Invasive Species Council of BC conducted a 1-day training program on the identification and recommended management of many invasive plant species found on <u>Xaayda Gwaay.yaay Haida Gwaii</u> .
LUO/ FSP Annual Reporting	Provide a summary of the results of the LUO/ FSP annual reporting	Yes	Taan continues to demonstrate stand-level implementation of the LUOO with 3,714 features and 218.9ha of reserve area identified in 2018.
Windthrow Management Effectiveness	100% of blocks have TCM completed, did the TCM work as expected?	No	Windthrow occurred in four blocks that impacted LUOO reserves/ management zones (i.e., streams, yew patch and monumental tree reserves). Windthrow was also a concern from monitoring in 2016 and 2017. Internal discussions and reviews continue to occur to work towards reducing impacts of windthrow, including more conservative treatment recommendations based on risk, stand types and features present.
Cultural Heritage Resource Management Effectiveness	100% of practices to maintain features categorized as well to very well	N/A	There were no cultural heritage resource FREP assessment completed in 2018.