

# Lakes North Sustainable Resource Management Plan

Update – June 2, 2008

## What is it?

The Lakes North Sustainable Resource Management Plan (SRMP) is a detailed land use plan that outlines biodiversity objectives and strategies for resource management in the northern half of the Lakes Timber Supply Area. The Integrated Land Management Bureau (Provincial Government) is coordinating this planning process.

## Background

The Lakes North SRMP is consistent with the provisions of the Lakes Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) approved in January 2000, and with the Lakes Higher Level Plan Order (HLP) established on July 26, 2000.

The Lakes North SRMP objectives apply to Crown forested land outside of protected areas, and relate to forestry activities.

## Purpose

There are three goals for the Lakes North SRMP:

1. to establish legal objectives for managing biodiversity in support of the *Forest and Range Practices Act* implementation;
2. to implement priority elements of the Lakes LRMP; and,
3. to reduce the risk to biodiversity values in light of increased rates of forest harvesting and Mountain Pine Beetle infestations.

## Deliverables

The plan will deliver the following elements of biodiversity:

- a legal objective for seral stage distribution (distribution of young and old forest across the landscape)
- a legal objective for retaining old growth areas across the landscape
- a legal objective for wildlife tree patches in harvested areas
- a legal objective for landscape connectivity (network of landscape corridors)
- an objective (non-legal) for patch size distribution
- an objective (non-legal) for retention of wild young forests
- an objective (non-legal) for tree species diversity

## Timelines

The draft Sustainable Resource Management Plan will be completed by July 2008. Public review and comment period of the plan will occur for 60 days in August and September. Final plan approval will occur in September 2008. The Regional Executive Director of the Integrated Land Management Bureau, Tom Kearns, will be establishing the objectives under the *Land Act*.