



# PROJECT SUMMARY

Developing and implementing a Sustainable Forest Management Plan for both the Lakes and Morice Timber Supply Areas is the central objective of the Morice and Lakes Innovative Forest Practices Agreement. The adaptive management cycle and public involvement are both important components of this planning process.

Ecosystem Management

Forest Productivity

Public Involvement

Adaptive Management

## Indicator Monitoring Protocols

### Introduction

The monitoring of performance indicators is a predominant method to evaluate the effectiveness of sustainable forest management (SFM) plans. In the development of SFM plans, performance indicators are selected with respect to their usefulness and ability to evaluate the management intent of the SFM plan. As part of the M&L IFPA SFM plans, detailed indicator sheets (i.e. monitoring protocols) are developed for each of the performance indicators. This information is an integral component of the plans and is a vital tool for ensuring that the progression toward SFM is taking place in an objective, efficient and transparent manner.

Figure 2 provides a schematic diagram of the steps of the scenario planning process; in particular those steps leading to indicator development. The steps used to develop SFM indicators are described below.

Following the principles of the SFM system, a multi-disciplinary planning team (i.e. Scenario Planning Team, or SPT) was established. The SPT was composed of public, licensee and government representatives.

The SPT used scenario planning to develop a series of future forest scenarios (i.e. learning scenarios) that attempt to achieve a variety of local resource management objectives that represent a diversity of publicly-derived values on the land base. Within each learning scenario, the SPT developed statements of management intent for each value/issue. These statements provided a means to further develop management assumptions and, ultimately, performance indicators with management targets.

### Objectives

The objective of this project is to develop indicator protocols that define indicators and indicator linkages, assumptions, monitoring protocols and reporting requirements for inclusion in SFM plans.

### Methods

The SFM system used for the M&L IFPA is based on the "McGregor Approach to Sustainable Forest Management." This system was originally developed by the McGregor Model Forest Association and is now being implemented by Tesera Systems Inc. The system is based on a generic adaptive management cycle (see Figure 1). Additional features have been added to this adaptive management cycle to facilitate the development and implementation of SFM plans and systems.



Fraser Lake Sawmills



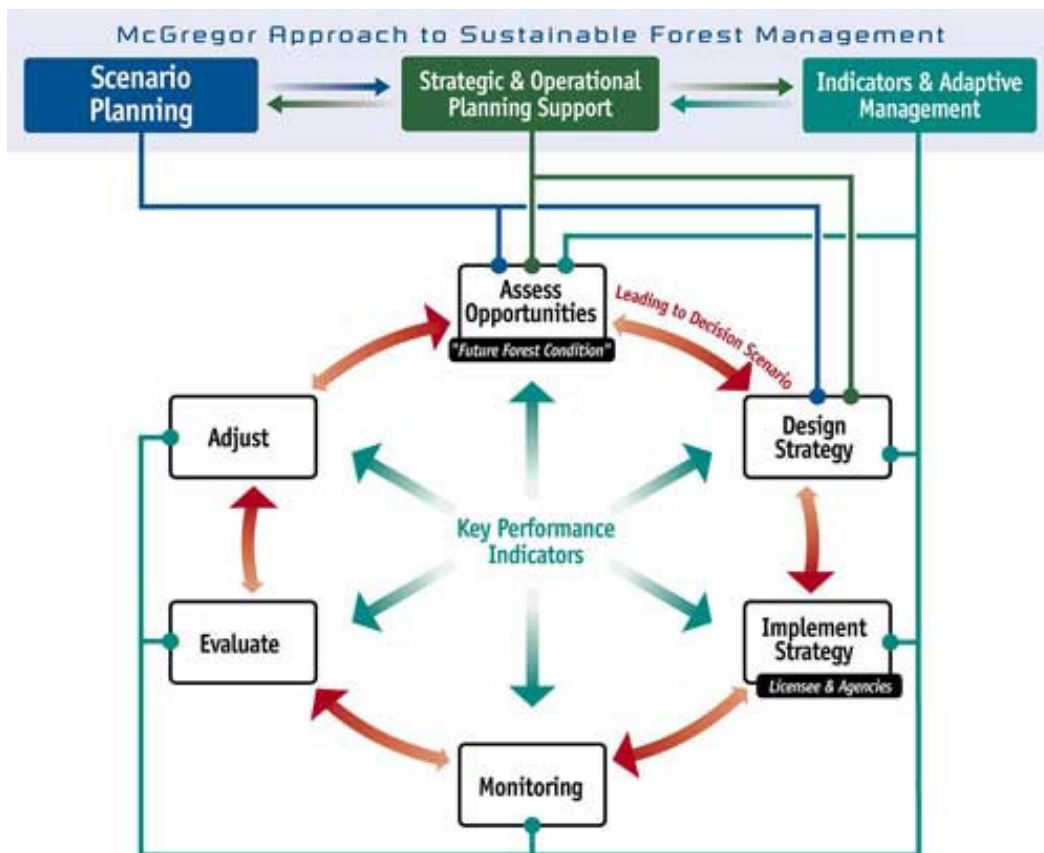


Figure 1: The McGregor Approach to SFM.

Once the SFM indicators were derived for each TSA, detailed indicator sheets were completed for each indicator. These sheets contain a description of the specific details of each indicator including current conditions, forecasted values, and management objectives (i.e. targets, thresholds, variances, and timeframes). Monitoring details/protocols were also outlined for each indicator which includes data requirements (i.e. type of data, supplier, date required), analysis requirements and reporting details.

These detailed indicator sheets were developed with the close involvement of the SPT and the M&L IFPA Implementation Team. The SPT provided valuable input to ensure that the indicator sheets met the original expectation regarding relevance to the management intent and values. The Implementation Team provided important input regarding the operational implementation of management and practices to accommodate the indicator and the needs for monitoring and reporting of SFM indicators.

The detailed indicator sheets, once reviewed and endorsed by the SPT (and the Public Advisory Group), were compiled within the SFM plans for each TSA. Other components of the SFM plan were also completed as part of this project. These components included:

- A descriptive assessment of the data resources required to support indicator monitoring and reporting for the M&L IFPA;
- A description of the indicator reporting requirements; and,
- A description of management adjustment procedures.

## Results

The first versions of the SFM plans were completed in December 2002 with the endorsement of the M&L IFPA Public Advisory Groups, Scenario Planning Teams, and Strategic Committee. These SFM plans contain the deliverables for this project, and are part of the package submitted to the Ministry of Forests to meet the Forestry Plan requirements for the Innovative Forest Practices Agreement.

The SFM plans can be viewed and/or downloaded from the Morice and Lakes IFPA Web site at [www.moricelakes-ifpa.com](http://www.moricelakes-ifpa.com)

## Discussion

By virtue of the SFM indicators and monitoring protocol developed from this project, the M&L IFPA will be able to assess operational management and practices in meeting the management intent associated with locally derived values. At present, this process is utilizing the “base case” learning scenario assumptions to develop indicator targets and guide current management. Once analysis begins on the other learning scenarios, the indicators (and associated targets) will also allow the M&L IFPA to assess the effectiveness of the management and practices toward meeting the management intent of each individual learning scenario. Performance indicators and targets will provide a means to compare the various learning scenarios during the comparative scenario analysis

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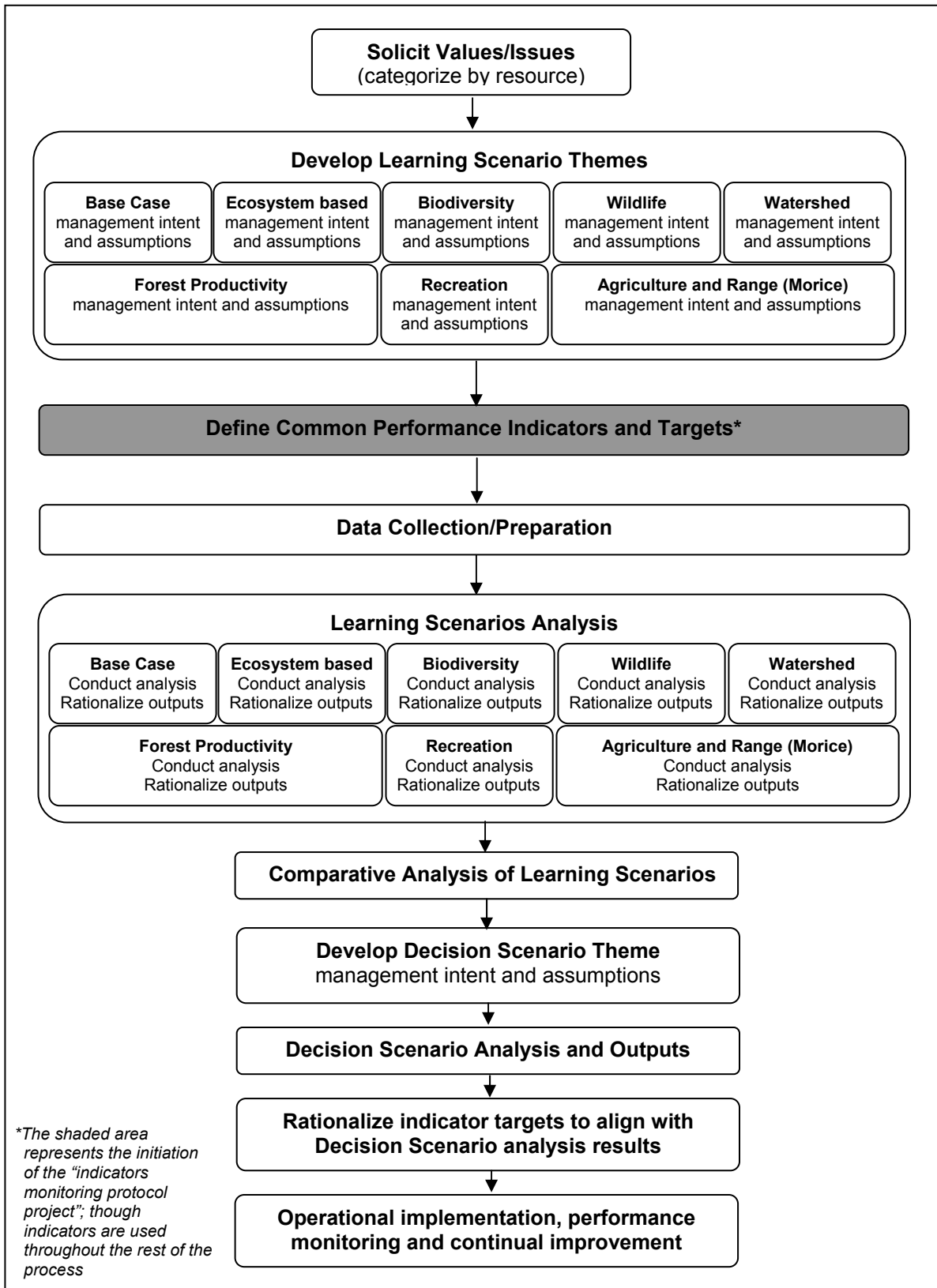


Figure 2: Steps in the M&L IFPA Scenario Planning Process

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(using indicator forecasts), and help to ultimately develop management intent, management assumptions, and indicators/targets for a decision scenario.

The use of SFM indicators is also important in the continual improvement component of the SFM system. For example, the results of indicator monitoring provide important feedback regarding management and practices that are functioning as planned as well as those management and practices that may need adjustment. More information regarding the complete continual improvement process is documented in each SFM plan.

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**Morice & Lakes**  


**For More Information...**

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