

Forest and Range Practices Act **Improvement Initiative:** Renewal and Resilience



Ministry of
Forests, Lands, Natural
Resource Operations
and Rural Development

Today's Agenda

Context

- Background on the FRPA initiative
- First suite of changes – Bill 21

Second Suite Proposed Changes

- Engagement with FRPA
- Opportunities for input

Next Steps

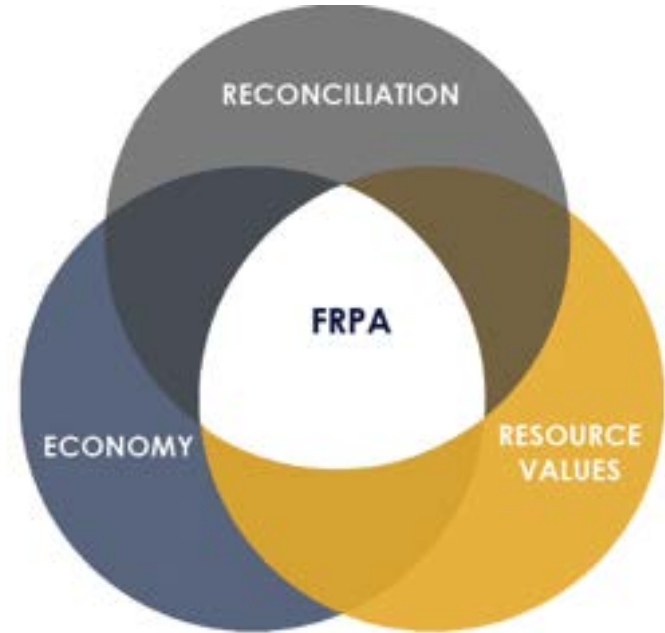
Question & Answer Period

Background

- FRPA was developed under different circumstances than those faced today
- Input and evidence to support improving FRPA amassed since enactment in 2004
- In October 2018, Government approved a multi-year process for FRPA improvement
 - » First suite of amendments introduced in April 2019
 - » Second suite of amendments proposed for spring 2020

Intent of Proposed Changes to FRPA

- Clarify government's objectives for forest and range resources
- Improve information sharing in forest planning
- Enhance accountability for achieving desired outcomes
- Increase opportunities for communities to engage in planning
- Advance reconciliation with Indigenous Nations by enhancing their participation in forest and range management
- Adapt resource management to changing land base and values



FRPA Legislative Timeline

		2019				2020				2021			
		Wint	Spri	Sum	Fall	Wint	Spri	Sum	Fall	Wint	Spri	Sum	Fall
Bill 21	Act		* Introduced in legislature										
	Regs						* In force						
Second suite of changes	Act						* Introduced in legislature						
	Regs										* In force		

First Suite of Changes - Bill 21



BILL 21 - 2019: FOREST AND RANGE PRACTICES AMENDMENT ACT, 2019

Home > Parliamentary Business > 42nd Parliament > 4th Session > Bills > Progress of Bills

Progress of Bills

2019 Legislative Session: 4th Session, 42nd Parliament
FIRST READING

The following electronic version is for informational purposes only.
The printed version remains the official version.

HONOURABLE E. BLOK, MPP
MINISTER OF FORESTS, LANDS, NATURAL RESOURCES,
OPERATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

**BILL 21 - 2019:
FOREST AND RANGE PRACTICES
AMENDMENT ACT, 2019**

HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, enacts as follows:

Enacting Words

If Section 9 (1) of the Forest and Range Practices Act, S.R.C. 2002, c. 49, is amended
(a) by adding the following definition:

Bill 21 - New requirements under FRPA

1. Create more frequent and reliable opportunities for input

- Term of Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) is 5 years; term of Woodlot License Plan (WLP) is 10 years; must replace when term ends
- May extend up to 6 months (up to 2 years to enable Government consultation with Indigenous Nations)

Bill 21 - New requirements under FRPA *continued*

2. Improve information sharing in forest planning

A forest operations map (FOM) is required prior to requesting a cutting or road permit

- Shows approximate locations of proposed roads and cutblocks
- Publicly available, subject to review and comment, report required
- Decision makers must refuse a permit that does not comply with FRPA requirements for FOM (new Forest Act requirement)

Bill 21 - New requirements under FRPA *continued*

3. Strengthen Government's ability to manage forest activity

- Enable delegation of existing authority to vary or suspend a forest plan, practice or permit where it infringes upon an Aboriginal right or title
- Require mandatory amendments to FSPs to be submitted within 6 months (1 year for WLPs)
- Give minister authority to request FSP amendment in response to catastrophic timber damage
- Change plan requirements to practice requirements for visual quality, invasive plants, and natural range barriers

Bill 21 - New requirements under FRPA *continued*

4. Enhance stewardship of resource values

- Align definition of wildlife with that of *Wildlife Act* and allow for protection of ecological communities

5. Improve and streamline range use planning

- Eliminate range stewardship plan and enable range use plan (RUP) to be managed through an online platform
- Align term of RUP with that of range agreement

Second Suite of Changes: Two Elements

- **Enable Coordinated Planning**
 - New framework for landscape level forest planning
- **Enhance Sustainability under FRPA Framework**
 - Review of government objectives with climate change and natural disturbance lens (e.g., wildfire, insects/disease)
 - Review of sustainability tools to support related initiatives (species at risk, drinking water, old growth forests, sector revitalization)

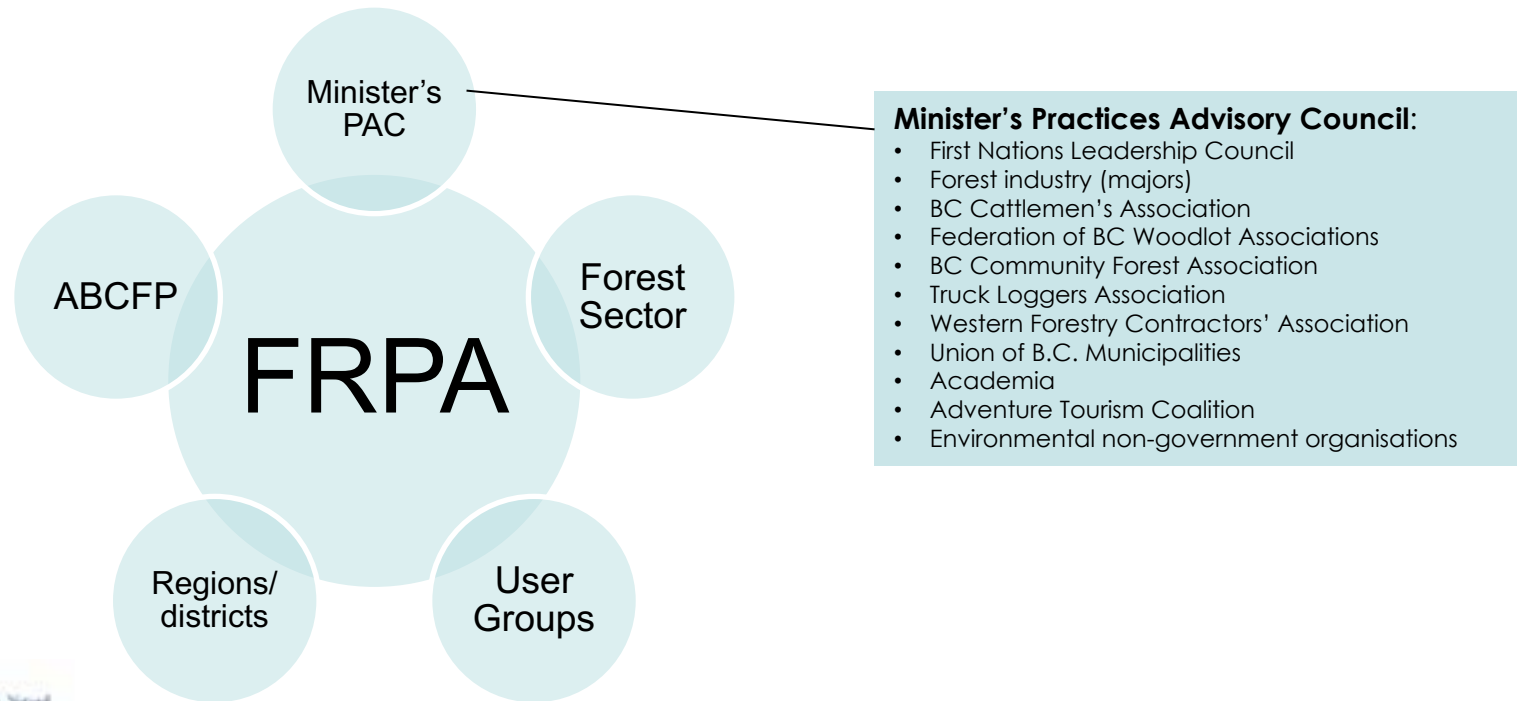
Engagement Processes

1. Indigenous Engagement
2. Targeted Stakeholder Engagement
3. Public Engagement

Indigenous Engagement Process

- All of B.C.'s 203 Indigenous Nations have been invited to engage
- Engagement is a parallel process to online public and stakeholder meetings
- Engagement is occurring through Government-to-Government meetings, workshops and conferences
- New frameworks for information-sharing and ongoing dialogue are being explored

Targeted Stakeholder Engagement



Public Engagement Process

- Online process from May to July
 - Deadline: July 15, 2019 at 4pm
- General and targeted engagements
 - We encourage individuals to submit feedback on discussion questions online
 - We are also accepting concurrent submissions from stakeholder and industry groups



Climate Change & Resilient Landscapes

- Provide flexibility in planning and practices to enable proactive adaptation
- Incorporate climate change considerations into planning:
 - response to natural disturbance events
 - selection of tree species for reforestation
 - enabling migration of plants and animals as habitat shifts



Climate Change & Resilient Landscapes

- Mitigate forest losses associated with natural disturbance events
- Create more resilient forest landscapes that continue to provide sustainable benefits
- Enhance economic benefits of carbon management and fiber utilization
- Improve public awareness of effects of climate change on ecosystems and importance of adaptation

Landscape-level Planning

- Enable planning across a defined landscape (e.g., TSA or TFL)
- Incorporate direction from land use plans
- Resolve overlapping government direction, and coordinate resource management objectives, targets and strategies
- Engage Indigenous Nations and community stakeholders
- Inform forest operations schedules and site plans



Landscape-level Planning

- Mitigate cumulative effects of operations on ecological/social values
- Enable forward-thinking planning and response to climate change
- Enable government-to-government collaboration with Indigenous Nations
- Enable community stakeholders to participate
- Help create certainty for current and future forest operations



Public Trust

- Enhance public access to proposed operational plans and maps
- Increase opportunities for the public to influence forest and range activities
- Require monitoring and reporting of results on the ground



Resource Values and Objectives

- Strengthen objectives and supporting regulations for FRPA values to:
 - Address the current and emerging effects of climate change
 - Mitigate the cumulative effects of forest and range operations on ecosystems
 - Continue to provide for the economic, social, cultural and environmental needs of all British Columbians



Oversight and Accountability

- Enhance the ability of the Minister and delegated decision makers to:
 - balance competing values and interests on the land base
 - ensure consistent approach by industry to achieve intended results
 - prevent unintended outcomes or adverse impacts to FRPA values



Next Steps

May 27 – July 15 2019 - public and stakeholder engagement

Fall 2019 –

- Reports to public: “What We Heard” and “Intended Direction of FRPA”
- Development of legislation

Spring 2020 – Legislative amendments to government

Questions & Answers