



SUSTAINABLE  
FORESTRY  
INITIATIVE  
WESTERN CANADA

SFI-01150

GILBERT SMITH FOREST PRODUCTS  
LTD.

## **WOOD PRODUCER INFORMATION PACKAGE**

WESTERN CANADA SFI  
IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE (WCSIC)

September 2023

## 1. Introduction

The Western Canada Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee (WCSIC) is comprised of members of Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI®) Certified Organizations in British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan, structured under two regional committees, BC and Prairie.

SFI Certified Organizations are certified by an accredited certification body to be in conformance with the SFI Forest Management Standard, Small-Scale Forest Management Module for Indigenous Peoples, Families and Communities, Fiber Sourcing Standard, Certified Sourcing Standard and/or the Chain of Custody Standard. In addition, Certified Organizations believe forest landowners have an important stewardship responsibility and a commitment to society. We recognize the importance of maintaining viable public and private forest forestlands. SFI Certified Organizations support sustainable forestry practices on forestland they manage and promote it on other lands where they source fiber. They endorse efforts to protect private property rights, and to help all landowners manage their forestland sustainably. The WCSIC performs local outreach and education activities that promote sustainable forestry, the SFI program, and SFI Standard conformance on public and private forestlands.

The Wood Producer Information Package is an outreach tool for landowners or wood producer supplying wood to SFI Certified Organizations from North American forests. The Package provides guidance for managing forestlands consistent with SFI Program Principles and Objectives. SFI Certified Organizations also encourage forest landowners to participate in forest management certification. Landowners considering certifying their lands should contact the nearest SFI Program Participant or the WCSIC through our website: [www.wcsic.ca](http://www.wcsic.ca).

Gilbert Smith Forest Products is a member of the WCSIC and supportive of this guidance for managing forestlands that supply its facilities. Gilbert Smith is committed to the principles of Sustainable Forest Management. To ensure that this goal is achieved, GSFP's policy is to procure timber only from demonstrated reliable sources.

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this Information Package is to provide guidance to SFI Certified Organisations and Wood Producers on SFI Fibre Sourcing Standard requirements for Wood Producer Training (Objective 6, Performance Measure 6.2) and Landowner Outreach (Objective 7, Performance Measure 7.1).

## 2. Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) Inc.

### **SFI Principles**

Gilbert Smith Forest Products support the following principles as provided in the SFI 2022 Fiber Sourcing Standard:

1. Sustainable Forestry
2. Forest Productivity and Health
3. Protection of Water Resources
4. Protection of Biological Diversity
5. Aesthetics and Recreation
6. Protection of Special Sites
7. Legal Compliance
8. Research
9. Training and Education
10. Community Involvement and Social Responsibility, and Respect for Indigenous Rights
11. Transparency
12. Continual Improvement
13. Responsible Fiber Sourcing

Many forest companies and organizations have currently achieved SFI certification, or certification to other sustainable forest management standards to help ensure the future well-being of the forest ecosystem.

To demonstrate conformance with SFI or other standards, Gilbert Smith hires third-party independent auditors, who verify that the companies' forest practices and environmental management meet the requirements of the certification system. To ensure transparency, these auditors' reports must be made available to the public. The audit verification is an ongoing process that ensures continuing conformance with the sustainable forest management standards. For more information on the SFI Standard please refer to the SFI website: <https://forests.org/>.



**Figure 1: SFI Certification is Third Party Verified through Annual Audits**

### **SFI Objectives**

The SFI Fiber Sourcing Standard 2022 contains Objectives, Performance Measures, and Indicators to communicate and verify conformance with the overarching Principles. There are eleven Objectives that SFI Certified Organizations adhere to for their Fiber Sourcing Standard certification, supported by numerous Performance Measures and Indicators applicable to fiber sourcing from North American forests. We provide the listing of the Objectives below and encourage readers to review the more detailed Performance Measures and Indicators on the SFI website: <https://forests.org/>:

- Objective 1: Biodiversity in Fiber Sourcing
- Objective 2: Adherence to Best Management Practices
- Objective 3: Use of Qualified Resource Professionals, Qualified Logging Professionals and SFI Certified Logging Companies
- Objective 4: Legal and Regulatory Compliance
- Objective 5: Forestry Research, Science and Technology
- Objective 6: Training and Education
- Objective 7: Community Involvement and Landowner Outreach
- Objective 8: Public Land Management Responsibilities
- Objective 9: Communications and Public Reporting
- Objective 10: Management Review and Continual Improvement
- Objective 11: Avoid Controversial Sources

### **SFI's Work**

SFI is a sustainability leader through their work in four focus areas:

- Standards (certification)
- Conservation (research, projects, grants)
- Community (SFI Implementation Committees, First Nations)
- Education (school programs, employment)

## **Company Audits**

As part of Gilbert Smith's commitment to sustainable forestry management, an on-site visit by the Certified Organization or their independent auditor to the wood producers' operations may be conducted to answer any questions about the SFI program. The visit may also include an assessment of the conditions on the logging site as part of our requirements to meet the applicable SFI Standard(s).

### **3. Sustainable Forest Management Practices**

Gilbert Smith Forest Products supports forest land managers in conducting sustainable forest management operations. Wood producers are expected to conduct harvesting operations in compliance with all applicable provincial or federal legislation. There is legislation that applies to both Crown (public) forest land and private land that is managed for forestry. Gilbert Smith encourages wood producers to consider the following guidance on forest land managed by the wood producer or landowner. Landowners should contact an appropriate qualified resource professional for additional guidance particularly with respect to Best Management Practices for Water Quality.

- a. **Reforestation**: Prompt reforestation of lands managed for forestry will help to ensure successive crops of trees, in addition to supporting many other non-timber objectives. Reforestation plans can detail the steps needed to successfully re-establish seedlings on harvested forest lands. SFI Certified Organizations will, on request, support you in identifying Registered Forest Professionals in your area to assist you in developing a reforestation plan for your site. See below for more information on Qualified Resource Professionals and web links to seedling nurseries in Canada. A list of seedling nurseries can also be obtained from the applicable SFI Certified Organization. Note that seedlings generally need to be ordered at least one year in advance of planting dates.
- b. **Afforestation**: When feasible, forest landowners are encouraged to practice afforestation; converting lands back to productive forests or planting trees on lands that have not recently supported forests. Afforestation has many benefits to the environment; two examples are increased overall land productivity and increasing carbon storage. In certain jurisdictions, afforestation may qualify as carbon credits for offsetting greenhouse gas emissions.
- c. **Invasive Species**: The SFI Standard requires participants to limit the introduction, impact and spread of invasive species (plants and animals) that directly threaten or are likely to threaten native plant and animal communities.



**Figure 2: Check Machinery prior to Movement & Clean as Needed to Prevent Spread of Invasives**

Information on the control of invasive plants can be found through:

- The Invasive Species Council of British Columbia: <https://bcinvasives.ca/>
- The Alberta Invasive Species Council: <https://abinvasives.ca/>
- The Saskatchewan Invasive Species Council: <https://www.saskinvasives.ca/>
- The Federal Government of Canada's strategies for Invasive Alien Species in Canada: <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/biodiversity/invasive-alien-species-strategy.html>. The program includes invasive plants and animals.

- d. **Water Quality and Riparian Management:** Riparian habitat (area adjacent to creeks, lakes and wetlands) is very important for protecting water quality and provides high value wildlife habitat. Special measures are often required in riparian habitat to ensure water quality and habitat is managed on a sustainable basis. Gilbert Smith will, on request, support you in identifying qualified resource professionals in your area to assist you in preparing prescriptions to manage riparian habitat.

Management and control of sediment during road construction, maintenance and deactivation activities is key to maintaining water quality. Adhere to local wet weather shutdown guidelines and cease activity if there are any safety or environmental concerns. Do not direct ditchwater directly into any fish streams or drinking water source areas (i.e., use ditch blocks, sumps, etc. Hay bales can also be used to assist with sediment control, but ensure they are maintained and removed once activity is complete. Where material is available, armour culvert intakes and outtakes for any areas of concern for sediment transport.

- e. **Fish and Fish Habitat:** It is prohibited under the [Federal Fisheries Act \(https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/campaign-campagne/fisheries-act-loi-sur-les-peches/introduction-eng.html\)](https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/campaign-campagne/fisheries-act-loi-sur-les-peches/introduction-eng.html) to undertake works that result in the death of fish, a harmful alteration, disturbance or destruction of fish habitat (HADD) or to introduce a deleterious substance (e.g. excessive sediment) into fish habitat. Works in or adjacent to fish habitat may require a project review by Fisheries and Oceans Canada (<https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/index-eng.html>) and if works are determined to result in a HADD an authorization will be required before work can be undertaken. The Fisheries and Oceans Canada website provides Measures to Protect Fish and Fish Habitat (<https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/measures-mesures-eng.html>), Codes of Practice (<https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/practice-pratique-eng.html>) and guidance when a project review (<https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/reviews-revues/request-review-demande-d-examen-001-eng.html>) is required.

- f. **Soil Conservation:** Protecting the soil resource is the key to long-term productivity of forest lands. Conducting operations in a manner that conserves the soil resource is critical to sustainable forestry. Weather conditions can be a major factor in soil disturbance. Operations should avoid conditions that create excessive rutting or compaction. Plan operations with soil disturbance in mind. Weather conditions and soil disturbance should be assessed, and consideration given to curtailing or stopping activities causing soil disturbance when soils are too wet to support equipment. For example, in the BC Interior and prairies, consider winter harvesting on wet ground to better support equipment. With different soil types, and phases of harvesting, it may be possible to carry out some operations in wet weather without causing excessive soil disturbance. Appropriate equipment should be used to minimize soil disturbance.



**Figure 3: Proper equipment, such as this wide-tired skidder, and proper techniques to reduce impacts to soil**

The area in permanent roads, trails and landings should be minimized to maintain productive forestland. Gilbert Smith will, on request, support you in identifying qualified resource professionals in your area to assist you in managing the soil resource on your forestlands.

- g. **Biodiversity & Wildlife:** Both regulation and government approved land use plans set out requirements at the stand and landscape level. These requirements vary by province and region. Landowners may seek assistance from Gilbert Smith or by contacting an appropriate qualified resource professional.



**Figure 4: Species at Risk – Grizzly Bears**

- h. **Wildlife Management:** Managing forest lands for general wildlife features or habitat characteristics as well as specific management for species at risk are important components of sustainable forestry. Gilbert Smith may have guides for species at risk management that could be made available upon request. In addition, Gilbert Smith will support you in identifying qualified resource professionals in your area to assist you in developing wildlife management strategies.

- [Government of Canada Species at Risk:   
https://www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/wildlife-plants-species/species-risk.html](https://www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/wildlife-plants-species/species-risk.html)
- NatureServe Canada's Conservation Data Centres:   
<https://www.natureserve.org/canada>

- i. **Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value (FECV):** Forest landowners are encouraged to evaluate their lands to determine if they have FECV. FECV are lands with critically imperiled (G1) and imperiled (G2) species and ecological communities, a conservation status determined by NatureServe that can be accessed through the link provided below. Landowners may seek assistance from Gilbert Smith or by contacting an appropriate qualified resource professional.



**Figure 5: FECVs**

Gilbert Smith Forest Products has completed a FECV Assessment for the Thompson Okanagan Region. The following were identified as Imperiled (G2); Crumpled Tarpaper (Linchen), Ute Lady's Tresses (Orchid) and Northern Long-Eared Bat may be found. Recommended Best Practices include assessing the presence of FECVs in the proposed work location, ensuring that site specific plans address the conservation of known locations or critical habitat, and ensuring that pre-work meetings are held to review specific instructions or plans. Workers should also be instructed to stop work and seek direction if any previously unidentified wildlife features are encountered during work activities.

See Appendix 1: FECV Assessment Summary and Fact Sheets

[NatureServe Canada's Conservation Data Centres:   
https://www.natureserve.org/canada](https://www.natureserve.org/canada)



- j. Special Sites: The SFI Standard requires Certified Organizations to manage lands that are ecologically, geologically, or culturally important in a manner that takes into account their unique qualities. Identification and management of special sites covers a broad range of values: ecological, geological, historical, cultural, and spiritual. Landowners may consult with local historians, archeologists, First Nations, local governments, and others to determine significance to map and manage for their unique features.

**Figure 6: Special Sites**


- k. Coarse woody debris/ harvest residue: The SFI Standard requires participants to manage harvest residue (e.g., slash, limbs, tops) with consideration given to economic, social and environmental factors (e.g., organic and nutrient value to future forests, smoke management and carbon emissions) and other utilization needs. In the absence of landowner harvest residue management plans, landowners should contact Gilbert Smith or qualified resource professionals in their area for suggested management practices for their forest lands.
- l. Landscape Aesthetics: Managing harvesting operations to minimize visual impact is an important part of sustainable forestry. Operations may impact the views of many individuals and communities. Gilbert Smith recommends that the visual impact of harvesting be considered within visually sensitive areas. For guidance or advice landowners are encouraged to contact a qualified resource professional knowledgeable in visual management assessment and planning.



**Figure 7: Visual Quality Landscape Management**

- m. Qualified Resource Professionals: Gilbert Smith does not endorse specific professionals or companies as to their appropriateness to landowners. The following lists are intended to inform landowners seeking assistance from qualified resource professionals to further manage and or develop their lands consistent with SFI Principles. Gilbert Smith may assist landowners in contacting qualified resource professionals.

**Table 1: Qualified Resource Professional Resources**

Qualified Resource Professional Category	Resources
Forestry	<p>BC, Alberta, and Saskatchewan have respective Associations of Forest Professionals where membership directories can help you identify forestry consultants to assist you in planning aspects of forest management, including reforestation plans, visual management, riparian management, soil conservation and wildlife management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Association of BC Professional Foresters: <a href="https://abcpf.ca/web">https://abcpf.ca/web</a></li> <li>- Association of Alberta Forest Management Professionals: <a href="https://aafmp.ca/">https://aafmp.ca/</a></li> <li>- Association of Saskatchewan Forestry Professionals: <a href="https://www.asfp.ca/">https://www.asfp.ca/</a></li> </ul>
Biologists	<p>Each province within the WCSIC has a membership database for professional biologists. Members could assist you with planning for riparian management and wildlife management. An SFI Program Participant can also assist you in identifying biologist consultants in your area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The College of Applied Biology – British Columbia: <a href="https://www.cab-bc.org/">https://www.cab-bc.org/</a></li> <li>- Alberta Society of Professional Biologists: <a href="https://www.aspb.ab.ca/">https://www.aspb.ab.ca/</a></li> </ul>
Engineers	<p>The following websites have a member’s section that provides information on qualified professionals to assist in such areas as operations on potentially unstable or steep terrain and engineered structures such as bridges.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of British Columbia: <a href="https://www.egbc.ca/">https://www.egbc.ca/</a></li> <li>- The Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists, and Geophysicists of Alberta: <a href="https://www.apega.ca/">https://www.apega.ca/</a></li> <li>- The Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientist of Saskatchewan: <a href="https://www.apegs.ca/">https://www.apegs.ca/</a></li> </ul>
<p>Seedling Nurseries and Seed Procurement</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forest tree seedlings can be procured for reforesting British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan forest sites from a number of nurseries located in their respective province. Specialists within those nurseries, as well as Gilbert Smith, can be consulted for advice on obtaining appropriate seed and seedlings for your specific reforestation site. Larger nurseries often grow certain amounts of locally suitable seedlings for small “spot purchases” each year.</li> <li>• A list of forest tree seedling nurseries for British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan can be found at:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Canadian Forests Directory of Silviculture Contractors and Forest Nurseries: <a href="https://www.canadian-forests.com/silviculture-nurseries.html">https://www.canadian-forests.com/silviculture-nurseries.html</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The Forest Nursery Association of BC website: <a href="https://www.fnabc.com/">https://www.fnabc.com/</a></p>

n. Qualified Logging Professionals

**Gilbert Smith Forest Products encourages wood producers to utilize the services of Qualified Logging Professionals (QLP’s).** QLP’s will have successfully completed a training program recognized by the WCSIC. A list of local qualified logging professionals can be obtained from Gilbert Smith, or inquiry through the WCSIC website: <https://wcsic.ca/>.



o. Guidebooks and Sustainable Forestry Management Practices

The WCSIC supports small forest land-owners' forestry operations through promotion of sustainable forestry management. Wood producers are expected to conduct harvesting operations in compliance with applicable provincial and/ or federal legislation. The intent of sustainable forestry practices for these lands is to maintain or protect, where practical, forest resource values. The WCSIC provides and/ or directs small private landowners to information about sustainable forestry practices for reforestation, riparian management, soil conservation, wildlife management and visual or scenic quality. Resources for landowners can be found with the following organizations and on their websites:

- British Columbia's Private Forest Landowners Association Best Management Practices Handbook
- British Columbia's Managed Forest Council Field Practices Guide: <https://www.mfcouncil.ca/legislation-policy/policies-and-procedures/>
- Woodlot Management Guide for Alberta: chrome-extension://efaidnbnmnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/viewer.html?pdfurl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww1.agric.gov.ab.ca%2F%24department%2Fdeptdocs.nsf%2Fall%2Fapa15536%2F%24file%2Fwoodlot-book%2520rd.pdf%3FOpenElement&clen=6866545
- BC Small Woodland Partnership Outreach: [http://www.woodlot.bc.ca/swp/SWP/SWP\\_Partners.html](http://www.woodlot.bc.ca/swp/SWP/SWP_Partners.html)

**Gilbert Smith will not purchase wood from unknown sources, sources/ areas associated from controversial sources or from wood producers whose practices are illegal.**

## 4. Other Considerations

a. Spill Response Plan

Fuel and other material spills have the potential to cause environmental damage. Wood producers are encouraged to become familiar with spill reporting requirements and to have an action plan and a supply of spill containment and mop up equipment available on site. Reportable spills must be communicated to the relevant provincial authority.

To Report a Spill:

British Columbia - Emergency Management BC – 1-800-663-3456.

Alberta Environmental Protection – 1-800-222-6514.

Saskatchewan - Spill Report Centre – 1-800-667-7525.

b. Fire Preparedness

Wood producers are encouraged to become familiar with applicable wildfire legislation in their province. Provincial legislation will dictate what type of preparedness plan and firefighting equipment must be on hand when harvesting wood. The legislation also includes provisions for monitoring fire danger ratings (due to weather conditions) and specific restrictions on activities that apply under certain conditions (e.g., fire watch, early shifts, shutdowns).

To Report a Wildfire:

British Columbia – 1-800-663-5555.

Alberta – 310-FIRE (310-3473).

Saskatchewan – Forest Fire Control Centre at 1-800-667-9660.

Wood producers should also be aware of the requirement of post-harvest wildfire hazard abatement requirements. Guidance on wildfire hazard abatement is available at the following sources:

- BC Wildfire Management Branch:  
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/managing-our-forest-resources/wildfire-management>
- BC Wildfire Management Branch: A Guide to Fuel Hazard Assessment and Abatement in British Columbia: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status/prevention/for-industry-commercial-operators/hazard-assessment-abatement>
- Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development: Wildfire Prevention & Enforcement:  
<https://wildfire.alberta.ca/firesmart/default.aspx>
- Alberta Fire Smart Program:  
<https://wildfire.alberta.ca/firesmart/default.aspx>
- Saskatchewan Environment Ministry: Wildfire Management:  
<https://www.saskpublicsafety.ca/emergencies-and-response>



**Figure 8: Wildfire Prevention –  
(Mobile Grapple Skidder Watertank/  
Pump Unit)**

c. Health & Safety

British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan have acts and regulations for, Worker Compensation and Employment Standards. The regulations set minimum standards regarding occupational health, safety and employment. These agencies offer direction on the implementation and interpretation of the regulations through periodic training sessions, self-education guides and site visits. Information and training opportunities can be found at the following websites:

- [Work Safe BC: https://www.worksafebc.com/en](https://www.worksafebc.com/en)
- [BC Forest Safety Council: https://www.bcforestsafety.org/](https://www.bcforestsafety.org/)
- [BC Employment Standards Branch: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/employment-business/employment-standards-advice/employment-standards](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/employment-business/employment-standards-advice/employment-standards)
- [BC Employers' Advisors Office: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/organizational-structure/ministries-organizations/ministries/labour](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/organizational-structure/ministries-organizations/ministries/labour)
- [Work Safe Alberta: https://www.wcb.ab.ca/](https://www.wcb.ab.ca/)
- [Alberta Safety Council: https://www.safetycouncil.ab.ca/](https://www.safetycouncil.ab.ca/)
- [Alberta Human Services – Employment Standards: https://www.alberta.ca/labour-and-immigration.aspx](https://www.alberta.ca/labour-and-immigration.aspx)
- [Work Safe Saskatchewan: https://www.worksafesask.ca/](https://www.worksafesask.ca/)
- [Saskatchewan Safety Council: https://www.sasksafety.org/](https://www.sasksafety.org/)
- [Saskatchewan Labour Relations & Workplace Safety: https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/government-structure/ministries/labour-relations-and-workplace-safety](https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/government-structure/ministries/labour-relations-and-workplace-safety)



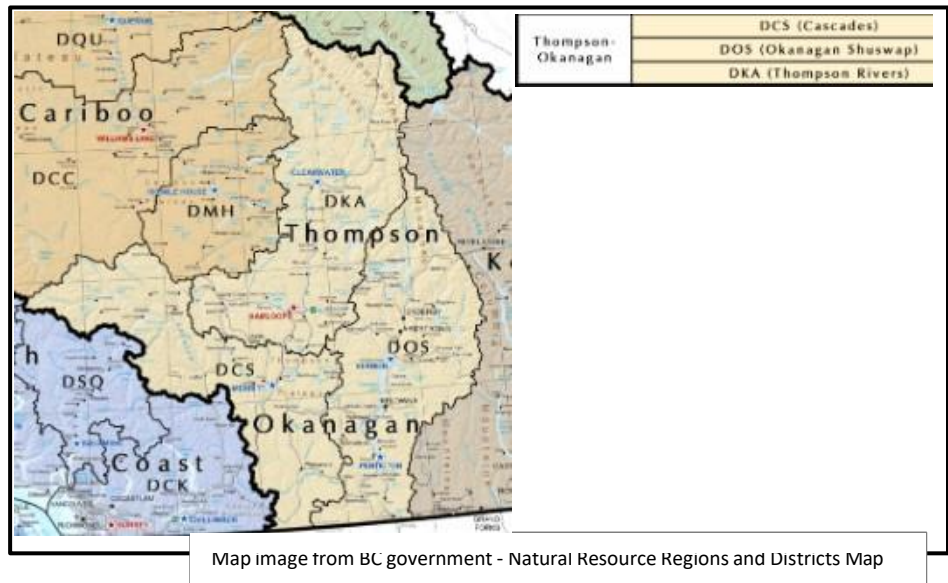
Appendix 1:  
**Gilbert Smith Forest Products**

## Forests of Exceptional Conservation Value (FECV) Assessment Summary

The FECV assessment, created with the assistance of Professional Biologists, is intended to alert resource workers and wood suppliers to the potential presence of protected species to thereby minimize or avoid entirely negative impacts on sensitive animal and plant populations. The following is a list of species or plant communities that reside or potentially reside within Gilbert Smith's Timber Supply Areas in the province of British Columbia that have a conservation ranking as G1- critically imperiled (endangered) or G2 - imperiled (threatened) by NatureServe.org, or Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC). The review was completed for all the districts identified below.

Gilbert Smith's Timber supply area (TSA) Districts:  
 - Thompson Rivers (DKA)

Conservation Status Ranking  
 G - Global ranking  
 1: Critically Imperiled  
 2: Imperiled



### FECV BC Species Summary

The following table outlines species/ communities globally listed as 1 (critically imperiled) or 2 (imperiled) in specific Gilbert Smith TSA Districts. Additional Gilbert Smith factsheets for each G1 and G2 species/ community are available.

Conservation Ranking	Common Name(s)	Scientific Name	BEC Zone	District Locations
G2	Northern (Long-eared) Bat	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>		<b>Thompson Rivers TSA</b>
G2	Crumpled Tarpaper	<i>Collema Coniophilum</i>		
G2	Ute Lady's Tresses	<i>Spiranthes Duiulivalis</i>		

## CRUMPLED TARPAPER LICHEN

### GSFP FACT SHEET

Crumpled Tarpaper Lichen (*Collema coniophilum*) has a global ranking of G2 (Imperiled) in the Thompson Okanagan Region which means additional attention must be placed on the identification and protection of the Crumpled Tarpaper when operating in the forest.



### Habitat

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This species occurs within the wettest, coolest portions of the British Columbia inland rain forest. Has been found on branches of Subalpine Fir, White pine, Western Red Cedar and Western Hemlock in areas that are influenced by nutrient enrichment (Ex. from road dust.).

### Species Range

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Crumpled Tarpapers core range is a small, humid portion of the Rocky Mountain Trench, approximately 65 km east of Prince George, though also known from the upper Adams River in the Columbia Mountains (Spribille et al. 2009).

## Recommended Actions

- Review BC Species & Ecosystem explorer to determine if any known occurrences are located within harvesting area.
- Use caution when working within 100m of a road system when in Crumpled Tarpapers critical habitat.
- Stop work and consult professional if Crumpled Tarpaper is identified.

# NORTHERN MYOTIS / NORTHERN LONG-EARED BAT

## GSFP FACT SHEET

The Northern Myotis (*Myotis Septentrionalis*) has a global ranking of G2 (Imperiled) across much of Canada which means additional attention must be placed on the identification and protection of the Northern Long-eared bat when operating in the forest.



The Northern Myotis is a small bat, measuring an average of 8.6 cm in total length, including a tail about 4 cm long. Adults weigh between 5 and 8 g. The fur and wing membranes are light brown in color. Compared to other species, these bats have long ears (~17mm) that extend beyond the nose. Their ears have a long, slender tragus (~10mm).

### Habitat and Roosting

During the spring and summer, the Northern Myotis spend the day roosting in tree cavities or under the bark of dead or dying trees. Roost trees tend to be close together, and close to areas suitable for foraging.

In the fall, northern long-eared bats migrate to caves to hibernate for the Winter months. Depending on the latitude, this may occur at any time between September and November, and the bats emerge between March and May.

Their diets are focused on moths, although they also eat other insects. They forage under the forest canopy in young forests or on the borders over open patches and intact forest.

### White-Nose Syndrome

White-nose syndrome is a fungal disease in North American bats which has resulted in the dramatic decrease of the bat population in Canada. There are sterilization protocols for handling/capturing any bat species and prior to/following entering or sampling any suspected hibernacula.

## Recommended Actions

- Avoid disrupting patches of forest that contain a large number of suitable roosting trees (dead, dying or cavity bearing trees).
- Prioritize leaving snags and dead trees associated with greater canopy gaps-daytime sunlight reduces thermoregulation costs, resulting in more attractive roosting sites.
- Identify cliffs or rock outcroppings (especially with southern, sunny aspect), incorporate these habitats into wildlife tree patches.
- Refrain from using pesticides near wetlands and riparian areas where bats feed on insects.

## UTE LADY'S TRESSES

### GSFP FACT SHEET

Ute Lady's Tresses (*Spiranthes Diluvialis*) has a global ranking of G2 (Imperiled) in the Thompson Okanagan Region which means additional attention must be placed on the identification and protection of the Ute Lady's Tresses when operating in the forest.



Ute Ladies' Tresses is a perennial orchid with usually 1 stem that is 20-50 cm tall and arising from tuberously thickened roots. Its narrow leaves are 1 cm wide, are longest at their base, and persist during flowering. The inflorescence consists of few to many white or ivory flowers clustered in a spike of 3-rank spirals at the top of the stem.

### Habitat

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This species is adapted to early- to mid-seral, moist to wet conditions, where competition for light, space, water, and other resources is normally kept low by periodic or recent disturbance events. Major occupied habitat types include salt flats, ponds, wetlands, swamp, marsh, fens or bogs. Areas prone to annual flooding or high-water tables.

### Threats

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Threats include competition from invasive species, stream/riparian, flooding, road and other construction, grazing by livestock and

### Recommended Actions

- Review BC Species & Ecosystem explorer to determine if any known occurrences are located within harvesting area.
- Identify ideal habitat locations and incorporate this area into none treatment units.
- Avoid placement of new road development in areas riparian management areas of wetlands.