

2023 Annual Project Report

Project Forest Strathcona Forest



Project
Forest

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Land Acknowledgement

| Traditional Territories



Members of Cumberland House Cree Nation (CHCN) at the CHCN Food and Medicine Forest

Project Forest acknowledges that our work is conducted on both Treaty and non-Treaty lands. These lands are the traditional territories of First Nations and Indigenous Peoples. We recognize that our work is intertwined with the deep and diverse histories of Indigenous Peoples. We are grateful for the opportunity to work in these territories and are committed to the recognition and respect of those who live or have lived, travelled, and gathered on these lands for time immemorial.

About Us

| Our Mission and Values

Rewilding Canada, one forest at a time.

Project Forest is a non-profit organization working in partnership with conservation groups, Indigenous communities and Canadian businesses to make a positive environmental and social impact in our communities through planting forests. The forests we plant clean the air and water, increase biodiversity and contribute to the overall health and well-being of our communities.



Our work is rooted in our values.

Responsibility

We believe it is our responsibility to use our skills, knowledge, and experience to bring about positive change in the world.

Reciprocity

We recognize that we have benefited from the earth's resources and are committed to giving back through careful and thoughtful solutions.

Humility

We are grateful for the opportunity to learn from nature, to contribute to improving our environment, and to make a positive impact in people's lives.

Transparency

We document, monitor, and share our processes and findings with partners and the public—every step of the way, on every project.

Community

We create spaces where people can connect with nature, and each other. We respect every community we are invited into, and work together to make positive change.

Overview

| United Nations Sustainability Development Goals

Goals to Transform Our World

Planting new forests is critically important in addressing the challenges of our time, particularly when aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs). As our communities grapple with climate change and biodiversity loss, forests emerge as pivotal solutions that intersect with multiple UN SDGs including, combating climate change and preserving biodiversity, fostering economic development, ensuring food security, promoting clean water access, and advancing social equity. Aligning the impacts of our forests with the UN SDGs is essential for communicating to stakeholders our dedication to sustainability, transparency, and the measurement of progress over time.

In our 2023 Annual Report, we have linked the outcomes of our rewilding projects with relevant UN SDG targets and indicators, as well as aligned them with corresponding Environment, Social, and Governance goals. This comprehensive approach ensures that our partners have readily accessible information for corporate sustainability reporting, simplifying the process and enhancing transparency.



Purpose & Positive Impact

The following UN SDGs are impacted by the Project Forest Strathcona Forest:

Purpose



Positive Impact



Overview

| Forest Facts

About the forest you funded.

NAME

Project Forest Strathcona Forest

DATE PLANTED

Spring 2022

TOTAL SEEDLINGS PLANTED

18,270

TOTAL CO2 REMOVED FROM THE AIR*

9,237 metric tonnes

SPECIES PLANTED

White Spruce (15,750)
Lodgepole Pine (1440)
Willow (1080)

LOCATION

Grande Prairie County, Alberta
[55°11'58.9"N 119°46'31.1"W](#)

SIZE

9 hectares

TOTAL SPECIES PLANTED

3



* Metric tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO₂) projected to be removed from the air over 150 years.

Purpose

| UN SDG 15 - Life on Land

Goal: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

Matching ESG Goals:

- Providing clean air and water
- Improving biodiversity
- Re-establishing traditional landscapes



Project Forest is making a positive impact through restoring degraded land to increase forest cover, enhance biodiversity, and promote the sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems.

Indicator 15.1.1: Forest area as a proportion of total land area



18,270
Trees Planted

The Project Forest Strathcona Forest as increased forested area in the Grand Prairie region in western Alberta by transitioning a 9 hectare hayfield back to native mixedwood forest. A total of 18,270 trees were planted in June 2022 on the conservation site owned and maintained by the Alberta Conservation Association (ACA).

Purpose

| UN SDG 15 - Life on Land



The results of our first Annual Monitoring Report in May 2023 indicate that 24 of 26 plots surveyed were stocked with acceptable trees (SR + NSR-LIG). The site is deemed to be 96.2% stocked and no preventive or corrective actions need to be taken at this time. (Appendix A; Table 1)

The results of our first annual survey at Strathcona Forest (previously Strathcona Forest) published in our 2021-2022 Annual Project Report indicated that the site was deemed to be 96.2% stocked and no remedial actions needed.

The survey results from the Fall 2023 Afforestation Survey (Appendix A - Afforestation Survey) at Strathcona Forest found an average total stocking rate (SR + NSR-LIG) of 92.3% (Figure 1), a decrease of 3.9% in tree survival from 2022.

There are no preventative or corrective actions recommended at this time and a reasonable likelihood exists that a sufficient percentage of NSR-LIG sites will become SR sites within the coming years.

92.3%

Tree Survival Rate

26

Plots Sampled

Figure 1: Acceptable Stocking Summary

| Type of Plot | # of Plots | % of Plots |
|--|------------|------------|
| Total Sufficiently Restocked (SR) | 11 | 42.3 |
| NSR-LIG Stocking | 13 | 50.0 |
| Not Sufficiently Restocked (NSR) | 2 | 7.7 |
| Total Stocking (SR + NSR-LIG/Total # of Plots) | 24 | 92.3 |

NSR-LIG is an abbreviation of “not sufficiently restocked - let it grow”. The NSR-LIG status is applied to plots where under-height trees are left to grow with the expectation that this treatment will be sufficient for them to meet the SR standard at the next annual monitoring survey.

Indicator 15.1.2: Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, by ecosystem type

Project Forest works with conservation groups to rewild areas of high conservation value. We transition degraded land owned and managed by conservation groups into species-rich forests that increase biodiversity, create habitat, and clean the air and water.

The Project Forest Strathcona Forest is owned and maintained by the Alberta Conservation Association. It is located in the Central Mixedwood Natural Subregion of the Boreal Forest Natural Region.

Purpose

| UN SDG 15 - Life on Land



The species planted, white spruce, willow, and lodgepole pine, are all native to the site's ecological zone. By planting and maintaining native species, the Project Forest community is contributing to their preservation, promoting biodiversity and restoring the ecosystem.

The 2023 survey data shows that desirable natural vegetation is returning to the site. Wild strawberry, common yarrow, goldenrod, clover, and others are present in the area and a sign of natural regeneration on site. This increase in desirable vegetation is likely due to improved soil and growing conditions created by the emerging forest. The return of diverse herbaceous vegetation on site increases overall site biodiversity.

Mammals expected to be present on this site based on survey data from the Alberta Conservation Association include moose, elk, white-tailed deer, mule deer and small mammals commonly found in mixedwood boreal forest. A Fisheries and Wildlife Management Information System (FWMIS) search conducted on July 8, 2020 identified two mammal species of interest that include cougar and grizzly bear.

3

Species Planted



Increase in Desirable
Natural Vegetation



“It is a pleasure working with the team at Project Forest. Their re-wilding vision is precisely aligned with Alberta Conservation Association’s restoration goals on Camp Creek and other Conservation Sites. Their thoughtful planning, attention to detail, and collaborative strengths will benefit Albertans and wildlife for generations to come..”

—**Dan Sturgess**, Biologist at Alberta Conservation Association (ACA)

A variety of forest and grassland dwelling birds are expected to occur on this site. A FWMIS search conducted on July 8, 2020 identified seven bird species of interest that may be found on this site, including bald eagle, black tern, great blue heron, horned grebe, pied-billed grebe, trumpeter swan and western grebe.

Purpose

| UN SDG 15 - Life on Land



Indicator 15.2.1: Progress towards sustainable forest management

The Project Forest Rewilding Plans, Monitoring Protocols, and Remediation Actions are designed to ensure the health and success of our forest. *Sustainable forest management* balances the needs of the community with the long-term use of forest resources while preserving the ecological integrity and benefits the forest provides to people and the environment. As part of Project Forest's commitment to rewild land on behalf of our partners and the wider community, we employ a number of tools and metrics to provide scientific verification that our project sites will become mature forests that will benefit the environment and surrounding communities today, and generations to come.

Sustainable Forest

Management is a way of using and caring for forests to maintain their environmental, social, cultural and economic values and benefits over time (NRCAN, 2024).

Rewilding Plans

Prior to planting a forest, Project Forest assesses the land and identifies site limiting factors. A Rewilding Plan is created and site limiting factors are addressed to ensure that the seedlings planted have the best chance of survival. (Appendix B - Strathcona Forest Rewilding Plan)

Site preparation was required to reduce vegetation competition and expose mineral soil for planting. A line mower was used to reduce the amount of disruption on the site. The existing sod mat compacted soil were removed to create a pile and hole, known as a mound, in which the seedlings could be planted. The area around the mound (1 m radius) was sprayed with a herbicide to reduce vegetation competition. We suspect site preparation is a major contributor to the rewilding success observed.

Monitoring Protocols

The Project Forest Monitoring Plan requires that 2.44 plots per hectare are surveyed and each plot location is permanently marked. This resulted in 26 plots being sampled across the Strathcona Forest site. The survey data collected is used to prescribe future monitoring and maintenance events. We budget for a 25% fill plant for each project site in the event of significant tree mortality within the first six years. Our monitoring protocol ensures the seedlings planted are on a trajectory to becoming a mature forest through annual monitoring for up to six years post-planting.

Remediation Activities

No preventative or corrective actions are needed; there is a reasonable likelihood that a sufficient percentage of NSR-LIG sites will become SR sites within the coming years.

Purpose

| UN SDG 15 - Life on Land



Indicator 15.3.1: Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area.

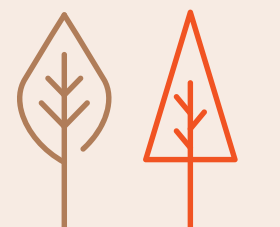
Project Forest is rewilding degraded land that has been disturbed and has not recovered through normal ecological processes.

The Project Forest Strathcona Forest is located one hour west of Grand Prairie, in the North Kamisak Lake Conservation Area between Township Road 720 and Range Road 123. Prior to rewilding, the site was hayland and pasture.

Rewilding degraded ecosystems has several positive effects including, an improvement to soil health, increased biodiversity, habitat for birds and animals, ground water filtration and improved air quality.

Ecosystem degradation

is defined as, “an event or process that reduces the productivity or value of an ecosystem, or that delays or prevents an ecosystem from recovering from disturbance through normal successional processes.” (Haeussler et al., 2002)



Purpose

| UN SDG 13 - Climate Action

Goal: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

Matching ESG Goals:

- Reducing GHG emissions
- Experiencing nature in an educational and interactive way



The forests we plant can have a significant impact on mitigating climate change.

Indicator 13.2.2: Total greenhouse gas emissions per year

Forests act as carbon sinks, absorbing carbon dioxide (CO₂) from the atmosphere through photosynthesis and storing it in their biomass and soil. By planting forests, we increase the amount of CO₂ sequestered, thereby reducing the concentration of greenhouse gases (GHGs) in the atmosphere. This helps mitigate climate change by reducing the amount of CO₂ that contributes to global warming (NRCAN, 2022).

The amount of CO₂ projected to be removed from the atmosphere over the lifetime of the Project Forest Strathcona Forest is 9,237 metric tonnes. The estimated lifetime of a forest is 150 years.

Project Forest uses the [Carbon Budget Model of the Canadian Forest Sector \(CBM-CFS3\)](#) modelling framework developed by Natural Resources Canada to assess the impacts of our forests on carbon. This is the national standard for reporting on forest carbon.

9,237

Metric tonnes of CO₂ project to be removed from the air.

Carbon Budget Model of the Canadian Forest

Sector is an aspatial, stand- and landscape-level modelling framework used for international reporting of the forest carbon balance of Canada's managed forest (NRCAN, 2024).

Purpose

| UN SDG 13 - Climate Action



Target 13.3: Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning

Project Forest provides our partners and the wider community with the opportunity to participate in educational activities through our Community and Corporate Outreach Program. Experiencing nature in an educational and interactive way enriches knowledge, fosters a connection with the environment, promotes well-being, and encourages responsible environmental behaviour. These are some of the engagement activities we conducted in 2023:

1

Project Funding Partner

Lunch and Learns, Keynote Presentations and Panel Discussions

- Overview of the rewilding process, our projects, and stories of community impact
- Stakeholder project impacts and opportunity to engage with the Project Forest team

Corporate Tree Planting Events

- In-person, hands-on volunteering opportunities for Silver, Gold and Platinum financial partners
- Educational talks around seedling physiology, forest succession, tree planting technique, tree planting survey methodology, seed collection, plant identification, and traditional plant uses

Indigenous Engagement

- Opportunity to learn from Indigenous Knowledge Keepers and Elders in various capacities from presentations, interviews and talks, to one-on-one exchanges at our Corporate Planting Events and Annual Partner Celebration

Podcast, radio, tv and webinar interview

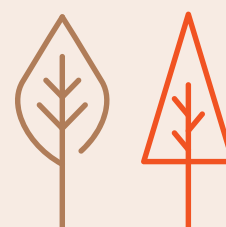
- Overview of the rewilding process for general audiences
- Discussions of more in-depth topics such as working with Indigenous communities, operating a non-profit, and sustainable forest practices

Annual Partner Celebration

- Presentations featuring a wide range of speakers from the Project Forest community
- Focus on Indigenous reconciliation through rewilding, sustainable business practices, and community investment

Seedling and Seed Kit giveaway events throughout the year

- Opportunity to interact with the Project Forest team
- Celebrate the impact your organization is making
- Engage with the Project Forest community



Purpose

| UN SDG 11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities

Goal: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Matching ESG Goals:

- Generating social & economic growth
- Advancing health & wellbeing
- Developing deeply ingrained Indigenous relationships



Restoring degraded land can have a positive impact on communities through creating safe, resilient, and sustainable natural spaces.

Indicator 11.a.1: Number of countries that have national urban policies or regional development plans that (a) respond to population dynamics; (b) ensure balanced territorial development; and (c) increase local fiscal space

The forests we plant provide areas for recreation and traditional land use within the community. Our funding partners finance the rewilding costs including seedlings, planting, and labour, allowing communities to allocate more funds to services and infrastructure.

The Project Forest Strathcona Forest provides recreational opportunities for Canadians in the Grand Prairie region. Visitors to the forest can boost the local economy by increasing revenue from tourism-related activities such as accommodation, transportation and food services.

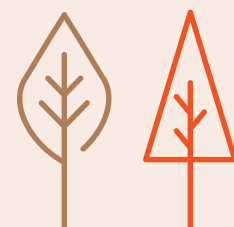
Rewilding projects require labour to complete, including but not limited to:

- Mechanical site preparation
- Seed collection
- Tree planting
- Vegetation management
- Survival assessment survey and data collection
- Cover crop deployment

By investing in rewilding, Project Forest funding partners are creating employment opportunities. The income earned by individuals through these jobs can have a positive economic impact, leading to increased tax revenues for the government and expanding **local fiscal space**.

Local fiscal space

is defined as the sum of financial resources available to a government for the improved delivery of basic services without any prejudice to the sustainability of a government's financial position (Heller, 2005).



Positive Impact

| UN SDG 3 - Good Health and Well-Being

Goal: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all, at all ages.



Planting a forest can have several positive impacts on ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all ages.

Target 3.9: By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination

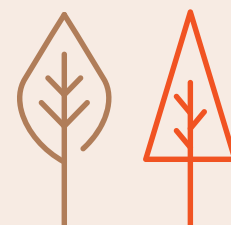
Forests act as natural air filters by absorbing pollutants and particulate matter from the atmosphere. Trees remove harmful gases by absorbing them through their leaf stomata, filtering these chemicals from the air. Particulate matter is intercepted by the tree's surfaces. When it rains, the particles are washed off and carried to the ground. Planting forests can help improve air quality, by reducing the exposure of communities to harmful pollutants. (Nowak et al., 2014)

In addition to improving air quality, forests provide opportunities for people to connect with nature, enjoy recreational activities, and experience the positive physical and mental health effects of spending time outdoors. They also provide various ecosystem services that indirectly contribute to our health and well-being.

Some of the important ecological services provided by forests include:

- cleaning water through water filtration
- cleaning air through oxygen production and absorption of pollutants
- rebuilding of soils and restoration of nutrients
- holding back floodwaters and releasing needed water into rivers and streams
- absorbing CO₂ from the atmosphere
- maintaining biodiversity by providing habitat for countless species

These services all indirectly impact human health and well-being.



Positive Impact

| UN SDG 6 - Clean Water and Sanitation

Goal: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all



The forests we plant can have positive impacts on ensuring the availability and sustainable management of water.

Indicator 6.3.2: Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality.

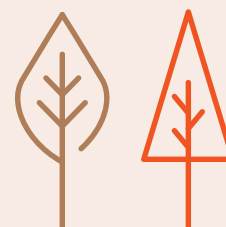
Forests filter, purify and improve the quality of our water. Tree roots help retain soil and reduce the transport of pollutants into water bodies. Planting forests in watershed areas can contribute to protecting water quality, ensuring access to clean water for communities. (NRCAN, 2021)

The Project Forest Strathcona Forest is located within the Peace watershed. The Wapiti River drains into the Smokey River which drains into the Peace River.

While planting forests alone cannot solve all our water-related challenges, they do offer nature-based solutions to help achieve sustainable management of our water resources.

Target 6.6: By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes

Forests act as natural sponges and filters, absorbing rainfall and gradually releasing it while purifying it as it passes through the ecosystem. By restoring forests, we can enhance water quality, reduce erosion, and promote water retention in the landscape.



Partner
| Funding Partner



Project Forest Strathcona Forest

Our work is not possible without you.

Thank you to Strathcona Resources for being the exclusive funder of this forest.



References

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Appendix A - Annual Monitoring Report

| Afforestation Survey Cover Page | | | | |
|--|------------------|-------------|---------------------|------------|
| Project Site: ACA - Pipestone | | | | |
| Survey Date(s) | October 10, 2023 | Total Plots | 26 | |
| Stocking Calculations | | | | |
| Type of Plot | # of Plots | % of Plots | Meet Final Criteria | % of Plots |
| SR with Acceptable Conifer trees | 9 | 34.6 | 0 | 0 |
| SR with Acceptable Deciduous trees | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SR Acceptable Shrubs | 2 | 7.7 | 0 | 0 |
| SR with Acceptable Conifer & Deciduous trees | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SR with Acceptable Conifer trees & Shrubs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SR with Acceptable Deciduous trees & Shrubs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SR with Acceptable Conifer & Deciduous trees & shrubs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| NSR-LIG with Conifer | 11 | 42.3 | 0 | 0 |
| NSR-LIG with Deciduous | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| NSR-LIG with Shrub | 1 | 3.8 | 0 | 0 |
| NSR-LIG with Conifer & Deciduous | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| NSR-LIG with Conifer & Shrubs | 1 | 3.8 | 0 | 0 |
| NSR-LIG with Deciduous & Shrubs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| NSR-LIG with Conifer & Deciduous trees & shrubs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| NSR -No Acceptable Woody species present | 2 | 7.7 | N/A | N/A |
| Acceptable Stocking Summary | | | | |
| Plot Stocking Status | # of Plots | % of Plots | | |
| SR Plots | 11 | 42.3 | | |
| NSR-LIG Stocking | 13 | 50.0 | | |
| NSR (excludes NSR-LIG) | 2 | 7.7 | | |
| Total Stocking (SR + NSR-LIG): | 24 | 92.3 | | |
| Herbaceous Vegetation Observed on Site | | | Noxious Weeds | |
| Stinkweed | Dandelions | | None observed | |
| Grass spp. | | | | |
| Common Yarrow | | | | |
| Galium spp. | | | | |
| Timothy | | | | |
| Alsike clover | | | | |
| White Clover | | | | |
| Wild Strawberry | | | | |
| Goldenrod | | | | |
| Sweet clover | | | | |
| Project Comments: Overall site is growing well and expected to continue to have a positive trajectory to becoming a mature forest. The wild roses are natural regeneration and naturally increases native biodiversity on site. | | | | |

Assessment Survey Tally Card

| Plot | Tree & Shrub Stocking | | | | | | Status | Tallest in Plot | | Risk factors | |
|-----------|-----------------------|--------|--------------|--------|--------------|--------|---------|-----------------|-------------|--|---------------|
| | Acceptable | | Under Height | | Under Height | | | Species | Height (cm) | Evidence of: Damage, Disease, Competition, | Noxious Weeds |
| | Species | Number | Species | Number | Species | Number | | | | | |
| Ps_01 | | | | | | | NSR | 0 | 0 | No other factors recorded | |
| Ps_02 | Wild Rose | 5 | Wild Rose | 14 | Sw | 2 | SR | Wild Rose | 71 | | |
| Ps_03 | | | | | | | NSR | 0 | 0 | | |
| Ps_04 | | | Sw | 2 | | | NSR-LIG | Sw | 26 | | |
| Ps_05 | | | Sw | 1 | | | NSR-LIG | Sw | 27 | | |
| Ps_06 | | | Sw | 1 | | | NSR-LIG | Sw | 20 | | |
| Ps_07_new | | | Sw | 2 | | | NSR-LIG | Sw | 27 | | |
| Ps_08 | Sw | 1 | | | | | SR | Sw | 33 | | |
| Ps_09 | | | Sw | 1 | | | NSR-LIG | Sw | 22 | | |
| Ps_10 | Sw | 1 | Sw | 1 | | | SR | Sw | 32 | | |
| Ps_11 | | | Sw | 1 | | | NSR-LIG | Sw | 22 | | |
| Ps_12 | PI | 2 | | | | | SR | PI | 38 | | |
| Ps_13 | PI | 2 | | | | | SR | PI | 37 | | |
| Ps_14 | | | Sw | 2 | | | NSR-LIG | Sw | 28 | | |
| Ps_15 | Sw | 1 | | | | | SR | Sw | 34 | | |
| Ps_16 | Sw | 2 | | | | | SR | Sw | 35 | | |
| Ps_17 | | | Sw | 1 | | | NSR-LIG | Sw | 28 | | |
| Ps_18 | Wild Rose | 4 | Sw | 1 | | | SR | Wild Rose | 94 | | |
| Ps_19 | Sw | 1 | Sw | 3 | | | SR | Sw | 36 | | |
| Ps_20 | | | Wild Rose | 10 | Sw | 1 | NSR-LIG | Wild Rose | 54 | | |
| Ps_21 | | | Sw | 2 | | | NSR-LIG | Sw | 16 | | |
| Ps_22 | | | Sw | 1 | | | NSR-LIG | Sw | 11 | | |
| Ps_23 | Sw | 1 | Sw | 1 | | | SR | Sw | 31 | | |
| Ps_24 | Sw | 1 | Sw | 1 | | | SR | Sw | 30 | | |
| Ps_25 | | | Wild Rose | 4 | | | NSR-LIG | Wild Rose | 45 | | |
| Ps_26 | | | Sw | 3 | | | NSR-LIG | Sw | 27 | | |



Pipestone Survey Plot Status Fall 2023

Project Partners:

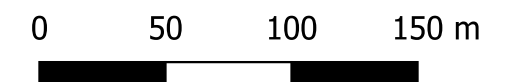


Legend

- Project Boundary
- Plot Status
 - SR-C
 - SR-S
 - NSR-LIG-C
 - NSR-LIG-CS
 - NSR-LIG-S
 - NSR



Date Created: 2024-01-05
Project CRS: EPSG:3400
Source: ESRI Satellite
Created By: Tree Time Services Inc.
Scale: 1:3,000



Site Photos

Plot 2



Plot 15



Plot 20



Plot 26



Project Forest Monitoring Assessment Summary Sheet

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Project Name | Pipestone |
| Applicability: | Trajectory of re-wilding success |
| Landowner: | ACA |
| Site Location: | 55.198529, -119.772157 |
| Year Planted: | 2022 |
| Assessment #: | 2 |

First and last name of qualified surveyors (or as attached):

Maclean Forbes

Disturbance Areas and area to be removed from afforestation project area(s):

No areas will be removed from the project area.

As per the Project Forest Monitoring Program, all area(s) impacted by forest fire, insects or industrial development will be removed from the afforestation project area. No such disturbance were recorded.

Summary of Preventive and Corrective Actions:

No preventative or corrective action need to be taken at this time.

A reasonable likelihood exists that a sufficient percentage of NSR-LIG sites will become SR sites within the coming years.

Declaration:

I do hereby declare that this submission:

- a) Adheres to all components of the required Quality Assessment/Quality Control program, and;
- b) Includes only surveys that have been conducted according to the methods detailed in the Project Forest - Golden Ranches Reforestation Monitoring Program, and;
- c) Complies with the requirements for report timing and format.

Validated/Signed by:



Registration #

1838

Date:

January 4, 2023

Print Name:

Lindsay Dent

Company:

Tree Time Services Inc.

Appendix B - Strathcona Forest Rewilding Plan



North Kamisak Lake Conservation Site Restoration Overview

Prepared by:
Project Forest

780-472-8878 | 3464 78 Ave NW | Edmonton, Alberta | T6B 2X9 ProjectForest.ca



This document provides an overview of the restoration plan for Project Forest at the North Kamisak Lake Conservation Site property of NE 33-071-12 W6. Timing and exact quantities of seedling are approximate. The planting area can be found in Appendix A.

Site Restoration Plan

Species and stock types

We will be using the following species and stock types for this planting:

Table 1: Species recommended for planting at Golden Ranches site

| Species | Stock Type | Stock Size |
|--------------|------------|------------|
| White spruce | Plug - 1+0 | 412A |
| Shrubs* | Plug - 1+0 | 412A |

***Note:** Potential shrub species that may be deployed if available, others local to the area may be considered. Failing these, additional white spruce will be supplied.

Site preparation

Due to the most recent land use being hayfield, competition from vegetation will be a significant threat to seedling survival. Site preparation is required to reduce competition and expose mineral soil for seedlings to be planted. This work will be completed in late summer/fall of 2021.

Use of a line mower is the best option to reduce competition while causing the least amount of disruption on the site. The mower will be used to “scrape off” the sod mat and compacted soil, piling it on the side of the mound. This also provide a low area where water can accumulate and better infiltrate into the soil.

Post-mounding, the area around the mound (approximately 1m radius) will be sprayed to reduce competition from existing vegetation. The herbicide used will have glyphosate as the active ingredient and be applied using a backpack sprayer. The herbicide applicators will be monitored by a supervisor to ensure wind speed is 10km/hr or less during application or less to reduce potential spray drift.



The seedling will be planted at the base of the mound, out of the sod on the mound and of the low area at the bottom.

Maintenance

In the event grass competition threatens seedlings, a release spray may be applied as required in 2022-2026. In the fall, conifer seedlings are resistant to glyphosate, which is ideal for this maintenance. The spray would also cover a large increase in weeds arising from the mounding activities.

If weeds establish onsite outside of the current baseline, a backpack sprayer could be used annually to remove them as needed.

Planting strategy/techniques

White spruce and shrub seedlings will be planted at the base of the mounds after spraying. Shrubs will be planted in clusters mostly on the north eastern portion of the block. Planting will take place in spring of 2022.

Table 3: Recommended Species for Area 1

| Species | Proportion | Comments |
|--------------|------------|---|
| White spruce | 90% | Planted throughout area |
| Shrubs | 10% | Planted in patches, away from forest to reduce herbivory. |

Responsibilities

The following is a list of responsibility for each party as part of this planting project:

Project Forest

- Site preparation
- Seedling supply
- Planting
- Seedling monitoring until to 2027 (or when forest has become established based on the Project Forest monitoring standards)



Alberta Conservation Association

- Weed monitoring and management of all areas. In the event surrounding vegetation is determined to be competing with planted seedlings, ACA and Project Forest will discuss maintenance options. ACA has agreed to spray these areas if required and agreed upon.
- Communications and consultation with stakeholders
- Maintenance

Project Forest Site Uses

Project Forest intends to use this site for the following activities:

- Site preparation
- Tree planting (initial and replanting, if required based on establishment standards)
- Client events: tours and planting events
- Monitoring
- Posting signage: signage recognizing the client and explaining the project.

All above activities will be done with reasonable notice to ACA prior to being conducted. Any works or events on the site will require approval from ACA prior to being conducted.



**Project
Forest**

Project Agreement

Alberta Conservation Association and Project Forest agree to the terms outlined in this document.



Alberta Conservation Association

SEPT 09 / 2021

Date



Project Forest

9 Sept 21

Date

Appendix A – Map of Planting Area

