

ANNUAL WORK SCHEDULE

for the

DRYDEN FOREST

Year Six

For the period
April 1, 2026 to March 31, 2027

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**ANNUAL WORK SCHEDULE
for the
DRYDEN FOREST SFL 542444
Dryden, Fort Frances, Atikokan District, Northwest Region**

Prepared by:

The Dryden Forest Management Company Ltd.

for the one-year period from April 1, 2026 to March 31, 2027

I/We hereby confirm that this annual work schedule has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Forest Management Planning Manual* and the *Forest Information Manual* and is consistent with the approved forest management plan.

Prepared by: _____* _____ December 19, 2025
Amy Wildhaber, R.P.F. Date
Operations Forester, DFMC

Submitted by: Steven Young, R.P.F. * December 19, 2025
General Manager (Plan Author), DFMC Date

I hereby certify that the access, harvest, renewal, and maintenance operations which are scheduled in this annual work schedule have been developed in accordance with the requirements of the Forest Management Planning Manual.

NRIP Submission Identifier: ******

* Copies of the original signed and sealed Title, Certification and Approval Page can be found at the Dryden District MNR office and the Dryden Forest Management Co. Ltd. office
** The NRIP Submission Identifier will be added to the original signed and sealed Title and Certification Page after the Portal Submission is complete and an identification number has been assigned.

1 **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

2
3 The Dryden Forest SFL #542444 lies within the Dryden, Fort Frances, Atikokan District and
4 the Northwest Region of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR). The district
5 office is in the City of Dryden; the regional office is in the City of Thunder Bay (See Figure
6 1). The Dryden Forest Management Co. Ltd administers the Dryden Forest.

7
8 This annual work schedule for the Dryden Forest details the operations scheduled for the
9 period of April 1, 2026 to March 31, 2027. This is the sixth year of the 2021-2031 Forest
10 Management Plan. This annual work schedule was completed in accordance with the Forest
11 Management Planning Manual (2024) for Ontario's Crown Forests, Part D, Section 3, and
12 follows the direction set out in the 2021-2031 Forest Management Plan for the Dryden
13 Forest.

14
15 The implementation of the annual work schedule will follow the 'Conditions on Regular
16 Operations' found in Section 4.2.2.2 and the 'Conditions on Roads, Landings and Aggregate
17 Pits' found in Section 4.5.8 of the 2021-2031 Forest Management Plan for the Dryden Forest.

18 **2.0 HARVEST**

19
20 The Forest Management Planning Manual (FMPM) allows up to 3 years of the average
21 annual available harvest area to be included for flexibility in harvesting. This is the sixth
22 Annual Work Schedule (AWS) in the 2021-2031 Forest Management Plan (FMP). Table
23 FMP-12 of the Dryden Forest 2021-2031 FMP identifies a total 10-Year Available Harvest
24 Area to be 14,769.4 ha. The average annual available harvest area is approximately 1,477 ha
25 and three-year total that DFMC can be schedule up to is 4,431 ha. DFMC's allocation is
26 submitted in the AWS as MU535_26SHR shapefile and is under the 4,431 ha limit.

27
28 Scheduled harvested areas are identified on the AWS index map and operational map
29 products.

30
31 Residual patches will be left in blocks as identified in the 2021-2031 FMP Section 4.3.2.
32 Specific direction around operational considerations for residual patches are found in
33 Sections 4.2.2.2, Conditions on Regular Operations, and Section 4.5.9, Conditions on Roads,
34 Landings and Aggregate Pits, of the 2021-2031 FMP that identifies the requirements and
35 movement conditions for residual patches. Mapped residual will be identified in the AWS
36 MU535_26SRP shapefile and unmapped residual for the 0.5 ha residual patches will be
37 identified to operators on their operational block maps.

38
39 Harvest allocation boundaries are marked on the ground to reflect approved, mapped
40 boundaries; however, some minor discrepancies are inevitable. DFMC is committed to
41 ensuring that all boundaries are marked in the field as accurately as possible. Any slight
42 deviations of harvest boundaries should not significantly affect the net block configuration,
43 location, or size.

1 Where it is evident that there is a substantial shift between the GPS unit and the actual stand
2 boundary, the intent will be to allocate the actual area that was intended to be harvested. For
3 example, if a harvest block was adjacent to a recent cutover and the GPS unit located the
4 boundary 30 meters inside the standing timber, then the boundary will be marked along the
5 recent cutover. Areas of Concern will be laid out to protect the actual location of the value
6 with the approved AOC width according to the prescription described in FMP-11.

7
8 Persons wishing to obtain fuelwood for personal use must obtain a Personal Fuelwood Permit
9 from the MNR, if required. No fuelwood collection will be permitted in harvest blocks where
10 operations are ongoing unless the operating Overlapping Licensee, DFMC Shareholder or
11 DFMC office has given written permission to collect fuelwood. Once operations have ceased
12 and the merchantable wood has been hauled, the fuelwood will be available without written
13 permission. Fuelwood harvesting in these sites shall comply with the Joint Ministry of
14 Labour/Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Forest Management Bulletin – Working
15 around Chicots and Wildlife Trees (Nov. 2007).

16
17 To provide for the maximum utilization of timber, any un-merchantable timber left near
18 roadside on the ground in piles, or left standing after harvesting operations are completed,
19 may be made available for fuelwood. Fuelwood will only be available if it was not left on site
20 for a specific reason. In all blocks, timber will be left standing intentionally to enhance
21 wildlife habitat and will therefore, be unavailable for fuelwood. Also, no fuelwood will be
22 considered available within a block once renewal activities have commenced, or after a
23 period of two years after harvest operations have ended. This strategy is intended for the
24 protection of regenerating trees, whether they were initiated naturally or artificially.

25 **2.1 WOOD STORAGE YARDS**

26 There will be one wood storage yard included in the AWS. The wood storage yard is
27 included in MU535_26SWY shapefile. Operational standards for wood storage yards are
28 included in the 2021-2031 FMP section 4.5.9.

29
30 Wood storage yard location areas are identified on the AWS index map and operational map
31 products.

32 **2.2 RENEWAL AND MAINTENANCE**

33
34 Seedlings are being grown for the 2026 tree planting season. Aerial seeding with jack pine is
35 also planned as part of the renewal program for 2026/27. Additional area is expected to renew
36 naturally. Renewal activities scheduled for treatment are included in the AWS
37 MU535_26SRG shapefile. Treatment Method (TRTMTHD) codes PLANT identify planting
38 areas and SEED indicating aerial seeding areas.

39
40 Site preparation is planned in this AWS. All site preparation planned in this AWS is
41 mechanical. Site preparation activities scheduled for treatment are included in the AWS
42 MU535_26SSP shapefile. Treatment Method (TRTMTHD) codes SIPMECH identify
43 mechanical site preparation areas, SIPCHEMA for aerial chemical site preparation,

1 SIPCHEMG for ground chemical site preparation and/or SIPPB for site preparation by
2 prescribed burn.

3
4 Aerial tending is not planned in this AWS. Manual tending activities scheduled for treatment
5 are included in the AWS MU535_26SSP shapefile. Treatment Method (TRTMTHD) codes
6 CLCHEMA identify where aerial application of herbicides are planned, CLMANUAL
7 indicates where manual tending by brush saw may be used and THINPRE indicates where
8 pre-commercial thinning is planned. Due to the small area requiring herbicide application,
9 DFMC conducts this project every 2 years. If required, a herbicide project plan will be
10 developed prior to July 1st and appended to this AWS as per Part D, Section 5 of the 2024
11 FMPM.

12
13 Renewal and Maintenance areas are identified on the AWS index map and operational map
14 products.

15
16 A low-complexity prescribed burn plan for slash pile burning will be prepared and approved
17 prior to November 1st and appended to this AWS as per Part D, Section 4 of the 2024 FMPM.
18 Slash pile burning is planned to occur in blocks that were allocated for harvesting during
19 previous Annual Work Schedules. Slash pile burning is part of the overall management of
20 logging debris on the Dryden Forest. The 2021-2031 FMP Sections 4.2.2.2, Conditions on
21 Regular Operations, and Section 4.5.9, Conditions on Roads, Landings and Aggregate Pits,
22 identify additional debris management to prevent permanent loss of productive land.

23
24 Establishment assessment areas will be submitted prior to June 1st as part of an AWS changes
25 submission, as per the 2024 FIM Tech Spec section 4.2.19.

26

27 **2.3 ROADS**

28

29 Primary and branch roads construction is planned to occur in this AWS. All primary and
30 branch road corridors are identified on the AWS index map and operational map products, as
31 approved in the 2021-2031 FMP. Primary and branch road corridors scheduled for
32 construction are included in the AWS MU535_26SRC shapefile.

33

34 Operation road construction is planned to occur in this AWS. Areas where operational road
35 construction can occur are identified on the AWS index map and operational map products,
36 as approved in the 2021-2031 FMP. Areas where operation road construction can occur are
37 included in the AWS MU535_26SOR shapefile.

38

39 Roads planned to be decommissioned, transferred, or have access controls implemented
40 during this AWS are identified on the AWS index map and operational map products, as
41 approved in the 2021-2031 FMP.

42

43 **2.3.1 Water Crossing Construction**

44

1 Water crossings proposed for construction or replacement in 2026/27 are listed in table
2 AWS-1. Water crossing activities are included in the AWS MU535_26SWC shapefile.
3 Planned water crossing activities are identified on the AWS index map and operational map
4 products. The water crossing data information sheets are attached in Appendix A.

5
6 DFMC has developed a ‘Water Crossing Protocol’ to provide consistent direction to
7 Shareholders, Overlapping Licensees and contractors who will be constructing water
8 crossings. This Protocol is found in Appendix D.
9

10 **2.3.2 Other Crossings of Areas of Concern**

11
12 Any crossing of an Area of Concern (AOC) that does not involve a water crossing will follow
13 conditions outlined in FMP-11 for the appropriate AOC prescription as approved in the 2021-
14 2031 FMP. If the appropriate AOC prescription does not exist in the FMP, one will be
15 amended into the FMP. AOC’s are identified on the AWS index map and operational map
16 products, as approved in the 2021-2031 FMP. AOC’s are included in the AWS
17 MU535_26SAC shapefile.
18

19 **2.3.3 Water Crossing Decommissioning**

20
21 Water crossings proposed for decommissioning in 2026/27 are listed in table AWS-2. Water
22 crossing activities are included in the AWS MU535_26SWC shapefile. Planned water
23 crossing activities are identified on the AWS index map and operational map products.
24

25 **2.3.4 Forestry Aggregate Pits**

26
27 Forestry Aggregate Pits (FAPs) follow the procedures outlined in Section 4.5.7 of the Dryden
28 Forest 2021-2031 FMP. Existing FAPs are included in the AWS MU535_26AGP shapefile
29 while new FAPs are permitted to be constructed within scheduled aggregate extraction areas,
30 in AWS MU535_26SAG shapefile, operational road boundaries, primary or branch road
31 corridors. FAP activities are identified on the AWS index map and operational map products.
32

33 Specific conditions relating to FAP’s can be found in FMP-11, and section 4.5.8 (CORLAPS)
34 of the Dryden Forest 2021-2031 FMP.
35

36 **2.4 FIRE PREVENTION AND PREPAREDNESS**

37
38 Forest workers, operators and or contractors of the Dryden Forest Management Company
39 Ltd. are required to provide for forest fire prevention measures as described in Section 4.8
40 Fire Prevention and Preparedness of the Dryden Forest 2021-2031 FMP.
41

- 1 The operations of the Dryden Forest will adhere to “The Dryden Forest Fire Prevention and
2 Preparedness Plan” included with this AWS in Appendix B.
3
4 DFMC’s “The Dryden Forest Fire Prevention and Preparedness Plan” will be distributed to
5 all Shareholders, Overlapping Licensees and contractors working on the Dryden Forest
6 during the fire season who will be required to follow all prevention and preparedness
7 procedures. This document lists fire suppression equipment ready during the fire season for
8 each operation. All forest fire prevention and preparedness measures will apply to all
9 Shareholders, Overlapping Licensees, and contractors on the SFL.
10
11 A spring meeting with representatives from the MNR Fire Management Headquarters and
12 DFMC is organized to prepare for the upcoming fire season, identify training needs, and
13 convey awareness of fire prevention plans and initiatives.
14

1 **2.5 MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT**

2

3 **2.5.1 Compliance Monitoring**

4

5 The compliance strategy for the Dryden Forest is located in section 4.7 Monitoring and
6 Assessment of the Dryden Forest 2021-2031 FMP.

7

8 Inspection and Sampling Intensity

9

10 DFMC compliance inspectors must inspect a representative sample within each Compliance
11 Reporting Area (CRA) to confirm and report on the compliance status with the FMP, AWS,
12 and associated legislation. This will include such things as utilization, standards, harvest
13 boundaries, areas of concern, forest aggregate pits and water crossing requirements.
14 Occasional joint inspections may be done with the MNR.

15

16 Reporting and Operational Issue Management

17

18 As described in the FMP section 4.7.1.6, any operational issues are to be reported
19 immediately by forest workers to their supervisors. If an operational issue can easily be
20 corrected, it must be done immediately. On-going or non-correctable operational issues are
21 to be verbally reported to DFMC, who will in turn notify MNR.

22

23 A compliance inspection report will be completed by a certified inspector who has conducted
24 the inspection and submitted to MNR through FOIP. An inspection report is a record of the
25 inspection that was conducted at a point in time on a defined area and creates a history. The
26 report is not considered to have been submitted through FOIP until it has been completed by
27 the inspector, entered in FOIP, and approved within FOIP.

28

29 Notification of the Status of an Operation

30

31 Notification and inspection reporting timelines and requirements are described in Section
32 4.7.1.6 – Notification of Status of the Dryden Forest 2021-2031 FMP.

33

34 DFMC will provide a written notice (email) to MNR when a change in the status of an
35 operation on the Dryden Forest occurs. The notice will state the ‘Compliance Reporting
36 Area’ and the type of notification; ‘Start Up’, ‘Suspended Operation’ or ‘Release to MNR for
37 compliance audit’.

38

39 Inspect and Report on Operations

40

41 The inspection process will be initiated by DFMC as soon as forest operations commence.
42 Compliance inspection report procedures on the Dryden Forest will follow direction from the
43 Forest Compliance Handbook procedure FOR 07 03 05. The procedure provides a flow chart
44 outlining the process that will be used when confronted with issue management.

1
2
3 Prevention, Avoidance and Mitigation

4 Prevention, avoidance, and mitigation measures will be implemented as documented in
5 Section 4.7.1.7 of the Dryden Forest 2021-2031 FMP.

6
7 Roles and responsibilities associated with the compliance plan are identified in section
8 4.7.1.5 of the Dryden Forest 2021-2031 FMP.

9
10 The Annual Reports will describe the details of specific compliance performance issues, and
11 any action items carried out.

12
13 Also, when mitigative measures (i.e., AOC prescriptions) are being identified in the field
14 (i.e., flagged boundary), Shareholder/Overlapping Licensees who are involved are to ensure
15 the value location in the field is known to ensure appropriate protection is provided.

16
17 Shareholders/Overlapping Licensees who have not harvested on the Dryden Forest for three
18 years will be subject to conditions identified in section 4.7.1.4 of the Dryden Forest 2021-
19 2031 FMP.

20
21 **2.5.2 Compliance Reporting Area(s)**

22
23 Compliance Reporting Areas are determined by risk analysis, as documented in Section
24 4.7.1.8 of the Dryden Forest 2021-2031 FMP.

25
26 For the purpose of this Forest Compliance Strategy, a Compliance Reporting Area is defined
27 as: “areas of land described for the purpose of forest compliance reporting and for which a
28 forest operations compliance inspection report will be submitted.” (Source: FOR 07 02 04)