Adaptive Forest Management/History Program
Quicknote # 1

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What we are and What we do

This program began in 1996, at the time focused on documenting the evolution of the forest management program of Weldwood Forest Management Agreement Area at Hinton. Since then, the program has evolved with the publication of two books, and several reports covering all aspects of sustainable forest management within the model-forest land base.

Publications to Date

The Development of Adaptive Management in the Protected Areas of the Foothills Model Forest
November, 2000  - FRI Website

Michael den Otter examined the parallel and divergent histories of Jasper National Park, Switzer Provincial Park and Willmore Wilderness Park and how management has evolved and adapted since the first park (Jasper) was established in 1907.

The Evolution of the Forest Management Agreements
January, 2002 - FRI Website

In 1949, Eric Huestis and Reg Loomis of the Alberta Forest Service envisaged the concept of forest management agreements, and the Hinton operation was the first in Alberta to capitalize on this opportunity. Dr. Peter Murphy and Dr. Marty Luckert examine the evolution of forest management and the rights and responsibilities of Agreement holders in Alberta as they are reflected in successive forest management agreements at Hinton from 1952 to 1995.

2002    - FRI Website

Authors Peter Murphy, Bob Udell and Bob Stevenson conducted a comprehensive review of the forest management program at Hinton from its beginnings in 1955 to the 1999 forest management plan. The evolution of adaptive forest management is examined from the perspectives of inventory, silviculture, multiple values and uses, protection, research, harvesting, and the planning.

Learning from the Forest:  The Evolution of Adaptive Management at Hinton, Alberta
by R.D.Bott, P.J.Murphy, R.W.Udell and R.E. Stevenson
Published by:  Fifth House. 2003

This book draws upon previous publications in the series to examine the antecedents, scientific basis for and the evolution of the forest management program on the West Fraser Hinton Forest. With a Foreword by Prof. Gordon Baskerville, the book provides an in depth discussion of a wide range of forestry practices, along with the evolution of research at the Foothills Model Forest and how this science is used to improve practices.

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A Hard Road to Travel
by P.J. Murphy, with R.W. Udell, Tom Peterson and R.E. Stevenson.
Published by: Foothills Model Forest and The Forest History Society. 2007

This widely acclaimed book is an in-depth look at the remarkable human and ecological history of west central Alberta from prehistoric times to the arrival of large-scale industrial forest management in 1955. The authors combed a number of archives and museums to come up with over 150 photos to illustrate the book. Through examination of a number of historical records a series of 28 maps, most original for this book, supplement the text.

The Resilient Forest: After the Stumps
A 35 Year Retrospective on a 1970s Environmental Campaign
by Bob Stevenson, Steve Ferdinand and Bob Udell
Published by: Foothills Model Forest. 2007

This book examines the roots of a highly controversial 1972 environmental campaign targeting forestry practices on the Hinton FMA. Assertions of environmental degradation, deforestation and wasteful practices were illustrated with pictures and maps. The same blocks used in the campaign were revisited and rephotographed in 1997 and again in 2006 and a report prepared comparing the 1972 assertions against subsequent development.

50 Years of Harvest and Reforestation
- A Historical Photo Review of the Hinton Forest Management Agreement Area
2007 – FRI Website

Program Lead Bob Udell prepared this pictorial and historical record through time of harvest areas on West Fraser’s Hinton Forest Management Area. This study uses 36 blocks to illustrate the forest policy environment and forest practices at the times of their harvest, and is the foundation for a continuing photographic record of their development over time.

Mountain Trails
by Jack Glen, 1969
To be published October 2008 - Foothills Research Institute and Alberta Sustainable Resource Development

Jack Glen was a ranger at Entrance from 1920 to 1945. His memoir of those early days provides much insight into the life and times of a DFB/AFS ranger who saw the transition from Dominion to Provincial resource ownership. Originally published in Serial form in the Western Producer, this new and expanded memoir includes many of Jack Glen’s original photos along with others selected from various collections and archives. In addition, the book is illustrated with a series of maps that place Mr. Glen’s adventures into a geographical perspective.