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The Canadian Boreal Forest Agreement – Setting a new standard for biodiversity conservation and prosperity in the Canadian Boreal

Third Meeting of the Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity

Montréal, October 3, 2013

CANADIAN BOREAL FOREST AGREEMENT.COM

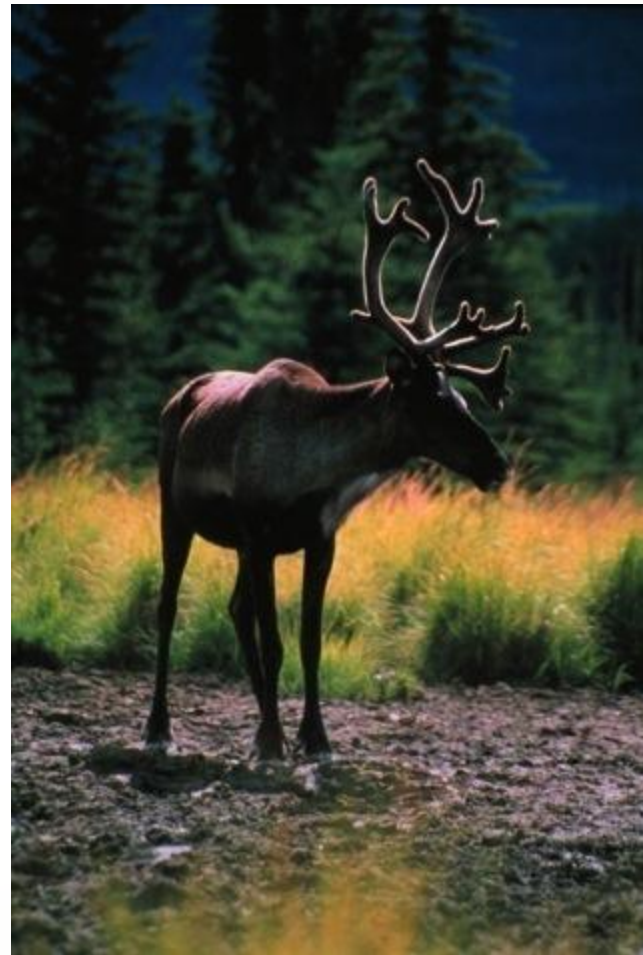
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OUTLINE

- What is the CBFA?
- Summary of implementation
- Structure and key goals of the Agreement, including Goal 1 regarding certification
- Progress to date
- Lessons for standard-setting from the CBFA



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What is the CBFA?

- The Canadian Boreal Forest Agreement (CBFA) is an historic agreement
 - between seven Canadian and International environmental organizations and the majority of the Canadian forest industry - FPAC,
 - to protect significant areas of Canada's vast Boreal Forest, protect threatened woodland caribou, and find a new prosperity for the forestry industry and the communities who rely on it

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What is the CBFA?

- Reciprocal commitments:
 - Participating forest companies have committed to implement, "the highest environmental standards of forest management," and;
 - Participating conservation groups committed to ensure "global recognition and support for forest company efforts"

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SUMMARY OF CBFA IMPLEMENTATION



- Despite some significant setbacks after three years, work continues across the Agreement
- First joint recommendations in Northeast Ontario are before government
- Forging ahead with land use planning in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and recently Newfoundland
- National-level science-based guidance work is proceeding and key pieces are in place

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OUR OBJECTIVE

- A globally significant precedent for boreal forest conservation and forest sector competitiveness
- To ensure Canada is recognized as:
 - a world leader in conservation and protection of boreal biodiversity; and,
 - the preferred global source of supply of sustainable forest products

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OUR CORE COMMITMENT

- CBFA parties will always seek to achieve high degrees of social and economic prosperity and protect ecological integrity
- We believe conserving biodiversity and protecting jobs can go hand in hand



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CORE ELEMENTS OF THE CBFA

- Six key goals:
 - World-leading forest practices standards (Goal 1)
 - Network of protected areas (Goal 2)
 - Recovery of species at risk (Goal 3)
 - Climate change (Goal 4)
 - Forest sector and community prosperity (Goal 5)
 - Recognition by the marketplace (Goal 6)
- All implemented in a context of active adaptive management

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GOAL 1 – WORLD-LEADING FOREST PRACTICES

- Identifying and implementing world-leading forest practices based on ecosystem-based management
- Building on the three major North American certification programs with Forest Stewardship Council's stand and landscape-level planning and practices as an acknowledged reference point



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STRUCTURE OF THE CBFA

- An agreement-to-agree, including:
 - Publicly-available text – the architecture of our new relationship
 - Third-party Secretariat program management providing coordination and facilitation
 - Commitment to independent science overseen by a Science Committee
 - Implementation with governments, communities, First Nations and stakeholders
 - Independent auditing of progress that is reported to markets and the public

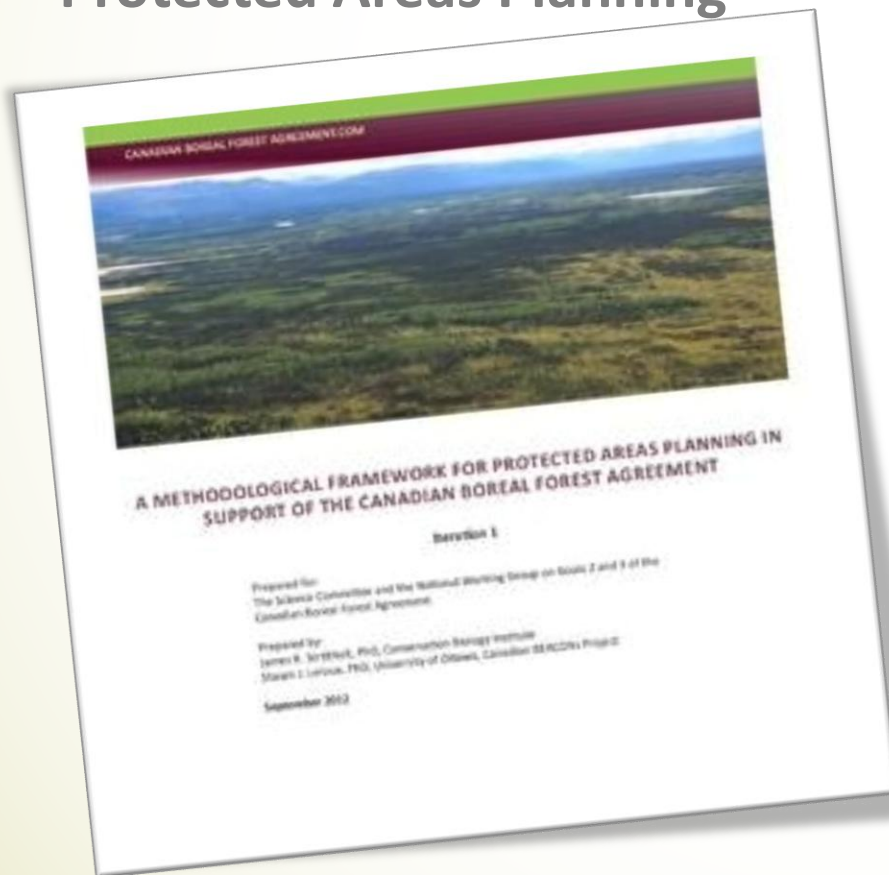
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Progress – Consensus Guidance

Protected Areas Planning



Caribou Action Planning

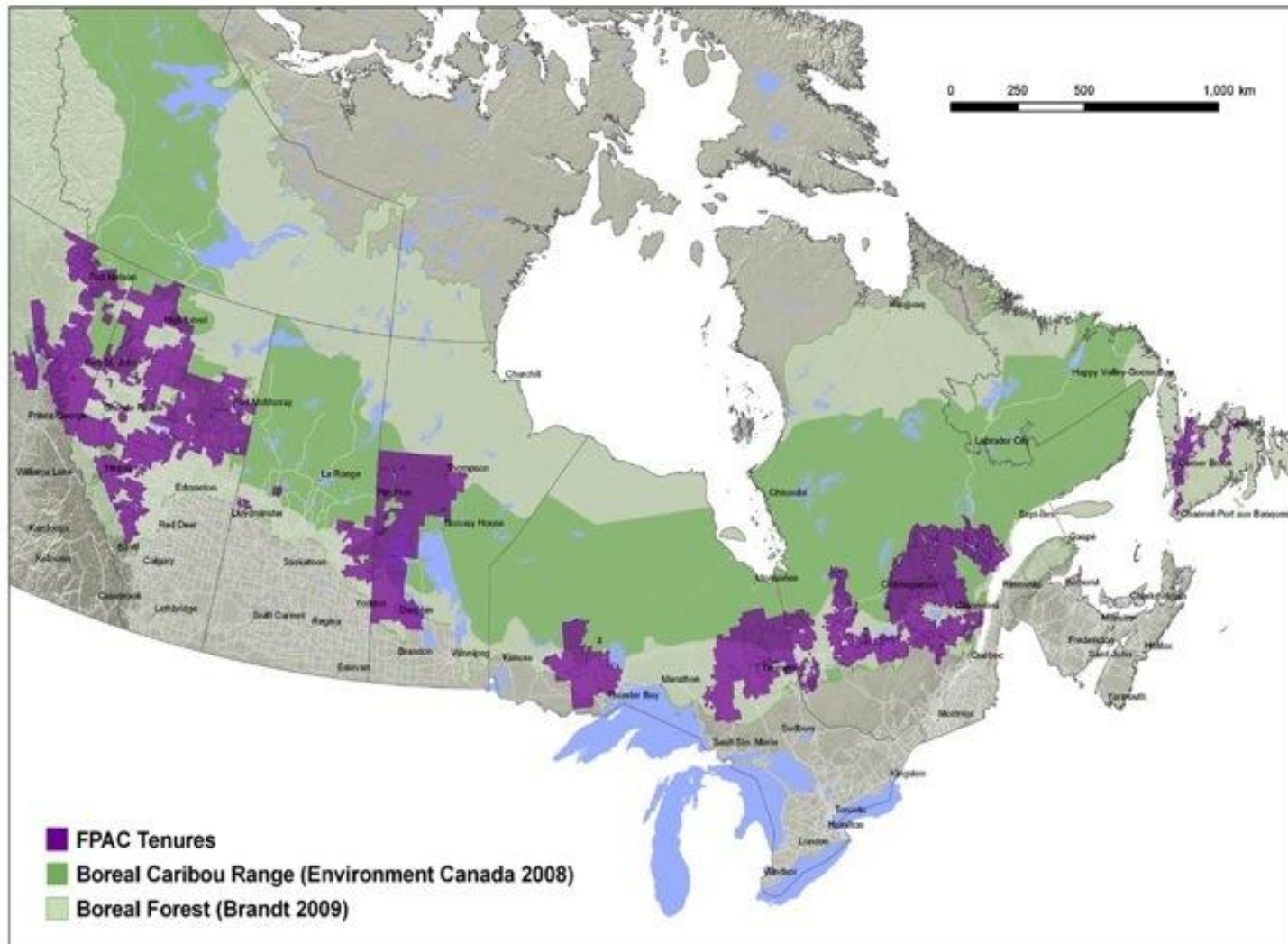


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AREA OF DIRECT IMPLEMENTATION – 73MHA

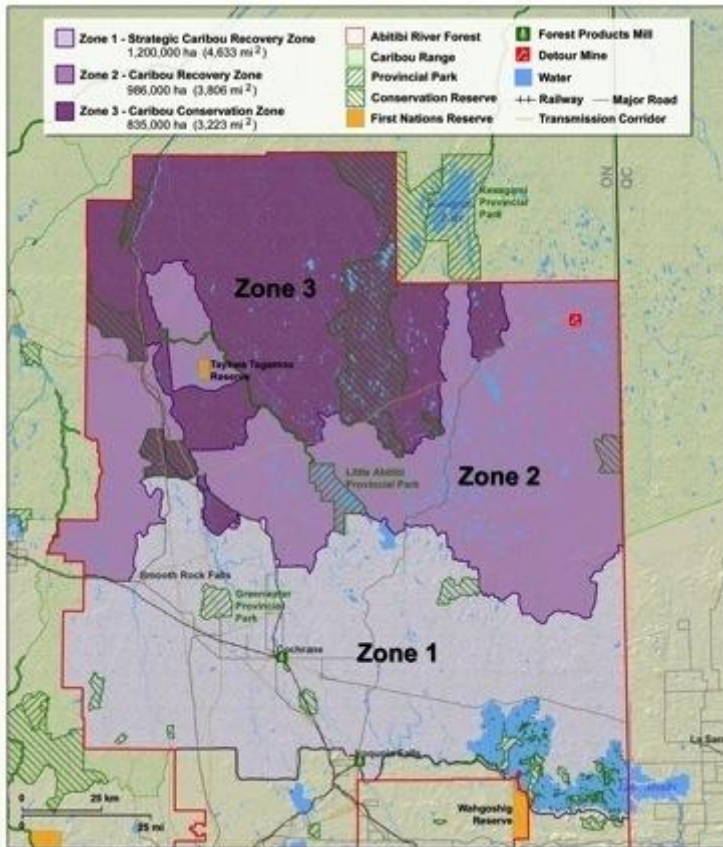


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NORTHEAST ONTARIO



- Joint recommendations for Caribou survival before government
- First Nations, municipal, forest company, and conservation support
- ~800,000 ha Caribou Conservation Zone
- ~20% increase in available wood supply

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Progress

- Joint Secretariat established with 20 staff and contractors supporting signatories with coordination and facilitation services
- Joint Science Committee assembled – top-flight scientists and technicians providing guidance
- Decision-making structures in place and staffed with 120 expert volunteers from across the country
- 29 million hectares of caribou habitat off limits to harvesting to allow space for our planning efforts
- Jointly-produced, scientifically-based guidance for caribou action planning and protected areas planning at the national level

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Progress

- Two new wildland parks in place in Northeast Alberta
- Boreal Business Forum – A collection of globally influential retailers/consumers of Canada forest products in place
- Independent Assessor – KPMG LLP, an international accounting firm
- Beginning to secure Aboriginal government and Provincial government engagement

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SUMMARY

- CBFA is a global precedent for sustainable development
- Lessons for standard-setting from the CBFA:
 - Collaboration and interest-based negotiations supported by third-party coordinators and facilitators
 - Commitment to jointly-commissioned independent science



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Thank you

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