

# **Annual Work Schedule**

for the

# **Sudbury Forest**

## **2022-2023**



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1 List of Tables

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Item		Digital File Name
AWS-1	Annual Schedule of Water Crossings To Be Replaced, Constructed/Reviewed	MU889_2022_AWS_TBL_Tables.PDF
AWS-2	Annual Schedule of Water Crossings to be Decommissioned	MU889_2022_AWS_TBL_Tables.PDF

3

4 List of Attachments

5

Appended Document#	Description	Digital File Name
Appended Document 1	A) AWS Harvest Operations OBM maps, at a scale of 1:15,840 B) AWS Harvest summary map at a scale of 1: 500,000 C) AWS Index Map – Harvest – 1:150,000	MU889_2022_AWS_MAP_OpsOBM##_00.PDF MU889_2022_AWS_MAP_Sum_01.PDF MU889_2022_AWS_MAP_Index_01.PDF
Appended Document 2	D) AWS Silviculture Operations maps, at a scale of 1:50,000 E) AWS Silviculture Operations summary map at 1: 500,000. F) Annual Work Schedule Index Map – Silviculture – 1:150,000	MU889_2022_AWS_MAP_silv#_00 MU889_2022_AWS_MAP_Sum_02.PDF MU889_2022_AWS_MAP_Index_02.PDF
Appended Document 3	Fire Prevention and Preparedness Plan	MU889_2022_AWS_TXT_Text.PDF
Appended Document 4	Aerial Chemical Tending Plan – submitted later and prior to Public Notification	MU889_2022_AWSHP_###.ZIP
Appended Document 5	Compliance Plan for the Sudbury Forest	MU889_2022_AWS_TXT_Text.PDF
Appended Document 6	Prescribed Burn Plan – submitted later and prior to Public Notification	MU889_2022_AWSPB_###.ZIP

6

7 Note: Attachments (appended documents) 1 and 2 are separate digital files included with the Natural  
8 Resources Information Portal (NRIP) submission. Attachment 4 and 6 are submitted separately.

9

1 Title and Certification Page

2 **ANNUAL WORK SCHEDULE**  
3 **for the**  
4 **SUDBURY FOREST**

5  
6 Sudbury District, Northeast Region  
7 Vermilion Forest Management Company, Ltd.  
8 for the one-year period from April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023

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

12

13

14 Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_ February 17, 2022

15 Scott McPherson, R.P.F., Plan Author [date]

16

17

18 Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_ February 17, 2022

19 Mark Lockhart, R.P.F., General Manager [date]

20

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

24

25

26

27

28 \_\_\_\_\_ February 17, 2022

29 [R.P.F. Seal] Scott McPherson, R.P.F., Plan Author [date]

30

31 NRIP Submission Identifier: **FM-889-2020-AWS-1690**

32 *Original, signed copies of the certification page are on file at the VFM and NDMNRF District offices.*

33

## 1 Introduction

2 This Annual Work Schedule (AWS) has been prepared by The Vermilion Forest Management Company  
3 Ltd (VFM). VFM is the Sustainable Forest License holder on the Sudbury Forest. The AWS covers  
4 planned harvesting, access, renewal and maintenance operations on the Sudbury Forest for the period  
5 commencing April 1st, 2022 and ending March 31st, 2023. This schedule represents the third year of  
6 planned forest management activities for the approved 2020-2030 Forest Management Plan (FMP).  
7 Conditions on regular operations identified in the forest management plan will be followed in the  
8 implementation of this annual work schedule. More detailed planning information can be referenced in  
9 the approved 2020-2030 FMP for the Sudbury Forest. This AWS has been prepared in accordance with  
10 the 2020 Forest Management Planning Manual.

11 Tables AWS-1 and AWS-2 and Appended Documents 1 to 6 are part of the Annual Work Schedule.  
12 Further detail regarding harvest and silviculture operations can be referenced in the 2020-2030 FMP  
13 Supplemental Documentation Section 6.1 (q) identified as “Conditions & Prescriptions for Harvest,  
14 Renewal and Tending”.

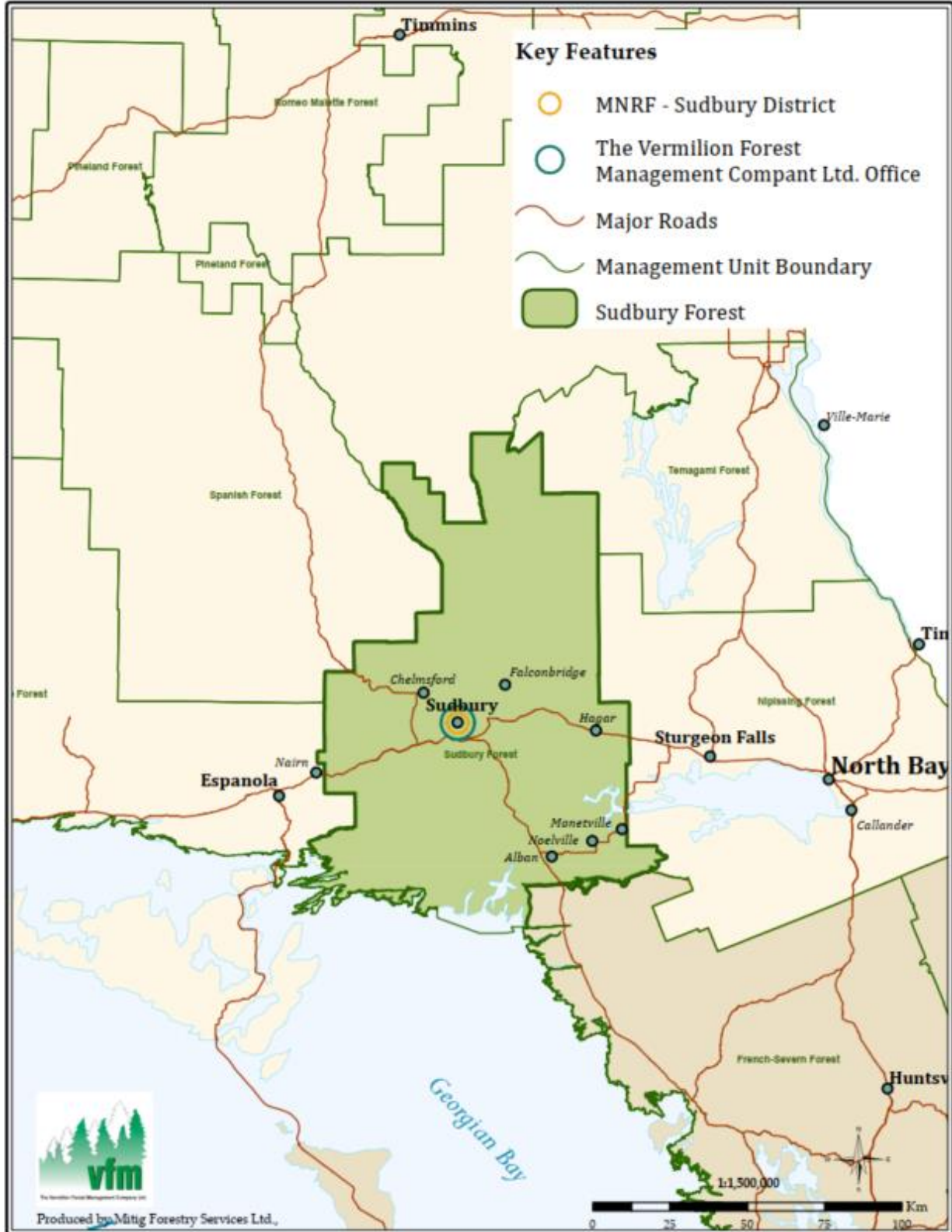
15 Spatial data layers are not considered mandatory components as their requirement is dependent on the  
16 types of operations being scheduled for the year.

- 17 • MU889\_22SHR00 – (Scheduled Harvest)
- 18 • MU889\_22SRP00 – (Scheduled Residual Patches)
- 19 • MU889\_22SRG00 – (Scheduled Regeneration Treatments)
- 20 • MU889\_22SSP00 – (Scheduled Site Preparation Treatments)
- 21 • MU889\_22STT00 – (Scheduled Tending Treatments)
- 22 • MU889\_22SPT00 – (Scheduled Protection Treatments)
- 23 • MU889\_22SAC00 – (Areas of Concern in Scheduled Operations)
- 24 • MU889\_22SRC00 – (Scheduled Road Corridors)
- 25 • MU889\_22SAG00 – (Scheduled Aggregate Extraction Areas)
- 26 • MU889\_22SEA00 – (Scheduled Establishment Assessment)
- 27 • MU889\_22SRA00 – (Scheduled Existing Road Activities)
- 28 • MU889\_22SOR00 – (Scheduled Operational Road Boundaries)
- 29 • MU889\_22AGP00 – (Existing Forestry Aggregate Pits)
- 30 • MU889\_22SWC00 – (Scheduled Water Crossing Activities)
- 31 • MU889\_22WSY00 – (Scheduled Wood Storage Yards)

32  
33 The Sudbury District of the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources, and Forestry  
34 (NDMNRF) is the lead District for the Sudbury Forest. An illustration of the management unit and its  
35 location in the northeast region is provided in Figure 1 on the following page.

36

1 Figure 1. Location and extent of the Sudbury Forest.



2

## 1 Harvest

2 The areas scheduled for harvest during the year are identified on the accompanying annual operations  
3 maps. A harvest coverage layer provides data, which summarizes the scheduled harvest area for the  
4 AWS year. Information for this coverage was derived from the 2020-2030 FMP. This information also  
5 spatially portrays the areas scheduled for harvest, as shown on the annual operations maps.

6 The scheduled regular and modified harvest area of 17,447 ha (and associated volume, excluding  
7 reserves) is just under three years worth (at 27%) of the average annual available harvest area. An  
8 additional 528 ha of bridging area, carried over from the previous FMP, is also identified.

9 The identified areas will allow for operational flexibility for fluctuating markets (species / products),  
10 changing weather conditions, and provide a variety of site conditions to minimize damage in frost-free  
11 conditions. The intent is to maximize the available harvest on an annual basis.

12 Personal fuelwood harvest areas are also allocated in the AWS. Eight different sites for public fuelwood  
13 areas have been identified in the following townships: Delamere, Cherriman, Carlyle, Eden, Lumsden,  
14 Norman, Street, and Cascaden amounting to approximately 200 ha. The public is made aware of the  
15 fuelwood areas through the Notice of Inspection of the AWS. The NDMNRF will monitor cutting in the  
16 public fuelwood areas. Individuals interested in gathering firewood must contact the NDMNRF  
17 (telephone: 705-564-7823 mail: Suite 5, 3767 Hwy 69 S, Sudbury, ON P3G 1E7) to obtain a personal  
18 fuelwood permit.

19 Ongoing market conditions and the demand for pulp-quality roundwood require VFM to implement a  
20 temporary strategy that will allow for modified harvesting and silviculture to take place on the forest  
21 when pulp markets are greatly reduced. Direction for operations are described in FMP Supplemental  
22 Documentation 6.1.(q), Section 3.28 (Modified Utilization Strategy) and will be applied in the 2022-2023  
23 AWS.

## 24 Wood Storage Yards

25 No wood storage yards are identified for this AWS.

## 26 Renewal and Maintenance (Tending and Protection)

27 Areas for renewal and maintenance are submitted in the AWS in accordance with the Forest Information  
28 Manual.

29 Appended Document 2 contains the silviculture annual work schedule maps at a scale of 1:50,000, a  
30 Silviculture Operations summary map at a scale of 1:150,000, a Silviculture Operations summary map at  
31 a scale of 1:500,000, and an AWS Index Map – Silviculture at 1:500,000.

## 32 Roads

33 A roads coverage layer provides the annual schedule of road construction, maintenance and use  
34 management for the third year of the FMP. Refer to Table FMP-18, and Section 4.5 of the FMP text and  
35 Section 6.1.(i) of the Supplemental Documentation for information pertaining to roads on the Sudbury  
36 Forest for the 2020-2030 FMP.

1 The majority of the work required to access the forest will be in the form of general maintenance such  
2 as summer grading, patch graveling (where required), snow plowing, and brushing. Emergency repairs  
3 will be conducted if required.

4 Roads planned for primary and branch road construction in the AWS are identified with a 1 km wide  
5 corridor. The amount of road construction that will occur will be influenced by a number of factors,  
6 including weather, timing constraints, equipment and manpower availability, and financial resources  
7 (including Provincial Funding). In addition, several kilometres of operational road will be built to access  
8 timber within harvest blocks.

9 No road construction or maintenance activities are scheduled for the purpose of creating or maintaining  
10 an airstrip along a road.

11 Road maintenance is generally required to maintain, improve, or repair existing roads to make them  
12 usable for forestry operations and to make them safe for the general public.

### 13 [Water Crossing Construction](#)

14 The water crossings for the current year and future years have been included in AWS – 1 and are shown  
15 on the 1:15,840 Areas Selected for Operation maps.

16 Water crossings on all primary and branch roads are monitored on a regular basis. On roads where  
17 maintenance is scheduled, minor repairs of crossing structure such as cleaning of culverts, bridge  
18 surface repairs, erosion control, etc. may be undertaken.

### 19 [Other Crossings of Areas of Concern](#)

20 With the implementation of the 2017 & 2020 FMPM, there is no longer a requirement to identify  
21 locations of area of concern crossings (not involving water crossings). Crossings must follow the  
22 Conditions on Forest Access Roads, Landings and Aggregates specified in FMP-11.

23 The right-of-way width for any road crossing an AOC, regardless of the road location being inside or  
24 outside the allocated areas, is as required in table FMP-11 and FMP Supplemental Documentation 6.1  
25 (q) or as per the Conditions of the AWS.

### 26 [Water Crossing Decommissioning](#)

27 Table AWS – 2 identifies the water crossings planned for decommissioning during the 2022-2023 term.

28 Water crossing removals will be subject to the Conditions on Operations, FMP Supplemental  
29 Documentation 6.1 (q), as well as site-specific conditions stated in AWS-2 and the Fisheries Protocol  
30 Appendix 2.

### 31 [Forestry Aggregate Pits](#)

32 Active forestry aggregate pits which may be used or rehabilitated during the term of the 2022-2023 AWS  
33 are identified in the spatial Existing Forestry Aggregate Pit layer and associated data file.

34 The pit locations and identification number are identified on the 1:15,840 operation maps.

35 Rehabilitated aggregate pits will be identified in annual reports when these activities occur on the  
36 management unit. The activities in any pit will be reported in the appropriate annual report, once  
37 operations have taken place in the area.



1 General conditions on the creation, operation, and closure of aggregate resource pits are detailed in the  
2 2020-2030 Sudbury FMP in Supplemental Documentation 6.1 (q).

### 3 Fire Prevention and Preparedness

4 As part of the regulations under the Forest Management Planning Manual (FMPM), a single fire  
5 prevention and preparedness plan is prepared in the AWS to cover all licensees and all associated forest  
6 industrial activities. Conditions are placed on forest operations through the AWS to provide for fire  
7 prevention and preparedness. This replaces the need for individual licensees to prepare their own plan  
8 and eliminates the need for separate work permits to cover industrial activities. Forest fire prevention  
9 and preparedness measures to be implemented during the term of this AWS can be found in Appended  
10 Document 3.

### 11 Prescribed Burns

12 With the increase in cut-to-length harvesting on the forest there is a reduction in the amount of slash  
13 piling. As such, a slash pile burn program is not anticipated at this time for the 2022 season.

14 A prescribed burn plan will be prepared in accordance with NDMNRF's Prescribed Burn Manual for  
15 those seasons when a burn plan is anticipated. The prescribed burn plan will be submitted in accordance  
16 with the requirements of the FIM and First Nation and Métis communities and the LCC will be provided  
17 an opportunity to view the prescribed burn plan before its approval. The approved prescribed burn plan  
18 will form part of and be available with the AWS (Appended Document 6).

### 19 Monitoring and Assessment

#### 20 Regeneration Success

21 Table FMP-20 entitled "Planned Assessment of Establishment" documents the total area planned for  
22 survey during the 2020-2030 period. This area will be netted down for actual assessment for the coming  
23 field season.

24 Monitoring surveys are consistent with Supplementary Documentation 6.1 (h) (Forest Renewal  
25 Monitoring) of the 2020 FMP.

#### 26 Roads

27 Monitoring is done to track the general condition of the road, to assess water crossing structures, to  
28 verify proper signage is in place and ensure access controls are in place and are effective. VFM has  
29 developed a systematic approach where all bridges will be assessed annually and all culverts will be  
30 assessed at least once every three (3) years (or more frequently if there is a major weather event). Refer  
31 to Section 6.1 (i) of the FMP Supplemental Documentation for details about the type of monitoring that  
32 is required for each road (or network of roads).

#### 33 Annual Compliance Plan

34 Scheduling of forest operation inspections and compliance priorities will be conducted as per the Annual  
35 Compliance Plan for the Sudbury Forest located in Appended Document 5. A detailed 10 Year  
36 Compliance Plan and strategy can be found in Supplementary Documentation 6.1 (r) of the 2020-2030  
37 FMP.

1 **Monitoring of Exceptions**

2 As per 2020-2030 FMP Supplementary Documentation 6.1 (f) Monitoring Exceptions - there are no Area  
3 of Concern prescriptions or Silvicultural Ground Rules that are exceptions to the Guidelines, therefore,  
4 there is no monitoring program for exceptions.

5 **Insect Pest Management Programs**

6 The occurrence and extent of insect infestations are determined annually. When a major insect pest  
7 infestation exists the NDMNRF regional director will determine if an insect pest management program  
8 (IPMP) will be developed. The IPMP will determine the types and locations of insect pest management  
9 activities that are required.

10 The Northeast Region is in the midst of an outbreak of spruce budworm and an IPMP is being  
11 investigated for potential implementation in 2022-2023. If an IPMP is to be implemented the following  
12 management options will be considered as part of an IPMP and appended to the AWS, if required:

- 13 (a) no treatment;
- 14 (b) accelerated harvest;
- 15 (c) redirected harvest;
- 16 (d) salvage harvest;
- 17 (e) prescribed burns;
- 18 (f) the use of insecticides;
- 19 (g) other controls (e.g., bait traps); and
- 20 (h) appropriate combinations of options (a) to (g).

21 **Annual Work Schedule Summary Information**

22 Summary maps showing the location of all harvesting, silvicultural activities, road construction and  
23 maintenance has been prepared by VFM. A copy of these maps are available from VFM's office or on  
24 the NDMNRF website.