

# Xaxli'p Community Forest Short and Long Term Goals

May 2013



## Introduction

The Xaxli'p Community Forest is a company that is owned by all Xaxli'p community members. We value the input and participation of the community in our work. At our annual general meeting members of the community vote to elect Directors from the Xaxli'p Community to our Board of Directors. It is the responsibility of these Directors to ensure that the Xaxli'p Community Forest is working toward achieving our Mission Statement and Goals.



Photo: Annual planning meeting of Xaxli'p Community Forest Board of Directors, staff and forester. (left to right: Douglas Mitchell Jr., Chester Alec, Chester Adolph, Ed Mountain Jr., Chet Bob, Herman Alec, Emerson Adolph, David Adolph, Nora Billy, Jeff Saul, Lia Wilson, and Herb Hammond. Missing from photo: Robbie Bob, Howard Bob and Community Forest Manager, Andra Forney.)

In May of 2013 the Xaxli'p Community Forest Board of Directors developed a series of short and medium term goals that our company will work toward over the next 3-5 years. Working toward and achieving these goals will mean we are on the path toward meeting the long-term goals set for us by the Xaxli'p community.

The goals that we set are grouped into four major categories:

- eco-cultural restoration & sustainable land-use
- community engagement, education & outreach
- community economy & business planning
- capacity building

These categories are not mutually exclusive. For example outcomes from our plans for selective timber harvesting may address goals under at least three if not all four of these categories.

These goals we have made are not set in stone. As circumstances change the short and medium-term goals may be revisited and adjusted by the Forest Manager with the guidance of the Board of Directors.

These goals primarily focus around the core operations of the Community Forest; however, they also include Xaxli'p programs managed by the Community Forest specifically the Xaxli'p Range Rider Program.

**Please read through our short and medium-term goals. If you have any questions or comments about what you read or about the Community Forest in general please feel free to stop by the Xaxli'p Community Forest office or speak with one of our staff members or our Directors.**

**Contact Information:**

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## **XCFC Mission Statement**

*Considering the needs of present and future generations, XCFC, carries out ecologically and culturally sustainable land use for the benefit of Xaxli'pmec and other beings in our Survival Territory.*

## **XCFC Long Term Goals (from Mission Statement & Goals)**

- eco-cultural restoration of degraded ecosystems, to encourage our community to continue to practice our traditional way of life across our Survival Territory  
specifically:
  - \*improving overall forest health
  - \*enhancing culturally important species
  - \*involving community members in these efforts
- education of youth & community members in *Ntsuw'lhkalha Tl'akmen* to encourage our community to continue to practice our traditional way of life across our Survival Territory
- restore water quality, quantity, and timing of flow throughout our Survival Territory
- develop high quality timber products and “non-timber forest products”
- develop a diverse, sustainable community economy based on forest products including:
  - \*value-added timber products
  - \*“non-timber forest products”

## **Medium Term: Goals for 2013-2017 (next 5-years)**

### *Eco-cultural Restoration & Sustainable Land-Use:*

1. Carry out restoration treatments for approximately 100 ha of forested areas within Fountain Valley (20 ha/year), over the next 5 years. Areas to be restored include:

- CWPP Treatment Work XCFC – 33 ha (treatment)
- CWPP Treatment Work SLRD – 45 ha (treatment)
- Rough Creek – 20-30 ha (assessment, prescription, treatment)
- Sexwem – 10-20 ha (prescription, treatment)

NOTE: Funding is available to carry out the CWPP treatments. To carry out 30-50 ha of eco-cultural restoration treatments at Rough Creek and Sexwem, additional funding of approximately \$100,000 to \$200,000 will need to be found over the next 5 years to cover 6-12 months of crew wages and expenses. If funding to cover these eco-cultural restoration costs is not found this goal may not be fully met.

2. Carry out regular post-treatment monitoring of eco-cultural restoration areas.

- Following the photo-point monitoring protocol, revisit & take photo-points at restoration sites every five years post-treatment.

3. Actively work to protect the eco-cultural integrity of Xaxli'p Survival Territory

- Contribute expertise to Xaxli'p Chief and Council on land-use based consultation and information sharing from government and industry.
- Work with Xaxli'p Chief and Council to draft a joint land-use policy that contains clear guidelines for use of resources within Xaxli'p Survival Territory including: firewood, traditional plants & medicines, and that has specific guidelines around ATV use. This policy will build upon existing policies including the Xaxli'p Meaningful Consultation Policy and the Xaxli'p Forest Policy.

4. Begin to develop and implement a traditional food and medicine restoration strategy.

- Applying information from the Kitchen Table Talks and with input from Elders and knowledge holders identify and prioritize a list of target species for restoration or enhancement.
- Research and plan restoration or enhancement strategies for the top two or three species.
- Identify one or two suitable sites for carrying out the restoration activities.

- Carry-out a small field trial of different restoration and enhancement approaches for one or two species.

*Community Education, Engagement & Outreach:*

1. Encourage active participation in the activities and planning of the XCFC by a broad selection of the community (especially youth, elders, women, young adults).

- Involve the community in eco-cultural restoration work either through input at the planning stage or through hands on involvement in projects.
- Involve Elders and knowledge holders in Xaxli'p Youth Culture Camps organized by the Xaxli'p Range Rider program.

2. Establish a XCFC Planning Committee that includes elders, youth, women and young adults to provide knowledge and guidance for our eco-cultural restoration work.

3. Continue and build on community outreach and communication initiatives.

- Host an annual field trip to visit XCFC eco-cultural restoration sites.
- Plan and host annual or semi-annual presentations and community information sessions.
- Host an annual open house for all valley residents and interested community members to learn about the work of the Xaxli'p Community Forest Corporation.
- Continue the Xaxli'p Range Rider Slideshow and Potluck dinners.

4. Build relationships and connections with neighboring First Nations communities, other residents of Fountain Valley, and like-minded organizations and businesses.

- Share information about our work beyond Xaxli'p through community open-houses and field trips.
- Establish and maintain contact with other related businesses and organizations as part of developing a support network

*Community Economy & Business Planning:*

1. Incorporate selective logging into eco-cultural restoration treatments.
2. Develop a long-term business and operational plan for XCFC post-FCRSA funding.
3. Develop markets and a marketing strategy for XCFC wood and wood products.
4. Support the existing non-timber forest product economy through the encouragement of sustainable land-use, and specially targeted eco-cultural restoration activities.

*Capacity Building:*

1. Train the XCFC staff in operational planning and layout for selective logging.
2. Build capacity through the continued use and refinement of the Landscape Restoration Plan.
3. Train a Xaxli'pmec in the operations and management of the XCFC, as the Xaxli'p Forest Intern.
4. Develop protocols for important Forest Stewardship Plan obligations including: invasive species, species at risk and cultural heritage. Train XCFC staff with the knowledge and skills necessary to ensure that XCFC meets these obligations.
5. Establish sub-committees of the Board of Directors to ensure an efficient and effective Board. These committees include: Finance Committee, Human Resources and Personnel Committee, and Planning Committee
6. Train the Community Forest Manager and/or a Xaxli'pmec as a Registered Professional Forester.

## **Short Term: Goals for 2013-14**

### *Eco-cultural Restoration & Sustainable Land-Use:*

1. Complete Xaxli'p Community Wildfire Protection Plan work  
***To be completed by May 2014***
2. Undertake Timber Cruising & Forest Assessments: Rough Creek & Gibbs Creek  
***To be completed by July, 2013***
3. Complete Eco-cultural Restoration Photopoint Monitoring (with support from Range Riders)  
Photopoints are needed for: IR-8 (after); Second Lake (after); Rough Creek (before)  
***To be completed by August, 2013***
4. Update record keeping system
  - a) update eco-cultural restoration binders – ***September, 2013***
  - b) establish relevant procedures for record keeping & file maintenance – ***May, 2013***
  - c) organize & clean-up office filing system – ***January, 2014***
5. Draft and Finalize a Joint Sustainable Land-Use Policy with Xaxli'p Chief and Council  
***To be completed by December, 2013***
6. Consult with West Fraser on Hat Creek Plans  
***To be completed Summer, 2013***
7. Initiate the traditional food and medicine plant restoration strategy
  - a) identify priority species for restoration planning – ***September, 2013***
  - b) develop restoration strategy for top two species – ***November, 2013***
  - c) carry-out restoration trials – ***Spring/Summer 2014***

### *Community Education & Engagement:*

1. Establish an XCFC Planning Committee.
  - a) develop committee of the Board of Directors to steer this committee – ***Summer, 2013***
  - b) identification and invitation of community members to join committee – ***Sept, 2013***
  - c) meeting of the XCFC Planning Committee – ***October, 2013***
2. Host Community Field Trip/Restoration Site Open House at Second Lake  
***To be completed Summer, 2013***

*Xaxli'p Range Riders (Program is dependent on availability of funding)*

1. Expand Xaxli'p Youth Culture Camps to include specific themes & training in Xaxli'p culture
  - a) identify themes and number of camps – ***April, 2013***
  - b) contact Elders and knowledge holders to assist with camps – ***May, 2013***
  - c) plan camp dates, locations, and details – ***May/June, 2013***
  - d) advertise and have registration for camps – ***June, 2013***
  - d) host 3-4 Xaxli'p Youth Culture Camps – ***July/August, 2013***
  
2. Plan & Host Three Range Rider Slideshows/ Potluck Dinners  
***To be completed June, 2013; August 2013 & October 2013***
  
3. Maintain and Restore Cultural Trails in Xaxli'p Survival Territory  
General maintenance on main trails, and restoration work on Gibbs Creek trail.  
***To be completed by September-October, 2013***

*Community Economy & Business Planning:*

1. Incorporate selective logging into eco-cultural restoration treatments.
  - a) Summarize & analyze timber cruising data for Rough Creek & Gibbs Creek  
***Summer 2013***
  - b) Secure cutting permit for Xaxli'p CFA area. – ***Summer 2013***
  - c) Confirm locations & operational plans for initial selective logging including designs for the logging operation, identification of potential contractors and estimated costs.  
***Summer-Fall 2013***
  - d) Negotiate log price with purchaser. – ***Fall 2013***
  - e) Review of plans by XCFC Board and input from Xaxli'p Community. – ***Fall 2013***
  - f) Carry out logging, trucking and log sales. – ***Winter 2014***
  - g) Summarize and report outcomes of logging operations and log sales. – ***Spring 2014***
  
2. Development of a long-term business plan for organizational sustainability post-FCRSA<sup>1</sup>.  
***Draft to be completed by Winter, 2014***

*Capacity Building:*

1. Development, Presentation & Signing of Information Sharing Protocol  
***To be completed Summer, 2013***

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<sup>1</sup> This plan will incorporate logging, so it is important that we have some experience with logging when we develop this plan.

2. Orientation and training of Xaxli'p Community Forest Intern  
Training will follow plan outlined in job description and the Forest Intern Workplan for 2013  
***Ongoing between April – August, 2013***
3. Training of XCFC staff in operational planning and layout of selective logging operation.  
***Ongoing through 2013-14***
4. Development of Xaxli'p Community Forest Invasive Species Protocol  
***To be completed Summer, 2013***
5. Training XCFC Staff & Xaxli'p Range Riders in the protocol for identification, monitoring and treatment of invasive species.  
***To be completed Summer, 2013***
6. Development of Species at Risk Protocol for the Xaxli'p Community Forest  
***To be completed Fall, 2013***
7. Training XCFC Staff & Xaxli'p Range Riders in identification of species at risk, their habitat requirements and protocol for recording a suspected sighting of a species at risk.  
***To be completed Spring, 2014***
8. Development of Xaxli'p Community Forest Cultural Heritage Protocol  
***To be completed Summer, 2013***
9. Training XCFC Staff and Range Riders in Xaxli'p Community Forest Cultural Heritage Protocol  
***To be completed Summer, 2013***
10. Establish Finance Committee, Human Resources and Personnel Committee & Planning Committee as sub-committees of the XCFC Board of Directors  
***Ongoing through 2013-14***
11. Training of XCFC staff in operational planning and layout of selective logging operation.  
***Ongoing through 2013-14***