

# Effective Forest Renewal

## Why it matters

The long-term health of our forests depends on regrowth after natural disturbances or harvesting. Forests that are not renewed quickly lose their commercial value. That hurts northern communities and the northern economy. Forests that are not renewed properly may also become ecologically different than forests found in the natural landscape



A sustainable forest economy is not possible without a sustainable, healthy forest.

### **MYTH:** LOGGING CAUSES DEFORESTATION

### **FACT:** HARVESTING TREES DOES NOT CAUSE DEFORESTATION

Deforestation means that forests are permanently removed so the land can be used for something else. Harvesting, wildfires and insect infestations do not cause deforestation, since the affected areas will eventually grow back.

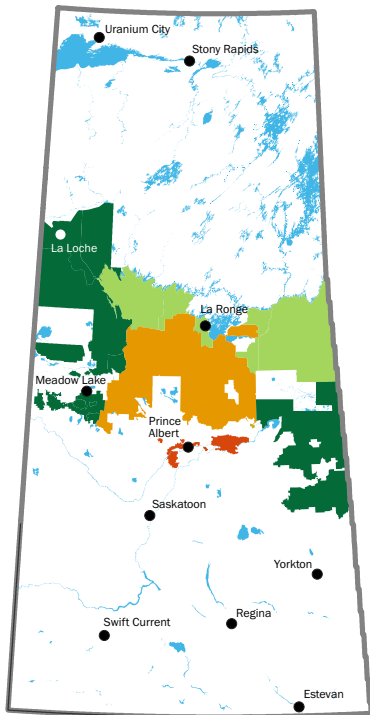
## What is happening

The Government of Saskatchewan routinely checks on reforestation efforts for each timber licence granted. For an area to be considered sufficiently regenerated, trees must cover at least 80 per cent of the growing area. These trees must also be at least 30 cm tall at seven years of age, or 1.5 metres tall at 14 years of age.

About 95 per cent of harvested forest land in Saskatchewan has been successfully regenerated.

A forest management agreement (FMA) is a 20-year agreement, typically with a large forest company, granting long-term harvesting rights for a specific volume of timber from a defined area, as well as responsibilities for long-term sustainable forest management.

### FMA's by Regeneration Percentage



99% or more regenerated

95% - 98% or more regenerated

89% - 94% or more regenerated

67% regenerated

### Saskatchewan's Crown Forest Areas - Industry's Regeneration Status

PROVINCIAL FOREST AREA	HARVEST PERIOD	HARVEST AREA (ha)	Survey AREA (ha)	REGENERATION STATUS			
				Sufficiently Regenerated Area SR		Not Sufficiently Regenerated Area (NSR)	
				Total (SR) * (ha) %		Total NSR (ha) %	
PP FMA	2004/05 to 2014/15	41,077	20,176	20,175	100%	1	0%
PA FMA	2004/05 to 2014/15	72,768	29,419	26,068	89%	3,351	11%
Mistik FMA	2004/05 to 2014/15	49,455	25,689	25,641	100%	48	0%
L&M FMA	2004/05 to 2014/15	7,404	5,647	5,647	100%	0	0%
Meetoos TSL	2004/05 to 2014/15	2,954	1,199	1,168	97%	31	3%
Kitsaki-Zelensky TSL	2004/05 to 2014/15	2,645	2,645	2,513	95%	132	5%
NW	2004/05 to 2014/15	237	8,400	8,224	98%	176	2%
Turnor TSL	2004/05 to 2014/15	0	0	0	0%	0	0%
Island Forests	2004/05 to 2014/15	4,252	2,179	1,451	67%	728	33%
Meadow Lake OSB TSL	2004/05 to 2014/15	5,422	2,716	2,716	100%	0	0%
Total		186,213	98,070	93,603	95%	4,467	5%

Updated November 8, 2016.

### What we are doing

Anyone who wants to harvest timber must commit to renewing the forest. They must follow the standards outlined in Saskatchewan's Environmental Code. A survey must be conducted between four and seven years after harvest. If regeneration is found to be lacking, the company must develop a plan to fix the problem.

The Saskatchewan Environmental Code includes a Forest Regeneration Assessment Chapter and Standard, effective January 5, 2015.