

Manitoba Model Forest 2009-10 Annual Report to the Forest Communities Program



January 2011

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Introduction

This is the third annual report of the Manitoba Model Forest (MBMF) under the Forest Communities Program (FCP) of Natural Resources Canada. The format of this report follows the template provided by the Canadian Forest Service, and covers the period from April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010. During this period, cash funding to the MBMF was approximately \$760,000 from all sources (including \$325,000 from Natural Resources Canada – Canadian Forest Service under the FCP), with an additional estimated in-kind contribution of \$2.15 million from all partners.

The 2009-10 year was a difficult one for the MBMF region. Due to a number of economic factors (high value of the Canadian dollar, low newsprint prices, low demand), the Tembec newsprint mill in Powerview-Pine Falls experienced 3 months of down time (and associated job layoffs) in the spring and summer of 2009. This was followed by a labour dispute and lockout of the employees from September 2009 to January 2010. Employees were not able to collect Employment Insurance benefits during this time, putting further stress on the employees and surrounding communities. In January 2010, Tembec announced its intentions to put the mill up for sale. However, no buyer was found, and (as of the time of writing this annual report), Tembec has started plans to decommission the facility. The MBMF moved its office from the Tembec woodlands division building at the mill, to the Winnipeg River Learning Centre. More than ever, programs such as the FCP and the grass-roots work of the MBMF are needed in the region. The global recession also continued to put a financial stain on the forest industry and provincial governments alike. The recession will have significant consequences for the MBMF forest in the 2010-11 fiscal year. As a result, the MBMF Board of Directors spent a considerable amount of time in 2009-10 prioritizing projects and developing budgets in anticipation of funding shortfalls in 2010-11.

All projects implemented in 2009-10 (and described in this Annual Report) have a basis in our 5 Year Strategic Plan. As such, all projects and activities also meet the objectives of the FCP. It is important to note that due to the large number of projects and activities in the MBMF Annual Work Plan, not all projects received cash funding from the FCP. Many projects received cash funding from other project partners only. Regardless of the funding source, all projects and activities of the MBMF fall under the 5 Year Strategic Plan, and thus, the FCP.

Under the FCP, the MBMF has developed six main program theme areas. This includes 1) program administration, 2) forest community engagement and capacity building, 3) integrated landscape management, 4) education, 5) international programs, and 6) communications and networking. Key project activities and accomplishments are outlined below.

Under the Forest Community Engagement and Capacity Building theme area, the Hollow Water First Nation and Black River First Nation Traditional Area Advisory Committees

(TAACs) met frequently in their communities to discuss resource management issues in their traditional territories. The TAACs have become a very effective mechanism for information exchange between resource industries, Manitoba Conservation and their communities. The TAACs provided input into the proposed Tembec 20 Year Sustainable Forest Stewardship Plan as well as the 2009-10 annual operating and renewal plan. The Hollow Water TAAC also took a leadership role in reviewing provincial plans for the upgrade and construction of an all-weather road up the east side of Lake Winnipeg (in their traditional area). The TAACs were recognized with a Spirit of the Earth Award for their successful way of integrating community concerns into resource development in their traditional areas. The Community Opportunities Program, a fund provided by the MBMF to local communities and organizations, funded 6 community-based projects. The MBMF also provided funding for the development of a traditional land use plan in the Duck Mountains of western Manitoba. The West Region Tribal Council led the project. Finally, a series of community workshops were held to explore economic opportunities in the development of a non-timber forest product (NTFP) sector in the MBMF area, and a partnership with Royal Roads University resulted in the creation of a NTFP training curriculum (which will be used for a training course in 2010-11).

Under the Integrated Landscape Management theme area, several science-based research and monitoring projects continued. The Eastern Manitoba Woodland Caribou Advisory Committee, a committee of the MBMF, was very active. The committee reviewed and provided recommendations on Tembec's 20 year forest management plan and annual operating and renewal plans, finalized a draft conservation strategy for the Atiko and Bloodvein woodland caribou ranges, and undertook aerial surveys for caribou, moose, wolves and deer in the Owl Lake caribou range. A summer and winter caribou capture program resulted in the placement of 20 satellite collars on woodland caribou in eastern Manitoba. The collars will enable the committee to monitor caribou habitat use response to an experimental forest harvest as well as meet other objectives. Members of the committee were also heavily involved in the planning of an international caribou conference to be held in Winnipeg in October 2010. Additionally, a watershed management workshop was held in Swan River, Manitoba in July 2009 as part of a new partnership with conservation districts, the forest industry, provincial government agencies, First Nations and NGOs in western Manitoba. The project will lead to a watershed monitoring and research program in the Duck Mountains. Two new projects, focused on Golden-winged Warbler and Barred Owls, have provided valuable information on the distribution and habitat requirements of these species.

Under the Education theme area, the Winnipeg River Learning Centre continued to develop and offer locally relevant training programs to the MBMF region in order to help address training needs and the recent closure of the Tembec newsprint mill. More than 300 students have taken courses at the Learning Centre since it began operations in 2008. The Learning Centre was also successful in its funding applications to the federal Community Adjustment Fund and other provincial funding programs (total of over \$3 million over 2 years), which will see significant renovations take place to the former Pine Falls School (the building in which the Learning Centre is located). This includes geothermal heating/cooling and upgrades to insulation and classrooms, etc. These

renovations will improve energy efficiency, reduce operating costs, provide for a more comfortable learning environment, and help ensure the long-term sustainability of the Winnipeg River Learning Centre. The MBMF Junior Rangers program held 2-three week training programs in Nopiming Provincial Park for 32 First Nation high school students. The students gained valuable training and experience in a number of areas relating to natural resource management. The MBMF continued to support the Manitoba Forestry Association's woodlot education program, reaching more than 1,800 private landowners. In 2009-10, 190 school teachers and more than 900 students received presentations on MBMF projects, boreal forest ecology and natural resource management through classroom presentations and/or "walk and talk" tours in the forest. The MBMF completed a draft version of a new Grade 10 social studies curriculum supplement on forestry in Manitoba. Several training sessions were provided by the MBMF to high school teachers (and 4th year students in the Faculty of Education at the University of Manitoba) on the use of MBMF curriculum supplements, as well as the offering of a new MBMF program called Summer Institute for Teachers. As part of the Summer Institute, seven high school teachers spent two days in Nopiming Provincial Park, learning about MBMF natural resource curricula while being surrounded and immersed in the boreal forest. Finally, new partnerships were developed between the MBMF, the Office of the Fire Commissioner, Manitoba Conservation and the Whiteshell Cottage Owners Association. The new partnership is developing management strategies to address forest fire risk in the Whiteshell Provincial Park.

Under the International theme area, a MOU was developed between the MBMF, CATIE and the Jameikari Indigenous Tourism Association for our project on ethno-tourism with the Indigenous Nairi Awari communities of Costa Rica. The Jameikari community completed the construction of a river camping area, which will host eco-tourists, and began training programs related to eco-tourism in Costa Rica. In addition, 4 Cabecar youth from the Jameikari community visited the MBMF area in July 2009 and two First Nation youth from Brokenhead Ojibway Nation visited the Jameikari community in February 2010 as part of a cultural youth exchange. The Jameikari community is already hosting tourists, even though the project is not yet completed.

Under the Communications theme area, the MBMF re-designed its website (www.manitobamodelforest.net), developed a new logo, developed one issue of our newsletter (For all Our Relations) and had various projects highlighted in several other partner organization newsletters.

Activity and Project Reports

The following section provides a summary of each of the projects and/or activities that were undertaken by the MBMF in 2009-10. For each project, the purpose and a description of the activities and achievements are provided, as well as a summary of each project budget, contributing partners and the outputs. The projects are organized by theme area.

Management and Administration

Staff Salaries and Associated Deductions

Project Number: 09-1-01

Project Leader: Beverly Dube, MBMF

Theme Area: Management and Administration

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: On-going, Year 3 of 5

Purpose: To ensure the proper and timely management of the administrative affairs of the MBMF by supporting the salaries/contracts of the Executive Assistant and General Manager.

Report: Funding was used to pay the salary, Employment Insurance and Canada Pension Plan obligations of the MBMF Executive Assistant, as well as the contract for the General Manager. Note: Budgeted amounts do not include a Benefits package.

Key activities include:

- Overseeing the efficient day-to-day operations of the office
- On-going budgeting and financial management of the MBMF
- Implementation of the 2009-2010 Annual Work Plan under the FCP
- Development of budgets and the Annual Work Plan under the FCP for the period April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011
- Initiate the development of the Annual Report to the FCP for the period of April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010
- Coordination of strategic and program planning and administration
- Development of new funding proposals, including for the development of a caribou range risk assessment framework, assessment of the response of woodland caribou to timber harvest (both funded through Manitoba Sustainable Development Innovations Fund- see caribou project 09-2-33), and the development of a non-timber forest project curriculum (funded through Manitoba Hydro Forest Enhancement Fund- see project 09-5-18)
- Development of a Memorandum of Understanding/Project Agreement between the MBMF, the Jameikari Indigenous Tourism Association and CATIE (Centre for Tropical Agriculture and Higher Learning), see project 09-6-01
- Preparation of financial and activity reports to the MBMF Board of Directors
- Organizing MBMF Working Group Meetings and individual project steering committee meetings
- Negotiation of funding contracts with the MBMF funders and preparation of invoices

- Networking with, and attendance at meetings of the Canadian Model Forest Network, International Model Forest Network and the Ibero-American Model Forest Network
- Participating on the organizing committee for the 2010 North American Caribou Workshop (to be held in Winnipeg, MB October 25-28, 2010)

Expenditures and Contributions:

There was a slight surplus (\$66) of FCP funding for the year.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	\$116,944	-	\$116,944
Project Activities	-	-	-
Total	\$116,944	-	\$116,944
Project Contributions			
NR-Can-CFS (FCP)	\$117,010	-	\$117,010
Total	\$117,010	-	\$117,010

Outputs:

- Contribution agreements with funding partners
- MOU with Jameikari Tourism Association and CATIE (Costa Rica)
- Implementation of 2009-10 Annual Work Plan
- 2010-11 Annual Work Plan
- Budgets and financial reports
- Minutes of Board, Working Group and Project Committee meetings
- Project planning documents
- Planning documents related to the North American Caribou Workshop

Other Project Partners: None

Supplies and Services

Project Number: 09-1-02

Project Leader: Beverly Dube, MBMF

Theme Area: Management and Administration

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: On-going, Year 3 of 5

Purpose: To provide for the proper functioning of the MBMF office, coverage for liability and the financial accountability of the MBMF.

Report: Funding was used to pay for all office supplies and services, as well as accounting services for the financial audit and various insurances.

Key activities and components included:

- Due to a labor dispute at the Tembec newsprint mill (where the MBMF was located), the MBMF moved its office to the Winnipeg River Learning Centre. Tembec provided office space, utilities and supplies as an in-kind contribution for 8 months. The Winnipeg River Learning Centre provided office space and utilities as an in-kind contribution for 4 months
- Service contract for photocopier
- Phone and internet service
- Purchase of computer software (Adobe Acrobat), computer LCD projector
- Purchase of new MBMF business cards and stationary
- Mail and courier services
- Janitorial service
- Utilities (heat, lighting), office space
- Fire and theft insurance, Board of Directors Liability and Accident insurance
- Annual incorporation fee, Chamber of Commerce fee
- Audit and auditor fees
- Advertising in local newspapers

Expenditures and Contributions:

There was a slight over-expenditure (\$426) of FCP funding for the year. This over expenditure was paid by other MBMF funds.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	\$29,712	\$19,320	\$49,032
Project Activities	-	-	-
Total	\$29,712	\$19,320	\$49,032
Project Contributions			
NR-Can-CFS (FCP)	\$29,000	-	\$29,000
MBMF	\$286	-	\$286
Tembec	-	\$15,320	\$15,320
Winnipeg River Learning Centre	-	\$4,000	\$4,000
Total	\$29,286	\$19,320	\$48,588

Outputs:

- Properly functioning MBMF office
- Insurance policies
- Financial audit for 2008-09

Other Project Partners: None

Staff Travel

Project Number: 09-1-04

Project Leader: Beverly Dube, MBMF

Theme Area: Management and Administration

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: On-going, Year 3 of 5

Purpose: To provide for travel to meetings, workshops and conferences relevant to the MBMF program for staff.

Report: Funding was used to pay for travel (including airfare, hotel, mileage for personal vehicles, meals and incidentals) associated with attending meetings, workshops and conferences related to MBMF projects and programs. Travel rates are set by MBMF policy.

Funding was used to pay for travel for the following meetings/workshops:

- Planning meetings for the North American Caribou Workshop
- Sustainable Forest Management Network conference in Gatineau, Quebec in April, 2009
- Canadian Model Forest Network AGM in Lac St Jean, Quebec in June, 2009
- Meetings with 4 western Canadian Model Forests and the Canadian Forest Service in Edmonton in October, 2009
- FCP and Canadian Model Forest Network meetings in Nanaimo, BC in November, 2009
- Mileage and meal expenses for attending MBMF project and working group meetings

Expenditures and Contributions:

There was a slight surplus (\$56) of FCP funding for the year.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	\$8,944	-	\$8,944
Project Activities	-	-	-
Total	\$8,944	-	\$8,944
Project Contributions			
NR-Can-CFS (FCP)	\$9,000	-	\$9,000
Total	\$9,000	-	\$9,000

Outputs:

- Staff travel to MBMF Board and Working Group/Project Steering Committee Meetings
- Participation in Canadian Model Forest Network and FCP meetings
- Participation in joint meetings with 4 western Canadian Model Forests and the Canadian Forest Service
- Participation in the final Sustainable Forest Management Network conference

Other Project Partners: None

Board Support and Travel

Project Number: 09-1-06

Project Leader: Beverly Dube, MBMF

Theme Area: Management and Administration

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: On-going, Year 3 of 5

Purpose: To provide for travel and support for Board meetings.

Report: The MBMF Board of Directors is made up of a large diversity of organizations and communities that provide support and direction to the MBMF programs. Funding in this “project” is used to pay for costs (meals, room rentals, mileage for Board members) associated with Board meetings.

Key activities included:

- The MBMF Board met 6 times during the year. The focus of each meeting included review of progress on projects, budget reviews and development of the 2010-11 Annual Work Plan. In particular, the Board spent a considerable amount of time developing the 2010-11 Annual Work Plan, in light of an anticipated reduction in funding from some partner organizations.
- The MBMF lost a long-time supporter with the sudden passing of Mr. Gary Morning Star Raven. Gary was involved in many MBMF projects over the years.
- The MBMF Board of Directors is comprised of 28 partner organizations/communities and 40 Board members and alternates.
- The MBMF held its Annual General Meeting on June 24, 2009.

Expenditures and Contributions:

There was a slight over-expenditure (\$99) of FCP funding for the year. This over expenditure was paid by other MBMF funds.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	\$11,466	\$38,000	\$49,466
Project Activities	-	-	-
Total	\$11,466	\$38,000	\$49,466
Project Contributions			
NR-Can-CFS (FCP)	\$4,990	\$5,000	\$9,990
MBMF	\$1,395	-	\$1,395
LDG of Pinawa	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$2,500
RM of Lac du Bonnet	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$2,500
Tembec	\$3,000	\$2,400	\$5,400
Board members (25 organizations)	-	\$27,600	\$27,600
Total	\$11,385	\$38,000	\$49,385

Outputs:

- Board meeting minutes
- Approved 2010-11 Annual Work Plan
- Approved Annual Budgets
- Program/Project Planning Documents

Other Project Partners: Board members, representing 25 other organizations, and communities

Forest Community Engagement
and Capacity Building

Forest Community Engagement and Capacity Building Working Group Support

Project Number: 09-5-01

Project Leader: Kelly Leavesley (MB Conservation), Trevor Barker (MB Conservation), Rene Barker (MBMF)

Theme Area: Forest Community Engagement and Capacity Building

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: On-going, Year 3 of 5

Purpose: To provide for travel and support for the Working Group meetings and for members to attend conferences and other relevant meetings.

Report: The Forest Community Engagement and Capacity Building Working Group meets periodically to develop work plans and track progress of on-going projects under the working group's direction (i.e., under the theme area of the same name). Funding is used to pay for costs associated with Working Group meetings including mileage, meals, room rentals and travel of working group members to other relevant meetings and/or conferences.

Key activities included:

- The working group met once during the year to review progress on projects under the working group's direction and to discuss projects for the 2010-11 year.
- Three members volunteered to act as co-chairs for the working group

Expenditures and Contributions:

There was a slight surplus (\$60) of FCP funding for the year.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	\$2,440	\$2,700	\$5,200
Total	\$2,440	\$2,700	\$5,200
Project Contributions			
NR-Can-CFS (FCP)	\$2,500	-	\$2,500
Tembec	-	\$300	\$300
Shining Waters Heritage Region	-	\$300	\$300
MB Metis Federation	-	\$300	\$300
MB Conservation	-	600	\$600
Hollow Water First Nation	-	\$300	\$300
Woodlot Assoc. of MB	-	\$300	\$300
MB Trappers Assoc	-	\$300	\$300
Brokenhead Ojibway Nation	-	\$300	\$300
Total	\$2,500	\$2,700	\$5,200

Outputs:

- Program/Project Planning Document and Meeting minutes
- Working Group Budget
- MBMF Community Engagement Consultant monthly reports

Other Project Partners: None

Community Opportunities Program

Project Number: 09-5-02

Project Leader: Bev Dube, MBMF

Theme Area: Forest Community Engagement and Capacity Building

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: On-going, Year 3 of 5

Purpose: To support local community economic development, environmental and education projects.

Report: Initiated in Phase III of the Model Forest Program, the MBMF Community Opportunities Program has provided seed funding for a wide diversity of community-driven projects including economic development, community beautification, environment and education. The program provides an avenue to demonstrate direct and tangible benefits for MBMF communities. Each spring, the MBMF advertises and solicits proposals for community-focused project. Eligibility criteria and program guidelines are provided to each community or local organization. Proposed projects must be consistent with the MBMF 5 Year Strategic Plan. The proposals are reviewed and judged based on predetermined criteria, by a subcommittee of the MBMF Board of Directors.

The following project proposals were successful in 2009-10:

- Hollow Water and Black River First Nations – First Nation Traditional Area Mapping
- Lac du Bonnet Community Centre – Recycling and Waste Management Program
- St. Georges Community Development Corporation – Landscaping at Cap Dore
- FW Gilbert Elementary School – Community Garden and Outdoor Classroom
- MB First Nations Education Resource Centre – Teaching Teachers in Training

Expenditures and Contributions:

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	\$25,000	\$111,100	\$136,100
Total	\$25,000	\$111,100	\$136,100
Project Contributions			
NR-Can-CFS (FCP)	\$25,000	-	\$25,000
Community Opportunities Application Review Committee	-	\$1,500	\$1,500
Partnering Organizations in the Successful Community Opportunities Funding Applications	-	\$109,600	\$109,600
Total	\$25,000	\$111,100	\$136,100

Outputs:

- Support for locally-driven economic development, environmental and education projects in the MBMF area
- Increased profile of the MBMF and its programs in the region

Other Project Partners: None

Committee for Cooperative Moose Management

Project Number: 09-5-13

Project Leader: Kelly Leavesley, MB
Conservation

Theme Area: Forest Community Engagement and Capacity Building

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: On-going, Year 3 of 5

Purpose: To provide support for the Committee for Moose Management to meet and discuss moose management issues in the MBMF area, as well as to further discussions with local First Nation communities regarding a proposed moose co-management model with the Province of Manitoba.

Report: Since 1992, the “Moose Committee” (a committee of the MBMF) has conducted research into the effects of various forest management techniques (harvesting, renewal, access control) and hunting management options on moose populations, undertaken public education activities and provided a mechanism for local communities to have input into Tembec’s annual forest management operating plans.

The activities of the committee in 2009-10 included:

- A moose committee meeting was held to discuss the current status of the moose population in eastern Manitoba. The committee had been idle since 2006.
- MB Conservation, the lead government partner on the committee, conducted a moose population survey in Game Hunting Area 26 (which includes the Model Forest area) in February 2010. The results indicated a significant decline in moose numbers (approximately 50%) since the last survey in 2006. Deer and wolf populations were very high.
- MB Conservation held several meetings with First Nation communities to discuss the moose population status in the region and to discuss options for management action.
- MB Conservation developed a brochure for First Nation communities, which provides information on the moose population in the region, and the potential impacts of predators (wolves), parasites and disease, and hunting on the moose population.
- Discussions with the moose committee and First Nations are expected to result in a hunting closure for licensed hunters.
- Meetings were held between Hollow Water First Nation, Black River First Nation and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) to discuss a moose co-management funding proposal, which was submitted by both First Nation communities to INAC.

Expenditures and Contributions:

There was a small surplus (\$65) of FCP funding in the project. However, the total project budget was exceeded by \$1,314. This amount was covered by non-FCP surplus funds in this project from the previous fiscal year.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	\$20,003	\$2,700	\$22,703
Total	\$20,003	\$2,700	\$22,703
Project Contributions			
NR-Can-CFS (FCP)	\$7,500	-	\$7,500
MBMF	\$6,189	-	\$6,189
MB Conservation ^{*1}	-	\$600	\$600
Hollow Water First Nation	-	\$600	\$600
MB Trappers Assoc.	-	\$300	\$300
MB Infrastructure and Transportation	-	\$300	\$300
Black River First Nation	-	\$300	\$300
Tembec	\$5,000	\$600	\$5,600
Total	\$18,689	\$2,700	\$21,389

^{*1} does not include estimated in-kind value for meetings with First Nation communities and for the aerial moose survey in Game Hunting Area 26

Outputs:

- Meeting minutes and PowerPoint presentation from the moose committee meeting
- Aerial survey of the moose population in Game Hunting Area 26
- Meetings between MB Conservation and First Nation communities which focused on the status of the regional moose population

Other Project Partners: Brokenhead Ojibway Nation, Manitoba Metis Federation, Pinawa Wildlife Association, Brokenhead River Fish and Game Association, Manitoba Archers and Bow Hunters Association.

First Nation Engagement in Western Manitoba

Project Number: 09-5-14

Project Leader: Brian Kotak (MBMF),
Wade Cable (Louisiana Pacific)

Theme Area: Forest Community Engagement and Capacity Building

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: Discontinued

Purpose: To provide support for the engagement of First Nation communities in western Manitoba into the MBMF program.

Report: This project was designed to assist the MBMF to begin working with First Nation communities in western Manitoba. Over the first 3 years of the FCP, we have engaged western Manitoba First Nation communities in a variety of projects including Community Opportunities Fund, Junior Rangers, Education for Sustainable Development, Woodlot Education, Provincial Natural Resource Management Curricula, and Stakeholder-based Watershed Management in Western Manitoba. In addition, the MBMF provided funding for a cultural land use study in the Duck Mountain area of Manitoba. As most of our involvement with western Manitoba First Nations has been through other MBMF projects (identified above), a decision was made to discontinue this project.

Only one activity occurred in the project in 2009-10:

- Completion of the Duck Mountain land use study and final project report by the West Region Tribal Council.

Expenditures and Contributions:

This project was funded through surplus funding from Louisiana Pacific from the previous year. Thus, no new project contributions are shown below.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	\$5,000	-	\$5,000
Total	\$5,000	-	\$5,000
Project Contributions			
	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-

Outputs:

- Duck Mountain land use study report

Other Project Partners: Louisiana Pacific

Traditional Area Advisory Committees

Project Number: 09-5-03

Project Leader: Rene Barker, MBMF

Theme Area: Forest Community Engagement and Capacity Building

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: On-going, Year 3 of 5

Purpose: To support the establishment and functioning of Traditional Area Advisory Committees (TAACs) in each of the 4 MBMF area First Nation communities, as a mechanism to facilitate discussion between communities and resource industries.

Report: With the assistance of the MBMF, over the last 6 years two First Nation communities in the MBMF area have established TAACs. These community-based committees provide advice and information to their Chief and Councils on matters relating to resource development within their community's traditional areas. TAACs operated at arms-length from Chief and Council. Resource industries interact directly with the TAACs, discussing future or planned resource development activities (e.g., forestry, road building, mining exploration, etc). The TAACs are made up of a diverse cross section of community members, including trappers, fishermen, traditional plant harvesters, hunters, etc. TAACs also plan and hold field trips with local industries to view resource industry activities. The existence of TAACs has been seen as a great benefit both to the communities and the industries that wish to communicate with them. Funding for this project covers the costs of meetings (meeting room rentals, meals, mileage, honoraria for Elders) and provides for contracted services of a First Nation Community Engagement Consultant.

Activities in 2009-10 included:

- The Hollow Water First Nation TAAC held 22 meetings throughout the year. The Black River First Nation TAAC held 21 meetings throughout the year. There were 2 joint meetings of both TAACs. Topics at the TAAC meetings included moose population surveys, hunting closure areas supported by the two First Nations, water quality research in the region, a review of Tembec's 20 year forest management plan, addressing trapper concerns regarding mining, review of the Black River First Nation proposed cottage development and golf course, among other topics.
- Tours of trap lines occurred to assess damage caused by mining exploration activities. A tour was also held for the Black River TAAC to visit road closure areas and mining leases in their traditional area
- The Hollow Water TAAC began reviewing and responding to the Province of Manitoba regarding mining and quarry leases, on behalf of Chief and Council

- The Hollow Water TAAC began working with the East Side Road Authority on all-weather road planning and construction in their traditional area
- Both TAACs wrote letters of support for proposed MBMF/MB Conservation projects on wolves and moose surveys)
- Both TAACs continued discussions with MB Conservation regarding the development of a co-management system for moose in the region.
- In 2009, the Black River and Hollow Water First Nation TAACs won a Manitoba Hydro Spirit of the Earth Award for their innovative community-based method of interacting with government and industry.
- Discussions continued with Brokenhead Ojibway Nation Chief and Council, as well as Sagkeeng First Nation about the establishment of a TAAC in their communities.

Expenditures and Contributions:

There was a surplus of \$11,888 of non-FCP funding in the project.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	\$21,823	\$131,700	\$153,523
Total	\$21,823	\$131,700	\$153,523
Project Contributions			
NR-Can-CFS (FCP)	\$5,000	-	\$5,000
Tembec	\$10,000	\$12,900	\$22,900
MB Conservation	\$10,000	\$12,900	\$22,900
MBMF	\$8,711	-	\$8,711
Hollow Water First Nation	-	\$49,800	\$49,800
Black River First Nation	-	\$37,800	\$37,800
Brokenhead Ojibway Nation	-	\$300	\$300
First Nations Forestry Program	-	\$18,000	\$18,000
Total	\$33,711	\$131,700	\$165,411

Outputs:

- Meetings and meeting minutes of the TAACs
- Tours of traditional areas and areas of specific concern for TAAC members
- Continued discussions between MB Conservation and TAACs regarding a co-management regime for moose
- Provision of a venue for discussions between First Nation communities and resource industries with respect to resource extraction activities in each of the community's traditional areas
- Recognition of the success of the TAAC concept through receiving a Spirit of the Earth Award

Other Project Partners: Manitoba Water Stewardship, Manitoba Energy and Mines, East Side Road Authority

First Nation Land Use Planning

Project Number: 09-5-15

Project Leader: Rene Barker, MBMF

Theme Area: Forest Community Engagement and Capacity Building

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: Discontinued

Purpose: To support the development and continual improvement of MBMF area First Nation land use plans.

Report: This project was originally proposed as a mechanism to assist First Nation communities in the MBMF to develop land use plans, or to update plans that were developed previously with the assistance of the MBMF under Phase II of the Canadian Model Forest Program. There are currently several mechanisms in place to assist First Nation communities in land use planning, including Traditional Area Advisory Committees and the WNO (East Side Land Use Plan) process. A decision was made not to pursue this project any further.

Expenditures and Contributions: None

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-
Project Contributions			
	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-

Outputs:

- None

Other Project Partners: None

Trapper Involvement

Project Number: 09-5-10

Project Leader: None at Present

Theme Area: Forest Community Engagement and Capacity Building

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: On-going, Year 3 of 5

Purpose: To involve the trapping community in MBMF projects, and to build capacity for their involvement in natural resource management decision-making.

Report: In Phase II of the Canadian Model Forest Program, the MBMF worked with the trapping community to develop a GIS-based database of trapper's values (location of trails, cabins, high value habitat) in each registered trap line. This product has been used effectively to help plan forest harvesting areas in trap lines and to develop associated mitigation plans. In addition, the Manitoba Trappers Association is completing a Best Management Practices (BMP) manual entitled "Integrating Furbearer Habitat Requirements and Trapper Concerns in Forestry Development".

Within some of the First Nation communities in the MBMF area, there has been a desire to provide trapper education training to their youth (with the assistance of community Elders), as well as training on firearm safety (i.e., Canadian Firearm Safety Course) and hunter safety. In addition, there has been a desire by some communities to re-develop local fur councils, which historically existed in the area.

Activities in 2009-10 included:

- Meetings were held with trappers in Black River and Hollow Water First Nations to discuss the re-establishment of local fur councils. At present, no decisions have been made to re-establish these.
- The BMP manual continued to undergo final revision prior to being published.
- The Canadian Firearm Safety Course was offered to trappers in Black River and Hollow Water First Nations

Expenditures and Contributions:

Project expenses exceeded contributions by \$2,896. However, the project deficit was paid for with surplus non-FCP funding from the previous fiscal year.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	\$12,396		
Total	\$12,396		
Project Contributions			
NR-Can-CFS (FCP)	\$5,500	-	\$5,500
Tembec	\$4,000	\$300	\$4,300
Hollow Water First Nation	-	\$2,400	\$2,400
MB Trappers Assoc.	-	\$300	\$300
MBMF	-	\$600	\$600
Black River First Nation	-	\$2,400	\$2,400
Total	\$9,500	\$6,000	\$14,500

Outputs:

- Meetings to discuss the re-establishment of local fur councils in Black River First Nation and Hollow Water First Nation
- Draft trapper BMP manual
- Training of 16 trappers in the Canadian Firearm Safety course

Other Project Partners: None

Alternative Economic Opportunities from the Forest

Project Number: 09-5-18

Project Leader: Brian Kotak, MBMF

Theme Area: Forest Community Engagement and Capacity Building

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: On-going, Year 3 of 5

Purpose: To explore opportunities for alternative economic development in the MBMF area based on timber and non-timber forest products.

Report: There are many opportunities for the development of both value-added timber and non-timber forest product (NTFP) businesses in the MBMF area. Both can provide opportunities for communities by building on local skills and knowledge of the forest. In most instances, value-added forest products and NTFPs represent an opportunity for supplemental income, not as a main, annual income. The MBMF is helping to explore these opportunities, to provide training and to link communities and entrepreneurs with existing NTFP businesses.

Activities in 2009-10 included:

- Three introductory, one-day NTFP workshops were held at Black River First Nation, Brokenhead Ojibway Nation and Beausejour in April 2009 to highlight potential NTFP business opportunities in the region. Approximately 100 people attended. Three other workshops were also held in March 2009 (in the previous fiscal year), with approximately 100 people in attendance. Workshop topics included identification of NTFPs, local examples, marketing, mushroom cultivation at home, value-added and maple syrup production. Participants filled out a workshop evaluation, which demonstrated overwhelming support for intensive, hands-on training workshops
- A large proposal (\$1.1 million) was developed and submitted under the federal Community Adjustment Fund, for the development of a national training curriculum on NTFPs, to host training courses in the Pine Falls region, and to facilitate the creation of small entrepreneurial businesses in NTFPs. Unfortunately, the proposal was not successful.
- Despite this, with funding from the FCP and Manitoba Hydro's Forest Enhancement Fund, the MacArthur Foundation and University College of the North, a NTFP training curriculum was developed in partnership with Royal Roads University (Centre for Non-timber Resources) and Mr. Dave Buck (former manager of the Northern Forest Diversification Centre, The Pas, Manitoba). The training curriculum includes a general introduction to the types of NTFPs harvested in Canada, local examples from Manitoba, marketing, harvester's code of ethics, sustainability of harvests,

- Preparations were made during the year for the offering of a 2-week, intensive training course on NTFPs, through the Winnipeg River Learning Centre (the course occurred in the following fiscal year - in April, 2010). These preparations included creation and distribution of a promotional brochure for the course, advertising in local newspapers and through mail outs and by email, and the purchase of training equipment (e.g., wreath-making machines, wood working equipment, etc.)
- A two-day mushroom identification workshop/field tour was offered in September 2009. Dr. David Punter, Professor Emeritus at the University of Manitoba, who is also a Board member of the MBMF, offered the workshop. Fifty people attended.
- Meetings were held with 2 entrepreneurs/chefs from Winnipeg, to create a mechanism for mushroom harvesters in the Pine Falls region to supply wild mushrooms into the high-end restaurant market in Winnipeg. The meetings were productive and further work on this has occurred in the 2010-11 fiscal year.

Expenditures and Contributions:

There was a slight surplus (\$44) of FCP funds in the project.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	\$14,956	\$31,300	\$46,256
Total	\$14,956	\$31,300	\$46,256
Project Contributions			
NR-Can-CFS (FCP)	\$15,000	-	\$15,000
University College of the North	-	\$5,000	\$5,000
MacArthur Foundation	-	\$15,000	\$15,000
MB Forestry Assoc.	-	\$900	\$900
MBMF	-	\$3,600	\$3,600
Brokenhead Ojibway Nation	-	\$500	\$500
Woodlot Assoc. of MB	-	\$1,200	\$1,200
Royal Roads University	-	\$4,500	\$4,500
Nature Manitoba	-	\$600	\$600
Total	\$15,000	\$31,300	\$46,256

Outputs:

- Three introductory workshops on NTFPs, in which 100 people attended
- Workshop evaluations
- NTFP training curriculum
- Training course promotional brochure
- Training equipment for NTFP course
- Mushroom identification workshop and tour, in which 50 people participated
- Initial discussions with entrepreneurs/chefs for the provision of harvesting and selling local mushrooms into the Winnipeg restaurant market

Other Project Partners: Black River First Nation

First Nation Local Involvement Committee

Project Number: 09-5-19

Project Leader: Rene Barker, MBMF

Theme Area: Forest Community Engagement and Capacity Building

Year Initiated: 2009-2010

Status: On-going, Year 1 of 3

Purpose: To provide for travel and support for meetings of local First Nation communities in order to enhance their participation and input into the MBMF program

Report: In 2008, First Nation partners of the MBMF identified the need for First Nation communities to take a more active role in the MBMF. It was suggested that one way to facilitate this would be to create a First Nation local involvement committee, which would meet in the communities to keep community members up-to-date on MBMF projects and to facilitate the generation of ideas for projects.

Activities in 2009-10 included:

- The committee met twice during the year to share information on MBMF projects
- The committee recommended that the implementation of one project (Wildlife Use of Harvest Areas – Project 09-2-29) be given to the Traditional Area Advisory Committees

Expenditures and Contributions:

There was a small surplus (\$143) of FCP funds in the project.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	\$2,357	\$1,500	\$3,857
Total	\$2,357	\$1,500	\$3,857
Project Contributions			
NR-Can-CFS (FCP)	\$2,500	-	\$2,500
Hollow Water First Nation	-	\$600	\$600
Brokenhead Ojibway Nation	-	\$300	\$300
Black River First Nation	-	\$600	\$600
Total	\$2,500	\$1,500	\$4,000

Outputs:

- Meetings of the First Nation Local Involvement Committee
- Improved awareness of MBMF projects and improved involvement in MBMF project direction

Other Project Partners: None

Integrated Landscape Management

Integrated Landscape Management Working Group Support

Project Number: 09-2-23

Project Leader: Vince Keenen, Tembec

Theme Area: Integrated Landscape Management

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: On-going, Year 3 of 5

Purpose: To provide for travel and support for ILM Working Group meetings.

Report: The ILM Working Group meets periodically to develop work plans and track progress of on-going projects under the working group's direction. Funding is used to pay for costs associated with ILM Working Group meetings, as well as to provide funding to attend relevant conferences for members of the working group.

Activities in 2009-10 included:

- The working group met once to review the progress of projects under their direction and to set priorities and preliminary budgets for projects in the 2010-2011 fiscal year.
- Some of the funding within the working group budget was used to purchase registrations for the North American Caribou Workshop, to be held in Winnipeg in October 2010.

Expenditures and Contributions:

There was a small surplus (\$54) of FCP funds in the project.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	\$2,946	\$1,800	\$4,746
Total	\$2,946	\$1,800	\$4,746
Project Contributions			
NR-Can-CFS (FCP)	\$3,000	-	\$3,000
Tembec	-	\$600	\$600
MB Conservation	-	\$900	\$900
Time to Respect Earth's Ecosystems	-	\$300	\$300
Total	\$3,000	\$1,800	\$4,800

Outputs:

- Meeting Minutes
- Program Planning Documents
- Project Budgets

Other Project Partners: Additional Working Group members including Brokenhead Ojibway Nation, Universities of Manitoba and Winnipeg, Manitoba Trapper's Association, Black River First Nation, Hollow Water First Nation, MB Hydro, Louisiana Pacific, and Manitoba Metis Federation.

Caribou Management

Project Number: 09-2-33

Project Leader: Dennis Brannen, MB
Conservation

Theme Area: Integrated Landscape Management

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: On-going, Year 3 of 5

Purpose: To maintain self-sustaining populations of woodland caribou within and beyond the MBMF area in eastern Manitoba by determining habitat use/availability and determining factors that influence caribou survival. This work will support the development of Recovery Action Plans under the Species at Risk Act.

Report: The Eastern Manitoba Woodland Caribou Advisory Committee (EMWCAC), a committee of the MBMF, has been active in research and monitoring of woodland caribou and the development and implementation of caribou management strategies for the last 18 years. The EMWCAC is a multi-stakeholder committee comprised of representatives from First Nation communities, the forest industry, government and local and provincial stakeholder organizations. Through this program, the knowledge and understanding of Woodland Caribou requirements in eastern Manitoba has been significantly advanced. The EMWCAC has been recognized by Manitoba Conservation as an advisory body that provides input on resource management decisions that may affect Woodland Caribou. Committee activities and recommendations have influenced industry and government management decisions on the landscape, particularly with respect to forestry, access development, road retirement and the management of other wildlife species. The Committee's work has also resulted in immediate protection to woodland caribou through modifications in timber harvest design and the extent of harvesting within the Owl Lake woodland caribou herd's range.

Activities in 2009-10 included:

- The EMWCAC held 6 meetings throughout the year
- Field work and data analysis were completed as part of a graduate student study to examine the utilization of nature and man-made corridors (roads, trails, creeks, rivers, etc.) by wolves, and their impacts on woodland caribou
- The MBMF and several members of the EMWCAC participated on the planning committee for the North American Caribou Workshop (to be held in Winnipeg, Manitoba in October 2010). As part of the conference, the MBMF is organizing a side meeting of Model Forests who are currently working on woodland caribou projects.
- The EMWCAC finalized a draft report on caribou range risk assessment for the Owl Lake, Bloodvein, Atiko, Round and Berens caribou ranges

- The EMWCAC continued to develop and refine a conservation strategy for the Atiko and Bloodvein woodland caribou ranges
- 3 large “no hunting, caribou conservation area” signs were created which will be placed along major highways and roads in proximity to the Owl Lake caribou range
- A MSc thesis proposal document was developed for a new study to quantify calving habitat requirements in the Owl Lake caribou range. The MSc student completed his first field season of study. The student prepared a draft report.
- The EMWCAC reviewed information provided by the East Side Road Authority, on the upgrade and construction of an all-weather highway up the east side of Lake Winnipeg. MB Conservation submitted recommendations for wildlife (including caribou) monitoring programs that should be implemented as part of the all-weather highway project.
- The EMWCAC reviewed and provided recommendations to Tembec on their 20 Year Sustainable Forest Stewardship Plan as well as their 2009/10 Annual Operating and Renewal Plan
- The MBMF Education Coordinator and General Manager ran a woodland caribou curriculum workshop for high school teachers during the province-wide “Special Area Groups-SAG” conference in November 2009
- Members of the EMWCAC began the development of a series of woodland caribou GIS exercises for a new Grade 10 curriculum being developed by the MBMF, which is focused on forestry in Manitoba
- A multispecies (caribou, wolf, moose, deer, bear) aerial survey was conducted in January 2010 in the Owl Lake caribou range. This was the 4th such survey to be done in this area.
- A caribou recruitment survey was conducted in the Owl Lake caribou range in January 2010. This was the 3rd of such surveys undertaken in this area.
- Two summer caribou capture/collaring programs were implemented: Sassaginigak Lake (where 4 new animals were captured and fitted with VHF collars and 1 previously collared animal was captured) and Aikens Lake (no animals were observed or captured, but there was evidence of caribou utilizing the islands in the lake). This area experienced a widespread forest fire in the 1980s and caribou had since vacated the area. Observations from the fishing lodge owner and guests indicate that caribou are starting to utilize the area again.
- A winter caribou capture/collaring program was implemented in February 2010 in several caribou ranges in eastern Manitoba. A total of 15 caribou received collar (1 VHF, 11 GPS and 3 Iridium collars). The capture program occurred in concert with the largest caribou collaring program in Manitoba history, and was

administered by Manitoba Conservation. More than 200 caribou were collared in the province over the winter.

- Almost 60 hours of telemetry flights (to locate caribou, to estimate adult female survival and recruitment, etc.)
- At the end of the fiscal year, 43 caribou in eastern Manitoba were being tracked using collars.
- Several proposals were developed and submitted for funding to the Sustainable Development Innovations Fund:
 - Adult female caribou survival and recruitment (still under review by funding agency)
 - Assessment of woodland caribou in the Owl Lake range to timber harvesting (project was approved for funding)
 - The development of a provincial-wide caribou range risk assessment model based on “fuzzy logic” (project was approved for funding)
 - Assessment of wolf movements and territories in eastern Manitoba (still under review by funding agency)
 - Assessment of wolf and pack numbers in eastern Manitoba (still under review by funding agency)

Expenditures and Contributions:

There was an over-expenditure of \$9,038 of non-FCP funds in the project. This was paid for from surplus non-FCP funds from a previous year.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	\$136,577	\$1,800	\$4,746
Total	\$136,577	\$1,800	\$4,746
Project Contributions			
MBMF	\$19,762	\$4,500	\$24,262
SDIF	\$19,750	-	\$19,750
MB Habitat Heritage Corporation	\$18,052	-	\$18,052
MB Hydro	\$39,975	\$1,350	\$41,325
Tembec	-	\$2,400	\$10,400
MB Conservation	\$30,000	\$102,000	\$132,000
MB Infrastructure and Transportation	-	\$1,050	\$1,050
Univ. of Winnipeg	-	\$1,500	\$1,500
Time to Respect Earth's Ecosystems	-	\$1,500	\$1,500
Total	\$127,539	\$114,300	\$241,839

Outputs:

- Meeting minutes from EMWCAC meetings
- Caribou budgets and PowerPoint presentations
- Final project report on the utilization of natural and man-made corridors by wolves and their impact on woodland caribou
- Minutes from North American Caribou Workshop planning meetings
- Report on caribou range risk assessment
- Draft conservation strategy for the Atiko and Bloodvein caribou ranges
- 3 caribou conservation/no hunting signs
- Thesis proposal and progress report of caribou calving study in the Owl Lake caribou range
- Input into the Tembec 20 year plan, and the Tembec 2009-10 annual operating and renewal plan
- Input into the all-weather highway proposal on the east side of Lake Winnipeg
- Training of 18 high school teachers on the MBMF woodland caribou curriculum
- Multispecies aerial survey
- Caribou recruitment survey
- A total of 20 caribou collared as part of summer and winter caribou capture/collaring programs
- Funding proposals and contribution agreements with funding agencies

Other Project Partners: Manitoba Trappers Association, East Side Road Authority

Natural Disturbance Regime

Project Number: 09-2-49

Project Leader: James Ehnes, Ecostem

Theme Area: Integrated Landscape Management

Year Initiated: 2008-2009

Status: On-going, Year 4 of 5

Purpose: To re-measure aspects of permanent samples plots established under an experimental natural disturbance-based timber harvesting template, as well as in benchmark burned landscapes.

Report: The Natural Disturbance Regime project began in 1998 as a way to enhance the ecological sustainability of timber harvesting. The project conducted research on wildfire behavior and forest recovery in the eastern two-thirds of the Tembec FML# 1 and then developed harvest guidelines to approximate large wildfire disturbance at site, stand and landscape spatial scales. Harvest guidelines were published and then tested with operational trials from 1999 to 2001. Monitoring and other follow-up research was conducted from 1999 to 2004. Note: all fieldwork under this project were completed in the summer of 2007, just prior to the start of the FCP. Data analysis is complete.

Activities in 2009-10 included:

- The writing of a final project report was initiated (to be completed in 2010-11).

Expenditures and Contributions:

There was an over-expenditure of \$1,038 of non-FCP funds in the project. This was paid for from surplus non-FCP funds from a previous year.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-
Project Contributions			
	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-

Outputs:

- None (final project report anticipated in 2010-11)

Other Project Partners: None

Stakeholder-based Watershed Management in Western Manitoba

Project Number: 09-2-63

Project Leader: Donna Kopecky,
Louisiana Pacific

Theme Area: Integrated Landscape Management

Year Initiated: 2008-2009

Status: On-going, Year 3 of 4

Purpose: To develop collaborative approaches to water quality and watershed management in western Manitoba.

Report: This project seeks to bring together a wide diversity of stakeholders in western Manitoba to examine water quality issues in a region dominated by both agricultural and forest industry activities. The project will serve to initiate a research program to examine the effects of land use practices on water quality in the Duck Mountains and surrounding region of western Manitoba. A first step is to engage a diverse cross-section of stakeholders. Ultimately, the project will help provide the basis for a more complete understanding of the effects of various land use practices on water quality, the development of watershed management plans, and the implementation of pilot projects to improve water quality in western Manitoba.

Activities in 2009-10 included:

- A workshop was held in May 2009, which brought together 22 individuals, representing provincial government departments (forestry, agriculture, water stewardship), Parks Canada, the forest industry, conservation districts, Ducks Unlimited Canada, research organizations and First Nations. The two day workshop explored existing water quality and quantity information, water-related issues and provided for an opportunity of a diversity of organizations to begin formulating the development of a new collaborative watershed monitoring program. A technical committee was established as a result of the workshop.
- PowerPoint presentations from the workshop were uploaded to the MBMF website.
- A follow-up meeting of the technical committee in July 2009 further explored the next steps for producing a watershed-monitoring program. A one-day field tour of the Duck Mountains and operations of Louisiana Pacific also occurred.
- Several conference calls of the technical committee were also held.
- Based on the workshop, follow up meetings and field tour, funding proposals were developed and submitted to the Manitoba Water Stewardship Fund and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative.
- On behalf of the technical committee, Donna Kopecky, Biologist with Louisiana Pacific, gave a presentation on the proposed watershed project at a meeting of the National Council on Air and Stream Improvement (NCASI) in Vancouver, B.C.

Expenditures and Contributions:

There was a surplus of \$3,861 of non-FCP funding in the project.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	\$3,139	\$17,400	\$20,539
Total	\$3,139	\$17,400	\$20,539
Project Contributions			
Louisiana Pacific	\$7,000		
MB Conservation	-	\$1,200	\$1,200
Louisiana Pacific	-	\$3,000	\$3,000
West Region Tribal Council	-	\$300	\$300
Ducks Unlimited	-	\$1,500	\$1,500
Intermountain Conservation District	-	\$1,200	\$1,200
National Council on Air & Stream Improvement	-	\$1,200	\$1,200
Spruce Products Ltd	-	\$1,200	\$1,200
MB Agriculture, Farming and Rural Initiatives	-	\$1,200	\$1,200
Parks Canada	-	\$600	\$600
Lake of the Prairies Conservation District	-	\$1,200	\$1,200
Swan Lake Conservation District	-	\$2,400	\$2,400
MB Water Stewardship	-	\$2,400	\$2,400
Total	\$7,000	\$17,400	\$24,400

Outputs:

- Watershed management workshop in May 2009 (22 attendees)
- PowerPoint presentations (on MBMF website)
- New, collaborative working relationship on watershed issues in the Duck Mountain region
- Technical committee formed
- Meetings, tours and meeting minutes
- Funding proposals
- Presentation at NCASI meeting in Vancouver

Other Project Partners: None

Watershed Management Tools

Project Number: 09-2-66

Project Leader: Brian Kotak, Miette
Environmental

Theme Area: Integrated Landscape Management

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: On-going, Year 3 of 5

Purpose: To assess the impacts of watershed features and disturbance regimes (fire, logging, agriculture) on water quality in the MBMF area in order to support the development of watershed management tools.

Report: This monitoring program is developing a baseline of data on stream hydrology (flow) and water quality in the Model Forest area, information that is currently lacking. The information will also be used to develop watershed-planning tools that can be utilized by Tembec to more fully incorporate water quality objectives into their forest management planning process. Ultimately, the utility of the watershed planning tools will be assessed through a watershed-scale harvesting experiment in the Tembec Forest Management License area

Activities in 2009-10 included:

- Water quality and flow (hydrology) data were collected from the O’Hanly River, Black River (2 sites), Manigotagan River (2 sites), Wanipigow River and Rabbit River monthly from May to September, 2009.
- Data will be combined with those collected from previous years (2004-2008).
- Planning for an experimental watershed study was put on hold due to the labor dispute at Tembec.
- A final report summarizing water quality in the Brokenhead River was produced

Expenditures and Contributions:

There was a surplus of \$2,478 of non-FCP funding in the project.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	\$11,522	-	\$11,522
Total	\$11,522	-	\$11,522
Project Contributions			
MB Conservation	\$10,000	-	\$10,000
Tembec	\$4,000	-	\$4,000
Total	\$14,000	-	\$14,000

Outputs:

- Water quality data on a suite of important rivers in eastern Manitoba
- Project report on water quality in the Brokenhead River

Other Project Partners: None

Terrestrial Bio-monitoring

Project Number: 09-2-06

Project Leader: Brian Kotak, Miette
Environmental

Theme Area: Integrated Landscape Management

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: On-going, Year 3 of 5

Purpose: To establish long-term forest monitoring plots in the MBMF area and in urban forests in order to track changes in forest health, data which contributes to a national database through the Ecological Monitoring and Assessment Network. Additionally, to involve high school students in environmental monitoring.

Report: Since 2004, a regional terrestrial bio-monitoring program was implemented by the MBMF to examine the potential impact of climate change on forest ecosystem parameters in the boreal forest and also in urban forests in the City of Winnipeg. Since 2005, study plots have been established using Environment Canada's Ecological Monitoring and Assessment Network (EMAN) national monitoring protocols. The program forged partnerships with 3 high schools in the MBMF region (Wanipigow, Powerview and Lac du Bonnet) and schools in Winnipeg. With the aid of part-time researchers and the Model Forest Education Coordinator, the science classes from the schools participated in the collection of environmental data in forests of different ages and origin (e.g., logged, fire).

Activities in 2009-10 included:

- As no study sites are scheduled for re-measurement until 2011, there were no activities in the project.
- Some monitoring equipment (increment borers, clinometers, etc.) was purchased for future use in the project as well as for use during outdoor activities with high school students.

Expenditures and Contributions:

Expenses of \$2,502 were paid for with surplus, non-FCP funds from the previous fiscal year.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	\$2,502	-	\$2,502
Total	\$2,502	-	\$2,502
Project Contributions			
-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-

Outputs:

- Acquisition of monitoring equipment

Other Project Partners: None

Integration of Rare Species into Landscape Management Planning

Project Number: 09-2-24

Project Leader: Brian Kotak, MBMF

Theme Area: Integrated Landscape Management

Year Initiated: 2008-2009

Status: On-going, Year 2 of 4

Purpose: To incorporate rare plants species into landscape management planning by undertaking surveys on the occurrence and locations of rare plant species in eastern and western Manitoba

Report: Currently, species at risk only receive attention in landscape management planning if they fall on the federal Species At Risk Act (SARA), the Manitoba Endangered Species Act (MESA) or occur on lists developed by COSEWIC. There are many regionally- or provincially-rare plant and frog species in Manitoba, which do not receive any planning considerations because they do not occur on lists under SARA, MESA or COSEWIC. Additionally, there is a lack of information on where these rare species occur. A database is available through the Conservation Data Centre, which identifies which species are rare in each eco-region of Manitoba, but the occurrence information for most of these species is very limited, or records of sightings are very old (e.g., no information since the 1960s). This project will provide funding to several NGOs with an interest in rare plant species (e.g., Native Orchid Conservation, etc.), to conduct surveys in the MBMF area of eastern Manitoba, and in the LP area of western Manitoba to begin to improve our knowledge of where such plants may occur.

Activities in 2009-10 included:

- A contract was provided to Native Orchid Conservation Inc. (an NGO) to conduct surveys for rare plants in eastern Manitoba, the Duck Mountains and the Interlake region.
- NOCI found and recorded several different rare species including Showy Lady Slipper (S3 species) near Bisset in the MBMF area (which would represent a northern extension of the known distribution of this species), Checkered Rattlesnake Plantain (S2 species), Hooker's Orchid (S2 species), Ram's Head Lady Slipper (S2 and globally rare) near Jackhead First Nation in the Interlake, and Closed Gentian (S2/3 species) near the Cowan Bog in western Manitoba.
- Seeds were collected when possible and submitted to the national seed bank
- All location data was provided to the Conservation Data Centre

Expenditures and Contributions:

Expenses of \$5,000 were paid for with surplus, non-FCP funds from the previous fiscal year.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	\$5,000	-	\$2,502
Total	\$5,000	-	\$2,502
Project Contributions			
Native Orchid Conservation Inc	-	\$2,500	\$2,500
Total	-	\$2,500	\$2,500

Outputs:

- Project report from Native Orchid Conservation Inc
- Location data provided to the Manitoba Conservation Data Centre

Other Project Partners: None

Species of Special Interest

Project Number: 09-2-26

Project Leader: Tim Swanson, MB
Conservation

Theme Area: Integrated Landscape Management

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: Project Discontinued

Purpose: To identify plants of special interest (e.g., medicinal plants) to MBMF area First Nation communities, and to assist forest management planning by developing simple tools to predict the potential locations/habitats of such plants across the MBMF landscape.

Report: MBMF area community members actively use the forests in their traditional territories for numerous activities, including hunting and gathering. In particular, the gathering and use of medicinal plants plays a critical role in their culture and well-being. Forest management planning rarely incorporates such values due to the lack of information/data available from each community. In 2008/09, a proof of concept predictive model was developed in consultation with Brokenhead Ojibway First Nation. Using existing habitat preference data, a GIS student from Red River Community College in Winnipeg, developed predictive models. However, because of the general nature of the digital Forest Resource Inventory, the model could not identify specific habitats of the plants of interest.

Activities in 2009-10 included:

- None. A decision was made to discontinue the project in its current form and to have the Traditional Area Advisory Committees consider undertaking community workshops to identify medicinal plant use.

Expenditures and Contributions:

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-
Project Contributions			
	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-

Outputs:

- None

Other Project Partners: None

Landscape Design

Project Number: 09-2-27

Project Leader: Brian Kotak, MBMF

Theme Area: Integrated Landscape Management

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: On-going, Year 3 of 5

Purpose: To develop landscape-level planning criteria and guidelines for industrial development in the forested regions of Manitoba

Report: The Forest Practices Committee, a government/industry consortium of which the MBMF is a partner, develops forest management guidelines in Manitoba. The Committee has developed guidelines for pre-harvest assessments, protection of understory species, and riparian management guidelines. These guidelines form a component of provincial policy for forestry activities. In 2007, the MBMF was asked by the Forest Practices Committee to consider assisting in the development of a guideline on landscape design, which would integrate the latest science and best management practices from across Canada into a Manitoba guideline.

In 2008, the MBMF began this process by hosting a workshop on landscape design, bringing together a number of experts from across Canada. The workshop, attended by more than 100 people included presentations on the use of landscape design theory in landscape planning as well as focus groups. A DVD of all presentations was produced as well as a workshop summary.

Activities in 2009-10 included:

- Presentations from the workshop were uploaded to the MBMF website
- KBM Forestry and Donnelly Ecological Consulting Services were contracted to produce a synthesis document, summarizing all of the presentations at the 2008 workshop

Expenditures and Contributions:

Expenses exceeded contributions by \$6,150. This amount was paid with surplus non-FCP funding from the previous fiscal year.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	\$11,150	-	\$11,150
Total	\$11,150	-	\$11,150
Project Contributions			
Louisiana Pacific	\$2,500	-	\$2,500
Tembec	\$2,500	-	\$2,500
Total	\$5,000	-	\$5,000

Outputs:

- PowerPoint presentations from the 2008 workshop were uploaded to the MBMF website
- Landscape design workshop synthesis document

Other Project Partners: None

Scenario Planning

Project Number: 09-2-25

Project Leader: Vince Keenan (Tembec),
Tim Swanson (MB Conservation)

Theme Area: Integrated Landscape Management

Year Initiated: 2008-2009

Status: On-going, Year 2 of 4

Purpose: To develop tools that will assist the forest industry and Manitoba Conservation in communicating forest dynamics to the public and interested parties through computer generated visualization models.

Report: Draft computer generated visualization models and their outputs were developed in Phase III of the Model Forest Program, which incorporated a digital Forest Resource Inventory, forest harvest and regeneration information and assessment of various scales and techniques. The computer model and output allowed the industry and provincial government to provide visual tools for the public to understand the complexities of forest management.

In 2008-09, The Forestry Corp was awarded a contract and a computer visualization tool that depicts a natural disturbance event (a major forest blow down event), forest harvest and the resultant forest regeneration and succession that will take place over time in one specific area of Whiteshell Provincial Park was developed. The interactive, computer generated model allows the user to “fly” over a geo-referenced selected portion of the blow down area at various points in time during forest succession. The tool was developed using 3DNature’s Visual Nature Studio 3 software. It is anticipated that the tool will be refined and the visualization will be included in an educational DVD for use in provincial park interpretive programs, school groups, advisory groups and the general public.

Activities in 2009-10 included:

- Due to time constraints, no project activities took place in 2009-10.

Expenditures and Contributions:

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-
Project Contributions			
	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-

Outputs:

- None

Other Project Partners: None

Western MB Golden-winged Warbler Monitoring Project

Project Number: 09-2-28

Project Leader: Donna Kopecky,
Louisiana Pacific

Theme Area: Integrated Landscape Management

Year Initiated: 2009-2010

Status: Completed, Year 1 of 1

Purpose: To maintain the migratory breeding bird population of Golden-winged Warbler (GWWA) within and beyond the MBMF area and in Western Manitoba (Duck Mountain Provincial Forest and Porcupine Provincial Forest). This will be accomplished by determining GWWA distribution (range extent), abundance, habitat use and habitat availability within this area. This work will support the development of Recovery Action Plans under the Species at Risk Act that are due for release June 2009.

Report: LP Canada Ltd. initiated a long-term bird monitoring study in 1997 that identified the presence of Golden-winged Warbler (GWWA) in the Duck Mountain Provincial Forest. Since then, several records of GWWA presence within this area have been documented (LP and Canadian Wildlife Service). In April of 2006, The Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) released a Status Report on the GWWA in Canada, which determined that this species has declined by approximately 79% over the last 10 years according to the Canadian Breeding Bird Survey data. This decline has been mainly attributed to a decrease in early successional habitats required for breeding, genetic hybridization with the Blue-winged Warbler and Brown-headed Cowbird nest parasitism. In June 2006, the GWWA was listed as “threatened” under Schedule 1 governed by the Federal Species at Risk Act. In support of this official government designation, Parks Canada, LP Canada Ltd, Manitoba Conservation, Environment Canada (CWS) and Bird Studies Canada came together to establish a Manitoba based working group to identify the range extent of GWWA in Manitoba and to better understand habitat requirements of this species in order to promote species conservation and public awareness. The group has established a consistent monitoring approach throughout various regions in Manitoba, which will enable comparative analyses and the possible development of a rare species habitat occupancy model. The working group has identified several key priorities and knowledge gaps that require further research and monitoring effort to support long-term conservation of the GWWA, they are:

1. Determine accurate distribution (range extent);
2. Determine habitat associations and identify disturbance factors
3. Assessment of migration and over-wintering areas/habitats (isotope analyses)
4. Assessment of population spatial structure (species genetic atlas)
5. Assessment of demography and population dynamics (predation, parasitism, competition etc.)
6. Determine accurate population size (not feasible in short term)

Activities in 2009-10 included:

- In June of 2009, a total of 84 bird recording stations were sampled along the North edge of the Porcupine Provincial Forest Area. The Golden-winged Warbler was found in three separate locations, proving the northward range expansion of this species beyond its traditional range extent (Duck Mountain Provincial Forest). This may suggest that more GWWA's could potentially inhabit areas along the north edge of the Porcupine Provincial Forest and within forest areas surrounding Red Deer Lake. These three GWWA's identified were found in regenerating forest areas disturbed at one time by either logging or forest fire.
- The information collected in 2009 will be combined with datasets from 2007 and 2008, and further analyses will be completed to determine habitat attributes leading to the presence of GWWA in the Porcupine Provincial Forest. This information will also be used in the development of Environment Canada's GWWA Recovery Strategy (currently in draft form). Further work is planned in the future that will investigate the development of a predictive model that will forecast the presence and abundance of GWWA and other bird species at risk, as forest management activities continue within the Duck and Porcupine Provincial Forests.
- Due to a lack of additional funding, the field component of the project was discontinued.

Expenditures and Contributions:

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	\$4,900	\$38,700	\$4,900
Total	\$4,900	\$38,700	\$43,600
Project Contributions			
Louisiana Pacific	\$5,000	\$15,000	\$20,000
Bird Studies Canada	-	\$10,000	\$10,000
Parks Canada		\$1,200	
MB Conservation	-	\$2,500	\$2,500
Canadian Wildlife Service	-	\$10,000	\$10,000
Total	\$5,000	\$38,700	\$43,700

Outputs:

- Database of bird observations, including the GWWA

Other Project Partners: None

Wildlife Use of Forest Harvest Areas

Project Number: 09-2-29

Project Leader: Trevor Barker, MB
Conservation

Theme Area: Integrated Landscape Management

Year Initiated: 2009-2010

Status: Discontinued

Purpose: To evaluate habitat use by a variety of mammals in areas of forest harvest as it relates to trapping and outfitting activities.

Report: Forest harvesting and renewal activities change many aspects of the forest environment. These changes can have effects on wildlife use of an area, and subsequent effects on trapping and outfitting opportunities. However, little research has been conducted in the MBMF to assess how changes in the forest through time after harvesting may affect changes in mammal populations. The project proposes to use a network of infrared trail cameras to assess mammal use of current and historic forest harvest areas through time. Trappers and outfitters will help to determine the location of the study sites.

Activities in 2009-10 included:

- Trail cameras were purchased in 2009. However, a project team could not be assembled, an experimental design was not developed and the cameras were not deployed.
- A decision was made to discontinue the project in its current form and to allow trappers to use the cameras as part of the Trapper Involvement project (project 09-5-10) and to provide the cameras as an educational tool to the Junior Rangers program (project 09-4-08).

Expenditures and Contributions:

There was an over-expenditure of \$14 of FCP funds, as well as an over-expenditure of \$4,250 of non-FCP funding. Unused funding from Tembec from the previous fiscal year paid for this apparent project deficit.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	\$9,264	-	\$9,264
Total	\$9,264	-	\$9,264
Project Contributions			
NR-Can-CFS (FCP)	\$4,000	-	\$4,000
Tembec	\$1,000	-	\$1,000
Total	\$5,000	-	\$5,000

Outputs:

- Trail cameras for use in the Trapper Involvement and Junior Rangers projects

Other Project Partners: None

Nesting Requirements of the Barred Owl in Manitoba

Project Number: 09-2-30

Project Leader: Jim Duncan, MB
Conservation

Theme Area: Integrated Landscape Management

Year Initiated: 2009-2010

Status: On-going, Year 1 of 2

Purpose: To assess Barred Owl nesting requirements in Manitoba, leading to the development of forest management guidelines that complement other large, diameter tree cavity nesting species (marten, wood pecker).

Report: The Barred Owl is an indicator species of healthy forests. It is also a species that is undergoing a westward expansion in North America. While the distribution of the Barred Owl is widespread in Manitoba, little is known about its nesting requirements. This project will undertake field surveys to identify nesting sites and habitat attributes of such sites. The project forms the MSc thesis of a graduate student at the University of Manitoba.

Activities in 2009-10 included:

- Compilation of historical accounts of Barred Owls and mapping
- Night surveys along 19 transect lines in southeastern MB (42 territories discovered, 17 breeding pairs of Barred Owls observed)
- 6 active nests were discovered (bringing the provincial total of known active nest sites to 7)
- 3 adult and 3 owlets were captured and banded (increasing the total number of banded Barred Owls in Manitoba by 200%)
- Owl pellets and prey remains were collected to identify diet items
- The development of an MSc thesis was initiated

Expenditures and Contributions:

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	\$2,000	\$30,000	\$32,000
Total	\$2,000	\$30,000	\$32,000
Project Contributions			
NR-Can-CFS (FCP)	\$500	-	\$500
Louisiana Pacific	\$1,000		
Tembec	\$500		\$500
MB Conservation	-	\$5,000	\$5,000
Sustainable Development Innovations Fund	-	\$25,000	\$25,000
Total	\$2,000	\$30,000	\$32,000

Outputs:

- Location and distribution information on the Barred Owl in Manitoba
- Interim project report to the MBMF
- A second project report titled “Dietary comparison of the Great Grey Owl (*Strix nebulosa*) and Barred Owl (*Strix varia*) in Manitoba, Canada

Other Project Partners: None

Education

Education

Education Working Group Support

Project Number: 09-4-10

Project Leader: Mike James, Woodlot Assoc. of Manitoba

Theme Area: Education

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: On-going, Year 3 of 5

Purpose: To provide for travel and support for Education Working Group meetings.

Report: The Education Working Group meets periodically to develop work plans and track progress of on-going projects under the working group's direction (i.e., under the theme area of the same name). Funding is used to pay for costs associated with Working Group meetings including mileage, meals, room rentals and travel of working group members to other relevant meetings and/or conferences.

Activities in 2009-10 included:

- The working group met 5 times to review the progress of projects under their direction and to set priorities and preliminary budgets for projects in the 2010-2011 fiscal year.
- Some of the funding within the working group budget was used to pay for registration and travel of the MBMF Education Coordinator and Manager of the Winnipeg River Learning Centre to attend the 5th World Environmental Education Congress in Montreal, in May 2009.

Expenditures and Contributions:

There was a small surplus (\$3) of FCP funds in the project.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	\$2,497	\$7,500	\$9,997
Total	\$2,497	\$7,500	\$9,997
Project Contributions			
NR-Can-CFS (FCP)	\$2,500	-	\$3,000
MB Forestry Assoc.	-	\$900	\$900
MB Hydro	-	\$600	\$600
Black River First Nation	-	\$600	\$600
RM of Victoria Beach	-	\$300	\$300
Woodlot Assoc of MB	-	\$1,500	\$1,500
LDG of Pinawa	-	\$900	\$900
Winnipeg River Learning Centre	-	\$1,200	\$1,200
Shining Waters Heritage Region	-	\$600	\$600
MB Conservation	-	\$600	\$600
MB Education, Citizenship and Training	-	\$300	\$300
Total	\$2,500	\$7,500	\$10,000

Outputs:

- Meeting Minutes
- Program Planning Documents
- Project PowerPoint Presentations
- Project Budgets
- MBMF Education Coordinator monthly reports

Other Project Partners: Manitoba Trapper's Association and Manitoba Metis Federation.

Winnipeg River Learning Centre

Project Number: 09-4-07

Project Leader: Diane DuPauw, WRLC

Theme Area: Education

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: On-going, Year 3 of 5

Purpose: To support the start up and program development of the Winnipeg River Learning Centre.

Report: The Winnipeg River Learning Centre (WRLC), a post-secondary education and training institution located in the Town of Powerview-Pine Falls, began operations in 2008. The idea for a regional training centre grew out of the desire of local communities to have access to educational and training opportunities close to home, without the need to travel to large urban centres such as Winnipeg. In particular, First Nations stressed the importance of their community members to remain in their home communities while attending training courses. This provides the benefit of maintaining the family and community support network for the students. Since 2008, more than 300 students have taken courses at the WRLC. Most of these individuals come from the local catchment area, but also as far away as Winnipeg. Approximately 80% of the students are of aboriginal descent, and come from four First Nation communities (Brokenhead, Sagkeeng, Black River and Hollow Water) as well as from a large Metis population spread throughout the region.

Red River Community College-Gimli Campus continues to play an integral part in providing accredited training programs at the WRLC, and discussions have been initiated with other training and education institutions and industries. The MBMF was a key player in the development of the WRLC concept and continues to provide cash and in-kind funding support to this important regional initiative.

Activities in 2009-10 included:

- The WRLC was successful in its funding application to the federal Community Adjustment Fund, as well as a proposals to the Government of Manitoba and local municipalities for a project that would renovate the WRLC building (the former Pine Falls School), make it much more energy efficient (through installation of geothermal heating/cooling, energy efficient windows and insulation upgrades), greatly reducing operating costs, providing a more comfortable learning environment and contributing to the long-term sustainability of the Centre. A total of \$3,373,000 in funding was obtained for the project. Construction and renovations began in early 2010 and will be completed in March 2011.

- On December 15, 2009, the Honourable Vic Toews, President of the Treasury Board and Member of Parliament for Provencher held a press conference at the WRLC to announce the Community Adjustment Fund funding for the renovation project. The Honourable Peter Bjornson (Manitoba Minister of Entrepreneurship, Training and Trade) also attended the announcement. A news (press) release was provided by the Government of Canada.
- Funding provided through the MBMF was used for program development and the support of a full-time program manager (6 month term) and part-time administration assistant
- Brochures outlining training programs for the year were developed and distributed
- In 2009, the Winnipeg River Learning Centre began discussions with Sunrise School Division and the Province of Manitoba for the purchase of the former Pine Falls School building. The sale is anticipated to be complete by the fall of 2010.
- In 2009, the Winnipeg River Learning Centre incorporated as a non-profit corporation and established a Board of Directors and several program subcommittees
- Courses in the past fiscal year include the following:
 - Canadian Firearms – requirement for gun owners
 - Introduction to personal computers – basic computer skills mostly delivered for our First Nation partners
 - S.C.O.T.T.S. Boat Safety – requirement for boat operators
 - Electrical – Red River Community College 5 month full time Level One Accredited course
 - Computer Training – specialized training developed and delivered for the current employees in the health field in Sagkeeng First Nation
 - Health Care Aide – to address the local shortage of health care workers in this region
 - Security Guard Training 8 – delivered for Manitoba Metis Federation
 - Pruning Landscape Trees – there was an interest locally as there are a plentiful supply of trees in this area
 - Many other one day programs and organizations renting the facility to offer training and information specific to the displaced Tembec employees. MB Education and Training as well as Northeastman Health Authority and Community Futures Winnipeg River have utilized the space we have available on a regular basis to reach out to these workers and assist them through this challenging time.

Expenditures and Contributions:

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	\$30,000	1,450,000	\$1,480,000
Total	\$30,000	1,450,000	1,480,000
Project Contributions			
NR-Can-CFS (FCP)	\$5,000	-	\$5,000
MB Hydro	\$25,000		
Western Economic Diversification (Community Adjustment Fund)	-	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000
Province of Manitoba	-	\$250,000	\$250,000
Total	\$30,000	\$1,450,000	\$1,480,000

Outputs:

- Successful funding applications to the Community Adjustment Fund, funding from the Province of Manitoba and several municipalities
- Exposure of the success of the WRLC through the Community Adjustment Fund press conference
- Renovations to the WRLC, making the building more energy efficient, a more comfortable learning environment, and making the WRLC more sustainable
- Hiring of a program manager and administrative assistant
- Promotional materials
- Incorporation of the WRLC as a non-profit entity, creation of a Board of Directors and Program Committees
- Offerings of courses and training programs relevant to the region

Other Project Partners: Brokenhead Ojibway Nation, MB Conservation, Tembec, RM of Alexander, RM of Brokenhead, RM of Reynolds, RM of Whitemouth, RM of Springfield, RM of St. Clements, Red River Community College, Town of Powerview-Pine Falls, Town of Beausejour, Sunrise School Division, Manitoba Education and Training, Community of Manigotagan, Community of Seymourville, Winnipeg River Regional Round Table, RM Lac du Bonnet, Town of Lac du Bonnet, LGD of Pinawa, Town of Bisset, Manitoba Trapper's Association, Black River First Nation, Hollow Water First Nation, Sagkeeng First Nation and Manitoba Metis Association.

Junior Rangers

Project Number: 09-4-08

Project Leader: Bob Austman, MBMF

Theme Area: Education

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: On-going, Year 3 of 5

Purpose: To provide hands-on training regarding natural resource management to MBMF area students (both First Nation and non-First Nation) through the development of a field-oriented training program.

Report: Since the initiation of the Forest Communities Program, the MBMF has developed and offered a Junior Rangers program each summer. The program provides training opportunities for students in many facets of natural resource management. Students attend one of two 3-week training programs in the summer at the Manitoba Conservation Fire Fighting Training Facility, in Nopiming Provincial Park in eastern Manitoba. The program is open to grade 10 to 12 students from all MBMF area communities, as well as those in First Nation communities located in western Manitoba and northwestern Ontario.

The Junior Rangers program allows students to obtain provincial certificates in a number of areas related to natural resource management, including chainsaw safety, first aid and CPR, boating and ATV safety, fire fighting (Level 3), trapping, forestry surveying, etc. In addition, other non-certified training will occur on orienteering (compass, GPS) and First Nation traditional values and culture. The experience offered by the program to MBMF area students will act as a catalyst for students to further their education in natural resource management and sustainable development, and will provide a source of employees to local area businesses (MB Hydro, Tembec, mining exploration companies, etc) that have completed accredited training programs.

Activities in 2009-10 included:

- The MBMF Education Coordinator made presentations at local schools to promote the JR program and to solicit names of interested students.
- Advertising for camp staff positions was done and 4 positions (camp manager, male and female student supervisors, cook) were filled.
- A JR Program Policies and Procedures manual was developed.
- Various insurances were purchased (liability, WCB, etc.) for the program.
- Two separate sessions of the JR program were held in 2009: one in July and one in August
- 32 students participated in total, representing 8 communities in southeastern Manitoba, one in western Manitoba, and one in

northwestern Ontario. All students were of Aboriginal decent (First Nation, Metis)

- The following training courses and activities were offered, representing more than 200 hours of training/instruction per student:
 - Boating Safety- Pleasure Craft Operator Certificate (accredited)
 - Forest Management
 - Introduction to Forest Tree Measurement and Monitoring Techniques and Equipment
 - Tour of Manitoba Hydro Generating Station (Pine Falls)
 - Tour of Tembec Waste Water Treatment Facility
 - Chainsaw Safety and Maintenance (accredited)
 - Tree Planting
 - Non-timber Forest Products
 - Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge
 - Caribou Management
 - First Aid (accredited)
 - Level 3 Fire Fighting (accredited, 3 days)
 - Trapper Education (accredited)
 - GPS training and orienteering
 - Tour of Bissett saw mill
 - Tour of Gunnar Mine Site
 - ATV Safety (accredited)
 - Hiking on Ancient Mountains trail
 - Canadian Fire Arms Safety (accredited)
 - Hunter Safety (accredited)
- Students also participated in daily camp chores (dishes, cleaning buildings and outhouses) and in camp maintenance (e.g., brushing out the road)
- Students filled out a program evaluation form, which provided feedback on what they liked and areas for improvement in the program.
- A “Parent’s Day” was held, with many parents in attendance at the camp. Students demonstrated some of their new skills (GPS was a hit) to their parents. The families were treated to a BBQ supper.
- A graduation ceremony was held for each program at Brokenhead Ojibway Nation
- The MBMF Education Coordinator was invited to give a presentation in March 2010 on the JR Program at a workshop of the Forest Sector Council of Canada (Oromocto, N.B.). The workshop showcased and provided a forum for discussion and direction on future action for Aboriginal engagement in the Atlantic forest products sector.

Expenditures and Contributions:

There was a surplus (\$19,957) of non-FCP funds in the project, which was carried over for the 2010 Junior Rangers program.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	94,043	\$60,900	\$150,943
Total	94,043	\$60,900	\$154,943
Project Contributions			
NR-Can-CFS (FCP)	\$20,000	-	\$20,000
Tembec	\$20,000	\$300	\$20,300
MB Conservation	\$40,000	\$55,900	\$95,900
MB Hydro	\$10,000	\$300	\$10,300
Louisiana Pacific	\$20,000		
Zirk Forest Products	-	\$300	\$300
MB Forestry Assoc.	-	\$1,800	\$1,800
MBMF	-	\$1,800	\$1,800
Brokenhead Ojibway Nation	-	\$500	\$500
Total	\$110,000	\$60,900	\$170,900

Outputs:

- Program planning and meeting minutes
- JR Program budget
- Two Junior Ranger programs offered in the summer of 2009
- 32 students attended and received training in a variety of topics related to natural resource management
- More than 200 hours of hands-on instruction/training was provided to each student
- 8 communities were represented
- Training program evaluations filled out by the Junior Ranger students
- PowerPoint presentation from Forest Products Sector Council of Canada workshop in Oromocto, N.B.

Other Project Partners: None

Provincial Natural Resource Management Curricula

Project Number: 09-4-14

Project Leader: Bob Austman, MBMF

Theme Area: Education

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: On-going, Year 3 of 5

Purpose: To develop provincially accredited curricula on subjects related to boreal forest ecosystems and natural resource management.

Report: Since 2005, the MBMF has been actively engaged in the development of provincially- accredited curriculum focused on the sustainable development and the ecology of our boreal forest. These textbook supplements include Sustainable Forest Ecosystems (one for **Grade 7 Science** Curriculum and one for **Grade 10 Science** Curriculum) as well as a curriculum on Woodland Caribou designed to enhance **Grade 12 Biology**. The curricula meets all the teaching outcomes mandated by the Province of Manitoba. Printed copies are provided to all teachers in Manitoba free of charge, and the documents are one of the most frequently downloaded MBMF website publications. The MBMF also offers professional development in-service training to assist teachers in the implementation of these curricula. We also continue working with Student Teachers in their final year in the Faculty of Education in order to distribute our educational materials to them, and assist them with their implementation as they begin their teaching career. Our goal is to give these beginning teachers some field exposure to sustainable forest management, such as tours of bio-monitoring sites and forest regeneration sites.

Activities in 2009-10 included:

- A draft version of a curriculum supplement for Senior 2 (Grade 10) Social Studies was developed. The supplement, tentatively titled “A Focus on Forestry in Manitoba – A Curriculum Supplement to Accompany Geographic Issues of the 21st Century”. The curriculum supplement addresses the following topics:
 - Forest types in Canada and Manitoba
 - Forest ecology
 - Forest economics
 - Responsibilities for the management of forests in Manitoba
 - The forest management process: from planning to regeneration
 - Manufacturing and processing
 - Non-timber forest products
 - First Nations and the forest
 - Sustainability issues

- Activities and assignments, including a GIS exercise that involves forest management and woodland caribou
- 100 copies of the grades 7 and 10 curriculum supplements were re-printed and provided to teachers
- Presentation of MBMF curriculum supplement materials to 36 4th year students in the Faculty of Education (University of Manitoba) in February 2010
- Presentation of the MBMF woodland caribou curriculum to 18 teachers at the provincial Special Area Groups (SAG) conference in October 2009
- Presentation of MBMF curriculum supplement materials to 80 teachers at the annual Monarch Butterfly Teacher's Workshop in July 2009

Expenditures and Contributions:

There was a surplus of \$72 of FCP funds in the project, and total surplus (all funds combined) of \$8,546 in the project.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	\$21,454	\$3,200	\$24,654
Total	\$21,454	\$3,200	\$24,654
Project Contributions			
NR-Can-CFS (FCP)	\$10,500	-	\$10,500
MB Hydro	\$15,000	-	\$15,000
Louisiana Pacific	\$4,500	-	\$4,500
Tembec	-	\$600	\$600
MB Conservation	-	\$300	\$300
MB Forestry Assoc.	-	\$300	\$300
Univ. of Manitoba	-	\$1,000	\$1,000
Univ. of Winnipeg	-	\$1,000	\$1,000
Total	\$30,000	\$3,200	\$33,200

Outputs:

- Draft version of Grade 10 Social Studies curriculum
- Printing of 100 extra copies of MBMF curriculum materials
- 36 4th year Faculty of Education students at the University of Manitoba provided with training and instruction on how to integrate MBMF curriculum materials into their lesson plans
- 18 high school teachers provided with training and instruction on how to integrate the MBMF woodland caribou curriculum into their lesson plans at the provincial SAG conference
- 80 teachers provided with training and information on MBMF curriculum supplements at the annual monarch butterfly teachers workshop

Other Project Partners: None

Woodlot Education

Project Number: 09-4-09

Project Leader: Ken Fosty, MB Forestry Assoc.

Theme Area: Education

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: On-going, Year 3 of 5

Purpose: To improve environmental sustainability of private woodlots by providing educational programming to woodlot owners

Report: During Phase III of the Model Forest Program, the MBMF partnered with the Manitoba Forestry Association and the Woodlot Association of Manitoba on a number of private woodlot education initiatives. These included the development of a provincial database to track woodlot management activities, development and implementation of standardized woodlot management plans, a woodlot best practices manual, the creation of demonstration woodlots and an land owner education program. The MBMF continues to work with the MFAs woodlot education program by providing funding and staff time. The MFA woodlot education program covers topics such as tree planting and care, insects and disease, logging methods and sawmill demonstrations. In addition, the MBMF has been participating with the Canadian Federation of Woodlot Owners and the Canadian Model Forest Network to develop a project and funding proposal on ecological goods and services in woodlots.

Activities in 2009-10 included:

- Over the year, more than 1800 landowners participated in field days, bus tours and evening seminars.
- The MBMF Assisted and participating in some of MFAs many landowner woodlot education workshops, field days and tours, held throughout the province. In 2009-10, 995 landowners attended “Let’s Get Planting/Trees for Tomorrow” seminars across the province. The seminars resulted in 65 landowners planting 1,280 acres of land with 820,000 seedlings.
- The MBMF Education Coordinator, Bob Austman, and MBMF Past President, Stan Kaczanowski, provided seminars on “best management practices for your woodlot” and “fire-proofing around your yard site” respectively, at the Woodlot Management Fall Field Day. The field day was held near Beausejour, Manitoba in September 2009.
- The MBMF Education Coordinator participated in 5 meetings of a steering committee that is developing a national project on ecological goods and services in private woodlots. The project is a collaboration of the Canadian Model Forest Network and the Canadian Federation of Woodlot Owners. A draft proposal for funding has been prepared.

- The MBMF Education Coordinator joined a delegation of the Canadian Federation of Woodlot Owners, and made a presentation to the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry regarding the status of woodlot owners in Canada, and the opportunities surrounding ecological goods and services on Canadian woodlots. A separate meeting also occurred with the Prime Minister of Canada.

Expenditures and Contributions:

There was a surplus of \$5,000 of non-FCP funds in the project.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	\$5,000	\$7,100	\$12,100
Total	\$5,000	\$7,100	\$12,100
Project Contributions			
NR-Can-CFS (FCP)	\$5,000	-	\$5,000
Louisiana Pacific	\$5,000	\$500	\$5,500
MB Conservation	-	\$500	\$500
MB Forestry Assoc.	-	\$3,000	\$3,000
Woodlot Assoc. of MB	-	\$500	\$500
Winnipeg River Learning Centre	-	\$500	\$500
MB Christmas Tree Growers Assoc.	-	\$300	\$300
Swan Lake Conservation District	-	\$600	\$600
Intermountain Conservation District	-	\$600	\$600
Kelsey Conservation District	-	\$600	\$600
Total	\$10,000	\$7,100	\$17,100

Outputs:

- MBMF participation in some of the landowner woodlot education field days and seminars of the MFA, which reached over 1,800 private land owners
- MBMF presentations on woodlot best management practices and fire-proofing yard sites at the annual MFA woodlot field day.
- Media coverage in local newspapers and newsletters of woodlot education seminars and field days
- Participation on a national steering committee which has developed a draft funding proposal for examining ecological goods and services on woodlots across Canada
- Participation on a meeting of the Canadian Federation of Woodlot Owners and the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, with respect to the status of woodlot owners in Canada and the potential for implementing an ecological goods and services program on woodlots across Canada.
- Meeting with the Prime Minister of Canada regarding the topics identified in the preceding bullet.

Other Project Partners: None

Education for Sustainable Development

Project Number: 09-4-13

Project Leader: Bob Austman, MBMF

Theme Area: Education

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: On-going, Year 3 of 5

Purpose: To provide opportunities for students, teachers and stakeholders to learn about the boreal forest and its management.

Report: Over the last 6 years, the MBMF has developed numerous initiatives surrounding the education of students, teachers and the general public with respect to natural resource management. This has included delivery of workshops, presentations, educational materials, hosting field trips, creation of educational DVDs, and contributing to the development of educational components of other MBMF projects (e.g., woodland caribou, forest bio-monitoring). Our Education Coordinator has led these activities with the assistance of numerous partnering organizations. The objective of this project is to provide educational opportunities and experiences to a wide diversity of target audiences across Manitoba.

Activities in 2009-10 included:

- Planning meetings were held for the Manitoba Envirothon. The MBMF Education Coordinator was on the planning committee and meetings were held each month. The Manitoba Forestry Association leads the Envirothon competition. Planning for the event took a considerable amount of effort for all of the partners.
- The MBMF participated in the Manitoba Envirothon (held in May 2009 at the International Peace Gardens in southern Manitoba). A record 35 high school teams competed. A number of MBMF Board members and staff assisted with the Envirothon competition, including as trail monitors and presentation judges.
- The MBMF provided financial support for the Manitoba Envirothon, as well as paid for registrations for schools in the MBMF area that participated in the competition.
- Numerous presentations on boreal forest sustainability, MBMF research and monitoring projects and the Forest Communities Program were given to schools. Almost 190 teachers from across Manitoba attended such presentations and 900 students learned about the MBMF and its programs. Presentations were also made to local senior citizen groups. Presentations to schools included University of Winnipeg Collegiate, Lundar Collegiate, Fort Richmond Collegiate, Walter Whyte, Whitemouth, Lac du Bonnet, Beausejour Early Years, St. James Assiniboia and Pinawa schools.
- Numerous “walk and talk” field tours in the boreal forest were made with school classes as well as tree planting sessions. These included Edward Schreyer, Hazelridge, Willow Grove, John Taylor

Collegiate, Springfield, Powerview, and St. John's High School, as well as Winnipeg School Division Adult Education, the Home Schooling Association of Manitoba, Creative Retirement and Faith Bible Camp.

- The MBMF Education Coordinator was invited to sit on the new provincial Manitoba Education for Sustainable Development Working Group, as well as the Winnipeg River Learning Centre Program Committee.
- In partnership with the Manitoba Forestry Association, the MBMF prepared for the offering of the Young Masters Program with schools in the MBMF area and in Winnipeg. The YMP is a certificate offered through Lund University (Sweden), in which high school students participate in on-line distance education on sustainable development and complete a community-based sustainable development project.
- The MBMF developed and delivered a new program called "Summer Institute for Teachers". The two-day program was offered in July 2009 at Manitoba Conservation's Shoe Lake camp, and gave the teachers the opportunity to learn about boreal forest ecology, forest management, wildlife management and woodland caribou in a boreal forest setting. The teachers also received training on the MBMF curriculum supplements. Seven teachers participated.
- In collaboration with the Woodlot Association of Manitoba, the MBMF delivered a 2-day boreal forest discovery program to high school students at the MBMF demonstration woodlot and trail. The event was part of the international program called YES (Youth Ensuring Sustainability).
- The MBMF set up a booth and provided information on our programs and projects during the Eastern Manitoba Career Symposium, held in October 2009. Approximately 200 students attended.

Expenditures and Contributions:

There was a surplus of \$5,887 of non-FCP funds in the project.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	\$19,113	\$8,000	\$27,113
Total	\$19,113	\$8,000	\$27,113
Project Contributions			
Louisiana Pacific	\$5,000		
MB Conservation	\$10,000	\$2,500	\$12,500
MB Hydro	\$10,000	\$1,500	\$11,500
Tembec	-	\$2,000	\$2,000
MB Forestry Assoc.	-	\$2,000	\$2,000
Total	\$25,000	\$8,000	\$33,000

Note: in-kind value does not include Manitoba Envirothon

Outputs:

- Planning for and participation in the Manitoba Envirothon
- Presentations on boreal forest sustainability, MBMF projects and programs, and the Forest Communities Program to 190 school teachers and 900 students
- Forest ecology “walk and talk” field tours and tree planting sessions
- Development and delivery of the “Summer Institute for Teachers” program, with 7 teachers participating
- YES boreal forest program

Other Project Partners: None

Climate Change

Project Number: 09-4-15

Project Leader: Stan Kaczanowski,
MBMF Past President

Theme Area: Education

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: On-going, Year 3 of 5

Purpose: To provide forest-based communities with information regarding the potential risks and opportunities related to climate change, to assess community vulnerability to climate change and to provide adaptation strategies to communities.

Report: During Phase III of the Model Forest program, the MBMF hosted a number of workshops on climate change in communities throughout the MBMF area. The workshops brought in experts from across the country to share information on a variety of topics related to climate change, including the potential impacts on forests, water, wildlife and rural communities, and predictive models (e.g., global circulation models). The workshops were designed to engage and educate communities about the potential threats and possible opportunities due to climate change. In addition, workshops were also held regarding community vulnerability and methods to manage and reduce risks from wildfires. The community of Victoria Beach (in the MBMF area) participated in a pilot project on vulnerability assessment with the Canadian Forest Service. As part of this, the community undertook a risk assessment of the area and utilized Red Zone software. Red Zone (www.redzonesoftware.com) is a software information system that provides for the storage of information critical for community planning in wildfire risk reduction and to enable first responders to more efficiently respond to emergency situations. In 2008/09, a number of workshops were held by the MBMF in communities in the MBMF area, and to the south that focused on protecting communities from wildfire. The manual “Fire Smart: Protecting Your Community From Wildfire”, developed by Partners in Protection (an Alberta-based coalition of professionals involved in emergency services, land-use planning and park management – www.partnersinprotection.ab.ca) was used as a basis for discussions with these communities.

Activities in 2009-10 included:

- The MBMF facilitated the development of a partnership between Manitoba Conservation (Fire Management), the Office of the Fire Commissioner and the Whiteshell Cottager’s Association, which resulted in the formation of the FireSmart Advisory Committee
- The committee began the development of a protection plan for the Whiteshell Provincial Park.

- A FireSmart workshop was held in the Rural Municipality of Victoria Beach.
- The MBMF attended a Climate Change workshop that was hosted by Manitoba Conservation – Forestry Branch
- Meetings were held with the Executive of the Whiteshell Cottage Owners Association to discuss the development of a Pre-response Plan for the Whiteshell Provincial Park.
- The MBMF attended the Whiteshell Cottage Owners Association AGM
- The MBMF provided training on the use of Red Zone software to government personnel and administrators of rural municipalities
- The MBMF provided a presentation on fire-proofing property at the Manitoba Forestry Association’s Woodlot Management Fall Field Day in September 2009.

Expenditures and Contributions:

There was a small over-expenditure (\$126) of FCP funds in the project.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	\$3,797	\$17,900	\$21,697
Total	\$3,797	\$17,900	\$21,697
Project Contributions			
NR-Can-CFS (FCP)	\$2,500	-	\$2,500
MBMF	\$1,171	-	\$1,297
MB Conservation	-	\$12,000	\$12,000
Office of the Fire Commissioner	-	\$5,000	\$5,000
Whiteshell Cottage Owners Assoc.	-	\$900	\$900
Total	\$3,671	\$17,900	\$21,571

Outputs:

- A new partnership between Manitoba Conservation, the Office of the Fire Commissioner and the Whiteshell Cottage Owners Association
- Formation of the FireSmart Advisory Committee
- Training on RedZone software
- FireSmart presentation at the Manitoba Forestry Associations Woodlot Management Fall Field Day
- FireSmart workshop at Victoria Beach. PowerPoint presentation.

Other Project Partners: None

International Programs

International Programs

Development of Indigenous Ethno-tourism Enterprises in Costa Rica

Project Number: 09-6-01

Project Leader: Brian Kotak, MBMF

Theme Area: International Programs

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: On-going, Year 3 of 5

Purpose: To initiate an ethno-tourism project with the Nairi Awari communities of Costa Rica which focuses on providing eco-tourism and cultural education opportunities

Report: In 2007, Brokenhead Ojibway Nation (BON) and the MBMF initiated a project with the Reventazon Model Forest, the Ibero-American Regional Model Forest Network and Centro Agrinomico Tropical de Investigacion y Ensenanza (CATIE) on ethno-cultural tourism with the Nairi Awari (Indigenous) peoples of Costa Rica. To this end, a Concept Paper to the Indigenous Peoples Partnership Program of CIDA was submitted and approved for funding earlier in 2007. A delegation from the MBMF and BON traveled to Costa Rica in March 2007 to meet with the project partners and Cabecares communities. During this initial phase of the project, a feasibility study was completed, as well as a gender equity assessment and environmental impact assessment. Subsequently, a full proposal was submitted to CIDA for funding of a two-year project that will focus on eco-tourism, non-timber forest products, land use planning and management of the Cabecares Reserve lands, which abuts up against La Amistad International Park (a World Heritage Site based on its exceptional biodiversity values), environmental education and monitoring. The CIDA proposal was successful. The Indigenous community is also located along the Pacuare River, one of the most acclaimed white water rafting rivers in the world. It is the desire of the community to establish an eco-tourism/ethno-tourism enterprise in which the community can provide tourism opportunities that highlight the natural tropical environment of their reserve, and the community's traditions and culture. The project will also provide opportunities for collaboration and exchange of ideas between the Nairi Awari peoples and BON (who have experience in eco-tourism, NTFPs, indigenous land use planning and cultural exchange).

Activities in 2009-10 included:

- Construction of a 2-storey rancho (cabin) was completed at the river camp. The rancho includes a ground floor that contains a kitchen, dining area and storage area. The floor consists of flat river stones set in concrete.
- A mirador (scenic lookout) structure was built on the top of a mountain near the Jameikari community. On a clear day, visitors will be able to see the Caribbean Sea.
- Construction of washrooms and shower facilities were completed, as were tenting platforms

- Project funding was used to buy supplies and equipment for the camp, including a solar/propane refrigerator/freezer, sleeping bags, thermarest pads, dry bags for rafting and a water treatment system
- Four indigenous youth from the Cabecar community of Jameikari visited the MBMF area in July 2009 as part of a youth exchange program in the project. The youth visited several First Nation communities in eastern Manitoba and northwestern Ontario, met with and discussed cultural tourism programs with EAST Inc (East Side Aboriginal Sustainable Tourism Inc), and went on tours of the boreal forest.
- Also as part of the youth exchange program, two First Nation youth from Brokenhead Ojibway Nation traveled with the MBMF General Manager and MBMF President to Costa Rica in February 2010. The two students visited the Cabecar community of Jameikari, whitewater rafted to the project camp site (and camped there), went on hiking trips in the mountains and had the opportunity to experience Cabecar day-to-day life and food. The students also visited nearby Barbilla National Park and visited one of the oldest archeological sites in Costa Rica – the remains of a 4,000 year old indigenous city.
- During the February trip to Costa Rica, project meetings were held to review progress and budgets, a hiking trip/visit was made to another Cabecar community, and the Canadian delegation attended a national meeting and festival of indigenous peoples from Costa Rica. The project was highlighted at the meeting.
- Two brochures describing the attractions and services at the river camp were developed (in Spanish)
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was developed between the Jameikari Indigenous Tourism Association, CATIE and the MBMF for the tourism project
- Members of the Nairi Awari communities attended training programs in first aid and CPR, natural history of Costa Rica, ethics in eco-tourism, basic English, computers, MS Office software and graphic design
- A full-color advertisement was developed for the Turrialba regional tourism magazine. The project was featured on a local television station.
- Two project reports were produced for the CIDA

Expenditures and Contributions:

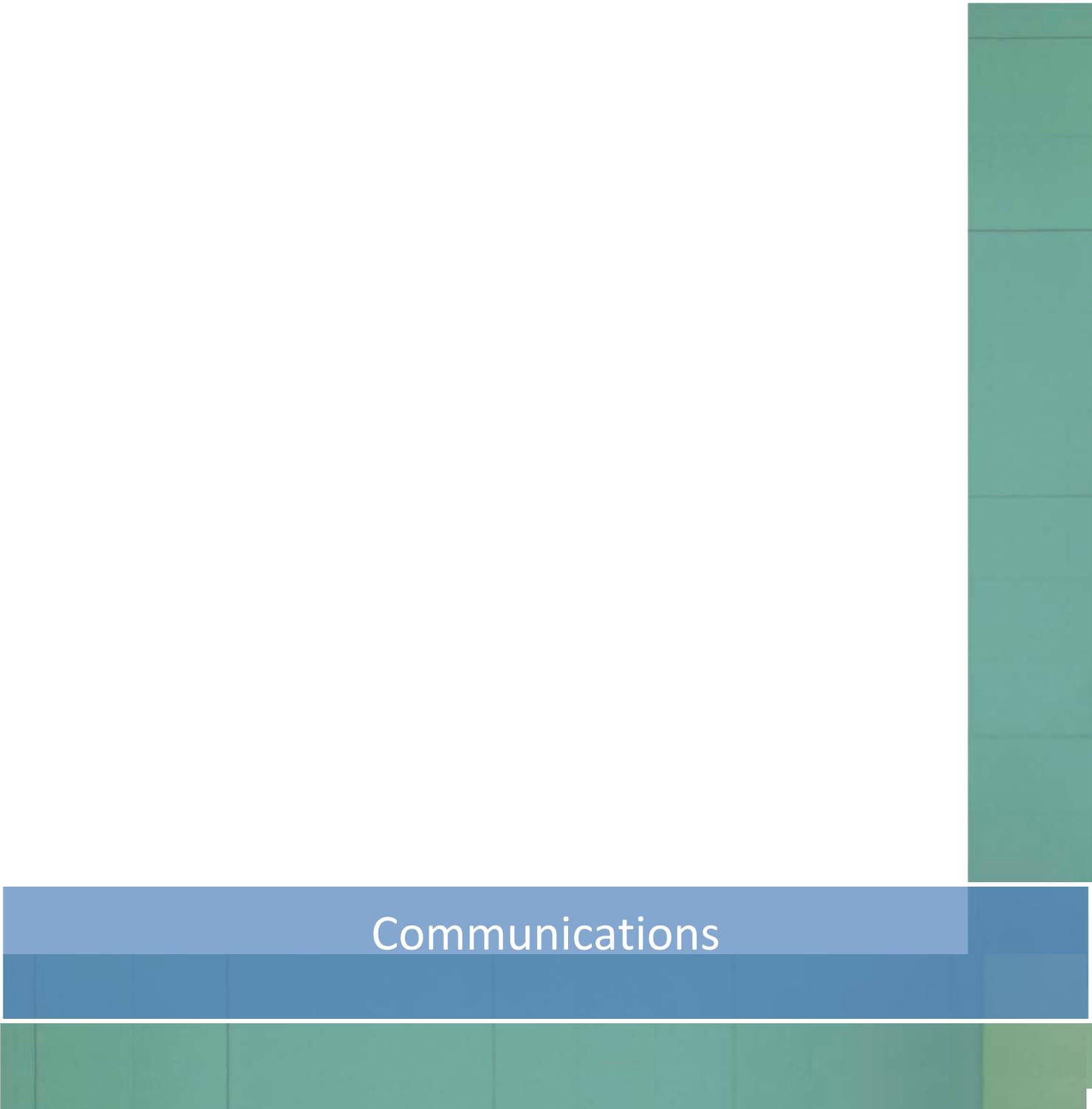
There was an over-expenditure (\$15,496) of CIDA funds in the project for the year. This was anticipated, as additional installments from CIDA were not expected to arrive until the 2010-11 fiscal year. In the interim, the MBMF has covered these costs. There was a small surplus (\$45) of FCP funding in the project for the year.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	\$88,451	\$50,000	\$138,451
Total	\$88,451	\$50,000	\$138,451
Project Contributions			
NR-Can-CFS (FCP)	\$15,000	-	\$15,000
Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)	\$58,000	-	\$58,000
MBMF	-	\$10,000	\$10,000
Brokenhead Ojibway Nation	-	\$5,000	\$5,000
United Nations Development Program – Small Grants Program	-	\$20,000	\$20,000
Costa Rican Partners (see list below)	-	\$15,000	\$15,000
Total	\$73,000	\$50,000	\$123,000

Outputs:

- Completion of infrastructure at the Jameikari river camp, including a 2 storey rancho, washroom and shower facilities, tenting platforms, and a mirador near the Jameikari community
- Purchase of project supplies and equipment including a solar/propane refrigerator, water treatment system, sleeping gear, etc.
- Two youth exchange programs. Four indigenous Cabecar youth from Costa Rica visited the MBMF area, and two First Nation youth from Brokenhead Ojibway Nation visited Costa Rica
- Project meeting minutes and budgets
- Two tourism brochures
- Advertisement in the regional tourism magazine
- Media coverage of the project on a local television station
- A MOU between the three main project partners
- Training of cabecar youth in courses relevant to the tourism and hospitality business sector
- Two project reports to CIDA

Other Project Partners: Asociación de Turismo Cultural Indígena Cabécar Jameikári (ATCICJ), Reventazon Model Forest, Tropical Agriculture Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE), ACTUAR, Ministry of Environment and Energy (MINAE), National Commission on Indigenous Affairs (CONAI), National Institute of Apprenticeship (INA), Ibero-American Model Forest Network, communities of Nairi Awari.



Communications

Communications Strategy Implementation

Project Number: 09-7-01

Project Leader: Brian Kotak, MBMF

Theme Area: Communication

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: On-going, Year 3 of 5

Purpose: To provide support for the implementation of the MBMF communications strategy.

Report: Since its inception in 1992, the MBMF has developed, implemented and refined its communications, outreach and networking strategy to keep pace with changes in communications tools and technologies and the changing ways in which various target audiences can be best reached. Our strategy contains three main components: a) knowledge and technology transfer, b) communications and outreach, and c) networking. To achieve our strategy objectives, the MBMF periodically utilizes communications consultants who are responsible for developing and maintaining several of our communications tools including our website (www.manitobamodelforest.net), displays, newsletters and brochures, and our annual report. The content of written materials such as brochures and newsletters are commonly developed by individual project leaders, with formatting and editing done by the communications consultant.

Target audiences include MBMF Board and committee members, MBMF communities, the research community, educators, environmental organizations, political organizations and decision-makers (e.g., Members of the Legislative Assembly, Members of Parliament, Political Parties, Municipal representatives), media, the Canadian Model Forest Network, our international project partners and the general public of Manitoba. Our strategy also includes assistance with communication efforts of both the Canadian Model Forest Network and the International Model Forest Network.

Activities in 2009-10 included:

- Production of an annual report for the 2008-09 fiscal year
- Purchase and creation of communication tools (NTFP materials) for use with the MBMF floor-standing display unit
- Continued revisions to the “Achievements” report, summarizing the successes of the MBMF over the last 15 years (anticipated completion in 2010-11)
- Production of one MBMF “For all our Relations” Newsletter
- Complete re-design of MBMF website. Posting of new documents and reports on the website.
- Development of a new MBMF logo by the MBMF Board of Directors

- Attendance at Board and General Manager meeting (both in person and by teleconference) of the Canadian Model Forest Network

Expenditures and Contributions:

There was a small surplus (\$10) of FCP funding in the project.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	\$19,990	-	\$19,990
Total	\$19,990	-	\$19,990
Project Contributions			
NR-Can-CFS (FCP)	\$20,000	-	\$20,000
Total	\$20,000	-	\$20,000

Outputs:

- MBMF annual report for 2008-09
- Production of one issue of MBMF newsletter
- Draft copy of 15 year Achievements report
- Re-designed website and posting of most recent MBMF documents in pdf format
- New MBMF logo

Other Project Partners: None

Communications Support

Project Number: 09-7-02

Project Leader: Brian Kotak, MBMF

Theme Area: Communication

Year Initiated: 2007-2008

Status: On-going, Year 3 of 5

Purpose: To promote the activities, projects and accomplishments of the MBMF by supporting various vehicles for program promotion.

Report: The MBMF utilizes various means and vehicles for promotion of our projects and programs, as well as promoting linkages with local, regional, provincial, national and international partners. The Communications Support program supports the hosting/co-sponsoring of workshops and conferences, attendance of non-MBMF staff at workshops and conferences, production of various communication tools and interaction among partners.

Activities in 2009-10 included:

- Financial support for the production of a book highlighting scenic areas in Manitoba to visit. As part of the book, a chapter is devoted to sites in the MBMF area as well as a description of the MBMF organization and projects. The book will be published in late 2010
- Financial support for the Canadian Model Forest Network
- Purchase of MBMF promotional materials (pens, post-it notes, etc.) for distribution at MBMF events and workshops/conferences
- Publication of articles on various MBMF projects:
 - Article on the Winnipeg River Learning Centre project in the January 2010 issue of the Canadian Model Forest Network e-bulletin
 - Article on the Woodlot Environmental Goods and Services strategic initiative in the April/May 2009 issue of the Woodlot Association of Manitoba newsletter
 - Article on the MBMF community NTFP workshops in the April/May 2009 issue of the Woodlot Association of Manitoba newsletter
 - Article on the First Nation youth exchange to Costa Rica in the February 2010 issue of the Ibero-American Model Forest Network newsletter
 - Article on the FireSmart Advisory Committee formation in the April 2010 issue of the Whiteshell Echo newspaper
 - Article highlighting the MBMF education programs funded under the Manitoba Hydro Forest Enhancement Fund in the May 2009 issue of the First Nation Voice
 - Article highlighting MBMF NTFP workshops in the Spring 2009 issue of the FCP newsletter.

Expenditures and Contributions:

There was a small surplus (\$69) of FCP funding in the project.

Project Expenditures	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Administration	-	-	-
Project Activities	\$13,931	-	\$13,931
Total	\$13,931	-	\$13,931
Project Contributions			
NR-Can-CFS (FCP)	\$14,000	-	\$14,000
Total	\$14,000	-	\$14,000

Outputs:

- Final revisions to a book which will highlight scenic areas in the MBMF area
- Membership in the Canadian Model Forest Network
- Various promotional materials
- Articles communicating the success of MBMF projects

Other Project Partners: None

Progress Toward Intended Outcomes

As part of the MBMF 5 Year Strategic Plan under the Forest Communities Program, the MBMF developed a Logic Model which describes how individual projects and activities support the attainment of short-term **Immediate Outcomes**, medium-term **Intermediate Outcomes**, and **Long-term Outcomes**. Immediate Outcomes are those that are achieved in the first two years of the FCP, or within the first two years of the start of a particular project (for those projects starting part way through the FCP). Immediate Outcomes provide the foundation for the achievement of the Intermediate and Long-term Outcomes. In general, Intermediate Outcomes are expected to be realized within the latter part of the 5 year FCP and Long-term Outcomes are achieved by the end of the 5 year FCP and beyond.

The MBMF Logic Model, which describes the linkages between the 6 main Program/Theme Areas of the MBMF and the activities, outputs and outcomes is shown in Appendix 1. A summary of how various projects and activities undertaken in 2009-10 of the FCP contributed to the attainment of Immediate, Intermediate and Long-term Outcomes is also provided.

Immediate Outcomes

[Immediate Outcome #1](#): Well-planned program planning, management and accountability

The MBMF continues to achieve this immediate outcome in a number of ways. The work of the MBMF is guided by a 5 Year Strategic Plan and more detailed annual work plans. These plans are developed by the MBMF Board of Directors, and progress in each project as well as review of budgets is done on a regular basis through Board of Director meetings (09-1-06 Board Travel and Support) as well as meetings of the three main working groups (09-5-01 Forest Community Engagement and Capacity Building Working Group Support, 09-2-23 Integrated Landscape Management Working Group Support, and 09-4-10 Education Working Group Support). Policies and procedures and an annual financial audit of the MBMF ensure financial accountability.

[Immediate Outcome #2](#): Increased engagement of communities in MBMF-decision making, projects and activities

Increasing the level of engagement of communities in the MBMF will assist in increasing their opportunities for developing a more diverse regional economy. In turn, this will help develop more resilient forest-based communities, which are better equipped to deal with changing circumstances in the forest sector.

Traditional Areas Advisory Committees (project 09-5-03 Traditional Area Advisory Committees) continued to be a significant mechanism for First Nation community

involvement in MBMF projects. Both the Black River and Hollow Water First Nation TAACs increased their activities from the previous fiscal year (for example, more than doubling the number of meetings they held) and were fully engaged in the review of Tembec's proposed 20 Year Sustainable Forest Management Plan and 2009-10 Annual Operating and Renewal Plan. The Hollow Water TAAC began more intensive work related to the upgrade and extension of an all-weather highway up the east side of Lake Winnipeg. Recent survey data indicated a significant decline in the moose population in the MBMF area (project 09-5-13 Committee for Cooperative Moose Management), and several TAAC meetings were held with Manitoba Conservation to discuss possible solutions to the issue. Discussions also continued between MFMB-area First Nations and Manitoba Conservation on potential co-management of the moose resource. The TAACs have become the primary mechanism for government and industries to discuss resource management issues with these two First Nation communities.

Through involvement in Board (project 09-1-06 Board Travel and Support) and working group meetings (projects 09-5-01, 09-2-23 and 09-4-10), communities and organizations continue to provide direction to MBMF programming.

Six community-based projects were funded under the Community Opportunities Program (project 09-5-02). The availability of funding from this program to communities provides direct and tangible benefits to the communities, enables the MBMF to develop new partnerships and supports direct involvement of communities in projects.

A relatively new MBMF project, focused on stakeholder and community involvement in watershed management in western Manitoba (project 09-2-63 Stakeholder-based Watershed Management in Western Manitoba), involves a large diversity of stakeholders (conservation districts, forest industry, provincial and federal government departments, NGOs, First Nations) in setting priorities and direction for a watershed research and monitoring program. A workshop was held in 2009 to review what is known about water quality and quantity in the Duck Mountains of western Manitoba, and the group used this to begin the development of a research framework and funding proposals.

A new partnership between the MBMF, the Office of the Fire Commissioner, Manitoba Conservation and the Whiteshell Cottager Owners Association (project 09-4-15 Climate Change) to explore forest fire potential in the Whiteshell Provincial Park, and to develop a Community Protection Plan based on FireSmart principles. This is the first time such a plan will be developed for the Whiteshell, and particularly, with the input from the Cottage Owners Association.

Immediate Outcome #3: Increased knowledge and understanding of alternative forest-based opportunities by communities

There are many alternative forest-based economic opportunities available to communities in the MBMF area. By increasing the level of understanding of those opportunities, the MBMF will be in a position to facilitate the diversification of local economies, thus producing more resilient communities.

Non-timber forest products (NTFPs) represent an untapped opportunity for local communities and individual entrepreneurs to make supplemental income from non-traditional forest-based products from the forest (e.g., wild edibles, crafts such as wreaths, diamond willow walking sticks, etc.). The MBMF held one-day workshops in three communities (Black River First Nation, Brokenhead Ojibway Nation and Beausejour) in the spring of 2009 in which the communities learned about potential NTFP opportunities right in their back yard (project 09-5-18 Alternative Economic Opportunities from the Forest). Response to the workshops was overwhelming (more than 100 people attended, with 100 other people attending similar workshops in the previous fiscal year). Participants asked for the MBMF to provide additional workshops and training courses in the future. A mushroom identification and field day was held in September with over 50 participants. The MBMF, in partnership with Royal Roads University and Mr. Dave Buck, developed an NTFP training curriculum, which was used as the basis of a 2-week training course (in the 2010-11 fiscal year).

A traditional land use study in the Duck Mountains was completed by the West Region Tribal Council (project 09-5-14 First Nation Engagement in Western Manitoba). The study was partially funded by the MBMF. This is the first traditional land use study to be produced in western Manitoba, and will assist First Nation communities there to identify forest-based opportunities for economic development.

The TAACs at Black River First Nation and Hollow Water First Nation (project 09-5-03) were involved with assessing forest-based economic opportunities through the review of community proposals for a cottage development and golf course (Black River) and a cottage development at Hollow Water.

The MBMF has been working since 2007 with several Indigenous Cabecar communities in Costa Rica on the development of an ethno/eco-tourism business (project 09-6-01 Development of Indigenous Ethno-tourism Enterprises in Costa Rica). The project focuses on capacity building/training of youth and building community infrastructure (cabins, washroom facilities) in the Jameikari community in which the community will be able to offer tourists with unparalleled opportunities to explore and learn about the Costa Rican rainforest, wildlife, flora and indigenous cultures. While the project has not been completed yet, the community is already accepting tourists.

Immediate Outcome #4: Increased generation of knowledge and tools for integrated landscape management

The MBMF has taken a leadership role in the generation of new knowledge of the boreal forest and the development of tools for landscape management. This in turn will assist in better resource management decision-making, improved provincial policies and better methods of landscape management planning. Ultimately, this will result in the development of integrated landscape management tools and processes.

The caribou project (09-2-33 Caribou Management) continues to be a flagship project for the MBMF in terms of the generation of new knowledge about woodland caribou and using this knowledge to formulate management tools and strategies, which are implemented on the landscape. A study was completed on wolves that examined how wolves use natural (lakes, rivers) and man-made corridors (trails, forestry roads, etc.) for travel and hunting, and how this may affect wildlife species such as woodland caribou, moose and deer. While this MSc thesis still remains to be completed, Manitoba Conservation is already using the results of the study to formulate strategies for managing road networks and possibly recreational traffic (e.g., snowmobiles) in the Owl Lake woodland caribou range. Studies on woodland caribou calving habitat characteristics, multi-species wildlife surveys (caribou, moose, deer, wolves and bears), and tracking woodland caribou distribution through the use of satellite collars are all providing new knowledge on how these species interact, respond to forest harvest operations and how to better manage these species. The Eastern Manitoba Woodland Caribou Advisory Committee (EMWCAC) undertook a risk assessment (using a methodology that was developed by Environment Canada) for 5 caribou ranges in eastern Manitoba, in order to better identify risks and threats. Based on this risk assessment, a draft conservation strategy was finalized for the Atiko and Bloodvein caribou ranges, which is being used to guide resource development decision-making in these ranges. In addition to the risk assessment based on Environment Canada methods, a new project will create another method for risk assessment based on the principles of “fuzzy logic”. This new risk assessment tool will be used for all woodland caribou ranges in the province. Finally, the EMWCAC reviewed Tembec’s proposed 20 Year Forest Stewardship Plan as well as their 2009-10 Annual Operating and Renewal Plan. The province of Manitoba will not approve either plan without the review and recommendations of the EMWCAC. This is an example where this MBMF committee is making a significant contribution to sustainable development in Manitoba. The committee is in fact a form of landscape management tool.

There are many “rare” plant species in the MBMF area. Many may be rare simply due to a lack of information on their true numbers and distribution. The MBMF, through project 09-2-24 (Integration of Rare Species into Landscape Management Planning), is helping to provide data on the distribution of rare plant species in the MBMF through a partnership with Native Orchid Conservation, an NGO. The data produced is provided to Manitoba Conservation’s “Conservation Data Centre” for use in environmental assessments.

New knowledge is also being generated through the Barred Owl project (09-2-30) and Golden-winged Warbler study (09-2-28). Little is known about the distribution of either species. Through the Barred Owl project, the number of known active nesting sites has been increased from 1 to 7 in the province and the number of banded individuals has increased by 200%.

The TAACs (project 09-5-03) have become a very effective tool for the public involvement process of integrated landscape management. The TAACs are an effective conduit for information flow between their communities, chief and councils, industries

and government on matters relating to resource development. In this way, the TAACs are an important tool for integrated landscape management.

The new FireSmart Advisory Committee, formed as a result of project 09-4-15 (Climate Change) will develop strategies and tools for managing fire risk in the Whiteshell Provincial Park.

Immediate Outcome #5: Enhanced and diversified opportunities for education and training

Education and training is one of the cornerstones to producing a more informed public regarding natural resource management. This in turn will lead to better management decision-making. The MBMF has several projects that help provide enhanced and diversified opportunities for education and training.

The Winnipeg River Learning Centre (project 09-4-07), which began operations in 2008, is a major education and training project of the MBMF. It provides a diversity of training and education programs to meet the needs of communities in the region. Programs such as electrical, health care aide, computers and security guard training and many more provide much needed training opportunities. More than 80% of the students are of Aboriginal ancestry. The Learning Centre provides the opportunity for such students to remain in their home community during their training, rather than having to move to a large urban centre. The infrastructure upgrades being made through the significant financial investment of the federal Community Adjustment Fund and from the Province of Manitoba will provide an energy efficient and comfortable learning facility, while greatly reducing operating costs. This will help ensure the sustainability of the Winnipeg River Learning Centre.

The Junior Rangers program (project 09-4-8) continues to be one of the flagship education programs of the MBMF. Thirty-two First Nation students attended the program in 2009, receiving training in a wide variety of disciplines related to natural resource management. Each student received more than 200 hours of instruction, training and activities. A clear benefit was also the increase in the level of confidence in students after they completed the program.

In 2009, the MBMF partnered with the Manitoba Forestry Association on their woodlot education program (project 09-4-9 Woodlot Education). While the MBMF only played a minor role, the geographic reach of the program, and the number of private landowners that participated is truly remarkable. In 2009, more than 1,800 landowners participated in this outreach program.

The MBMF continued to provide educational opportunities to almost 180 teachers and more than 900 students through field tours, classroom presentations, tree planting days, as well as training workshops on MBMF natural resource curricula (projects 09-4-13 Education for Sustainable Development, and 09-4-14 Provincial Natural Resource Management Curricula). In addition, the MBMF helped to plan and participated in the

Manitoba Envirothon. The Envirothon included 35 schools from the province in 2009. A new method to provide training on natural resource management issues to high school teachers was the development of the MBMF Summer Institute for Teachers (project 09-4-13). Teachers attended a 2-day training session on MBMF curricula, while being immersed in the boreal forest at the Manitoba Conservation Shoe Lake facility. Teachers came away from the summer institute with a much deeper understanding of boreal forest sustainability issues, and how to incorporate these ideas into their lesson plans by using the MBMF curricula.

Immediate Outcome #6: Enhanced understanding of natural resource management by educators, students and the general public

The MBMF has spent a considerable amount of effort on improving the level of understanding of educators, students and the general public about natural resource management. In 2009, 180 teachers and more than 900 students received classroom presentations or went on boreal forest hikes with the MBMF Education Coordinator (project 09-4-13 Education for Sustainable Development). Teachers and students learned about boreal forest ecology, forest management and sustainability issues, wildlife management and water quality, as well as the importance of the forest products sector to Manitoba.

Targeted training on natural resource management issues was also provided to high school teachers through a number of mechanisms. These included providing training to 4th year Faculty of Education students at the University of Manitoba, as well as to high school teachers through the annual provincial Special Area Groups conference, on MBMF curriculum supplements (project 09-4-14 Provincial Natural Resource Management Curricula). A draft version of a new curriculum supplement focused on forestry in Manitoba was developed in 2009-10, and will be available for use by schools in 2010-11. Additionally, high school teachers also gained knowledge by attending the MBMF Summer Institute for Teachers (project 09-4-13 Education for Sustainable Development).

Enhancing the understanding of natural resource management by the general public was achieved through participating in the Manitoba Forestry Association's woodlot education program (project 09-4-9 Woodlot Education), by the MBMF providing walk and talk tours to groups such as senior's clubs (project 09-4-13 Education for Sustainable Development) and by providing a FireSmart workshop in the Rural Municipality of Victoria Beach (09-4-15 Climate Change).

Immediate Outcome #7: Increased collaboration with regional, national and international partners

New collaborations were developed at the regional, national and international levels in 2009. These partnerships will enhance not only the programs of the MBMF, but will strengthen partnerships provincially, nationally and internationally. These partnerships will demonstrate how Canada is a world leader in sustainable landscape management.

A new partnership was formed between the MBMF, the Office of the Fire Commissioner and the Whiteshell Cottager Owners Association (09-4-15 Climate Change). As a result, the FireSmart Advisory Committee was initiated and will develop strategies to assess and manage fire risk in the Whiteshell Provincial Park.

In 2009, the MBMF initiated a partnership with Royal Roads University (Centre for Non-timber Resources) on the development of a national curriculum on NTFPs (09-5-18 Alternative Economic Opportunities from the Forest). The curriculum will be piloted in the MBMF in the 2010-11 fiscal year. Royal Roads processes a significant amount of knowledge and expertise in the NTFP sector.

The ethno-tourism project in Costa Rica (09-6-01 Development of Indigenous Ethno-tourism Enterprises in Costa Rica) represents a large collaboration between the MBF, Brokenhead Ojibway Nation, the Indigenous Nairi Awari communities in Costa Rica, CATIE, the Reventazon Model Forest, Ibero-American Model Forest Network and other Costa Rican partners. Through this project, indigenous Cabecar communities are building capacity to participate in the growing eco- and ethno-tourism industry in Costa Rica. New partners were added to the project in 2009, including the United Nations Development Program, the Costa Rican Institute of National Apprenticeship and the National Commission on Indigenous Affairs. These partners are assisting the communities with training programs.

[Immediate Outcome #8](#): Accelerated and improved transfer of knowledge and tools

The MBMF has worked towards achieving accelerated and improved transfer of knowledge and tools through a number of communications and networking mechanisms. Communication and networking are key components of building and strengthening partnerships at all levels (regional, provincial, national and international). They are also an important way in which to demonstrate the importance and relevance of MBMF projects on the provincial, national and international stage, and further demonstrating that Canada is a world leader in sustainable landscape management (one of the four core objectives of the FCP).

In an effort to improve the transfer of knowledge and information, the MBMF completely re-designed our website (www.manitobamodelforest.net) in 2009-10, making it more graphically appealing, adding information specific to the FCP and posting our recent project reports and documents in pdf format. The website also has a new feature which allows users to submit sightings of woodland caribou directly to the MBMF, in order track observations of this elusive and endangered species.

One issue of our newsletter, For all Our Relations, was produced during the fiscal year. The newsletter highlighted several of our projects and was widely distributed via email, as handouts at meetings, workshops and conferences, and through our website. Several articles on MBMF projects were also written for other organization's newsletters (e.g.,

FCP, Canadian Model Forest Network, Ibero-American Model Forest Network, Woodlot Association of Manitoba) and local newspapers.

Networking and collaboration with the Canadian Model Forest Network (CMFN) continued to occur through participation of the MBMF President at CMFN Board meetings and participation of the MBMF General Manager on the CMFN General Manager's committee. As part of the planning process for the North American Caribou Workshop (to be held in Winnipeg in October 2010), four of the western Canadian Model Forests began planning for a side meeting at the workshop, in which the Model Forests will identify areas of collaboration on woodland caribou research and management.

Intermediate Outcomes

The MBMF has developed 6 intermediate outcomes under the FCP. Many of these can be associated with several of our 6 main Theme Areas of our program. While the intermediate outcomes may not be realized until the latter part of the FCP, many projects are already contributing to achieving these outcomes. These are briefly described below.

Intermediate Outcome #1: Clear and consistent program climate

A clear and concise program climate provides for a well-run organization and also facilitates accountability. Regular meetings (there were 6 in 2009-10) of the MBMF Board of Directors (09-1-06 Board Travel and Support) provides a main mechanism for the prioritization of projects, development of annual work plans and for the regular review of progress on projects and budgets. Periodic meetings of the three working groups (Forest Community Engagement, Integrated Landscape Management, and Education) also ensure a accountability in projects. The annual work plan provides the overall framework for guiding the activities of the MBMF. The annual financial audit (09-1-02 Supplies and Services) provides financial accountability of the MBMF to its Board and partners.

Intermediate Outcome #2: Increased opportunities for communities to diversify local economies

The MBMF is providing opportunities for local communities to learn about alternative economic opportunities from the forest (project 09-5-18 Alternative Economic Opportunities from the Forest). Effort so far has concentrated on educating the public about those opportunities, particularly with respect to NTFPs, through introductory workshops in 2008 and 2009. However, a curriculum for a 2-week intensive NTFP training course (to be held in fiscal 2010-11) was developed in collaboration with Royal Roads University in 2009-10. This training course is designed to give directed training on establishing NTFP businesses and will result in the development of a cottage industry on NTFPs in our region.

Since 2007, the MBMF has been working with Indigenous communities in Costa Rica (project 09-6-01 Development of Indigenous Ethno-tourism Enterprises in Costa Rica) to

create economic opportunities with respect to eco-tourism and ethno-tourism. The project has helped these local communities build infrastructure (cabins, washroom facilities, etc) in order to provide safe and comfortable accommodations for tourists, as well as implementing training programs on various aspects of the tourism sector. The communities are in a unique and enviable position by being willing and able to provide cultural tourism options to tourists in Costa Rica. The communities have already seen the benefits of the project by accepting tourists at their river camp, even before the project is complete.

[Intermediate Outcome #3](#): Enhanced participation of all stakeholders in integrated landscape management decision-making

Historically, First Nations have been largely excluded from involvement in landscape management decision-making. The TAACs (project 09-5-03 Traditional Area Advisory Committees) have provided a concrete mechanism by which First Nation communities have input into forest management in the MBMF area (i.e., Tembec's forest management license area). Both Tembec and Manitoba Conservation have invested hundreds of hours in staff time to help the TAACs understand the complexities of forest management planning and operations, so that the TAACs can provide informed input into Tembec's long term forest management plan and annual operating and renewal plans. These efforts have paid dividends in 2009-10, which saw the TAACs review development proposals on behalf of their communities for mining and quarry leases, cottage developments, the all-weather road on the east side of Lake Winnipeg and other resource issues. The TAACs have also been involved in discussions and negotiations with Manitoba Conservation regarding the establishment of a moose co-management model between the Government of Manitoba and First Nation communities in the MBMF area.

The Eastern Manitoba Woodland Caribou Advisory Committee (EMWCAC – project 09-2-33 Caribou Management), a multi-stakeholder committee of the MBMF, has become the key mechanism for Manitoba Conservation to engage stakeholders in reviewing resource development projects. Additionally, Tembec's 20 Year Forest Stewardship Plan and Annual Operating and Renewal Plans must be approved by the EMWCAC as part of the provincial approval process for forestry activities in FML 01 (Tembec's license area). The EMWCAC are the local authority when it comes to knowledge about woodland caribou in eastern Manitoba. The EMWCAC has previously developed a management strategy for the Owl Lake woodland caribou range, which guides forestry and other resource development activities in this range, and in 2009-10 completed a draft of a management strategy for the Atiko and Bloodvein caribou ranges. The work of the EMWCAC and the processes established for involvement in decision-making has been so successful, that the provincial government has established advisory committees in 2 other parts of the province.

[Intermediate Outcome #4](#): Improved policy-making and planning for integrated landscape management

Progress towards this outcome can be divided into 2 components. The improved natural resource management-planning component is being met through providing mechanisms for stakeholders and communities to become more involved in planning and decision-making (addressed above in Intermediate Outcome #3). The creation of a draft conservation strategy for the Atiko and Bloodvein woodland caribou ranges (project 09-2-33 Caribou Management) is providing guidance for resource management in these caribou ranges and currently guides Tembec's forest management planning process.

Improved policy-making relies heavily on having current information and knowledge. The MBMF was very active in 2009-10 in the collection of data and information on the status of moose, deer, caribou and wolves in the MBMF (projects 09-2-33 Caribou Management, 09-5-13 Committee for Cooperative Moose Management) through aerial surveys. Data on rare plant species distribution was also collected through project 09-2-24 (Integration of Rare Species into Landscape Management Planning).

While still in the initial stages of the project, the Landscape Design project (09-2-27) will develop new provincial guidelines for landscape design. It is anticipated that such guidelines will incorporate land use planning principles such as protected areas, landscape connectivity, and landscape patterns based on natural disturbance, etc. The landscape design guideline will help improve policy-making regarding integrated landscape management at the provincial level.

[Intermediate Outcome #5](#): Better informed public regarding natural resource management issues

The MBMF has made great progress towards developing a better-informed public with respect to natural resource management issues. We continue to make progress towards this outcome by working through the provincial school system and through other programs such as the Manitoba Forestry Association's woodlot education program. In 2009-10, the MBMF provided classroom presentations and/or took classes out on "walk and talk" forest tours to 190 teachers and more than 900 students (project 09-4-13 Education for Sustainable Development). Boreal forest "walk and talk" tours were also held with senior citizen groups in 2009-10.

The MBMF has also developed provincially accredited curriculum supplements on natural resource issues, including a draft version of a supplement focused on forestry in Manitoba in 2009-10 (project 09-4-14 Natural Resource Management Curricula). We have also provided hands-on training to teachers on our curriculum supplements in 2009-10 through avenues such as the annual provincial Special Area Groups conference, the MBMF Summer Institute for Teachers (project 09-4-13 Education for Sustainable Development), and through a workshop with 4th year Faculty of Education students at the University of Manitoba.

As mentioned in previous outcomes, the TAACs (project 09-5-03 Traditional Area Advisory Committees) continue to be an important mechanism for the MBMF to provide a venue for First Nation communities to learn about natural resource management issues.

TAAC members have become important points of contact for the sharing of information with others in these communities.

The Climate Change project (09-4-15) has developed new partnerships in the Whiteshell Provincial Park to inform the public and address issues with respect to fire management in the park. The older age-class structure of the forest, recent elimination of logging in the park and significant cottage developments necessitate a well-informed public so that proper wildfire management strategies can be developed.

[Intermediate Outcome #6](#): Strengthened and committed partnerships on natural resource management issues and opportunities at local, national and international levels

The MBMF continued to nurture partnerships with conservation districts, First Nations, provincial government agencies and the forest industry, which were formed through the establishment of a watershed project in western Manitoba (project 09-2-63 Stakeholder-based Watershed Management in Western Manitoba). A workshop to review existing water quality and quantity information for the Duck Mountains served as a starting point of this new partnership.

The MBMF formed a partnership with Royal Roads University to develop a national NTFP training curriculum (project 09-5-18 Alternative Economic Opportunities from the Forest). The partnership will help communities in the MBMF area to realize alternative forest-based economic opportunities that exist in the region.

The MBMF continued to work in partnership with CATIE, the Reventazon Model Forest, the Ibero-American Model Forest Network, the Nairi Awari Indigenous communities and others in Costa Rica to develop economic opportunities focused on eco- and ethno-tourism in Costa Rica.

Long-term Outcomes

Long-term outcomes are those that are anticipated to be achieved by the end of the 5 year Forest Communities Program, but will also carry on past this timeframe. The four main long-term outcomes are:

- Resilient forest-based communities that possess the knowledge, tools and capacity needed to adapt to changes in the natural resource sector and forest environment
- Enhanced development and adoption of integrated resource management tools and processes for landscape-level decision-making
- Enhanced and diversified forest-based opportunities and economic growth in rural communities
- Recognition as a world-leader in sustainable landscape management, both domestically and internationally

With this annual report, the MBMF has completed 3 of the 5 years of the FCP. The MBMF is well on the way to meeting these long-term outcomes. The development of a training curriculum on NTFPs (with training courses to occur in 2010 and beyond) will provide knowledge and training needed for the development of businesses in the NTFP section in the MBMF area. The support of the Winnipeg River Learning Centre and the development and offering of a variety of locally-relevant courses, provides much needed training on other career sectors. The importance of such an important resource (i.e., a locally-located training facility) can not be understated. The closure of the Pine Falls newsprint mill in 2009 has resulted in the loss of hundreds of jobs. Career training and the identification of alternative opportunities is critical at this time. The Winnipeg River Learning Centre is playing a key role, as is the MBMF.

Through the FCP, the MBMF continues to offer improved mechanisms for community involvement in natural resource management decision-making. Committees such as the TAACs, Committee for Cooperative Moose Management and the EMWCAC provide direct and valuable input into decisions regarding natural resources in the MBMF area. The development of a draft conservation strategy for the Atiko and Bloodvein woodland caribou ranges by the EMWCAC in 2009-10 is already guiding forestry and other activities in these ranges.

The MBMF and the FCP are already receiving recognition internationally for its approach to facilitating sustainable landscape management. For example, the partnership between the MBMF, Brokenhead Ojibway Nation and our Costa Rican partners is seen as a shining example of locally-driven, forest-based community economic development and effective partnership building. While the project is not completed yet, the Jameikari community is already hosting tourists at their new river camp. The project provides a tangible economic benefit to the community and has instilled a sense of community pride.

The MBMF has also become the “go to” organization with respect to woodland caribou research and management in eastern Manitoba. The government of Manitoba has made it a practice that all natural resource management decisions in caribou ranges must be vetted through the EMWCAC. The EMWCAC also continues to develop management strategies for other caribou ranges in eastern Manitoba, and these are submitted to the province for their consideration. The concept of the multi-stakeholder EMWCAC has become so successful that other similar committees have been established in other parts of the province by Manitoba Conservation.

Finally, the TAACs are becoming provincially recognized as an excellent mechanism for First Nation communities to become more engaged in natural resource management decision-making. In 2009, the Black River and Hollow Water TAACs each were awarded a Spirit of the Earth Award for their innovative approach to community involvement in resource management in their traditional areas.

Annual Financial Report

A financial summary for actual program/project expenditures (Table 1) as well as a summary of the cash and in-kind contributions of all partners (Table 2) for the 2009-010 fiscal year are provided below. In addition, Table 3 provides a summary of the reconciled programs/projects expenditures for the FCP to the end of March 31, 2010 and projected annual expenditures to 2012.

Table 1 Program expenditures and in-kind estimates during the period of April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010 by Theme Area and projects.

Theme Area and Project	NRCan-CFS (FCP Funds)	Partner/Other		Total
		Cash	In-kind	
Administration	Cash	Cash	In-kind	Total
Staff Salaries and Associated Deductions	\$116,944	-	-	\$116,944
Supplies and Services	\$29,246	\$286	\$19,320	\$48,852
Staff Travel	\$8,944	-	-	\$8,944
Board Support and Travel	\$5,089	\$6,377	38,000	\$49,466
Subtotal	\$160,403	\$6,663	\$57,320	\$224,386
Forest Community Engagement and Capacity Building				
Forest Community Engagement and Capacity Building Working Group Support	\$2,440	-	\$2,700	\$5,140
Community Opportunities Program	\$25,000	-	\$111,100	\$136,100
Committee for Cooperative Moose Management	\$7,435	\$12,568	\$2,700	\$22,703
First Nation Engagement in Western Manitoba	-	\$5,000	-	\$5,000
Traditional Area Advisory Committees	\$5,000	\$16,823	\$131,700	\$153,523
First Nation Land Use Planning	-	-	-	-
Trapper Involvement	\$5,506	\$6,890	\$6,000	\$18,396
Alternative Economic Opportunities from the Forest	\$14,956	-	\$31,300	\$46,256
First Nation Local Involvement Committee	\$2,357	-	\$1,500	\$3,857
Subtotal	\$62,694	\$41,281	\$287,000	\$390,975

Table 1 (continued).

Theme Area and Project	NRCan-CFS (FCP Funds)	Partner/Other		Total
		Cash	In-kind	
Integrated Landscape Management	Cash	Cash	In-kind	Total
Integrated Landscape Management Working Group Support	\$2,946	-	\$1,800	\$4,746
Caribou Management	-	\$136,577	\$114,300	\$250,877
Natural Disturbance Regime	-	-	-	-
Stakeholder-based Watershed Management in Western Manitoba	-	\$3,139	\$17,400	\$20,539
Watershed Management Tools	-	\$11,522	-	\$11,522
Terrestrial Bio-monitoring	-	\$2,502	-	\$2,502
Integration of Rare Species into Landscape Management Planning	-	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$7,500
Species of Special Interest	-	-	-	-
Landscape Design	-	\$11,150	-	\$11,150
Scenario Planning	-	-	-	-
Western Manitoba Golden Wing Warbler Monitoring Project	-	\$4,900	\$38,700	\$43,600
Wildlife Use of Forest Harvest Areas	\$4,014	\$5,250	-	\$9,264
Nesting Requirements of Barred Owl in Manitoba	\$500	\$1,500	\$30,000	\$32,000
Subtotal	\$7,460	\$181,540	\$204,700	\$393,700
Education				
Education Working Group Support	\$2,497	-	\$7,500	\$9,997
Winnipeg River Learning Centre	\$5,000	\$25,000	\$1,450,000	\$1,480,000
Junior Rangers	\$20,000	\$74,043	\$60,900	\$154,943
Provincial Natural Resource Management Curriculum	\$10,428	\$11,026	\$3,200	\$24,654
Woodlot Education	\$5,000	-	\$7,100	\$12,100
Education for Sustainable Development	-	\$19,113	\$8,000	\$27,113
Climate Change	\$2,626	\$1,171	\$17,900	\$21,697
Subtotal	\$45,551	\$130,353	\$1,554,600	\$1,730,504

Table 1 (continued).

Theme Area and Project	NRCan-CFS (FCP Funds)	Partner/Other		Total
		Cash	In-kind	
International Programs	Cash	Cash	In-kind	Total
Development of Indigenous Ethno-tourism Enterprises in Costa Rica	\$14,955	\$73,496	\$50,000	\$138,451
Subtotal	\$14,955	\$73,496	\$50,000	\$138,451
Communications and Networking				
Communications Strategy Implementation	\$19,990	-	-	\$19,990
Communications Support	\$13,931	-	-	\$13,931
Subtotal	\$33,921	-	-	\$33,921
Grand Total	\$324,984	\$433,333	\$2,153,620	\$2,911,937

Note: Expenditures (\$324,984 – above) of FCP funds was lower than the amount of FCP funds received (\$325,000 – see table 2 below) by \$16.

Table 2. Financial Contributions during the period of April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010

Contributor	Cash	In-Kind	Total
NRCan-CFS (FCP)	\$325,000	\$5,000	\$330,00
Manitoba Conservation	\$100,000	\$199,900	\$299,900
Manitoba Hydro	\$99,975	\$4,050	\$104,025
Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)	\$58,000		
Louisiana-Pacific	\$50,000	\$18,500	\$68,500
Tembec	\$50,000	\$37,720	\$87,720
MBMF	\$37,514	\$20,500	\$20,500
Sustainable Development Innovations Fund	\$19,750	\$25,000	\$44,750
Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation	\$18,052		
Rural Municipality of Lac du Bonnet	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$2,500
LDG of Pinawa	\$1,000	\$2,400	\$2,400
Bird Studies Canada	-	\$10,000	\$10,000
Black River First Nation	-	\$42,600	\$42,600
Brokenhead Ojibway First Nation	-	\$8,700	\$8,700
Community Adjustment Fund	-	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000
Community of Bissett	-	\$300	\$300
Community of Seymourville	-	\$600	\$600
Community Opportunities Program communities	-	\$109,600	\$109,600
Community Opportunities Subcommittee	-	\$1,500	\$1,500
Costa Rican partners	-	\$15,000	\$15,000
Ducks Unlimited Canada	-	\$1,500	\$1,500
East Side Aboriginal Sustainable Tourism (EAST) Inc	-	\$300	\$300
Environment Canada – Canadian Wildlife Service	-	\$10,000	\$10,000
First Nations Forestry Program	-	\$18,000	\$18,000
Hollow Water First Nation	-	\$54,300	\$54,300
Intermountain Conservation District	-	\$1,800	\$1,800
Kelsey Conservation District	-	\$600	\$600
Lake of the Prairies Conservation District	-	\$1,200	\$1,200
MacArthur Foundation	-	\$15,000	\$15,000
Manitoba Agriculture Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI)	-	\$1,200	\$1,200
Manitoba Christmas Tree Growers Assoc	-	\$300	\$300

Table 2. (continued).

Contributor	Cash	In-Kind	Total
Manitoba Education, Youth and Citizenship	-	\$300	\$300
Manitoba Forestry Association	-	\$10,700	\$10,700
Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation	-	\$1,350	\$1,350
Manitoba Metis Federation	-	\$2,100	\$2,100
Manitoba Trappers Association	-	\$3,300	\$3,300
Manitoba Water Stewardship	-	\$2,400	\$2,400
National Council on Air and Stream Improvement (NCASI)	-	\$1,200	\$1,200
Native Orchid Conservation Inc	-	\$2,500	\$2,500
Nature Manitoba	-	\$1,800	\$1,800
Office of the Fire Commissioner	-	\$5,000	\$5,000
Parks Canada	-	\$1,800	\$1,800
Pineland Nursery			
Province of Manitoba	-	\$250,000	\$250,000
Red River Community College			
Royal Roads University	-	\$4,500	\$4,500
Rural Municipality of Alexander	-	\$1,500	\$1,500
Rural Municipality of Victoria Beach	-	\$1,200	\$1,200
Shining Waters Heritage Region	-	\$3,900	\$3,900
Spruce Products Ltd	-	\$1,200	\$1,200
Swan Lake Conservation District	-	\$3,000	\$3,000
Tembec Unions	-	\$900	\$900
Time to Respect Earth's Ecosystems	-	\$3,300	\$3,300
Town of Lac du Bonnet	-	\$2,100	\$2,100
United Nations Development Program	-	\$20,000	\$20,000
University College of the North	-	\$5,000	\$5,000
University of Manitoba	-	\$1,300	\$1,300
University of Winnipeg	-	\$2,500	\$2,500
Woodlot Association of Manitoba	-	\$5,300	\$5,300
West Region Tribal Council	-	\$300	\$300
Whiteshell Cottager Owners Assoc	-	\$900	\$900
Winnipeg River Brokenhead Community Futures Development Corporation	-	\$900	\$900
Winnipeg River Learning Centre	-	\$6,000	\$6,000
Zirk Sawmill	-	\$300	\$300
Total	\$760,291	\$2,153,620	\$2,913,911

Table 3. Five Year Projection of Forest Community Program (NRCan-CFS) Funding Expenditures.

Theme Area and Project	2007/08 (reconciled)	2008/09 (reconciled)	2009/10 (reconciled)	2010/11 (projected)	2011/12 (projected)	Total
Administration	\$82,582	\$168,585	\$160,403	\$160,400	\$129,000	\$700,970
Forest Community Engagement	\$15,692	\$51,340	\$62,694	\$46,100	\$37,750	\$213,576
Integrated Landscape Management	\$12,454	\$9,000	\$7,460	\$29,500	\$75,500	\$133,914
Education	\$16,439	\$51,529	\$45,551	\$49,000	\$37,750	\$200,269
International Programs	\$15,093	\$15,000	\$14,955	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$75,088
Communications and Networking	\$29,986	\$30,241	\$33,921	\$25,000	\$30,000	\$149,148
Total	\$172,246	\$325,695	\$324,984	\$325,000	\$325,000	\$1,472,965

Other

Staff and Consultants

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Project Leaders

Project Contact	Project Name	Contact Information
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Brian Kotak, MBMF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ First Nation Engagement in Western MB ▪ Alternative Economic Opportunities from the Forest ▪ Watershed Management Tools ▪ Rare Species ▪ Terrestrial Bio-monitoring ▪ Landscape Design ▪ Ethno-tourism (Costa Rica) ▪ Communications Strategy Implementation ▪ Communications Support 	(204) 340-5013 (tel) (204) 345-4835 (cellular) miette@xplornet.com
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Wade Cable, Louisiana Pacific	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ First Nation Engagement in Western MB 	204) 734-4102 (tel) wade.cable@lpcorp.com
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Manitoba Model Forest Board of Directors

Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs	Black River First Nation	Brokenhead Ojibway Nation
Community of Bissett	Community of Manigotagan	Community of Seymourville
Hollow Water First Nation	Local Government District of Pinawa	Louisiana Pacific
Manitoba Conservation (Government of Manitoba)	Manitoba Forestry Association	Manitoba Metis Federation
Manitoba Trappers Association	Nature Manitoba	North East Sustainable Development Association
Rural Municipality of Alexander	Rural Municipality of Lac du Bonnet	Rural Municipality of Victoria Beach
Sagkeeng First Nation	Tembec Inc.	Tembec Unions
Time To Respect Earth's Ecosystems (TREE)	Town of Lac du Bonnet	University of Manitoba
University of Winnipeg	Wassaabiyaa Shining Waters Heritage Region	Winnipeg River Community Futures Development Corporation
Woodlot Association of Manitoba		

Appendix 1

