



PRESS RELEASE



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Meadow Lake, Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan Forestry Company Gets ‘Seal of Approval’ From Environmentalists

Saskatchewan forestry company Mistik Management Ltd. (Mistik) is pleased to announce the certification of its Forest Management Agreement (FMA) area to the Forest Stewardship Council's (FSC) 2004 National Boreal Standard (Canada) effective November 16, 2007.

The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) is an international organization that brings the forestry industry, environmentalists, and First Nations together to find solutions which promote responsible stewardship of the world's forests. The FSC's product label allows consumers worldwide to recognize products that support the growth of responsible forest management worldwide.

"We are thrilled with Mistik's efforts to attain FSC certification – by taking steps to achieve the principles and criteria set out by FSC, and by already achieving numerous indicators for responsible forest management, Mistik is taking a giant step forward for Saskatchewan forestry", says Allyson Brady, Executive Director, Saskatchewan Environmental Society. "The environmental community has long been a supporter of the FSC certification system as it prioritizes local communities, First Nation rights and ecological sustainability".

"By achieving FSC certification of its FMA area, Mistik demonstrates its ongoing commitment to maintaining the highest standards of socially-responsible and environmentally-appropriate forest stewardship," says Al Balisky, General Manager for Mistik.

The 1.8 million ha Mistik FMA area is located in northwest Saskatchewan (**Figure 1**). This large expanse of boreal forest is home to a number of Aboriginal communities. The residents of these communities continue to use the natural abundance of the forest within the FMA area for sustenance and other traditional use activities. "In respect of these traditional values Mistik has been tasked by its shareholders and local communities to manage the FMA area as a special trust – for all values and all users," adds Balisky.

A few highlights of Mistik's FSC certification include:

- The first FSC-certified forestlands in Saskatchewan;
- A commitment to not using herbicides within the Mistik FMA area;
- Prioritizing the protection of forest species, such as the endangered woodland caribou;
- Identification of locally important High Conservation Value Forest areas within which Mistik's forestry activities will be carefully managed;
- Expansion of the provincial Representative Areas Network (RAN) with over 200,000 ha of new potential candidate protected areas;
- A significant addition (1.8 million ha) to the largest contiguous FSC-certified forestlands in western Canada - when combined with the adjacent Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries Inc. (Al-Pac) FMA area (5.5 million ha) the total contiguous FSC-certified area equals 7.3 million ha;

- A commitment to transparency and rigorous 3rd-party assessment of Mistik's forestry practices on an ongoing basis.

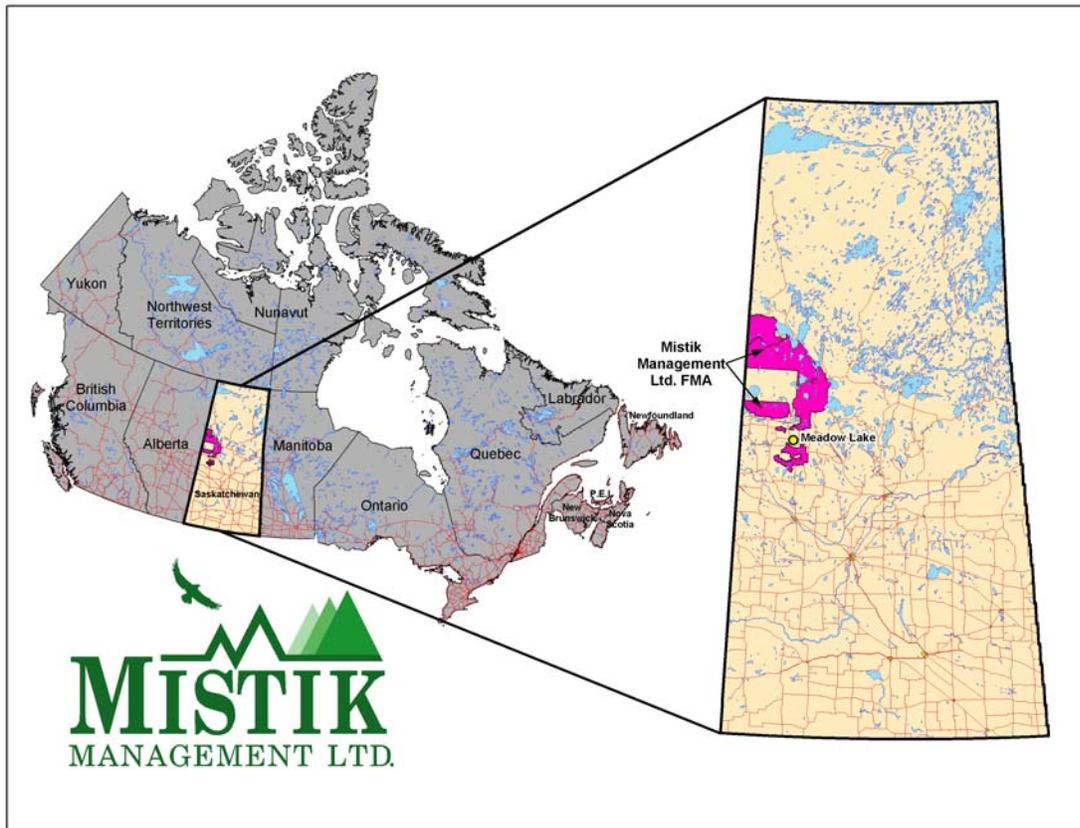


Figure 1. Location of the Mistik FMA area

For additional information about Mistik's FSC certification:

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Additional information about FSC Canada is available at www.fscCanada.org.