Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry 2017-2026 Strategic Focus for the Forest Resources Inventory Program
July 2017

✦ Ontario

MISSION	VISION	PRINCIPLES
To deliver and maintain a timely and effective forest resources inventory to improve the understanding and management of Ontario's forest resources.	Ontario's forest resources inventory is Best in Class	Provide value for money to the Province, stay current, innovate as needed, deliver a suite of products, think long term, support a province-wide strategy, enable stakeholders.

FOCUS AREAS	STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	GOALS	TIMELINE
The program delivers and updates stand level forest inventories for all lands in the Area of the Undertaking and southern portion of the Far North planning area [enhanced Forest Resources Inventory (eFRI) program area] and broad scale forest inventories for the rest of the province	• Forest resource inventories are in place and assessed for all lands in the eFRI program area • Update and assess inventories produced during the first 10-year cycle • Maintain a non-biased, permanent, forest inventory monitoring network • Maintain the broad scale forest inventories in the Far North and Southern Ontario	• Complete and assess the forest resources inventories started/produced during the first 10-year cycle • Develop and implement regular update cycles for far north and southern Ontario land cover	2017 to 2022
		• Acquire and process satellite imagery for all lands in the rest of the province • Acquire and process comprehensive high resolution imagery (suitable for producing stand level inventories) on a regular schedule for the eFRI program area • Acquire and process digital elevation data to produce a digital terrain model (DTM) that is suitable for FRI purposes • Update and assess inventories in the eFRI program area using high resolution imagery and field sampling • Re-measure all permanent forest inventory photo plots and ground plots (~10% per year) • Maintain a robust portfolio of remote sensing research projects	Ongoing
Forest Resources Inventory (FRI) products are accessible and valuable for stakeholders across Ontario	• Provide efficient data transfer • Enable private sector development • FRI is recognized as an authoritative data source	• Establish an on-site imagery storage infrastructure • Implement an enhanced information management system • Implement a comprehensive FRI production process and infrastructure including technology, software and tools. • Establish an Information Management/Information Technology (IM/IT) infrastructure to allow access to FRI inventory products/data by users/producers/public • Develop techniques and procedures to create and maintain a provincial forest inventory layer	2017 to 2019
		• Make a provincial forest resources inventory data set available for public consumption	Ongoing
The FRI program will continue to innovate and adapt to remain current and sustainable	• Support research, development, and training • Adopt/adapt technologies for cost effectiveness • Allow for innovative and adaptive management • Promote the use of FRI products to further research and development in the province	• Identify short term priorities and continue supporting the Forestry Futures Trust Committee Knowledge Transfer and Tool Development program • Continue FRI's focused research and development projects to evaluate technologies and methodologies • Review inventory programs in other jurisdictions/regions	2017 to 2020
		• Evaluate project results (cost/implementation) to determine feasibility. • Communicate what FRI products are • Provide tech support for FRI products to stakeholders	Ongoing
FRI information is well communicated to stakeholders and the public	• Plan for strategic communications • Improve communication between the FRI program and forest industry/inventory producers/users and indigenous communities	• Prepare and implement a communication plan with a review schedule • Develop communication products and protocols based upon the communication plan • Publish an inventory calendar • Produce and maintain a "Forest Inventory Procedure for Ontario" manual	2017 to 2020
		• Implement the IM/IT infrastructure to provide a communications portal and dashboard reporting	Ongoing
The inventory is structured, scalable, and adaptable to allow it to expand across the province as required	• Enable the addition of new attributes and expansion of the geographic scope • Leverage FRI products to meet stakeholders' needs • Keep the production schedule adaptable to change • Enable linkages between the FRI program and other programs/organizations that collect land related information	• Regularly adapt and make available comprehensive procedural documentation • Define and document a structured core set of attributes • Develop a moderately flexible schedule • Engage stakeholders in identifying possible expansion in geographic scope and content.	2017 to 2020
		• Ensure stakeholders are using the information provided to enable the capture of existing, new, and modeled attributes.	Ongoing
The FRI is defined and understood, and the program is accountable to stakeholders and the public, to provide value for money	• Align strategic and operational plans • Develop a dashboard to illustrate progress of measurable results to create an accountability standard • Engage the Provincial Forest Inventory Advisory Committee (PFIAC) so they can develop and monitor key performance measures and review finances • Define and document standards for data collection and attributes	• The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) and PFIAC document the strategic and operational plans • Establish key performance measures and program assessment strategies with the PFIAC and MNRF • MNRF documents forest inventory responsibilities in the Forest Information Manual (FIM) technical specifications • FRI technical committees/user groups are established and support the development of definitions for data collection	2017 to 2018
		• Develop, implement and continue to update the Dashboard • The PFIAC meets on a regular basis per terms of reference, with strategic plan review after 3 and 6 years • Conduct all procurements per Management Board of Cabinet approval	Ongoing