

Purpose:

To describe the Council's policy regarding stocking variability and crop tree selection within areas that are required to be restocked and support successfully regenerated stands under section 31 of the Private Managed Forest Land Council Regulation (the regulation).

Regulatory Requirements:

The requirements respecting restocking and establishing successfully regenerated stands are set out in section 31 of the regulation. To conform to the requirements for restocking and establishment of a successfully regenerated stand requires that the specified number of crop trees be reasonably well distributed.

A standard of crop trees being reasonably well distributed implies both of the following:

- crop trees need not be uniformly distributed, and
- large areas of voids or understocking are not permitted

Policy:

With respect to assessing stocking variability and crop tree selection within disturbed areas to determine whether or not the crop trees are reasonably well distributed for both restocking an area and establishing a successfully regenerated stand, it is the policy of the Council that

- reasonably well distributed crop trees are a minimum of 2.0 meters apart,
- variation in distances between individual crop trees based on local conditions and circumstances applicable to the area is acceptable,
- crop trees must be listed within the owners approved management commitment,
- subject to paragraphs (f) and (g), each hectare of disturbed area is to support the applicable number of reasonably well distributed crop trees to meet the requirements of a restocked area and a successfully regenerated stand,
- contiguous areas within the disturbed area may be partitioned into treatment units using generally acceptable silviculture survey techniques,
- if the overall stocking of the treatment unit conforms to the applicable stocking requirements for the minimum number of reasonably distributed crop trees per hectare, individual areas within the treatment unit are not required to meet the applicable stocking standards if
 - the contiguous understocked areas are each less than 1 ha, or
 - the contiguous understocked area is at least 1 ha but no more than 2 ha and the cumulative portion of the treatment unit occupied by these understocked areas does not exceed 5% of the treatment unit, and
- contiguous understocked areas of more than 2 ha are not permitted.