

Report to the Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board

2020



February 2021



BRITISH
COLUMBIA



Muskwa-Kechika
Management Area



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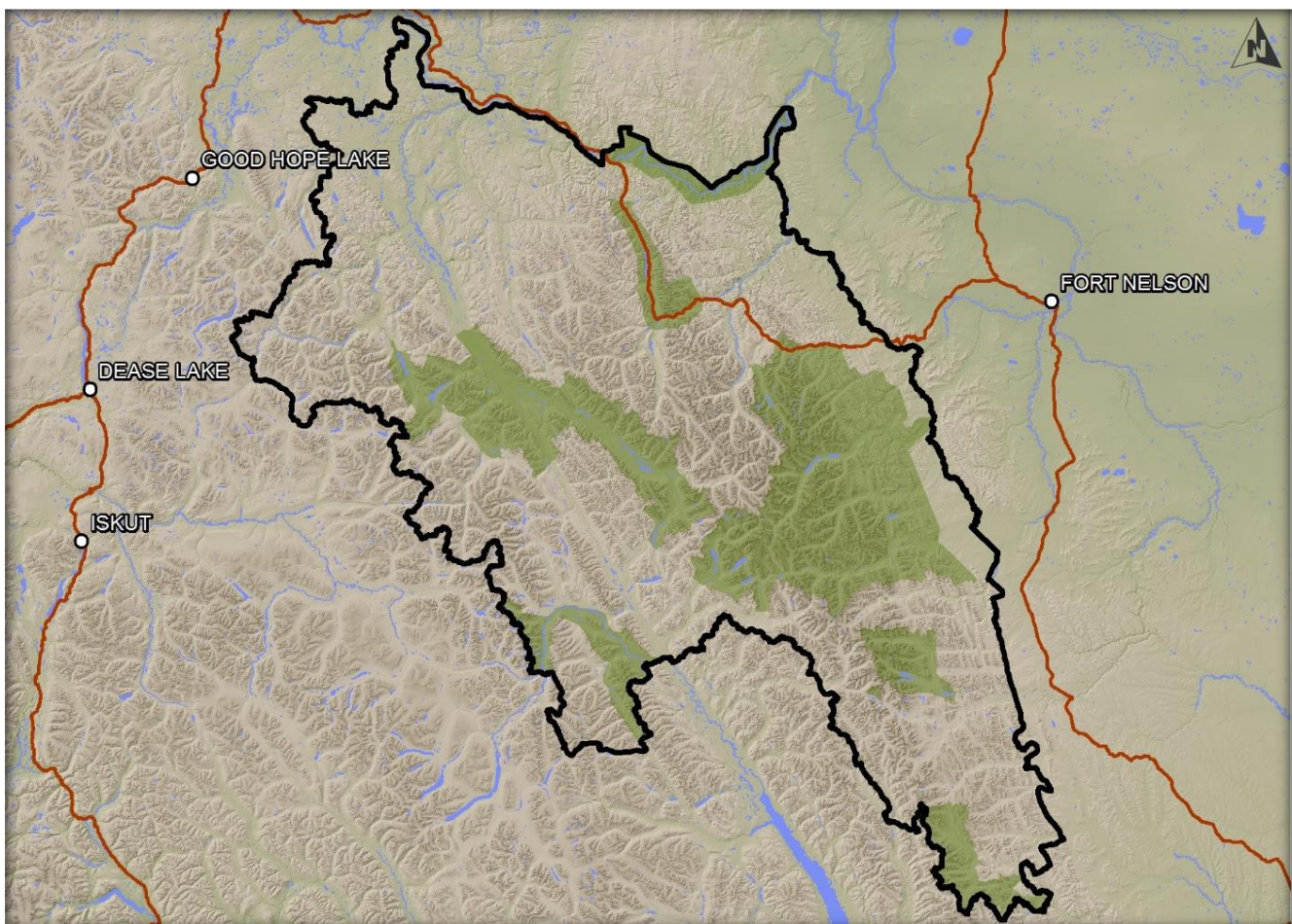
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The Muskwa-Kechika Management Area (M-KMA)

In 1997, the Fort St. John and Fort Nelson Land and Resource Management Plans (LRMPs) recommended that the Muskwa-Kechika be formally designated as a separate jurisdiction to ensure its wilderness characteristics, wildlife and habitat are maintained over time while allowing resource development and use, including: recreation, hunting, timber harvesting, mineral exploration and mining, oil and gas exploration and development. Government accepted these recommendations and the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area and Management Plan were approved by an Order-In-Council (OIC) under the Environment and Land Use Act later that year.

In 2000, government approved the Mackenzie LRMP, which included a recommendation to expand the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area and in 2001, the act was amended, increasing the management area to 6.4 million hectares from its original size of 4.45 million hectares. In 2002, the Muskwa-Kechika Management Plan, originally approved by Order-in-Council, was made a regulation under the act.

The Muskwa-Kechika Management Area Act provides legal direction for land use and resource management within the M-KMA while the Muskwa-Kechika Management Plan Regulation provides general management intent for the area, and specifies direction for resource management zones within the Fort St. John and Fort Nelson LRMP areas.



Land Ownership

Table 1: Active Titled Parcels and Surveyed Provincial Crown Land

<i>Owner Type</i>	<i>Number of Parcels</i>	<i>Total Parcel Area (ha)</i>	<i>Area within M-KMA (ha)</i>
Crown Agency/ Provincial	17	98.1	41.2
Federal (FN IR)	3	552.9	552.9
First Nation	3	59.1	18.8
Municipal	14	125.2	124.9
Private	116	1491.6	1488.1

First Nations

There are 16 First Nation Bands with 23 Territories that overlap the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area. 3 First Nation reserves that fall completely within it while the Kwadacha Fort Ware 1 reserve shares a common boundary with the management area.

First Nation Bands that overlap the M-KMA:

Acho Dene Koe, Binche Whut'en, Blueberry River First Nation, Doig River First Nation, Fort Nelson Band, Fort Nelson First Nation, Halfway River First Nation, Horse Lake, Kaska Dena Council and Liard First Nation, Kwadacha, Prophet River First Nation, Saulteau First Nation, Tahltan Central Government, Takla Nation, Tsay Key Dene Band, and West Moberly First Nation.

Table 2: First Nations Reserves within the M-KMA

<i>First Nations Band</i>	<i>Reserve Name</i>	<i>Area within M-KMA (ha)</i>
Fort Nelson First Nation	Fort Nelson 2	32.4
Kwadacha	Weissener Lake 3	2.1
Liard First Nation	Mosquito Creek 5	518.4

Table 3: First Nations Treaty Areas within the M-KMA

<i>Treaty Area</i>	<i>Total Treaty Area (ha)</i>	<i>Area with M-KMA (ha)</i>
Treaty 8 – Area Recognized by BC	15,873,253	2,794,363
Treaty 8 – Disputed Area	12,004,851	3,589,702

Crown Tenures

Table 4: Land Act Tenures within the M-KMA

<i>Tenure Stage</i>	<i>Number of Tenures</i>	<i>Total Tenure Area (ha)</i>	<i>Area within M-KMA (ha)</i>
Application - Offered	2	321,605.9	31,532.2
Tenure – In Good Standing	129	963,056.9	173,251.6

Table 5: Detail of current Land Act Tenures and offered Applications within the M-KMA

<i>Tenure Stage</i>	<i>Tenure Status</i>	<i>Tenure Type</i>	<i>Tenure Subtype</i>	<i>Number of Tenures</i>	<i>Total Tenure Area (ha)</i>	<i>Area within M-KMA (ha)</i>
Application	Offered	Licence	Licence of Occupation	1	321,144.9	31,071.2
Application	Offered	Licence	Temporary Licence	1	461	461
Tenure	Good Standing	Lease	Standard Lease	2	9.6	9.6
Tenure	Good Standing	Licence	Investigative Licence	3	7831.5	6644.2
Tenure	Good Standing	Licence	Licence of Occupation	35	693,013.6	66,975
Tenure	Good Standing	Reserve/Notation	Notation of Interest	22	16,235.4	6725.9
Tenure	Good Standing	Reserve/Notation	Sec 15 OIC Map Reserve	2	2282.4	2282.4
Tenure	Good Standing	Reserve/Notation	Sec 16 Map Reserve	45	27,999	26,802.1
Tenure	Good Standing	Reserve/Notation	Sec 17 Designated Use Area	6	215,628.6	63774.3
Tenure	Good Standing	Right-of-Way	Interim Licence	4	7.3	7.3
Tenure	Good Standing	Right-of-Way	Statutory Right of Way (Or Easement)	10	49.7	31

Table 6: Current Land Act Tenures and Offers within the M-KMA by Commencement Year

<i>Commencement Year</i>	<i>Number of Tenures</i>	<i>Total Tenure Area (ha)</i>	<i>Area within M-KMA (ha)</i>
Pre-2000	53	31,882.4	30,685.6
2000-2005	8	2059.8	2041.1
2006-2010	10	31,862.6	31,862.6
2011-2015	30	648,481.1	27,989.9
2016-2020	30	248,770.9	80,672.5

Of the 30 tenures offered or issued between 2016-2020, 3 were offered or issued in 2020:

<i>Tenure Stage</i>	<i>Tenure Subtype</i>	<i>Tenure Purpose</i>	<i>Tenure Subpurpose</i>	<i>Crown Lands File</i>	<i>Commencement Date</i>	<i>Expiry Date</i>	<i>Total Tenure Area (ha)</i>	<i>Area within M-KMA (ha)</i>
Application – Offered	Licence of Occupation	Commercial Recreation	Multiple Use	7410166	2020-11-23		321,114.9	31,071.2
Tenure – In Good Standing	Sec 16 Map Reserve	Environment, Conservation, & Recreation	Snow Survey	8005984	2020-01-29	2050-01-29	2	2
Tenure – In Good Standing	Notation of Interest	Commercial	Trapline Cabin	8016066	2020-01-30	9999-12-31	0.4	0.4

Forest Tenures

Table 7: Free Use Permits within the M-KMA

There are currently no active Free Use Permits within the M-KMA, however several were retired in 2020.

<i>Number of Tenures</i>	<i>Retirement Date</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Total Tenure Area (ha)</i>	<i>Area within M-KMA (ha)</i>
14	2020-06-02	Retired	3,892,590.1	2,832,055.6

Table 8: Forest Tenure Harvesting Authority History within the M-KMA

<i>Tenure Issue Date</i>	<i>Number of Tenures</i>	<i>Total Tenure Area (ha)</i>	<i>Area within M-KMA (ha)</i>
Pre-2000	4	33.4	33.4
2000-2005	16	2,147,864.9*	433,272.2*
2006-2010	14	653.6	653.6
2011-2015	6	235.2	125.5
2016-2020	14	6586.6	6586.6

*In 2003 a blanket salvage permit was issued to Canadian Forest Products Ltd. totaling an area of 2,145,249 ha, of which 431,419.2 ha were within the M-KMA. No harvest under this permit occurred within the M-KMA.

Of the 54 Harvest Authorizations issued, 15 remain active.

<i>Issue Date</i>	<i>Expired Date</i>	<i>Number of Tenures</i>	<i>Total Tenure Area (ha)</i>	<i>Area within M-KMA (ha)</i>
2011	2021	1	3.8	3.8
2011	2023	2	91	91
2014	2023	1	122.3	12.6
2016	2021	2	4399	4399
2016	2023	1	17.5	17.5
2019	2023	7	1253.5	1252.7
2020	2021	1	1	1

Table 9: Active Managed Licences within the M-KMA

<i>Licence ID</i>	<i>Client Name</i>	<i>Issue Date</i>	<i>Total Tenure Area (ha)</i>	<i>Area within M-KMA (ha)</i>
N2T A Schedule B	Obo Forest Management GP Ltd.	2019-12-10	238,153.1	68,169.1

Table 10: Range Tenures within the M-KMA

<i>Tenure Status</i>	<i>Number of Tenures</i>	<i>Total Tenure Area (ha)</i>	<i>Area within M-KMA (ha)</i>
Active	34	10,723,236.2	5,851,906.6
Pending	2	642,806	159,285.9

Note: 1 of the pending tenures is an amendment to an existing tenure while the other is for a new tenure. Many of the Range Tenures overlap each other. The combined area of all the existing tenures covers 5,250,704 hectares (82.2% of the management area)

Table 11: Active Recreation Sites, Reserves and Trails within the M-KMA

<i>Number of Sites, Reserves</i>	<i>Project Type</i>	<i>Total Tenure Area (ha)</i>	<i>Area within M-KMA (ha)</i>
3	Recreation Site	128.6	83
2	Recreation Reserve	0.6	0.6
<i>Number of Trails</i>	<i>Project Type</i>	<i>Total Length (km)</i>	<i>Length within M-KMA (km)</i>
12	Recreation Trail	462.7	406.1

Note: 1 recreation reserve and 2 recreation trails were retired in 2019

Table 12: Active Road Permits within the M-KMA

<i>Forest File ID</i>	<i>Road Section ID</i>	<i>Client Name</i>	<i>Issue Date</i>	<i>Total Length (km)</i>	<i>Length within M-KMA (km)</i>
R12860	A	Canadian Forest Products Ltd.	2002-01-01	10.4	9.4
R12860	C	Canadian Forest Products Ltd.	2002-01-01	0.6	0.6
R14092	A	Mackenzie Pulp Mill Corporation	2004-10-15	1.6	1.6
R14093	A	Cameron River Logging Ltd.	2004-10-15	1	0.1

Oil, Gas and Mineral Tenures

Table 13: Notice of Works within the M-KMA

<i>Notice of Work Start Year</i>	<i>Number of Notices</i>
Pre-2000	122
2000-2005	11
2006-2010	17
2011-2015	8
2016-2020	4

Of the 162 notice or works recorded within the M-KMA, 146 ended in the same calendar year. 2 Notice of Works occurred in 2020 while 1 remains active with a work start date of 2018-07-16 and a work end date of 2022-09-30

<i>Notice ID</i>	<i>Property Name</i>	<i>Work Start Date</i>	<i>Work End Date</i>
0900185201801	Neil/Ram Creek	2018-07-16	2022-09-30
1300310201901	Mt. Alcock	2020-06-15	2020-10-01
0900148201901	Northern Kechika Project	2020-06-15	2020-10-01

Table 14: Issued Mineral Tenures within the M-KMA

<i>Tenure Type</i>	<i>Issue Date</i>	<i>Number of Tenures</i>	<i>Total Tenure Area (ha)</i>	<i>Area within M-KMA (ha)</i>
Mineral	Pre-2000	75	2522.1	2024
Mineral	2000-2005	16	3226.6	2923.2
Mineral	2006-2010	125	49,075.1	46,871.9
Mineral	2011-2015	55	10,754.6	6701.3
Mineral	2016-2020	113	38,656.2	22,493.1
Placer	2006	1	32.9	32.9
Placer	2020	1	65.8	6.8

Note: Of the 113 mineral tenures issued between 2016-2020, 36 were issued in 2020.

Table 15: Oil and Gas Tenures Areas within the M-KMA

<i>Tenure Area Name</i>	<i>Tenure Area Type</i>	<i>Total Tenure Area (ha)</i>	<i>Area within M-KMA (ha)</i>
Cypress	Gas	24341	1843.5
Horseshoe Creek	Gas	5411.1	152.6
Nabesche River	Gas	50,236	5167.3
Sikanni	Gas	20,466.2	3433.1

Note: Tenure areas are ad hoc administrative areas used to group petroleum and natural gas plats situated within the same local geographic area. These areas do not represent actual issued oil and gas production sites.

Table 16: Oil and Gas Well Surface Hole Status within the M-KMA

<i>Well Status</i>	<i>Number of Wells</i>
Abandoned	31
Cancelled	4

Water Tenures

Table 17: Summary of Active Water Tenures within the M-KMA

<i>Tenure Type</i>	<i>Number of Tenures</i>
Ground Water Wells	36
Water Works Approvals	32
Water Rights Licence	30

Note: All 32 current Water Works Approvals were started in 2020.

Guides and Traplines

There are 29 Guide Outfitter Areas and 69 Traplines within the M-KMA that both extend over 99% of the management area.

Table 18: Commercial Recreation Tenures within the M-KMA

<i>Tenure Stage</i>	<i>Tenure Subpurpose</i>	<i>Number of Tenures</i>	<i>Total Tenure Area (ha)</i>	<i>Area within M-KMA (ha)</i>
Application - Offered	Multiple Use	1	321,114.9	31,071.2
Tenure – In Good Standing	Fish Camps	2	1	1
Tenure – In Good Standing	Guided Freshwater Recreation	1	533.4	324.5
Tenure – In Good Standing	Hunt Camps	11	65.8	62.8
Tenure – In Good Standing	Multiple Use	6	664,250.6	43,972
Tenure – In Good Standing	Trail Riding	3	23,168.5	21,150.2

Table 19: Limited Entry Hunting Zones within the M-KMA

<i>Species</i>	<i>Total Tenure Area (ha)</i>	<i>Area within M-KMA (ha)</i>
Bison	289,012.6	212,963.2
Caribou	779,770.7	649,492
Elk	251,071.1	243,699.8
Moose	3,064,642.9	1,031,130.5
Mountain Goat	418,927.9	371,789.4

Wildlife

Table 20: Ungulate Winter Range within the M-KMA

<i>Species</i>	<i>Timber Harvest Code</i>	<i>Total Tenure Area (ha)</i>	<i>Area within M-KMA (ha)</i>
Mountain Goat	No Harvest	164110.5	160848.2
Northern Caribou	No Harvest	446,112.4	303,389.5
Northern Caribou	Conditional Harvest	414,813.9	100,480.3
Sheep*	Conditional Harvest	12,870,771.3	5726.7
Stone Sheep	Conditional Harvest	3,525,614.7	1,039,792.5

*Approved 2020-02-05

Table 21: Wildlife Habitat Area within the M-KMA

<i>Species</i>	<i>Timber Harvest Code</i>	<i>Total Tenure Area (ha)</i>	<i>Area within M-KMA (ha)</i>
Data Sensitive	No Harvest	1015.4	1015.4
Northern Caribou	No Harvest	123,280.2	111,415.5
Data Sensitive	Conditional Harvest	195,444.6	195,424.2
Northern Caribou	Conditional Harvest	4415.2	21.1

Table 22: Critical Habitat for Federally Listed Species at Risk within the M-KMA

<i>Species Name</i>	<i>Critical Habitat Site Name</i>	<i>Critical Habitat Date</i>	<i>Total Tenure Area (ha)</i>	<i>Area within M-KMA (ha)</i>
Porsild's Bryum	Mount Socrates	2012-10-15	14.1	14.1
Southern Mountain Caribou	Graham	2014-05-16	50,368.6	35,971.1

Wildfire

There have been 374 fires that have burned within the M-KMA. 142 were caused by lightning, 230 were human caused and 2 the cause is unknown. With the 374 fires, a combined area of 950,851.4 ha have been impacted (15% of the management area)

Table 23: Wildfires within the M-KMA

<i>Fire Year</i>	<i>Number of Fires</i>	<i>Total Tenure Area (ha)</i>	<i>Area within M-KMA (ha)</i>
Pre-2000	299	1,258,490.7	866,443
2000-2005	10	5437.1	4527.6
2006-2010	19	41,144.6	41,033
2011-2015	29	104,836.6	77,529.1
2016-2020	17	269,374.3	100,862.9

Note: There were no fires within the management area in 2020