



AAFMF Professional Exam

GUIDE





Table of Contents

3. Professional Exam Goals
4. Professional Exam Overview
5. Study Resources
6. Professional Exam Format
7. Professional Exam Composition
9. Assessment Levels
10. Multiple-Choice Questions
11. Testable Topic Areas



Exam Delivery Goals

Accessible



Relevant



Reliable



Transparent



Fair





Professional Exam Overview



Goals

The primary objectives of the professional exam (exam) are centered around creating an accessible and relevant assessment tool that assesses legislative knowledge and represents the diverse subject matter within the forestry profession in Alberta. The overarching goals include ensuring fairness, transparency, and the reliability and validity of the assessment process.

Format

The exam is an online, open-book, scenario-based multiple-choice assessment. Candidates will have access to a PDF package containing the relevant legislation for reference during the exam.

Question Diversity

Exam questions span various assessment levels, including knowledge, comprehension, and application. The deliberate variety in question types ensures a thorough evaluation of each candidate's understanding. Candidates receive 81 questions, representing defined topics and testing priorities across the 25 testable documents, randomly drawn from question banks.

Exam Environment

Candidates will write the exam in a controlled environment monitored by two proctors — one online proctor and one on-location proctor — each overseeing distinct yet overlapping aspects of the examination process.

Time Allocation

Candidates are allotted 4 hours to complete the exam.

Pass Rate

Candidates must attain a minimum score of 69% to pass the exam.

Preparation and Study Tools

Study resources are available to support candidates in their exam preparation, aligned with the testing outcomes. Upon registering for the exam, candidates gain access to these tools, which introduce them to the testable topics and highlight key study areas for focused preparation.

Study Resources



The exam assesses your understanding of Alberta forestry legislation, its application in scenarios, and its interactions with other legislation. Despite the open-book nature of the exam, you must be adept at recognizing and referencing the applicable document for each question.

This updated professional exam guide replaces the former exam study guide and is designed to provide a transparent overview of the exam and facilitate effective preparation. Additional preparation resources include:

Detailed List of Tested Topics and Documents: This document includes an exhaustive list of tested topics and documents, offering in-depth insights into the key knowledge areas candidates are expected to master. Each entry is accompanied by hyperlinks for convenient access.

Professional Exam Preparation Course: All registered exam candidates are automatically enrolled in the "Professional Exam Preparation" course. This course provides a detailed overview of the exam format, its contents, expectations on exam day, and essential tips on how to prepare effectively. Completion of this course is mandatory for all candidates to be eligible to write the exam.

Professional Exam Study Resources Course: All registered exam candidates are automatically enrolled in the "Professional Exam Study Resources" course. This course aids the preparation process, introducing candidates to key testable documents and outlining focused study areas based on the exam composition and testing priorities.

Colleagues and Mentors: Engaging with colleagues and mentors provides a dynamic avenue for collaborative learning. Candidates are encouraged to organize study sessions with their mentors and seek guidance from experienced colleagues within the profession. These interactive sessions allow for the exchange of insights, clarification of doubts, and a collective exploration of the exam's intricacies.

These study resources collectively aim to equip candidates with the necessary tools and insights, ensuring a robust and collaborative approach to preparation for the exam.

Professional Exam Format



Open-Book Format: During the exam, candidates will be provided a Professional Exam Legislation Package containing the authorized testable legislation. This resource is the only authorized reference material that can be used during the exam. All other materials beyond the provided PDF package are considered unauthorized. Only the content and versions provided by AAFMP in the Professional Exam Legislation Package may be used. Other copies and versions of legislation are not permitted.

In the context of this exam, the term "legislation" encompasses acts, regulations, and policies related to the subject matter. Please

Scenario-Based Structure: The exam is organized in 27 real-world scenarios, each presenting candidates with a contextualized challenge. For each scenario, candidates will receive 2-6 multiple-choice questions, providing evaluation of their knowledge and application of forestry legislation and policy.

Each scenario within the exam tests multiple documents and topics, reflecting the interconnected nature of real-world scenarios. This approach ensures candidates are not merely tested on isolated knowledge but on their ability to synthesize information across various legislative elements.

Each candidate receives a uniquely composed exam because questions are randomly drawn from a question bank. Additionally, each scenario supports several pools of questions. Therefore, certain scenario elements may not always align with each question the candidate receives on the exam.

Online Delivery: The exam is accessible to candidates anywhere with an internet connection. This online delivery method streamlines the testing process and provides flexibility for candidates to undertake the exam in a controlled environment.

Question Pool Dynamics: The exam ensures that each candidate encounters a varied set of questions by drawing from a diverse question pool. This pool, testing 25 documents and topics, mirrors the breadth of Alberta forestry legislation and policy, contributing to a comprehensive evaluation of candidates' understanding and application.



Professional Exam Composition

The exam tests a curated list of 25 central documents crucial for the forestry profession in Alberta. This selected list encapsulates core documents essential for entry-level professionals.

The testable documents are categorized into two groups: core and secondary. Core documents, totalling 13, embody fundamental knowledge that every candidate must showcase. In contrast, secondary documents, amounting to 12, offer supplementary depth to the examination content. The exam is composed of 64% core document material and 36% secondary document material.

The subsequent table provides a breakdown of the composition of testable material, reflecting the percentage representation allocated to each document. This strategic approach ensures that the exam comprehensively evaluates candidates' knowledge of the fundamental legislative framework governing the forestry profession in Alberta.

Emphasis is placed on regulations, policy, and standards, such as the Timber Management Regulation and Alberta Timber Harvest Planning and Operating Ground Rules.

Document Types	Portion of Exam
Acts	37%
Regulations	16%
Policy & Standards	41%
Guidelines and Procedures	6%



Professional Exam Composition

Core	64%	Secondary	36%
Timber Management Regulation	9%	Reforestation Standard of Alberta	6%
Forests Act	9%	Public Lands Act	6%
Regulated Forest Management Profession Act	9%	Forest Management Agreement decision policy	5%
Alberta Forest Management Planning Standard	7%	Land Use Regional Plans (2)	5%
Forest Management Agreements	6%	Public Lands Administration Regulation	4%
Alberta Timber Harvest Planning and Operating Ground Rules	6%	Forests (Ministerial) Regulation	2%
Forest and Prairie Protection Act	6%	Fisheries Act	2%
The Government of Alberta's policies on consultation with First Nations and Métis settlements on land and natural resource management (2)	5%	Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act	1%
Code of Practice for Watercourse Crossings	4%	Species at Risk Act	1%
Regulated Forest Management Profession Regulation	1%	Fisheries (Alberta) Act	1%
AAFMP Code of Ethics	1%	Wildlife Act	1%
Government of Alberta's Proponent Guide to First Nations and Métis Settlements Consultation Procedures	1%		

Assessment Levels



The professional exam uses three levels of assessment—knowledge, comprehension, and application—to evaluate candidates' proficiency in reading, interpreting, and applying Alberta forestry legislation. These assessment levels reflect real-world scenarios in the testing process.

Approximately half of the exam questions are knowledge, while the other half are comprehension and application.

	Knowledge	Comprehension	Application
Evaluates candidates:	recall of factual information, requiring them to retrieve previously learned material.	understanding of concepts, necessitating the interpretation and explanation of information.	ability to use acquired knowledge and comprehension to solve problems or apply concepts in practical scenarios.
Number of Questions	41	29	11
Percentage of Exam	51%	36%	13%

Multiple-Choice Questions



The exam consists of multiple-choice questions, each featuring a scenario or prompt followed by a set of answer options. Candidates are required to carefully choose the most accurate or appropriate response from the provided choices. To assist you in navigating these questions effectively, here is a guide:

Read Carefully: Take the time to read the entire question and scenario to understand the information being presented and ensure the question is being interpreted correctly.

Analyze All Options: Make an informed decision by analyzing the options, paying close attention to nuances and subtle differences between choices.

Manage Your Time: The professional exam is timed, so it's important to manage your time wisely. If you come across a challenging question, consider marking it for review and proceed to ensure you have time for the rest of the exam.

SAMPLE QUESTION:

What does the Public Lands Act grant access to?

- a. Industrial and recreational areas on public land.
- b. Industrial and conservation areas on public land.
- c. Recreational and wildlife management areas on public land.
- d. Conservation and wildlife management areas access to public land.



Question Pools and Testable Topic Areas



The exam question bank contains 292 questions designed to assess candidates' knowledge across the 25 pieces of legislation and testing priorities.

Candidates will be presented with a randomized mix of questions from each topic pool, ensuring comprehensive testing across all key testing areas and documents.

The upcoming table provides a breakdown of how candidates will be tested on each document, offering a clear view of the specific topic areas and key legislative concepts tested.



Topic Areas

Green = Core documents

Blue = Secondary documents

Document	Topic Areas (in order of priority)	Proportion of of exam
<u>Timber Management Regulation</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Reforestation ◦ Tenure ◦ Compliance, enforcement, and penalties ◦ Legislation connections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 4% ◦ 3% ◦ 1% ◦ 1%
<u>Forests Act</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Tenure ◦ Legislative authorization ◦ Regional plans ◦ Compliance, enforcement, and penalties ◦ Legislation connections ◦ Annual allowable cut 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 2% ◦ 1.4% ◦ 1.4% ◦ 1.4% ◦ 1.4% ◦ 1.4%
<u>Regulated Forest Management Profession Act</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Compliance, enforcement, and penalties ◦ Public protection/accountability ◦ Professional responsibilities ◦ Professional regulation ◦ Legislative authorization ◦ Mandatory registration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 2.5% ◦ 1.3% ◦ 1.3% ◦ 1.3% ◦ 1.3% ◦ 1.3%
<u>Alberta Forest Management Planning Standard</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ VOITs ◦ Forest management planning ◦ Boundaries, timelines, and requirements ◦ Scope/Purpose ◦ Professional responsibilities ◦ Legislation connections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 1.2% ◦ 1.2% ◦ 1.2% ◦ 1.2% ◦ 1.2% ◦ 1.2%
<u>Forest Management Agreements</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Tenure ◦ Forest management planning ◦ Legislative authorization ◦ Delegated powers ◦ Indigenous consultation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 1.2% ◦ 1.2% ◦ 1.2% ◦ 1.2% ◦ 1.2%

Topic Areas

Green = Core documents
Blue = Secondary documents

Document	Topic Areas (in order of priority)	% of exam
<u>Alberta Timber Harvest Planning and Operating Ground Rules</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Forest management planning ◦ Scope/purpose ◦ Legislation connections ◦ Operations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 2% ◦ 1.3% ◦ 1.3% ◦ 1.3%
<u>Forest and Prairie Protection Act</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Forest management planning ◦ Applications, approvals and permits ◦ Boundaries, timelines, and requirements ◦ Scope/purpose ◦ Legislative authorization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 1.2% ◦ 1.2% ◦ 1.2% ◦ 1.2% ◦ 1.2%
<u>The Government of Alberta's policy on consultation with First Nations on land and natural resource management/The Government of Alberta's policy on consultation with Métis settlements on land and natural resource management</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Indigenous consultation ◦ Goals, objectives and guiding principles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 4% ◦ 1%
<u>Code of Practice for Watercourse Crossings</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Waterbody classification ◦ Boundaries, timelines, and requirements ◦ Monitoring, reporting, and record keeping 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 1.3% ◦ 1.3% ◦ 1.3%
<u>Regulated Forest Management Profession Regulation</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Professional regulation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 1%

Topic Areas

Green = Core documents
Blue = Secondary documents

	Document	Topic Areas (in order of priority)	% of exam
	<u>AAFMP Code of Ethics</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public protection and accountability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1%
	<u>The Government of Alberta's proponent guide to First Nations, Metis Settlements and Credibly Asserted Métis Communities consultation procedures</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indigenous consultation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1%
	<u>Reforestation Standard of Alberta</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reforestation Forest management planning Scope/Purpose FRIAA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2% 1.3% 1.3% 1.3%
	<u>Public Lands Act</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scope/Purpose Legislation connections Compliance, enforcement, and penalties Legislative authorization Delegated powers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.2% 1.2% 1.2% 1.2% 1.2%
	<u>Forest Management Agreement decision policy</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applications, approvals and permits Sustainable forest management Compliance, enforcement, and penalties Indigenous consultation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.25% 1.25% 1.25% 1.25%
	<u>Land Use Regional Plans (Lower Athabasca and South Saskatchewan regions)</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legislation connections Scope/Purpose Goals, objectives and guiding principles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3% 1% 1%



Topic Areas

Green = Core documents
Blue = Secondary documents

	Document	Topic Areas (in order of priority)	% of exam
	<u>Public Lands Administration Regulation</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Scope/Purpose ◦ Boundaries, timelines, and requirements ◦ Applications, approvals and permits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 1.3% ◦ 1.3% ◦ 1.3%
	<u>Forests (Ministerial) Regulation</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Scope/Purpose ◦ Boundaries, timelines, and requirements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 1% ◦ 1%
	<u>Fisheries Act</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Boundaries, timelines, and requirements ◦ Delegated powers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 1% ◦ 1%
	<u>Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Scope/Purpose 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 1%
	<u>Species at Risk Act</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Scope/Purpose 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 1%
	<u>Fisheries (Alberta) Act</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Delegated powers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 1%
	<u>Wildlife Act</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ General 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 1%

The consultation policies and regional plans are tested as the same document; questions about one can be answered using the other. This duplication ensures fairness and prevents any unfair advantage by pre-selecting a document. Candidates can choose which document to refer to based on their familiarity and experience. Therefore, while the exam technically tests on 23 documents rather than 25, all 25 are provided for transparency and fairness in testing.

CONTACT

Shonelle Wilkinson

Director of Professional Development
Association of Alberta Forest
Management Professionals
shonellew@aafmp.ca

