

Fort St. John Results Based Pilot Project

Public Advisory Group Meeting # 42

Thursday, October 20, 2011 from 5:30 to 9:30

Fort St. John Quality Inn, Northern Grand Meeting Room

A) Meeting Attendance:

Participants

Name	Interest	Phone	Email
Walter Fister	BC Timber Sales	(250) 262-3328	Walter.Fister@gov.bc.ca
Dawn Griffin	Canfor	(250) 787-3607	dawn.griffin@canfor.com
Mark Van Tassel	BC Timber Sales	(250) 784-1209	Mark.VanTassel@gov.bc.ca
Andrew Moore	Cameron River Logging	(250) 262-6551	andrew@taylordunnage.ca
Andrew Tyrrell	Canfor	(250) 787-3665	andrew.tyrrell@canfor.com
Larry McFadden	BC Timber Sales	(250) 262-3324	Lawrence.McFadden@gov.bc.ca
Andrew Tyrrell	Canfor	(250) 787-3665	andrew.tyrrell@canfor.com

PAG Interest Representatives and Alternates

Name	Interest	Phone	Email
Roy Lube	Non-commercial Recreation	(250) 787-7619	rlube@telus.net
Lyle Mortenson	Halfway River First Nation/ Prophet River First Nation	(250) 784-8001	lyle@lrm.ca
Andy Ackerman	Urban Communities	(250) 787-8457	ackerman@telus.net
Ron Wagner	Labour	(250) 787-0172	rjwagner@telus.net
Fred Jarvis	Rural Communities	(250) 262-2913	fjarvis@districtoftaylor.com

Advisors

Name	Interest	Phone	Email
Elizabeth Hunt	M. of Forests, Lands, NRO	(250) 784-1237	Elizabeth.Hunt@gov.bc.ca
Brian Farwell	M. of Forests, Lands, NRO	(250) 787-3432	Brian.Farwell@gov.bc.ca

Other

Name	Interest	Phone	Email
Gail Wallin	Facilitator	(250) 305-1003	gwallin@wlake.com
Jim McKnight	Observer	(250) 785-9758	jimkoi@telus.net

B) Meeting Summary

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions - Gail Wallin
2. Review of Meeting Agenda - Gail Wallin
3. Review of Meeting #41 draft summary – Gail Wallin
4. Review of Outstanding Actions – Andrew Tyrrell
5. Update from Participants – all
 - Canfor, BCTS, Cameron River Logging
6. Review of 2010 SFM Annual Report - Andrew Tyrrell
7. Review of 2011 Audit Results - Andrew Tyrrell
8. Other information updates:
 - PMP completion – Dawn Griffin
 - Chetwynd Pellet plant – Dawn Griffin
 - OGMA process - Mark Van Tassel
 - Mountain Pine Beetle update - Mark Van Tassel
 - Government restructuring – Elizabeth Hunt
9. Summary of July Field Trip - Andrew Tyrrell
10. Overview of 2012 Meeting Schedule - Andrew Tyrrell
11. Review of PAG membership
12. Review February 2011 PAG Survey - Andrew Tyrrell
13. Administer PAG Survey - Gail Wallin
14. Feedback on Meeting

1) **Welcome and Introductions**

- Roundtable introductions from PAG, participants, members, and observers.

2) **Review of Meeting Agenda**

- Agenda was accepted. No changes were made.

3) **Review of Meeting # 41 draft Summary**

Meeting #41 summary was accepted as circulated by PAG with the following amendment: Lyle Mortenson was representing both Halfway River First Nation and Prophet River First Nation at PAG meeting #41.

Action Item #1: Participants to revise meeting #41 summary to properly reflect Mr. Mortenson's representation.

4) **Review of Outstanding Actions**

- **Action Item #1:** With regard to Indicator #63, revise indicator text to remove confusing wording. *Completed – confusing text regarding contractors and training requirements was eliminated.*
- **Action Item #2:** With regard to Indicator #65, recommend tracking the usage on the website. *Completed – Tracking counter now in place on Pilot Project website.*
- **Action Item #3:** Provide PAG survey with an option of completing it electronically or by using a paper version. *In progress – Participants are investigating the preparation of a digital survey, will also include the option to complete a paper based survey.*

5) Update from Participants

- Dawn Griffin gave an update on Canfor's operations.

Highlights:

- U.S. economy is still slow with few housing starts.
- Market in China is expanding with orders comprising of mostly low grade lumber.
- Fort St. John mill upgrades have been completed.
- Peace Valley OSB, have been working at a lower capacity but have been maintaining their market share. The OSB market is still poor.
- Warren Jukes is the new operations manager.
- Reg Gardner, Forestry Supervisor (Planning) has retired.

- Walter Fister gave an update on BC Timber Sales' operations.

Highlights:

- For 2010, only two sales out of eight that were offered were sold. With the timber sales that were previously sold in 2009, there were only 6 timber sales that were harvested. This has resulted in a smaller silviculture program for 2011.
- The lower number of timber sales sold has affected staffing strategies within the Fort St. John Field Team. Positions vacated may not be filled until sales increase. For example, if positions in the BC Timber Sales Fort Nelson Field Team are vacated, they will not be filled and it is expected that the Fort St. John Field Team will manage that area.

- Brian Farwell has moved from BC Timbers Sales to Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations as First Nations Consultation Manager. Walter Fister is now the Woodlands Supervisor; however this has not resulted in other positions being filled at this time.
 - For 2011, sold 7 out of 10 timber sales offered so far.
 - **Question:** Were the timber sales that were sold impacted by MPB?
 - **Answer:** Yes.
- Andrew Moore gave an update on Cameron River Logging's operations.
Highlights:
 - Survey stake and slats sales are strong.
 - Still progressing with pine utility poles. Lower number of logs coming to sort yard due to the weather and lack of available trucks.

6) Review of 2010 SFM Annual Report – Andrew Tyrrell

Review of 2010 SFM Annual Report - Andrew Tyrrell

- A requirement of the Pilot Project regulation is that the participants review the Annual Report with the PAG.

Summary of Major Achievements:

- Began operating under SFMP #2
- Consistent with all 28 legal indicators that relate to the landscape level strategy.
 - Reviewed and compared the amount of area harvested by participants
 - Reviewed and compared the silviculture activities by participant
- Consistent with 61 out of 62 indicators
 - Did not meet the target for indicator of *Dollars Spent Locally for Each Phase*.
- Directed a significant amount of conifer harvesting into beetle infested areas.

Contraventions as follows: All were reported to government and action plans have been developed.

- Logging:
 - Canfor: 2 minor trespass incidents, resulted in unauthorized harvest of approximately 12 trees
 - BCTS: licensee burning debris piles and the fire escaped
 - BCTS: licensee burning debris with poor venting indices
- Silviculture:
 - Efficacy (herbicide treatments) audits: Audit showed that over sprays occurred on 6 Canfor openings and 1 BCTS opening.
 - Canfor sowed class B spruce source seed (wild seed sources) rather than seed orchard class seed.
- Annual Report: was submitted 20 days late which is a contravention and therefore reported as such.

Comment: The 2010 Annual Report is large to read (over 170 pages); link was sent to PAG members. Suggest a “Readers Digest” version.

Comment: Would like large documents in a printed format rather than electronic format.

Question: Regarding the unavailability of obtaining a “local” contractor for silviculture work such as tree planting, when would this be considered a contravention when the reality is that this cannot be achieved?

Answer: The target is a historical mark which could be achieved when including an activity such as silviculture surveyors. We should have perhaps revised the target level. We may review the target level if we consistently do not achieve it given no significant improvement in the local silviculture contracting workforce.

Comment: However having this target level may encourage the development of local contractors.

Note (MVT): The Peace Forest District was considered the local area boundary which includes Chetwynd which does have a silviculture contractor.

Comment: In the Executive Summary, include a chart/table or matrix showing each indicator and whether or not the target for each was achieved.

BREAK

7) Review of 2011 Audit Results – Andrew Tyrrell/Walter Fister

Summary of external audit:

- No major non-conformances;
- 4 minor non-conformances;
 - NC #1, The following CSA “core” indicators are not completely represented in the SFM Plan; “Additions and deletions to the Defined Forest Area” and “Level of Direct and Indirect Employment”;
 - NC #2, commitment to respect and recognize aboriginal title and rights and treaty rights not explicitly stated in top policy statements (Canfor);
 - NC #3, Canfor 2011 internal audit not conducted to CSA Z809-08 standard;
 - NC #4, BCTS, disturbance of stream bank integrity due to donaren mounding equipment crossing a stream when accessing TSL A80055-01072. This resulted in excessive sedimentation of the stream.
- 6 opportunities for improvement;
 - OFI #1, Canfor, opportunity to develop an enhanced consultation process with Halfway River and Prophet River First Nations especially around Notice of Intent to Treat (NIT) chemical brushing plans.
 - OFI #2, Canfor/BCTS, develop a consolidated list of participants who choose to participate or not and reasons.
 - OFI #3, Canfor/BCTS, SFMP and PAG terms of reference, refer to old CSA Z809-02 standard, should be changed to new CSA Z809-08 standard. The terms of reference will be changes at next meeting.
 - OFI #4, Canfor /BCTS, the CSA matrix does not clearly indicate relationships to the core indicators in the appendix 2 of SFMP.
 - OFI#5, Canfor, Harvest supervision and pre-work forms are not consistently being used.
 - OFI #6, BCTS, Issues not tracked in ITS, now are being tracked in a database. There was a change over from a spreadsheet to database.

- 5 good practices identified.
 - Pre-work/inspection procedures are well done.
 - Equipment operators have a good awareness of specific environment issues with regards to their equipment and/or operations.
 - Participants refer the FOS to the Oil and Gas Commission to facilitate access coordination.
 - Good block and road layout completed that avoid unsafe stream crossings.
 - Good silviculture programs including site prep and planting have been completed.

Auditor recommends that the participants be certified to the CSA Z809-08 standard.

Question: Did anyone get interviewed by the auditors?

Answer: A couple of PAG members indicated that they were interviewed.

Action Item #2: Andrew Tyrrell to email a copy of the external audit presentation to Lyle Mortenson.

Summary of Canfor internal ISO/CSA audit:

- No major non-conformances
- 4 minor non-conformances,
- 6 opportunities for improvements
- 5 best practices

BC Timber Sales internal audit will be completed during the week of October 31 to November 4th. Results will be presented at the next PAG meeting.

Comment: Prior to leaving the meeting, Lyle Mortenson stated that it is very important that the issue with Halfway River and Prophet River First Nations dissatisfaction with the PMP/NIT consultation process be taken seriously. This incidence is not viewed as a minor issue and the First Nations feel “violated”. They need the time to review and be consulted with regard to any forest development plans in the area in question. It may not meet the current time line of industry, but industry will need to slow down.

Canfor Response: Canfor is taking this issue very seriously and have developed actions to address the OFI.

8) Other information updates:

- **Pest Management Plan Completion – Dawn Griffin**
 - Both the Canfor and BC Timber Sales Pest Management Plans have been completed and are registered. They will expire in 2016.
 - A short presentation on the process of developing a Notice of Intent to Treat (NIT) was given.
- **Chetwynd Pellet plant – Dawn Griffin**
 - Pacific Bio Energy Corp will build a pellet plant at Canfor's Chetwynd mill site. The construction is expected to begin by June 2012. This will be the first in the Northeast, we could see more in the future.
- **Old Growth Management Areas (OGMA) process - Mark Van Tassel**
 - SFMP Indicator #2 relates to this topic.
 - A PowerPoint presentation was given.
 - Target to present to government a proposed set of OGMA's in the spring of 2012.
- **Mountain Pine Beetle update - Mark Van Tassel**
 - MPB is now into the bottom of the Fort Nelson Forest District and well into Alberta.
 - Quality of timber initially hit in the district may be nearing the end of its usefulness.
 - On an annual basis, there should be a decline in the MPB population based on the latest government estimates.
 - Canfor and BC Timber Sales are still harvesting stands affected by MPB.
- **Government Restructuring Update – Elizabeth Hunt**
 - Ministry of Forests, Mines Lands, and Natural Resource Operations is now Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations.

- Resource Plans are now reviewed by the Northeast Regional staff based out of Dawson Creek rather than the Northern Regional District out of Prince George. This includes Pilot Project matters.
- Dale Morgan is now the Northeast Regional Executive Director and Rob Kopecky is now the Peace Forest District Manager.
- BC Timber Sales is part of the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations.

Question: How short is the MFLNRO of staff?

Answer: In the Northeast, we can replace staff on a ratio of one staff member for each position vacated. In other regions the ratio is one staff member replaced for every two that have left.

9) Summary of July 2011 Field Trip - Andrew Tyrrell

- On July 7th, visited three locations:
 - an active harvest site,
 - active planting site,
 - Community wildfire planning area near Wonowon (100 Mile Road).
- **Comment by PAG member:** Enjoyed the field trip, it was beneficial to view first hand operations in the field and an opportunity to ask questions.

10) Review of PAG Membership – Andrew Tyrrell

- An overhead was shown with names of the PAG members and their interests. This will be published in the newspaper. No concerns were indicated from members attending this meeting, with regard to having their names published in the newspaper.
- There was discussion around the vacancy of positions on the PAG. Members were asked to submit suggestions of people who may be interested. Currently the following positions are required:
 - Environment,
 - Urban alternate,
 - Rural alternate
 - Energy alternate,
 - Non-commercial recreation alternate.

- **Action Item #3:** Participants to consider new member to fill these vacant positions. PAG members to suggest potential volunteers if desired.

11) Review of 2012 Meeting Schedule

- Next meeting will be in February/March of 2012. This meeting will include a review of new indicators or revised indicators, as well as terms of reference review.
- Summer field tour will be held between July and September 2012.
- A fall meeting will be held.
- Dates to be confirmed in the New Year.

12) Feedback on Meeting #42

- This room works best.
- PowerPoint presentations were good.
- Overall a good meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:08 pm

Handouts from Meeting #42

1. FSJ Results Based Pilot Project Public Advisory Group Meeting #41 Summary and actions.

Summary of Actions from Meeting #42

PAG Meeting #41 Action Item #3: Provide PAG survey with an option of completing it electronically or by using a paper version.

PAG Meeting #42 Action Item #1: Participants to revise meeting #41 summary to properly reflect Mr. Mortenson's representation.

PAG Meeting #42 Action Item #2: Andrew Tyrrell to email a copy of the external audit presentation to Lyle Mortenson.

PAG Meeting #42 Action Item #3: Participants to consider new members to fill vacant positions on PAG. PAG members to submit names of potential volunteers.