

Fort St. John Results Based Pilot Project
Public Advisory Group Meeting #62
April 15th 2021
PAG Meeting 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

AGENDA

This is the first entirely virtual (WEBEX) meeting.

Participants

Name	Interest	Phone	Email
Darrell Regimbald	Canfor	250-787-3651	Darrell.Regimbald@canfor.com
Carmen Anderson	Canfor	250-787-3629	Carmen.Anderson@canfor.com
Andrew Tyrrell	Canfor	250-787-3665	Andrew.Tyrrell@canfor.com
Shelley Miller	Canfor	250-787-3646	Shelley.Miller@canfor.com
Rod Higgins	Canfor	250-787-3644	Rod.Higgins@canfor.com
Derry Sorgen	Louisiana-Pacific	250-261-1265	Derry.Sorgen@LPcorp.com
Stephanie Smith	BC Timber Sales	250-784-1228	Stephanie.smith@gov.bc.ca
Tony Wipfli	BC Timber Sales	250-262-3328	Tony.Wipfli@gov.bc.ca
Walter Fister	BC Timber Sales	250-262-3328	Walter.Fister@gov.bc.ca
Larry McFadden	BC Timber Sales	250-262-3324	Lawrence.McFadden@gov.bc.ca
Tabatha Nedokus	Canfor	250-787-3621	Tabatha.Nedokus@canfor.com
Cory Cooper	Canfor	250-787-3686	Cory.Cooper@canfor.com
Mark Phinney	Canfor	250-787-3692	Mark.Phinney@canfor.com
Marian Scaffeo	Canfor	250-787-3683	Marian.Scaffeo@canfor.com
Sydney Havenga	Canfor	250-787-3636	Sydney.Havenga@canfor.co

PAG Interest Representatives and Alternates

Name	Interest	Phone	Email
Jim McKnight	Environment	250-785-9758	jimk01@telus.net
Ray Ensz	Trapping	25-793-2825	rbensz@shaw.ca
Sara Rowe	Doig River First Nation	250-793-0993	srowe@doigriverfn.com
Lyle Mortenson	HRFN/PRFN		lyle@lrm.ca
Budd Phillips	Non-Comm Recreatio	250-785-1283 ext. 4683	budd.phillips@worksafebc.com

Advisors

Joelle Scheck	FLNRORD	250-787-3393	Joelle.Scheck@gov.bc.ca
Anna Regnier	FLNRORD	250-787-3392	Anna.Regnier@gov.bc.ca

Other

Name	Interest	Phone	Email
Gail Wallin	Facilitator		gwallin@wlake.com
Alicia Woods	Presenter	North Peace Rod & Gun Club	adwoods04@gmail.com
Guy Lahaye	Presenter	North Peace Rod & Gun Club	
Kaleb Bellamy	Presenter	North Peace Rod & Gun Club	kaleb@rfnc.ca

Meeting start: 6:32pm

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Review of Meeting Agenda and WebEx tips and tricks

**3. Review of Meeting # 62 draft summary, Meeting #61 action items and approval
– Carmen Anderson**

Meeting 62 summary approved.

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	STATUS	COMMENTS
Add TOR to website (Canfor)	Andrew Tyrrell	In Progress	Expected completion is April 30, 2021
Follow-up after the Provincial election on SFMP amendment status	Carmen Anderson	Complete	
Next PAG Field trip to include a visit to trial site	Pilot Participants	On Hold	Covid-19 Pandemic guidelines still in place
Send a link in an email to both the website and FTP site with the annual report	Stacy Gibbons	Complete	
Distribute BCTS retention video if permitted and may place on website if not protected	Andrew Tyrrell	In Progress	Expected completion is April 30, 2021
Contact missing member to get permission to publish names	Stacy Gibbons	Complete	

4. Update from Participants

Canfor - Andrew Tyrrell

- Mill operations: Great markets, supply/demand imbalance, shipping challenges
- Sawmill has had no downtime during pandemic and running very well, staffing changes, capital upgrades planned for 2021, pellet plant and Taylor pulp continue to run
- Woodlands: summer 2020 was challenging (very wet), low log inventory going into fall, looking better now, pretty much on target for end of winter inventory no major safety incidents; infrastructure investment planned on some roads (resurfacing), Kobes Creek bridge replacement, installation of remote scale/log storage yard
- Woods misc.: spruce beetle monitoring, Rezatec remote sensing imagery, Core-Periphery layout and near-term plans further away from town; increased use of drones

Comment: Lyle stated he has been a longtime critic of PAG and whether it resulted in better forest management, but now, from HRFN perspective, Canfor has exceeded the PAG expectations in wildlife retentions, protecting mineral licks, etc.; Canfor is also currently employing Six Nation Ventures, and Lyle is seeing the benefits. He also is seeing Canfor changing plans to go after spruce beetle areas as per HRFN request.

Question: has there been a reduction in aerial spraying this year? Carmen: every year we end up reducing/modifying the plan which creates a reduction. Budd remembers an update showing a reduction over 5year span (about 2 years ago was shown in a meeting); he is wondering if spraying has continued to reduce and at what rate?

ACTION: Stacy Gibbons to email Budd an update with the reduction amounts.

BCTS, Stephanie Smith

- Hiring 4 new staff
- 2020-21 sales 410945
- 2020-21 harvest volume 283104
- 2020-21 silviculture program
 - Trees planted 2315925
 - Manual brushed - 278.1ha
 - Chemical treatment – 70ha

Comment: Lyle, BCTS has also reduced chemical treatments, a little slower than Canfor who lowered faster, keep up the good work in reducing spray.

Cameron River Logistics

- No update

Louisiana Pacific, Derry Sorgen

- LP is reopening the Fort St. John plant, hiring 180 people in all positions; in woodlands wanting to hire 10-11 people to start with
- Brought in decked wood (about 95% is now in) which had started prior to announcement of opening
- Some LP plants are converting to siding mills which will offset the impact of PVOSB's production on the market supply; lots of work around production and costs to maintain viability and longevity
- One forest license expired in December, meeting with the Ministry weekly regarding forest license and permitting; working closely with Canfor in terms of land base and contractors, road use, etc. – Canfor not managing fibre, but both companies are working closely together. LP will continue participating in PAG.
- In regards to BCTS, LP will be maximizing the volume they can get from timber sales, trying to get a bunch of purchase wood, SFI certification, spring decking program to start hauling in the summer – a lot is happening!
- Staffing the office, consultants, and log yard (haven't finalized the log yard and should discuss with Lyle in the coming weeks)

Comment: Lyle - congratulations on the restart, Six Nations Ventures are not pleased with how the relationship ended, requested a yes/no/maybe in the last few months on whether they would be needed, but no response was given (not good when had equipment sitting), but thankfully Canfor employed. Six Nation Ventures did not like how it happened, doubt the same type of consideration environmentally will be taken that Canfor/BCTS has shown. Derry – we have had a conversation regarding this previously, and in terms of the log yard piece commitments could not be made while down (even a yes/no/maybe)

5. SFMP Minor Amendment update - Tony Wipfli

- SFMP Indicators Revised
- 6.5 Snags/Cavity Sites- revised wording to add clarity
- 6.33 First Nations Consultation & Information Sharing – deleted, was requirement of CSA certification
- 6.35 Water Quality Concern Rating– update wording to new acronym used in assessment
- 6.38 Carbon Sequestration Rate– deleted, was requirement of CSA certification

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- 6.39 Ecosystem Carbon storage– deleted, was requirement of CSA certification
- 6.40 Coordinated Developments – removed bullet referencing number of proposed roads revised/eliminated due to utilizing oil/gas access – redundant, captured elsewhere
- 6.48 Summer and Fall Volume deliveries– deleted, was requirement of CSA certification, mills run year around so operations are continuous
- 6.55 Direct and Indirect Employment– deleted, was requirement of CSA certification
- 6.57 Number of Known Values and Uses Addressed in Operational Planning - revised wording to add clarity
- 6.63 Worker training– deleted, was requirement of CSA certification
- More details in presentation

Question: when will the first reports be on these changes? Tony: this fiscal year (2021 year)

6. Access Management planning – Andrew Tyrrell

- Deactivation, Access Management, Prescriptions and Communication reviewed.
- Participants build a lot of road to support fibre extraction

Deactivation

- Deactivate to minimize erosion, sediment delivery; protect investment; recovering/redeploying structures; limiting liability
- Deactivation techniques: installation of skewed water bars, cross-ditches, ditch blocks, remove culverts, log fills, bridges, cattle guards; application of reclamation seed mix;

Manage access

- Coordination of activities on shared land base; commitments made to address FN concerns; commitments made in strategic plans, and with 3rd parties
- Produce and share a deactivation plan/ access management prescriptions shared before harvesting for site specific basis

Question: Ray Ensz: has had conversations with the Participants regarding access management, on field trips has spoken to access; Lyle wanted to see this happening and it is now, each time a block is cut debris is placed on roads leaving it impossible to trap, cut lines are not left open, how did that get put into prescription without rest of PAG knowing it would happen? No one spoke to Ray (Trappers' representative) about leaving cut lines open; once a block goes across it becomes un-accessible.

Andrew does know of examples where it has worked, it has to come down to trapper/Canfor planner/BCTS getting involved and creating a discussion to highlight specific concerns and have a chance to leave stuff open. Andrew is happy to meet with Ray or other trappers regarding their concerns and addressing site-specific issues. Knowing what roads trappers are using for access is helpful. Ray understands the need to deactivate access and trying to preserve wildlife, but trappers are trying to trap predators.

Comment: Lyle: roads that his client is concerned with are new access roads from a main road in, those are the ones his client does not want to have left accessible; in his experience, if you approach Canfor regarding existing traplines or trails should be kept open to continue using.

7. Guest presentation – Rod and Gun Club –Prescribed Burns for Wildlife Habitat Presentation– Alicia Woods, MSc. RPBio

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Prescribed fire for wildlife is used to create and manage important habitats for wildlife. They have been in use for a long time and are a natural mechanism in controlled and targeted method. Prescribed burns improve habitat by increasing forage amount and quality and are primarily used to improve winter range.

It is a complicated process; if fire goes as planned (intensity, location, fuel consumption) the results are plentiful: vegetation growth with greater biomass, greater nutritional quality; wildlife is healthier, greater populations, proper range and decreased predation.

Two projects with Rod & Gun Club:

Project 1 Tuchodi Burn Project: lack of habitat management in the area for >30years, low-elevation elk, deer and moose habitat is disappearing due to aspen encroachment, decreasing moose/elk populations, increased competition between elk and caribou /stone sheep in high elevations habitats

2017 Tuchodi Burn Project: 11 sites burned for Stone's sheep and mountain goat, 1200ha of sheep habitat restored

Tuchodi 2021 Burn: Additional 13 sites proposed for spring 2021; focus on low-elevation sites with the objective of reducing the aspen encroachment, improve forage quantity, increase line-of-sight, maintain spatial separation from caribou and sheep

Effectiveness monitoring is important part of projects; requirement by FLNRORD & HCTF

Project 2: Sharp-tailed Grouse Habitat Restoration

Peace Breaks - Golata Creek – Prescribed burning

Cache Creek - Manual brushing

May be trying to go through tenure holders than the government process to reach a faster decision.

Questions:

Mark: some of the lower/medium slopes for ungulate burns showed a lot of dead aspen/birch/etc. stems – do they fall and rot, or do they need to be burnt again? Alicia; very site specific, some cases yes, some cases may need a second treatment when thicks start falling down, if they haven't been treated in a long time.

Darrell: if there was interest in getting some burns off the valley bottoms that have over story timber, Canfor would be interested in discussing.

Kaleb Bellamy: the rod and gun club would be interested in partnering with Canfor on burns, and will reach out to Andrew Tyrrell.

8. Feedback on Meeting

Good meeting, went better than expected.

Question polls – in zoom meetings can be great for polling audience, enhances interaction.

Thank you all for attending, thank you Gail for all your help with the last minute changes and we will continue to incorporate changes to the virtual format.

9. ACTION ITEMS FOR PAG MEETING #63 (Fall 2021)

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	STATUS	COMMENTS
Add TOR to website (Canfor)	Andrew Tyrrell	In Progress	Expected completion is April 30, 2021

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Next PAG Field trip to include a visit to trial site	Pilot Participants	On Hold	Covid-19 Pandemic guidelines still in place
Distribute BCTS retention video if permitted and may place on website if not protected	Andrew Tyrrell	In Progress	Expected completion is April 30, 2021
Budd Phillips inquiry on spray reduction amount	Stacy Gibbons	In Progress	

Meeting adjourned: 8:35pm