

**Fort St. John Results Based Pilot Project
Public Advisory Group Meeting #65
Thursday, October 20, 2022
Northern Grand Conference Centre – and via MS Teams**

PAG Meeting (Open to Public) 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Meeting Attendance:

Participants

Name	Interest	Phone	Email
Darrell Regimbald	Canfor	250-787-3651	darrell.regimbald@canfor.com
Chelsea Roy	Canfor	250-787-3696	chelsea.roy@canfor.com
Kristine Bock	Canfor	250-787-3609	kristine.bock@canfor.com
Andrew Tyrrell	Canfor	250-787-3665	andrew.tyrrell@canfor.com
Brett Stewart	Canfor	250-787-3690	Brett.stewart@canfor.com
Chris Rosen	Canfor	250-787-3674	Chris.rosen@canfor.com
Athena Andritz	LP	250-329-5073	Athena.andritz@lpcorp.com
Charles Friesen	LP	778-808-5679	Charles.friesen@lpcorp.com
Elliott Mann	LP		Elliott.mann@lpcorp.com
Walter Fister	BCTS	250-262-3328	Walter.fister@gov.bc.ca
Adrienne Pierre	BCTS	250-997-7281	Adrienne.pierre@gov.bc.ca
Larry McFadden	BCTS	250-262-3324	Lawrence.mcfadden@gov.bc.ca

PAG Interest Representatives and Alternates (in person)

Name	Interest	Phone	Email
Lyle Mortensen	Halfway River First Nation	250-784-8001	lylemort@telus.net
Sara Rowe (Remote)	Doig River First Nation	250-793-0993	srowe@doigriverfn.com
Dave Harris	Range	250-827-3503	dharris@pris.bc.ca
Ray Ensz	Trapping	250-793-2825	rbenz@shaw.ca
Jim McKnight	Environment	250-785-9758	Jimk01@telus.net
Budd Phillips	Non-Comm Recreation	250-785-1283 ext. 4683	budd.phillips@worksafebc.com
Andy Ackerman	PAG	250-787-8457	ackerman@telus.net

Advisors

Name	Interest	Phone	Email
Patrick Smook (Remote)	Oil&Gas Commission	250-794-5314	Patrick.Smook@BCOGC.ca
Elizabeth Hunt (Remote)	MOF	250-784-1237	Elizabeth.hunt@gov.bc.ca
Nancy Barker	MOF		Nancy.barker@gov.bc.ca
Greg Van Dolah	MOF		Greg.vandolah@gov.bc.ca

Other

Name	Interest	Phone	Email
Gail Wallin (Remote)	Facilitator		gwallin@wlake.com
Russell & Elliot Anna Regnier	Sound In Town Observer	250-787-3392	Anna.regnier@gov.bc.ca

Meeting start: 6:30 pm

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Review of Meeting Agenda and Teams tips and tricks
3. Review of Meeting # 64 draft summary, action items and approval
 - o Actions from last meeting not completed are listed below and to be addressed at the beginning of next meeting.

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	STATUS	COMMENTS
Share Rezatech data at next meeting.	Andrew Tyrrell	Completed (this meeting)	
Next PAG Field trip tentatively May/June 2022. To be voted on for location and date	Pilot Participants	Completed	
Kristine to send information to Budd from incident of bunchers being out of bounds from Oct 21 meeting	Kristine Bock	Completed	
Update on Blueberry court decision	Kristine Bock	In Progress – no new information	Expected April Meeting 2023.

4. Update from Participants
 - o **BCTS Update – Adrienne**
 - o Tony Wipfli (Planning Forester) has moved to another branch.
 - o Things have been slow due to ongoing negotiations between gov't and Treaty 8 Nations.
 - o Multiphase timber development from Charlie Lake office: 250,000 m³ harvested.
 - o Victoria Dyduch newest member, Engineering Technologist
 - o Planning Officer position- not filled
 - o Seeking new Operations Manager to replace Steve Amonson (ret).
 - o Stephanie Smith is now the Timber Sales Manager for the business area. Comments – Walter: Out of 44 available positions we are currently short 13. Finding it difficult to fill due to challenges with location.

Canfor – Kristine

- o Reviewed FSJ sawmill operations and projects. Capital projects include a log feeder and debarker. Went through curtailment, which was due to last 2 weeks, turned into 1 month. Got a lot of inventory out of the yard during that time and in doing so was able to get the yard paved and water lines fixed. Employees continued working. Currently on a Monday-Thursday schedule with the option to work Fridays for staff. Most of our western Canadian operations are down to Monday – Thursday for the next few months.
- o Taylor Pulp: down since last winter. Can't get product out of the yard due to CN. Intercom in Prince George is also down. It's been a struggle across the company for pulp mills.
- o Woodlands – no incidents since last meeting. It is bear season and deer are also active. Lots of wildlife.
- o Facing issues with lack of BCTS volume on the market. There are big uncertainties with log supplies and timber sales have still not been released.

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- Capital projects: Halfway-Graham surfacing now complete (km 66-100). Tommy Lakes Road will be getting graveled over the next 5 years with a guaranteed \$5 million of upgrades.
- Staff Changes: Kristine Bock is the new Forestry Superintendent for Chetwynd and Fort St. John. Chris Rosen is our new Planning Supervisor. Brett Stewart and Liam Babchuk are our Temporary Field Operation crew and will be with us until December.
Questions: Ray: Can we get details on Taylor Pulp? When or if they will startup again? KB – Unknown, indefinite update. No fall update. Ray: Roughly how many people were laid off? KB – Unknown but they are operating with a skeleton crew still. R: What happened to finished product? **KB – I will find out.** Ray: Noticed the chip piles are nearly gone? How about the raw logs that were sitting there? KB – Some of those logs were ours, which were being stored there. The rest will be moved to another site (PG). Ray: Are they being chipped on site? KB: There is one chipper that is rented on site, not sure if we're chipping on site. It will be going to Mackenzie.
- Andy: What is the real reason for shutdown, CN or problems getting the product out?
- KB – For the most part it is CN, we aren't able to get enough of the product out and cannot run on a start stop system, need to be continuous and CN is not helping that process.
- Budd: Is anyone putting the squeeze on CN? For example they did with the grain industry years ago and that seemed to help
- KB: Canfor's VP Team in Prince George is working with CN to get this resolved. High up in Canfor, are in discussions with them.
- Budd (29 min 40 sec mark): Several meetings back we had a presentation on controlled burns and the value of wildlife habitat enhancement with controlled burning, and Canfor expressed interest in partnering with locals in regard doing some controlled burning. We haven't heard back from Canfor regarding that, and we'd like to know the status on your interest.
- GW: suggest capturing this as an action to respond at another meeting. Would you be OK with that Budd?
- Budd: Would like to take an answer back to the North Peace Rod & Gun club, who was the sponsor of the presentation, as they're interested in knowing what your response is and they haven't seen anything.
- Darrell: Canfor's position hasn't really changed from what we expressed previously. Our interests would be to work with the other agencies who are planning the wildlife burning to get involved at the front of the process to remove any merchantable timber so it could be utilized, and probably contribute to a safer burn. If there is an opportunity for us to get involved and removing any merchantable timber for the proposed burn site we definitely would be interested.
- Budd: The offer was put forward, there was an expression of interest as to dialogue and planning around that, and that hasn't happened.
- Darrell: I think we'll have to table it, cannot remember who the other party was that expressed interest to act as the go-between to actually plan the burn.
- GW: can we capture this as an action
- Dave Harris: Range is certainly interested in having some of the aspen regrowth on these logging blocks thinned out and burnt, to enhance grazing for cattle.
- GW: **Action** discuss topic controlled burns - both what Canfor's procedures will be, but also your process for involving other parties.

LP- Athena Andritz

- Looking to streamline capital projects.
- Shipping product an issue for them as well due to no rail cars from CN, trucking more product now. Went from being about 80% reliant on CN to about 20% now.
- Currently Woodlands are supplying the mill with fibre sourced from private land while waiting for government to finish negotiations with First Nations.
- Working on developing blocks and cutting permits, hired forester Sarah Curtis from Canfor Chetwynd. Need to fill 12 positions in the mill.
- Questions: Ray: Wondering about poplar logs. There's some aspen and poplar coming from AB border with private land purchases. Right at the border there is a sign that says you can't bring wood across the border. Are raw logs able to come from AB? Concern for pine beetle and spruce bug this was how it spread from out of products. Athena: Deciduous, but understand the worry for previous issues. Coming from pipeline construction mostly. If there is a concern for pests, we do have pest management control system in place.

Cameron River Logistics: Not in attendance

- Ray: Andrew Moore (CRL) was attending PAG meetings regularly but has missed several now. We typically only meet twice a year, so if you miss a meeting you miss a lot. AT has reached out to Andrew but not heard back. CRL is named in the Pilot Project regulation as a Participant, so their references remain in Pilot Project matters. Their License has expired, no logging activity. Only a little bit of silviculture obligations remain. Technically still a Participant. Operating as a reload – Taylor reload still. Andrew has stepped back.

5. Annual Report Highlights (Andrew T)

Overview

The Participants were consistent with 58 out of 66 performance indicators, 26/30 indicators to the s42 Regulatory Landscape Indicators ('legal' indicators) and 5/9 Landscape Level Strategies for the reporting period.

Overview of Exceptions :

- #2- Seral Stages – met old forest requirement for all NDU, but did not meet 2nd part of target – to have 100% of proposed OFMA delineated by Mar. 31/22. Yahey vs BC court decision introduced huge uncertainty for forest management in the DFA. Participants initiated a FOS amendment to add new volume outside court case area, and amended existing OFMA in many areas. No plans to add new ones until gov't negotiations are concluded and there is more certainty regarding the land base.
- #5 – Snags/Cavity Sites – Data collected by Canfor and LP indicate conformance to target. However BCTS cannot confirm they met retention commitments on all blocks.
- #8 - Shrubs: Cannot meet target for Kahntah LU, due to vast amount of area that has 'aged out' of Shrub cohort (<20 yrs). Harvesting mature stands 'resets' area to shrub level, but very little harvesting done in Kahntah LU in past 10 years. Will have to revisit target level to ensure they are appropriate when SFMP redone.

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Question: Sara. Mentioned Kahntah and fire. There have been fires within that period in landscape unit, was VRI updated for that? AT: Doubt it, but, there was a significant fire in Hunter Lakes area, been multiple in the past less than ten years. In reality, that indicator is probably a little closer to being met, but the VRI has to get updated by the gov't. South Fontas logging was fire salvage. VRI not updated, needs to be updated. Big landscape unit not sure if that'll make a lot of difference. Think were better than the data is showing.

- #30 – Establishment delay :BCTS and LP met target, but Canfor did not for deciduous areas. Canfor surveys at 3-yr mark. If NSR areas exist, conifer planting is prescribed, and may not happen in time to stay within variance.
- 48/48a. 2 indicators in one. Allowable annual cut. Chief forester cut determination established non-legal partition (Core & periphery) 50% of conifer volume 50% can be spruce. Tough to find enough area to meet conditions. Participants offside, cut 67% spruce out of core.
- #51 – Maintenance of Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat have to meet targets for 14 indicators. Offside on 3 (2, 5, 8) this year.
- #52 – BCTS 88% commitments to address First Nations concerns were met. Questions - Anna: not involved in government's Old Growth deferral work directly; what is it, where are you at with it and what are you doing with it? KB: Temporary deferrals 3 categories, big tree ancient remnant rare. Old growth. Assessing them, mapped, polygons, working within framework with big trees. Other ones we don't go into.

6. Audit highlights (Andrew T, Athena A)

- Canfor internal audit in June. Internal auditor id'd 3 nonconformities 1 opportunity for improvement. External from KPMG coming up in November.
- Findings: 2021 internal actions not entered into ITS (administrative)
- Field visits found examples of insufficient erosion control around stream crossings (NC),
- Should have been a ditch block and a culvert at bridge approach. Contractor was directed to install, but didn't. Some erosion at site, with no inadequate protection for fish bearing stream. Sediment didn't get into stream (picture slide). Site was fixed and put cross ditch in there. Culverts need to put in. Also found 2 culverts were installed poorly. Sediment delivery into streams was a finding. Systemic issue, problems on other site years prior. Annual contractors meeting was mentioned there. Workshop also brought up, prework ops meetings, stream crossing all mentioned again. Hoping it won't be a problem next year.
- Incomplete utilization of harvested trees. Did find good sawlog material in burn pile. Should've gone to the mill. Only half a bundle of logs. Loggers want a full load, not half loads. Will pay contractors a cleanup load, which means we pay in full, even though it's not a full load. Scale staff site visits to coach train utilization waste benchmarks. Review log quality specs. Take as much as we can out of the blocks. Spiral check cannot make lumber out of. Mostly goes for chips, hard for us without pulp mill.
- Questions: Budd: Can the pellet mill use that waste though. Andrew: Pellet takes residuals from sawmill stock. We don't ship waste from piles to the mill. The pellet plant consumption is calibrated to production of byproduct from sawmills. Round wood debris not economic to ship from the bush.

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Ray: Stuff that gets logged goes and gets piled, woody debris, stuff that doesn't, gets pulled into the pile, can be used for woody debris can enhance what I'm trying to achieve. Piles are burned then on the road. They would be better left in place.

Andrew: We are now prescribing a minimum amount of woody debris piles in a small area. Skidders or bunchers create them when they're felling. Making sure that happens every for 1 in every 5-10 hectares and labeled on the map. Could be doing more and we currently have our Habitat biologist (Mark Phinney) reviewing that process. Also looking into linear CWD corridors to support cover for small mammals. There are operation challenges, so discussion continues, but we recognize value of woody debris. Another thing to remember is we don't have to burn every pile. We must make sure the fire hazard is assessed, which is a legal obligation. Actions often include abatement (burning), but don't always need to.

Non-conformities:

- 2021 Audit findings not entered in ITS
- Insufficient erosion controls around stream crossings
- Incomplete utilization of harvested trees

Follow-up actions:

- Site alterations to address immediate risks
- Reviewed issue, and ESC practices at Annual Training
- 1 ½ day erosion/sediment control workshop
- Additional emphasis of crossings in preworks & inspections

Actions:

- Reminder re: clean-up load payment
- Site visits with scale supervisors
- Annual review of log quality specs

Opportunity for Improvement:

- Overly restrictive Site Plan wording – potential additional cost and potential non-conformities

LP - Completed in July of 2022

- QLP training to include information on e. Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS) regulations, wage and hours rules
- Harvest inspection form to include level soil disturbance (estimated or %), + another form is in development to measure and calculate the level of disturbance in the block.

External Audit

- Completed on September 26th and 27th, 2022
- Audit was completed by SAI Global Assurance Services
- Final report to be completed after HQ Audit (end of November)

No non-conformances noted at Peace Valley closing meeting

BCTS Audit: Not on Report

- Was three weeks late arrived in our hands last night, had only this morning to review.
- BCTS did not have an internal audit this year. Audit schedule is out of their hands, provincial set up based on all areas. Could be spread out.
- One of the things that did come about based on auditors findings across province, identified northern areas as being scoped to be more heavily audited around a specific area which was water management limited scope audits being based around water management for the next 3 years. 2 nonconformance very general around water unidentified quad tracks going through a stream, etc.

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- Best management practice snow fill installations are putting in areas where banks are too steep. Too much snow fill corrective action, Loggers and licensees are given opportunity to log through out year most only log in winter. Streams in summer snow fills in winter.
Questions: Darrell R: Who is doing your audit this year, KPMG? Walter: Yes, for this year as they are under contract.

7. PAG Satisfaction Surveys – Adrienne Pierre

- Adrienne sent out email to members, didn't receive many responses back.
- Brought the survey to the meeting for the PAG members to fill in on site during this meeting.

8. Climate Vulnerability Assessment – Darrell Regimbald

Overview: The Need for a Climate Strategy, Climate Smart Forestry, Climate strategy Components and Practical Applications

- Forest policy and management practices must evolve in the face of a changing climate in order to be sustainable.
- Climate is changing, forest ecosystems are experiencing stresses that have not been seen in the past.
- Investment and Environment Social Governance reporting focus on climate and carbon metrics.

Climate Smart Forestry

Sustainable, adaptive forest management and governance to protect and enhance the potential of forests to adapt to and mitigate climate change. Climate Smart Forestry should enable both forests and society to transform, adapt to and mitigate climate-induced changes.

- Overview of what Climate Smart Forestry is
- Importance of Forests in the carbon cycle
- Review carbon cycle
- Canfor Climate Smart Forestry

Key Requirements:

1. Understanding likely climate effects
2. Planning for adaptation
3. Identifying opportunities to improve our carbon footprint:
 - a. Reduce emissions
 - b. Increase carbon capture
 - Vulnerability and Adaptation Project – assessment and potential mitigation and adaptation measures
 - Reduce GHG emissions in Forest Industry
 - Benefits of using wood in construction vs. other (non-renewable) materials to help fight climate change

Questions –

- Andy: A few years ago, you took us north to a block where you were southern and coastal species have been planted as a trial. How is that going? Darrell: Not sure. Trial is part of a network along western North America that will provide important data.
- Ray: Will rotation age be cut in half, if trees growing twice as fast due to climate change? DR: Don't think cut in half, but potential to reduce rotation ages yes. AT: Clarified that "twice as fast" was with respect to Black Spruce, which is still quite slow
- Patrick: Does current regulatory regime accommodate planting species out of their range? DR: Gov't is in process of revised seed transfer

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guidelines to recognize assisted migration, actively accommodating guidelines to include

- Andy: If it turns out that Doug fir or cedar becomes commercially viable to grow in the area does that mean mills have to be changed to take on that wood? DR: Yes conceivably, may have to reconfigure mills. KB: reassess to take advantage of changes good to climate change
- Anna: Has there been any look at landscape level impacts from climate change such as natural range of variability, as opposed to operational impacts (eg. increased fires, insects)? DR: not specifically. But similar to the way that enviro Canada records weather activity day by day, these data will be changing constantly as new data gets acquired.

9. Enhanced Forest Inventory (Rezatech) – Chris Rosen

- Sentinel Satellite Imagery that is processed and delivered by Rezatech, scans entire earth every 6 days.
- Uses Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning to create models for different projects.
- Block cruise data is used to “teach” the models.
- Pixel size of the imagery is 10mx10m. All the data provided is within those pixels
- Picks up big trees, but misses smaller trees
- Canfor hasn’t had success on the burn intensity mapping, but has with insect damage (helps identify salvage opportunities)
- The main benefit to this product is being able to review current imagery with past imagery to see changes
- Canfor is very confident with the results
- VRI is current used for tree species estimates, tree heights, volume estimates, age classes
- Derived from air photo interpretation, so there is a degree of inaccuracy
- VRI is expensive to update and is only useful if it is (many people involved); always a degree of skepticism in accuracy
- Ground recces are time consuming and cover a fraction of the ground
- Prioritize areas to walk vs complete coverage by satellite
- Summary:
 - Cost effective
 - Readably available and easily acquired
 - Very accurate compared to existing tools
 - Includes historical data
 - Involves fewer people

Questions: Patrick: When you are using these tools would you still use timber recces?

Chris Rosen - Yes, might come a time when we may not, may have a sample then use the data. Still do a broad scale scanning of blocks then do boots on the ground

Ray Ensz – What’s the percentage of accuracy to boots on the ground. Don’t know what the numbers are but I’ve done recces before and I think its 99% better when you go out and look at the ground and see what’s on there and if it’s quite accurate. Curious whether Canfor has thought about overlaying on a Rezatech and wildlife

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CR: Honestly don't know if Canfor's talked recently about that. In Chetwynd we talked about doing something similar with the Lidar and you'll find it's a lot more accurate.

DR – looking at it to utilize it on older stands to see characteristics of old growth using it to identify. Province right now is looking into Rezatech to get into support of wildlife, also talking about its good on top but looking at the down below. Think the aspect is potentially putting boots on the ground to provide the verification of getting an answer and clarifying what you're looking at and if it matched.

CR: Lidar did it with individual tree, sampled, tree and then on lidar, then sampled tree. Rezatech doesn't have individual points. If you go by pixel it could see.

Do you know if Rezatech is a major component for 411 amendment?

Andrew - Was used a bit to help dial things in products that Canfor and LP data collection, looking at it for dying stands, where the trees are not looking for the same things that Greg may be looking at.

CR: Would like to add there are limitations, depending on what you feed in. right now it's not able to tell aspen from birch. There's more refining that could occur. Cruise plots are a part of the system.

10. Biennial Terms of Reference Review / PAG Memberships/Recruitment

- Current TOR accepted unchanged as meeting the needs of the PAG and Participants for the next 2 years.
- AT outlined several vacant spots on PAG, and need to recruit new members.
- Andy: Lots of people don't know we exist; could benefit from an explanation of what the PAG is and what we do, etc.
- Lots of new faces coming to the Peace, could potentially be new members.
- Idea - restart Trade Show participation and include information on Pilot and PAG.
- PAG Participants can list names of people you may think would be interested
- Would like to see Oil and Gas Industry participants.
- ACTION: Participants will draft a 1-page recruitment request that says who we are, how often we meet, your role, how long we've been active and a public call out with those points.

11. Feedback on Meeting, misc. Q and A

- Great tech approach, screen was a little small for people in the back, eyes strained.
- Should have the other screen on the end like the other participants had at the opposite end.
- Great attendance, great food. Had an ambitious agenda so we can shorten it down next time and perhaps take a 20-minute break instead. Will be using a bigger room next time, was a bit too hot in the room with everyone in there.
- Great job to Sound In Town! Best set up Gail has seen.
- Budd: asked about any movement by Canfor on support for prescribed burning to promote habitat for ungulates and sharp-tail grouse? Was mentioned in recent meeting.
- Darrell: clarification that Canfor would accept any salvage wood off proposed burn areas prior to ignition.

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12. Suggested topic for next Meeting – update on Cameron River Logging participation

8:45pm meeting ended

New ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY	STATUS	COMMENTS
Find out what happened to Taylor Pulp finished product after curtailment and report to Ray E	Kristine	Open	
Discuss topic of controlled burns - both what Canfor's procedures will be, but also your process for involving other parties.	Canfor	Open	
If Trade Show booth participation, include information re: Pilot Project and PAG	Participant Working Group	Open	
Participants will draft a 1-page recruitment request that says who we are, how often we meet, your role, how long we've been active and a public call out with those points.	Participant Working Group	Open	