

Prince George SFMP PAG Meeting

5:30 – 9:00 PM, June 18, 2009

Civic Center Room , Prince George, BC

MINUTES

In Attendance:

<p><u><i>Public & First Nations:</i></u> Betty Abbs – Local Government Gerald Bird – Metis Jo Graber – Cultural Conservation Virginia Karr – Natural Conservation Dave King – Recreation, non-motorized Esther Perry- Ranching & Farming Ken Pickering – Commercial Wildlife Interests Lee Sexsmith – Recreation, non-commercial, motorized Anne Migvar - Ranching & Farming Melanie Karjala – Research & Education</p>	<p><u><i>Steering Committee:</i></u> Chair: Tim Sproule – BCTS Cecil Gray – Lakeland Mills Alena Charlston – Carrier Lumber Janine Gervais – Canfor</p>
<p><u><i>Facilitator & Scribe:</i></u> Dwight Scott Wolfe (Tesera Systems Inc.) Loni Spletzer</p>	<p><u><i>Advisors & Observers:</i></u> Bruce Bradley - Canfor Dave Watt - Sinclair Group</p>

1. Welcome & Introductions – Tim Sproule
 - a) Dave Watt of Sinclair Group attended as an observer
 - b) Alena Charlston returns as the Carrier Lumber representative
2. Reviewed Agenda – accepted as written
3. Reviewed January 22, 2009 meeting evaluation results
 - a. All items above target
 - b. Meeting Evaluation Comments
 - Meetings:
 - Must have Civic Centre
 - Great attendance
 - Always not enough time
 - Question 7: Were decisions summarized? “Very good Loni!!!”
 - Not enough time for meeting. But I wouldn’t like anything deleted from agenda.

- Focused on important items; TSR4 info was important and presentation more geared to PAG Members than other presentations around TSR4 that have been presented.
 - Facilitator:
 - Awesome job tonight.
 - Good job Dwight!
 - Meeting Logistics:
 - Ramada a tight squeeze.
 - Prefer self service for meeting more folks.
 - More buns.
 - Civic Centre quieter.
 - Suggestions:
 - Meeting next month to finish.
 - Next meeting March or April
 - General Comments:
 - Timber Supply Presentation was great – timely - good job!.
 - Interesting that PAG members did not like original Public Opinion Survey – would not fill out. Maybe need to look at question & why PAG felt they were not appropriate.
 - Good.
4. Reviewed Minutes from January 22, 2009
- a. Minutes accepted with spelling correction on bottom of p.3 “PAG member”
5. Innovative Timber Sales Initiative – Tim Sproule
- a. Brief overview of how an Innovative Timber Sales licence is issued
 - i. based on lump sum price and then accept bonus bids (not based on price per cubic metre)
 - ii. designed to encourage better utilization of wood
6. Annual Report Presentation – Tim Sproule

2009/2010 Highlights

- Have improved in meeting indicator targets over previous year
- Indicator #5 (Retention levels) are still well in above minimum requirements
- Error noted on p.12 in new Table 13 . Also p 21 new Table 29 had omitted BCTS and Carrier numbers for “Permanent Access Structures Constructed” and resulting new total. Error noted on p. 39 Table 53. Total should read 10 and not 44 for both columns. Final version of Annual Report will include these corrections.
- New Indicators for this report:
 - Indicators 56, 57, 58 (Watershed evaluations)
 - Indicator 59 (combined Species at risk and Sites of Biological Significance)

indicator)

- Reviewed Watershed Risk Evaluation procedure using example Watershed #182 (south of Prince George – near West Lake)

Reviewed indicators not met

- Indicator #14 (Standards for Seed Use):
 - Root cause and actions to resolve are in the draft report.
 - PAG member inquired if there are any trials to address climate change (i.e. try planting different species outside normal range). There is a procedure to revise the Seed Use Standards to ensure enough variety in seeds to be able to experiment.
- Indicator #35 (Non Timber Benefits):
 - Root cause and actions to resolve are in the draft report.
 - This non-compliance also affects #49 (Cultural Heritage Requirements) and #50 (Heritage Conservation Act).

Reviewed Areas of improvement

- Indicator #30 (Free Growing Requirements):
 - PAG member questioned wording in statement on p 20 re: “forest ecosystem will continue to evolve”. Licensees will review text.
- Indicator #40 (Response to Written Public Inquiries)
 - BCTS to review and improve on response times.

Discussion

- Indicator #5 (Stand Level Retention) - PAG member is concerned about what the tolerances and variances are to begin with so improvements can be seen (ie. CWD). All indicators and targets will be reviewed when the SFM plan is updated to meet the new standard.
- P. 32 Table 42 - PAG member requested clarification on this table. Volumes are displayed instead of percentages. Licensees will review and correct in the final version.
- P.10 Re: Caribou Ungulate Winter Range - PAG member has issue with statement that caribou numbers are on decline overall. There is decline in some areas, but caribou populations are currently thriving in Prince George District. Licensees will revise text.
- P.4 3rd paragraph starting: “*In March of 2009, the Licensee LOWG proceeded with ...*” PAG members asked licensees to review and clarify wording.

Action Item 1: PAG representatives to review the draft Annual Report and forward comments to the Facilitator by July 2, 2009.

b. Community Stability Tracking Matrix – deferred to next meeting

7. Presentation on the revised CSA Z809/08 Standard – Dwight Wolfe

a) reviewed highlights on background and time frame for transition

b) summary of key changes include rigorous public participation requirements and

performance requirement frameworks

- Core Indicators (CI): new set of 35 mandatory core indicators added to bring consistency to SFMP's across Canada
- Non-Core Indicators can also be added
- Many of the Core Indicators are already found in the Prince George SFMP and may simply need modification (some examples were reviewed such as: Species at Risk, Conservation of Soil & Water, Carbon Uptake and Storage, etc).
- Standard requires 27 key topics to be discussed
- Standard includes new Aboriginal Requirements
- Standard strengthens requirements around Safety, Worker Protection and Community Stability
- Standard requires company policies to honour all International Agreements & Conventions applicable to SFM

Discussion:

- PAG member asked for clarification on flexibility of Core Indicator targets. Targets can still be customized for each area. It is only the Indicators that need to be consistent.

8. Licensee Certification Updates:

a) Lakeland Mills and Winton Global – Cecil Gray/Dave Watt (Sinclair Group)

- Will be changing from registration with CSA to the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI). SFI is an independent and international standard (used by pulp mills) and still requires public input, but not in the form of PAG meetings.
- see <http://www.sfiprogram.org/> for more information
- The rationale for changing to new standard is entirely a business decision which is being made to capture the efficiencies of all four companies working under one SFI Plan, instead of three separate CSA SFM Plans.
- PAG member asked if there are any conflicts between having two different standards used in the same areas. There are very few conflicts since SFI meets the same rules and regulations as CSA.
- PAG member asked if there is a review process by the Forest Practice Board on effectiveness and public input between the different certification systems.
- PAG member concerned that CSA should be making it economic for licensees so that they are not forced to look into alternative standards.
- Licensees added that in the sawmill industry, all current standards (FSC, SFI and CSA) address quality and safety. Changing to another standard (non-CSA) will have no impact.

b) BCTS, Canfor, Carrier – Tim Sproule/Janine Gervais/Alena Charlston

- BCTS will remain CSA certified in Prince George and Mackenzie.
- Canfor will maintain CSA certification but will be looking at a corporate-wide suite of core indicators. Will continue to work with BCTS, and will look at pooling resources and trying to coordinate more joint PAG meetings.
- Carrier will remain CSA certified and will look at streamlining processes.

9. Priority Action Plan for 2009 – Janine Gervais

- reviewed handout: *2009 – Prioritization June 16, 2009*. PAG members asked to note that Item 4 (SFM Plan Maintenance/Core Projects) will be the main focus and will likely be major themes of upcoming PAG meetings.
- PAG member asked who will be doing bulk of work on these projects. Licensee steering committee will be working on revisions to the SFM Plan and bringing recommendations to the PAG. Much of this work will occur in 2010.
- PAG member requested reassurance that the difficult issues will still be brought to the PAG to discuss and resolve. Licensees reiterated that they are committed to the PAG process and will continue to work collaboratively with them.

10. Apportionment in the PG District – Tim

- a) The current apportionment document for the PG TSA can be found at the link below. For a breakdown for the district, go to Section 3.1 of the SFMP and refer to Table 2.0

www.for.gov.bc.ca/HTH/apportionment/Documents/APTR011%2024.PDF

11. Action Item Review

- a. Action Item **March 6-01** – Completed. Janine circulated the “Management Guidelines for Species and Plant Communities at Risk: PG Timber Supply Area – 2007”.
- b. Action Item **Jan 22-01** – Completed. Facilitator received (and circulated) clarification from Vanessa Egginton (Ministry of Forests & Range/Regional Climatologist) regarding conclusions made in her presentation and noted in minutes.
- c. Action Item **Jan 22-02** – Completed. PAG received information on apportionment of the Allowable Annual Cut in the Prince George Forest District.

12. Evaluation Forms collected

13. Next Meeting: October 8, 2009 Prince George Civic Centre 5:30-9:00 pm

Actions

PRINCE GEORGE PAG				
ID#	ACTION	WHO	DEADLINE	STATUS
Nov 2 - 03	Provide updates on attempts to recruit representation for Non-Renewable Resource Extraction.	Steering Committee	Dec 2006	In progress: positive responses received from Enbridge, PMG, and BC Hydro.
March 6-01	Licensees to provide "Management Guidelines for Species and Plant Communities at Risk: PG Timber Supply Area – 2007"	Steering Committee	Next Meeting	Completed
Jan 22-01	Seek clarification from Vanessa Egginton (Ministry of Forests & Range/Regional Climatologist) on conclusions made in her presentation and noted in minutes.	Facilitator	Next Meeting	Completed
Jan 22-02	Provide PAG with information on apportionment of the AAC in the Prince George Forest District.	Steering Committee	Next Meeting	Completed
June 18 - 01	Review the draft Annual Report and forward comments to the Facilitator.	PAG	July 2, 2009	