



**Public Advisory Group**

**PAG Meeting**

August 10, 2009 [5:30 PM – 9:00 PM]

Seniors Centre, Fort St. James

**Meeting Summary**

**Attendance:**

<i>Public Advisory Group:</i>	Peter Rooke Beulah Broen Larry Erickson Bob Frederick Henner Grimm	<i>Steering Committee &amp; Advisors:</i> Shannon Burbee – Canfor PG Jeremy Greenfield - BCTS Shane Perry – Apollo Forest Products Alena Charlston – Carrier Lumber
<i>Facilitator &amp; Scribe:</i>	Dwight Scott Wolfe (Tesera Systems Inc.) – Facilitator Loni Spletzer (Tesera Systems Inc.) – Scribe	<i>Observers:</i> none

Quorum based on past five meetings: 4

**1. Welcome & Introduction**

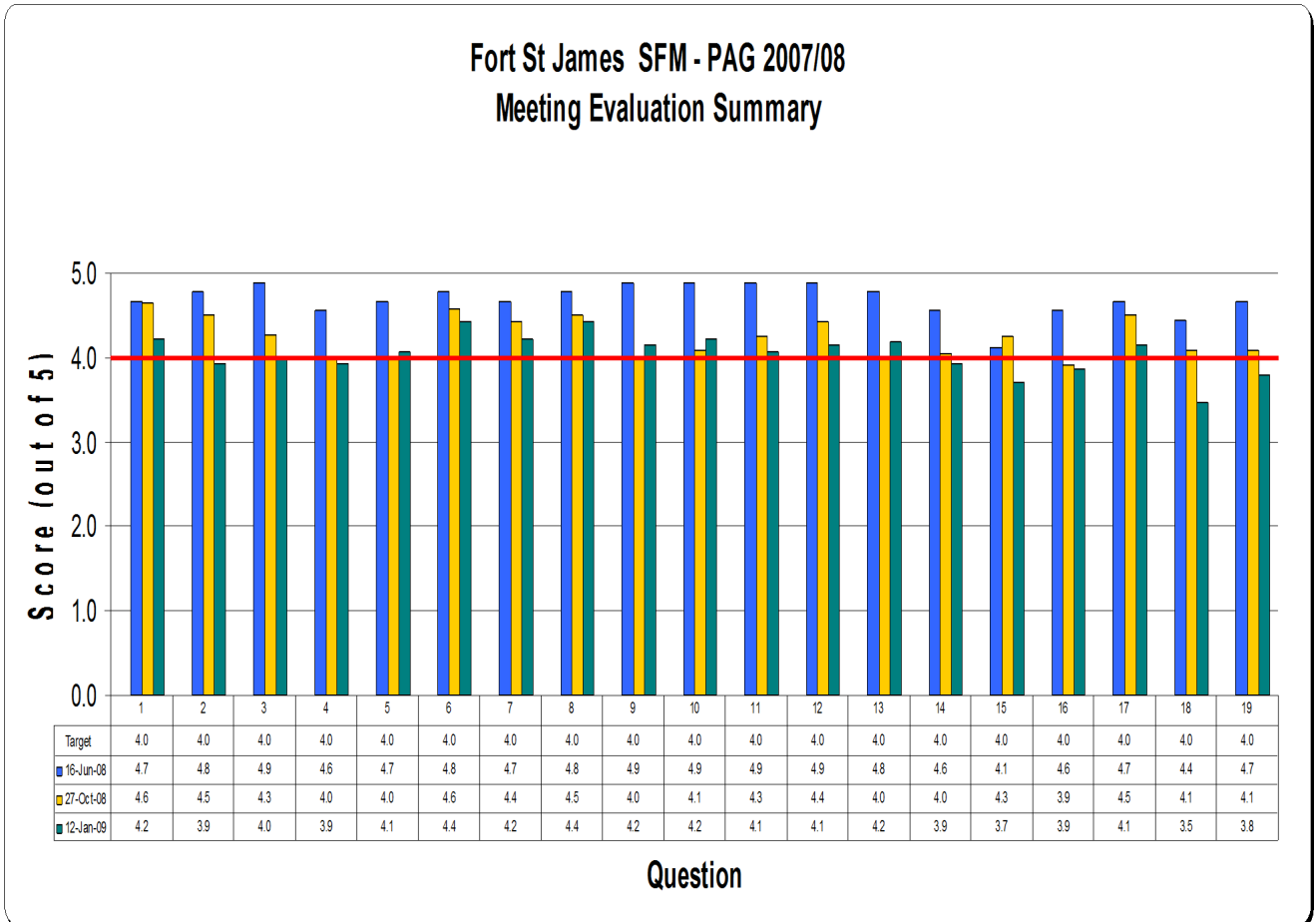
1. Members signed in
2. Welcome by the Chair of the Licensee Steering Committee [Jeremy Greenfield]
3. Introductions
  - a. Alena Charlston welcomed back as the Carrier Lumber representative to the Licensee Steering Committee.
4. Reviewed Evaluation Results of January 12, 2009 PAG meeting
  - a. On or above the targets (min 4.0) for all evaluation points except the following:
    - i. Q1 (3.9) Amount of time given to review the meeting agenda prior to the meeting
    - ii. Q4 (3.9) Meeting summary captured decisions & action items
    - iii. Q14 (3.9) Licensees organized and prepared
    - iv. Q15 (3.7) Information presented clearly
    - v. Q16 (3.9) Your satisfaction with this PAG meeting
    - vi. Q18 (3.5) Meals and refreshments
    - vii. Q19 (3.8) Your overall satisfaction with the PAG process
  - b. Comments to improve the PAG meeting from PAG Members:
    - i. No pizza, please.
    - ii. Field trip was very productive - more please

- c. Comments to improve the PAG meeting from Observers:
  - i. Much discussion focuses on operational issues.
  - ii. Should do more to encourage direct conversation with appropriate licensee and forest service where necessary.
- d. Comments to improve the PAG meeting from First Nations:
  - i. If large presentations are to be presented, these should be given early times.
  - ii. Licensees should be held more accountable for their actions, questions, etc.
  - iii. Licensees should report these types of meetings for the sake of the public, rather than just sitting in for CSA approval.
- e. Comments to improve the PAG meeting from Licensee Steering Committee:
  - i. Would like to know why we continuously get low scores and yet there are no reasons given
  - ii. Time to revisit both performance and continual improvement matrix, hopefully these documents will focus discussions and provide some goals to work towards during PAG meetings.
- f. General Comments:
  - i. I have issues with PAG members who continuously question why they are here and yet continue to keep coming. Need to get away from mentality that we are changing operations as a PAG and move towards managing SFM/CSA.
  - ii. If this is for CSA for companies, licensees should be more accountable to the public and more accommodating.
  - iii. Thought the TSR presentation was excellent.

## **2. Confirmed Agenda – no additions**

## **3. Minutes of the January 12, 2009 Ft. St. James PAG Meeting**

- 1. Minutes of the January 12, 2009 PAG meeting accepted as written.



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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Amount of time given to review the meeting agenda prior to the meeting</li> <li>2. Agenda followed</li> <li>3. Actions updated</li> <li>4. Meeting summary captured decisions &amp; action items</li> <li>5. PAG Terms of Reference followed</li> <li>6. PAG members actively involved in the meeting</li> <li>7. The atmosphere of the meeting</li> <li>8. Facilitator was organized and prepared</li> <li>9. Facilitator strived for consensus decision-making</li> <li>10. Facilitator actively listened to concerns and viewpoints</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11. Facilitator addressed process issues</li> <li>12. Facilitator remained neutral on content issues</li> <li>13. Facilitator kept the meeting focused</li> <li>14. Licensees organized and prepared</li> <li>15. Information presented clearly</li> <li>16. Your satisfaction with this PAG meeting</li> <li>17. Suitability of the Meeting facility</li> <li>18. Meals and refreshments</li> <li>19. Your overall satisfaction with the PAG process</li> </ol> |
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#### 4. 2008-09 SFM Annual Report

The FSJ SFM 2008-09 Draft Annual Report was presented. The Licensee Steering Committee reviewed the list of Indicators found in Table 1 on page 2 and noted those where targets were met, not met or pending. Overall, of the 47 indicators, 40 met the target, three are pending and 4 did not meet the target for this reporting period.

##### 1. Indicator #26 - Road Related Erosion Events

a. PAG member asked for clarification on how an erosion event is identified. Reference was made to an example from the field trip where erosion was noticed on a deactivated road. This particular example was noted as being in a low risk area with no fish-bearing streams in the vicinity. PAG discussed the need for seeding with grass and native species around

culverts/bridge crossings to minimize erosion. PAG would like more information on the seeding process in the Fort. St. James District (ie. species of seeds, frequency of application, etc).

**Action Item #1:** Licensee Steering Committee to present information on the seeding process in the Fort St. James District at the next PAG meeting.

## **2. Indicator #25 - Permanent Access Structures**

- a. Recent audits of the Fort ST. James SFM plan have indicated that 5% was not a meaningful target (it was too high) so it has been modified by the LSC and it will be monitored for 3 years to see the trends and determine what an appropriate target should be. There was also concern among the LSC that the reporting methodology was not being applied consistently by each plan proponent (i.e. some currently recording cumulative vs others only reporting that year). A new table in the next annual report will have an extra column to clarify the reporting.
- b. PAG member expressed concern with interpretation of text in paragraph on page 18 "...and no longer contributes to the forest ecosystem".

**Action Item #2:** LSC to review and revise text on page 18 concerning "...and no longer contributes to the forest ecosystem".

## **3. Indicator 27 – Fish Stream Crossings and Sediment Control**

- a. PAG discussed the Plan Proponent's methodology for applying a risk ranking to fish stream crossings.
- b. The rationale on risk ranking culverts is found in the Annual Report text for this indicator.

## **4. Indicator 28 – Stream Crossing Inspections**

- a. Similar to Indicator 27 (above) the PAG discussed the Plan Proponent's methodology for applying a risk ranking to fish stream crossings.
- b. The rationale on risk ranking culverts is found in the Annual Report text for this indicator.

## **5. Indicator #37 - Free Growing Obligations**

- a. An administrative deadline was missed for reporting a block as free growing.

## **6. Indicator #38 - Cut Level Volumes**

- a. PAG member concerned about cut control obligations not being met due to mill curtailments and closures in the Fort St. James District. BCTS explained Allowable Annual Cut apportionment and discussed possible penalties if cut control not met (i.e. loss of cut (undercut) and application of new, overlapping tenures if total cut not used).

## **7. Indicator #44 - Personal Notification**

- a. An administrative deadline was missed for contacting a non-timber tenure holder due to a change in the primary contact for that tenure. The new primary contact has been notified.

## 8. Indicator #49 - Employment Opportunities Advertised Locally

a. Advertising in the local papers has not been effective over the last year as there has been no response. The cost of advertising in the print media was discussed as the Licensee Team has deemed print advertising to not be cost effective. PAG member is concerned about lack of transparency if there is no public advertising.

b. BCTS does advertise all Timber Sales on a BC Government website called BC Bid:

<http://www.bcbid.gov.bc.ca/open.dll/welcome>

c. The Licensee Team agreed to brainstorm ideas for advertising with the PAG at a subsequent meeting.

## 9. Indicator #55 - Local Aboriginal Participation in Forest Management

a. Two of the First Nations contacts (Kaska Dene and Tahltan) have been removed since their Traditional Territories no longer overlap with the DFA

## 10. Indicator #62 - Satisfaction with PAG Process

a. PAG discussed attendance numbers. PAG noted that PAG members have been consistent, but not licensees. PAG would like to discuss what motivates the PAG, etc the next time the Terms of Reference is reviewed.

## 11. Indicator #23 - Coarse Woody Debris

a. PAG discussed how the “natural range of variation” was determined for reporting this indicator. PAG was directed to page 56 (Table 10) of the SFM Plan to review the wording of what natural range of variation numbers were used.

## 12. Indicator #70 - Road Deactivation

a. PAG concerns about the operational application of this indicator and the Plan Proponent’s ability to meet the intent of the indicator. The Plan Proponents and PAG members agreed to revisit this issue in more detail at a later time.

13. PAG members were invited to review this Annual Report in detail

**Action Item #3:** PAG members to review Annual Report and provide questions or comments to the facilitator by September 10, 2009.

## 5. Presentation on the revised CSA Z809-08 Standard

The Facilitator reviewed highlights of the revised CSA standard which will become official in the Fall of 2009.

1. A key revision with the new standard is the requirement for a series of “Core Indicators”. Many of the Core Indicators that will be required are already in place in the Fort St. James SFM Plan and may simply need to be refined.

2. PAG member asked for a time frame on reviewing these standards and comparing to what is already in place. The Licensees have only seen a draft of the new standard so there is no way to forecast how long this will take until the new standard is made official.

## **6. Biodiversity Project**

1. Discussion of this project will be deferred until a future meeting.

## **7. Licensee Certification Updates**

### **1. Apollo Forest Products**

- a. 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. SFI meets the same rules and regulations as CSA.
- b. see <http://www.sfiprogram.org/> for more information
- c. The rationale for changing to new standard is entirely a business decision which is being made to capture the efficiencies of all four Sinclair Group companies working under one SFI Plan, instead of three separate CSA SFM Plans.
- d. PAG members worried about a potential demise of the PAG in the future and disappointed that Apollo is “walking away” from public accountability.

### **2. Stuart Lake Lumber**

- a. Stuart Lake Lumber has dropped their CSA registration and have been removed from the Annual Report and SFM Plan.

### **3. BCTS, Canfor, Carrier Lumber**

- a. BCTS will remain CSA certified in the Fort St. James District.
- b. Canfor will maintain CSA certification but will be looking at a corporate-wide suite of core indicators.
- c. Carrier Lumber will remain CSA certified and will look at streamlining processes.

## **8. Other**

1. PAG members expressed interest in another fall field trip
2. PAG member asked for clarification on who drives PAG meetings and builds agenda. The facilitator reviewed the role of the PAG as defined in the Terms of Reference. PAG may want to change the wording of the PAG’s scope of duties to include “implementing” the SFM plan.

## **9. Next Meeting: TBA (may book field trip)**

## 10. Update Actions

### 1. Action List was reviewed and updated:

a. Action Item Nov 5 - 01: Provide descriptions of Coarse Filter Ecosystem Groups and background on how these Ecosystems are formed. Action deferred to a future meeting.

b. Action Item Oct 27 - 02: Copies of historic Douglas-Fir Strategy document were distributed to PAG members at the meeting. Action completed.

ID#	ACTION	WHO	DEADLINE	STATUS
Jan 27 - 04	Provide one page update on licensee FIA funded projects. Licensees to maintain and update.	Licensee Team	Next meeting	Completed & ongoing
Nov 5 - 01	Provide descriptions of Coarse Filter Ecosystem Groups and background on how these Ecosystems are formed.	Licensee Team	May 2009	Deferred
Oct 27 - 02	Provide copies of historic Douglas-Fir Strategy document to PAG members.	Licensee Team	Next meeting	Completed
Aug 10-01	Present information on the seeding process in the Fort. St. James District	Licensee Team	Next meeting	
Aug 10-02	Review and revise text on page 18 of the draft Annual Report concerning "...and no longer contributes to the forest ecosystem".	Licensee Team	Next meeting	
Aug 10-03	Review Annual Report and provide questions or comments to the facilitator	PAG	September 10, 2009	