

**Vanderhoof Sustainable Forest Management Plan Public Advisory Group
August 25, 2011 Meeting
Birch Room, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, Vanderhoof**

In Attendance

Public

Ed Domhof
Randy Springer
Gerd Erasmus

Ginny Springer
Ron Stephen
John DeGagne

Licensee Team

Sara Lazaruk - BCTS

Jim McCormack- SFMP Coordinator,
Canfor

Facilitation and Support

Dwight Scott Wolfe

Observers

Cathy Middleton – MFL&NRO

Guests

Monte Ubdegrove - Nadleh Whut'en First
Nation

Absent with Regrets

Ray Brandner

Frank Craig

Documents Distributed

- Draft Agenda for Vanderhoof Sustainable Forest Management Plan (SFMP) Public Advisory Group Meeting
- Draft Minutes of Vanderhoof SFMP Public Advisory Group Meeting from April 28, 2011

1. Welcome and Introductions (Sara Lazaruk)

The meeting commenced at 4 pm.

2. Agenda, Meeting Summary and Action Items Review

1. Reviewed Agenda

- Other: Monte Ubdegrove - Nadleh Whut'en First Nation requested an opportunity to speak. Added following the review of the Action Items.
- accepted as revised.

2. Reviewed Minutes of the meeting from April 28, 2011

- PAG member expressed concern that the date for the next meeting had been altered to August 25 from the original date of June 24.
- PAG members expressed concern with meeting postponements and the expectation that the PAG members will accommodate the ensuing "short notice" for alternate meeting dates based

on Licensee schedules. LT acknowledged that the best course of action is to adhere to future meeting dates established with the PAG.

- The minutes will be corrected to include the original meeting date.
- Meeting minutes accepted as revised.
- Minutes and presentation number 29: Money spent in the DFA, the wording was correct but we incorrectly referred to original indicator as number 29 and it is indicator 26.

3. Reviewed Evaluation Results from April 28, 2011 meeting – average score 4.1/5, reviewed comments.

3. Reviewed Action Items from April 28, 2011 – Jim McCormack, Sara Lazaruk

1. Action #03-24-11-1: Include the details of Best Management Practices for CWD in the SFM Plan for Indicator # 3.1.2. Due: Next Revision of SFM Plan

2. Action #04-28-11-1: Provide actual numbers for Indicator # 19 from earlier monitoring reports. Due: Deferred to next meeting.

3. Action #04-28-11-2: Report back on how Apprenticeships are tracked. Due: Deferred to next meeting.

4. Action #04-28-11-3: Provide a complete list of training (environmental and safety) from Canfor and BCTS. Due: Deferred to next meeting.

4. Monte Ubdegrove - Nadleh Whut'en First Nation

1. Chief Nooski apologizes for not being able to attend.

2. Nadleh Whut'en First Nation is not part of any Treaty negotiation.

3. Will not give permission for Herbicide or pesticide use on their traditional territories. There used to be an agreement to this effect with the Vanderhoof District however there are concerns now that this agreement is not being followed. Nadleh Whut'en First Nation will seek a new agreement with the District regarding herbicide and pesticide use.

4. Nadleh Whut'en First Nation supports the reduction of Visual Quality constraints in Scenic Areas affected by the Mountain Pine Beetle in order to better manage for fire hazard. Nadleh Whut'en First Nation have received permission to harvest in Scenic Areas in their Traditional Territory in order to reduce the fire hazard.

5. Nadleh Whut'en First Nation is not in favour of a reduction in the Allowable Annual Cut. They would like to see the elevated cut maintained in order to harvest more beetle – killed wood. They are willing to participate in the harvesting of beetle killed stands. They don't want to see blowdown and would rather see these areas harvested and replanted.

6. Nadleh Whut'en First Nation feels that Bioenergy and Cogeneration Initiatives are not moving ahead fast enough.

7. Nadleh Whut'en First Nation want their fair share of the available timber harvest and are pursuing new license opportunities. If wood is being harvested in the Traditional Territory of the Nadleh Whut'en First Nation, then they want their share.

8. Nadleh Whut'en First Nation is building capacity to harvest more timber, and are interested in joint ventures and partnerships.

9. Nadleh Whut'en First Nation feels that no additional forest licenses should be approved in their Traditional Territory until their issues are addressed.

10. Nadleh Whut'en First Nation feels that they should be allocated a minimum 150,000 m³ / year of available timber or receive annual restitution for the value of that timber.

11. Nadleh Whut'en First Nation has not participated directly in the CSA SFM Public Advisory Group as they don't want this participation to be seen as consultation. Chief Larry Nooski is willing to answer any questions from the PAG members in advance of a meeting if required. Meetings with Chief Nooski can be set up through Monte.

12. PAG thanked Monte for his time. Ron Stephen acknowledged that the Nadleh Whut'en First Nation is very progressive in their management of forest lands on their Traditional Territory, Ron is the logging contractor for Nadleh Whut'en

5. Element 6.1: Aboriginal and Treaty Rights, Core Indicator 6.1.1: Evidence of a good understanding of the nature of Aboriginal Title and Rights

1. Licensee Team provided a background presentation on Aboriginal and Treaty Rights.

- Reviewed the Value and Objective Statements
 - i. Value: Forest management sustains or enhances cultural, health and capacity benefits that Aboriginal people derive from forest resources.
 - ii. Objectives:
 - Forest management recognizes and respects Aboriginal and treaty rights.
 - Forest management conserves the unique or significant cultural features within the DFA.
- Reviewed the Mandatory Discussion Item of *Development of working relationships with willing Aboriginal communities and/or people*.
- Rationale for adding this indicator:
 - i. New to the 2008 Standard
 - ii. Not met by any current indicators, however the value and objectives relate to current indicators 33 and 34:

2. Proposed Indicator statement: Employees will receive appropriate First Nations awareness training. Target: 100%. Variance: -10%.

3. Discussion:

- A variance (-10%) is required to account for new staff – under high level of supervision
- Employees refers to BCTS and Canfor staff.
- LT noted that there are two levels of training: Staff involved with First Nations Information Sharing and Field Staff.
- LT described the Cultural Heritage Resource training that is provided by an archeologist. Training is mandatory based on your job description.

- PAG members are interested in having Frank Craig deliver a presentation on Cultural Heritage Resources.
- PAG concern that the current Value Statement does not reflect the SFM Element. LT suggested endorsing a revised Value and Objective Statements after the proposed Indicators for SFM Element 6.1 have been endorsed.

4. PAG consensus on proposed indicator: Employees will receive appropriate First Nations awareness training. Target: 100%. Variance: -10%.

6. Element 6.1: Aboriginal and Treaty Rights, Core Indicator 6.1.2: Evidence of best efforts to obtain acceptance of management plans based on Aboriginal communities having a clear understanding of the plans and Element 6.4: Fair and Effective Decision Making, Core Indicator 6.4.3 Evidence of efforts to promote capacity development and meaningful participation for Aboriginal communities.

1. Licensee Team provided a background presentation on Core Indicator 6.1.2 and Core Indicator 6.4.3.

- For Core Indicator 6.1.2
 - i. Reviewed Criterion, Element, Value and Objective
- For Core Indicator 6.4.3
 - i. Reviewed Criterion, Element, Value and Objective
- Reviewed the steps in Information Sharing:
 - i. During Information Sharing and Consultation
 - Known features, management practices and proposed development activities are shared with First Nations
 - Request for comments and meetings
 - Reciprocate information sharing
 - ◆ Eg. Special hunting site, lab tea areas
 - ii. Any stage: new features identified are shared with First Nations.
 - iii. Stakeholder and First Nations Interest List
- Reviewed the steps in Engagement:
 - i. Important to note that bands not always willing or have capacity to discuss operations for various reasons
 - ii. Individual Bands have different relationships with different licensees and this will dictate frequency and type of meetings
 - iii. First Nations, Provincial Government and Licensees all have different structures
 - Forestry Consultations and Information Sharing must follow basic government guidelines in order for harvesting to be approved.
- Reviewed Rationale for revising this indicator:

- i. LT recommends that the proposed indicator statement serve as the Core Indicator for both 6.1.2 and 6.4.3
 - ii. BCTS is a government organization and is responsible for completing consultation
 - iii. Canfor is external to government, the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations conducts official consultation
 - iv. Government delegates some portions such as information sharing to Licensees.
2. Proposed Indicator Statement: Evidence of best efforts to share interests and plans with Aboriginal communities. Target: 100%. Variance 0.
3. Discussion:
 - PAG member asked how the interests of non-aboriginal members of the public were being addressed in the SFM Plan and feels reticent to approve this indicator until the other interests are addressed. LT noted that these issues were acknowledged and noted at the Vanderhoof PAG meeting on December 9, 2010. There was an action to identify and show where these issues will be addressed in the SFM Plan. This action was completed at the meeting on March 25, 2011.
 - PAG member asked what “plans” are being referenced in the proposed indicator. LT stated that a variety of plans from the strategic to site level. Details on the types of plans and activities will be provided in the SFM plan.
4. PAG consensus on proposed indicator: Evidence of best efforts to share interests and plans with Aboriginal communities. Target: 100%. Variance 0.
- 7. Element 6.1: Aboriginal and Treaty Rights, Core Indicator 6.1.3: Level of management and/or protection of areas where culturally important practices and activities (hunting, fishing, gathering) occur.**
 1. Licensee Team provided a background presentation on Level of management and/or protection of areas where culturally important practices and activities (hunting, fishing, gathering) occur
 - Reviewed Criterion, Element, Value and Objective
 - Reviewed the Mandatory Discussion Item of *Development of working relationships with willing Aboriginal communities and/or people*.
 - LT noted that “Government is legally required to consult with First Nations and seek to address their concerns before impacting claimed or proven aboriginal rights (including title) or treaty rights”. This includes precedence setting court cases and local relationships.
 - LT reviewed the protocols for protecting features:
 - i. Pre-1846
 - 1846 is the date assigned as pre-contact in the Heritage Conservation Act (HCA) s. 13(2)(d).
 - Legal procedures in HCA protect any Pre-1846 site.
 - Pre-1846 sites typically are dated through determining the age of trees on site usually a bark-stripped pine tree.

- ii. Post-1846
 - o Representative examples of CMT's may be stubbed, included in WTPs, riparian zones, or excluded from the block.
 - o Cache pits are protected under Heritage Conservation Act
 - o Specific recommendations in AIA or cultural resource evaluation.
- LT described the process prior to harvesting:
 - i. Legal process
 - o Heritage Conservation Act
 - o Consultation Process
 - o Information sharing.
 - o Forest Stewardship Plans (Forest and Range Practices Act)
 - o Operation Documents (Forest Planning and Practices Regulation)
 - ii. Overview and Field Assessments
 - iii. Appropriate training and staff knowledge
 - iv. Additional efforts to engage and respond to concerns at local levels
- Reviewed Rationale for revising this indicator:
 - i. LT recommends replacing Current Indicators 33 and 34 with the Proposed Indicator statement.
 - ii. New indicator meets the standard and intent of core indicator better.
- 2. Current Indicator #33: The number of opportunities provided to Aboriginal people to be involved in the planning process and/or to provide Cultural Heritage Resource input. Target: > 50 opportunities for Aboriginal people to be involved in the planning process and/or provide CHR input. Variance: -5
- 3. Current Indicator #34: The percent of forest management operations consistent with the conservation of identified unique or significant Cultural Heritage Resource features. Target: 100% conformance between forest management operations & strategies identified in SP's to conserve unique or significant CHR features. Variance: -5%
- 4. Proposed Indicator Statement: % of forest operations in conformance with operational/site plans developed to address Aboriginal forest values, knowledge and uses. Target: 100%. Variance: 0%.
- 5. Discussion:
 - PAG members felt that the discussion on replacing current indicator #34 should wait until after the discussion on Proposed Core Indicator 6.2.1.
 - PAG members comfortable with replacing Current Indicator # 33.
- 6. PAG consensus on replacing Indicator 33 with proposed Indicator Statement: % of forest operations in conformance with operational/site plans developed to address Aboriginal forest values, knowledge and uses. Target: 100%. Variance: 0%.

7. PAG consensus on updating the Value Statement and Objective Statements for SFM Element 6.1 as follows:

- Value Statement:
 - i. Delete: Forest management sustains or enhances cultural, health and capacity benefits that Aboriginal people derive from forest resources.
 - ii. Add: Recognize Aboriginal and Treaty Rights
- Objective Statements:
 - i. Delete: The opportunity for Aboriginal communities to participate in Sustainable Forest Management
 - ii. Add: Forest Management provides the opportunity for Aboriginal community to participate in SFM.
 - iii. The following two Objectives remain unchanged:
 - Forest management recognizes and respects Aboriginal and treaty rights.
 - Forest management conserves the unique or significant cultural features within the DFA.

Action Item #1: LT to conduct a Gap Analysis with the PAG to determine if all resource values are appropriately covered in the updated SFM Plan. Due: Next Revision of SFM Plan.

8. Element 6.2: Respect for Aboriginal Forest Values, Knowledge, and Uses, Core Indicator 6.2.1 Evidence of understanding and use of Aboriginal knowledge through the engagement of willing Aboriginal communities, using a process that identifies and manages culturally important resources and values, and Element 1.4: Protected Areas and Sites of Special Biological and Cultural Significance, Core Indicator 1.4.2 Protection of identified sacred and culturally important sites.

1. Licensee Team provided a background presentation on Elements 6.2 and 1.4.

- For Element 6.2
 - i. Reviewed Criterion, Element, Value and Objectives
- For Element 1.4:
 - i. Reviewed Criterion, Element, Value and Objective
- Reviewed Mandatory Discussion Items:
 - i. For Element 6.2 - Development of working relationships with willing Aboriginal communities and/or people
 - ii. For Element 1.4: Locally available processes and methods for identifying sites with special biological and cultural significance.
- LT reviewed the process for Identifying and Protecting Features
 - i. Information comes from
 - Known features

- AIA results
- Field work
- Request for comments and meetings
- Reciprocate information sharing
 - ◆ Eg. Special hunting site, Labrador tea areas
- ii. Any stage: new features identified are shared with First Nations
- LT reviewed the process for Evidence – Reporting
 - i. Issues found in AIA reports or field work and included in plans.
 - ii. Specific requests made and effort to accommodate.
- Reviewed Rationale for revising this indicator:
 - i. LT recommends the proposed Indicator Statement be used for both Core Indicator 1.4.2 and Core Indicator 6.2.1
 - ii. New indicator for element 1.4.
 - iii. New indicator meets the standard better.
 - iv. Similar wording used in Canfor/BCTS SFMPs in other operations.
 - v. Applies to more than one Core Indicator.
 - vi. Legal obligations to protect cultural sites.

2. Proposed Indicator Statement: % of identified Aboriginal forest values, knowledge and uses considered in forestry planning processes. Target: 100%. Variance: 0.

3. Discussion:

- PAG asked how identified non-aboriginal cultural values are addressed in the SFM Plan. The example used is the cultural heritage of the famous local Rich Hobson. LT stated that these values could be addressed through Core Indicator 5.1.1: Quantity and quality of timber and non-timber benefits, products, and services produced in the DFA.
- PAG asked how all the Aboriginal values are being identified and considered. LT noted that Canfor and BCTS have databases that track details on identified Aboriginal forest values, knowledge and uses considered in forestry planning processes.
- LT agreed to review with the PAG the proposed changes to the Value Statement and Objective Statements for SFM Element 1.4 at a future meeting to ensure all values of Cultural Significance are addressed.
- PAG members felt reluctant to replace Current Indicator #34 until such time as Core Indicator 5.1.1 is reviewed.
- LT to include a definition for Cultural Heritage Resource (CHR) in the SFM Plan glossary.

Action Item #2: LT to include non-aboriginal cultural values in discussion on Core Indicator 5.1.1 Quantity and quality of timber and non-timber benefits, products, and services produced in the DFA. Due: Future meeting.

Action Item #3: LT to review with the PAG the proposed changes to the Value Statement and Objective Statements for SFM Element 1.4 to ensure all values of Cultural Significance are addressed. Due: Future meeting.

4. PAG consensus on proposed Indicator Statement: % of identified Aboriginal forest values, knowledge and uses considered in forestry planning processes. Target: 100%. Variance: 0.

5. PAG consensus on updating the Value Statement and Objective Statements for SFM Element 6.2 as follows:

- Value Statement:
 - i. Delete: Forest management sustains or enhances cultural, health and capacity benefits that Aboriginal people derive from forest resources.
 - ii. Add: Forest management sustains cultural, health and capacity benefits that Aboriginal people derive from forest resources.
- Objective Statements:
 - i. Delete: Forest management recognizes and respects Aboriginal and treaty rights.
 - ii. The following Objective remains unchanged:
 - Forest management conserves the unique or significant cultural features within the DFA.

9. Element 6.3: Forest Community Well Being and Resilience, Core Indicator 6.3.1: Evidence that the organization has co-operated with other forest dependent business, forest users and the local community to strengthen and diversify the local economy.

1. Licensee Team provided a background presentation on Element 6.3

- Reviewed Criterion, Element, Value and Objectives.
- Reviewed Mandatory Discussion Item: Development of working relationships with willing Aboriginal communities and/or people.
- Replaces the following indicators:
 - i. 29. Support Opportunities in the DFA: Annually, the number of support opportunities provided in the DFA. Target: ≥ 50 support opportunities in the DFA.
 - ii. 30. Local Business Relationships: The number of annual business relationships or opportunities with businesses within those communities tributary to the DFA. Target: ≥ 100 business relationships or opportunities within community's tributary to the DFA.
 - iii. 32 Diversity of Forest Products: The number of different forest products produced by milling facilities tributary to the DFA. Target: > 15 different forest products are produced by milling facilities tributary to the DFA.
- LT reviewed the reporting procedure:
 - i. Purchase – e.g. Logs, green lumber bought from suppliers that do not have a long term contract.

- ii. Sale – Products sold E.g. Trim blocks, Logs for building , chips, pellets, BCTS Timber Sale Licenses
 - iii. Trade – E.g. trim blocks traded for log volume.
 - iv. Service – E.g. logging, road construction, silviculture, forestry consultant, business opportunities offered to local businesses
 - v. Support Opportunities - providing facility use, staff participation in local initiatives, equipment donations, scholarships, funding raising events, support of community events.
 - vi. Local defined in indicator 5.2.1.
2. Proposed Indicator Statement: Primary and by-products that are bought, sold, or traded, with other forest dependent businesses in the local area.. Target: 170 purchase/sale/trade/service/support opportunities relationships in the local area. Variance: -60.

3. Discussion:

- LT provided examples of other support opportunities
- PAG concern that similar consultation processes with resource users doesn't exist in the economics part as it does in the habitat part.
- Communication with affected businesses needs to be incorporated into the proposed indicator.
- PAG suggests keeping Indicator #40 and add forest dependent users.
- PAG member asked if wood shavings are tracked. LT stated that purchase of a forest by-product like wood shavings would constitute a forest dependent business.
- LT will provide a definition for Local Community in the SFM Plan glossary.
- PAG is fine with the recommendation to replace Indicator # 29 with the proposed Core Indicator.
- PAG is fine with the recommendation to replace Indicator # 30 with the proposed Core Indicator. PAG wishes to see details in the annual report on the types of business relationships. LT agreed to provide the details in the annual report
- PAG is fine with the recommendation to replace Indicator # 32 with the proposed Core Indicator. The PAG does not see this indicator as relevant any more.
- PAG suggested revising the proposed indicator 6.3.1 target statement to read: *Primary and by-products, support opportunities and business relationships that are bought, sold, traded, or donated with other forest dependent businesses, forest users and the local community. Target: 170 purchase/sale/trade/service relationships/ support opportunities in the local community. Variance: -60.*

4. PAG consensus on revised proposed Indicator Statement: *Primary and by-products, support opportunities and business relationships that are bought, sold, traded, or donated with other forest dependent businesses, forest users and the local community. Target: 170 purchase/sale/trade/service relationships/ support opportunities in the local community. Variance: -60.*

5. PAG consensus on replacing Indicators 29, 30, and 32

6. New Indicator 6.3.4

- PAG requested that an indicator be added to the SFM plan under element 6.3 to properly account for the identified non-aboriginal forest values, knowledge and uses considered in the planning processes.
- LT suggested modifying the current Indicator #40 *Public and Resource Users Involvement in Planning Processes: The number and variety of effective opportunities given to the residents and stakeholders to be proactively involved in planning processes and provide input on proposed development. Target: > 100 opportunities for residents & stakeholders to be proactively involved in the planning process and provide input on proposed development. Variance: -10.*
- PAG suggested replacing indicator #40 with a new indicator (6.3.4) using a modified Core Indicator 6.2.1. The new Indicator 6.3.4 reads: % of identified tenure holders, stakeholders and residents' forest values, knowledge and uses considered in the forestry planning processes. Target: 100%. Variance 0%

7. PAG consensus on replacing Indicator #40 with the new Indicator 6.3.4: % of identified tenure holders, stakeholders and residents' forest values, knowledge and uses considered in the forestry planning processes. Target: 100%. Variance 0%.

10. Other:

- No other items were discussed.

11. PAG Meeting Evaluation Survey Distributed

12. Next Meeting: Thursday September 29, 2011 4 - 9 pm

Location: Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, District Office (Birch Room),
1522 Highway 16, Vanderhoof, B.C.

Meeting adjourned at 9 pm.

Action Items

	ACTION	WHO	DEADLINE	STATUS
03-24-11-1	Include the details of Best Management Practices for CWD in the SFM Plan.	LT	Next Revision of SFM Plan	
04-28-11-1	Provide actual numbers for Indicator # 19 from earlier monitoring reports.	LT	Next Meeting	
04-28-11-2	Report back on how Apprenticeships are tracked.	LT	Next Meeting	
04-28-11-3	Provide a complete list of training (environmental and safety) from Canfor and BCTS.	LT	Next Meeting	
08-25-11-1	Conduct a Gap Analysis with the PAG to determine if all resource values are appropriately covered in the updated SFM Plan	LT	Next Revision of SFM Plan	
08-25-11-2	Include non-aboriginal cultural values in discussion on Core Indicator 5.1.1 Quantity and quality of timber and non-timber benefits, products, and services produced in the DFA	LT	Future Meeting	
08-25-11-3	Review with the PAG the proposed changes to the Value Statement and Objective Statements for SFM Element 1.4 to ensure all values of Cultural Significance are addressed	LT	Future Meeting	