



Fort St. James
Sustainable Forest
Management

Public Advisory Group

PAG Meeting

November 29, 2010 [5:30 PM – 9:00 PM]

Seniors Centre, Fort St. James

Meeting Summary

Attendance:

<i>Public Advisory Group:</i>		<i>Steering Committee & Advisors:</i>
Beulah Broen	Peter Rooke	Shannon Burbee – Canfor PG
Henner Grimm	Ron Timothy	Sara Lazaruk – BCTS
Joanne Vinnedge	Bryan Muloïn	
Bob Frederick	Joe Vogl	
<i>Facilitator & Scribe:</i>		<i>Observers:</i>
Dwight Scott Wolfe (Tesera Systems Inc.) – Facilitator		Ralph Hausot – Canfor
Loni Spletzer (Tesera Systems Inc.) – Scribe		

Quorum based on past five meetings: 4

1. Welcome & Introduction

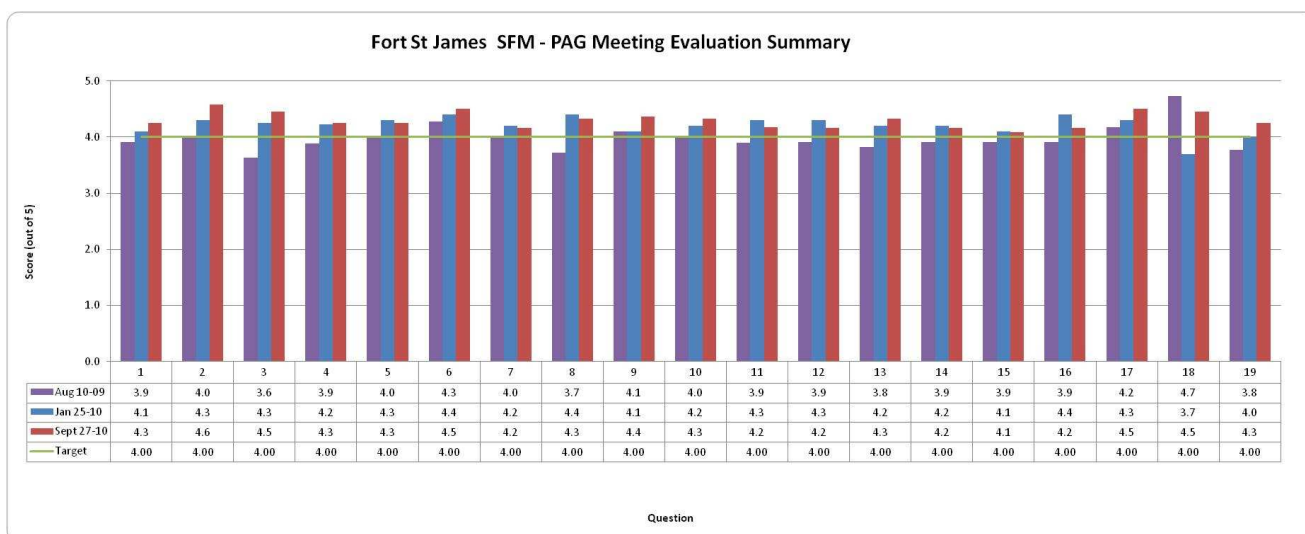
1. Members signed in
2. Welcome by the Chair of the Licensee Steering Committee (Shannon Burbee)
 - a. Introduction of observer: Ralph Hausot – Canfor Prince George, Planning Forester
3. Reviewed Evaluation Results of September 27, 2010 PAG meeting
 - a. Above target on all questions, no comments except from Jeremy who said he would miss everyone.

2. Reviewed Agenda

- a. Table item #9 “Criterion 4 indicator comparison and discussion”
- b. Agenda accepted as revised

3. Reviewed Minutes of the September 29, 2010 Ft. St. James PAG Meeting

1. Minutes of the September 29, 2010 PAG meeting accepted as written



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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Amount of time given to review the meeting agenda prior to the meeting 2. Agenda followed 3. Actions updated 4. Meeting summary captured decisions & action items 5. PAG Terms of Reference followed 6. PAG members actively involved in the meeting 7. The atmosphere of the meeting 8. Facilitator was organized and prepared 9. Facilitator strived for consensus decision-making 10. Facilitator actively listened to concerns and viewpoints | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Facilitator addressed process issues 12. Facilitator remained neutral on content issues 13. Facilitator kept the meeting focused 14. Licensees organized and prepared 15. Information presented clearly 16. Your satisfaction with this PAG meeting 17. Suitability of the Meeting facility 18. Meals and refreshments 19. Your overall satisfaction with the PAG process |
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4. 2009-10 SFM Draft Annual Report Update

1. LSC reviewed the updates to the Annual Report – looked at hard copy of final version
 - a. Indicator 2- Old Forest by Natural Disturbance Unit – Indicator met
 - b. Indicator 3 – Old Interior Forest – Interior met
 - c. Indicator 4 – young Patch Size Distribution – Indicator not met (there is a “trend toward” however).
 - i. Indicator 4 will be reviewed when Criterion 1 is discussed at a future meeting.
2. Discussion:
 - a. Table 5, pg. 8. PAG noted that this Indicator is Not Met (it is currently showing as Pending)
 - b. Table 5 pg.8 Spelling error -”Omineca”

5. Consensus Building and SMART indicators (Dwight Wolfe)

1. Reviewed the definition of “consensus” as stated in the terms of reference, whereby every effort is made to reach consensus but at the very least general agreement. Where there is dissension, the reasons for dissention are noted in the minutes.
2. Reviewed Key Definitions related to SFM – Defined Forest Area (DFA), Value, Objective, Indicator, Target

3. Discussion:

- a. The new CSA standard requires Core Indicators in the SFM plan and there is room for adding additional, locally-relevant indicators.
- b. PAG member asked if Core Indicator was Canada wide. LSC says yes, there is rationale for calibration nation-wide, but the addition of other indicators is welcomed.
- c. PAG member would like to look at Indicator #10: Management Strategies for Sites and Species of Importance. PAG member had a hard time finding how this was supposed to be managed (licensee specific strategies were not easily accessible by public). LSC agreed that this is a tricky Indicator and needs clean-up. It will be reviewed at a future meeting. PAG member felt that this information was not easy to find on the website.

6. SFM Performance Requirements (Criteria, Elements, and Core Indicators)

1. The LSC provided a handout called FSJ SFMP Indicator Comparison Proposed CSA Z809-08 Indicators and Current Indicators. For each of the Criteria and SFM Elements in the CSA standard, the LSC has listed the Core Indicator and a proposed Indicator Statement, Target and Variance that aligns to the Core indicator. The list also shows a current FSJ Indicator, Target and Variance that is associated with that Element.
2. PAG member wondered about how the auditors “score” the other indicators that are added to the Core Indicators. The LSC stated that auditors will still apply the same rationale (assessment, process, relevance, measurable, etc) and recommend certification accordingly.
3. LSC reviewed the color scheme on the summary spreadsheet (purple=lacking, red = don't align with core indicators, etc). The LSC noted that there is a LEGEND at the top of page 1 of the spreadsheet that explains these.

7. Criterion 2 Indicator Comparison and Discussion

1. The LSC provided a handout called Ft. St. James SFMP Proposed Indicator Revisions Criterion 2: Ecosystem Condition and Productivity – Core Indicator Discussion.
2. Element 2.1 Forest Ecosystem Resilience: Core Indicator 2.1.1 Reforestation Success
 - a. Proposed Indicator Statement: Average Regeneration delay for stands established annually. Target: Regeneration established in 3 years or less. Variance: Plan specific.
 - b. Current Indicator #34 Statement: Percentage of blocks > 1.0 ha harvested 3 years prior to the reporting period that have been reforested. Target: 90% Variance: -20%
 - c. LSC Recommendation: replace the current indicator #34 with the Proposed Indicator Statement.
 - d. Discussion:

- i. LSC Comments: There would be a slight change in reporting by looking at target in years instead of percentage. There is no change to practice management.
 - ii. PAG member would like to see the range of years used to calculate the average as a table in the Annual Report so that it can be monitored. LSC notes that 4 years is the legal requirement.
 - iii. PAG member wants to speak to “resilience” as this is in the Element. Resilience means how well an ecosystem is able to withstand perturbation on the landbase. (ie. White Bark Pine near Smithers – the tipping point has been reached and the species cannot recover). Resilience should speak to this. LSC said that ecologically appropriate measures are taken with the right trees planted in the right habitat. PAG member wonders if spruce trees will survive as an over story on stands previously pine leading.
 - iv. PAG member concerned about the statement “quickness of planting and less brushing”. PAG member wants the animals to have habitat (ie willow, etc). Noted that there is far too much pine in rows (obviously planted). This is not reforestation/regeneration of a forest, this is simply replanting a section of forest.
 - v. PAG wants to know about Variance. It states “plan specific”. LSC noted that the variance may change for each SFM plan based on local performance.
 - vi. PAG suggested changing the variance to +1 years.
 - vii. PAG member looks back to Criterion and sees that it is all about trees not just non-forest etc. LSC says this is an issue, and recognized there are weaknesses in required Core Indicators.
 - viii. PAG member feels that there is too much mono-culture.
 - ix. PAG member worried that the Plan will lose Indicators currently in the SFM Plan. The LSC assured the PAG that the old indicators remain, we are just adding Core indicators.
- e. General agreement with one dissension to replace the current Indicator #34 with the proposed indicator statement: *Average Regeneration delay for stands established annually. Target: Regeneration established in 3 years or less. Variance: +1 yrs.*
- i. Reason for dissention: PAG member prefers original reporting in percent not years.

3. Element 2.2 Forest Ecosystem Productivity: Core Indicator 2.2.1 Additions and Deletions to the Forest Area

- a. Proposed Indicator Statement: Percentage of the gross forested land base in the DFA converted to non-forest land use through forest management activities, Target < 3% of Gross Forested Land Base (GFLB), Variance None.
- b. Current Indicator #25 Statement: The total percent of forested land within the Timber Harvesting Landbase that is converted to non-forest land Target: <5% Variance: 0%.

c. LSC Recommendation: replace the current indicator #25 with the Proposed Indicator Statement.

d. Discussion:

i. PAG member noted that gross forested land base (GFLB) is a huge area, but this is a Core Indicator. PAG member commented that this is not a meaningful indicator. LSC Noted that the Forest Ecosystem doesn't just apply to the timber harvesting landbase but includes forested areas that are not part of the timber harvesting land base. This is also an attempt to calibrate the landscape level statistics for consistency purposes between SFM Plans.

ii. PAG member not in agreement with changing this statement and is concerned with a possible move toward Area-based Tenures. The facilitator noted that Tenure Reform is outside the scope of the SFM Plan.

iii. PAG member would like to know why the target is set at 3%? What is the rationale for picking this number? LSC will provide rationale at next meeting.

e. PAG could not reach agreement on the LSC recommendation to add this indicator to the plan until such time as Canfor and BCTS can provide a comparison of Gross Forest Land Base totals and Timber Harvesting Land Base totals for the Ft. St. James DFA. The review of this indicator will be deferred to a future next meeting.

Action Item #1: LSC to provide a comparison of Gross Forest Land Base totals and Timber Harvesting Land Base totals for the Ft. St. James DFA. Due: Next meeting.

4. Current Indicator #21: Percentage of cutblocks harvested having mappable non-forested types (> 0.5 ha) that are artificially converted to forested types through afforestation treatments Target: 0% Variance: +20%

a. LSC Recommendation to remove this Indicator from the SFM Plan

b. Discussion

i. . LSC Comments: Strong performance already in this indicator. Licensees will not go in and plant if the area did not have trees to begin with. Sites are likely wet, rocky etc.

ii. PAG member asked about NC and NCBR. Are they current legal terms. PAG member noted that when someone is classifying wet lands there is variation and some may be "wetlands at risk" – does that area get absorbed into site plans (smallest area is 1 hectare)?. LSC noted that these areas are still tracked in the site mapping.

iii. PAG member asked if there is an alternate wording to this indicator? LSC says that this was discussed and the decision is to recommend removing this indicator from the Plan. The Core Indicator 1.1.1 Ecosystem area by Type could be used to monitor the non-forested types found in the DFA.

- iv. PAG members would still like to see some type of reporting of artificial conversion of non-forested types and suggest that Indicator #21 be combined with indicator #22 (Existing areas of non-forested types artificially converted to forested types. Target: 0 ha. Variance: 0 ha). LSC read out both indicators and suggested that perhaps delete Indicator 21 and keep Indicator 22.

c. PAG consensus to delete Indicator 21 from the SFM Plan and keep Indicator 22.

5. Element 2.2 Forest Ecosystem Productivity: Core Indicator: 2.2.2 Proportion of the calculated long-term sustainable harvest level that is actually harvested.

a. Proposed Indicator Statement: % of volume harvested compared to allocated harvest level, Target 100% over cut control period, as defined by Timber Supply forecast harvest flow, Licensee Specific Variance: Canfor: as per Cut Control Regulation, BCTS: 50%

b. Current Indicator #38: Percent of licensee AAC harvested over a 5 year cut control period. Percent of BCTS volume offered over fiscal year Target: 100% Variance: +/- 10%

c. LSC Recommendation: replace the current indicator #38 with the Proposed Indicator Statement.

d. Discussion:

i. LSC Comments: The new standard requires indicator for Long Term Harvest level compared to annual in current plan. The New Indicator is consistent with Legal requirements. BCTS and Canfor will report separately on their performance.

ii. BCTS is asking for a 50% variance on the volume harvested compared to the allocated harvest level. BCTS has a social responsibility to offer volume based on market demand. When Market demand is high, BCTS increases volume developed and offered. When Markets are poor, volume drops, in part because it is considered poor use of taxpayer's dollars. BCTS Mandate refers to being "an integral part of the BC economy, providing value to our customers, stakeholders and the Province"

iii. PAG member wanted to know if volumes reported were the harvested volumes or the scaled volumes. LSC noted that reporting has been on the scaled volumes.

e. General agreement with one dissension to replace the current Indicator #38 with the proposed indicator statement: *% of volume harvested compared to allocated harvest level, Target 100% over cut control period, as defined by Timber Supply forecast harvest flow, Licensee Specific Variance: Canfor: as per Cut Control Regulation, BCTS: 50%.*

i. Reason for dissention: PAG member feels that BCTS can do better than 50% on an annual basis.

8. Feedback on this process

1. PAG member likes the large summary.

2. PAG member would like background info ahead of time.

9. Next Meeting: Monday January 17, 2010 at 5:30 pm at the Fort St. James Forest District Office: Stonesbay Road.

10. Update Actions:

1. Action List was reviewed and updated:

a. Action Item Sept 27 - 01: PAG to review Draft Annual Report and provide questions or comments to the facilitator. NO additional comments received. Action completed

	ACTION	WHO	DEADLINE	STATUS
Sept 27-01	Review Draft Annual Report and provide questions or comments to the facilitator	PAG	October 27, 2010	Completed
Nov 29-01	Provide a comparison of Gross Forest Land Base totals and Timber Harvesting Land Base totals for the Ft. St. James DFA.	LSC	Next Meeting	