



Fort St. James
Sustainable Forest
Management

Public Advisory Group

PAG Meeting

February 21, 2011 [5:30 PM – 9:00 PM]

Forest District Office, Fort St. James

Meeting Summary

Attendance:

<i>Public Advisory Group:</i>		<i>Steering Committee & Advisors:</i>
Beulah Broen	Peter Rooke	Greg Yeomans – Canfor PG
Henner Grimm	Ron Timothy	Sara Lazaruk – BCTS
Joanne Vinnedge	Joe Vogl	Jim McCormack- SFMP Coordinator- Canfor
<i>Facilitator & Scribe:</i>		<i>Observers:</i>
Dwight Scott Wolfe (Tesera Systems Inc.) – Facilitator		Dan Stanyer - BCTS
Loni Spletzer (Tesera Systems Inc.) – Scribe		

Quorum based on past five meetings: 5

1) Welcome & Introduction

- a) Members signed in
- b) Welcome by the Chair of the Licensee Steering Committee (Greg Yeomans)
- c) Introduction of PAG members and guests/observers: Greg Yeomans as new Canfor- chair (replacing Shannon Burbee who is currently on maternity leave), Jim McCormack- SFMP Coordinator-Canfor, Dan Stanyer – observer for BCTS.

2) Reviewed Agenda

- a) Agenda accepted as written.

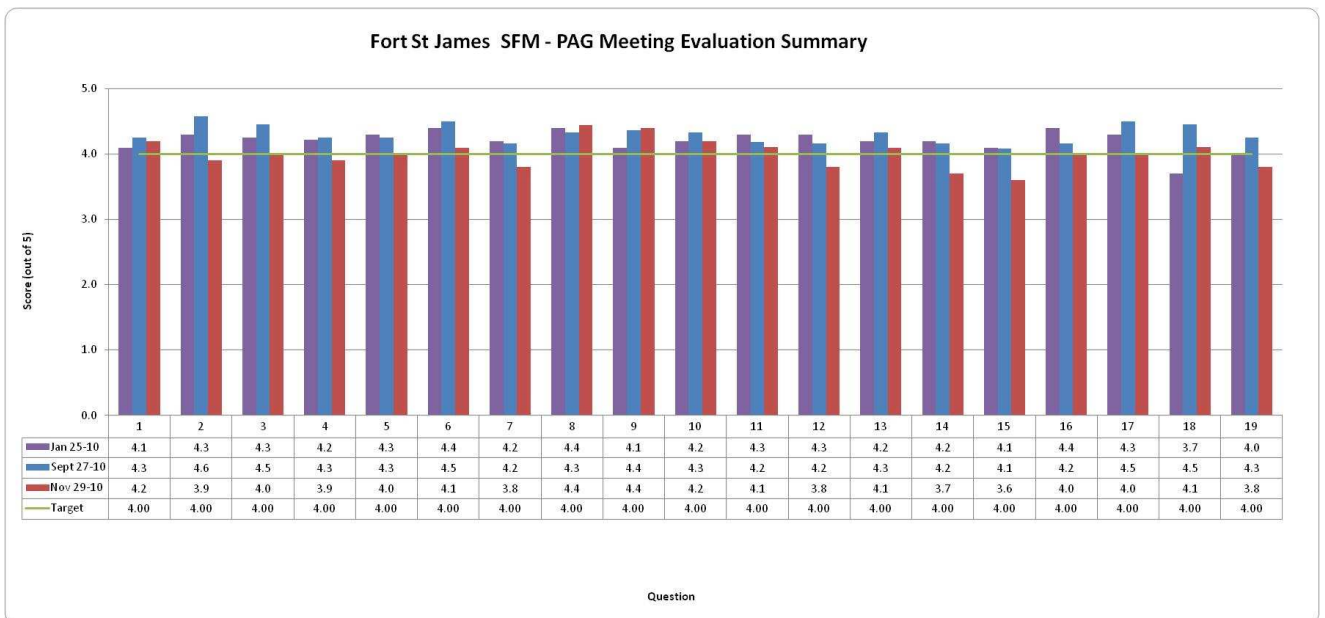
3) Reviewed Minutes of the November 29, 2010 Ft. St. James PAG Meeting

- a) p 4 point iii. PAG member would like to see a better definition of the word “resilience” and feels that “affected” is too weak. A better definition of Resilience would be “how well an ecosystem is able to withstand perturbation on the landbase”. Minutes updated to reflect this revised definition.
- b) Minutes of the November 29, 2010 Ft. St. James PAG Meeting accepted as revised.

4) Reviewed Evaluation Results of November 29, 2010 PAG meeting

- a) On or above the targets (min 4.0) for all evaluation points except the following:
 - i) Q2 (3.9) Agenda followed.
 - ii) Q4 (3.9) Meeting summary captured decisions & action items
 - iii) Q7 (3.8) The atmosphere of the meeting
 - iv) Q12 (3.8) Facilitator remained neutral on content issues
 - v) Q14 (3.7) Licensees organized and prepared

- vi) Q15 (3.6) Information presented clearly
- vii) Q19 (3.8) Your overall satisfaction with the PAG process
- b) Comments to improve the PAG meeting:
 - i) None
- c) General Comments:
 - i) Meeting became pedantic exercise (PAG)
 - ii) Good! (PAG)
 - iii) Some serious concerns with criterion and elements versus TREES, TREES focus (PAG)
 - iv) More resources for preparation in detail to explain/demonstrate issues to PAG. Tough to do. (Observer)



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| 1. Amount of time given to review the meeting agenda prior to the meeting | 11. Facilitator addressed process issues |
| 2. Agenda followed | 12. Facilitator remained neutral on content issues |
| 3. Actions updated | 13. Facilitator kept the meeting focused |
| 4. Meeting summary captured decisions & action items | 14. Licensees organized and prepared |
| 5. PAG Terms of Reference followed | 15. Information presented clearly |
| 6. PAG members actively involved in the meeting | 16. Your satisfaction with this PAG meeting |
| 7. The atmosphere of the meeting | 17. Suitability of the Meeting facility |
| 8. Facilitator was organized and prepared | 18. Meals and refreshments |
| 9. Facilitator strived for consensus decision-making | 19. Your overall satisfaction with the PAG process |
| 10. Facilitator actively listened to concerns and viewpoints | |

5) Presentation and Review of PAG Terms of Reference

- a) Revisions to the Terms of Reference
 - i) Date of Terms of Reference changed to “February 21, 2011”
 - ii) Section 1.2 Participating Licensee Team: Removed references to “Carrier Lumber”.

- iii) Throughout the document updated references for CSA SFM Standard from Z809-02 to Z809-08
- iv) Throughout the document, references to “Licensees and BCTS” have been changed to “Canfor and BCTS”.
- b) PAG consensus on revisions to the Terms of Reference.
- c) Discussion:
 - i) LSC suggested making an addition to Terms of Reference to address recent performance for Indicator #63 PAG Information Gap Inquires. This indicator was not met in the 2009-10 Annual Report due to PAG meetings being held within the 3-month time frame specified in the indicator. Facilitator noted that in the current Terms of Reference (p.7 Section 5.2) it does not stipulate the frequency of meetings (*Meeting dates will be confirmed jointly between the Licensee Team and the PAG.*). When this indicator was reviewed with the Annual Report at the September 27, 2010 PAG meeting, the PAG members agreed that “...*business can still be conducted by email. Licensees can issue response and then PAG can vote if necessary and table issue to next meeting*”.
 - ii) PAG member expressed concern about a rumour regarding the Fort St. James Forest District’s current position on the deactivation criteria referenced in *Indicator 70 – Road Deactivation*.

Action Item #1: LSC to investigate the Fort St. James Forest District’s current position on the deactivation criteria referenced in Indicator 70 – Road Deactivation and report back to the PAG.

Due: Next Meeting.

6) Update on Core Indicator 2.2.1 – Additions and Deletions to the Forest Area

- a) The LSC provided a Powerpoint presentation on Gross Forest Landbase.
 - i) Gross forest landbase includes:
 - Timber harvest landbase (THLB).
 - Additional forested area not contributing to the cut (NTHLB).
 - Non productive areas (NP) e.g. swamps, rock
 - Adjacent parks and protected areas
 - ii) The LSC reviewed reasons why the indicator is changing from measuring the THLB to measuring the Gross Forest Landbase.
 - Gross landbase is a more accurate and complete measure of changes to the landbase than just “timber harvest landbase”. THLB doesn’t include all the locations roads are built.
 - Certification is based on more than just “THLB”.
 - iii) The LSC noted that the new target of <3% of the Gross Forest Landbase is proportionate to the old target of <5% of the THLB.
- b) Element 2.2 Forest Ecosystem Productivity: Core Indicator 2.2.1 Additions and Deletions to the Forest Area

- i) Proposed Indicator Statement: Percentage of the gross forest land base in the DFA converted to non-forest land use through forest management activities, Target < 3% of Gross Forest Land Base (GFLB). Variance: None.
- ii) 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%.
- iii) LSC Recommendation: replace the current indicator #25 with the Proposed Indicator Statement.
- iv) Discussion:
 - PAG member asked for clarification on whether unnatural non-productive (i.e. on-block roads) are included in the calculation of the indicator. PAG member is concerned about number of roads providing access to cut blocks. LSC stated that changing this indicator does not mean a change in on-block road construction practices and that the LSC is bound by current regulation to not exceed 7% for on-block roads. Current practice is far below that.
 - PAG member asked if the practices were consistent with BCTS. LSC said the regulation applies province-wide. PAG member wonders if this practice is audited or checked in some way. PAG member asked what happens with BCTS license holders because they are able to change the road site plan. BCTS responded that their license holders are also unable to exceed 7% and they are currently also within targets. All operators could be caught in an audit if over the target and there are post-harvest inspections by BCTS staff so there is a high level of review. Facilitator suggested that if PAG members have concerns about specific blocks in the bush then they can bring this to the attention of the LSC. PAG member would like to see on-block roads included on a future Field Trip.
 - PAG member asked if it includes right-of-ways. He doesn't see replanting on right-of-ways
 - PAG member asked about what percentage will be replanted for wildlife habitat (clover, seeding etc). LSC said this is not done since they will be turned back to nature. Grass seeding would be to control erosion as necessary.
 - PAG member asked about the process for taking the Non-Productive (NP) out of the Net Area to be Reforested (NAR). When is this decided? LSC said this is part of site plan and is decided beforehand.
- v) PAG consensus to replace the current Indicator #25 with the proposed indicator statement:
The total percent of forested land within the Timber Harvesting Landbase that is converted to non-forest land Target: <5% Variance: 0%.

7) Criterion 5 Economic and Social Benefits: Indicator Comparison and Discussion

- a) LSC delivered a powerpoint presentation listing discussion items found in the CSA Standard related to Criteria 5.
 - i) Group agreed to see if discussion items were covered during indicator discussions.

SFM Element 5.1 Timber and Non-Timber Benefits

- b) **Core Indicator 5.1.1 – Quantity and quality of timber and non-timber benefits, products, and services produced in the DFA**

- i) It was discussed that at the previous meeting too much information and paperwork was in handouts. LSC simplified the process for this meeting by not having handouts and using powerpoints with the intent that everyone would only need to look at the screen.
- ii) Core Indicator 5.1.1a. % 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%
 - This Core indicator was endorsed by the PAG at the November 29, 2010 meeting in relation to SFM Element 2.2 Forest Ecosystem Productivity.
 - Under the new standard, this Core indicator also applies to SFM Element 5.1 Timber and Non-Timber Benefits.
- iii) Proposed Core Indicator 5.1.1.b. Conformance with strategies for non-timber benefits identified in plans. Target: No non-conformances for site level plans. Variance: 0.
 - LSC Recommendation: Replace Indicators #26, #27, #31, #39 and #68 with the new indicator “Conformance with strategies for non-timber benefits identified in plans”. Also, add in communication indicators identified as not being consistent. Option to go under Core Indicator 6.3.1. *Evidence that the organization has co-operated with other forest-dependent businesses, forest users, and the local community to strengthen and diversify the local economy.*
 - (a) Existing Indicator #26: Percent of road related soil erosion events that introduce sediment into a stream identified in annual road inspections that are addressed Target: 100%. Variance: 0%.
 - (b) Existing Indicator #27: Percentage of fish stream crossings planned and installed to a reasonable design and sediment control standards. Target: 100% annually. Variance: 0%.
 - (c) Existing Indicator #31: Percentage of permanent crossing structures installed on fish streams that will allow for adequate fish passage (dependant on the presence / absence of fish). Target: 100% annually. Variance: 0%.
 - (d) Existing Indicator #39: Percent of cutblocks and roads harvested, in known scenic areas, which have visual assessments completed and implemented according to the recommendations. Target: 100%. Variance: None
 - (e) Existing Indicator #68: Total percentage of forest operations that are consistent with a landscape level strategy for the management of recreational, commercial, and cultural trails as identified in the DFA. Target: 100%. Variance: -10%
 - Discussion:
 - (a) PAG member expressed concern over a rumour that a local supplier received an impromptu purchase request from a local mining company and was not able to fill the large request with available stock so the representative went to Prince George to procure the necessary quantities. Felt that if given enough notice, the mine supplies could be brought in. The LSC stated that in forestry, there is usually preplanning with respect to communicating with local business to supply forest companies etc with what they need. Local purchasing should be encouraged.
 - (b) The LSC referred to a handout that some of the PAG members did not have at the meeting. The handout called
“*fsj_indicator_comparison_current_plan_to_proposed_z809-*”

- 08_standard_2010_11_15*", was distributed at the November 29th meeting. LSC requests that the PAG members have this handout with them at future PAG meetings.
- (c) PAG members were concerned that a detailed agenda was not provided ahead of time. LSC responded that criterion 5 was noted on agenda and that the indicators were listed under spreadsheet handed out last meeting. It is certainly appreciated that more clarity on objectives of meeting should be provided with meeting notice.
 - (d) PAG member asked about the option to add the details instead of getting rid of the separate indicators and replacing with an all-inclusive statement. LSC wants to have flexibility to add other non-timber values to this indicator as they are encountered. If the public expresses an interest in something, it will go into a system for tracking.
 - (e) PAG member concerned about the intent to replace indicators 26, 27 31, 39 and 68. LSC clarified that the proposed Core indicator statement is in fact a roll-up of these indicators.
 - (f) PAG member asked for clarity on refitting the old standard with new standard. PAG asked if the "strategies" stated in the proposed indicator statement will be made known to the public. Where are these strategies? There is concern that future reporting will simply show "strategies have been met".
 - (g) PAG member asked what the "plans" are that are stated in the proposed indicator statement. LSC responded that plans would include Site Plans for blocks, roads and bridges.
- PAG could not reach agreement on the LSC recommendation to replace Indicators #26, #27, #31, #39 and #68 with the new indicator "Conformance with strategies for non-timber benefits identified in plans".
 - (a) PAG requests more information on the strategies and plans related to the management of the non-timber benefits associated with this indicator. LSC suggested that we could discuss these indicators again once the strategies and other related indicators are reviewed from Criterion 1.

Action Item #2: LSC to provide more information on strategies and plans related to the management of the non-timber benefits associated with this indicator during the review of other SFM Criteria. **Due:** Future Meetings.

SFM Element 5.2 Communities and Sustainability

c) Core Indicator 5.2.2 Level of Investment in Training and Skills Development

- i) Proposed Core Indicator 5.2.2. Training in environmental and safety procedures in compliance with company training plans. Target: 100% of company employees and contractors will have both environmental and safety training. Variance: -5%.
- ii) Discussion:
 - This is a new indicator required under the CSA standard.
 - The variance (-5%) is required due to new staff coming on and getting properly trained (training may be provided at set times of year or in groups rather than individually).
 - There are Environmental Management System (EMS) plans in place with BCTS and Canfor currently. Both Canfor and BCTS also require their contractors to be SAFE certified under the WORKSAFE program. There are audits that look specifically at how safety plans and training is tracked.

- PAG member asked about how old steel culverts are dealt with in the bush and if this is covered under current environmental procedures. The LSC stated that current practice is to haul the old steel culverts away to be recycled. There are no procedures in place to haul away old culverts that were abandoned many years ago.
 - PAG member asked about current time frames for training employees and contractors – what is the time limit for training per employee? The LSC stated that training programs are set out already in the EMS plans that each company has in place – some are legally mandated and some are company policy.
 - PAG member asked about cross training of employees for identification of such things as Culturally Modified Trees and Sites of Biological Significance. The LSC stated that Layout Crews are trained to identify and protect these values pre-harvest.
- iii) PAG consensus to add the proposed indicator statement 5.2.2 to the SFM Plan: *Training in environmental and safety procedures in compliance with company training plans. Target: 100% of company employees and contractors will have both environmental and safety training. Variance: -5%.*
- d) **Core Indicator 5.2.1 Level of investment in initiatives that contribute to community sustainability**
- i) Proposed Core Indicator 5.2.1. Investment in local communities. Target: % of dollars spent in local communities (5-year rolling average). Variance: -20%
- LSC Recommendation: Replace Indicator #48 with the new indicator “Investment in local communities”.
 - (a) Existing Indicator #48: Percent of operational forestry contract value in dollars within the DFA serviced by north central British Columbia Target: 90%, achieved annually (excluding BCTS) Variance: -10%
 - Discussion
 - (a) The LSC stated that this new indicator is based on more meaningful local data. An established baseline will indicate increases or decreases over time. A 5-yr rolling average will smooth out the potentially large year-to-year fluctuations. The variance is necessary to allow for fluctuations, is required for a smaller target and allows for BCTS contracting rules.
 - (b) In 2010, approximately \$50,000 was spent by BCTS (Stuart Nechako) on contractors based in the Fort St. James. The five year average is \$60,000.
 - (c) In 2010, approximately \$11,000,000 was spent by Canfor on contractors based in Fort St. James. The five year average is \$12,690,000.
 - (d) PAG member cannot see correlation between local contractor spending and numbers represented on LSC graphs and charts. BCTS has reported its percentages differently from Canfor (didn't include harvesting). BCTS can provide a list of contracts that contribute to the \$60,000.
 - (e) PAG member understands the need to develop a baseline status for local spending but is more interested in seeing an additional commitment to improving community stability .
 - (f) LSC mentioned that their current company focus for funding support was on educational institutions (e.g. UNBC) and United Way and in kind donations. When

asked how the United Way donations worked it was explained that the company matched all donations from employees and contractors. .

- (g) PAG member feels that big companies put pressure on government to make changes that negatively affect small communities such as Fort St. James.
 - (h) PAG member noted the sensitivity of this community to the amount of dollars that stay in the community. PAG members are more aware of the SFM process now than when Certification first started. Large processing facilities in the community have been shut down and dismantled yet logging trucks still pass through this community. Where is the investment back into the community?
 - (i) PAG member noted that there are no offices/mills here also – so there is very little economic benefit to the community.
 - (j) PAG member would like to know the dollar value of the BCTS contracts awarded to contractors based in Fort St. James. BCTS will find out who the local contractors are and the value of the contracts awarded to local contractors.
 - (k) PAG members would like to see more accurate details and a different approach to presenting economic benefit to the Fort St. James community. How much do the contracts actually generate? LSC acknowledged there is probably an error in BCTS numbers although the emphasis in presentation is on the percentage of total dollars spent on contractors who are based in Fort St. James. The presentation indicated that out of all contract dollars from Stuart Nechako, 23 % were Fort St. James contractors. Contractors can be from all over the TSA and province.
 - (l) PAG member would like to see 5 year rolling average trend line.
- PAG could not reach agreement on the LSC recommendation to replace Indicator #48 with the new indicator “Investment in local communities”.

Action Item #3: BCTS will find out who the local contractors are and the value of the contracts awarded to local contractors. **Due:** Future Meeting.

8) Progress Feedback

- a) PAG members reminded to bring their copy of the handout called “*fsj_indicator_comparison_current_plan_to_proposed_z809-08_standard_2010_11_15*”, and be prepared for discussion. There will be spare copies provided by LSC at the next meeting.
- b) PAG member wants to see details and rational for why indicators are moved, rolled up, condensed etc.
- c) PAG member requests that more background information be distributed in advance of the meeting and that the agenda details the specific indicators to be discussed.

9) Other

- a) There were no additional agenda items

10) Update Actions:

- a) Action List was reviewed and updated:
 - i) Action Item Nov 29-01: Greg Yeomans presented a comparison of Gross Forest Land Base totals and Timber Harvesting Land Base totals for the Ft. St. James DFA as noted in this meeting summary. Action completed.

11) Next Meetings:

<http://www.sfmptsa.com/>

- a) March 28, 2011, 5:30 – 9:00 pm at the Fort St. James Forest District Office
 b) May 2, 2011, 5:30 – 9:00 pm at the Fort St. James Forest District Office.

	ACTION	WHO	DEADLINE	STATUS
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	Completed
Feb 21-01	Investigate the Fort St. James Forest District's current position on the deactivation criteria referenced in Indicator 70 – Road Deactivation and report back to the PAG	LSC	Next Meeting	
Feb 21-02	Provide more information on strategies and plans related to the management of the non-timber benefits associated with this indicator during the review of other SFM Criteria.	LSC	Future Meetings	
Feb 21-03	BCTS will find out who the local contractors are and the value of the contracts awarded to local contractors.	BCTS	Future Meetings	