

WIWAG 2016

Highlights from West Island Woodland Advisory Group (WIWAG)



The **West Island Woodlands Advisory Group (WIWAG)** was formed to strengthen sustainable forest management planning and practices in 2000. WIWAG includes representatives from labour, fisheries, tourism, recreation, naturalists, logging contractors, small business, environment, fish & game, Parks Canada, local and regional government and the Ministry of Forests.

WIWAG provides advice to Western Forest Products on local level performance indicators as part of the companies' Canadian Standards Association (CSA) Z809-2008 standard. The SFM Plan is designed to complement: Environmental Management System (and related ISO 14001 certification)

Port Alberni Forest Operations - Western Forest Products (PAFO WFP)

The Port Alberni Forest Operations is located on western Vancouver Island and represents one of twelve WFP Timberlands operations. There are five communities within or adjacent to the license area. These are Port Alberni, Bamfield, Anacla (Huu-ay-aht First Nation), Nitinat (Ditidaht First Nation), and Kildonan. The location, tenures and facilities are divided into three district geographic areas; Franklin, Henderson Lake, and Great Central Lake.

The current TFL 44 Management Plan and a detailed description of the Defined Forest Area is located here: <http://www.westernforest.com/wiwag/> and click on DFA map.

Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) strives to maintain and enhance the long term health of forest ecosystems, while providing ecological, economic, social and cultural opportunities for the benefit of present and future generations. The Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) Plan has been prepared to support WFP commitment to sustainable forest management, consistent with the CSA Z809 Standard. The CSA Z809 forest management standard is based on the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers (CCFM) SFM criteria and elements.

- The SFM Plan describes Port Alberni Forest Operation's Values, Objectives, Indicators and Targets. As appropriate, an Acceptable Variance is provided for the near term performance level of each Target and a forecasted future condition is provided for each Indicator. These indicators were developed during discussions among WIWAG members, Port Alberni Forest Operation staff and other Western Forest staff.

WFP works closely with the WIWAG to identify local values, objectives, indicators, targets and acceptable variances that reflect the national criteria. These have been incorporated into this SFM planning and practice.

On an annual basis, the SFMP is updated to include performance reporting information in order to facilitate review of the actual outcomes of each indicator. Most indicators, (but not all) are reported on an annual basis from January 1 – December 31. The Detailed Indicator and Results report (Data Set) is completed by Port Alberni Forest Operations Management, and presented for review to WIWAG in the spring of each year (typically April).

WFP WIWAG Meetings

Are generally held on the second Thursday of the month WFP holds approximately four meetings a year (no meetings July and August), at the Alberni Clayoquot Regional District boardroom. Please call or email to confirm a meeting as dates or locations are subject to change.

For more information about WIWAG meetings or general information please contact:

Jennifer Dyson, email: awpb@island.net or call 250-724-0876

Or check out the website for minutes and for past and current work and presentations and more information on the CSA Z809 Standard: <http://www.westernforest.com/wiwag/>