

West Island Woodlands Advisory Group – Western Forest Products

Held at the ACRD Boardroom, Port Alberni

DRAFT Minutes – February 11, 2016

Advisory Group Members

Y Y	Harold Carlson Barbra Baker (alt)	Forest Recreation	Y	Bill Coates	Logging and Roads Contractor
Y Y	Rick Avis Judy Carlson (alt)	Naturalists	Y	David Paul Mary Bauto	Forests, Lands Natural Resources Operations
	Sheena Falconer Bob Cole (alt)	Watershed/Fisheries West Coast Aquatic		Jim Creighton Neil Malbon (alt)	Small Business/Tourism
R	Lucas Banton John Jack (alt)	A.C. Regional District		Brigitte Arndt Len Cherry John Smith	AV Hill Climbers AV Hill Climbers (alt)
R	Bob Cerenza Darlene Clark	Alberni Fish and Game	Y	Dan Washington Mike Ruttan (alt)	City of Port Alberni
	Mark Young	Parks Canada receive minutes for information cannot commit to representative	Y	Mike Stini (alt) Jane Morden	Environment
Y	Stefan Ochman Jane Bremner	Bamfield Road Safety Association		Keith Hunter	Multiple Goods & Services
		Catalyst	R	Jim Messer	WFP General Manager of Alberni Operations

Y = attended R=regrets blank=did not attend V=vacant seat

Resources Present:

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

Erin Badesso – PAFO WFP, Forester
 Brian Marcus - PAFO WFP, Area Planner, Forestry
 Marissa Hallaway – PAFO WFP, Field Planner, Forestry

Guest:
 Libby Avis

Jennifer Dyson – Facilitator
 Michele Laminski - Recording Secretary

Welcome and Introductions

Meeting called to order @ 5:30pm, introductions were made around the table.

Safety Orientation

Jennifer reviewed safety procedures.

Review of Agenda and Approve Minutes - DONE

Action Items from WFP November 12, 2015

1. JD to post approved minutes from last meeting to WIWAG website - DONE
2. Stefan Tack provided the link for Forest Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreements with First Nations (attached to November minutes) - DONE
3. Erin to look into stream changes over the years with respect to Indicator 3.2.C. - DONE
 - a. Carnation Creek – provincial gov't has long term data – The link is: <https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hre/ffip/CarnationCrk.htm>

Action Item 1: Post approved minutes to the WIWAG website – Approved

WFP Update – Erin Badesso

- There is a contractual dispute with one of our main contractors and we are working towards reaching an agreement. Henderson is operating and road spending is dependent on high priority areas. Question asked “Why can’t we keep hauling while the dispute is going on?” Logging is not an option while the dispute is happening. The mill does receive wood from other sources. The market is not an issue at this time.

Marissa Hallaway, WFP Field Planner – Presentation: The Evolution of the Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification (BEC). This was an action item from our February 2015 as a potential topic to bring to WIWAG.

- Site Classification – does take into consideration elevation.
- BEC was created at UBC in the 1960 – 70’s. The BC Ministry of Forests adopted this in 1976.
- Climatic Classification is broken into three parts: Biological/Geology/Climatic – Groups these factors to create the zones. There are 14 zones in BC and each zone has sub-zones and variants.
- Reviewed naming subzones and variants
- Site Classification – Site Series/ Site Association/ Site Phase
- “Salal phase” is an example of further describing the area
- WFP works mostly in the CWH zone.
- Subzones in our Defined Forest Area:
 - CWHvh1 – very wet, hyper-maritime variant
 - CWHvm1 – sub-montane, very wet, maritime variant
 - CWHvm2 – montane, very wet maritime variant
 - CWHxm2 – very dry maritime variant – drier, warmer, less
 - CWHmm1 – submontane moist maritime variant –
 - CWHmm2 – montane moist maritime variant – higher elevation in Gretchen/ Great Central Lake
- MHmm1 – windward moist maritime variant – long cold wet winters, lots of snow with short summers
- Indicator 1.1.1 – reviewed how this indicator relates to the BEC as it shows how aggressively we are logging and reforesting sub-zones. This indicator will be updated at the next meeting.

- Indicator 1.4.A – Sensitive Ecosystem Training – periodically the planners and contractors attend a training session. There is a layer in our mapping database for these sensitive areas and is checked at the engineering phase.
- BEC and Climate change – Benefits of BEC – helps with communication and understanding of areas, creates good, detailed, baseline data and enables tracking of areas over time. Reviewed slide from Annette's presentation on climate change comparing a slide from 1950's to a prediction of 2050. Prediction is areas will be wetter.
- Reviewed References and provided website links.

Questions?

Would an area ever hinder us from logging there?

EB - Yes, as we protect certain areas and maintain percentages of each subzone.

Quiz question: What zone is Cathedral Grove in?

CWHxm1 - Zones are named after the climatic climax species, but the seral species change over time.

Stream Changes over the years, Erin Badesso (Action Item above)

- GIS model has been implemented to track harvesting associated with S4 and S5 streams (see associated indicators). The new model improves the rigour of reporting on the associated indicators. It now captures not only non-ephemeral but also ephemeral streams. Applying the modification to previous years, what changes? Erin presented a chart detailing the changes for S4, S5 and S6 streams from 2011- 2015. Erin is confident in the new model and that the data results will meet the indicator targets over time.

Discussion regarding MAMU and Western Goshawk

- Reminder of Engagement session February 15th 1 – 3 p.m.
- Reviewed documents given in the information package – letter from WFP and a letter from the Government. Government has invited us to a session to talk about the MAMU and NOGO.
- PowerPoint Presentation created by John Deal – he is presenting in another location tonight. Erin will be presenting on his behalf.
- Marbled Murrelet – OG dependent/ status – threatened/ Estimated BC population 100K
- Northern Goshawk – requires mature/ OG forest/ status - threatened/ estimated population approx. 1400.

Goal – to keep these two species from becoming extinct due to human activities

- Requirement for effective protection, which is why the government has become involved. The act covers federal land, not provincial, therefore the province may consider the strategy advice.
- First Nations and stakeholders have the opportunity to provide input on the proposed management options. Question – who all was invited? David Paul said the invitation was inclusive, but there was no RSVP, so they are really unsure how many people will attend. Discussed why there are three meetings, separating out certain groups (public/ companies/ First Nations).
- Reviewed BC's Proposed Solutions - Overview
- BC's proposed solutions pertaining to the Northern Goshawk (with breeding area diagram) Group discussed how the short and long term goals were reached.
- BC's proposed solutions pertaining to the Marbled Murrelet (with map). Higher impact for Vancouver Island and Southern Mainland Coast than the rest of coastal BC. Private Land Owners are in active conversations, but are not obligated to implement any changes at this time.
- Potential Maximum Impacts – confusion surrounding impacts. Based upon the proposed solutions the total potential coastal impact is approximately 32,100 ha. Proposed plan has significant socio-economic impacts for BC Coastal Communities – Clarity is required

from the Government. Hoping there is maximum co-location of WHA's in order to reduce the total hectares impacted.

- WFP has implemented strategies for species at risk.
- Alternative Solutions – WFP is encouraging more than one option. Lower impact solutions exist and should be explored.
- Reviewed alternative solutions for each species such as regional targets
- Key Messages to BC – communities need to know how the plan will affect local harvest levels and local jobs. WFP will be advocating that they have the option to plan reserves for their tenure to maximize co-location with other values. All socio-economic impacts need to be considered.
- Reviewed map with current reserves – can one area serve to protect more than one species? Co-location would reduce socio-economic impacts.
- WFP is looking forward to being a key contributor
- Reviewed map of the proposed conservation area for the Marbled Murrelet. The DFA has areas that are heavily populated with areas within which “critical habitat” is found.

WFP Audit, October 2016

- Aggressive internal audit (Fall) to prepare us for the 2017 external audit
- Results of CSA Indicators Audit that will be presented in April's WIWAG meeting.

Upcoming WFP / WIWAG 2016 meetings -

February 11, April 14 (Data Set), June 9 (presentation?), November 10

Any ideas for the June presentation? – let Jennifer know

Upcoming Events -

Alberni Valley Fall Fair September 8 - 11

Special PAG meeting September 22-23 in Port McNeill

Survey -

The Role of Stakeholder and Public Participation in Collaborative – national survey is coming, Jennifer will send link when she receives the survey.

Next WFP Meeting, April 14, 2016

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm

WIWAG Action Items

#	ACTION ITEM AND PROGRESS	Date of request	Recommend Completion	Completion Date	Person Responsible
1	JD to post approved minutes from last meeting to WIWAG website	Each meeting	April 14th		JD
3	Marissa to post BEC presentation and Map to the Wiwag website and send BEC website link	Feb 11 th 2016	April 14 th 2016		
4	Jennifer to forward link AAC for Nahmint North from Judy	Feb 11 th 2016	April 14 th 2016		
flag	Tour of the mill possibly in the spring- Catalyst	November 7			
flag	Improve minutes to reflect all discussion and presentations back to Criterion and mandatory discussion items	Backdate and ongoing			

