

West Island Woodlands Advisory Group – Western Forest Products

Held at the ACRD Boardroom, Port Alberni

FINAL Minutes – June 11, 2015

Advisory Group Members

Y Y	Harold Carlson Barbra Baker (alt)	Forest Recreation	Y	Bill Coates	Logging and Roads Contractor
R Y	Rick Avis Judy Carlson (alt)	Naturalists	R	Jeff Shatford Mary Bauto	Forests, Lands Natural Resources Operations
Y	Sheena Falconer Bob Cole (alt)	Watershed/Fisheries West Coast Aquatic	R	Jim Creighton Neil Malbon (alt)	Small Business/Tourism
Y	Lucas Banton John Jack (alt)	A.C. Regional District	Y Y	Brigitte Arndt Len Cherry	AV Hill Climbers AV Hill Climbers (alt)
R	Bob Cerenza Darlene Clark	Alberni Fish and Game	Y Y	Dan Washington Mike Ruttan (alt)	City of Port Alberni
	Vacant	Parks Canada	R	Jane Morden Mike Stini (alt)	Environment
Y	Stefan Ochman Jane Bremner	Bamfield Road Safety Association	Y	Keith Hunter	Multiple Goods & Services
	Brian Chipman Harold Norlund (Alt)	Catalyst	Y	Jim Messer	WFP General Manager of Alberni Operations

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

Quorum Present

Resources Present:

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

Erin Badesso – PAFO WFP, Forester

Jim Messer – WFP General Manager of Alberni Operations

Will Sloan – WFP Certification Coordinator

Kindry Mercer – WFP Regional Engagement Coordinator

Guests–

Councillor Ron Paulson City of Port Alberni

City Manager Ken Watson

City Council – Chris Alemany

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.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the WFP WIWAG April 9, 2015 meeting approved and will be posted to website.

Action Item #1: JD to post minutes to website – Approved

ACTIONS from April 9 Meeting

Action Item #4: Why did the Park Reserve Perimeter shrink? Park Perimeter comes from a Government data base. WFP does not know why there were slight changes in 2014 (about 200 meters). The boundary is subject to change triggered by survey work to verify the height of land.

Action Item #5: Recreation access -Judy asked about access to a park near Nitnaht. Knob Point Recreation site is not in our tenure.

Action Item #6: Employment in the community – Was the 1999 baseline out of date? Next year, our CSA indicator will be updated to as current as possible (Direct/ Indirect and Induced jobs). Erin reviewed excel spreadsheet.

Action Item #7: Presenter evaluation – hand in your survey to Jennifer.

WFP Updates - Jim Messer:

Warm temperatures – we are operating early shift for wherever we are operating. Both mills are scheduled to run throughout the summer. Looking at better productivity at both mills. Would like to increase Somass to two shifts a day, like APD. Fibre being supplied to Catalyst is not a concern at this time. We have had no further involvement or information on the Charcoal plant.

Open house with activated charcoal company ([Cantimber Biotech](#)) on June 23rd. 5-7pm - Pacific Coast University - 4755 Cherry Creek Road. The company, PAPA, and the City will be hosting a public information session about the company a its operations.

- Introduction of Will Sloan (replacement for Michel de Bellefeuille, who has retired) to WIWAG. Will was an external auditor focusing on Environmental and Sustainable forest management travelling as far north as Alaska. Will is looking forward to a career with WFP. His goal is to attend one Advisory Group annually over all WFP locations. Jennifer will add Will to our email list and if you have any presentations you'd like Will to make, let Jennifer know.
- Introduction of Kindry Mercer – Regional Engagement Coordinator. This is a new role at WFP. She has lived and worked as a forester in Jeune Landing, Holberg and most recently worked for the Port Alberni operation.

Erin Badesso:

- Why did the road grading and maintenance drop from 1,010,529 in 2014 from 1,929,763? Erin followed up and there was an error in our reporting, the number is about 1,888,000

- Erin reviewed our Fire Weather Data comparing June 11 2014 to June 11 2015. Briefly reviewed indices. Caution is being used – extremely dry out already. No snow pack.

Slide show presentation – Erin Badesso

How WFP operates in community watersheds as prescribed in our Forest Stewardship Plan?

- TFL 44 encompasses 6.7% of the China Creek watershed and is Crown land tenure subject to the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA) and related legislation.
- Reviewed WFP's environmental policy – Watersheds are an environmental concern and are included in WFP's Sustainable Forest Management Statement
- Erin brought up map of Community Watersheds – overview of areas. Ken pointed out where the City's intake is.
- Objectives are set by government in regards to Community Watersheds – Erin read over the objective. The Watershed and Timber supply can co-exist, as long as it is managed properly. Kindry explained what reducing the timber supply means. Erin confirmed that FRPA does not pertain to Private land, only Crown land.
- FRPA regulations of stream classification within a Community watershed. S1 – S4 has potential for fish. The buffers increase with potential for fish. The buffer is for both sides of the stream. Difference what happens in a reserve zone to a management zone – discussion. Difference between S1-A and S1-B reviewed. S4 stream might dry up over the summer, and maybe even S3's.
- WFP's Forest Stewardship Plan – Erin pared the document down to 9 pages for the purpose of taking the information pertinent to WFP's guidelines for harvesting in Community Watershed areas. Reviewed terrain stability in fisheries sensitive and community watersheds and the consequences, if a slide were to occur. The consequences for slides in community watersheds are put into a high risk category. Reviewed Matrix – Risk = Hazard x Consequence. This results in our strategy being conservative (Strategy 1, smallest footprint, in regards to Road construction and Harvesting). Erin explained Strategy 2 – landslide would be less than 1000 meters. Professionals are usually contacted in these cases to survey the area. Exposure of heavy metals during road building is not regulated like it is in the mining act. Discussion.
- Replace culverts when dry, grading is to be avoided during heavy rain in watershed areas and shutdown during harvest, area must be left under certain conditions.
- Reviewed Block 174106 (logged block) Harvesting Map. Example of full and partial buffers left on S2 and S4 streams. Chart on the back of the map outlines the stream prescriptions. Road into block has been deactivated now. This also ensures no one else is gaining access to the area. Minimum stream buffer is 30 on either side of an S2 stream.
- The majority of our monitoring is done pre and during harvesting. How many times an area is monitored depends on the environmental impact.
- Reviewed WFP's Pre-Work Checklist for Block 174106. Checklist has written instructions communicating the criteria to be met.
- WFP's Standard Operating Procedures – Erin pointed out where our procedures highlight Community Watershed zones and special considerations to be taken.
- Cut Block Inspection Form – Form is how the block is monitored during harvesting.
- Indicator 3.2.B – Community Watersheds – Zero non-conformance and zero non-compliance in Community Watersheds on our CSA Indicators. Erin explained measures WFP is taking to continue our targets being met.
- Private land vs Crown land and standard operating procedures – Discussion
- Emergency response for spills is legislated and must be reported, for private and crown land. Pest management plan in Community Watershed –

Action Item 2 – Kindry will send pest management plan in community watersheds to Jennifer.

- Will – Audits do target High Risk areas
- Water Quality – Ken: There is a safe level for arsenic in drinking water – Port Alberni does not come close to this. There are very little chemicals in Port Alberni water because the water is surface level, not ground level – Turbidity issues in the winter affect water quality. Find out what the best practices are and follow them. Logging less might / would (discussion) reduce turbidity in community watersheds, but does not mean there would be no turbidity. There are other issues that cause turbidity.
- WFP is open to suggestions to reduce our footprint in the Community Watershed. Erin says we have no plans to log in a community watershed until 2017 and plans will be shared.

Kindry Mercer – Log Exports

- Community update – WFP donated two new climbing poles, they are ready to be put up and will be used this year at the fall fair. Grade 12 class toured APD. Wood carving happening right now down at the Quay. National Forestry week coming up in September. Pacific Coast University – WFP made a donation towards their next degree program.
- Communication Tools – FB/ Twitter/ YouTube/ Instagram/ Linked In. WFP's Communication team is working to find the best way to communicate with the public. Kindry demonstrated.
- Log Export Fact Sheet – New fact sheet is being made. Partial Log Exports Increase fiber available to the domestic market – Kindry explained. By exporting a portion of the stand (at a higher value than could be captured domestically,) it increases the total value of the stand creating a positive cash value. This allows the remainder of the stand to be harvested for the domestic market. Partial log exports increases the value of the stand as a whole, making the stand economic to harvest (as opposed to not being viable to harvest).
- Harvesting costs – what it costs to log versus how much the wood is worth. Some wood can be exported for a higher value than if that wood stayed domestic. WFP harvests across the whole profile, all timber, not just the high value logs. Leaving lower value stands would shrink the timber harvesting landbase. Many players, government relies on stumpage for revenue, jobs support local communities.
- What species are exported mostly? Douglas fir/ Hemlock but depends on the market. Cedar is for the most part not exportable. Some undesirable wood for the coast can be exported.
- Balanced View to Log Exports – necessary and beneficial for log exports in the coastal forest economy, specifically where transportation to domestic facilities is cost prohibitive.
- Board approved upgrades to Duke Point – this investment shows confidence and long term strategies for the industry.
- Slide depicting wood flow – 40% external log sales – Domestic / Export and Pulp. 60% of wood goes to internal mills.
- Log Strategy: Directing Volume to Highest Margin Opportunity. Before WFP exports, what the mills require is considered.
- WFP buys fiber where it is needed to support our mills.
- WFP is a manufacturing business as well. Goal is to get our manufacturing costs competitive so we won't need to export.
- How long before we run out of old growth? How we distribute the OG and SG cuts, will affect how long the old growth lasts. Species are planted based on value and if the tree will grow in that area.
- Port Alberni Mills are net wood importers (chart depicting Volume consumed at WFP mills in Port Alberni())
- Kindry showed a video – looking for ways to tell WFP's story

Klanawa Fire a year ago today – Erin showed pictures of then and now

Jennifer – note from Jane Cameron, as part of the technical committee on revisions to the Z809 SFM draft standard. Jane will send the links when available for our review. Jane has proposed a meeting in September with WIWAG to get feedback from the advisory groups. Will Sloan said that all advisory groups will meet so **September 8 is the set date with WIWAG** for this purpose.

WIWAG to meet on Tuesday, September 8 location TBD to go over changes

Jane Cameron will review the changes to the CSA Standard September 8 with WIWAG

Announcements

Judy – Stage 2 of the trail opening – went extremely well. Better than Stage one trail opening two years ago

Update to harvesting adjacent to trails of interest

- Erin – road building will start in October for the Bamfield Main cutblock near Headquarters Bay. Update at the next meeting.

Action Item 3 - Barb requested information on the Fire Break trail – Erin to provide information

Postponed – to next meeting

Klanawa photo project (visual indicator orientation exercise)

- Discussion on indicator 1.1.2 about species compositions
- Discussion on the measurement of S4 streams this is also going to sub-committee (Rick, Harold, and Stefan) for further discussion

Update to harvesting adjacent to trails of interest

Future Presentation(s)

Tsilqhot'in Nation (pronounced Sil-KO-tin), TBD Fall

Discussion on BEC system (from an earlier meeting)

Meeting Tuesday, September 8th with Jane Cameron (Advisory Group)

Next WFP Meeting, November 12, 2015

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 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	April 9th			JD
2	Relates to 1.1.2: Forest Area by type or species we report on this indicator every 3 years. Next reporting year is 2015. Forest Area by type or species. AG needs to have a conversation about this indicator before 2015 indicators are done.	April 9th		Next Reporting date	EB
3	S4 Stream report needs to be revised, not to compromise the integrity, but to make the reporting easier and consistent. Measuring the 15m buffer is very challenging. Erin will bring back a proposal. Rick, Harold and Stefan expressed interest in being part of the sub-committee.	April 9th		COMMITTEE DATE TO BE SET	EB
4	Relates to 5.1.A: Park Perimeter Why did the Park Reserve Perimeter shrink? Erin will find out and bring back to group.	April 9th		June 11 2015	EB
5	Relates to 5.1.B Recreation access -Judy asked about access to a park near Nitnaht. Erin will determine if park is on our tenure.	April 9th		June 11 2015	EB
6	Indicator 5.2.3 Employment The annual level of direct and indirect employment is 2971. The level is monitored on a 5 year rolling average and the 1999 baseline could be out of date.	April 9th		June 11 2015	EB
7	Presenters evaluation survey JD will send prior to June meeting please turn in next meeting	April 9th		June 11 2015	JD
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			

