

West Island Woodlands Advisory Group – Western Forest Products
Held at the ACRD Boardroom in Port Alberni
Final Minutes – November 18, 2010

Advisory Group Members

✓ ✓	Harold Carlson Barbra Baker (alt)	Forest Recreation		Lyle Newton Arnie Magnusson	Logging Contractor Island Pacific
✓ R	Rick Avis Judy Carlson (alt)	Naturalists	✓	Gilbert Richir	Ministry of Forest
✓	Dave Chitty	Watershed/Fisheries	R	Jim Creighton Neil Malbon	Small Business/Tourism
✓	Ken McRae	A.C. Regional District	✓ R	Darlene Clark John Smith Phylliss Biggs	Alberni Fish & Game AV Hill Climbers AV Hill Climbers (alt)
R	Mike Kuruliak	Port Alberni & District Labour Council	✓	Jack McLeman	City of Port Alberni
R	John McIntosh Bob Redhead (alt)	Parks Canada	✓	Jane Morden	Environment
✓	Stefan Ochman	Bamfield		Keith Hunter	Multiple Goods & Services

✓ = attended R=regrets blank=did not attend V=vacant seat Q=Quorum

Total of 13 Advisory Group (AG) members	20 AG including alternates	Q	7 is the quorum	AG present Alternates
WFP Resources present	Facilitator and Recorder 2		Guests	Total

Resources Present:

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

Erin Badesso - PAFO WFP, Forester
Justin Kumagai – PAFO WFP, Resident Engineer
Janice Mathers, PAFO WFP, Area Engineer

Jennifer Dyson – Facilitator
Holly Massop – Recording Secretary

1. Welcome and Introductions

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

2. Safety Orientation

Jennifer reviewed safety procedures.

3. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from September 16, 2010 approved and will be posted to website

4. Review of Agenda

- Action Items from WFP September 16, 2010 – will be addressed
- WFP tour Fieldtrip for WIWAG members offered by WFP October 21, thank you very much to WFP, extend thank you to Kevin Somerville, Glynnis Horel, Erin Badesso, Justin Kumagai

WFP Update; Justin Kumagai

- Still going strong; up to 140,000 cubic meters logged between November and December; WFP PAFO one of the top divisions for volume next year
- Slowly starting to build back up staff in engineering and forestry

Update on New SFM Plan

Erin reviewed the WIWAG timetable for the new standard SFM Plan:

- Aim is to complete registration with new standard in May 2011
- Information reviewed with WIWAG by April 2011
- CSA mandatory discussion items; building on the discussion items provided by Jennifer (based on WIWAG minutes from past 10 years); an important item to work on is invasive plants and exotic species. This has been placed on the agenda for the January 2011 WFP – WIWAG meeting
- Consultant (Zimmfor Management Services) has been hired to write the SFM Plan and modernize it
- Changes to the DFA map on page 7; removed the piece of land that now belongs to HUU-ay-aht First Nation; Maa-nulth treaty lands are embedded within the DFA
- Table 1 on page 8; this information is not a requirement of the plan, but it is important to have an idea how many employees there are in the DFA; does it need to be stratified by contractor / operator; what does the group think?

Discussion

JM; perhaps the main contractor should be highlighted

EB; there is a lot of employment that is not listed in the table, i.e. seasonal tree planters – maybe a way this could be addressed is through the exposure hours for safety, convert the hours to a person-day number and then list only major contractors

JM; need to be kept up if the main contractor changes

EB; recognize that the employment piece is important

Action Item #1; continue to have WIWAG review the **Management Strategy sections** within the PAFO SFMP and the indicator descriptions.

KM; Tseshaht FN artists and carvers concerned about the lack of old growth cedar for art and ceremonial purposes; Tim Paul approached KM about this topic and it will need to be addressed

EB; Maa-nulth Nations have Cedar Side Agreements that can be arranged

HC; definition of terms (page 29 of 34); stewardship zone needs more discussion

EB; this is an example of needing to update the language, when WFP was M&B, Weyerhaeuser, Cascadia, one thing the company did was stratify the land into zones and those zones had different retention levels assigned to them; has this been embraced by WFP, but this is something to find out about

HC; what about sustainable allowable cut?

EB; will need to review this

Action Item #2; EB to look into stratification of land zones and assigned retention levels and sustainable allowable cuts

JD; Forest Recreation; is an area that has always been close to WIWAG please review so that we can make the changes necessary.

KM; what happens when the draft is finalized

JD; WIWAG will receive the final SFMP draft for approval. The final document will be housed on the WIWAG website and made available to AG

DRAFT SFM Plan Appendix 2: Detailed Indicator & Results and the associated Management Strategies

The DRAFT PAFO SFMP, which includes:

Appendix 1: Values, Objectives, Indicators & Targets Summary Tables

Appendix 2: Detailed Indicator Descriptions/ Results

Appendix 3: WIWAG Terms of Reference

Appendix 4: Communication Plan

Appendix 5: Monitoring & Research Summary

There are some areas in which WFP still trying to establish baselines for new indicators within the new format

- detailed descriptions are geared to help everyone remember what was trying to be said and what is being reported out on

SO; can there be some definition around the BEC Zones

JK; it would be great if there was a map the correlated to the BEC zones

Action Item #3; EB to include definitions of what seral species stages means and define BEC (Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification) zones

Page 7; Indicator 1.1.3: Forest Area Age Class; forest age classifications still require baseline number

Page 14; Indicator 1.2.3 Native Species Regeneration; replacing native species in the DFA is important – those taken out will be brought back in WFP is putting in a variance in; specifically thinking about Noble Fir (**which is currently classified as an exotic tree species**); one theory is that Noble Fir may have existed in this area in the past and was pushed down to the Cascade Range and Coast Range mountains of Northwest California, Western Oregon and Washington due to glacier movement and has not migrated back here due it's to large seed size. The chief forester would be OK with this introduction of Noble Fir back into the area, although it is not the first choice; WFP has planted a bit of noble fir in controlled areas

Page 16; Indicator 1.3.1: Genetic Diversity; variance remains none

SO; there is no list of registered seed loss as indicated in the current status and results write-up

EB; there apparently is no list and one must be developed – although it would be huge

BB; is it known that registered seed lots are not using genetically modified materials

EB; yes – that is known – they are not

Page 28; Indicator 3.1.2: Downed Woody Debris; downed woody debris; may not look nice but it provides nutrients for the regeneration of many plant species, new plant life and animal species; there is a requirement from FRPA that when doing calculation for coastal areas it must be in cubic meters; the FRPA requirement is mostly based on size of materials

JM; is there a maximum to the amount of woody debris left?

EB; yes – it is not a specific number though, it is based a lot on how it affects the ability to re-plant; from an ecological perspective some consider “the more the better”

KM; could this number change if government insists on more usage of biomass / hog-fuel due to gas costs?

EB; the cost of recovery of downed woody debris would be prohibitive to WFP in terms of hauling / transportation and labour

SO; the cubic meter measurement would make more sense in with a visual aide, i.e. 30 cubic meters equals one highway truck load

BB; is there stipulation on what the species of downed woody debris has to be?

EB; retention left behind and blow down is a source of woody debris

Page 38; Indicator 4.1.1: Carbon Uptake & Storage; still needing baseline

JMc; what about transferring the NET carbon uptake into money

EB; not there yet

JMc; there is a carbon co-op in the interior of BC will WFP not doing this?

SO; what about the old trees

BB; old growth is neutral according the presentation that WIWAG had on carbon

Page 44; As of September 30, 2010, WFP has generated a positive EBITDA of \$40.6 million, and strung together four consecutive quarters of positive EBITDA results. The company’s second quarter EBITDA of \$21 million represented the highest EBITDA quarter in three years (source: Western Matters Newsletter Fall 2010).

EBITDA earnings (losses) before interest amortization and other non-operating income and expenses); this is a “catch-all” indicator; based on the 2009 EBITDA number – there is no where to go but up!

Action Item #4; include a definition of EBITDA in the SFMP glossary

Page 50; Indicator 5.2.1: Communities & Sustainability; tells a little about capital spending; i.e. infrastructure development

KM; what about shutting down the Sarita sort and put in on city land for dry land sort?

EB; Sarita is not shutting down but looking at incremental movement to having something in the city

SO; this should not be called “community” as it seems that it has nothing to do with “community”, but specifically with WFP’s capital gains

EB; there is not flexibility within the wording of this indicator (core indicator), the wording reflects the standard. This is a non-negotiable area.

SO; it is still NOT community

EB; according to the standard there is a lot of things that can be reported on in this indicator; WFP picked annual capital expenditure as it is the easiest to keep track of, but other things can be included, i.e. value of donations to the public

SO; donations to the public should be included because it does not seem like this indicator is for community; just a company trying to make money for shareholders

BB: can the word “capital” be removed and just average spending be reported

EB; maybe it could be investment over a five year period, i.e. stumpage paid out, taxes, etc., just remember it cannot be an exhaustive list

JD; does this group wants value of donations and community projects, and stumpage

EB; this is a core indicator

BB; what about annual spending

EB; but it needs to be narrowed down and have some description of the project

JD; what about the dollar value of the harvest divided by the productive hectares in the DFA, which is an old indicator; another old indicator to consider is the local conversion of logs

KM; there needs to be something that reflects not only market down turns, but also market up turns

Action Item #5; JD will help develop a list for Indicator 5.2.1: Communities & Sustainability on what the group would like to see reported on

SO; locally purchased capital would be good as well, also under fish protection would like an indicator of what WFP has provided for restoration, etc.

JS; what if the wording of the indicator changes – it could simplify the areas to report on

EB; cannot change the wording of a core indicator

Page 52; Indicator 5.2.3: Employment; immediate changes to this table and the numbers, the target is 789 person-years based on cutting the AAC over 5 years; in 2009 it was 156 person-years

Page 56; Indicator 6.1.1: Understanding Title & Rights; shortly within the DFA both Aboriginal title and rights will need to be addressed and respected; there will be training provided for staff that will need to understand this, also there was good information given at the WIWAG - Maa-Nulth meeting. WFP will need to go out and educate staff.

HC; what is the difference between aboriginal rights and treaty and title rights?

EB; treaty outlines specific details for specific nations in specific places. Treaty is supposed to formalize aboriginal rights and provide certainty for the nations and its peoples. For more information: <http://www.bctreaty.net/>
http://www.bctreaty.net/files/issues_rights.php

SO; the indicator should be specific to Maa-nulth

HM; it is important to remember that there are nations that will have self-governance that are not part of the Maa-nulth, they will be independent nations and there will be nations under the tribal council, there will need to be training specific to this as well

Page 62; Indicator 6.3.1: Local Economy; this is a broad indicator; a few types of support for the community (ignore the Government number – incorrect). This is a core indicator.

SO; what is the target?

EB; the target is not around cubic meters, but the actual act of reporting, not setting targets but reporting on the magnitude of activity; meeting the target would be reporting the information; there is no variance on this

Page 67; Indicator 6.4.1: WIWAG Satisfaction; level of satisfaction should be less than 3; change wording to 3 or better (opposed to greater)

Action Items - Results

EB; Indicator 1.4.1: Sites with Management Strategies, it was indicated by the group that it is important to not lose the value of this indicator, but still not sure where it will go; EB is doing research on it; previously this indicator was reported through a training number; there was a specific species at risk training, but it is one thing to train and another thing to use the information. The question is how do you take the training and make sure it is being implemented across the DFA? And how do you retain the value of the training?

EB provided map handouts; this resource map shows how this training is used in “real life”; 12 is the number attached to a “rare community”

RA; a number of years ago there were volunteers that mapped this out; and mapped out the sample areas

EB; Wildlife Tree Patch (WTP), this is reflective of the “12” ranked area; these maps are a reflection on how the training is reflected in everyday use

KM; are the fallers educated on this?

EB; no, not really – they rely on the us to give them the proper info

SO; are there specific plants that cannot be destroyed?

RA; clarification this is looking at communities of plants – not specific plants

EB; willing to provide an indicator on this; could report on the training specifically

RA; can there be two indicators on this?

EB; looking for some help on how this can accurately be measured or reported

JM; what if you just find one plant that is rare – what would you do

EB; plants are generally part of a community – if you find one, you will generally find the community.

RA; community looks at plant combinations like aspen grove or white rhododendrons w/ a specific tree in the Klanawa is a rare plant, but it is not protected; there is an advisory warning around it

JK; when they talk about a community think about it as a dip in the topography that may have key indicator plants

SO; is WFP trying to protect these communities?

RA; riparian protection and wildlife tree patch help protect these communities, the SEI also help with this – but you cannot protect everything

EB; as part of the site plan mandate; these areas need to be identified

JD; number of old indicators on this – and this may need to be further discussed

Action Item #6; Indicator 1.4.1: Sites with Management Strategies review old indicators around this issue and figure out what and how this should be reflected and reported; this will be RA and EB

SO; what happens if you flunk the certification? Is there a finite number of mistakes or failures that can be made or can you flunk the whole thing and still get certified

EB; there is not a finite number attached to the failures; but you can lose your registration

Announcements

No Announcements

Next Meeting(s) at ACRD

WFP – January 20, 2011

Meeting adjourned at – 8:30pm

#	ACTION ITEM AND PROGRESS	Date of request	Recommend Completion	Completion Date	Person Responsible
1.	EB continue to have WIWAG review the strategy sections within the SFMP and the indicator descriptions.	November 18/10		Jan 20.10	EB JD
2.	EB to look into stratification of land zones and assigned retention levels and sustainable allowable cuts	November 18/10		Jan 20.10	EB
3.	EB to include definitions of what seral species stages means and define BEC (Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification) zones	November 18/10		Jan 20.10	Erin Badesso
4.	include a definition of EBITDA in the SFMP glossary	November 18/10		Jan 20.10	EB JD
5.	Indicator 5.2.1: Communities & Sustainability; tells a little about capital spending; i.e. infrastructure development JD to develop a list for this indicator on what the group would like see reported on	November 18/10		Jan 20.10	EB JD
6.	Indicator 1.4.1: Sites with Management Strategies review old indicators around this issue and figure out what and how this should be reflected and reported; this will be RA and EB	November 18/10		Jan 20.10	Erin Badesso,
7.					
8.					
Flag					

Western Forest Products – WIWAG Action Items

All Completed Action Items see file: [Actions completed\WFP actions completed.doc](#)