

**West Island Woodlands Advisory Group – Western Forest Products**

Held at the ACRD Boardroom, Port Alberni

Final Minutes – June 9, 2011

**Advisory Group Members**

✓	Harold Carlson Barbra Baker (alt)	Forest Recreation		Lyle Newton Arnie Magnusson	Logging Contractor Island Pacific
✓ ✓	Rick Avis Judy Carlson (alt)	Naturalists	✓	Gilbert Richir	Forests and Range Natural Resources Operations
	Rick Avis (for now will also cover this)	Watershed/Fisheries	✓ R	Jim Creighton Neil Malbon	Small Business/Tourism
✓	Ken McRae	A.C. Regional District	R	Darlene Clark Bob Cerenza	Alberni Fish & Game
		Port Alberni & District Labour Council	R	Jack McLeman	City of Port Alberni
✓	John McIntosh	Parks Canada	✓	Jane Morden Mike Stini (alt)	Environment
✓	Stefan Ochman	Bamfield	✓	Keith Hunter	Multiple Goods & Services
			✓	John Smith Phyllis Francoeur	AV Hill Climbers AV Hill Climbers (alt)

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

**Resources Present:**

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

**Erin Badesso - PAFO WFP, Forester**

**Kevin Somerville – WFP Operations Manager**

**Justin Kumagai – PAFO WFP, Resident Engineer**

**Janice Mathers – PAFO WFP, Area Engineer**

**George Knoll – PAFO WFP,**

**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 the WFP WIWAG March 24, 2011 meeting were approved and will be posted to website.

**Action Item #1:** JD to post to website

#### **WFP Update – Kevin**

- Fatality a couple of weeks ago in Franklyn Faller Division; WFP looking at trying to focus on what can be learned from this and concentrate on getting the crew mentally and physically safe
- Difficult start to the year with the weather – big challenges with snow, even now good snow pack at higher elevations
- Aggressive targets set this year 900,000 cubic meters, resuming operations in all corners of TFL including Great Central
- looking at significant increase in volume for next year as well; last year of cut control
- putting a lot of money in to areas that have not been recently used
- WFP also is looking at outside TFL 44 for volume. Message is that WFP is open for business for anyone who is selling wood
- APD is out of logs / Somas is running hand-to-mouth with cedar

#### **WFP Town Hall**

- Addressed how well the company is doing, safety, finance, etc
- The message was positive – barring what happened with the tragedy
- Looking to be world-class in safety, last year they were number 2 with all operations
- Brookfield is an investment company and they are very happy with the return on investment, they are working on a more strategic overview and continue looking investing in this company; will they sell it, “no question” eventually they will sell
- Safety, Environment, Quality and Productivity, these are the four pillars that are to be considered when making decisions; this was the message that was reinforced during the town hall meeting
- The board is not just faceless people, they are accessible
- Industry is looking good, for the first time in a long time
- This is an 110 million dollar project and return on investment is very important
  - Judy Carlson (JC); when thinking about log exports, local markets cannot pay what the Asian markets are able to pay, so what investments are necessary in BC sawmills in order to have an even playing field with the Asian markets
  - Kevin; logs that are being exported are opening more doors then closing ones, the logs being exported allows the company to focus on volume and sales which assists processing domestically
  - JC; what is it in the market that makes the cost of them so high?
  - Kevin; there is a lot to consider around costs; there are a lot of other opportunities here that require a tremendous capitol investment over the long term
- Harold Carlson; storytelling, history of area project
- Ken Mc; history of area project in response to HC, economic history, looking at log export penalties, 36% of lumber milled in China is sold back to North American markets, some of the local markets looking at doing things closer to home
- Jane Morden (JM); how long are logs left in the water?
  - Kevin; there are different contractual methods when it comes to moving the logs, but it usually centers around the ships, generally 60 days logs are stored in the water
  - JM; how long can a log stay in the water
  - Kevin; 90 days is when you have to start worrying about wood being exposed to aquatic insects

- JM; is there an environmental law around how often a boom can be replaced
- Kevin; there are designated sorts
- SO; were all the logs coming in by truck coming from
- Kevin; the dryland is where the grading and sorting happens, fast-cycle wood and get it to the marketplace as soon as possible – people cannot afford to sit on inventory, try to keep in simple – looking at setting up a de-watering system

## WFP Audit Review

- Erin Badesso (EB) appreciate of everyone's hard work around this audit
- This document is posted on WFP website and will be posted on WIWAG site as well
- Background of certification and coming together of operations
- Next audit in May 2012, all operations must be operating at their best to avoid implications on other operations
  
- **Areas of concern**, some are shared with Stillwater; Course Woody Debris – could not demonstrate to auditor that there is a process in place to deal with this, must ensure that system will met the regulations or create a forest procedure plan to properly deal with this
- PA specific area of concern; ensure inspections for facilities are completed monthly – EB showed slide of Inspection Form
  - SO; what are manifesting requirements?
  - Kevin; stating that certain quantity of certain product is being shipped, stays with product and is a way of ensuring that waste is properly disposed of
  
- **Opportunities for improvement**; bullets under PA Forest Operations, will need to make these changes in the plan
  - KM; just had a BC hydro presentation on herbicides and have offered to do a free presentation for WFP
  - HC; surprised by Silver Creek log dump picture, it is a bit shocking given the time
  - Kevin; that is the “slide from hell”
  - JM; question about log trucks – what is the safety factor?
  - Kevin; the trucks are all configured differently based on weight, what the axel can hold, there are different types of trucks for off hwy and on hwy., everything has to be contained (wrappers, etc) by law and there are checkpoints
  
  - KM; had first meeting with logging contractor in community, there is about 200 trucks coming through our area, would like people to use industrial road, but this is about a 5 million project, APD does not want city coming through property, working on trying to find alternative way to get the logs through the community; ITL and Coulson are not using their dryland sorts
  
  - JM; main concern around Alberni Elementary and Tim Horton's, pretty scary
  - SO; isn't it cheaper to boom wood?
  - Kevin; it is no question that boom wood is cheaper, but there is other factors to consider
  - Keith Hunter (KH); the Road Safe Council with Tseshaht couldn't it be part of the logging safety plan to have pre-planned routes to haul logs, would that be possible?
  - Kevin; WFP has an agreement on routes with contractors, however important to remember there are a lot of other players out there
  
- **WFP ADSS School Tour**;
- working to attract new blood to the industry
- the tour was lead by WFP pro's and participants saw falling, road building, dryland sort in Sarita, planning around cutblocks / harvest

- got to go out into the field
- pretty interested in second growth
- really hands on and technically orientated, WFP felt it was a successful tour
  - Rick Avis (RA); speaks to the effect that doing recruiting effectively; it needs to be addressed, forestry needs to do more of this
  - EB; need to improve technology
  - RA; needs to be focused and efficient
  - KM; Catalyst is going to be hiring ten people a year, focusing on high school students and train them and get them working
- **Kevin; Tseshah Career Fair;**
- Forestry is a poorly understood industry
- Demographics; 57 Y.O. plus working in the bush – need to recruit
- Not a lot of people that came through and questions were vague – but getting out there
  - KH; working on a k – 12 program on forestry with NIC, need to focus on the fact that it is more than just logging

**AAC;** Provincial news release regarding TFL 44, from 900,000 cubic meters, to 800,000 cubic meters, this was expected and based on a recommendation, this number has been built into the plan

#### Discussion Items

- WFP looking @ four meetings a year, one focused on operational review, then three presentations
  - EB; offer for a field tour stands open and will setup tours to supplement discussion items
- Group members can send feedback on this topic to Jennifer or Erin
- Kevin; sawmill tour?
- Group is really excited about this

**Action Item #2:** JD will work with Erin to arrange a tour for late September to early October @ Somass and APD

- SO; would like a presentation on Biomass and what can be done with that; what are the international usages for biomass
  - o HC; maybe someone from catalyst
  - o KM; biocoal = barbecued biomass, turns it into “coal” and then is sent to Europe; Woodtech 21 is doing a lot of work around this / Catalyst has control over almost all the hog fuel

**Action Item #3:** KM will contact Pat Deakin regarding a presentation on biomass

- o RA; European standards for carbon are so intense that it is better to have the burning take place off-shore, BC is taking on other Nations carbon
- o EB; when it comes to biomass one of the major considerations is moisture; Gorge 100 is the block that is being examined by FP Innovations, we will not pile woody debris it will be tested for moisture content 4 times throughout the summer to determine how nature dries biomass and determine if these findings will effect the economics of biomass
- o HC; is catalyst paying for the hog fuel?
- o Kevin; they pay for the trucking, WFP pays for the grind
- o Hog fuel is trucked from Kildonan and Sarita, this year will be trucked from Great Central Lake
- o The product is not just hog fuel, it is sometimes firewood cutters using the biomass

- If someone is willing to load the biomass onto a truck, bring it into town and sell it to a willing buyer then the biomass can be used, but it is the distance and cost of recovery that makes it uneconomical so that not all biomass piles are used; further there are regulations around woody debris and the ecological effects of downed woody debris (there is a lot of information about this on the internet).  
<http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/hfp/external!/publish/frep/extension/Chief%20Forester%20short%20CWD.pdf>
- In order to measure what is left behind, WFP does a waste and residue assessment
- JC; the coarse woody debris does not have time to rot if you log on a 30 year rotation
- EB; as biomass utilization goes up there is a concern that the forest floor will be vacuumed clean, also the amount of woody debris goes down if you leave harvest for too long

### **Communications;**

Fall Fair September 8 -11, 2011; EB would like stories / pictures of the trees that have been handed out in the past, JD suggests putting something in the paper about this so people can bring in their pictures / stories and also a request at the Fall Fair booth

### **Announcements;**

Ticks; the ticks are out and biting, and people are testing positive for Lyme disease

### **Next Meetings**

WFP – Field Trip late September early October sawmills  
ITLP – September 15

**Meeting adjourned at – 7:45pm**

#	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	June 9		June 12	JD
2.	Somass / APD tour in fall 2011	June 9		October 20	JD, Erin, Kevin
3.	Contact Pat Deakin with City of PA for presentation for possibly November	June 9		January 12, 2012	Ken McRae / JD
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10.					
<b>Flag</b>					

### Western Forest Products – WIWAG Action Items

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