

## West Island Woodlands Advisory Group – LP 44

Held at the ACRD Boardroom, Port Alberni

**Minutes – May 23<sup>rd</sup> 2019**

### **Advisory Group Members**

<b>Y</b>	Harold Carlson Barbra Baker (alt)	Forest Recreation			Logging and Roads Contractor
	Rick Avis Judy Carlson (alt)	Naturalists	<b>Y</b>	Tristan Jordan Cassandra Silverio	Forests, Lands Natural Resources Operations
	Sheena Falconer	Watershed/Fisheries West Coast Aquatic		Solomon Schachner	General Interest
	John McNabb (alt) Mike Kokura	A.C. Regional District	<b>Y</b> <b>Y</b> <b>Y</b>	John Smith Brigitte Arndt Len Cherry	Van. Is. All Ground Riders Assoc. AV Hill Climbers (alt)
	Darlene Clark	Alberni Fish and Game		Dan Washington Ron Corbeil	City of Port Alberni
<b>Y</b>	Francois Warren	Small Business	<b>Y</b> <b>Y</b>	Jane Morden Mike Stini (alt)	Environment
<b>Y</b>	Stefan Ochman	Bamfield Road Safety Association		Keith Hunter (receives minutes)	Multiple Goods & Services

**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 Muress – WFP General Manager of Alberni Operations

### **Guests:**

Jeff Koch – PWC Auditors  
Shawn Ellsworth – PWC Auditors

Brian Marcus – WFP Area Forester  
Marissa Hallaway – WFP Senior Field Forester  
Will Sloan – WFP Certification & EMS Manager, Corporate Forestry  
John Deal – WFP Senior Biologist  
Michele Laminski - Recording Secretary

## **Welcome and Introductions**

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

## **Safety Orientation**

Erin reviewed safety procedures.

## **Erin Badesso – Action Items**

- Motion to adopt last meetings minutes – passed. Minutes will be posted.
- Pictures of the signing of TFL 44 Limited Partnership shown to group.
- Stickleback Fish information was passed along to Rick Avis. If anyone else is interested, let Erin know.
- Off the spine trail by Darlington Lake, “Chinese Kitchen”, remnants of a kitchen were left behind. Picture shown.
- The proposed all PAG meeting 2019: please bring forward any feedback or interests for topics by June 30.

## **WFP Operational Update – J Muress**

- Second month of the TFL 44 LP – running strong
- Operational fire in Klanawa 1900, ongoing investigation
- Helicopter and conventional logging happening, no log exports at this time.
- Activity on Bamfield Main coming up in the next few months for road repairs. Delays are to be expected. Public notice will be posted.

## **Concepts for the Draft Eagle Nest & Bear Den Standard – Brian Marcus WFP**

- Identified team members who are working on the draft bear den standard, including Helen Davis, Independent Senior Biologist who specializes in coastal black bears.
- Concepts under discussion for the standard include forest retention associated with each den site, timing of operations for active dens, and distance buffers for the various phases of timber harvesting activities.
- Questions and discussions: when and how known den sites with checked in the vicinity of timber harvesting activities. Exploring the use of infrared technology to minimize human exposure. Not all hollow trees are den sites. Bears are very selective. Hollow trees with abundant bear feces in the near vicinity are day beds vs. over wintering dens. One advisory group member indicated that all bear dens should be preserved as oldgrowth areas are becoming more constrained.
- Similar concepts around timing of timber harvesting and timing of activities were shared relative to eagle’s nests. Drones, binoculars, and helicopters are methods used to determine eagle nest activity. Permits are required to cut down an eagle’s nest. No permit is required for bear dens. No known examples of obtaining a permit to remove an eagle nest tree.
- Erin reminded the members that feedback on the shared concepts are welcome as they relate to the management strategies associated with Indicator 1.4.2. In the past, there has been several questions around bear dens. The concepts associated with the draft standard under development build on approach of the old standard as more research and information becomes available.

## **Western Stewardship and Conservation plan and Update on Murrelet and Goshawk- John Deal WFP**

- Marbled Murrelet Update: conservation regions, land use order
- Goshawk Update: results of genetics study and next steps
- Goal of the Western Stewardship and Conservation Plan is to maintain values across the landscape through time. Elements include: conserving a range of ecosystems, maintaining old forest and forest structure (e.g. Big Trees), sustain forest dwelling species. Done by following standards (e.g. den and nests). Applies to all WFP crown tenures and private land. Founded on worker safety, credible science, and operational feasibility.
- Performance to be tracked through a suite of indicators that mimic the CSA construct.
- John offered suggestions to update current CSA Indicators for the local Defined Forest Area (DFA). Updates suggested for WIWAG consideration include: Ecosystem by Type (1.1.1), replacing Sensitive Ecosystem Training (1.4.2a), replacing target of 1.1.3 with an OGMA target, adding the detail of Forest Stewardship Zone to Within Stand Retention (1.1.4), updating Indicators 1.2.1 and 1.2.2 reflect BC implementation plan for Murrelet and goshawk, as well as updates for ungulate winter habitat and forest birds.
- Question and discussions around MAMU/ OGMA Variances, species of significant concern, blue heron nesting sites.
- Discussion/comparison and questions about BC's proposed big tree policy relative to WFP's Big Tree Policy. BC's proposal may contain more tree species and be diameter based. WFP's policy has few tree species and has a diameter and height component. Discussion on reserves around the big trees.
- Question/answer – Provincial policy will not influence lowering certain aspects of the WFP Policy

Action Item 1 – Post John's presentation. When the bear/eagle nest standard is finalized it will be considered for posting.

Action Item 2 – WIWAG to further discuss the Indicator changes that John offered for consideration.

Will Sloan – Announcement

- LP44 had their first board meeting – the board agreed that LP 44 will continue to support the CSA process on the TFL and a Huu-ay-aht member will be asked to join the WIWAG.

### **Announcements:**

#### **Next meeting - 2019 Calendar**

November 14<sup>th</sup> 2019

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm

**WIWAG Action Items**

<b>#</b>	<b>ACTION ITEM AND PROGRESS</b>	<b>Date of request</b>	<b>Recommend Completion</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>
<b>Recurring</b>	<b>ML to post approved minutes from last meeting to WIWAG website</b>	after each meeting			ML
1	2019 – Concepts of draft bear den and eagle’s strategy to be reviewed by group	February 21		Presentation May 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Erin Badesso
2	Pictures of pre and post road that was recon-toured to prevent land slide and planted.	February 21		April 11th	Erin Badesso
3	Erin to bring pictures of the signing of TFL 44 Limited Partnership	April 11		May 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Erin Badesso
4	Indicator 1.1.4 - Discussion about how retention is being calculated.	April 11		John Deal’s presentation May 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Erin Badesso
5	Indicator 1.4.2 – Picture of Stickleback Lake with rumored fish – Erin to get more information	April 11		May 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Erin Badesso
6	Chinese Kitchen Pictures	April 11		May 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Francois Warren
7	Vancouver Island Trail Contact information for Erin	April 11		May 23 <sup>rd</sup>	WiWAG Members
8	All PAG trip – Erin to send email to WiWAG members looking for interest/ feedback	April 11		May 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Erin Badesso
1	Post John’s Presentation: Western Stewardship and Conservation Plan	May 23 <sup>rd</sup>			Erin Badesso
2	Re-visit potential change to Indicators John presented	May 23 <sup>rd</sup>			Erin Badesso