

West Island Woodlands Advisory Group – TFL 44 LP

Held on Virtual Teams Meeting, Port Alberni

Minutes – May 28th 2020

Advisory Group Members

Y	Harold Carlson Barbra Baker (alt)	Forest Recreation	Y	Bill Coates	Logging and Roads Contractor
Y	Judy Carlson (alt)	Naturalists		Tristan Jordan Heidi Reinikka (Alt.)	Forests, Lands Natural Resources Operations
V	Vacant	Watershed/Fisheries		Solomon Schachner	General Interest
Y	John McNabb (alt) John Jack	A.C. Regional District		John Smith	Van. Is. All Ground Riders Assoc.
			Y Y	Brigitte Arndt Len Cherry	AV Hill Climbers (alt)
	Darlene Clark	Alberni Fish and Game	Y Y	Dan Washington Ron Corbeil	City of Port Alberni (Counsellors)
	Francois Warren Paul Agnew	Small Business		Jane Morden Mike Stini (Alt)	Environment
Y	Stefan Ochman	Bamfield Road Safety Association			

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

Resources Present:

Port Alberni Forest Operations (TFL LP 44)

Erin Badesso – PAFO WFP, Forester

Jim Muress – WFP General Manager of Alberni Operations

Guests:

Will Sloan - Certification & EMS Manager Forest Stewardship

Brad Bayley WFP GIS Analyst Port Alberni Forest Operation

Heather Zenner – WIWAG Facilitator

Michele Laminski - Recording Secretary

Welcome and Introductions

- Meeting called to order @ 6:00pm on Teams Meeting
- Heather reviewed Agenda
- Heather announced Rick Avis has stepped down from his role with WIWAG after 20 year of dedicated participation.
- Minutes from last meeting were adopted

WFP Operational Update – Jim Muess

- Jim spoke to the effects of the Covid pandemic on the logging operation, the challenging market conditions, the large storms that hit the Defined Forest Area (DFA) this winter, the condition and responsibilities associated with the Bamfield Road, and the ending of the 8-month USW strike.
- Dust control on Bamfield Mainline planned for the middle of June, 2020
- First week of April there was an announcement that Huu-ay-aht First Nation (HFN) will be purchasing a 51% of interest in TFL 44. 25% of WFP's remaining 49% interest is being held for other interested First Nation parties. HFN will be purchasing 5% of the Alberni Pacific Division (APD) sawmill. This is viewed as good news for the community. The deal is subject to regulatory requirements and financing and is expected to close later in 2020.
- January 1st, 2021 is the target date to have WFP staff and assets transferred to HFN provided approvals are in place. Discussion around the announcement and the role of the HFN People's Assembly in the approval process.
- Question regarding future of WIWAG – No change is expected as TFL 44 LP embraces sustainable forest management and the valued role of WIWAG.

Erin Badesso – 2019 Annual Indicator Report

Erin presented the 2019 Annual Indicators with the following points:

- See the *New Summary of Results* section
- Due to the USW strike, timber harvesting levels dropped by more than 180,000 m3 in 2019
- Reduction in DFA area by 1,549 ha for the deletion of Henderson Lake as a contributing factor to the size of the land base.
- **Indicator 1.1.4 Within-stand Structural Retention**– did not meet the target or variance
Action Item – Brian Marcus, WFP, to attend a future WIWAG meeting to review the standard and propose a rationale for updating this Indicator.
- Goshawk discussions regarding timber harvesting and the nature of the permanent reserves that are set aside. WFP states: The permanent reserves will not be harvested.
Action Item – Investigate when the proposed permanent reserves may be legalized?
- **Indicator 1.4.2 – Archaeological sites** – Typo found for 2018 numbers – 48 not 70. Erin Badesso to correct (done).
- **For Indicator 1.4.2a Sensitive Ecosystem Training.** Question regarding number of planners fluctuating from year to year – Answer: numbers change with timber harvesting levels.
- How does not meeting the Allowable Annual Cut (AAC) on TFL 44 compare to the other operations on crown land? Not sure about other operations. Discussion: Transportation costs weigh negatively on the operation because it is situated on the west coast of Vancouver Island while much of the sawmill capacity is on the east coast. Locally, APD takes about 30% of volume harvested by log grade and other grades are barged or trucked to the east coast. Historically, the operation has exported less than 10% of harvested volume overseas.

- **Indicator 2.1.3 Additions and Deletions to the Forest area:** has a consistent Forest Area including road from 2014 – 2019. This area should be different for the year 2019. **Action Item – - Erin to update the Forest Area value for 2019 as needed.**
- **Indicator 2.1.4 Sustainable Harvest Level.** Discussion around undercut – contractor disputes (2016) and the USW strike (2019) have reflected negatively in on harvest levels. In 2016, logging continued in Henderson and Great Central Lake operating areas which reduced the magnitude of the under harvest. Discussion: Not uncommon for government to take a portion of the under harvest and award it to another party.
- **Indicator 3.1.1 – Level of Soil Disturbance** - Every cut block that is harvested, has an assessment done that monitors soil disturbance .
- **Indicator 3.2.1 – Level of Downed Woody Debris** - discussion around matching tree retention with streams/riparian and how that enhances biodiversity. Debris (waste) levels varies by timber type (old growth, second growth) and by harvest method (e.g. conventional vs. helicopter). The indicator value is an average of all types.
- **Indicator 3.2.2 – Forest Management Activities Consistent with Prescriptions to Protect Identified Water Features.** Riparian stand retention is generally associated with each cut block. Discussion on the target description of this indicator. Maybe a new description is required for this indicator. **Action: Review this indicator in detail at a future meeting.**
- **Indicator 3.2.2a – Watershed Condition** - Discussion on the size of landslides captured in this indicator. All landslides greater than 0.05 hectares are reported
- **Indicator 3.2.2c- S4 Streams** – Retention around S4 streams was not met for the second consecutive year. The target or variance expected to be met next year. Discussion: Target was not met because the planning was inadequate not as a result of the non-compliance by the harvesting contractors.
- **Indicator 4.1.1 -Net Carbon Update** - Discussion on calculating net carbon uptake. Looking to improve the indicator in 2020-2021.
- **Indicator 5.1.2b- Recreation Access** Discussion on access and trout restocking of Hawthorne Lake .
- **Indicator 5.1.2a: Park Perimeter-** The perimeter shrunk between 2018 – 2019 by 7kms due to the removal of Henderson Lake from the DFA.
- **Indicator 5.2.3: Level of Direct and Indirect Employment.** Discussion of the nature of the calculation. For every direct job that is created there is one indirect job applied to cubic metres harvested. Would have a regional footprint. This indicator requires a new variance and / or target to account for the variability in the industry – **Action Item: Erin to investigate if Price Waterhouse Cooper has updated their calculation or if there a better way to calculate. Bring forward this discussion at a meeting in 2020.**
- **Indicator 7.1.1 – Understand the Nature of Aboriginal Title and Rights** - **Action item** - Add in a variance to target of the Indicator.

Announcements:

Next meeting - 2020 Calendar

- September and November – Heather to reach out and arrange dates

Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm

WIWAG Action Items

#	ACTION ITEM AND PROGRESS	Date of request	Recommend Completion	Completion Date	Person Responsible
Recurring	ML to post approved minutes from last meeting to WIWAG website	after each meeting		June 22, 2020	ML
1	Post John's Presentation: Western Stewardship and Conservation Plan	May 23 rd		Jan 9 th 2020	Erin Badesso
2	Re-visit potential change to Indicators John presented	May 23 rd	June 11, 2020		Erin Badesso
3	Arrange a Lidar Presentation	Jan 9 th 2020	June 11, 2020		Erin Badesso
4	Carbon Relative to slash Burning Indicator 4.1.1	Post May 23 rd , 2019	June 11, 2020		Erin Badesso
5	Review Indicator 1.1.4 Within-Stand Retention	May 28 th 2020	Dec 31 2020		Erin Badesso/ Brian Marcus
6	When will the permanent Goshawk reserves be legalized?	May 28 th 2020	Next Meeting		Erin Badesso
7	DFA Indicator 2.1.3: Update Forest Area Value	May 28 th 2020	Next Meeting		Erin Badesso
8	New target and / or variance required for Indicator 5.2.3	May 28 th 2020	Dec 31 2020		Erin Badesso
9	Investigate the Direct / indirect job creation calculations	May 28 th 2020	Next Meeting		Erin Badesso
10	Indicator 7.1.1 Add a Variance to the Target	May 28 th 2020	Dec 31 2020		Erin Badesso

