

**West Island Woodlands Advisory Group – TFL 44 LP**

Held at the Barclay Hotel & on Microsoft Teams, Port Alberni

**Meeting Minutes – November 12, 2020**

**Advisory Group Members**

Y	Harold Carlson	Forest Recreation	Y	Bill Coates	Logging and Roads Contractor
Y	Barbra Baker (alt)				
Y	Judy Carlson (alt)	Naturalists		Rhonda Morris Jim Proteau (alt)	Forests, Lands Natural Resources Operations
	Vacant	Watershed/Fisheries	Y	Solomon Schachner	General Interest
Y	John McNabb (alt)	Alberni Clayoquot Regional District	Y	John Smith	Van. Is. All Ground Riders Assoc.
Y	John Jack		Y	Brigitte Arndt	AV Hill Climbers (alt)
			Y	Len Cherry	
Y	Darlene Clark	Alberni Fish and Game	Y	Dan Washington	City of Port Alberni (Counsellors)
			Y	Ron Corbeil	
Y	Francois Warren	Small Business	Y	Jane Morden	Environment
Y	Paul Agnew		Y	Mike Stini (Alt)	
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, Operations Forester  
Jim Muress – WFP General Manager of Alberni Operations  
Brian Marcus – PAFO WFP, Area Forester  
Marisa Hallaway – PAFO WFP, Senior Field Forester

**Guests:**

John Deal, WFP Senior Biologist  
Marie-Eve Leclerc, WFP Inventory and Carbon Analyst

Heather Zenner – WIWAG Facilitator

### **Welcome and Introductions**

- Meeting called to order @ 5:42pm.
- Review of agenda.
- Minutes from May 28, 2020 and September 15 (all PAG) meetings were adopted (Motion by John McNabb, seconded by Len Cherry).

### **WFP Operational Update – Jim Muress**

- Contractors are working hard to get the last of the 2020 harvest production prior to the end of the year.
- Operations will run until December 18<sup>th</sup>.
- The closing of the transaction that will see Huumiis Ventures Limited Partnership acquire a 51% controlling interest from Western Forest Products for TFL 44 has been delayed a bit. Partially for COVID reasons, however, some conditions still need to be met including financing and the Huu-ay-aht First Nations (HFN) People's Assembly. Goal is still to have the transaction completed by the end of the year.

### **Ecosystem Diversity - Old Growth Panel Review Follow-up – John Deal**

John Deal provided an Old Growth Update, see attached presentation titled “Old Growth Update, November 5, 2020”.

WIWAG member question, “Why there is no protection for hemlock”?

- Hemlock is not included as it does not have the large diameters that you see in other species.

WIWAG member question regarding concern for blowdown of ‘Big Trees’ that are retained.

- Retention patch shape can help to mitigate windthrow issues; however, John does have some concerns. John noted that these trees cannot be cut; however, they can be pruned to maintain wind firmness.

### **Carbon Uptake and Storage - Carbon Presentation - Marie-Eve Leclerc**

Marie-Eve Leclerc provided a presentation on Carbon, see attached presentation titled, “Everything you Need to Know About Carbon and Forestry”.

WIWAG member question, “When logging occurs, how much wood is put into long term forest products”?

- Francois Warren, Waste and Residue Contractor for TFL 44 LP explained that the average post harvest waste 100 – 120 m<sup>3</sup> per hectare. The amount that is lost at the mill is minute. The equivalent of 7 out of 8 “logs” make it out of the woods.
- WIWAG member questioned the response as it appears more is left behind in the woods.
- Erin indicated that waste is one of the indicators that is reported annually (see Indicator 3.1.2 Level of Downed Woody Debris).

WIWAG member question regarding carbon calculations and whether they account for waste left in the woods.

- Yes, the calculations need to take that into account. There are assumptions that include what is left behind in the woods.

John Deal comment regarding Indicator 4.1.1. Net Carbon Intake. This indicator doesn't include carbon impacts from natural disturbances, only accounts for man-made disturbances.

WIWAG member question, "What species is better for carbon uptake"?

- It depends. Deciduous species are the quickest growing, with the quickest carbon uptake; however, they only tend to live to about 100 years. The tradeoff is how long it will store carbon.

WIWAG member question "Do mixed stands store carbon better"?

- Mixed stands have a better chance of surviving, but it is species dependent.

WIWAG member question, "Will the Carbon CSA standard be updated"?

- Likely.

### **Soil Quality and Quantity - Overview of Pest Management Plan (PMP) renewal and advice sought related to Indicator 3.1.2a: Limit Herbicides - Marissa Hallaway**

Marissa Hallaway provided a presentation on the TFL 44 LP Pest Management Plan, see attached presentation titled, "TFL 44 LP Pest Management Plan 2021 – 2026 (DRAFT), November 2020".

WIWAG member question regarding prescriptions for cutblocks.

- Each herbicide prescription includes a 10m pesticide free zone around streams. Visual markers are hung in the field to delineate herbicide treatments from manual and no treatment areas. Manual cutting would occur in stream areas; however, the intent is to not remove all vegetation in these sensitive riparian areas.

WIWAG member question, "Are there maximums for the strength of herbicides used"?

- Yes, there are maximums based on the type of herbicide used (manufacturer specifications).

WIWAG member question, "What type of treatment is used on maple coppices"?

- A basal bark treatment is used on maple coppices, allowing the operator to direct the herbicide directly on the bark of the coppices. This is not a broad spray treatment across a unit of area, rather it is specifically directed to where the herbicide needs to go on individual plants.
- Explained that it is very hard to eradicate maple, often is treated to give conifers an opportunity to become established.

WIWAG member question, "What is the height at which Alder is cut"?

- As low to the ground as possible for safety reasons, and also below the last live branch and bud.

WIWAG member question, "How is herbicide use identified in the field"?

- Signage is posted in the cutblock where the treatment is occurring, identifying the type of herbicide that is being utilized.
- Signage remains on-site for 14 days.

Marissa explained that comments are welcomed for the new Pest Management Plan (PMP), and any comments received will be submitted as a part of the submission of PMP to the province. The plan holder has to show the comments and how they have addressed relevant concerns. Look for a distribution of the draft PMP to the public, First Nations, and stakeholders

in early 2021.

WIWAG member question. “What weather considerations do you access prior to treating with herbicide”?

- Foliar treatments must be done in low moisture conditions, no fog. Windspeed must be below a certain speed.

WIWAG member question, “What notification do you give the public before treatment”?

- Yearly ‘Notice of Intent’ outlining which blocks will be treated.
- First Nations receive notification and adjacent neighbours as well as user groups.
- Signage is installed at the cutblock level.
- Notice is given 2 weeks to 45 days ahead of treatment.
- ‘Notice of Intent’ is not currently publicly available; however, Erin committed to sharing with this group.

Heather questioned the success Triclopyr.

- Important to not treat too early in the season, as it could occasionally require retreatment.
- Sometime a manual (i.e. non-herbicide) treatment is complete on maple to attain a single stem, or double stem to get the maple tree to go up, vs growing horizontal and occupying more space.
- Eradicating maple is hard, but the treatments to reduce its dominance give conifers a chance to grow.

WIWAG member question regarding the toxicity of Triclopyr.

- A 60 kg adult human would need to drink 2.6 cups of Triclopyr for it to be lethal.

Marissa explained that once the Draft Pest Management Plan is ready, there will be another opportunity to provide input and submit comments. The PMP includes spatial information (e.g. a map of potential treatment areas).

### **Ecosystem Diversity - Discussion and advice on the target for Indicator 1.1.4: Within-stand Structural Retention - Brian Marcus**

Brian Marcus provided a presentation on indicator 1.1.4: Within-stand Structural Retention, see attached presentation titled, “TFL 44 Limited Partnership, Indicator 1.1.4: Within-stand Structural Retention”.

TFL44 LP staff proposed to use the new wording for Indicator 1.1.4 for 2020 reporting, rather than using the existing wording. Brian explained that they haven’t met the indicator target over the last couple years because the Indicator’s wording has not been updated to reflect WFP’s current standard of measurement. Brian is proposing a change based on an updated measure of harvest area (one change) and a larger variance.

WIWAG member question “Will more or less be left behind with the proposed change”.

- More will be left behind and it will be left for longer. The intent of the Indicator stays the same but with bigger variance and a description of the duration of the retention on the landscape (at least one rotation roughly 60-100 years).

John Smith made a motion to accept the proposed change to Indicator 1.1.4. Francois Warren seconded the motion. All in favor. No oppositions.

- TFL 44 LP will report out for 2020 using amended Indicator 1.1.4 as supported by the WIWAG membership.

## **General Questions**

WIWAG member question related to public review of upcoming logging plans.

- Erin explained that there are some legislated changes proposed; however, they are not enacted yet by government. WFP has an open-door and appointment policy, where interested parties can come into office to review upcoming plans.

WIWAG member question related to why there are only 11 big trees. "Have only 11 been found so far, or is that all there is"?

- There are 11 'Specified Trees' (i.e. those identified through government's Special Tree Regulation: See John Deal's presentation from this meeting) on the Defined Forest Area (DFA): 2 Douglas Fir, 6 Sitka Spruce, 3 Western Red Cedar. Trees can be alive or dead, with a specific minimum diameter.
- WFP also has an additional 90 trees identified on the DFA through its corporate Big Tree Standard (See John Deal Presentation from May 23, 2019 on the WIWAG website).

## **Announcements:**

### **Next meeting - 2021 Calendar**

- Will be forwarded to WIWAG members prior to the end of 2020.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23pm

**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>
1	Re-visit potential change to Indicators John presented	May 23 <sup>rd</sup>	June 11, 2020		Erin Badesso
2	Arrange a Lidar Presentation	Jan 9 <sup>th</sup> 2020	June 11, 2020		Erin Badesso
3	Carbon Relative to slash Burning Indicator 4.1.1	Post May 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2019	June 11, 2020		Erin Badesso
4	When will the permanent Goshawk reserves be legalized?	May 28 <sup>th</sup> 2020	Next Meeting		Erin Badesso
5	DFA Indicator 2.1.3: Update Forest Area Value	May 28 <sup>th</sup> 2020	Next Meeting		Erin Badesso
6	New target and / or variance required for Indicator 5.2.3	May 28 <sup>th</sup> 2020	Dec 31 2020		Erin Badesso
7	Investigate the Direct / indirect job creation calculations	May 28 <sup>th</sup> 2020	Next Meeting		Erin Badesso
8	Indicator 7.1.1 Add a Variance to the Target	May 28 <sup>th</sup> 2020	Dec 31 2020		Erin Badesso
9	Post Deal, Leclerc, Hallway, Marcus presentations to website	November 29, 2020	Dec 1, 2020	Dec 15, 2020	Erin Badesso