

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

Held on Microsoft Teams

**Minutes – February 11, 2021**

**Advisory Group Members**

Y	Harold Carlson	Forest Recreation	Y	Bill Coates	Logging and Roads Contractor
Y	Barbra Baker (alt)				
Y	Judy Carlson (alt)	Naturalists	Y	Rhonda Morris Jim Proteau (alt) Mike Ramsay	Forests, Lands Natural Resources Operations
	Vacant	Watershed/Fisheries	Y	Solomon Schachner	General Interest
Y	John McNabb (alt)	Alberni Clayoquot Regional District		John Smith	Van. Is. All Ground Riders Assoc.
Y	John Jack		Y	Brigitte Arndt Len Cherry	AV Hill Climbers (alt)
Y	Darlene Clark	Alberni Fish and Game	Y	Dan Washington	City of Port Alberni
			Y	Ron Corbeil	(Counsellors)
Y	Francois Warren	Small Business		Jane Morden	Environment
Y	Paul Agnew			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  
 Brad Bayley – WFP GIS  
 Nicola Littleton – WFP Field Planner  
 Will Sloan – WFP Certification & EMS Manager

## Welcome and Introductions

- Meeting called to order @ 6:00pm.
- Review of agenda.
- Minutes from November 12, 2020 meeting were adopted (Motion by Ron Corbeil, seconded by Dan Washington).

## WFP Operational Update – Jim Muress

- Update on transition of Western/Huumiis Limited Partnership (LP); waiting on the Huu-ay-aht People's Assembly decision at end of March
- Discussion about environmental movement and anti-old growth logging posts on Facebook from environmental groups and their vicinity to the Defined Forest Area
- Jim announced his retirement by end of June
- LP working on retaining the undercut on TFL 44; cut control statements confirming the final harvest levels are usually released by government in June

## LiDAR Presentation: Description, Use in the Business, How it Supports CSA – Brad Bayley

- Use for creating contours, surface & slope models, tree heights, canopy models, hydrologic models
- Over 1 trillion data points have been collected for WFP to date
- Increases safety of workers by allowing more thorough and accurate planning before starting the field layout of cutblocks and roads
- Creates very accurate inventory data of the landbase
- Can pre-identify Big Trees pre- fieldwork
- Contributes to CSA indicator reporting by providing more accurate information of critical information (streams, dens, nests, OGMAs & WTRA areas, etc.)
- Point resolution for WFP LiDAR is 12 points per square meter
- WIWAG member question: Can LiDAR show danger trees or broken tops and increase faller safety? Answer: Yes, we can see broken tops, but not necessarily if it's a danger tree. LiDAR shows everything except log quality & grade.
- WIWAG member question: How does LiDAR help find bear dens? Answer: LiDAR doesn't show dens, but it does help to accurately map them once they are located in the field using the crown height model (CHM) to pinpoint den location.
- WIWAG member question: Can LiDAR show karst features? Answer: Yes, and the models are being developed and improved to more accurately identify them.
- WIWAG member question: Is there a plan for this data to be shared? Answer: Specific areas are shared with certain partners to advance special projects, but due to proprietary reasons, not all of the info will be shared. Some public LiDAR data is available online, however.
- WIWAG member question: How often is the data re-flown? Answer: It is company dependant. Trees can be "grown" using models to reflect their growth over time. Typically, it is about every 5-10 years.

## Overview of Logging Residue and Waste Measures – Francois Warren

- Any waste assessed that falls within legislated dimensions and is deemed "avoidable" and is issued a waste penalty
- Tall stumps are left along streams to protect stream integrity and alert other operators to their location to prevent encroachment/damage to stream channel. These stumps are deemed "unavoidable" waste and will not be subject to financial penalties.
- Waste volume goes against cut control volume whether it was avoidable or not.

- Fiber Recovery Zone (FRZ) established in 2019 by the Provincial government to improve recovery of low value fiber to help boost the pulp and paper industry. Most of TFL44 (the DFA) falls within the FRZ. The FRZ has increased the penalty paid on waste to 2-3 times the stumpage rate (depending on the grade and species of pieces).
- All surveys are subject to audits by the government. Surveys must be completed within 60 days of harvest complete.
- WIWAG member question: Any chance of the government relaxing penalties for standing timber? Answer: hard to say.
- WIWAG member question: Will it become uneconomical to harvest in some areas considering the price of waste associated with different types of harvesting? Answer: Helicopter harvesting is excluded from the additional fees of the FRZ. Some second growth harvesting will be disadvantaged with the increase in fees. Adjustments are expected given time and discussions with the government.
- WIWAG member question: Is the FRZ working? Is there a noticeable change in waste volumes? Answer: Nothing drastic yet.
- WIWAG member question: Do companies from pulp and paper know that there is fiber available to them? Answer: Yes, there are outstanding invitations to local contractors to access volumes in specific blocks if desired. It is usually only economical to them when the block is close to town because of the cost of trucking.
- WIWAG member question: Are there any incentives from the government to get the fiber moved to the pulp mills? Answer: There are processes that need to be addressed and refined in order to make this process viable and economical.

### **The Influence of Slash Burning on the Results of the Carbon Indicator – Erin Badesso**

- TFL44 LP had a net Carbon uptake of 342,777 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> in 2019
- Denser wood produces more CO<sub>2</sub>
- Burning is beneficial for reducing fire hazards, creates foraging species for ungulates, creates plantable spots for seedlings, WIWAG member question: Who does the pile burning? Answer: 1/3 staff, 2/3 contractors. Sometimes half and half.
- WIWAG member question: Why is the pile volume so different from year to year? Answer: the pile size varies from year to year, and the number of piles are related to the amount of harvesting done each year.
- WIWAG member question: Is burning and planting done in separate stages? Answer: ideally, the burning is done first, then planting is done later, although that doesn't always happen. Quite often the whole block is planted, then pile burned, then the pile area is planted together with any fringe seedlings that may have been damaged with the burning.

### **Discussion of Select Action Items (as time permits)**

**Announcements: N/A**

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

- April 8, 2021

Meeting adjourned at 8:22pm

**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	Feb 11, 2021	Erin Badesso
3	Carbon Relative to slash Burning Indicator 4.1.1	Post May 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2019	June 11, 2020	Feb 11, 2021	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	Feb 11, 2021	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 associated with Indicator 5.2.3	May 28 <sup>th</sup> 2020	Next Meeting		Erin Badesso
8	Indicator 7.1.1 Add a Variance to the Target to allow for one year without formal training	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