

Nicola Thompson Fraser SFM Plan Public Advisory Group Meeting Minutes

April 27, 2017. Nandi's restaurant, Kamloops

Attendees:

Liis Jeffries	Carrie Dan	Harley Wright	Kathy Crack
Lorne Wood	Jamie Skinner	Frank Etchart	Reuben Irvine
Bert Parke	Matt Manuel	Larry Michaelson	Brent Turmel
Ron Van der Zwan	Stefan Borge	Craig Hewlett	

Facilitator: Pat Salm

Introduction, agenda review, safety:

The meeting started at 9:00 am. The meeting began with introductions, meeting room orientation and a review of the meeting agenda. There were no additional items added to the agenda.

Action Items:

Four items were reviewed, two had been completed and the other two were on today's agenda.

Tolko Certification

Jamie spoke to the email sent out previously to advisory group members where Tolko will begin transitioning to the SFI standard. The link to the SFI website is as follows: <http://www.sfiprogram.org>

This will likely mean Tolko's involvement in the advisory group process will stop once the transition is complete (estimated at 8 months). Jamie promised to keep the advisory group updated and does plan to attend the fall meeting where a more complete update can be provided. Matt and Bert voiced concern over the move to SFI. Bert does not support the standard's lack of ongoing public discussion requirements. Matt felt that the existing advisory group process provides another tool for First Nations to have dialogue and help shape sustainability indicators and targets. He finds it concerning that there is an alternative forest certification standard that does not require additional public participation requirements.

Action: Jamie to provide update to the PAG at next meeting.

Review the 2016 SFM Monitoring Report:

Reviewed the Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) process, the tie that the Monitoring Report has to the SFM Plan and how these are aligned with CSA SFM Criteria and Elements of sustainability. The

indicators and targets of the Report are aligned with these Criteria and overall performance can then be evaluated. The Monitoring Report provides performance against the targets in the SFM Plan. Reporting is a roll-up of all licencees performance, individual company reports can be found in the Appendix. The targets in the plan were reviewed; advisory group members were asked to stop at any of the targets where they had a specific question or request.

Report sections 1-5:

Licencee reporting: Interfor (Adams Lake) no longer reporting into the plan, this might influence trends for specific targets.

Highlights: additional information provided in the highlights section – offering overall plan perspective. Targets were achieved on 38/41 targets, a well done. It was noted that licencee procedures on how/what they report for each target are assessed by their 3rd party certification auditor. Advisory group members are encouraged to attend these audits to get an understanding of what occurs.

Section 5.1 Summary data: The advisory group agreed that they wanted to continue to see this section in the report. General feeling was that it provided good perspective.

Report appendix 1: Detailed Reporting of SFM Targets

Target 2: The target was met in the SFM Monitoring Report for 2016. It was noted that poor results in the past have been influenced by how the silviculture surveys were conducted and data entered. Additional survey plot detail is providing better information and that is translating into better results. Pat reminded the group that the field tour (BCTS hosting) is to include a stop where Craig will conduct a silviculture plot to better explain the process and how plot information is rolled up into these reporting results.

Action: Ensure the fall field trip includes a stop where the silviculture survey can be explained.

Target 6d: Overall, this target was not met licencees reported adhering to ungulate winter range (UWR) requirements in 34 of 35 cut blocks. Stefan provided additional information on the one cutblock where the FSP (5 ha cutblock size limit) result and strategy was not followed. Canfor had 2 GIS layers for UWR – one of them did not contain the spatial line work to identify the area, thus overlooking this in the planning phase. Stefan has advised that they have removed this layer from their GIS and relooked at all planned blocks to avoid any similar situation.

Target 20 and 23: Pat advised that the riparian conformance target will be used to demonstrate alignment with the new CSA core indicator for riparian. It was also noted that for 2016, approximately 50% of areas harvested were influenced by one or more riparian features.

Target 25: The target reports on both road inspections as well road maintenance. All road inspections were completed as planned. Lorne reported that follow-up road maintenance work was not done in many situations in the Merritt and Lillooet TSA's. He explained that changes to BCTS staff in the area

resulted in lower impact action items not being completed as originally planned. All of these items have subsequently been added to the maintenance list for 2017 and Lorne expects them all to be completed this year.

Target 30: There was one instance (out of 48) where the identified recreational trail was not retained as planned. Lorne explained that a bike trail was adequately managed during harvesting but the site preparation operation resulted in the creation of soil berms across the trail. The berms have been removed and the trail is now functional.

Target 32: The reporting results for forest product output had a notable decline from previous years, reflecting Tolko's mill curtailment decisions for Merritt.

Target 40: The advisory group survey results were reviewed. There was some concern that question 14 (Licensees have made an effort to recruit new members) is one that is not easily answered by the advisory group who might not know the kinds of efforts licensees are or are not making. It was agreed to remove this question from future surveys.

Licensee monitoring summaries: BCTS, Canfor, Gilbert Smith and Tolko reviewed their summary report information. Pat noted the situation where Aspen Planers did not achieve a target (#2) that was reported as being met collectively by the Licensees.

General report feedback: Overall, the report was well done. There were no concerns with layout or how the data was presented. There was a request to ensure all acronyms used in the report are included in the Glossary.

Action: Pat to remind Laura Ann of this for next years reporting.

Other Business

1. **Mandatory discussion items.** Pat reviewed the table identifying discussion items and those that may warrant further discussion. In the end, the group identified 4 items that warrant further discussion beyond the conversations that have already occurred at previous meetings. The group agreed to tackle these one at a time over the course of the next 4 meetings. The wetlands topic will occur at the fall meeting. A guest speaker will likely be invited and guidance in the standard should be used to shape the presentation.

Action: Pat to post discussion item spreadsheet to the members section of the NTF website and include as an attachment in the distribution of the meeting minutes.

2. **2017 SFMP additional changes to meet Z809-16.** Pat explained the Appendix 4 table that has adjustments to the Values, Objectives, Indicators and Targets in the SFM Plan as a result of changes to the CSA forest certification standard (CSA Z809-16). *The house keeping changes have already been made to the Plan – these are the extra items needing PAG agreement.*

The group made some modifications then agreed to the Appendix 4 document. Pat will make those changes throughout the SFM Plan, then date the revised 2017 SFM Plan and post it to the NTF website. New hard copies of the Plan will not be distributed.

Action: Pat to post the agreed to Appendix 4 table to the members section of the NTF website and include the document in the distribution of the meeting minutes. Pat to then incorporate all these changes into the body of the SFMP and post the updated SFMP to the NTF website.

Current DFA Issues, Summary, Wrap-Up

NTF website

Pat reviewed the NTF website and how to access information including that found in the members section. Contact Pat if help is needed in accessing any files.

PAG 2017 Field Trip

Reminder that the next field trip is being planned for later this fall. Agreed to a tentative date of September 14th. BCTS will host and the tour will likely occur in an area between Kamloops and Merritt. PAG members are to contact Lorne if there is anything you specifically want to review in the field that day. Pat to send out an email reminder and itinerary a few weeks prior to the date.

Fall Meeting

Agreed to a tentative meeting date of Thursday November 2, 2017 where discussions regarding the 2018 SFM Plan will occur. Meeting to occur in Merritt at Brambles restaurant.

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm.