

Nimpkish Woodlands Advisory Committee Meeting  
Minutes June 2, 2016  
Englewood Forest Operation Office Boardroom, Woss, BC  
6:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.

**Attendance:** Kelly McMahon, WFP, Trevor Egely, WFP, Stu Ellis, General Public, Chris Bowden-Green, Woss community, Steve Lacasse, Environment

**Regrets:** Jeff Jones, Mount Cain Alpine Park Society, Pat English, Local Government, Graham MacDonald, Town of Port McNeill, Jack Miller, Labour

**Observers:** Cam Brady, potential karst sector alternate, Dave Rushton, Woss resident

**Advisor:** Paul Barolet, MOFLNRO

**Presenters:** Jane Cameron, Stillwater Community Advisory Group Chair, Stuart Glen, WFP Liaison For Stillwater Community Advisory Group

**Facilitator:** Annemarie Koch

**Notes:** Kelly McMahon and Annemarie Koch

### 1. Introduction and Safety Procedures:

Annemarie stressed the importance of safety to WFP throughout its operations and invited Kelly to review the safety procedures to follow in the event of a fire or medical emergency. She welcomed observer Cam Brady to the meeting and thanked Paul Barolet for inviting him along to learn more about NWAC, and to consider representing the karst sector.

Annemarie reviewed the objectives of the meeting, namely:

- To review the April 14th meeting minutes and selected action items;
- To hear a presentation from Stillwater Community Advisory Group representatives Jane Cameron and Stuart Glen on the role of the public advisory group in the CSA Z809 certification process;
- To offer residents of Woss and opportunity to learn more about NWAC and the CSA Z809 certification process;
- To encourage residents to join NWAC to represent the community of Woss;
- To confirm the date and content of the next meeting.

### 2. Review of Minutes and Action Items:

Annemarie reviewed the minutes and action items from the April 14th meeting. She reminded NWAC members that she would be assuming they had read the minutes prior to the meeting. There were no additions or changes to the minutes. She added that she would not be addressing action items that were ongoing but only items that were to be addressed in the shorter term. Given this, Annemarie noted that there were seven action items to address from the April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Annemarie reviewed the action items (including items that had been completed or revised) for which action was required in the short term, or for which reports were available.

**Action Item 1:** to follow up and see the feasibility of combining a number of targets for Indicator 5.1.1 that better reflect the economic and community benefits generated specifically in this DFA. It was agreed that Kelly should work with Jack and Bill to develop an additional target for Indicator 5.1.1 that shows Englewood's productivity in relation to other divisions in WFP

**Responsibility:** Kelly/Jack/Bill

**Due Date:** After divisional amalgamations are complete

Annemarie noted that work was ongoing to consider revising Criterion 5 indicators and she noted that she hoped that WFP Corporate Certification Coordinator Will Sloan might be able to assist with this effort.

It was noted that this action item is virtually the same as action item 16, and that this emphasizes the importance that PAG members place on this issue.

**Action Item 2:** Determine the feasibility of a cross division PAG meeting- in Port McNeill

**Responsibility-** Kelly and Trevor

**Due Date-** ongoing in 2015

Annemarie noted that the committee organizing the event was firming up the itinerary and would have a final program and invitations out to NWAC members by the middle of June. She noted that members would be asked to RSVP by the end of June, so that organizers could get a firm handle on numbers in order to plan for logistics, such as choice of venue, accommodation requirements and food.

**Action Item 3:** Look at ways and means of generating greater awareness of the economic and environmental benefits of preventing loss of petroleum products such as oil.

**Responsibility:** Trevor/Kelly/Jack

**Due Date:** Ongoing.

**Action Item 4:** Refine Indicator 5.2.2 to include a greater scope of training opportunities available in the DFA, including training provided through contractors. Inclusion of the training completed by Bill 13 contractors. Information can come from the safety council audit at Randy's suggestion.

**Responsibility:** Kelly McMahon

**Due Date:** 2015 annual report

Annemarie noted that Kelly was working on this action item in the context of the proposed revisions to the Criterion 5 indicators.

**Action Item 5:** support Youth Forestry Initiative

**Responsibility:** Kelly

**Due date:** Ongoing

**Action Item 6:** Continue to discuss membership and representation on NWAC to ensure that vacant sectors are filled and to see if any new sectors should be added.

**Responsibility:** Kelly and Annemarie

**Due Date:** ongoing

Annemarie noted that the meeting in Woss was intended to help build interest in membership from the community of Woss in NWAC. She added that Paul Barolet was assisting with the recruitment effort by inviting Cam Brady to consider representing the karst sector, as an alternate

for the current representative. Paul noted that Bryce Casavant is interested in representing the fish and wildlife sector and offered to follow up with him about this.

**Action Item 12 :** Bring new draft targets including additional variance for Indicator 5.1.1. to NWAC for review and consideration

**Responsibility:** Kelly and Trevor

**Due Date:** For next annual report, to be reported under “Strategies and Implementation.”

**Action Item 16 :** Revisit the feasibility of combining a number of targets for Indicator 5.1.1 that better reflect the economic and community benefits generated specifically in this DFA after the CIFO amalgamation is complete.

**Responsibility:** Annemarie

**Due Date:** Sometime in 2016

Annemarie noted that the above two action items, like the other action items related to Criterion 5, would be dealt with throughout the year and brought forward to NWAC members for review.

**Action Item 17:** Talk to Lorraine Landry about representing fish and wildlife interests on NWAC.

**Responsibility:** Steve Lacasse

**Due Date:** June 2, 2016

Annemarie asked Steve if he had a chance to talk to Quatse hatchery manager, Lorraine Landry about representing fish and wildlife interests on NWAC. Steve agreed to talk to Lorraine to determine her interest in being an alternate for the fish and wildlife sector, and Paul added that he would follow up with Bryce Casavant about representing the fish and wildlife sector, while we await Ray Lutz’s return to NWAC to represent this sector.

**Action Item 20:** Revise Criterion 5 target related to community investments along the following lines: ‘100% of the communities in and with interests in the DFA, namely Woss, Alert Bay, Sointula, Hyde Creek and Port McNeill receive annual community investments of some type from WFP.’

**Responsibility:** Kelly

**Due Date:** April 14<sup>th</sup> NWAC meeting

It was noted that this revision would be incorporated into the SFMP for the 2016 report.

**Action Item 25–** track and learn more about the waste from second growth harvesting that is stacked in processor piles some distance from the road, and make arrangements for a future presentation on how this wastewood is tracked, and the potential for making more use of wastewood from these second growth processor piles

**Responsibility:** Kelly

**Due Date:** June 2, 2016

Kelly noted that she was working on following up on a presentation on the gathering of wastewood from second growth harvesting. It was agreed to look at presenting on this topic in 2017, as the 2016 meeting schedule has been set and posted.

**Action Item 26:** ensure that the definition of ‘North Island’ is given and consistent throughout the SFMP and annual report and provide more information at a future meeting on how data for Indicator 5.2.1 is gathered

**Responsibility:** Kelly, Annemarie and Will

**Due:** 2016 annual report

Kelly noted that she was working on this and would report back in the development of the 2016 annual report.

**Action Item 27:** Confirm 2016 Terms of Reference as presented at this meeting and post on the PAG website and circulate with the April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes

**Responsibility:** Kelly and Annemarie

**Due Date:** April 28, 2016

**Action Item 28:** Confirm and post 2016 meeting schedule on the PAG website

**Responsibility:** Annemarie

**Due Date:** April 15, 2016

Annemarie noted that action items 27-28 had been completed.

Steve noted that he would be meeting with Trevor regarding former action item 18, regarding procurement of local goods and services.

Chris noted that, with respect to action item 20, there should be some discussion around Port McNeill’s relationship to the DFA. Kelly acknowledged that Woss was the only community completely within the DFA, but that there was consideration being given to other communities around the DFA. Chris noted that, with respect to action item 20, he would like to see more emphasis on Woss and the interests of this community specifically. Steve noted that the CIFO amalgamation had affected all communities on the North Island, including Woss. Chris noted that Port McNeill already has a DFA attached to it. He noted that, in relative terms, he would like to see WFP make more donations and contributions to the Woss community. Stu noted that he would like to ensure that donations come to Woss and north, as opposed to Campbell River and south.

Further to the minutes of the previous meeting, Kelly continued her review of indicators in the 2015 annual report.

Kelly noted there were four indicators that she wasn’t able to report out on at the last meeting. She reviewed these with the group, starting with Indicator 1.1.1, ecosystem area by type. She noted that the target had been met for 2015, in that all areas by ecosystem type were above 50% across the biogeoclimatic zones.

Kelly noted that the target for Indicators 1.1.2 and 1.1.3 did not need to be reported out on until 2019.

Kelly reviewed the target for Indicator 4.1.1, net carbon uptake, and reported that, based on the accepted calculations, the target was positive and had been met. Paul asked about the calculations for carbon removed from the atmosphere, and noted that there is a lot of waste when wood is harvested and that only 50% ends up being ‘sunked.’ Stuart noted that he believed there were allowances in the calculations for this.

Kelly noted that Will would be making a presentation in future on the manner in which carbon uptake is calculated for purposes of the SFMP.

There was a discussion of how carbon uptake is measured and how much carbon emission there is in heli-logging, for example. It was noted that heli-logging adds considerable fuel consumption to the equation. It was noted that, in balance with how much fuel is consumed by heli-logging, the practice allows access to more wood to keep manufacturing facilities going and reduces road construction activities.

It was agreed that, while waiting for Woss residents to attend the meeting, it would be helpful to have Trevor provide an update on harvesting operations. Trevor referred to work that was being done with the limited partnership with the Namgis in the area around lower Nimpkish Lake and down the Valley. He noted that the company was looking at Project 3, an area for summertime harvesting, that would present limited fire hazards.

Trevor referred to karst management areas that were being proposed for harvest and noted some of the challenges the company faced to avoid an undercut situation.

He pointed to the work that was being done to develop and encourage partnerships with First Nations, including employment and training. Trevor pointed to the recreational initiatives in the DFA and noted that plans were afoot to include representatives of the Namgis in the management of some of these sites. He referred to work that was being done with the DANYAS to harvest volume in the area around Beaver Cove and the south end of Nimpkish Lake.

He noted that TFL 37 was going through a Timber Supply Area review and that it was projected that the AAC would be stable over the next 5-10 years, pending the results of treaty negotiations.

Trevor noted that the company would be going ahead with using LiDAR for mapping and inventory purposes in the near future.

## **2. The Role of Public Advisory Groups in the CSA Z809 Certification Process, Jane Cameron, Stillwater CAG and Stuart Glen, WFP, Stillwater CAG**

Annemarie welcomed Woss resident Dave Rushton, and thanked him for coming to the meeting. She noted that this was the first open meeting of the Nimpkish Woodlands Advisory Committee to be held in Woss, and added that the purpose of the meeting was to introduce Woss residents to members of NWAC and to inform them of the role of the public advisory group in sustainable forest management planning and the CSA certification process, and to answer questions about the role and purpose of the Nimpkish Woodlands Advisory Committee. She introduced Jane Cameron and Stuart Glen of the Stillwater Community Advisory Group, and noted that they would be talking and answering questions about the role of public advisory groups in sustainable forest management, under the CSA certification process. She added that Kelly McMahon, Area Planner for WFP and member of NWAC, and she would be addressing and answering questions about the roles and responsibilities of NWAC members.

Stuart introduced himself, noting he had worked up in Port McNeill previously, but has been in Stillwater for the past nine years and was now in the mid Island. He noted he worked on Haida Gwaii previously as an MB employee. He noted that, as a result of his work across many operations, he could now recognize cutblocks up and down the coast. Jane introduced herself, noting she was currently chair of the Stillwater group. She noted she enjoyed being a member of the group and learning about sustainable forestry management.

Stuart invited questions throughout the presentation. He noted that they would be sharing their experiences with the Stillwater community advisory group. He started with a description of the Stillwater DFA and the benefits of seeing forests grow and change over time. He talked about areas where most individuals and communities have common interests. He asked people why they liked or didn't like a photo of the Stillwater DFA that he presented. Paul noted that he liked the composition of the cut and the view, Steve noted he liked the succession. Stu noted he liked the age classes and he liked the snow in the mountains in the photo. Dave noted that the photo showed the stand was in its third rotation, ie. it demonstrated a long term harvest history. Stuart explained the fire history on the site, which made it different from the primarily second growth sites in the DFA.

Jane reviewed the history of the Stillwater group, noting it had been in operation for 16 years, had ten seats and one common interest, which is sustainable forest management. She noted that members sincerely care about this common interest, as it supports environmental, social and economic values.

Stuart reviewed the CSA standard and how it relates to sustainable forest management. He noted that it provides a system for voluntary participation, continual improvement in forest management and engagement of interested parties through a focused public participation process which is structured through the Public Advisory Group. It was noted that the use of PAG's is somewhat unique in the world of certification. Jane noted that CSA is outstanding in its requirement for public participation and added that, where the majority of forest is Crown-owned, it is important that the public has input.

Jane pointed to the special role and responsibilities of PAG members, as a way of being directly involved in sustainable forest management.

There was a discussion of how the CSA process is legitimized through International oversight.

Jane noted she was a PAG representative on the CSA Technical Committee that reviews the CSA standard. She noted it had been a real learning experience for her, and she thanked all the advisory groups for the input they had offered her.

Jane defined the PAG, noting members were dedicated volunteers, came from different backgrounds, respectfully work well together, all to provide advice and input to sustainable forest management. She added that many members learn as they go. She stressed that members provide input by stating values and putting out objectives. She noted that, while there are national core indicators, groups have the opportunity to develop their own indicators and develop targets.

There was a question on how targets are developed and approved. Jane noted that most Stillwater targets have been set for a number of years. Stuart noted that the company is always able to explain why targets are set the way they are, but that it must provide a rationale for why the target is established the way it is. Stuart talked about how sustainability is defined and how it affects why and how targets are set. He discussed the issue of brushing in the Stillwater DFA and the variety of variables that must be taken into account to establish targets around this. Jane noted that, when targets aren't met, the group members discuss it thoroughly. Jane pointed to areas where the PAG might disagree with the company, but it was best to try to find agreement and common ground, where possible.

It was noted that, being on the PAG involved working through the complexities of sustainable forest management.

Chris asked about how to deal with ensuring that input is provided from different parts of the community. Jane noted that efforts are made to find primary and alternate representatives but, where interests cannot be represented at the table, the area planner would meet with those individuals or organizations to discuss issues one on one, as he would with the PAG. It was noted that information is also shared with groups that aren't necessarily represented at the table. Stuart talked about successional plans for members who were set to leave the group for various reasons.

There was a discussion of how, for example, environmental constituencies, might be represented. It was noted that the standard does not require that every interest in the community be represented, but that the standard called for a broad representation of interests.

Steve noted that karst was a very important interest in the Nimpkish DFA and that the standard allowed flexibility to cover this important interest.

It was noted that NWAC has advertised its membership and purpose in the past, but that there hasn't been huge uptake from the public or individual constituencies.

It was noted that part of the issue was geography and that this affected membership and attendance with PAG's.

Dave noted that half the crew in Woss was already in bed on a night like this meeting night, in order to be up and out to work early in the morning. Stuart added that membership was often weighted toward those who had time to attend, for example, retirees. It was noted that annual forest tours were one way to bring in more people, along with advertising in local magazines or newspapers and other public events.

Jane noted that it was important for WFP planners to get out there and tell people when and why the company is doing a good job in forest management.

Jane noted that Stillwater has an orientation manual and the chair offers an orientation session for new members. She noted that it could be daunting for new members to catch up with the complexities of forest management.

Stuart stressed that forestry is extremely complex and that PAG's can build up knowledge over a number of years and, through time, build up a strong understanding of the practice. He pointed to the importance of providing good speakers who address issues related to sustainable forest management. It was noted that the presentation topics could be used to address mandatory discussion items.

There was a discussion of some of the outreach that is done in relation to sustainable forest management.

It was noted that many people don't understand how complex forestry is. Stuart reviewed the work of a PAG, focusing on the requirements of the CSA standard, including social, environmental and economic values, which are measured through indicators and targets, which are part of the sustainable forest management plan for the defined forest area. Jane reviewed the elements of sustainability, where economy, society and environment overlap. Stuart stressed that,

finding common interests was a basis for finding common solutions and approaching sustainability.

There was a discussion of how to balance recreational interests in the Stillwater DFA. Stuart noted that the approach taken at Stillwater is to look at how to maximize recreational values, in relation to other values using optimization at the level of block planning.

It was noted that half of the harvest in Stillwater comes out of visual quality areas and that balance is achieved through seeking common interests across the social, environmental and economic values.

Stuart reviewed how a popular trail was moved to accommodate a harvesting plan, and how the trail could be moved again when the area greened up, taking advantage of the temporal element of sustainable forest management.

There was a discussion of vandalism on recreation sites and how gates are used at times to prevent vandalism over the winter months.

Jane reviewed how PAG's engage, noting they work together, have a focus and have the support of WFP, while following a terms of reference and a code of conduct in order to provide input to the sustainable forest management plan.

Jane talked about how the terms of reference are reviewed and revised annually. She noted that the terms of reference are critical to the long term success of the group.

Jane noted that the Stillwater PAG meets about 8 times per year, sometimes with an annual field trip. She noted that regular meetings support the long term trust building and success of the group.

Stuart reviewed the roles and responsibilities of PAG members, including abiding by the terms of reference and code of conduct, attending regularly, working in an open-minded fashion and working respectfully with others, working with other advisory group members in decision-making and being accepting of the outcomes. He pointed to the value of consensus decision-making in a respectful environment. Stuart stressed the skill sets of working together toward a common interest in sustainable forest management.

There was a discussion of challenges that the Stillwater PAG might have faced, for example, in working with the company on issues such as the use of herbicides.

Steve asked how it works around PAG members expressing concerns to an auditor. There was a discussion of how the Stillwater group deals honestly with the auditor and how the auditor then discusses any concerns with the company.

Jane discussed reasons why a person would want to be a member of a PAG. She noted that it was an opportunity to be proactively involved, an opportunity to learn, to hear directly from experts, see the results of sustainable forest management and participate in informed discussions and input into the sustainable forest management plan.

Stuart reflected on 10 years of working together on the PAG, ie. how do we know we are being successful. Jane noted that the Stillwater PAG has many long term members and that there is a great deal of satisfaction with members in the process. There was a discussion of why the number

of sectors in Stillwater is limited to ten seats or areas of interest. It was noted that there is a balance between representation of interests and ability to proceed in a focused manner.

Stuart and Jane pointed to the amazing value of trees and forest management in using solar energy to remove carbon and produce a sustainable building material.

Annemarie thanked Stuart and Jane for their presentation.

### **3. Kelly McMahon, Area Planner, WFP, NWAC: The Roles and Responsibilities of NWAC Members**

Annemarie noted that the roles and responsibilities of NWAC members are similar to those outlined by Jane and Stuart, and outlined in the NWAC Terms of Reference. She reiterated that the primary purpose of NWAC is to provide input to the Sustainable Forest Management Plan and to monitor the implementation of the plan through, for example, the annual report results around indicator targets. She reviewed the roles and responsibilities of members, WFP, advisors and observers under the Terms of Reference. She reviewed the manner in which information is requested, distributed and accessed by members, decision-making mechanisms and provisions for conflict. She then asked if there were any questions regarding the roles and responsibilities of NWAC members.

Steve noted his concern for the declining levels of attendance at meetings and he noted it would be great to have more participation. Stuart noted that there are times when they go knocking on doors to enlist people. Jane acknowledged it can be hard to bring in members, often because of geographic challenges.

There was a discussion of First Nations participation in the PAG's. It was noted that this was a challenge for every PAG. Jane noted that the new standard has addressed this in a few ways, including putting the aboriginal values under a separate criterion, and allowing for other ways to engage First Nations in the sustainable forest management planning process. For example, Jane noted that a separate First Nations advisory group could be set up.

It was noted that First Nations' representatives previously attended PAG meetings, but that the company now takes the SFMP review directly to the First Nations in the DFA, in search of feedback on the plan, and the opportunity to develop partnerships in other areas.

Steve noted that it would be helpful for the PAG to understand the significance of cultural values such as CMT's. Jane suggested inviting First Nations as guests to talk about these cultural values.

Stuart suggested inviting First Nations to talk to PAG members about various topics, such as cultural values and the treaty process.

Stuart pointed to how valuable the high stumping practice, which was pioneered through the Englewood division, was to mark areas of special significance, such as karst.

There was a discussion of possible stops during the all-PAG field tour on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Kelly reviewed the proposed itinerary for the field tour. Paul asked about looking at recovery sites following the Vernon fires. Chris suggested looking at the Kinman fire sites and the impact on karst areas, versus areas where there was originally soil. Stuart asked about genetic gain trials. Paul asked about elk browse areas and white pine trials. Steve asked about salmonid enhancement initiatives in the DFA. Chris noted that there had been a project on Sebahall. Dave noted that one

of the first enhancement projects was a partnership with the Namgis on a stream near the airport. It was suggested that the tour include a look at goshawk nesting habitat. Kelly agreed to take these suggestions under consideration in planning the Nimpkish Valley portion of the all-PAG tour on September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Stuart suggested looking at strategies around transitioning reforestation efforts to anticipate climate change.

Paul suggested including projects that didn't go so well, for example, on karst areas, in order to learn from these experiences. It was agreed that this kind of adaptive management approach would be consistent with the principles of continuous improvement.

#### **4. Next Meeting:**

Annemarie noted that, with confirmation of the 2016 meeting schedule, the next meeting, scheduled for October 27, 2016 at Black Bear Resort in Port McNeill, was a joint meeting with members of VINWAG, and that the topic would be 'relationships with aboriginal communities and individuals.' She asked members if they had any suggestions about who the presenters might be. It was agreed that Trevor would approach representatives of the Namgis to see if anyone would make a presentation at the joint meeting.

**Action Item 29:** Approach Rachel Dalton, Harry Alfred and Brian Svanvik about making a presentation at the October 27<sup>th</sup> joint meeting on relationships with aboriginal communities.

**Responsibility:** Trevor Egely

**Due Date:** September 15, 2016

Steve asked Dave what might be done to encourage more attendance from Woss residents. Dave suggested not holding a meeting on a Tuesday evening. It was suggested that two of the NWAC meetings a year be held in Woss, on a Wednesday evening, and that they be held in a neutral venue like the community hall.

**Action Item 30:** When preparing the 2017 schedule of meetings, consider holding at least two NWAC meetings in Woss, on a Wednesday evening, in the Woss community hall.

**Who:** Kelly McMahan and Annemarie Koch

**When:** November, 2016, when preparing the 2017 meeting schedule

Annemarie thanked members for their ongoing commitment and bid them a safe journey home.