

**Nimpkish Woodlands Advisory Committee Meeting  
Minutes April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
Black Bear Resort, Port McNeill, B.C.**

**Committee Attendees:**

Bill Nelson    Jack Miller    Trevor Egley    Kelly McMahon    Peter Curtis  
Buzz Walker    Ray Lutz    Gaby Wickstrom    Paul Barolet    Ed Jackson,  
Linda Phillip

**Regrets:** Mac Willing    Gerry Furney

**Presenter:** Jim Stafford, Archeologist

**Facilitator:** Annemarie Koch

**Notes:** Kelly McMahon and Annemarie Koch

**Safety Procedures and Introductions:**

Annemarie reviewed the safety procedures to follow in the event of an emergency, welcomed everyone, and noted changes to the agenda due to the guest speaker (Jim Stafford) organized by Ed Jackson (thanks Ed!) to address Criterion One mandatory discussion items, including identification of cultural features. A special thanks to Peter for his agreement to postpone his recreational caving presentation to the next meeting (June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012). Annemarie drew attention to the participant satisfaction survey and asked members to review and fill out at the end of the meeting or by fax/email/hard copy to Kelly McMahon at the Western Forest Products Englewood Forest Operations Office.

Annemarie reviewed the objectives of the meeting which were as follows:

- to review the minutes and action items from the November 8, 2011 meeting
- listen to a presentation from Jim Stafford regarding Criterion One mandatory discussion items, including management and protection of biological resources of cultural heritage significance, management of cultural values and resources, and locally available processes and methods for identifying sites with special biological and cultural significance,
- listen to, review, and comment on the 2011 SFMP TFL37 Annual Report
- distribute/receive feedback on the participant satisfaction survey
- have a general discussion

**Business Arising from the Minutes:**

Annemarie reviewed the minutes and action items from the November 11, 2011 meeting.

**Action Item 1** - Update the Terms of Reference as per the recommendations in the minutes and circulate revised TOR to members.

**Responsibility:** Kelly McMahon

**Due Date:** Next meeting, March 27th, 2012

**Status:** Updated and a hard copy version of the updated Terms of Reference was provided to the members at meeting on April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

**Action Item 2-** Reminder that, as per the Terms of Reference, notices go out 2 weeks in advance of the meeting and request to have a limited number of printed copies of the minutes available at the meeting for members who don't have access to printers.

**Responsibility:** Kelly McMahan

**Due Date:** Next meeting, March 27th, 2012

**Status:** The terms of reference were reviewed at the November 8, 2011 meeting and are reviewed annually. The review of the terms of reference will be at a future meeting within the 2012 year. A revised Terms of Reference was provided for all NWAC members within this meeting to ensure the updates were completed.

**Action Item 3-** Send an email reminder to NWAC members 1-2 days in advance of the meeting.

**Responsibility:** Kelly McMahan

**Due Date:** Next meeting, March 27, 2012

**Status:** March 6<sup>th</sup> an email was sent to all NWAC members confirming the date of March 27<sup>th</sup>. A further email sent on Friday March 16<sup>th</sup> was sent asking for a later meeting date to be set for April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012. An update email was sent on March 30<sup>th</sup> to confirm the meeting date of April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

**Action Item 4:** Confirm that the next meeting date will be March 27th as the March 20th date conflicts with the School District 85 School Break the week of March 19-23rd, 2012.

**Responsibility:** Kelly McMahan

**Due Date:** When the minutes are circulated.

**Status:** Complete.

The members adopted the minutes as presented.

### **Notes from Kelly's Presentation on the 2011 Annual Report**

Kelly noted she had circulated a printed copy of the annual report to members at the meeting and thanked them for their patience with respect to the change in date for the meeting.

Kelly invited members to follow along with her presentation using their printed copy of the report. She thanked all those who helped put the report together. She outlined the major changes to the annual report, noting that due to the changes in the standard, the organization of the annual report and the basic indicators had changed significantly from the 2010 annual report. She added that she would go over the major changes in indicators, note the targets that hadn't been met, and then give a broad overview and open the floor to questions. She pointed out that 37 of 38 indicators were met successfully and there had been a general tendency for improved performance over the past three years.

Kelly began with **Indicator 1.1.1 Ecosystem Area by Type**- She noted that within the CWHvm1 biogeoclimatic zone there was only one ecosystem type where the target was just being achieved. The target is 50% and in 2011 there was 50% area available within in the mid, mature and old seral stages.

Kelly noted that she would not be reviewing in detail any indicators that would be reported out within a 5 year trending period, they would be reported out in the 2014/2015 reporting period based upon the year the baseline data was collected.

She reviewed **Indicator 1.1.4-Degree of Within Stand Retention**-with members. There was a discussion of an anomaly within the Enhanced Basic in the EFZ VILUP Zone. Kelly explained how there seemed to be a dip in the 2011 reporting year relative to 2010 within the retention used as the Forest Strategy versus clearcut with reserves. Future efforts will be to move towards 100% retention and utilization of the Western Forest Strategy.

Kelly reviewed **Indicator 1.2.1-Degree of Habitat Protection for Focal Species**- She pointed out a ten-hectare change between 2010 and 2011, but noted this was within the variance for this indicator.

Kelly moved on to **Indicator 1.2.3-Protection of Regeneration Comprised of Native Species**- noting the trend toward planting more Douglas fir, yellow cedar and red cedar and decreasing the amount of hemlock planted. Paul noted WFP still has a very high amount of hemlock generated and added that this was a positive thing.

Gaby asked whether it was legislated that WFP had to plant hemlock. Kelly noted it was a practice that WFP previously undertook. Jack asked if the yellow cedar was being planted in historical sites or whether they spreading out through planting, eg. to lower elevation. Trevor noted that WFP was sticking to planting yellow cedar where they are finding it.

Kelly reviewed **Indicator 1.2.4-Percent Consistency with Management Practices for Habitat Features** and noted this was a reporting out on the number of blocks harvested in 2011.

Kelly noted nothing had changed for **Indicator 1.4.1-Proportion of Identified Sites with Implemented Management Strategies**- She went on to **Indicator 1.4.2** noting that there were eight cut blocks harvested in 2011 that required management for cultural features.

Kelly noted that **Indicator 2.1.2-Percent Consistency with Time to Control a Forest Fire** was met. Buzz noted that it rained all summer so that had helped.

Kelly reviewed **Indicator 2.2.1-Additions and Deletions to the Forest Area**- noting an average had been taken from 20 blocks sampled from various areas and the target had been met.

Kelly reviewed **Indicator 2.2.2-Proportion of the LTHL that is Actually Harvested-** Englewood Forest Operation is not harvesting volume beyond the level of the AAC.

Kelly reviewed **Indicator 3.1.1-Level of Soil Disturbance-** noting both targets for this indicator had been met.

Kelly moved on to **Indicator 4.1.1-Net Carbon Uptake-**noting the indicators in between had been met. She referred to Michel de Bellefeuille's previous presentation to NWAC members on net carbon uptake and noted his results were summarized in the report.

Kelly reviewed **Indicator 5.1.1-Quantity and Quality of Timber and Non-Timber Benefits Produced in the DFA-** noting this was the only indicator for which the targets had not been met. It was noted that the current economic situation had not really allowed for much in the way of heli-logging. Trevor noted that, if weather permitted, there would be an effort to make up for some heli-logging within the 2012 harvesting plan.

Kelly reviewed **Indicator 5.2.1-Level of Investment in Initiatives that Contribute to Community Stability** and reported on **Indicator 5.2.2-Level of Investment in Training and Skill Development** noting they are within the variance for this target.

Kelly went on to **Indicator 5.2.3,-Level of Direct and Indirect Employment-** and she noted the trend in community source of employees had been tabulated in a table in the report. Trevor noted that it would good to add Alert Bay to the community table next year.

Kelly noted she collected as much information as she could on the source of contract employees.

Kelly reviewed the target related to volume harvested by contractors and the number of non-forestry businesses, noting these had increased slightly over last year.

Kelly reviewed **Indicator 5.2.4-Level of Aboriginal Participation in the Forest Economy-** noting in 2011 there were four aboriginal employees with the company, but that it was difficult to track how many First Nations work with contractors. She noted that an estimate of two to three had been made.

Kelly reviewed the number of agreements with First Nations, including cultural heritage surveys on planned cutblocks, the Nimpkish Resource Management Board and the 'Namgis coordinated contract with JMB Forestry.

Kelly reviewed **Indicator 6.1.10-Evidence of Understanding of Aboriginal Title and Rights-** referencing the duty to consult and efforts to build a relationship with First Nations, including a series of four meetings this past year.

Kelly reviewed **Indicator 6.1.2-Efforts to Obtain Acceptance of Management Plans by Aboriginal Communities**-pointing to a table summarizing referrals to First Nations throughout 2011. She noted the intent was to keep lines of communication open.

Kelly reviewed **Indicator 6.1.3-Level of Management/Protection of Culturally Important Areas**-noting there were eight blocks that required management for cultural features and that the appropriate assessments had been carried out. She pointed to where corrective measures had been taken, eg. removal of a feature from a block, rather than trying to log around a feature. Trevor pointed to the use of retention to protect a feature.

Jack asked if any blocks had been removed entirely due to the finding of cultural features. Trevor noted that in some cases, large areas of blocks might be removed or retention used to protect features identified. Ed noted that in cases where there were numerous CMT's, the block might be left alone entirely – he pointed to a case in the past where this had taken place.

Ed noted that there were more second growth fir and valley bottoms being logged.

Kelly moved on to **Indicator 6.3.1-Cooperation with Forest Dependant Groups to Strengthen and Diversify the Local Economy**- noting the Northland Power facility and shake and shingle operations were covered, for example, under this Indicator. She pointed to a decreasing trend in activity. She noted the volume sold locally had dropped since 2010.

Ed noted that Northland was using some small logs. Trevor noted that they were sending some of the small pulp logs directly to Northland Power as there had been problems with towing some of the smaller logs because they were sinking. Trevor noted there were a few blocks where a large component of small pulp had been found and these were being sent directly to Northland because they were being lost in transit anyway.

Kelly reviewed **Indicator 6.3.2-Cooperation with Workers to Improve Safety Standards and Procedures**-noting the results had been good. She went on to Indicator 6.3.3, noting this target had been maintained.

Kelly reviewed **Indicator 6.4.1-Level of Satisfaction with the Public Participation Process**- noting there was a 95% satisfaction rate and there was noted a desire to have more outside speakers as a means to improve the process. She noted that efforts were being made to respond to this request for more speakers.

Kelly reviewed **Indicators 6.4.2 and 6.4.3-Capacity Development and Meaningful Participation**- She noted Ed Jackson representing the 'Namgis First Nations had attended four meetings this past year. She referred to a table summarizing participation by First Nations eg. on the railway.

Kelly noted that SFMP information was being made available on the WFP website and that links were available in the report. Kelly referred to a list of corporate research projects and it was agreed that she should send out a list of projects to all members by email.

Kelly noted that overall it had been a good year. She asked for questions.

Ray asked about the level of soil disturbance. He noted that within Blocks ME198 and ME45 with all of the rainfall within the last week the soils were wetter than usual. He wondered if there was a process related to capturing the effects of the machinery on the soil. Trevor noted that typically, supervision applicable to that area should be monitoring the situation causing what is perceived as excessive soil disturbance. Site plans are written to address soil concerns when necessary based on ground conditions observed at the time of field visitations by planning personnel. Any prescriptive guidance would be expressed in both Harvest Instructions and Road Instructions which also have sections that speak to soil disturbance. Furthermore it was noted that there are soil disturbance guidelines, standard operating procedures prior to harvest and post harvest field inspections upon the completion of harvest completed by planning staff to ensure that the original prescriptions were followed and / or the level of soil disturbance in an area meets acceptable levels and can be reforested.

Ray noted that the areas where he had seen the increased soil disturbance were steep and there had been runoff, potentially into the river. Ray noted his concerns for river runoff and added that he felt any required rehab should be done right after the work is done. He noted that it was better to address the issue as soon as possible.

There was a discussion of methods used to minimize soil disturbance levels and address rehabilitation of disturbed areas. Ray noted his concern for the Nimpkish River. It was noted that each block has an acceptable percentage but given the topography and run off that sediment was not expected to reach fish bearing streams.

Trevor agreed to forward on Ray's concerns regarding soil disturbance on ME45 and ME198. He also mentioned that the reason the rehabilitation excavator pulled out was because of excessive rainfall and soil saturation and thus would be more harmful than beneficial.

Linda asked about Indicator 2.1.1 and suggested tracking how many times an SP (focussing on stocking) amendment is required to achieve free growth status. Paul noted that a Forest Practices Board report on the number of amendments required had been carried out in the forest district in 2006, and that changes following the report were intended to reduce the number of these amendments. He noted that, due to the changes made, there should be less amendments occurring all the time.

Jack asked about tracking all of the fossil fuels used in the DFA. It was agreed to bring forward the carbon-related action items to the next meeting and have Michel address these.

Bill asked to track what trainees are employed by contractors. He suggested sending a survey out to contractors through NWAC, asking for the number of trainees each company has. Bill noted his willingness to provide this type of information for Holbrook Dyson.

Bill asked about how many people are entry level employees, noting these are trainees as well. He noted it was important to track that people are coming into the industry, as there are certainly people leaving it and there is a need to maintain trained people in the forest industry.

Kelly noted that there were 4 summer students coming and they were hoped to be future employees with Western Forest Products.

Buzz noted that there are some people being trained by the company right now. Gaby noted that North Island College is running a course for entry level forestry skills.

Kelly noted that she would refine this indicator and acquire more data for next year. Trevor asked if the Indicator should be changed to account for other levels of training available in the DFA. Bill stressed that it was important to ensure that qualified people come into the industry.

Bill repeated that he would like to see previous action items related to carbon uptake dealt with at the next meeting. It was agreed that the next meeting should take place on June 13<sup>th</sup> to address carbon action items and Peter's presentation and anything else WFP might need to discuss with NWAC members, eg related to the internal audit.

Jack asked Ed when the treaty might be signed. Ed noted they were hoping to have the AIP signed this year and then work on the treaty could proceed. Jack asked whether it was true that the treaty might not be signed for five to six years. Ed noted this was hard to say at this stage.

Paul asked why Indicators 3.1.2 and 3.2.1 had been skipped. Kelly reminded him of her initial conversation in that she initially she was going to highlight the indicators that had been changed since the 2010 Annual Report and would not report any indicators that were reported out within a 5 year trend. She did within this meeting time review both 3.1.2 and 3.2.1 and was open to more dialogue at any time in relation to the indicators.

Annemarie asked NWAC members if they wished to further review the annual report or if they were satisfied to accept it at this stage. Bill noted that he would like to hear the response to the previous action items on carbon uptake first. Kelly responded that these action items were independent of adoption of the annual report, but agreed that they should be addressed at the next meeting and agreed to talk to Michel de Bellefeuille about this.

Members agreed to accept the annual report with the understanding that the action items related to carbon uptake will be dealt with at the next meeting.

Annemarie reminded NWAC members to fill out their Participant Satisfaction Surveys and to either give them to Kelly after the meeting or forward them by FAX or mail by April 11.

### **Notes from Jim Stafford Presentation:**

Jim is an employee of Coast Interior Archeology. His presentation was in the form of a power-point presentation.

It is noted that a lot of archeological surveys were completed from 2001- present. Evidence has shown that in 1980 the surveys stopped and picked up again in 2001.

The bulk of his presentation was reporting out the results of the archeological features at the South end of Woss Lake and the Grease Trail travelled predating 1890. The Grease Trail is an indication of the history of the 'Namgis cultural use.

Jim went on to describe the cultural features that exist within the Englewood Forest Operations Area including areas around Woss Lake, and Nimpkish Lake. Some of the features that were found but were not limited to specifically are:

Rock shelters,

Sharpening stones,

CMT's

Campsites on South-facing beaches

Bark Boards (found across from Kilpala)

Pictographs (found on the east side of Nimpkish Lake)

Jim noted that there was a large area of old growth trees containing a large amount of CMT's on the west end of Nimpkish Lake. Aboriginally logged stumps and some caves were also noted on the West Side of Nimpkish Lake. The caves to date have no evidence of archeological use.

A book was recommended to aid in a further understanding of aboriginal logging called Cedar by Hillary Stewart.

Jim led us through pictures to the geographic areas areas of Port McNeill and Beaver Cove where cultural evidence is noted to date back 10,000 years. This is the earliest date within the data collected on Vancouver Island. Evidence of cultural use was in the form of low density lithic scatter, tools, stone flakes and artifacts.

Kelly asked how the projects they work on are funded. Jim responded that they are developmentally driven.

Some sights on lakes and ocean edges have been noticed to have fluctuating water levels which should be taken into account when surveying for depth on study sites.

The last site that Jim talked about was the Kingcome Glacier. It was noted to contain volcanic glass (obsidian). The sites were said to have cultural activity predating 7000-9000 years.

Peter Curtis asked if Jim ever find old canoes made from trees. Jim replied that there were no canoes found within this area.

### **New Action Items from Meeting:**

**Action Item 1** - Add Alert Bay to the community table for Indicator 5.2.3

**Responsibility:** Kelly McMahon

**Due Date:** Next annual report (2012)

**Action Item 2-** Reminder that, as per the Terms of Reference, notices go out 2 weeks in advance of the meeting, and send an email reminder to NWAC members 1-2 days in advance of the meeting.

**Responsibility:** Kelly McMahon

**Due Date:** Next meeting, June 13th, 2012

**Action Item 3-** Send a list a WFP's corporate research projects and initiatives, the current terms of reference, the 2011 annual report and a pdf of archeologist Jim Stafford's presentation out to NWAC members

**Responsibility:** Kelly McMahon

**Due Date:** For next meeting, June 13, 2012

**Action Item 4:** Bring forward all carbon uptake action items from the March 17, 2011 NWAC meeting, including background on the volume of petroleum products purchased and the volume recycled in a given year to the calculation of indicator 4.1.1 and approaching Shannon Janzen and/or Paul Bavis regarding presenting any new developments with regards to carbon credit trading/purchasing; and bring forward the action item related to developing a more meaningful target than EBITDA for Indicator 5.1.1.

**Responsibility:** Kelly McMahon and Michel de Bellefeuille

**Due Date:** For the June 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Action Item 5:** Refine Indicator 5.2.2 to include a greater scope of training opportunities available in the DFA, including training provided through contractors, through entry level work, and general education such as North Island College's forestry training.

**Responsibility:** Kelly McMahon

**Due Date:** Integrate into SFMP as soon as appropriate and then into 2011 annual report

**Action Item 6:** Set up an NWAC meeting on June 13<sup>th</sup> to address carbon action items, Peter's recreational caving presentation and anything else WFP might need to discuss with NWAC members, eg. related to the internal audit.

**Responsibility:** Kelly McMahon

**Due Date:** Two weeks prior to June 13<sup>th</sup> meeting (May 30)

**Action Item 7:** Turn in completed participant satisfaction surveys to Kelly

**Responsibility:** NWAC Members

**Due Date:** April 11, 2012

The meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.