

Nimpkish Woodlands Advisory Committee Meeting
Minutes May 25, 2017
Community Hall, Woss, BC
6:00 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Attendance: Kelly McMahon, Area Planner, WFP, Chris Bowden-Green, Woss Community, Steve Lacasse, Environment, Cam Brady, Karst, Jon Lok, Medium-sized Contractors

Regrets: Pat English, Local Government alternate, Shirley Ackland, Town of Port McNeill, Stu Ellis, General Public

Advisor: Paul Barolet, Advisor, MOFLNRO

Observers: Trevor Egely, LeMare Lake Logging, Shane Murdoch, North Island Chipping Ltd., Leanne Jones, North Island Chipping Ltd.

Presenter: John Guillemaud, Senior Timber Cruiser, Strategic Natural Resource Consultants Inc.

Facilitator: Annemarie Koch

Notes: Kelly McMahon and Annemarie Koch

1. Opening Remarks, Kelly McMahon:

Annemarie noted that, at this point in the meeting, she would normally review safety procedures but, out of respect for those who died or were injured in the recent tragedy in Woss, she was inviting Kelly to say a few words and would then be inviting members to share a moment of silence.

Kelly expressed, on behalf of WFP, the following:

'We were all devastated by the tragic rail incident that occurred in Woss in late April. Jacob Galeazzi, Roland Gaudet, and Clem Reti were fatally injured. Jacob, Roland and Clem were cherished family members, work colleagues, friends, and neighbours.

Ralph Poepperl and David Somerville were seriously injured, and we are thankful that they are recovering.

Western Forest Products will continue to do what we can to support the families, employees, and the community of Woss impacted by this event.

As an investigation is ongoing, it is inappropriate for us to discuss details, speculate or comment at this time. We are offering support to the families impacted by this tragedy, and are providing counseling services to help our employees cope during this time.

We request that you respect the privacy of the families and our employees during this difficult time.'

Annemarie then invited members of NWAC to share a moment of silence in memory of those who died, and out of respect for those who were injured and affected in any way by the tragedy.

2. Review of Minutes and Action Items:

Annemarie reviewed the objectives of the meeting, namely:

- To review the March 23rd meeting minutes and selected action items;

- To hear a presentation from SNRC Senior Timber Cruiser John Guillemaud on post-harvest utilization of waste wood;
- To review drafts of the new and revised indicators required under the new CSA Z809-16 standard;
- To conduct the annual review of the Terms of Reference;
- To further review the 2016 annual report, if there is time,
- To confirm the date and content of the next meeting.

She then referred members to the minutes and action items from the March 23rd 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. Annemarie added that she would not be addressing action items that were ongoing but only items that were completed or to be addressed in the shorter term. Given this, Annemarie noted that there were 13 action items to address or review from the March 23rd meeting.

Annemarie invited those present to introduce themselves. She noted that Trevor Egely, formerly the WFP representative on NWAC and now working for LeMare Lake Logging, was attending this meeting as an observer, and had offered to represent the large contractors sector in future, with the agreement of members of NWAC.

Annemarie reviewed the action items for which action was required in the short term, or for which reports were available.

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: 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: 2017 annual report

Annemarie noted that it had been agreed to commit to try to obtain at least safety and environmental training records for contractors for the 2017 annual report, and to continue to work with NWAC members to define the type of information about contractor training that they would like to track.

Action Item 5: support Youth Forestry Initiative

Responsibility: Kelly

Due date: Ongoing

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

Responsibility: Kelly

Due Date: For the 2017 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 2017

Annemarie noted that work on the Criterion 5 indicators and targets was ongoing and invited input from the members on their priorities for revisions to these indicators. She noted that one of the new indicators, 5.1.2, required under the CSA Z809-16 standard, would be discussed later in the meeting.

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

Responsibility: Steve Lacasse

Due Date: November 24, 2016

Annemarie asked Steve if he had a chance to talk to someone from Port McNeill to act as an alternate for this sector. Steve noted he had talked to Lorraine Landry and Ken Kollmann and he recommended that one of them should be invited to attend the next meeting to see if they wished to represent fish and wildlife interests.

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: Sometime in 2017

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

Annemarie noted that Kelly had indicated that this action item had been addressed in the 2016 annual report and invited her to illustrate this.

Kelly reviewed references to the North Island in the 2016 annual report. She showed, for example, how the report separates out information on where employees and contractors live in North Island communities, as distinct from the communities of Campbell River and Sayward.

There was some discussion regarding the number of employees and contractors who might list their residences as being in Woss, but who also have residences for their families in Campbell River or further south on the Island.

Action Item 32: Keep NWAC members up to date on the forest sector strategy initiative

Responsibility: Pat English

Due Date: Ongoing in 2017

Annemarie suggested that the group wait until Pat or Shirley were present to report on the forest sector strategy initiative.

Action Item 33: Keep NWAC members up to date on the initiative to form a coalition of industry, business and community representatives to respond to the UBCM resolution to ban all future logging of old growth on Vancouver Island.

Responsibility: Fred Robertson and Shirley Ackland

Due Date: Ongoing in 2016-17

Annemarie suggested that the group wait for Shirley to be in attendance to report on this initiative.

Action Item 35: Bring together a panel of presenters, including Ben Isitt for UBCM, WFP and North Island community representatives for the joint October 26,2017 meeting to discuss the UBCM resolution to ban all future logging of old growth on Vancouver Island, or arrange for Mike Davis to give a presentation on the management plans for TFL's 6 and 37, or arrange for Larry Henkelmann to give a presentation on the effects of the Softwood Lumber Agreement on the North Island forest industry .

Responsibility: Fred Robertson, Shirley Ackland, Kelly McMahon and Annemarie Koch

Due Date: October 26,2017

Action Item 40: Implement recommendations in 2016 participant satisfaction survey report.

Responsibility: Kelly McMahon, Annemarie Koch, NWAC members

Due Date: Ongoing

Action Item 42: Discuss WFP's Silviculture Strategy for Englewood Division

Responsibility: Kelly McMahon

Due Date: Sometime in 2017-2018

Action Item 43: Explain why key targets are not set for old growth and immature stand types for target 1 under Indicator 5.1.1

Responsibility: Kelly McMahon

Due Date: September 28,2017

Annemarie asked Kelly if she was ready to respond to this action item. Kelly asked if she could address this action item at the September NWAC meeting and members agreed.

Action Item 44: Provide an explanation of how continuous shifting has maximized use of recently purchased capital equipment in the Englewood Division

Responsibility: Randy Boas or Brad Galeazzi

Due Date: September 28,2017

Kelly noted that she had discussed this action item with Randy Boas and that he had indicated that he would address it, but was not able to at this meeting.

Annemarie asked for the understanding and patience of members in dealing with this matter and asked if they would agree that this action item be deferred to the September 28th meeting in Woss so that Randy Boas could address it at then. Members agreed to invite Randy to the September 28th meeting to answer questions about the use of continuous shifting in the Englewood Division.

Action Item 45: Send copy of draft 2016 annual report to NWAC members for review

Responsibility: Kelly McMahon

Due Date: April 10,2017

Annemarie noted that the 2016 annual report and SFMP had been distributed to members with the meeting agenda on May 11th. She apologized that the report was circulated later than planned, and thanked Kelly for all her work in preparing the document and reviewing it with members at the previous meeting.

Action Item 46: Review proposed target 4 of Indicator 5.1.1 with Randy Boas and convey NWAC members request that it be ‘100% of the CIF invested annually in communities within the DFA,’ as the fund is intended to be invested in communities in the DFA and not where the employees live.

Responsibility: Kelly McMahon

Due Date: May 25,2017

Annemarie asked Kelly if she had the chance to review this matter with Randy Boas. Kelly noted that she had, and that Randy had explained that the CIF was set up by division, as an allotment for supervisors to distribute to employees to support activities in their communities. She noted that Randy wanted to maintain some flexibility for supervisors to decide how to distribute the funds through employees, independent of where they live, but that he had agreed to setting a minimum target of 50% of the CIF going to communities in the DFA.

Kelly noted that, in addition to the CIF, there are a lot of corporate initiatives going on throughout WFP to support North Island communities. She referenced funds going to the Rotary trail in Port McNeill and to a trail in Port Hardy, as well as a digital recreational map for use throughout the North Island. She noted that Kindry Mercer was coordinating these initiatives on behalf of WFP.

Chris noted that he would still like to see a target of 100% of the CIF fund for the Englewood Division going to communities within the DFA, primarily Woss. He pointed out that there is already a separate CIF fund for Campbell River, and one for communities like Port McNeill and Port Hardy under WFP’s NIFO division. Chris noted he would like to see more funds available to the people in Woss.

Trevor asked how active the Woss Residents Association was in requesting funds from WFP for community events. It was suggested that the WRA be encouraged to be more active in requesting funds from the CIF and various other sources through WFP.

Action Item 47: Highlight parts of the new CSA Z809-16 standard that relate to protection of water quality and quantity and send out to members.

Responsibility: Kelly McMahon

Due Date: April 10,2017

Annemarie noted that Kelly had circulated this information shortly after the last meeting. She added that a complete copy of the new standard can be downloaded from the web, and invited members to look at a printed copy of the standard that Kelly had made available at the beginning of the meeting.

Action Item 48: Prepare and bring draft Indicator 3.2.2 around protection of water quality and quantity to May 25th meeting in Woss for further discussion.

Responsibility: Kelly McMahon

Due Date: May 25,2017

Annemarie noted that discussion of a draft Indicator 3.2.2 was scheduled for later in the meeting.

Action Item 49: Talk to Adrian Pendergast about representing the education sector for NWAC.

Responsibility: Pat English

Due Date: September 28,2017

Annemarie noted that this action item would be carried forward to when Pat was in attendance.

Action Item 50: Talk to Jon Lok or someone else from Strategic Forest Management about representing forestry consultants on NWAC.

Responsibility: Steve Lacasse

Due Date: May 25,2017

Annemarie noted that Kelly had talked to Jon and that he was still very interested in representing a forestry consultant sector on NWAC but had not been receiving the agendas. Annemarie apologized that Jon had not been receiving his meeting notices, due to an error in the distribution list and she noted that error had been rectified and thanked Jon for attending.

Action Item 51: Add Trevor Egely as the representative for large contractors on NWAC

Responsibility: Kelly McMahon and Annemarie Koch

Due Date: May 26,2017

Action Item 52: Invite Lorraine Landry or Ken Kollmann to attend the September 28th NWAC meeting in Woss.

Responsibility: Annemarie Koch

Due Date: For the September 28,2017 NWAC meeting in Woss

Action Item 53: Invite Randy Boas to hear concerns and answer questions regarding the use of continuous shifting in the Englewood Division

Responsibility: Kelly McMahon

Due Date: For the September 28th NWAC meeting

Action Item 54: Talk to the Woss Residents Association about more actively pursuing community funds from WFP through CIF and other corporate sources.

Responsibility: Chris Bowden-Green

Due Date: Ongoing

There were no further questions or comments on the minutes or action items and the minutes were accepted.

3. Post-Harvest Utilization of Waste Wood: John Guillemaud, Senior Timber Cruiser, Strategic Natural Resource Consultants Inc.

Annemarie introduced John Guillemaud of Strategic Natural Resource Consultants, and Shane Murdoch and Leanne Jones, representatives of North Island Chipping Ltd. who were in attendance to answer questions and provide information about the waste wood salvage operations that they carry out on the North Island.

She invited John to proceed with his presentation.

John reviewed why waste assessments are done, as required under the Forest Act. He noted that waste assessments must be done within 60 days of logging an area, or as soon as an area is sufficiently clear of snow. He added that submissions must then be made within 30 days of the assessment.

John outlined the types of products that are considered special forest products (SPF) under the Forest Act, including Christmas trees, botanical products like mushrooms and salal, firewood, cants, shakes and hogged tree material. John noted that, before any special products are removed from a block, a residue assessment must be carried out.

John noted that the timber marking requirements for Special Forest Products (SFP) are the same as for timber. He noted that SFP's are very carefully tracked, and pointed to how every load transported requires a bill of lading.

John reviewed how waste recovered on blocks might differ whether they are subject to salvage or not. He noted that significant salvage of wood waste can be achieved when companies like North Island Chipping become involved. He discussed some of the variables that affect the overall salvage volumes, including piece size, location and quality.

John asked Shane about some of the limitations to salvaging. Shane noted that the range for bin trucks affects the distance that salvaged product can be accessed from. For example, there is a minimum number of turns that the trucks must make in a day to make the process profitable. It was noted that waste can be most profitably accessed from roadside, because of the added costs of accessing wood that is any significant distance from the road.

John noted that the waste survey accounts for all volume that may or may not be salvaged.

Shane was asked what the capacity of the bin trucks is. Shane noted that bin trucks generally carry about 22-25 tons. He added that highway trucks are also used to access waste. He noted that wood pushed over the banks is hard to access and takes valuable time and money away from the operation's profitability.

Shane noted that he was not getting the volume that he has the capacity to process. He noted that he was operating at only two days a week presently and would certainly like to be able to access more waste wood.

John reviewed some of the forest practices that affect the quality and volume of waste products.

He went on to look at costs of salvaging volume from second growth harvest areas versus volume from old growth harvested areas.

Shane asked what the benefit is to WFP when there are salvage operations associated with harvesting a block. John noted that, with respect to AAC, it works out to about the same volume overall. Kelly suggested that planting was a better investment in contributing to AAC, but acknowledged that salvage reduces the amount of burning required, and that this is a benefit to WFP.

John noted that there is less piling involved when there is salvage, and that there are savings for the licensee that result from ongoing salvage operations.

It was noted that 'hot-loading' salvage is a huge advantage to the licensee, in terms of clearing out the area and making harvest operations more efficient. Shane noted that salvage generates many jobs, but that ongoing access to waste wood is a challenge to the ongoing profitability of the salvage industry.

It was noted that it makes sense for there to be a strong relationship between the licensee and the salvage operator, in that both benefit from each other's activities.

Shane noted that salvagers will take three foot pieces and over on the logging trucks to process at the chipping facility.

It was noted that, additional machines for loading add to costs, and that it's better if the wood is more accessible to the salvager. It was noted that salvage operations were extending as far out as Claude Elliott, but that this was about the far extent of a profitable break-even point of the transportation cost for accessing wood.

Shane pointed out that salvagers can help the licensee by taking away waste so the company can better access the commercial wood and not have to move the wood around as much as they currently do.

It was noted that there was room for more salvage operators and equipment to better utilize waste wood in the DFA.

John noted that piling of debris is essential to effective salvage. He added that material should be left at roadside for effective salvage. John provided some photos to illustrate how hard it is to access waste wood that is even one throw away from the road. He stressed how important it is to leave the waste closer to the road, for all forms of salvage, including firewood.

There was a discussion of how high volumes of waste, situated away from the road, can result in less wood getting to a processing facility or to a salvage operation.

Jon pointed to how, in Newfoundland, they harvest volumes that are less than what we salvage here in the DFA, and he noted that this suggests that there are still many opportunities for us to better utilize wood for processing generally, and for creation of jobs on the North Island. Chris added that there were many opportunities for entrepreneurs to salvage waste for small, local operations, such as fence post production.

John noted that piles are good for burning and planting but not for processing special forest products.

Shane pointed to how his company was increasing efficiency by accessing and sorting pulp and other higher grades of wood, for example, and use and maintenance of existing roads for ongoing access.

Chris noted that there were many more efficiencies that could be realized and more wood going to processing facilities and the creation of jobs than was currently occurring.

Chris noted his concern that every time waste was left behind, it was one less opportunity to create a job and that this detracts from the original social licence of TFL's, which was to support communities and employment in an area. There was a discussion, on the other side of complete use of waste, of the ecological values of waste left behind.

It was noted that a lot of firewood cutting goes on before waste assessments are completed and that this is illegal, particularly when the wood cut is commercially sold. It was noted that this can have an impact on legal salvage operations, e.g. when wood set up for salvage is bucked in half and the value is reduced.

Shane noted that his company donates a lot of firewood throughout the course of its operations in hopes of developing good will with firewood cutters in the area and preventing loss of valued wood for his salvage operations.

John discussed the AAC implications again, noting better utilization of timber means more volume to our mills, and reiterating that SFP has little impact on AAC, as this volume is considered already scaled.

It was noted that about 20% of coastal AAC goes to waste and that if people knew how big this amount was, they might be more vocal about reducing the waste of wood. There was a discussion of some of the factors contributing to these high waste levels.

Shane noted that the chipping plant in Beaver Cove was originally built to carry out the salvage and that the consequences of losing the plant would be significant, e.g. if companies were no longer able to burn in order to deal with waste. He noted that wood being burned or left in the woods represented lost fibre and resulted in job losses and forgone revenue for the region.

Steve thanked John for his presentation and Shane for coming and sharing information about the challenges and opportunities in his business, so that members of NWAC would have a chance to listen to those concerns and potentially provide assistance.

4. Review of Draft New and Revised Indicators Required Under New CSA Z809-16 Standard: Kelly McMahon

Kelly asked if everyone had an opportunity to review the material she had circulated on this subject. Members indicated they had, so Kelly proceeded with a discussion of the new draft Indicator 3.2.2, as a core indicator under the new CSA Z809-16 standard. She noted that, to protect water quality and quantity, a target had to at least address potential sedimentation issues. She referred to the road construction inspection form that details measures taken to reduce sedimentation and protect water quality and quantity. She noted that there was much information available and collected routinely to support measurement of a target associated with this inspection process.

Steve asked whether some temperature and turbidity stations could be installed to measure water quality in key streams and water courses. It was noted that measurements taken at sections of the Nimpkish River would prove useful, to track temperature and flow on a regular basis. Steve noted that, over time, the quality and quantity of water could be measured. It was noted that natural disturbances would have influence on this as well. It was noted that correlations with the road inspection survey might be made with measures taken at key points in the Nimpkish watershed. It

was noted that there should also be a way of measuring sedimentation off existing roads, and not just new road construction associated with the road inspection forms.

Kelly noted that she would look at a way of capturing any sedimentation issues associated with existing roads, as well as new road construction.

Action Item 55: Continue to revise Indicator 3.2.2 targets to possibly include a monitoring station at Gold Creek (where there is some historical data available) and try to capture sedimentation issues associated with existing roads, as well as new road construction. Also, consider including the taking of an annual or once every two-year sedimentation management course for road crew members.

Responsibility: Kelly McMahon

Due Date: September 28, 2017

There was a discussion of why water quality issues had been raised in the new standard. It was noted that the standard was generated nationally and the issues weren't necessarily local. There was a discussion of how turbidity might affect survival of salmon eggs in rivers.

Paul referred to the Provincial protocol on water quality. It was suggested that sediment management courses might be integrated into the plan and suggested that a possible target could be the holding of sediment management education on an annual or biannual basis.

It was noted that storm events can also cause considerable sedimentation, unrelated to human activity.

There was a discussion of Indicator 5.1.2 and it was agreed that, as a matter of policy (and not as an actual target) the senior operations manager be accessible to NWAC members on an as-required basis.

It was agreed that the invitation of Randy Boas to the September meeting to discuss capital investments and how the continuous shifting process relates to this investment, would be consistent with this policy.

It was agreed to proceed with draft Indicator 5.1.2 for now and to work further on targets for draft indicator 3.2.2, as discussed at the meeting.

Action Item 56: Proceed with draft Indicator 5.1.2 as presented at this meeting

Responsibility: Kelly McMahon

Due Date: For 2017 annual report

Kelly asked for feedback on the indicators for which the internal auditor had suggested revisions be made. Steve suggested getting users stats for Mount Cain as another target for Indicator 5.1.1, and it was agreed to track elk tags, trapping licences and number of hunting guides operating in the DFA, if this information is readily available and can be tracked.

It was suggested that Kelly also check with Destiny River (river rafting company) on their stats for each year.

Kelly reviewed the other indicators that the internal auditor had suggested should be revised to meet the new standard. It was suggested that there be consideration for evidence of support for the forestry centre of excellence to be established in Woss for old indicator 6.4.2 (now 6.1.2).

Kelly reviewed revisions to Indicator 7.1.2 and noted that efforts would be made to better track review and acceptance of management plans. It was noted that tracking of the reaching of mutual decisions and chronicling conflict resolution might be a more comprehensive target for this indicator, and that this could be cross referenced with an existing indicator where efforts to reach agreement and understanding are chronicled.

Kelly noted that, for old indicator 6.1.3 (now 7.2.3), Michel had asked that there be an additional target measuring more current cultural practices like the recent bark stripping practices that are monitored anyway by WFP in the DFA. He had suggested that Archeological Impact Assessments, which are also done regularly and tracked, be included as a target for this indicator.

Action Item 57: Bring revised indicators 3.2.2, 5.1.1, 6.1.2, 7.1.2 and 7.2.3 to the September 28th NWAC meeting for further review

Responsibility: Kelly McMahon and Annemarie Koch

Due Date: September 28, 2017

5. Annual Review of Terms of Reference: Annemarie Koch

Annemarie noted that a copy of the current Terms of Reference had been circulated with the meeting agenda on May 11th. She noted that a printed copy of the current Terms of Reference had also been circulated as part of the agenda package at the meeting. She asked members if they would like to see any changes to the Terms of Reference.

Members reviewed the document and noted that they had no pressing issues at this time that would prompt any changes to the Terms of Reference. It was agreed to adopt the Terms of Reference, dated April 8, 2016 as presented.

Action Item 58: Put new date of May 25, 2017 on current Terms of Reference and distribute to NWAC members with meeting minutes and post on PAG website.

Responsibility: Kelly McMahon and Annemarie Koch

Due Date: May 31, 2017

6. Final Review of Annual Report: Kelly McMahon

Referring to Indicator 5.1.1, Kelly noted that all of the campsites are still being maintained in the DFA and that EBIDTA was high in 2016. Kelly reviewed Indicator 5.2.2, noting that the training targets had been met. She noted that the apprenticeship targets had been reported out. Kelly reviewed the Indicator around where company employees and contractors live.

Steve noted his concern that most of the employees live outside the DFA. It was noted that some of the employees may own houses in Woss but their families live in homes in Campbell River.

Action Item 59: bring list of people who live and work in Woss to next meeting.

Responsibility: Kelly McMahon

Due Date: September 28, 2017

Kelly reviewed the list of non-forestry businesses located in Woss. Kelly reviewed the First Nations indicators, including aboriginal participation in the forest economy, and noted the number of employees has gone down this year from the last.

Kelly reviewed the agreements with First Nations that are in place. She reviewed the information sharing that takes place beyond review of operational plans. Kelly reviewed how operational plans are shared with First Nations in the DFA. Kelly reviewed the indicator around management of cultural values.

Annemarie thanked Kelly for reviewing the 2016 annual report and invited members to review the full copy of the report that had been circulated to them on May 11th.

7. Next Meeting:

Annemarie noted that, further to the 2017 meeting schedule, the next meeting was scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on September 28, 2017 at the Woss Community Hall, and would include a presentation on wood marketing, further review of new and revised indicators under the new CSA standard, a discussion of continuous shifting, and an open discussion and distribution of and request to fill out the annual participant satisfaction survey.

Annemarie thanked the members of the Woss Recreation Association for their hospitality, and for providing such a wonderful dinner and venue for the meeting. Annemarie and Kelly thanked members for their ongoing commitment to NWAC and bid them a safe journey home.