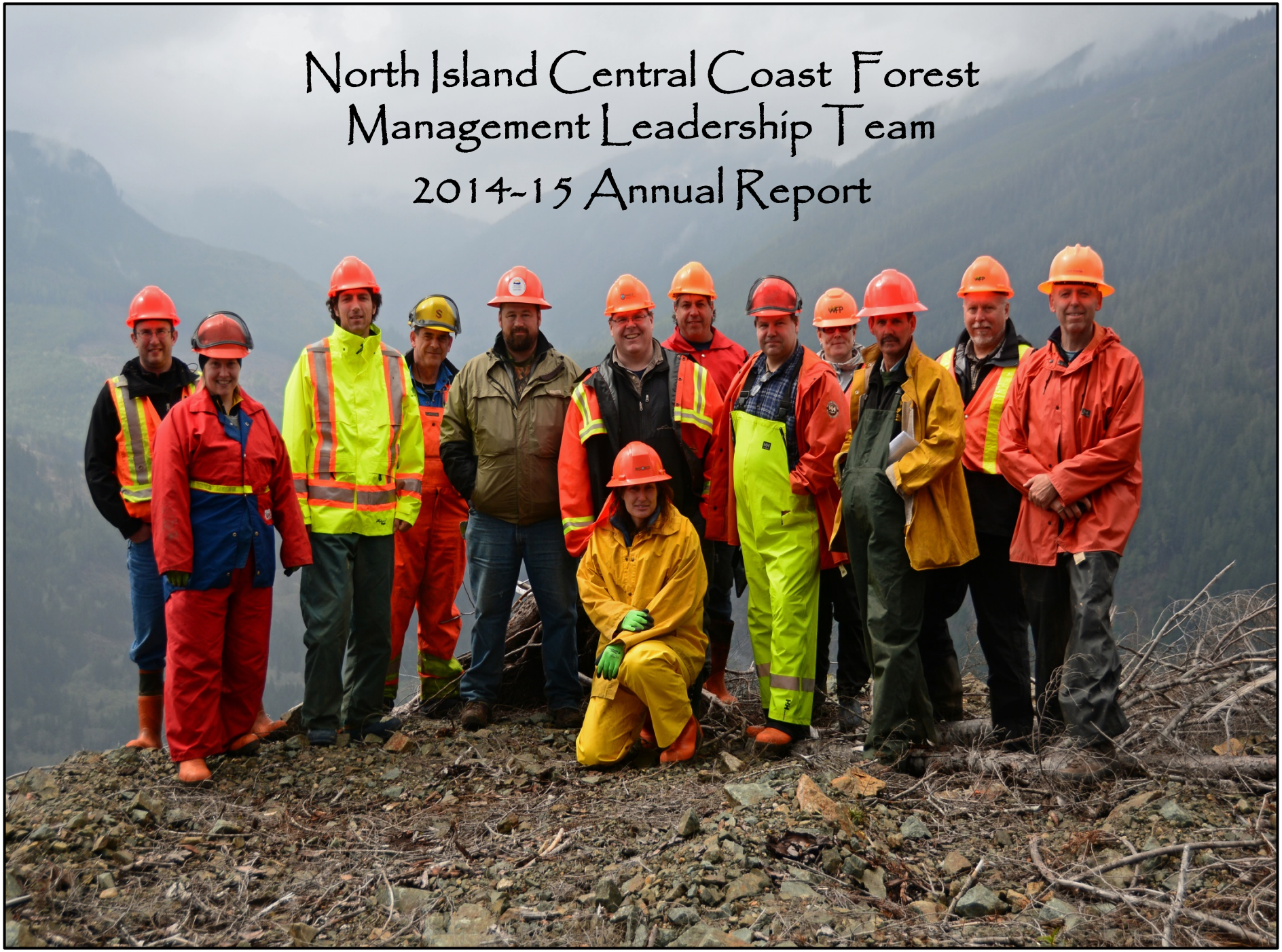
North Island Central Coast Forest Management Leadership Team

2014-15 Annual Report



NICC FMLT 2014-15 Annual Report

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North Island – Central Coast Resource District
Forest Management Leadership Team

2014-2015 Annual Report

This has been another milestone year for the North Island – Central Coast FMLT. With a total of three meetings and one field trip we succeeded in discussing topics and building understanding in forest worker safety, stewardship and public trust, local operational issues, silviculture and alder management, and with the scope of our ever-changing industry, including influences from the 2014 Tsilhqot'in Decision.

Our FMLT was able to partner with both the ABCFP to lead a discussion on visual landscape management and visual quality objectives, and with FP Innovations who discussed product development and technological advances that are striving to keep our industry competitive in the world market. Integrated resource management was a constant discussion point as our FMLT engaged on the coastal elk management plan and provided input on the Mid Coast Deer Winter Range model updates. It was exciting to see the district being part of the THLB Stabilization Project pilot, and learn from CFPA representatives of the work happening around the coast and the interior on maximizing the productive forest land base while balancing other resource values through a strong commitment to co-location. There was also strong engagement and discussion on the district Multi Resource Value Assessment and well-rounded debate on how minimum legal requirements fit into planning operations that meet the definition of good stewardship.

In our next year, we look forward to engaging the FMLT to develop more operational guidance and recommendations to assist our forest professionals in their day to day practice – while continuing to advocate for professional reliance and high standards of stewardship. I continue to be impressed with the dedication, professionalism and perseverance of this group as we collaborate to work together to maintain a strong economic presence in one of the toughest operating environments in the province. Well done, everyone.

Both myself and co-chair Jon Flintoft, RPF, would like to thank and acknowledge the time and efforts from everyone who participates in our FMLT. We would also like to express our thanks for our employees, the ABCFP, and the many other resource professionals within and outside the District who have provided support and expertise to our group. We would like to acknowledge our colleagues from Bella Coola for staying engaged and contributing so much to the group and for their commitment to maintain the strong professional relationships through the use of technology and travel. We would also like to express a very special thank you to Cyndy Grant, RPF, who has done a tremendous job with facilitating our FMLT.

Andrew Ashford, RPF

District Manager

North Island-Central Coast Natural Resource District

North Island – Central Coast Natural Resource District
Forest Management Leadership Team

2014-2015 Annual Report

Overview

This fifth annual report captures the FMLT activity recorded by the North Island-Central Coast Resource District (NICC) Forest Management Leadership Team (FMLT) from May 2014-May 2015. The formation of the NICC FMLT was initiated in 2010 as a product of the Coast Forest Region Operational Issues Forum Working Group 'Culture Change' presentation and FMLT building session held February 24, 2010 in Port McNeill. Central to the FMLT concept is the desire of professionals in the district to support an on-going culture shift by fostering professional reliance, facilitating innovation, building professional relationships, and identifying and addressing local forest management issues.

The NICC FMLT Terms of Reference (see Appendix I) was endorsed by the group in May 2013. It outlines the team's objectives, mandate, guiding principles, scope, structure, requirements for success, and documentation and reporting requirements. It is recommended that this document be revisited in January of each year.

Meetings were held October 8, 2014, January 22, 2014, and April 15-16, 2015. Over the year, the following speakers attended meetings, shared information, fielded questions and led discussion with the group in their area of expertise:

- Paul Barolet, Derek Tripp, Andrew Ashford- MRVA Report
- Billy Wilton - Elk Management Plan
- Sheldon Martell - Log Handling tenures
- Tim Caldecott, Marian Marinescu, Colin Koszman - FP Innovations Presentation
- Mike LaRock - FPB Report re: Visual Management in Haida Gwaii
- Chuck Rowan - FREP/FSP Results or Strategy Assessment
- Lisa Nordin, Senior Ecosystems Biologist - Deer Winter Range Model
- Laura Darling - Ministry of Environment Environmental Mitigation Policy
- Mike DesRochers - Public Trust
- Bob Craven - THLB Stabilization
- Kathy DesRochers, Senior Advisor, First Nations Relations, NICC - NICC First Nations Consultation Update
- Lloyd Davies, Andy Waines - Visual Quality Review – EBM MRVA report
- Craig Wickland - Broadleaf discussion paper by CRIT

The annual field trip was held on April 16, 2015 during which FMLT members travelled to:

- Colonial River, where group discussed Riparian Management and draft FMLT Riparian SOP,
- Port Alice marina for a VQO conversation lead by Lloyd Davies and WFP,
- stand with Black Headed Budworm for a conversation about forest health,
- Colonial drainage for an Alder management discussion led by WFP, regarding block management and CRIT recommendations for FMLT to review broadleaf management targets to meet CFAP objective and CRIT goals for DNI of 200 ha per year

All documentation from the NICC FMLT (reports, minutes and handouts) can be found at the following link: http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/RCO/external/!publish/FMLT%20Publish/North%20Island%20Central%20Coast/ . Chuck Rowan, Forester at the Coast Region has assisted in ensuring documents are posted in a timely manner.

Membership

The members include representatives from government, consultants and forest licensees (spanning a variety of tenure types and including BC Timber Sales). The membership roster for 2014-15 was divided into members and adjunct memebers. See the Terms of Reference for more information. Andrew Ashford and Jon Flintoft were elected to stand as co-chairs for another term. Members and guests attend by phone and video conference if they are unable to attend meetings in-person.

Issues & Results

The 2014-2015 NICC FMLT meetings provided the opportunity for local issues of interest to be identified and discussed. Along with guest speakers and discussion of new topics, a number of standing agenda items are reviewed at meetings. Standing agenda items include updates from the Coastal Operational Issues Forum and the Coast Region Implementation Team, new information related to the implementation of ecosystem-based management, and an around the table opportunity for members to speak to any emerging issues. Minutes from all meetings for 2014-15 can be found in Appendix 2. In Appendix 3the table shows the action items and status of issues brought forward. In addition there are active working sub-groups that report out at each meeting:
Salvage (Ione Brown, Rob Short) – This group explored a dual mark salvage permit.
TSR Tracking – (Amy Beetham, Steve Check, Christina Mardell) – Focus is on planning and monitoring implementation of Chief Forester's instructions.
Multi Resource Value Assessment (MRVA) – (Warren Wartig, Paul Barolet) - management of S6 streams – Warren and Paul have drafted paper (Guidance document – non-prescriptive, best management practices)

Planned Actions

The following topics have been suggested as emerging issues and topics for the next FMLT cycle:

Timber Supply Review – Chief Forester's Recommendations –Working Group has been established to develop and implement strategies to address some of the instructions.

Forest Sector Competitiveness - How to contribute to meeting BC's forest sector goals:

- to realize full AAC potential on the Coast (close the gap between AAC & harvest)
- to generate products & maximum value from harvest residuals
- to increase the value added from the sector.

Working with the Tourism Sector – explore opportunities to collaborate, build understanding of reciprocal impacts and potential synergies.

NICC Hardwood Management - DNI FMLT should review CRIT target of 200 ha of hardwood management per year and discuss which licencees want to commit to achieving or exceeding this target.

Public Trust – standing agenda item to find tangible products to enhance public image of Forestry in our Region and beyond.

Appendix 1

Terms of Reference
North Island – Central Coast Resource District
Forest Management Leadership Team

Objectives

To enhance trust and relationships to resolve local issues.

To provide the local forest sector with a stronger voice at the Operational Issues Forum (OIF) and the Coast Region FRPA Implementation Team (CRIT).

To improve the efficiency of the forest sector overall by providing an organized structure for clear and productive communications, and promoting cooperation in management.

To support continued learning for licensee and government professionals by sharing innovative ideas, transferring new or current technological information, and working to understand the challenges faced by all members of the group.

Mandate

Work in a team environment to resolve local forest sector issues, to communicate direction and guidance from OIF and CRIT, and to provide a forum to voice local issues and to raise issues to a regional level through OIF or CRIT.

Guiding Principles

The following general principles will govern the team:

- Foundation of professional reliance
- Build open, strong relationships and teams
- Respectful regard for different points of view
- Seek to understand issues with an open mind
- Apply science, logic and reason; identify gaps in knowledge
- Practice only within bounds of authority, training and experience
- Seek help in resolving disputes
- Promote the understanding of professional reliance and the concept of the contract of trust
- Respectfully consider First Nations values and interests that may be affected by our activities and actions
- Promote the use of field trips to improve decision making and forest practices
- Uphold legislation, and review and consider policy
- Consider safety in all decisions and guidance

Scope

The focus will be on resolving local operational issues within the North Island – Central Coast Resource District (NICC), under the *Forest Act* and the *Forest and Range Practices Act*. The team will seek a balanced approach to issues by considering all the objectives established under the *Ministry of Forests and Range Act*.

- Encourage maximum forest productivity.
- Manage, protect and conserve the forest resources.
- Plan the use of forest resources and other natural resources in consultation and cooperation with other ministries and the private sector.
- Encourage a vigorous, efficient and world competitive timber processing industry.
- Assert the financial interest of government fairly.
- Resolve local issues within provincial and/or regional interpretations of current policy and legislation.
- Discuss and propose amendments to policies and legislation to improve efficiencies and forest stewardship.

Structure

The NICC Forest Management Leadership Team (FMLT) is a working team comprised of representatives of local licensees spanning different tenure types, BCTS and ministry staff. The FMLT should include the following core people: District and licensee/BCTS co-chair, local CRIT representative and/or Local OIF representative. Members from CRIT and OIF will provide updates from regional meetings and ensure they represent local interests at those meetings. The team will elect its own chairs and develop its own TOR based on the core principles described in this document.

The membership will be amended annually and appended to this document. Attendance and active participation of the primary and/or the alternate representative is required to ensure continued membership on the team. It is preferable that the representatives attend the meetings in person, but video and phone attendance is acceptable when circumstances dictate.

Adjunct members will include: local groups such as First Nations, regional districts, municipalities, woodlots or other small tenure holders and other agencies, as well as forest professionals who chose not to participate in the meetings. Adjunct members will receive minutes and information, and will be invited to attend meetings when relevant topics are on the agenda.

Meetings will be held in January, April and October of each year. The April meeting will involve a field component. Members may arrange to attend meetings by conference call or video call, although face to face is preferred. Members may also designate an alternate to attend on their behalf if they are unavailable. Any alternate should come prepared to fully participate in the meeting. The Co-chairs will alternate as the meeting Chairperson. Project subgroups may be formed, and meetings held as required to complete tasks.

The team will conduct an evaluation of each meeting to assess effectiveness. This qualitative evaluation will be done verbally. Results of the meeting evaluation will be documented as part of meeting minutes.

Requirements for Success

- Leadership support from managers of licensees, BCTS, ministry staff, and other agencies to support staff participation in meetings, field trips, and group tasks
- Managing the size of the team and representation of the different interests
- Clarity on roles and responsibilities of members for communicating to and representing their constituents
- Co-chairs will be responsible for ensuring that their team looks after its own administrative needs (e.g. meeting arrangements, document preparation and distribution, records of decision, etc.)
- Focus on forest management issues (*Forest Act, Forest and Range Practices Act*, related resource legislation) at the local level
- Plan to 'Celebrate the Successes'
- Continued focus on mandate
- Effective communications
- Commitment to participation

Decision Making and Documentation

The NICC FMLT will strive for consensus for the purpose of decision making, but where consensus is not reached, the co-chairs will be accountable to determine when an acceptable number of members support a decision, action or recommendation. Consensus for the purposes of this TOR is defined as general agreement or acceptance of decisions, actions or recommendations by members. Members may have concerns about specific aspects, but can accept and support that the overall decision, action or recommendation goes forward .

Relevant documentation for NICC FMLT meetings, including agendas and decision records will be sent to participatory group members in a timely manner and kept on a central file for future reference.

Reporting

Team '*Minutes*' or '*Decision/Action Items*' will be recorded, distributed and kept by the facilitator/chairpersons. An annual report will be developed annually, and will be completed and circulated by the end of July each year. The Annual Report will be forwarded to the ABCFP, regional OIF and CRIT. The summary report will outline, as a minimum, the issues addressed and the results, and describe any planned actions for the upcoming year.

The FMLT will also routinely share information with the ABCFP, CRIT or OIF consistent with the scope of those organizations regarding any local level solutions which might be useful elsewhere in the region or province, and forward topics which require resolution at the regional or provincial level to the appropriate organization (ABCFP, CRIT, or OIF).

Appendix

Membership for 2013-14

Western Forest Products (Vancouver Island): Jon Flintoft, Vadim Stavrakov

Western Forest Products (Mainland, Central Coast) Mona Desgorseilliers, John Pezel

International Forest Products: Kai Sonnenburg, Steve Check

Richply: Tom Cole

Bella Coola Community Forest Ltd: Hans Granander

Nuxalk Forestry Limited Partnership: Randy Hart

Strategic Natural Resource Consultants: Mike DesRochers, Lisa Lenarduzzi

Capacity Forest Management: Ryan Clark

TimberWest: Bill Grutzmacher, Peter Share

Bella Bella Asset Holdings: John McLaughlin

Mill & Timber: Ryszard Mycek

Northwest Hardwoods: Brian Kyle BC Timber Sales: Scott

Mitchell Independent: Gord Glover, Ione Brown

Ministry of Forests, Land and Natural Resource Operations: Andrew Ashford, David Flegel, Lisa Nordin, Amy Beetham, Cyndy Grant, Paul Barolet

Membership for 2015-16

Western Forest Products (Vancouver Island): Jon Flintoft, Kelly McMahon

Western Forest Products (Mainland, Central Coast): John Pezel

International Forest Products: Kai Sonnenburg, Michelle Todd

Richply: Tom Cole, Ione Brown

Bella Coola Community Forest Ltd: Hans Granander

Nuxalk Forestry Limited Partnership: Randy Hart, Rob Ziegler

Strategic Natural Resource Consultants: Mike DesRochers

Capacity Forest Management: Mike Beck TimberWest: Bill Grutzmacher, Peter Share

BC Timber Sales: Lisa Brown

Ministry of Forests, Land and Natural Resource Operations: Andrew Ashford, David Flegel, Lisa Nordin, Amy Beetham, Cyndy Grant, Paul Barolet

Adjunct Members

Bella Bella Asset Holdings: John McLaughlin

Mill & Timber: Ryszard Mycek

Northwest Hardwoods: Brian Kyle

Glover Resource Management: Gord Glover

Regional District of Mount Waddington: Pat English

Appendix 2

North Island – Central Coast District
Forest Management Leadership Team
Meeting #14 - Minutes

Date: October 8, 2014
Location: North Island –Central Coast District Office Boardroom, Port McNeill
Time: 9:30-4:30 pm

Attending: Andrew Ashford, Jon Flintoft, Cyndy Grant, Ione Brown, Scott Mitchell, Paul Barolet, Kai Sonnenberg, Tiffany Wyatt, Lisa Nordin (by video), Peter Share (by phone), David Flegel (by video), Randy Hart (by video)

Guests: Derek Tripp, Billy Wilton (by phone), Kathy DesRochers, Sheldon Martell

1. Welcome/Housekeeping – Jon Flintoft

2. Review Minutes from April 29th FMLT & Agenda for the day - Jon
All action items were captured as topics for this meeting.

3. OIF Report – Andrew Ashford
Action Item Review – AAC Stabilization Project – led by CFPA in 3 Management Units. Intelligent design process involves stripping current landbase withdrawls (multiple layers) and attempting to coordinate and layer complementary reserves to maximize THLB. Will look at whether product achieves non-timber resources. Similar process is taking place in Interior – Kamloops. Kai asked about whether current TSR assumptions are being challenged. Andrew: yes, refinements will be incremental when we look at assumptions of all reserves. Looking to OIF to take advocacy role. WFP is working on project (John Deal) in 3 LUs; Branch is reviewing results. Paul mentioned that this topic is on the CRIT agenda today. Some upward pressure (AAC) might be achieved with some revisions of assumptions. Timelines for intelligent design LU project: December 2014. Expect update at January 2015 FMLT meeting. Scott mentioned that BCTS needs to get involved with WFP in design of San Jo LU; looking at targets for individual species.

William Tslhquot'in SCC decision – CFPA would like FLNRO to consider different model for interim consultation (currently based on JAG interpretation of decision). Expect that this discussion is taking place at cabinet. Clients should expect delays. Locally we're conducting assessment of strength of claim, and sending decisions to JAG, where necessary. Prioritization is based on Ministerial decision, employment criteria. Government needs to work closely with licensees and FN in the interim. Corby Lamb suggested that FNs are feeling more confident in their roles. Some NICC FNs are consulting status quo, some are asserting stonger claim; there are tools that local staff are using to make assessments.

Strong message is that licensees should spend time with FNs sharing information, small "a" accommodation, attempting to gain support from FNs on decisions – Document!

FNs are looking to access unused volume. Randy Husband made presentation about FN operating areas – looking to uncharted areas, partnerships. Kingcome charting process is on the horizon and may assist with identifying operating area to land licences for this unused volume.

UWR, WHA – Province is looking at building a minor amendment process into the GAR orders so that if you meet the criteria, a statutory decision would not be required.

BC Forest Safety Council – delays based on phase congestion are being addressed in current working group. Identify priorities, focus on communication, quality submissions. FMLTs should be having these conversations. Andrew asked later in the meeting about CP issuance: Andrew asked about anecdotes regarding cutting permits – Acknowledged delays related to William's case. Andrew indicated that we've moved form 10to 40 day turn-around. Encouraged licensees to communicate priorities in cover letter. Phone calls should be directed to Amy Beetham. Call Andrew as second resort.

OIF Field Day – Intended to talk about visuals (foggy). Visited block in White River TFL 39; elk management area; $11/m3 spent on silviculture – high site index; stand had been heavily impacted by elk. What is the highest and best use here? Tim Sheldon brought the group to the point of discussion around Elk Management Plan – there WILL be timber impacts. Need to consciously determine social implications to elk management (high elk population). Talked about bridges and safety. Visited Kelsey Bay DLS, automated weigh scale, log handling site – would not work if multiple licensees brought wood to scale site. No hammer marking. Visited Pye Lake – first FN Woodland Licence, previously un-charted THLB. Visited Stella Lake – AAC stabilization project. All constraints were shown on a white board to see comparison of current THLB impacts and intelligent design process.

Transportation of Loose Unscaled Wood – Pilot in progress in the NICC - central coast.

MRVA reports – Licensees concerned about how information from MRVA report will be used/broadcast. There was some debate regarding protocol.

IWMS policy review – role in species at risk – federal regulation. Do we know where we're at with targets?

4. MRVA Report - Paul Barolet, Derek Tripp, Andrew – see presentation material

Derek gave a presentation regarding small streams and FREP Riparian Protocol

The presenters' message is that forest professionals should be considering health of S5, S6 streams – try to apply BMPs, so same treatment is not applied everywhere. Is task team or FMLT guidance document required? (Warren, Paul,?)

Comments:

Paul Barolet during presentation wondered what is being considered for S5 and S6 RMA management or is it just a cookie cutter approach to management to clear-cut the RMA regardless? Can slash deposition into streams be avoided or removed as per MRVA report?

Peter gave his historic perspective on stream cleaning through the 80s that it was expensive and too much CWD was removed which also became problematic. Peter also cited safety concerns which a number of FMLT acknowledged a scenario of danger tree implications with respect to leaving old growth cedar stems in the RMA of an S6 as partial retention. Conversely felling the stem also results in break-up of the tree in the RMA. Peter discussed approaches to S5 and gully management which generally results in more protection, avoidance. S6 streams are so common – the THLB impacts of retention.

Paul – BMP's doesn't have to be mature trees retained, retention of non-merchantable trees/saplings, vegetation within 5 meters of stream.

Kai - The 23% of the streams (S5 and S6's) not properly functioning is not his experience on IFP charts. Also stream cleaning does not always increase function. Kai indicated that 23% high impact is alarming.

Derek suggested looking at overlapping constraints. Allow professionals to look at applying specific prescriptions (stratifying) to certain types of S6. Concern harvest impacted S6 and S5 streams and when the next rotation that more impacts to these streams.

Andrew- Based on findings is concerned about risks to social licence under FRPA, and more regulations being introduced?

FMLT group agrees to pursue this issue further under professional reliance and continuous improvement. Members should read the MRVA report for the next FMLT and we will set aside 30-60 minutes to go over questions, visuals, stand level biodiversity, and water quality.

5. Public Trust in Registered Forest Professionals – Mike DesRochers

Mike was unable to attend. Bring topic forward to January 2015 meeting.

6. Vegetation Resource Inventory Update – David Flegel

Mid Coast Forest Information update started in 2005 when we began acquiring air photos for MC TSA; subsequently had IRC (consultants: http://www.ircgroup.ca/) to type and inventory, field verification, new mapsheets developed, GeoBC data layers were updated. Currently, 254 1:20,000 mapsheets are available - have now been quality checked and uploaded. Second phase of quality checking random plot selection (100 plots/BEC zone) to make adjustments on-going. For more information, contact provincial experts, Mark Rousseau (Team Lead Vegetation Update Kamloops (250) 828-4426), Bob Krahn (Forest Sample Data Coordinator (250) 953-3867).

Scott indicated that field samples likely goes toward Decay waste and breakage, growth and yield curves. Andrew: landscape level analysis was conducted by licensee, then the inventory data had been changed. Encourage licensees to use best information possible – understand that information is changing.

David/Scott: SLRDs will be revisited based on the new information. Lisa: when leading species and crown closure change there are implications to wildlife habitat modelling. Scott: Stand typing (polygon) is based on entire management unit; this makes it difficult to use this to make landscape level decisions. Paul: in field, his experience has been that estimating crown closure is highly variable – best to use air photos.

7. Elk Management Plan – Billy Wilton – See presentation.

Andrew asked about any information that this NICC FMLT should understand. Billy – sent letter to stakeholders 3 weeks ago. Looking at trapping at Sayward and relocating to Mahatta River area. Andrew asked about White River – forest and elk values exist; coast OIF asked Tim Sheldon to look into the decision making process for land use in this area – landscape level decision. Silviculture costs are built into the appraisal.

Scott asked about draft MP as identifying population targets and driving translocation plan. Who endorses this plan on behalf of government? Billy – goes through RED, up to ADM and DM for sign-off. Scott- will impact analysis be conducted (forest, agriculture, etc.)? Billy – not specific cost-benefit analysis. Andrew indicated that this recommendation came up at the OIF last week. Scott – although you didn't write the report, you did move the table – have the population targets been shifted? Yes, these are now reflected in the appendix.

Scott - targets for management were questioned, was there any changes based on those comments? Paul asked about evidence about northern range – seems to be over-estimated. Wondering about translocation, and whether elk had historically existed there before. Billy - Records from early settlers suggested that elk had existed there in the past. Paul questioned the distinction between Rocky Mountain elk vs Roosevelt elk. Billy: Rocky mountain species are not usually coastal. Jon asked about Mahatta relocation – surprised that relocation is in play, hasn't seen the letter referenced above. Concerned about safety, road use, etc – requested communication as time gets near.

8. Wood Waste – Cyndy Paul & Peter – See presentation

Wood Waste – Presented options and considerations. Peter shared TimberWest's idea of disposing of wood waste on West Cracroft. It is a very tricky situation with marine, arch constraints, lack of burning permit, inability to acquire registration under the Code of Practice, cost of barging material to registered/permitted site. NICC log dumps are geographically isolated; the feeling is that MOE policy is written for less remote locations/situations. The consensus is that any impact to THLB should be a last resort. There is concern with consistency, exploiting the "loophole" in MOE regulation/exemption/policy. Look at SUP process to address local logistical concerns (exemptions). Members reluctant to put their names to working group for fear of legal implications. Consider initiating trials, coordinated effort to attempt innovative solutions – FP Innovations? Are licensees considering wood waste disposal as cost of doing business? Bella Coola Small Business (and others) have a sort with a permit, but space is limited.

TimberWest and NICC work to bring the issue to OIF – Forestry exemption to Code of Practice - need to bring MOE rep into the conversation. Invite MOE rep to present at next FMLT meeting.

9. Log Handling tenures – Sheldon Martell – See Handout.
Sheldon explained different tenure types and the importance of being explicit in the application regarding purpose and improvements planned.

What to do when C&E has issued trespass notice – ask for an Opportunity to be Heard, request additional time to discuss with FN and submit amendment. Andrew cannot tell C&E what action to take or not take. When an amendment has been requested, clients have been working with FNs to request a letter of support (specific or blanket acknowledgement).

In cases of historic tenures, may need to amend LH tenure to include camp purpose - recommend contacting the FN to request confirmation that they understand that a camp fits the general log handling definition (blanket or by tenure). Please contact Sheldon or Jen for more information

10. Update on First Nation Consultation in NICC – Kathy DesRochers
Q&A – Update on Kwakiutl case? No dates have been set for the hearing of the appeal. Our legal counsel has advised that neither they nor Canada will take a 'position' on the Kwakiutl's application to further amend the appeal to review the BCSC finding that the consultation on the decisions associated with the *Chartrand* case was adequate. Materials related to the amendment still must be exchanged between the parties.

Following the June 26th, 2014 SCC Tsilhqot'in decision – Kathy reminded everyone that the Tsilhqot'in is the only Aboriginal group in BC who has had a declaration of Aboriginal title. Although all FNs within our District are asserting Aboriginal title and rights within their Traditional Territories. Within government a number of Working Groups at the highest levels have been struck to assess the implications of the decision, both within the Title area and in the asserted Title areas. The Province needs to ensure that we are continuing to fulfill our legal obligations and part of that is ensuring that we are consulting/have consulted at the appropriate level, based upon the SCC clarity around Aboriginal title.

Within the NICC we remain focussed on reviewing applications and processing them as efficiently as possible. However, there are additional 'checks' in our processes to ensure that we are meeting the legal obligations. For the most part we are continuing to process applications/decisions as we were pre-Tsilhqot'in. There are going to be specific areas and specific decisions/applications that may be held up – especially in those areas where there exists a strong likelihood of Aboriginal title, the First Nation has not meaningfully engaged in info sharing or consultation or the First Nation has asserted their Aboriginal title claim on a territorial-wide basis, triggering an increased expectation around accommodation.

Within our district, the Wuikinuxv, the Gwawaenuk Tribe and the Kwakiutl have asserted such claims – some requesting that decisions be deferred until they have been appropriately accommodated. Some of our FNs are delaying the renewal of their Forest Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreements – as they are expressing the view that the accommodation provided under them is no longer adequate in light of the SCC decision. Government is reviewing all of our policies related to FN consultation, including our accommodation policies. Our interest remains in continuing to meaningfully and

collaboratively engage with our First Nations charting a course forward. It will take some time while both Government and the First Nations come to an understanding of what some options are.

A Regional Strength of Claim team has been struck to assist in the initial assessment of the strength of claim in a particular area. It must be recognized that our SOC assessments are initial in nature and are used to ensure that we are engaging in consultation at the appropriate level or to support our Decision-makers for those decisions which are yet to be made. The initial assessments of SOC for title are to be the starting point of our dialogue with the First Nation, who are then to confirm the assessment or provide additional information to the Province for consideration during the consultation process. As the initial assessments are confirmed/enhanced through direct consultation with the First Nation, our preliminary assessments of the SOC for Aboriginal title should become more clear. It was suggested that industry review the SCC decision and using the guidance provided conduct their own initial assessments of the SOC of a particular FN. Also for applications/decisions in areas that have a greater potential of an Aboriginal title claim – delays are a greater possibility.

Locally we are reviewing applications/decisions for meaningful proponent-led engagement, a letter of support (post-Tsilhqot'in) is best. Advice was to continue to document and provide us with details of the info sharing and any accommodation/mitigation that was undertaken. Where we have consultation process agreements, we continue to engage in accordance with them. Licensees are advised to continue to build on the relationships and mitigating impacts upon Aboriginal rights and title as they arise during the info sharing processes (similar to in the past).

In those situations where we are obligated to engage our Regional SOC team, we should expect some time delays. The Province must be very cautious in those areas where a FN could potentially make out a strong Ab title claim, as there is liability for the Crown if decisions are made in that area and a declaration of Ab title is made to the FN at some point in the future. Realistically, initial work by the Teams will be slower, but it is hoped that over time as more and more assessments are done on the District FNs, the process will become much more efficient.

Any questions about the adequacy of info sharing, or anything else FN-related, can be directed to Kathy at (250) 956-5093 – as there is no one-size fits all answer or situation. It was suggested that if the info sharing/support from a FN is older and pre-Tsilhqot'in, that the licensees, out of respect for the significance of the Tsilhqot'in decision, confirm that the support still stands.

Kathy will communicate to licensees as necessary and appropriate when there are changes regarding consultation process or new assertions are made.

11. Working Group Reports

- Riparian - Warren, Paul, ? – Look into creating a guidance document with advice to forest professionals re: management of S5, S6 streams. Focus on continuous improvement on prescription writing based on results.
- TSR – nothing to report

12. Check In/Wrap-up /Meeting Evaluation –

Jon – concerned about attendance, down from previous meetings. Good meeting, good topics.

Kai – Good meeting; liked OIF summary – AAC stabilization conversation; challenges himself to look further into MRVA, stream management issue – social licence – speaks to professional Public Trust issue.

Tiffany – appreciated the LH and CP update.

Scott – requested to continue to attend in new role.

Ione – liked speakers; enjoyed riparian presentation; felt that wood waste proposal was a bit of a stretch; speaks to the desperation out there with this issue.

Paul – concerned about drop in attendance, but 5 licensees represented.

Cyndy – appreciate professional forum to discuss wood waste issue; frustrating to deal with MOE regulation/policy – hopeful to find a solution(s); concerned with attendance, wondering if information is getting distributed.

David – good meeting; appreciate the effort of presenters and staff.

Randy – look at Continuing Education credit angle to improve attendance – also, try a different day of the week; enjoyed the wide range of topics, appreciate effort.

Andrew – attendance; liked presentations and attendance; happy to see that working groups & guidance documents are back on the table.

Suggested topics for January 2015 meeting – Wood Waste, FP Innovations, 30-60 minutes to go over questions from MRVA report (visuals, stand level biodiversity, and water quality), Public Trust in Registered Forest Professionals (Mike D), SLRD update (Bob Craven), AAC stabilization

Suggested topic for spring 2015 field trip – riparian results MRVA report.

Next meeting: January 22, 2015

North Island – Central Coast District
Forest Management Leadership Team
Meeting #15 - Minutes

Date: January 22, 2015
Location: North Island –Central Coast District Office Boardroom, Port McNeill
Time: 9:30-3:30 pm

Attending: Andrew Ashford, Jon Flintoft, Cyndy Grant, Amy Beetham, Tom Cole (by phone), Paul Barolet, Kai Sonnenberg, Michelle Todd, Robert Ziegler, Lisa Nordin (by video), Peter Share, Bill Grutzmacher, David Flegel (by video), Randy Hart (by video), Hans Granander (by video), Kelly McMahon

Guests: Tim Caldecott, Marian Marinescu, Colin Koszman, Mike LaRock (by phone), Chuck Rowan (by phone), Craig Wickland (by phone)

Regrets: Mike Beck, Jon Pezel, Ione Brown, Lisa Brown, Mike DesRochers

1. Welcome/Housekeeping – Andrew Ashford
Safety, Introductions

2. Review Minutes from October 8th FMLT, Action Item tracker & Agenda for the day - Andrew
Dual Mark Salvage report – Ione was working on this. Damaged stand (FL) proposal was initiated. Tom Cole will follow up with Rob Short.
Request for update on RESULTS reporting – Paul commented that there has been clean up across the Province. NICC are doing well with reporting – best in Province; kudos to industry and district staff. District staff are still concerned with unreported retention or incorrect data, quality assurance.
Bob Craven will give update on intelligent design next meeting.
Public Trust – move to next meeting – Mike DesRochers
Wood Waste – no working group struck. Need to apply pressure to MOE to revise policy regarding exemptions. Andrew has flagged with Rory as Coastal Initiative issue.
Pilot AAC stabilization – The objective is to revisit LUs where landbase withdrawls are considered excessive – if synchronized, may be more efficient through co-location (manage all values and increase THLB). WFP – San Josef LU, IFP - Stella Lake.
Roosevelt Elk translocation happening tomorrow – herd to be moved from Sayward to Mahatta.

3. Terms of Reference
Revise to include stronger wording regarding attendance; revise membership list for 15-16.

4. OIF Report – Andrew
Workshop held in early December to review Tsilhqot'in decision, legal obligations. There were presentations by Geoff Moyse (with Justice-Attorney General), industry, and government regarding

updated process and roles & responsibilities. Use best management practices for industry and government individuals for CP submission and review (information sharing between licensees and FNs is key). Scope of consultation has to line up with scope of decision relative to likelihood of title. Government is conducting strength of rights claim assessments, as laid out by the SCC Justice in William's decision. If evaluation of rights shows high likelihood, decision is referred to regional strength of claim team. If strength is deemed to be mod-high, application is referred on to JAG. CP turn-around times have not been significantly affected in NICC. Performance measure of 40 calendar days/permit or less is being met. Amy indicated that total volume of permits is projected to be higher this year than last.

Jon asked for report on the output of the last workshop OIF. Will send out with minutes, if we are able.

Fee in lieu order in council in Mid Coast TSA for certain grades, to incent harvest in less economic timber profiles (Hw). Expired in December. Crown did not see measurable harvest response – industry argued that longer term may result in harvest in these profiles – reasons for poor performance to date: market dependent, down-turn of Asian market. Outcome was that the OIC was extended for an additional year.

5. FP Innovations , Presentation - Tim Caldecott, Marian Marinescu, Colin Koszman- Powerpoint

Tom Cole asked about moisture content of Cw/Cy – depends on source and density and storage.
Burning properties of various species are variable.
Drying regimes would be dependent on season and sort and location.
Colin is based in Comox, available for dialogue, would like to explore ideas for trials (profile, terrain, etc).
Of special interest: drones, tethered yarder…for steep slopes – WorkeSafe BC considerations.
Public perception of hemlock is poor. How to best market a spp?
Cyndy - Will get name of company on VI with drone in minutes – BCTS, Strait of Georgia owns a drone. The contact is Rob Martin: Rob.Martin@gov.bc.ca .

6. FPB Report re: Visual Management in Haida Gwaii – Mike LaRock- Powerpoint

Mike has no knowledge of any complaint having been made to the ABCFP– if so, it would proceed through disciplinary process. ABCFP follows-up on allegations to either discipline or exonerate member. ABCFP can only investigate the professional once a complaint is made; the president can make a complaint. A guidance document related to professional service in VRM is being put together and ABCFP is a partner in VRM training.

Andrew raised the concern that the professional refused to provide information when asked by Ministry employee. This is not our experience in NICC. May have been a personality conflict.
Paul: in one case client was unwilling to share the VIA that was conducted. Mike shared that the dates that this took place was 2009 – profession is evolving, FRPA thinking is catching up. ABCFP reports can help with the evolution. Would be surprised to hear about this happening again. Still some "hold out" areas. The areas where FMLTs , COP, CRIT are active would be less prone to this type of misunderstanding. Collaboration breeds good relationships & understanding. Mike DesRochers will lead additional discussion on professional reliance and social licence at our next FMLT.

7. FREP/FSP Results or Strategy Assessment – Chuck Rowan - Powerpoint

There weren't many changes to FSPs at the time of FSP extension. Flexible vs default results and strategies. There was some variability regarding riparian (flexible results and strategies had better outcomes) and stand level biodiversity (default results and strategies had better outcomes).

8. MRVA Report Follow up Discussion

Riparian: Looking at how to manage streams that don't require a reserve. Paul will work with Warren Wartig to develop FMLT guidance document/report on this topic.

VQO: Paul & Lloyd will distribute further information associated with MRVA report blocks that did not meet VQO; rationale, criteria, detailed VQO assessment; invite Lloyd to field trip. For discussion next FMLT meeting.

Discussion on "Social Licence" definition – public land, public interest. When society's interests are variable, how do we know what is the public interest? Sometimes professionals have to lead public opinion – educate. Public advisory groups help with the perception. When held to task, we can increase public trust/credibility by reacting and rationalizing professionally. This conversation can be continued in April when Mike DesRochers leads the "Public Trust" topic.

Randy raised the point regarding evaluation of stand level biodiversity – how can we assess visuals relative to other values (eg. Silviculture). The true test is whether the results have been achieved.

9. Working Group Reports

Riparian MRVA – Paul, Tom, Warren - will draft guidance document at next meeting.

TSR – Amy – no progress to report.

Aside: next week, letters will go out kicking off an operating area/chart conversation with licensees in the Kingcome TSA.

10. Field Trip Planning – Jon/Mike/Paul to organize

Riparian results MRVA report

Visual evaluations – Neroutsos Inlet from Port Alice

Forest Health, budworm – Jon has some sites in mind

Private Managed Forest Land – Jon

Colonial Block – Deciduous management - Jon

11. Check-in & Meeting Evaluation

Tom – asked about waste utilization. Roadside decks should be considered differently as waste than waste-in-block, as it would be easier to access. Andrew said that there has been some interest in

tenures, but none issued to date. Selkirk district was issuing no-burn orders so folks could go through piles.
David – good format
Randy – Good; FPI topics, markets, special products may be outside FMLT.
Hans – appreciate the chance to interact.
Lisa – Enjoyed the meeting. Good information.
Paul – Good participation.
Kai – Good professional development opportunity. Learned something.
Michelle – Well-organized.
Robert – Good.
Peter – Enjoyed the FPI presentation; we have to keep informed about the market, so important to question them and see opportunities for improvement
Kelly – Enjoyed FPI's presentation, will try to link in Regional District, through local group. Attendance should be a bigger priority for some organizations.

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Next meeting: April 15-16, 2015

Topics –
FN consultation Kathy, Aboriginal Affairs Branch
Intelligent Design / AAC Stabilization – Bob Craven
Public Trust – Mike DesRochers
VQO conversation- 3 blocks
Environmental Mitigation Policy – Lisa

Future topics –
Tourism sector – impacts, collaboration
Wood waste disposal
Parks Canada Goshawk strategy - Lisa

North Island – Central Coast District
Forest Management Leadership Team
Meeting #16 - Minutes

Date: April 15, 2015
Location: North Island –Central Coast District Office Boardroom, Port McNeill
Time: 9:30-4:20 pm

Attending: Andrew Ashford, Jon Flintoft, Cyndy Grant, Amy Beetham, Paul Barolet, Kai Sonnenberg, Michelle Todd, Lisa Nordin, David Flegel, Randy Hart, Kelly McMahon, Kathy Walker, Ione Brown, Murray Estlin, Mike Beck, Mike DesRochers

Guests: Laura Darling (by phone), Kathy DesRochers, Craig Wickland, Bob Craven, Lloyd Davies, Andy Waines, Jon Lok

Regrets: Hans Granander, Peter Share, Bill Grutzmacher, Jon Pezel

1. Introductions, Housekeeping

2. OIF Report – Andrew Ashford

March 12th – S6 stream project licensee-led; streamside management. Summer students will be reviewing streams in blocks that were harvested in last year. Large sample size – coastal involvement.

Charles Hunter gave an update on submission standards to address changes in light of William Decision. The level of consultation is proportional to the strength of the First Nations' claim to title. Sharon Hadway indicated that FNs are shifting in their expectations – accommodation toolkit being developed. Uncertainty with BC treaty commission. Les Kiss asked if ministry could share SOC info with licensees. Jessica Coster suggested that detailed SOC is not done for every decision, and this information cannot necessarily be shared with licensees. Crown will be looking at accommodation options and is meeting with FNs to discuss accommodation ideas. Six coastal districts are drafting guidance document to reflect submission standards for permits that reflect information sharing documentation.

Wildlife (IWMS, Elk, Fed SAR), MLA Morris has been asked to review Wildlife Habitat management strategy. Bob shared that CFPA has met with Morris; seems to be more of an interior initiative (MPB). Trappers concern with harvest done.

Larry Petersen spoke about Wildlife measures to protect mamu, goshawk, mountain caribou, grizzly bear, etc. The federal government plan to launch Species at Risk Act – causing concern in BC – if feds designate SAR critical habitat, there is a short timeframe for implementation; Province is trying to demonstrate that IWMS and WHA capture needs of SAR. Feds not necessarily considering socio-economic factors. MOE have been doing a good job making a case that wildlife is being well managed in BC.

THLB Stabilization Project – 2 coastal pilots (Stella Lake-IFP, San Josef-BCTS/WFP) and others in interior. Co-location of reserves to better manage all values. In some cases, we could see 20% uplift in THLB. CF has distributed an info bulletin.

CRIT Hardwood strategy – not meeting targets on the coast – timber supply impacts. More in Craig's presentation later in this meeting.

Stocking Standards paper – Nadina – DM policy in place to set minimum stocking standards to address mid-term timber supply impact to address Mountain Pine Beetle. DM identified gap between what was happening on the ground to base case minimums. Paul indicated that FREP assessed lodgepole pine stands for the FREP timber value (using the Stand Development Monitoring (SDM) Protocol) and found a lot of mortality; stems remaining did not meet AAC assumption. Options are to either reduce the AAC accordingly or increase planting densities to 2000 sph. Concern by clients is increased costs. CRIT has been asked to draft a discussion paper to recommend that licensees put assumptions in practice. Provincial review of stocking standards is ongoing, led by Al Powelson.

Trying to limit OIF to 3 themes.

3. <u>First Nations Update – Kathy DesRochers, Senior Advisor, First Nations Relations, NICC</u>

- 10 months post-Tsilhqot'in SCC decision
    - Majority of operational decisions, still occurring within timelines similar to pre-Tsilhqot'in
        - Due for the most part on the continued commitment and diligence by the licensees in the development of positive working relationships with FN and meaningful information sharing
    - Some hiccups being encountered
        - Reminder to engage early, engage often, consider timing of info sharing (ie. pre-Tsilhqot'in?)
        - Listen, learn and develop an understanding about the FNs use and occupation
        - Seek a letter from the FN at the conclusion of your information sharing, prior to submitting your application to the Province – ideally letter will confirm whether the FN has any outstanding concerns regarding the proposed

application. These letters then aid the Province in establishing whether any additional consultation is required on your application.
        - Ensure that your engagement and response is with the appropriate representative within the community – remember that Aboriginal rights are communally held.
        - Nanwakolas 'Step 6' letters – seek a letter from the relevant FN – not just NRO – provides us with confidence that FN considers itself to have been appropriately engaged in the process – perhaps thereby negating need for NICC to re-engage under the SEA. I understand that some Nanwakolas FNs are comfortable with NRO providing that confirmation to licensees, others are not.
        - If in doubt, seek advice from NICC FN Relations staff.
- Strength of Claim Assessments
    - Level of consultation is to be consistent with strength of the FN claims and the potential impact of the proposed decision/action
    - Assessment of SOC not new, but Tsilhqot'in SCC decision caused us to adjust certain considerations related to SOC for Aboriginal title
    - Province is undertaking SOC assessments on a Regional basis, working closely with JAG
    - Must be recognized that the assessment of SOC is evolving skillset and oftentimes reliant on limited available information and will require refinement as new information becomes known, especially that from the FNs.
    - Province is developing guidance on how we will be sharing our assessments with FNs – especially over large geographic areas, including the entire TT – ie. FSPs, TSRs, etc.
    - Value in sharing some of our site specific assessments with licensees but only after it has been shared with FN and they have been made aware of the intent to share
        - Part of that value to licensee is to assist in the consideration of accommodation measures that may be required
        - At this point we can certainly have general discussions as to whether there appears to be evidence of FN use or occupation of an area – either at time of European contact 1846, or contemporary use
    - Province is still considering refinement to our accommodation toolkit, including potential adjustments to our revenue sharing and direct award tenure programs and will be engaging FNs on the matter soon
- Forestry Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreements (FCRSAs)
    - Many of our FNs are entering into their 2nd FCRSA, although some are awaiting MARR minister endorsement
    - Some are reluctant and have not yet endorsed a renewal
        - Removal of consultation process – revert to Haida process – may affect timelines
        - No accommodation being provided through revenue sharing contributions
        - Kwikwasut'inuwx/Haxwa'mis, Gwawaenuk Tribe, Wuikinuxv, Tlowitsis, Skin Tyee
        - Ulkatcho - in discussions w MARR currently

- FTOAs
    - Replaceable forest licences continue to be available/offered using Bill 28 volume
    - Continue to work towards fulfillment of existing commitments with FN as contained in FRAs, FROs, FTOAs, RPs
    - HWB discussions related to LUOs may result in additional tenures being provided to some FN
    - Many FNs indicating an interest in acquiring additional volume that may be available
- TREATY
    - MARR is continuing to engage with 'Namgis, Gwa'sala'Nakwaxda'xw and Wuikinuxv
- NICC FN Contact Info
    - Constantly changing – please use NICC public website to ensure up-to-date
    - https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/ftp/DNI/external/!publish/Aboriginal%20Affairs/FN_NICC_CONTACTS.pdf
    - Nuxalk email now .ca not .org
    - Chantelle Saunders no longer in Referrals role – will be replaced – send info to referrals@nuxalknation.ca email
    - All referrals, information packages, applications, meeting requests, etc. for Wuikinuxv MUST be copied to Susan AB caddisflyer@gmail.com and referrals@wuikinuxv.net
- FN Consultative Area Mapping
    - Quatsino boundary shifted slightly – reflective of height of land/shared area with Kwakiutl FN
    - 'Namgis requested significant expansion to Non-Exclusive Resource Harvesting Area – may affect FCRSA consultative area
- Replacements
    - NICC Authorizations staff working closely with licensees on consultation requirements
    - Licensees in best position to speak to the need of the tenure, state of the tenure, etc. – outcome of info sharing will inform consultation level requirements
    - Avoids conflicts with established MOUs
- Elections forthcoming…Dzawada'enuxw, Kwikwasut'inuwx/Haxwa'mis and Mamalilikulla-Qwe'Qwa'Sot'Em
- Coastal First Nations Reconciliation Protocol Schedule B Engagement Framework Amendment
    - Being negotiated by MARR
    - FLNR significant involvement in review of *drafts*
    - Likely 3 categories of engagement and a separate 'special engagement' process (ranging from 15-75 business days for Cat 1-3)
    - *Heritage Conservation Act* likely being brought in – may affect Section 12 Site Alteration Permit process.

Randy asked how human well-being is measured. Bob suggested there is some wording in pre-able of LUOs and Andrew recalled that there are 147 indicators. Province is in discussions with

Nanwakolas Clearing House and CFN to define human well-being for the upcoming LUO amendments. Andrew suggested that tenures and revenue sharing might be proxies for this metric. Randy is looking for opportunity to put FN members to work. This human well-being conversation isn't hitting the radar in the FN community – decisions are being made in Victoria and Vancouver that have big impact on small rural and FN communities. Any decision that affects harvest level impacts our communities and subsequently human well-being. Amy – EBM working group had developed a set of indicators – social and economic. Randy attended a presentation from Dr. Adams, "Wealth = Health", where the threshold for adult income is $30,000 to meeting social and health standards.

Cyndy indicated that various marine plans have been raised by FNs as reasons to adjust terms or veto the application. Government is asking for specific interest tied to the plan. Conflicts with special management zones are not necessarily reason to reject the application. These plans are not endorsed by government. FN expectations are at odds with existing decision making framework. DM has to consider all information. Land Act decision making is more discretionary – must balance interests and maintain relationships.

4. Deer Winter Range Model – Lisa Nordin, Senior Ecosystems Biologist – see Presentation

Spatial data is available.

Andrew asked about timelines. Would like to complete fieldwork in 2015. If able to complete flights, will start working on package to review later this year. At yesterday's meeting, many licensees indicated willingness to share flight costs to conduct aerial reconnaissance of specific areas.

Bob asked about flexibility on these polygons given Strategic Landscape Reserve Design (SLRD), Biodiversity, Mining, and Tourism Areas (BMTAs) placement. Lisa: ungulate winter range (UWR) will be spatially explicit – hoping for co-location – existing draft 260 polygons should inform SLRD process.

5. Environmental Mitigation Policy – Laura Darling, Unit Head, Environmental Sustainability and Strategic Policy Division, Environment, Ecosystems Branch, Ministry of Environment – see Presentation

Andrew asked about applications on the landbase with respect to forestry decisions. Laura was not part of development, but understands that FRPA is meant to have covered much of the mitigative impacts of forestry decisions. Lisa reiterated that this policy would support decisions. Licensees are following this policy in their applications for amendments and mitigation/accommodation/compensation areas (with like-for-like attributes). These are the

best application packages – easy to bring to Decision Maker. Bob reflected that compensation under the Federal Fisheries Act works under the same premise. Documentation is key in demonstrating willingness to mitigate, residual impact, rationalizing the level of risk to Decision Maker. Would play into upcoming FSP amendments – extensions. Terms and conditions could include mitigative options on approvals.
Mike asked about monitoring of policy implementation. Laura responded that measures and activities will be tracked. New initiatives are identified. Project applications of several years ago were developed with draft policy in mind – trying to capture plans, implementation, outcomes for these projects and will be comparing project outcomes with similar projects. Will develop a resource for practitioners.

6. Public Trust – Mike DesRochers – see Handout

Would like to consider this topic as a standing agenda item for FMLT. All the good work is forgotten when the media highlights one negative situation. Things like the Forestry Capital (2010) go a long way to educating the public and garnering some trust from the public.

Andrew was asked whether he's received any negative comments. He has not.

Mike Beck had a similar issue in the interior where there was a conflict between recreation users and forest companies.

Jon Lok indicated that this issue is high on the ABCFP's radar, with the visuals issue on Haida Gwaii and the fuel spill in English Bay. The perception of the public is ill-informed. We need to do a better job with advocacy, education. The complaint process exists in the association, but very few take concerns through the ABCFP – there has been no complaint process with respect to the Haida Gwaii visuals issue which was originally raised by the Forest Practices Board.

Andrew asked the group about how we can better approach advocacy, education. Kelly brought up Nimpkish Woodlands Advisory Committee (NWAC) as a good example.

The Discovery Island conversation is a good example of the squeaky wheel getting the attention and action of Government. On the positive side, both the Forestry and Recreation sectors are better aware of one another's' challenges and total chance planning, location of recreation activities, etc. The ecotourism folks may even speak positively about/explain forest practices on the landscape as part of their tour.

Craig: CRIT is another avenue to demonstrate and promote solution oriented initiatives. It is non-partisan. But the negative media does take its toll on a forester's attitude.

Randy noted that all professions seem to be facing reduced public support/image. This might be a fact of life in this information age. We have a lot to be proud of.

Bob: The Homalco ecotourism company incorporates forest harvest stops (the Homalco have a forest tenure to showcase), along with bear viewing.

Andrew indicated that the Ministry's Communications Branch has a role in getting stories into the media, and responding to situations like the Nimpkish fire.

During the Port McNeill-Forestry Capital year in 2010, forest professionals wrote feature articles each week, covering a variety of topics. This was well-received and has been missed by the public since it was discontinued.

The Summer Coastal Silviculture Conference is coming up – June 10-11. We should ensure that there is good representation from the media.

Next meeting: report out on CRIT meeting; tangible products to enhance public image.

7. THLB Stabilization – Bob Craven, Interfor – see Presentation

This is not meant to be critical of previous initiatives.

Randy – referring to a slide with 2 goshawk nests – recognizes that goshawks (NOGO) find the old growth attributes more attractive. What happens if there are NOGO nests in areas not previously identified? Bob – trouble is that NOGO will leave nests in favour of new ones - will likely have to keep the previously-used nests as habitat. In central coast SLRD will be anchored reserves, it will allow us to understand exactly what is the working forest. Build in some flexibility; eg anchor to FN interest, High Value Fish Habitat, UWR.

Randy – can we have an SLRD for timber value? Bob – working forest is outside of areas where SLRDs are anchored. More strategic.

Craig – Arrowsmith – looking at optimizing all values, government and industry.

Andrew – constraints are legal, but some flexibility as to where they are to be placed. Several layers of review will be required for this to go forward.

Bob- Paul Bavis in San Josef gave an itemized "report card" to identify each value.

Quatsino First Nation was brought in early on the WFP San Josef pilot – looking to incorporate FN values, cultural areas, monumental cedar.

Randy – public relations – high proportion of landbase is currently protected. Why are we getting such poor "press" when we have so much area protected? Compared to Pacific Northwestern US? Bob – jurisdictionally, our Old Grown management strategy is

unprecedented. In Mackenzie there was a high, moderate and low intensity zones for forest management. Agreement was reached at the land use table. Andrew – Vancouver Island Land Use Plan (VILUP) was set up that way. This doesn't work well when new operators/industries come on the scene. We are managing new concepts through small adjustments; Government Actions Regulation orders – not willing to open VILUP. At some point we will have to re-visit that planning process.

Andrew – in Haida Gwaii, Haida are largest operator; asking why we are managing for values that may already be protected in the protected areas. The concept of a managed forest, similar to Agricultural Land Reserve, has fallen off the radar – Andrew will see what the current status is on this initiative.

Lisa – would like to see methodology how species' habitats are over-lapped. Bob/Andrew – that is what joint review process will focus on.

8. Visual Quality Review – EBM MRVA report – Lloyd Davies, Andy Waines

Andrew opened by stating that district staff re-visited the FREP MRVA VQO as requested by FMLT. In the end, 88% of samples met the FREP criteria, 10% were border-line and 2% did not meet. Job well done, likely the highest conformance on the coast!

The group agreed that viewpoints and viewing conditions affect the results. The Side Bay example, where two operators harvested within weeks of one another and the resulting landscape exceeded the visual quality objective (VQO), is one which feeds the public perception of visual management.

Cyndy asked about surveys and questionnaires on which the VQOs are based. Lloyd responded that there were public perception surveys done in 1995, and updated more recently.

9. Broadleaf discussion paper by CRIT – Craig Wickland

When asked, Craig responded that there are no seed orchards for hardwood seeds yet. Seed comes from Vancouver Island. DNI FMLT should review CRIT target of 200 ha of hardwood management per year and discuss which licencees want to commit to achieving or exceeding this target.

10. Working Group reports

Multi Resource Value Assessment (MRVA) – management of S6 streams – Warren and Paul have drafted paper (Guidance document – non-prescriptive, best management practices) – will distribute for comments prior to September meeting. Field trip will address some components

of small stream management. Derek Tripp will attend and talk about his data. No issues with S4s in NICC, consistent with MRVA data. Management of S6 streams has never inferred an AAC impact is necessary. CR FMLT is also having this conversation.

TSR – not active to date. EBM initiative has taken staff/licensee time, effort with respect to second growth, etc.

11. Field trip logistics – all

Derek Tripp to join riparian conversation.

Jon reviewed agenda. 8 am start; marshal at 7:45. Will have hard copies of itinerary available. Lunch not provided. PPE required.

12. Check-in, Meeting evaluation

Bob- good to see from perspective of OIF

Andrew – good, nice to have Bella Coola staff here and Jon Lok

Paul – v. good, members on same page

David – good

Scott – good forum, topics

Murray – first FMLT, good topics, discussion

Randy – nice in person, good range of topics, engagement

Amy – good

Mike – good speakers

Mike B – diverse subjects, good deer WR presentation yesterday

Lloyd – offer support

Kai – excellent presentations, encourage investment of time in modelling – UWR, let's not repeat mistakes (Grizzly Bear), Bob's presentation interesting, co-management

Lisa – good in person, good interaction, VQO presentation,

Michelle – good meeting, speakers

Craig – good participation, working together, eager to learn

Kathy – topics planning focussed, impressed with learning at planning stage to incorporate into operations of BCTS

Cyndy – Public trust conversation played into other topics, nice mix of presenters (industry – government), note-taking detailed to inform the adjunct members.

Jon – good OIF conversation, FN, UWR, environmental mitigation policy, public trust – good discussion, THLB stabilization – CF letter, VQ, Broadleaf discussion, all good learning, nice to have Jon Lok in attendance.

Next meeting: September , 2015

<u>Topics –</u>
Tourism sector – impacts, collaboration

Appendix 3

NICCFD FMLT Meeting Action Items Status

(Updated: July 3, 2015)

Action	Issue	Responsibility	Remark	Due	Status
January 16, 2013	Hw Utilization	Cyndy	OIF – presentation by FP Innovations	February 1, 2013	Cyndy passed presentation to participants. **Completed**
January 16, 2013	CRIT-OIF Linkage	Cyndy	OIF – presentation	February 1, 2013	Cyndy passed presentation to participants. **Completed**
January 16, 2013	IWMS	Cyndy	OIF – presentation	February 1, 2013	Cyndy passed presentation to participants. **Completed**
January 16, 2013	Cedar Management Strategy	Cyndy	OIF – presentation by Harry Barrett	February 1, 2013	Cyndy passed presentation to participants. **Completed**
January 16, 2013	Log Handling	All	DFO compensation sites		Kathy Howard requested industry reps send compensation sites to her ASAP - **Completed**
January 16, 2013	Fire Hazard Assessment	Andrew	Get a WMB specialist to discuss hazard assessments and venting indices	April 2013	Done – Pete Laing spoke at Oct 2013 meeting - **Completed**

Action	Issue	Responsibility	Remark	Due	Status
January 16, 2013	Mid Coast Inventory	David	Ask Derek Challenger to give an update	April 2013	Derek to present at April FMLT. **Completed**
April 24, 2013	Quality of CP Submissions	Amy	Amy will compile a list of specific issues/common errors that licensees should consider when preparing CP submissions. A working group may be established.	October 1, 2013	Discussed at October 2013 meeting – no further action required **- Completed**
April 24, 2013	Wood Waste Disposal	All	Decided to wait to see what came out of the OIF. There is likely enough interest at FMLT to form a working group to develop recommendations/solutions.	October 1, 2013	Cyndy Followed up with Gary Lawson on April 26 to ask about OIF response to the issue. Bring forward to October meeting. At October 2013 meeting, Peter Share updated FMLT – no further action - **Completed**
April 24, 2013	Visual Landscape Management	Andrew, Kai	Have speakers at October FMLT to explore tourism-forestry co-existence/compromise and VLM	October 10, 2013	Kai will present "It's just a Hectare". Andrew will get a speaker from tourism sector; also consider Rory Annett to speak to Discovery Islands.Rory spoke at October 2013 meeting. - Completed
April 24, 2013	Salvage – dual mark	Tom	Will submit mock permit for discussion at October FMLT	October 10, 2013	Working group active. Bring forward.
April 24, 2013	Waste & Residue	All	Draft paper for review, attached to minutes.	May 30, 2013	Have comments to Andrew by due date. Andrew sent letter – **Completed, working group closed**.

Action	Issue	Responsibility	Remark	Due	Status
April 24, 2013	Ocular Assessments – FTG	Cyndy	Send out paper with minutes	April 30, 2013	Included with Minutes - **Completed**
April 24, 2013	Fire Hazard Assessment	Scott, Mike, Vadim	Assess issues to raise with WFMB in October. Recommendations for WFMB.		Look for update in April if WMB conducts audits. No update in April – CLOSED GROUP – Completed.
April 24, 2013	Terms of Reference	All	Review TOR (2011) and submit feedback to Cyndy by May 30. Cyndy to update TOR and send out to membership.	May 30, 2013	**Completed.**
April 24, 2013	Forest Cover & Stocking Standards		Andrew will write a letter to Licensees with reporting expectations and will discuss at next FMLT.	October 10, 2013	Letter drafted and presented to the group October 2013. Comments welcome.- **Completed**
October 22, 2013	TSR Tracking	Scott, Steve , Amy, Christina	Working group established. Focus on monitoring second growth harvest, and other CF instructions.		Currently working on priorities.
April 29, 2014	RESULTS reporting	Andrew, Paul	Will report out on RESULTS outcomes at Sept meeting (reporting cycle ends in June)		**Completed**

Action	Issue	Responsibility	Remark	Due	Status
April 29, 2014	FP Innovations Utilization of Problem Forest Types	Paul, Cyndy	Paul and Cyndy to contact Dominique Roser, Tim Caldecott to determine availability and scope of presentation (field vs. office mtg)	Jan 2015	Presentation at January meeting - **Completed**
April 29, 2014	Salvage Working Group	Ione, Rob	– Ione Brown will collaborate with District staff then give an update at next meeting		
October 8, 2014	Intelligent Design	Cyndy	Have Bob Craven give ID update		Bob was unavailable for the January meeting; bring forward to April. **Completed.**
October 8, 2014	Public Trust	Mike D	Lead discussion		Mike was unavailable for the January meeting; bring forward to April. **Completed.**
October 8, 2014	Wood Waste	Peter Share	Disposal vs using wood waste under the exemption from the Waste Disposal Regulation.		Group decided not to set working group. The issue is making needs known to MOE so they might consider expanding the exemption to allow for burning in remote areas. Since this doesn't seem to be an issue for other licensees in the group, NIC recommends TW work directly with MOE. **Completed.**

Action	Issue	Responsibility	Remark	Due	Status
January 23, 2015	TOR	Cyndy	Revise Terms of Reference to include stronger wording regarding attendance; revise membership list for 15-16.	April 2015	**Completed.**
January 23, 2015	T'silquotin Decision - interpretation	Andrew	Report on the output of the last workshop OIL regarding the William's case.	April 2015	**Completed.**
January 23, 2015	FPI Drone	Cyndy	Will get name of company on VI with drone in minutes – what is the function.	April 2015	**Completed.**
January 23, 2015	VQO	Paul	Paul & Lloyd will distribute photos associated with MRVA report that did not meet VQO rationale, criteria, detailed VQO assessment; invite Lloyd to field trip.	April 2015	**Completed.**
January 23, 2015	Riparian MRVA	Paul, Tom, Warren	Will draft guidance document at next meeting.	April 2015	**Bring forward.**

Action	Issue	Responsibility	Remark	Due	Status
April 15, 2015	Public Trust	Paul	Next meeting: report out on CRIT meeting; tangible products to enhance public image.	October 2015	
April 15, 2015	"Forest Land Reserve"	Andrew	The concept of a managed forest, similar to Agricultural Land Reserve, has fallen off the radar – Andrew will see what the current status is on this initiative.	October 2015	
April 15, 2015	Hardwood Management	Paul	DNI FMLT should review CRIT target of 200 ha of hardwood management per year and discuss which licencees want to commit to achieving or exceeding this target.	October 2015	
April 15, 2015	Multi Resource Value Assessment (MRVA)	Paul	Management of S6 streams – Warren and Paul have drafted Guidance document – non-prescriptive, best management practices – will distribute for comments prior to September meeting.	October 2015	