



Spruce Beetle Working Group Agenda

Date: September 11, 2015, 1pm – 4pm

Location: Aleza Room, Plaza 400 Prince George

Co-Chairs: Jacek Bankowski and Denise Hogue

Attendees: TBD

Mike Byl

Jewel Yurkewich

Andrew Tait

Robert Hodgkinson

Andrew Wheatley

Shannon Carson

David Bryden

Mike Jull

Darwyn Koch

Alena Charlston

Greg Jonuk

Stacy Perkins

Brian McLachlan

Keith Taite

Trevor Joyce

Doug Perdue

Darius Low

Shawn Rice

Sarah Cotter

Eric Anderson

Kevin Hoekstra

James Jacklin

Objective: Share current information on the spruce beetle infestation in the Prince George TSA; review current strategies and actions licensees and FLNRO are taking, develop actions to address infested areas, and a forum to discuss and find solutions to operational issues.

1. Introductions (10min)
2. 2014 Overview Survey Results (FLNRO Region) – Jacek Bankowski (10 min)
 - 62K ha impacted from 2014 aerial surveys
 - 2015 flight completed, rough jpeg files from surveys, full results by October



- IBS area impact by licensee operating areas (Sinclar, Canfor BCTS)
 - Areas of concern include: Bills Creek, Wooyadilinka, Hominka – lower infestation elsewhere
 - Branch will digitize 2015 results
 - 2800 ha in 3 contracts awarded by DPG this fall – results expected by end of 2015
 - Would like to discuss how to share information and identifying roles and responsibilities between licensees and the government
3. Results of the 2015 detailed aerial flights, ground probing and planned spruce beetle management treatments (40 min)
- Dunkley – Doug Perdue ; presented results from their 2015 aerial flights and ground surveys; seeing much greater infestation on the ground as compared to from the air
 - Winton Global – Darwyn Koch ; was told that Bill's Ck was the worst area – focus has been there; cruised and laid out 80k m3 this winter, and then another 80k m3 in the plans, want to get the RP's in place to assure certainty , probe results 70-90% green attack of Sx; some 1 year cycle most 2 year cycle, analysis in Bills Ck show in A4 1200 ha in temp OGMAs, 1200 ha outside - 600 ha in available THLB; agreement with Dunkley to include Stella Jones license – 125 k m3, complication = access and infrastructure (brushing, replace bridge, etc.)will have to be a progression – 3 year harvest strategy in Bills Creek and then to the Parsnip, Table has huge infrastructure costs (used to cross using ice bridges) therefore a lower priority – will wait for DPG's results and then plan accordingly
 - Canfor – Sara Cotter ; Anzac: would have to put in a camp to effectively log, completed walkthroughs in the area, evidence the infestation is much more severe than aerial results as expected, install a camp in 2016, will manage with a sanitation strategy, want to do salvage as well, need a certain amount of volume to justify; Carp Lake: signs of beetle in the park, permitted blocks in the area, designing blocks in this area, not much spruce – heavily harvested in the past, running into park boundaries or Mackenzie District; TFL30 – some signs, incidence are lower than expected, heard from SSS'er from IFS the same thing in SB G; Chuchinka: close to Bills Creek, a lot of beetle, a lot of blocks planned, prioritized for harvest this winter to deal with IBS, have some recce data from A4 polygons – how to manage for old values, riparian and connectivity collaboratively, Past MacGregor suspension bridge (pickup only) – \$2.5 million upgrade, Canfor doing ECE – partner with FLNRO (meeting next week), lots of beetle in this area, contractor in this area to do recces this fall, also need a camp to harvest; will implement trap trees in the Anzac – hand fallers in the spring, well set to do trap tree program in the Chuchinka, quite awhile before anything is done past the Mcgregor bridge
 - BCTS – Lee Evans; Sent IFS out to do some recce and probing, looking at the Hominka – 140k of 70% attack; will be laid out in the spring – short term 2-4 week advertising and 1 year terms, some attack are in the draft FSW's, Colborne/Reynolds – this drainage totally inaccessible - \$1.5 million bridge; major road brushing that needs to be done, don't have much planned in the central part of the District yet, no trap tree program yet



- FLNRO MK District – Mike Byl – have field form for ipads to collect IBS data; have identified generic guidelines for planning which can share with DPG licensees, MK has a working group to help communicate with the District Manager any issues that may arise; GIS has created a datasheet for identifying the locations of trap trees
 - DSN – high endemic levels, nothing really stood out, further north low volume stands due to natural decline, counting on overview flights to be accurate, concern in FSJ how it effects the partition – will it constrain licensees in DSN from harvesting spruce?
4. Blanket Salvage Permit mechanism including discussion on appraisal costs and cruising –Denise Hogue, Darius Low and Greg Jonuk (20min); Section 51 (b) can be used for falling trees in advance of operations;
-  Salvage under a major licence.pdf
5. FN consultation on Blanket Salvage Permits, transfers, etc. and how to involve FN early to help disseminate info and improve consultation – Stacy Perkins (10 min)
- The earlier strategic plans are shared with FN the better; Q. Have conversations with FN been started? Dealing mainly with Treaty 8 areas within the infestation. A. Advise group that as soon as the working group has a strategic plan that addresses all resource values (e.g. riparian, etc.) this information should be shared with FN's. Q. Protocol agreements have been signed – should FN be a part of this working group table rather than through the normal consultation process? A. This is something that can be decided upon when the group establishes a terms of reference.
6. Section 18 of FA – licence transfers, AAC and apportionment issues – John Pousette (10 min)
- A lot of internal discussion about the Pine partition, Minister has been doing additional work on all partitions in the province, going into TSR – going to be considering the spruce beetle in the TSR, hold Pli partition for as long as possible, the partition is for the max. amount of Sx (below 3.5 million m3); we need to back up with analysis if/when the Sx partition is exceeded, make sure the Sx data is brought forward in time for the public discussion paper
7. Spruce Beetle Management (draft) – Jacek Bankowski ; if you have any questions please send them to Jacek
8. Supporting information relative to old growth areas from the Cariboo area – is this information appropriate to consider in Prince George? What was the efficacy? Q. Where are we at with A4? A. Licensees / BCTS not surveying or actively planning within these units. Concerns about deficit if licensees aren't managing Sx beetle
9. There are opportunities to provide review and comment on upcoming FSW's and GWM's. Consider inviting Sandra Sulyma to next meeting.
10. Next steps: Strategies to manage infested areas including repository for data and information sharing – group discussion (20 min) Creat an FTP site in the short term to share information.



11. Next SBWG meeting schedule (5 min): Before the end of Oct.

Actions/Discussion:

- Meeting to share data; potentially create a smaller working group to complete data exchange
- Create a scope and mandate of the spruce working group when forming at the next meeting ; issue with social license; want an integrated resource management framework
- 3rd major beetle infestation that many practitioners have seen have experience to draw from to deal with this issue; how to appropriately triage this situation
 - DPG will schedule another meeting in one month
 - DPG will create an FTP site and post information