

Terms of Reference for the Repression Density Working Group

July 15, 2019

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Repression Density Working Group (RDWG) is to create a forum for ministry specialists, industry representatives and forestry consultants to collaborate on the provincial issue of repression density and maximum density policy. The RDWG has been struck to identify key gaps in provincial policy and research, and work toward creating provincial consistency through research-based decision making.

SCOPE

The scope of this project is limited to high density even-aged stands in the North and South areas of the interior of British Columbia that have been initiated by post wildfire salvage harvesting or naturally regenerating conditions following conventional harvesting.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goals of the working group are to:

- Review current research and literature AND evaluate timber supply impacts of stands at varying density levels to identify gaps in research related to density management of various conifer species following post-harvest regenerated disturbances (conventional harvesting) and post-wildfire salvage disturbances;
- Determine appropriate thresholds of conifer densities, at the Management Unit level, that would initiate juvenile spacing treatments considered financially favourable for timber volume or value metrics;
- Provide comments and advise on what the “Return on Investment” (ROI) should be or could be when considering juvenile spacing treatments across specific Management Units. An ROI of 2% is used for government funded Forests for Tomorrow projects;
- Formalize a provincially consistent protocol that provides an exemption from maximum density management following timber harvesting (salvage) following wildfire disturbance;
- Ensure that information sharing is expected among the RDWG members, and that communications and future training opportunities arising from any policy changes are made available across the Province;
- Provide a Decision Note with recommendations to the Interior Silviculture Sub-committee (ISSC) for review and subsequent submission to the North and South Operational Issues Forum (NOIF and SOIF)

COMPOSITION

The RDWG is a subgroup of the Interior Silviculture Subcommittee (ISSC) and includes the following volunteer members, including two Co-Chairpersons and a rotating list of members acting as Secretary:

Name	Affiliation	Role	Contact Information
Trenna MacLeod	Weyerhaeuser Company	Co-chair	Trenna.Macleod@weyerhaeuser.com
Greg Jorgenson	FLNRORD Resource Practices Branch	Co-chair	Greg.Jorgenson@gov.bc.ca
Craig Wickland	FLNRORD Resource Practices Branch	Member	Craig.Wickland@gov.bc.ca
Nina Sigloch	FLNRORD Thompson Okanagan Region	Member	Katrina.Sigloch@gov.bc.ca
David Jackson	International Forest Products	Member	David.Jackson@interfor.com
Darcy Lillico	FLNRORD Cariboo Regional Operations	Member	Darcy.Lillico@gov.bc.ca
Kori Vernier	Canadian Forest Products	Member	Kori.Vernier@canfor.com
Steve Jones	Weyerhaeuser Company (SIFC)	Member	Steve.Jones@weyerhaeuser.com
Tammy Baerg	FLNRORD Prince George Natural Resource District	Member	Tammy.Baerg@gov.bc.ca
Ann Wong	FLNRORD Resource Practices Branch (FFT)	Member	Ann.Wong@gov.bc.ca

MEMBERSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

The role of each committee member will be:

- Provide ideas, advice and guidance for the development of consistent forest policy relating to the provincial maximum density issue;
- Become familiar with current and relevant research materials, and help identify gaps where additional research is required to assist decision makers at the executive level;
- Review draft policies, tools and resources which support decision making at the provincial scale;

MEETINGS AND KEY ROLES

Bi-Monthly Meetings will be scheduled on a date/time set by the working group. The group will participate on conference calls co-chaired by Trenna MacLeod and Greg Jorgenson. Special meetings, such as face to face meetings held by the ISSC, will be suitable opportunities to share progress reports to the members of the ISSC.

The role of Secretary will be a shared responsibility held by all members of the RDWG. The group will agree to rotating participation fulfilling this role. At any time a member is assigned this role, but plans to be absent for the scheduled meeting, that member will coordinate a replacement Secretary to document meeting minutes. Meeting minutes will be reviewed for changes and adoption at the opening of the next planned meeting.

The Secretary schedule is as follows:

1. **Greg Jorgenson**
2. **David Jackson**
3. **Darcy Lillico**
4. **Ann Wong**
5. **Craig Wickland**
6. **Kori Vernier**
7. **Steve Jones**
8. **Tammy Baerg**
9. **Nina Sigloch**

TIMELINES AND MILESTONES

The RDWG is tasked with advancing the maximum density discussion in a timely manner to initiate necessary policy changes to maximum density thresholds, following post-harvest regenerated disturbances and post-wildfire salvage disturbances.

Preliminary timelines are proposed in the table below, with an emphasis on delivering briefing materials to the ISSC by September 4th and 5th at the scheduled ISSC face to face meeting in Kamloops, BC. The RDWG will provide a presentation highlighting research findings that are current and relevant in an attempt to spark discussions with the broader ISSC group.

Milestone	By Who	By When	Completed
Initiate the Repression Density Working Group (RDWG) with a kickoff conference call to discuss Terms of Reference, current research, timeline planning, support for Co-Chairpersons and nomination of a Secretary	Greg Jorgenson & Tenna MacLeod	Aug 21	Done
Deliver a presentation to the ISSC at the planned face to face meeting outlining the issues and challenges, current research findings, and potential solutions to seek out over the course of the RDWG. Eleanor McWilliams and Jim Thrower will be asked to confirm if there is any detail not captured in the current research report summaries that the RDWG needs to be aware of.	Tenna MacLeod/ Steve Jones & Greg Jorgenson	Sept 4-5	Done
Define current Maximum Density Liability. (Requires Licensee support, as not all interim surveys are submitted to RESULTS)	Kori Vernier	Sept 4-5	Done
Finalize the Terms of Reference and the Issues Note to the RDWG to ensure the scope, objectives, issues and final deliverables are governed consistently	Greg Jorgenson & Tenna MacLeod	Sept 12	
Deliver a roadmap outlining steps necessary to support change to current forest policy	RDWG	Dec 31	
Deliver a Decision Note to the Regional Executive Directors, via the ISSC, for determination	RDWG	Dec 31	
These are kickoff milestones and higher level action items...translated into the Action Items spreadsheet.			

BUDGET

The co-chair(s) in consultation with members will develop and propose a budget for additional support identified by the Repression Density Working Group that requires funding.