

NICCRD FMLT Meeting #23

November 16, 2017 9:00 – 3:00

NICCRD Office, 2217 Mine Road

In attendance: Jon Flintoft, Andrew Ashford, Jon Lok, John Dirom, Mike DesRochers, Ione Brown, Ivan Tallio, Kim Lefebvre, Robert Ziegler, Blair Wriglesworth, Joe Leblanc, Murray Estlin, Kai Sonnenburg, Amy Beetham, Cyndy Grant, Paul Barolet; and Gary Gallinger (by phone)

1. Welcome & Safety – Jon & Andrew
2. Review of Action Tracker & Agenda - Jon
3. Provincial Free Growing RESULTS Monitoring – Paul

This monitoring was undertaken by Branch staff as part of their audit function and the district was not directly involved. Paul reviewed the findings. Joe noted that licensees want to know about issues before compliance & enforcement staff knock at the door. As well, licensees would like to hear both the good or bad news from these types of audits. Andrew stated that moving forward, the process could be more integrated.

Paul will circulate document with licensees' results to individual clients.

Andrew will provide feedback to Branch with FMLTs' concerns about process, communication.

4. OIF update (June 2017) – Andrew

THLB Stabilization – Co-location projects – U/L Nimpkish landscape units in TFL 37 proposed, and accepted to begin in December. Andrew and John Deal are co-leads. Teal Cedar project delayed.

Forest Carbon initiative. Objectives are to store and avoid emissions.

Integrated Investment Planning (FES, LBIS, FFT) – Aaron Smeeth is coordinating for West Coast Region (Aaron.Smeeth@gov.bc.ca).

FREP – Small Streams workshop. Large interest; extension notes distributed. Side project – licensees were asked for stream examples – 8/17 were found to be properly functioning. Influence of roads (deactivation practices) was generally the cause for problems. Expect further requests for examples.

Permitting of Fish sampling - Looking to LEAN the process, especially for streams that weren't identified prior to sampling day.

BC Wildfire Service – 2017 Fire season to date summary.

Interregnum period. Challenge to decision making.

FSPs. FN consultation – Constitutional obligation of the Crown requires a statutory decision-maker process be applied, and the procedural aspect of information sharing can be delegated to licensees. If there is a consultation protocol, the timeframe is more certain. An estimated 70% of the First Nations whose territories are intersected by the NICC Natural Resource District have consultation protocols with FLNRORD. Licensees are encouraged to communicate early and include a summary of info sharing with application.

FSP 360 to be discussed at November OIF.

Provincial Timber Goals - Provincial CF was in attendance. She was clear that results and strategies should be written into FSPs, demonstrating conformance with objectives. These could be legally established.

Ministry of Environment – Working group looking at Wood waste Landfill criteria. SUPs may be used for disposal/storage. Bob Konkin and Chris Jenkins (MoE) working on registration criteria required to meet “CODE OF PRACTICE FOR INDUSTRIAL NON-HAZARDOUS WASTE LANDFILLS INCIDENTAL TO THE WOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRY”. To be discussed at the November OIF. Provincial Forestry Forum update. GAR consistency with respect to Timber Supply; Provincial LiDAR capture/coverage recommended; Committee effectiveness review; Contractor legacy; FN Forestry Council – several FN’s don’t respect/acknowledge current representation on the Council. Challenge is how to ensure all are represented; Common Provincial re-charting TOR principles...

5. Discussion on All Licensee meeting topics:

General Feedback – good, timely topics. Consider having some group interactive activities. Would have liked to have had an old growth discussion. Forestry 101 is being developed (Dominico, Megan Hanacek, Andrew) to educate local leaders (Mayors and Councillors, FN Chiefs and councils, etc.) on Old Growth management.

Hopeful that follow-up communications will be available e.g. Information on Timber objectives. It is sometimes difficult to make comments in large group, with competition/Senior company managers in the room. Didn’t receive much feedback. Tried to prepare presenters. Some topics were tricky to know what level at which to present.

Consider having FMLT before Licensee meeting.

Don’t wait 7 years for the next Licensee meeting.

Good chance for feedback; liked that there were multiple options– wall charts, networking, gave contacts for post-meeting, Q&A sessions for presentations.

“Pigeonhole” (wireless cellphone tool) – is a good way to give fb, ask questions, anonymous.

On several topics, it’s hard for small licensees to get information and provide feedback.

Would have liked to discuss SLA implications to some topics.

North Island - Central Coast Natural Resource District Section Highlights

Discussion of trends, processing times, and the resource road user group.

All agree that the Road User Safety Group should be resurrected.

Cruise-based Billing Process

Process overview with the opportunity to schedule one-on-one sessions with Alan and his team Wednesday evening in Port McNeill or Thursday afternoon in Campbell River.

Need to update cruising manual.

Conversation about waste.

Chief Forester Timber Objectives: Application to Local-level Planning in the North Island - Central Coast Natural Resource District

On August 1, 2017, British Columbia's Chief Forester released the Provincial Timber Management Goals, Objectives & Targets. As described in the foreword, the '... document provides a co-ordinated provincial vision and a set of detailed timber management goals, objectives and targets to assist forest managers in sustainably managing B.C.'s complex, multi-value public forests. To make provincial goals and objectives a reality, local timber management targets and strategies are required at the management unit level (e.g., timber supply area).'

Operational Implementation Committee (OPIC)

The Operational Implementation Committee, or OPIC, is a group tasked primarily with monitoring and reporting out on progress made with the Landscape Reserve Designs that are required under the Great Bear Rainforest Land Use Order, and assisting with the resolution of other operational implementation issues related to ecosystem-based management in the Great Bear Rainforest as required.

Andrew and Jon will write letter to chairs of OPIC to request that there be communications to Licensees (big and small) group. After OPIC annual report comes out, consider sending additional feedback.

Lean Log Handling Project

Streamlining log handling on the coast: A discussion of projects that have been implemented, that are currently in progress, and potential up and coming initiatives.

Report has been released– have exceeded \$5-7/m3 target: actual reduction is closer to \$7-9/m3

Managing Your Tenure: Attributions and Cut Control

Discussion of the elements of a successful attribution request.

Marine Plan Partnership for the North Pacific Coast (MaPP) Implementation

The Province of BC and the Nanwakolas Council of First Nations are co-leading the implementation of the North Vancouver Island (NVI) Marine Plan, approved in April 2015:

<http://mappocean.org/north-vancouver-island/north-vancouver-island-marine-plan/>. The NVI Plan committed to establishment of a Marine Plan Advisory Committee (MPAC), comprised of representatives of marine sectors/interests and local government to provide advice on implementation activities.

Recommend that licensees discuss the MaPP zones with FN, especially if there are mitigative measures that can be applied. Working within these zones can also have implications to certification. There may be FN cultural values associated with each zone. The MaPP is reviewed against log handling applications received at the NICC RD office. Applications are being reviewed by MaPP team members also.

The NVI Marine Plan has been approved but is not legally established. Management Plan and Land Use designations are the next phases of MaPP. There is also a NVI network of Log handling sites (inventory), that you can get from Bruce Storry (storryb@telus.net). A similar inventory is planned for the Central Coast also. Licensees are encouraged to stay informed and provide feedback.

MaPP: <http://mappocean.org/>

Quatsino Sound Coastal Plan: <https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/slrp/plan73.html>

6. Working Group report – Large Cutblocks and VILUP - Christina, Kim, Joe, Trevor, Lone, Jon/Kelly, Tracy

Working group met and discussed problem statement & solutions. May need to further articulate the management of the hydrology value. Need to instill trust/comfort of the DM and public. A consistent approach/rationale to follow by licensees in NICC RD.

Proposed solution – prepare a guidance document for endorsement by FMLT to guide Forest Professionals when proposing cutblocks >40 ha in EFZ under VILUP. Consider bringing a hydrologist into the conversation prior to endorsement. Murray Estlin is also available.

Paul – what triggers an updated Watershed assessment? Natural events? Include/reference the Guidance Document in FSP Backgrounder? Paul raised the concern that there is still a legal requirement for the DDM to make a determination for VILUP 7 under professional reliance and FRPA. Paul mentioned the DDM determination aspect could be met through the FSP approval of a robust strategy for VILUP 7 to address moving forward under FRPA and professional reliance.

Lone – what about shared watersheds, private lands, forest cover?

First Nation rep on the Working Group?

Group will have update at January meeting. Possible field trip topic for the spring 2018 meeting.

7. LUNCH

8. FMLT Terms of Reference - Revisions discussed:

- a. Membership – at meetings and field days; consider increasing membership to bring more resources to working groups, involve other professionals, who are directly impacted by issues, in discussions. Consider splitting the day – morning dedicated to speakers (larger audience), afternoon dedicated to working groups (smaller group).
- b. Focus – where is the balance point between resolving issues and downloading information? Will be identifying issues through a sticky-note exercise (i.e. Challenge Wall). Include date of revision; consider broader BCTS participation models, biologist... Revised TOR included with minutes.

9. Challenge Wall – Sticky note Exercise – Amy

Sticky note exercise completed. Eleven key areas were identified. All members are to prepare for work planning session in January. **Amy will contact members with process.**

10. FPB questions – Jon

At the April meeting, Sam Coggins and Del Williams challenged the FMLT to answer several questions regarding public requests of site plans and compliance with guidance documents.

Questions for FMLT re: Site Plans

- Must SPs include maps? **Yes**
- Should they be emailed upon request? **Depends on volume of request. If cumbersome, invite person to the office, to have a conversation. Request context. Have a follow up conversation. How much effort should you expend to satisfy information requests? Give person a sense of when you can respond. Set a meeting where possible, within 2-4 weeks if possible. Communicate. Keep records of scheduling conversations – mutual availability/effort.**

Questions for FMLTs re: VILUP vs VILUP Order

- Is the intent of SMZ 3 (Brooks Bay) being met? **Common understanding is that SMZ 3 means that there would be no clearcuts over 5 ha. According to VILUP, retention silviculture systems are permitted, but they should have a retention range of 10-20 % of the gross cutblock area. Primary values of SMZ 3 are Coastal visual quality and associated recreation opportunities; Anadromous fish values and estuary fish rearing habitat; Marine endangered /threatened species and habitat**
- Should foresters be looking beyond the legal orders back to the source plans when planning operations? **Yes, to be reminded of intent.**
- What does the term “retention system” mean to you? **Leave trees where practicable to do so, e.g. where they will likely be protected from windthrow.**

11. Closing and check in

Good meeting, good engagement, challenge wall valuable, favorite meeting so far 😊, good to review TOR, good transition from yesterday’s Licensee meeting, could benefit from having FMLT before Licensee meeting, more frequent Licensee meetings, good chance to re-hash topics from yesterday, look at getting presenters on some challenge topics, TOR re-affirmed

purpose – good exercise, good segueway to Challenge wall, good facilitation & Chairing, make challenge wall annual topic, keep TOR review as annual topic, good networking.

Next meeting: Thursday, January 25th, 2018.