

Minutes

Kamloops TSA Sustainable Forest Management Plan

Public Advisory Group Meeting

Hoodoos Restaurant - Kamloops

March 31, 2009

In Attendance:

Toby Jeffreys	Gord Todd	Mike Bragg
Frances Vyse	Pat Callahan	Nicole Bauche
Brian Dack	Dave Poole	Peter Grauer(12:00)
Frank Kohlberger	Bert Parke	Art Blackwell
Rick Cooper	Kurt Freudenberger	George Brcko
Charlene Higgins	Randy Narcisse	Pat Salm
Mark Hopkins- Facilitator		

The two primary objectives of this session were:

- Review the results of the 2008 SFM Monitoring Report,
- Discuss the status and implementation plan for the new Z809-08 SFM standard

1.0 Introductions and Agenda Review

Following the self-introduction of participants the agenda was reviewed, there were no additions.

Discussion arose as to the level of involvement for Weyerhaeuser, and the status of their pending sale. Kurt F. updated the group:

- companies still working on the asset purchase agreement
- once the agreement is signed the government needs to move forward with further review

Charlene H. asked if the transfer has been reviewed by the Federal Competition Bureau

Kurt F. indicated “not yet”, but has to be at some point.

Frances asked whether 1st nations have been involved.

Kurt’s opinion is that once the agreement is completed, government is obliged to consult 1st nations, but the nature, extent and time frame of the consultation is not yet determined.

Bert P. inquired about the status of the Coarse Woody Debris issue (Action Item 9) in the last minutes. Rick Cooper (BCTS) felt this issue had been dealt with on the previous field trip, and more internal training is occurring within BCTS.

2.0 Action Items from Previous Meetings

The Action Items from the December 3, 2008 were reviewed by the PAG, details are included in the table attached to these minutes.

3.0 Review of 2008 SFM Monitoring Report

Preamble to Report

Charlene H. commented on reference to “bio-energy tenure”. It was noted that this was incorrect terminology as no such tenure has been created. Charlene also noted incorrect Reference to *Bonaparte Economic Development Corporation* – should have been referred to as *Bonaparte Economic Development Limited Partnership*. Charlene commented she would like to see reference to 3rd Party Registrations on summary pages.

Mike B. pointed out that through oversight, Stella-Jones, successor to Bell Pole, had not been included in the Monitoring Report. They will be part of future Plans and Reports.

Frances suggested the Highlights section should include a listing of the recipients of the licencees’ education efforts.

3.1 Detailed Indicator Review

Indicator (1): Achievement of TSA’s Old Forest Strategy

- Bert asked if OGMA ‘s represented a short or long term strategy. Mike B. said that the process of legalizing the OGMA boundaries is currently underway.

Indicator (2): Level of conformance to riparian management area and lakeshore commitments contained within plans.

- Results Reviewed – no further discussion ensued.

Indicator (3): Level of FPC compliance with Mountain Caribou strategies.

- Compliance noted by the PAG members, also commented that Simpc and Gilbert Smith may have to change operations in light of changed legislation

Indicator (4): Stand level retention -- individual wildlife trees/stubs and/or wildlife tree patches

- Charlene H. asked why different categories of WTP’s are not tracked (i.e. cultural, riparian, etc). Reason cited was that the Indicator is not worded in a way which requires that type of tracking.
- Charlene H. suggested that future reports include WTP areas attributed to Non-replaceable Forest Licences as well.
- In response to questions from Frances V. and Bert P., Mike B. explained the minimum size of the small patches included in the description (0.25ha).

Indicator (5): Stand level retention - coarse woody debris

- Rick C. explained that the low percentage achievement of Small Scale salvage is due to targeting of spruce and fir beetle infested stands where large material could serve as beetle brood substrate and is intentionally removed. The areas involved are typically small (<0.5ha)
- Bert P. asked if these are green tree areas. Rick C. said they are a mixed green and dead.

Indicator (6): Average regeneration period from time of harvest.

- It was suggested that the target regeneration delay period be reduced due to the consistent, and significantly quicker achieved Regen. delay period. As at previous PAG meetings the average is significantly “better” than the target, but individual Licencees focusing on natural regeneration may not be able to achieve a lowered target.

Action Item – The next SFM Plan and Monitoring Report should be altered to separate the natural and artificial regeneration achievement.

- Bert P. asked if measures were taken to protect existing advanced regeneration. Licencees responded that the suitability of Adv. Regeneration is assessed on each site. Sometimes it is preserved, other times it is intentionally eradicated.

Indicator (7): Management strategies for rare ecosystems.

- Compliance noted – no further discussion by the PAG

Indicator (8): Identification and protection of wildlife (mammals, birds, reptiles, fish and amphibians) at risk

- It was requested that the nature of the incident described in assessment result 8B be elaborated upon. Mike B. explained that one of their field crews encountered an active Great Blue Heron nest near Roche Lake which prompted the establishment of a 400m no-work zone for a 6 month period.
- It was also noted that as part of 8C the MoE is conducting a Great Blue Heron inventory project .

Indicator (9): Percent of land base for broadleaf species.

- Results noted – no further discussion by the PAG, other than recognition that no clear trend is in evidence.

Indicator (10): Annual percent of harvested areas in permanent access structures (e.g. roads and landings).

- Bert P. asked how long a road has to be in place to be considered “permanent” Mike B. *et al* indicated that it is any road without a scheduled date of removal/rehab
- Bert P. also inquired if TSA has an overall plan for the roads, Licencees answered that there is no such overall plan, each licencee does their own plan.
- Randy N. asked where he can go to get information on the roads as he has had some difficulty in getting info in the past. Licencees indicated that in some cases the responsibility is theirs and in others it is the MoF or possibly other government agency.
- Bert P. would like to see the deactivation of a number of existing

- “permanent” roads, although he recognizes the potential fight with existing users of these roads.

Indicator (11): Annual harvest level relative to annual allocation.

- Results noted – PAG noted that “fall-off” in harvest rates over the last two years is largely market driven.

Action Item – Frances V. will distribute article on U.S. harvest levels to the PAG

Indicator (12): Incorporation of traditional knowledge, non-timber resources, and cultural and spiritual values in forest planning, where available.

- Randy N. noted that they are working on a systematic way of focusing their comments where they are most effective as they have insufficient staff to respond to all inquiries.
- Mike B. noted the number of responses is trending in the right direction. It was suggested that the 97 blocks where specific actions were taken should be graphed to look at trends as well. This possible change to the plan was deferred to the process of developing the new Z809-08 standard which is more specific on a number of 1st nations Issues.

Indicator (13): Level of conformance to soil conservation commitments contained within plans.

- Compliance noted, no further discussion ensued.

Indicator (14): Number of months for road cut and fill slope seeding application.

- The number of months delay appears to have been trending up in recent years (graph). BCTS reports that most of their TSL's are being seeded following completion of harvest, rather than completion of road building which has tended to lengthen the reported results.
- Bert P. expressed some concern over the long delays before re-seeding in some areas as much as three years.

Indicator (15): Percent of permanent status roads that have maintenance completed as per programs.

- The reported incomplete maintenance item was on a very old road – its omission was recognized as a tracking issue and has been addressed. Randy N. asked if an Environmental assessment had been completed. Rick C. indicated that this was only done through Plans and assessments.. Brian D. asked about dust control measures on high-use roads. Licences indicated that this is typically only done near communities.

Indicator (16): Level of participation in the annual reporting of results and the number of advisory group meetings held annually.

- Compliance noted, it was pointed out that the minimum number of annual meetings in the PAG Terms of Reference has been increased from one to two, plus the field trip.

Indicator (17): Number of registrations to a recognized third party certification.

- Charlene H. suggested that she would like to see the full listing of all other 3rd party certifications in this indicator.
- It was pointed out that at the last meeting the PAG had agreed to remove this as an indicator from Report and instead include the information in the body of the SFM Plan. The reason for the removal was that amalgamations of licences may provide misleading results. No further action.

Indicator (18): Protected Ecosystems

Action Item At Frances V. suggestion, it was agreed that the percentage of protected area attributed to Wells Gray Park should be shown separately. This will provide a more accurate representation of protection in the area of the TSA outside WG Park The changed reporting should be reflected on the next Monitoring Report.

Indicator (19): Percent of affected ranchers with whom forest planning is discussed.

- A list of sample discussion topics with ranchers was included in this years Monitoring Report, Frances asked if this was a representative list, Licencees responded that it was – the same issues keep recurring. Fencing is typically the biggest issue.
- Brian D. requested that the Monitoring Report be amended to include similar consideration for Trappers and Guide/outfitters.

Action Item It was agreed by the PAG that future monitoring Reports will include a similar summary of communication for Trappers and Guide/Outfitters

Indicator (20): Level of conformance to strategies in plans designed to achieve preservation, retention and partial retention of visual quality objectives.

- Compliance noted. Frances V. felt that this issue had been well addressed at the last field Trip. She felt that licencees were always looking for ways to reduce impact.

Indicator (21): Mean Annual Increment (MAI).

- At previous PAG meetings it was felt to desirous to find some other indicator of productivity than MAI. No alternative have yet been identified as suitable.
- Further discussion is deferred to the development of the new Z809-08 standard. This may be a core, required indicator?

Indicator (22): Forest Age Class Distribution.

- The Indicator was reviewed, however the suggestion was made that the format of the report be amended to either a graphical or tabular format to make trends and results clearer.

Action Item: Future Monitoring Reports will be amended to report the contained information in either tabular or graphical format

Indicator (23): The number of working relationships with applicable First Nations.

- It was suggested that the appendix should include a listing of other First Nations Licences and operations.
- First nations NRFL holders answered “no” in response question about 1st Nations partnerships. (can’t partner with themselves). Any changes deferred to development of new Z809-08 standard

Indicator (24): Number of presentation or field trips to schools, public groups and individuals.

- Increase in presentation numbers noted by PAG, Art B. felt that classroom presenters provided balanced global viewpoint – a valuable resource.

Indicator (25): Participation with First Nations to implement and improve upon the revised Archaeological Overview Assessment model and process.

- Randy: The revised AOA model is to be evaluated soon, should have new maps available next year.
- Randy N. said that there is currently some discussion within First Nations groups as to who will lead the process internally, handling referrals seem to main “pinch point”.
- Bert P. asked “what sort of referrals do Bands typically receive”. Randy replied that most referrals involve defining their interests or Title and Rights type inquiries.

Indicator (26): Participant Satisfaction Survey.

- Results of he PAG Participation survey were reviewed, generally satisfactory results, the lowest ranking being Question # 15 – “Communication with advisory group members between meetings is adequate”. The facilitator suggested that he could use the assistance of all PAG members in this aspect and requested that all articles/info that could be of use or interest to the members be forwarded to him for circulation to the broader PAG or website.
- Question was asked as to what other PAG’s do. Pat S. said in Merritt they are fortunate to have radio and newspaper reps on the PAG committee.
- Suggested that we invite media to future meeting, but should focus on a presentation topic or field trip for them to pick up on.

Indicator (27): Public Awareness of the SFMP.

- Results reviewed, no specific comments

Indicator (28): Number of opportunities/avenues for public participation in decision-making processes.

- The results were reviewed by the PAG, there was no specific concern with the slight delay beyond the target 30 days for response times. i.e. the explanation of the delay was understandable.

Indicator (29): Report on number of research and extension initiatives licensees have participated in.

- Although Frances V. was appreciative of the expanded descriptions of the research, she felt it could be more useful to include: who is doing the research and what are or when can the expected results be accessed.

Action Item: Facilitator to gather requested info, distribute to PAG and put on SFM website.

Indicator (30): Percent of harvested cutblocks having three or more tree species identified in the free growing inventory.

- Bert P. inquired as to why the rededicated the change in the number of species at the higher elevations. Licencees indicated that the change was necessary as the higher elevation blocks typically only have 2 naturally occurring tree species.

Agenda Item 4 – CSA SFM Z809-08 Status Update – Pat Salm

Pat Salm gave a PowerPoint presentation outlining:

- Development history of the SFM Standard to date,
- Current status of certification in Canada and the world.
- The Montreal Process
- The new requirement for “Core Indicators” and “Mandatory Discussion Topics”.

Charlene H. and Brian D. both indicated they would like more information about the percentage of the landbase certified, not just the total hectares (felt it provided incomplete picture).

Charlene noted that if people are interested there is a lot of info on the web about the “Montreal Process”.

Charlene H. said that "given the revised CSA standard just became available it was likely that most First Nations groups and organizations had not yet had time to review the changes to the new standard".

Randy suggested SNTC involvement would be appropriate as the bands likely do not have the staff to do so.

Action Item: Licences will forward an options list, to get underway with the revision process, to the PAG members by April 10th, 2009

Agenda Item 5 - Parking Lot

There are a total of 6 items on the SFM Plan “Parking Lot” which have been there for a while and need to be addressed, after consideration by the PAG it was agreed that the items would be dealt with as described in the table below:

2008 SFM Plan “Parking Lot” Item	Action
1. Element 2.2 Indicators: Forest Ecosystem Productivity Indicators are tree oriented. Explore/consider other additional indicators	Transfer discussion/resolution of Issue to news Z809-08 Plan and Indicator review/development,
2. Support for the meaningful participation of First Nations in forest development and planning is inferred but not stated for Indicator 25	Transfer discussion/resolution of Issue to news Z809-08 Plan and Indicator review/development,
3. Discuss the need to have an Indicator in the SFM Plan regarding “...the number of First Nations person days...”	Transfer discussion/resolution of Issue to news Z809-08 Plan and Indicator review/development,
4. Better understand mean annual increment (MAI); Indicator 21	Transfer discussion/resolution of Issue to news Z809-08 Plan and Indicator review/development,
5. Tree stubbing – for Indicator 4 reporting, wildlife trees and stubs are equal. What is the relative value of stubs, particularly small ones?	Retain as item to be addressed by the PAG
6. Suggested indicator 5 improvements for future consideration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • include a Target related to Coarse Woody Debris size • consider relief (a variance or specific Target) for operations on licences that restrict harvesting to small 	Retain as item to be addressed by the PAG

stem sizes or deciduous stands. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop a “piled” versus “dispersed” volume ratio. • develop a Target for piles. 	
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Agenda Item 6 - Field Trip Agenda

The PAG was solicited for input on the Fall 2009 Field Trip to be hosted by Gilbert Smith. Suggestion included Tub Grinder operations and Coarse Woody Debris management.

Action Item: It was agreed that Gilbert Smith would circulate a draft field trip outline at least one month in advance of the trip for review and possible modification by the PAG.

Upcoming Audits

Licencees will shortly be undergoing their annual maintenance audits conducted by 3rd party auditors. PAG members are welcome to attend and may be contacted regarding their participation. The dates are as follows:

- BCTS October 16th to 19th, 2009
- Tolko tentatively the week of Sep 20th
- Gilbert Smith July 29th
- Canfor April 20th (tentative)

Clarifications:

Indicator 22

In the addendum to the 2008 SFM Plan for 2009 it was stated that the Variance allowed for Indicator 22 was unclear. It was discussed by the PAG and clarified that up to 20 years may be added to the target, making the allowable period 70 years (twenty more than the target).

Indicator 8

It was also somewhat unclear in the SFM Plan addendum for 2009. It is hereby clarified that for purposes of listing species from the “red” and “blue” lists. The species will be drawn from both the Federal Species at Risk Act (SARA) and the provincial COSEWIC Lists.

6.0 Next Meetings

The following dates have been selected for the indicated meetings. Note that additional meetings may be called to address the transition to the new Standard.

- **Fall Field Trip:** **Wednesday, September 16th, 2009**
(Gilbert Smith Hosting)
- **Fall PAG Meeting:** **Wednesday, November 25th, 2009**

Kamloops Sustainable Management Plan - Public Advisory Group Action Tracker

Action #	Creation Date	Action	Responsibility	Due Date	Completed	Comments
1	Dec 3, 2007	Revise indicator 7 as agreed to at PAG meeting	Mark Hopkins	January 31, 2008	March , 2008	Included in 2008 Plan
2	Dec 3, 2007	Send out link to Mtn. Caribou Recovery Implementation Info.	Mark Hopkins	Dec 31, 2007	Dec 21, 2007	Included in minutes
3	Dec 3, 2008	Expand Revise and update Kamloops SFM Plan glossary (page 87 – 90)	Mike Bragg	Jan 31, 2008	March, 2008	Included in 2008 Plan
4	Dec 3, 2007	Revise monitoring report item #23 to include “type” of 1 st nation Relationships	Mike Bragg	Jan 31, 2008	Mar 27, 2008	Included in 2007 Monitoring Report
5	Dec 3, 2007	Consider implementation of Orientation Seminar(s) for new PAG members	Mark Hopkins	Jan 31, 2007	pending	Mark to elicit decision from Licencees
6	Mar 27, 2008	Include review of Riparian protection measure effectiveness in 2008 Fall field tour	Rick Cooper, BCTS	Fall 2008	Sep 25, 2008	Reviewed in the field on fall trip.
7	Mar 27, 2008	Consideration be given to altering Indicator 4 Stand level retention target	PAG	Fall 2008	Dec 3, 2008	Reviewed in Fall and subsequent discussion at Fall PAG mtg, recommends no change to target at this time.
8	Mar 27, 2008	Consideration be given to including a “landscape level biodiversity indicator	Dave Poole to Lead discussion	Fall 2008 PAG Mtg.	On-going	Presentation on requirement by Dave Poole at Dec 3 rd PAG. Concluded that insufficient Guidance in new standard on this Item. Will Discuss further after standard published.
9	Mar 27, 2008	Consider revision to the 5m3/ha CWD minimum in dry ecosystems	Rick Cooper to lead discussion	Fall 2008 PAG Mtg.	Dec 3, 2008	Reviewed at the fall 2008 Field trip. Results Presented by BCTS support keeping Standard at 5m3/ha. No change in standard at this time details in Dec 3 rd

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10	Mar 27, 2008	Consider revision to the 36 month regeneration target indicator # 6	Toby lo lead PAG discussion	Fall 2008 PAG Mtg.	Dec 3 rd , 2008	36 month Regeneration Target will remain in place for Individual Operational reasons. Details in Dec 3 rd Minutes
11	Mar 27, 2008	Consider revision of Indicator # 8 to include blue-listed species	PAG	Fall 2008	December 3 rd , 2008	Licencees have agreed to inclusion of Blue listed species, pending confirmation of which "list" they work from.
12	Mar 27, 2008	Consider Revision to indicator #9 (i.e. more "meaningful" indicator of non-conifer presence on landscape)	Mike Bragg to lead discussion with PAG	Fall 2008	pending	Insufficient Information re: the pending new standard to make decision at this time.
13	Mar 27, 2008	Consider revision to indicator #10 (possible reduction of target)	Toby to lead PAG discussion	Fall 2008	Dec3rd, 2008	Reviewed at the Fall 2008 Field trip. No change to target warranted - to address individual operating area constraints.
14	Mar 27, 2008	Consider revision to Indicator # 11 (table alteration to include all harvest vol.- not just AAC chargeable)	Mike Bragg will lead discussion	Fall 2008	Oct 24,2008	Agreed to suggested change at Oct 24, SFM Licencee meeting
15	Mar 27, 2008	Consider expansion of Indicator 12 monitoring report to include types of issues	Types of issues will be included	Fall 2008	Oct 24,2008	Agreed to include examples at Oct 24, Licencee meeting
16	Mar 27, 2008	Consider altering indicator to include requirement for "certified" seed use	PAG	Fall 2008	Oct 24,2008	Licencees have agreed to change on next plan.

Action #	Creation Date	Action	Responsibility	Due Date	Completed	Comments
17	Mar 27, 2008	Consider increasing the # of required meetings in indicator # 16	PAG	Fall 2008	Dec 3 rd , 2008	Change was recommended and approved by PAG (2 meetings & 1 field trip/year minimum)
18	Mar 27, 2008	Consider revision to Indicator 17 re: tracking of non-CSA SFM system registrations	PAG	Fall 2008	Dec 3 rd , 2008	Proposal to be made to drop Indicator 17 accepted by PAG at Dec 3 rd meeting.

19	Mar 27, 2008	Consider adding list of example communications with ranchers to monitoring report	PAG	Fall 2008	Oct 24,2008	Licencees agree to include sample communications in 2008 Monitoring Report.
20	Mar 27, 2008	Consider revision to "variance" allowed in Indicator 22	Facilitator	Fall 2008	pending	Mark to confirm intent of variance and propose less ambiguous wording.
21	Mar 27, 2008	Review individual survey results for low scores which may need to be addressed	Facilitator	Spring, 2008	Spring, 2008	Reviewed, No scores far out of line
22	Mar 27, 2008	Provide information on # of "hits" on SFM website as information to PAG and potentially on Monitoring report	Facilitator	Fall 2008	Oct 24, 2008	Done, but can get more detail at added cost
23	Mar 27, 2008	Add SFM website address to cover of all SFM generated reports/publications	Facilitator	Spring, 2008	Spring, 2008	Done, will be added to all new reports and publications
24	Mar 27, 2008	Encourage more linkages from "affiliated" websites to Kamloops SFM site	Facilitator	Spring, 2008	On-going	Linkage added as appropriate.
25	Mar 27, 2008	Distribute potential dates for Fall field trip and Fall Meetings. Confirm dates	Facilitator	March, 2008	April, 2008	Completed
26	Dec 3, 2008	Add issue of amount of debris in slash piles to Spring Mtg. Agenda.	Facilitator	Spring 2009	Mar 31, 2009	Added to agenda, but will be discussed in moiré detail at the Fall 2009 filed trip
27	Dec 3, 2008	Look into web-site access detailing OGMA areas, Biodiversity BC publications	Facilitator	Spring 2009	Mar 31, 2009	Website noted by Nicole – not sure if public access available. Investigated by Facilitator, no public access available
28	Dec 3, 2008	Ensure that First Nations on Partial participation list are advised of future meetings.	Facilitator	Spring 2009	Mar 31, 2009	Cover letters with both the Monitoring Report and Plan addendum included invite and details to attend PAG meeting
29	Dec 3, 2008	Investigate possibility of having next SFM meeting at the KIB offices.	Mike Bragg & facilitator	Spring 2009	Mar 31, 2009	Was not arranged for Spring meeting, still a possibility for Fall meeting
30	Dec 3, 2008	"Parking Lot Review" will become a standing PAG meeting agenda item.	Facilitator	Spring 2009	March 31, 2009	This was added to the March 31 st Agenda and will be standing item on agenda of subsequent meetings.

31	Dec 3, 2008	Implement approved changes to PAG TOR and post to website	Facilitator	Spring 2009	Feb, 2009	Done and Posted to website
32	Dec 3, 2008	Circulate summary of the Tolko review on SFM Plan consolidation to PAG when available	Mike Bragg	As available		Process on hold for the moment
33	Dec 3, 2008	Mike will arrange presentation of the results of FSP and climate Change study	Mike Bragg	As available		Presentation not ready as of March 31, 2009
34	Mar 31, 2009	The next SFM Plan and monitoring report should be altered to separate the Natural and Artificial regeneration achievement.	Licencees			
35	Mar 31, 2009	Frances V. will distribute article on U.S. harvest to the PAG	Frances Vyse	April 1, 2009		
36	Mar 31, 2009	At Frances V. suggestion, it was agreed that the percentage of protected area attributed to Wells Gray Park should be shown separately on next Monitoring Report	Licencees	Spring 2010		
37	Mar 31, 2009	It was agreed by the PAG that future monitoring Reports will include a similar summary of communication for Trappers and Guide/Outfitters as is currently in place for Indicator 19	Licencees	Spring 2010		

38	Mar 31, 2009	Facilitator to gather requested info on research initiatives, distribute to PAG, and put on SFM website.	Facilitator	April 31, 2009		
39	Mar 31, 2009	Indicator 22 - Future Monitoring Reports will be amended to report the contained information in either tabular or graphical format	Licencees	Spring 2010		