

PAG Meeting

Fairview College, June 3, 2003

Attendance:

- Sheila Gaudet
- Robert Irvine-Wolf Creek Outfitters
- John Thurston
- Marilee Toews-Hungry Bend Sandhills Wilderness Society
- Brandon Boucher-Netaskinan Logging
- Peter Klassen-Exact Logging
- George Friesen-Friesen Logging
- Kim Morton-ASRD Fish & Wildlife
- Jordan Johnston-Boreal Naturalists Club
- Mike Alsterlund
- Tracie Dahdona-Dene Tha' First Nation
- Mervin Bellerose-Paddle Prairie Metis Settlement
- Lorraine Donovan-Town of High Level
- Robert Hall- Paddle Prairie Metis Settlement
- Byron Grundberg-Facilitator
- Bradley Asmussen-Footner Forest Products Ltd.
- Tim Gauthier- Footner Forest Products Ltd.
- Jamie Beaulne-Tolko Industries Ltd.
- Marcel LeCoure- Tolko Industries Ltd

1. Introduction

- Marcel LeCoure (Tolko) welcomed everyone to the meeting
- Marcel also indicated that both Tolko – High Level and Footner Forest Products Ltd. will be participating in the development of the Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) Plan for the Defined Forest Area (DFA). The DFA includes the Forest Management Agreement (FMA) area as well as land east of High Level that was purchased by Tolko in 2001 and 2002.
- Tolko Industries Ltd. has made a commitment corporately to have all its divisions certified to an internationally recognized certification system by the end of 2004.
 - Currently, two of Tolko's divisions are CSA certified.
 - Tolko High Level, as most everyone is aware, is currently ForestCare certified, however ForestCare is only a provincially recognized certification system
- There are a number of reasons for the Companies to initiate a certification program. The primary reason for pursuing certification is part of our commitment to continual improvement and as part of our social and environmental responsibility. In addition, economically, having your product certified to an internationally recognized standard may allow a company to maintain or gain new access to other markets. This is especially important for Tolko as much of our product is shipped to the U.S.

2. Introduction to CSA Certification Standards

- The Canadian Standards Association (CSA) standard for sustainable forest management is an internationally recognized certification system
 - There have been presentations at previous Public Advisory Committee (PAC) meetings outlining some of the criteria of the CSA as well as some of the other certification systems
 - Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), International Organization for Standardization (ISO), as well as the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI)
- The process for developing the original standards started in 1994 with the first standard developed and published in 1996. The standards were developed by a variety of groups including government, industry, ENGO's, as well as the First Nations.
- Given that most of the forest industry primarily operate on crown land, the CSA has incorporated an intensive Public Involvement Program to drive the process of developing a SFM for an area.
 - To date, there have been a variety of Open Houses throughout the region to both introduce the standards and to invite people to participate in the process.

- The primary role of the Public Advisory Group is to participate in the development of the SFM Plan which will take approximately 5-6 months to develop
- Marcel distributed copies of the 2002 CSA-Z809 Standards for everyone's review
- There are basically 6 main criteria of SFM plan (Z809-02 Sustainable Forest Management Requirements and Guidance (2002) **Canadian Standards Association**, Ontario: 18-21.)
 - Conservation of Biological Diversity
 - Maintenance and Enhancement of Forest Ecosystem Condition and Productivity
 - Conservation of Soil and Water Resources
 - Forest Ecosystem Contributions to Global Ecological Cycles
 - Multiple Benefit to Society
 - Accepting Society's Responsibility for Sustainable Development
- Marcel also distributed a copy of the Louis Creek SFM Plan for the Kamloops Timber Supply Area (TSA)
 - This will be similar to what the High Level Public Advisory Group (PAG) will be developing over the next 5-6 months for the High Level DFA.
- Marcel also distributed a copy of some sample meeting minutes for the Kamloops PAG process for everyone's review.
- Marcel also introduced Byron Grundberg who will be the facilitator for the SFM Public Advisory Group

3. Introduction to the Public Involvement Process

- Byron Grundberg (Facilitator) explained the steps of the CSA process
 - Define Forest Area
 - Identification of local level values
 - Achieved through public involvement process
 - Minimum requirements of the CSA
 - Additional requirements and values developed from public involvement
 - Stakeholders influence plan before the 3rd Party audit
 - Public involvement needs to be from a wide range of knowledge and interests
 - Process has to be open, Fair and honest
 - Aim for consensus on all issues
- Question: Does their have to be a Mixedwood management plan in place before the SFM plan?
 - Answer: No, mixedwood management can be included as a value in the process and a mixedwood management plan can be developed from the process. But, a mixedwood management plan does not need to be in place before the SFM plan.

4. Review the CSA/SFM Reference Materials

- Can/CSA-Z809-02 Certification Standards
 - Public Participation Requirements (p11-17)
 - SFM Performance Requirements: CCFM SFM Criteria and SFM Elements (p18-20)
 - Annex C: Sample Table for Setting and Recording DFA-Specific Performance Requirements (p51)
 - Byron indicated what portions of the Annex will be completed with the help of the Public Advisory Group
 - Muir (2003) Forest Health and Tree Diseases. The Forestry Chronicle. 79(2): 184-185.
 - SFM Plans
 - Kamloops TSA SFM Plan

- Kamloops Public Advisory Meeting February 15, 2000 and March 13, 2000

5. Review of Public Advisory Group Terms of Reference

- High Level SFM Plan Public Advisory Group Terms of Reference (May 30, 2003 Draft)
- Any conflicts of Interest must be brought forward to Byron or Marcel
- Two committees will be developed
 - Communication committee
 - Induction Committee
- Question: How do you resolve a conflict if there is not a consensus?
 - Answer: There is a conflict resolution process in place and which can go in any direction.
- Question: Wasn't there the same environmental issues brought up in the DFMP PAC meeting?
 - Answer: Yes the issues and process is similar but there is an opportunity to use the DFMP information as a base and add to it.
- Question: In the CSA process are there actual standards and goals in place.
 - Answer: Yes, there are minimum standards we must follow and the opportunity to improve or focus the standards to what the PAG wants.
- Question: Will the PAG advise be used in the plan
 - Answer: Yes the CSA process is a Public Involvement process that requires the company to use public input
- Question: How will the PAG issues the plan is being used
 - Answer: In the SFM plan the PAG will set out monitoring criteria
- Question: What if the PAG sets the bar too low? What if the PAG sets the bar too high?
 - Answer: There are the minimum requirements that must be met and ensures the bar is not set too low. If the bar is set to high conflict resolution process can be put in place to resolve the issues.
 - In the Sustainable Forest Management: Requirements and Guidance, p13 refers to the development of the Terms of Referenced
 - In the Kamloops Public Advisory Meeting March 13, 2000, there are examples of Criterion, Values, Goals, Indicators and Objectives.
 - A Timeline will be setout for tasks and work schedules

6. Workplan and Schedule

- A workplan and schedule will be developed to ensure issues are resolved and the work is completed on time
- Time lines must be reasonable
- Draft to be completed by December and Annex C to be completed by Nov 15
- Question: Will there be representation from forestry at the PAG?
 - Answer: Area manager has agreed to come to meetings.

7. Administrative Items

- Ensure your name and contact information is on the contact list
- Compensation will be paid to the out of town PAG members. Gas mileage will be paid. Details will be discussed at next meeting.

8. Outstanding Items for Next Meeting

Next meeting July 8, 2003

Readings:

- Can/CSA-Z809-02 Certification Standards
- Muir (2003) Forest Health and Tree Diseases. The Forestry Chronicle. 79(2): 184-185.
- Kamloops TSA SFM Plan
- Kamloops Public Advisory Meeting February 15, 2000 and March 13, 2000
- High Level Sustainable Forest Management Plan Public Advisory Group Terms of Reference May 30, 2003 Draft

- Think about values for the SFM plan next meeting