



**HIGH LEVEL FORESTS
PUBLIC ADVISORY GROUP**

Approved MINUTES

Tuesday, September 13, 2011

5:00 pm – Spirit of the North Community School, Lunch Room
High Level, Alberta

ATTENDANCE:

Jeremy Beal (CSA Coordinator)
Marilee Toews (HBSWS)
Boyd Langford (TRL)
George Friesen (Friesen Industries)
Veronica Tallcree (LRR)

Carrie Demkiw (Facilitator)
Aaron Doepel (La Crete Sawmills)
John Stadt (ASRD)
Maureen Chepil (Chamber of Commerce)
Tim DenOudsten (ECHO)

REGRETS:

Theresa Griffiths
Jon Goertzen (La Crete Forestry)
Rod Chalifoux (THL)
Lindee Dumas (LRR)

Walter Sarapuk (MD)
Joy Friesen (HBSWS)
Paul Catt (WMW)

Recording Secretary: Brenda St. Arnault

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 5:15 pm.

Introductions

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Agenda accepted as presented.

Moved by Boyd Langford – Carried

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (June 7, 2011)

Carrie D. reviewed minutes; June 7, 2011 minutes accepted with amendments.

Moved by Marilee Toews – Carried

4. NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Review of proposed PAG meeting frequency and topics, September – December

Carrie proposed meetings the rest of the 2011 year; extra meeting in October
Haven't heard from some presenters as of yet;

October 4, 2011

Gail Tucker – Ecosystem condition and productivity
Marty O'Bryne – Soil and Water

October 18, 2011

Paul Ebert – Biological Diversity – Cultural perspective
Jamie Bruha – Health watersheds

November 8, 2011

Lindsay Thompson – Economic and social benefits
Little Red River Cree Nation – Society's Responsibility

December meeting is the final meeting for framework

George F. - October 4, 2011 is schedule for a workshop in La Crete, AB

Carrie D. – We will discuss the dates at the end of the meeting.

Jeremy B: provided outline of topics for some of the people that have not been to previous meeting. Tolko is working on meeting requirements for the new CSA standard.

How the old indicators meet with the new indicators

John is here is discuss information that is required to meet new standards

We will discuss further when John is done his presentation

4.2 Special Speaker, John Stadt, Provincial Forest Ecologist, ASRD

Provide information on some of the mandatory discussion items within the new CSA standard.
Focus on biodiversity, old growth attributes, natural variation, forest dynamics, etc.

Managing for Biodiversity in North-western Alberta

- Biodiversity is one of the 6 Criteria for Sustainable Forest Management
- Ecosystem Diversity
- Landscape Scale
- Stand Scale
- Species Scale
- Genetic Diversity

Ecosystem Diversity Objectives

Operating Ground Rules

Species Diversity Objectives

COVER TYPES STRATA – 10 types

Aaron D. – when talking about Conversions, its conversions from species to species?

That is land use conversions; different conversion

Forest Age

Varies Disturbances – natural, which would be fires, Mountain Pine beetles

Tree Stands – diverse; with the new and old growth

Aaron D. – I have been asked a number of times what would happen if we had more frost free days?

John S. - Services regime would change; we would have more things killing the trees, moisture regimes would change and more trees would grow in areas they wouldn't normally grow. We would have species move into areas that would normally not be in the region.

Alberta Plantwatch is a website of information source for Plants

Genetic Conservation in Trees

2 main components – in situ – gene conservations area
Ex situ – seed storage, tissue propogation

Marilee T. - Do we have in situ areas this far north?

John S. – I don't know that but I can find out from Leonard - conservation officer

Jeremy B. – we have a large amount of seed in storage; we did cone picking this summer, if you could let us know if there are areas up here that in situ that would be good.

Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Institute (ABMI) - website

A provincial system to monitor changes in biodiversity

Survey Design

- Systematic distribution of 1650 sites in a 20 x 20 km grid
- 5 year sampling return interval
- 375 sites samples yearly

Marilee T. - What are they sampling?

There are Protocols in place for sampling;

- Vegetation
- Bird surveys
- Track surveys
- Insect surveys

Provide information to the land-use framework

4.3 Review Tolko's proposed Indicators and Targets for Criterion 1

Jeremy B. – Provide document Draft Indicators and targets related to Criterion 1
“Biological Diversity”

John has provided a lot of information to absorb and to provide the intent Tolko is going the new CSA Standard.

Will provide targets for Criterion 2 and possibly 3 at the next meeting

So if anyone has any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

5. CLIPPING SERVICE (21)

Jeremy B. distributed latest news clippings to the members.

6. AROUND THE TABLE

Veronica T. – Learned a lot with the presentation, requested a card from John S. In-case she had any questions in the future

Boyd L. - Good presentation, very informative

Marilee T. – asked about clippings and what happens to the extra copies? Is it possible that we could provide copies to former members or to the Northern Lights Forest Education Society?

Jeremy B. – Brenda can phone and ask if anyone would like copies, we can provide PDF's by email also.

7. NEXT MEETING – October 18, 2011, 5:00 pm

Look at Sept 27, 2011 as an alternative date, if presenters would be available, if not we will go with October 18, 2011

Maybe we can look doing 2 meetings in November 1st and then the 15th
December 6th, 2011

8. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting Adjourned by Carrie D. - 9:00 pm