

Summary

Notes

Minister's Forest and Range PRACTICES ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)

Seymour Room
Vancouver Airport Marriott Hotel
7671 Westminster Highway
Richmond, BC V6X 1A3
September 8, 2004 - 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Attendees:

Duncan Barnett, BC Cattlemen's Association
Garry Merkel, First Nations Summit Task Group
Brian McNaughton, Federation of BC Woodlot Associations
Roy Nagel, Central Interior Logging Association
James O'Hanley, (Weyerhaeuser) Major Licensees
Kim Pollock, IWA (United Steelworkers Assoc.)
Corinne Lonsdale, Communities and Resources Committee, Union of BC Municipalities

Ralph Archibald (A/Chair), Ministry of Forests
Ian Miller, Ministry of Forests
Judy Godfrey, Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection
Dave Haley, Woodlot Specialist, Resources and Engineering Branch, MOF
Shirley Turcotte, Ministry of Forests

1. Welcome / Agenda / Minutes – Ralph Archibald, A/Chair

- Focus of this meeting is to review pending FRPA Regulations (FPPR, GAR & WL)
- PAC Alternative Representatives:
 - Major Licensees - James O'Hanley, Weyerhaeuser
 - Union of BC Municipalities – Robert Hobson, Central Okanagan Regional District
 - BC Cattlemen's Association – David Borth, BCCA
 - Central Interior Logging Association - Jim Girvan, Trucklogger's Assn.
- PAC Environmental Representative: Ralph Archibald reported ongoing effort to bring an environmental representative to the PAC table.

ACTION: PAC Members to send nominations or suggest names for contact to S. Turcotte

- Implementation Teams:
 - I-Teams expanding to include association representatives (ABCFP)
 - A new Provincial FRPA I-Team for Woodlots & Range has been set up, 1st meeting tomorrow, Sept. 9th in Richmond to discuss Terms of Reference and process.

ACTION: S. Turcotte will obtain chart of committees for PAC distribution.

- PAC May 31st Minutes accepted.

ACTION: S. Turcotte to post to website.

2. FRPA Update - Ralph Archibald

FRPA/Range

- Alignment between draft FPPR and draft Range underway

ACTION: Ralph Archibald / Duncan Barnett / Jim Kirby to discuss.

FRPA Training

So far in 2004, more than 5700 people have attended FRPA training.

- **Forestry modules** - delivered in 32 locations to 3875 people. These were recorded sessions, providing a consistent set of information province-wide.
- **Range** workshops - delivered in person at 27 locations 830 people (more to come)
- **Woodlot** modules - delivered in person at 17 locations to 570 people
- **Compliance and Enforcement training** - delivered in person at six locations to 275 people
- **Public, First Nations and Other Resource Users** module - delivered recorded sessions in 5 locations to 68 people. Additional local information sessions planned for some locations.
- Received 1100 questions on the **FRPA Q&A website**. Answered about half to date.

Upcoming training:

- Range training in the north: 2 sessions planned in Prince George and Vanderhoof Sept 30th
- local delivery of information sessions for First Nations and other resource users as Forest Stewardship Plans get underway (starting in Campbell River)
- Information packages have gone to districts so that those who wish to conduct additional sessions will have the resource material on hand.
- “Info-flips” are being developed for forest workers, guided by an advisory committee drawn from IWA, logging contractors and BCTS.

Future plans:

- We anticipate FRPA regulations will be amended this fall.
- We are in discussion with the training subgroup of the provincial FRPA implementation team on the design and development of the training – possibly short 'talking heads' presentation to address consistency issues, followed by an open session with trained facilitators - the final format will be confirmed later this month.

Range Regulation Training

- BCCA working with Ministry of Agriculture on a general training package.
- Funding provided by Federal Gov't (Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Program), Land & Water BC as well as Provincial Gov't to develop a general forest stewardship training package which will not be specific to FRPA but will compliment FRPA

Issue: Amendments to the FPPR and WL Regs may impact Range plans

ACTION: PAC cattlemen’s representative to meet with gov’t policy lead to discuss.

Woodlot Regulation Training

- Brian McNaughton thanked Kathy Hopkins for all the work done providing training modules for Woodlot

Issue: Communicating government's regulation amendments out to small woodlot licencees, ranchers and other contractors

- ◆ Associations can help by posting notice of amendments in the various association newsletters (but may not capture everyone, e.g. Cattlemen's Assn.)
- ◆ Is there a government responsibility to communicate legislation changes?

ACTION: S. Turcotte to bring forward for discussion at future PAC.

First Nations Training

- ◆ First Nations have encountered frustration trying to keep up with changes, and unlikely many will attend training sessions
- ◆ Gov't needs to move out of the development and focus on Implementation.

FRPA Implementation

- I-Team expanded to include ABCFP representation
Two day Meeting planned for end of month
 - Agency I-Team meeting Sept. 28th with expanded I-Team joining on Sept 29th
- A new Range and Woodlot I-Team has been set up
 - First meeting Sept. 9th in Richmond to discuss Terms of Reference and process.

ACTION: Policy Team to reply to questions re Implementation Issues raised by PAC.

Guidebooks - Linked to Implementation Issues

- ◆ Industry rep. suggested guidebooks, if they are kept, would be applicable to the planning phase, rather than the implementation phase. Once a plan is approved, then operators will work from the plan. (*Note that these comments related to Guidebooks, and were meant to explain how they might be used rather than taking a position on their value.*)
- ◆ Guidebook may be the wrong term, however, information is needed to assist with results and strategies.
- ◆ Guidebooks also assist public understanding of what we do and why, helps where environmentalists may be raising protests, etc.
- ◆ FRPA model was to sever the link between cited guidebooks and legislation-there are no cited guidebooks in FRPA legislation.
- ◆ Agency workshop is being planned for early October to discuss existing guidebooks, their use and future direction, and value in maintaining and updating them. Questions as to who will be responsible for funding and resourcing and how distribution to practitioners should be managed will be discussed.
- ◆ Discussions between government and the four professional associations has been initiated.
- ◆ BCAA concern (ranchers not necessarily trained professionals, anyone may purchase a ranch). They see a need for some methodology, a supporting prescriptive layer / extension piece that would give guidance in some areas, e.g. stubble height.

ACTION: To be brought forward on PAC October Agenda.

FRPA Evaluation Program - Update

- ◆ A presentation on the FRPA Resource Evaluation Program (FREP) was given at the April 29th PAC
 - 3 of the FRPA values indicators have now been field tested
 - expectation is to complete field test for 10 or the 11 FRPA values indicators
- ◆ PAC will be asked to play an important part with this program (advice, prioritizing, etc.)

ACTION: To be brought forward for future PAC Discussion re links between FREP and PAC and work plan for next year.

Provincial Bark Beetle Program

- Heavy red attack reported during a flight over the area (especially around Pr. George, 100 Mile House and through the Kootenays)
- Need to consider practices wrt Stewardship of FRPA values slated for salvage
 - need to consider all values as we try to manage the economic values on timber value (e.g. protection of Water Quality, Soil, etc.,)
- Bark beetles have now spread to east side of Rockies and can flourish in either lodgepole and jack pine stands
- Some new tenures will be tied to beetle wood, linked to FRPA
- PAC noted need to work with Timber Sales when considering this issue
- Report out on Inter-agency Workshop on "practices" will be brought forward to PAC

ACTION: To be scheduled for future PAC Agenda following Inter-agency Workshop on "practices"

Letter to Minister– re the direction of FRPA reflected by the enactment of Bill 33 and its amendments to Section 16 of FRPA.

- Suggestion was to consider the FRPA Q & A website for posting this information.

ACTION: Discussion of this issue to be scheduled on next Agenda.