

Merritt Timber Supply Area  
Sustainable Forest Management Plan

**MEETING SUMMARY**

**SFM Public Advisory Group Meeting – December 1, 2005**

<i><b>PRESENT AT THE MEETING</b></i> ✓	<i><b>SFM Advisory Group Member</b></i>	<i><b>Affiliation</b></i>
	Al Clarke	Radio NL, Merritt
	Bob Chambers	Ranching/woodlot, Merritt
✓	Brian Drobe	Weyerhaeuser, Princeton
✓	Bruce Beech	Tolko
✓	Chris Lepsoe	Merritt
	David Walkem	Nicola Tribal Association
	Don Embury	Ministry of Forests
✓	Elizabeth Salomon-de-Friedberg	Merritt
	Franz Reuter	Merritt
✓	Gerry Sanford	Merritt
	Gord MacDonald	BC Timber Sales Program (Kamloops)
✓	Heather Thomson	Merritt
✓	Jerry Canuel	Aspen Planers
✓	Katharine Shewchuk	Merritt
	Ken Taylor	NVIT, Merritt
	Lennard Joe	Nicola Tribal Association
	Leona Antoine	Nicola Tribal Association
	Lorne Esselink	Cool Creek Forest Ltd.
	Norm Hansen	NMV Lumber
✓	Pat Salm	Weyerhaeuser (Kamloops)
	Paul Willms	NVIT, Merritt
	Pete Wallis	BC Timber Sales Program (Kamloops)
	Philippe Batini	Upper Similkameen Indian Band
	Rod Gatenby	Nicola Tribal Association
	Steve Boresok	Upper Similkameen Indian Band
✓	Todd Chamberlain	Ardeu Wood Products
	Tom Scott	Merritt
	Wayne Schindler	Woodlots/ranching, Merritt
✓	Wendy McKinney	Tolko
✓	Will Sloan	Merritt

## 1. Introduction and Agenda Review

Pat Salm called the meeting to order at 4:00pm. He welcomed everyone and before proceeding with the agenda review, invited everyone to introduce themselves. There were no additions or changes to the agenda as previously distributed.

## 2. Action Items from Previous Meeting

### *a) Report from Communications Committee*

Jerry (Canuel) distributed copies of the agenda and minutes of the September 29, 2005 meeting of the Committee (Agenda and Minutes are attached) for background and went on to highlight the main outcomes of that meeting. Discussion followed on the two main elements of the communications strategy: *recruitment of new members* to the public advisory committee; and *information sharing to the public* via TV, radio spots, signage and an annual meeting in Merritt and Princeton.

**DECISION:** To continue with the implementation of the strategy as proposed by the Communications Committee and incorporate the following ideas:

- a) proposed annual meeting will work best if it is part of another meeting, not a stand-alone meeting;
- b) develop a power point presentation;
- c) develop a template for an ad that could run on the radio;
- d) finish the Shaw Cable segment to round off the field trip and make the segment more comprehensive and interesting.

**ACTION:** Brian agreed to provide the Communications Committee with information about upcoming meeting opportunities in Princeton on an ongoing basis.

**ACTION:** Communications Committee will next meet on December 14, 2005 at 7pm at the Middlesboro Pub to continue working on the strategy. Jerry invited anyone interested to attend.

### *b) Update on Forest Health section of the SFM Plan*

**ACTION:** Brian to provide an update of the Forest Health section by December 23, 2005 for inclusion into the 2006 SFM Pan.

### *c) Drumming Up Interest in the Public Advisory Group from the southern half of the TSA*

Brian reported that he is in discussion with a few people in Princeton and will spend time explaining the process to those expressing an interest. He will discuss new membership with Steve Boresok and report back at next meeting.

**ACTION:** Brian to provide update.

### *e) Size of Public Advisory Groups (PAG) Across Canada*

Pat reported that his research indicated that the PAG are not all that different in size across Weyerhaeuser's operations in BC. They do differ when compared to other provinces but in the case of Alberta, it is due in part to these groups having a broader mandate and in the case of Saskatchewan, the area they cover is much larger and hence the group's size is larger. Bruce added that while the BC groups are rather small, the size is not out of line when compared to advisory groups in other Tolko operation areas (Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba).

### 3. SFM Plan Changes for 2006

#### a) *Replace Indicator 1 with Updated Indicator 33*

**DECISION:** To accept the recommendation and new wording as submitted with one change: The wording under *Target* to read as follows:  
“Maintain 60,548 hectares of the land base in the Merritt TSA as protected area. As new inventories are completed, update the areas of the land base that are affected.

Maintain the retention of existing or replacement of the draft old growth management area.”

*Note: The key word is **area**. In other words, **the size (amount of hectares) will be maintained but not necessarily in the same location, as presently identified in the draft Old Growth Management Area Strategy.***

#### b) *Replace Indicator 5 with a New Indicator*

**DECISION:** To retain indicator 5 but change wording under *Measurement and Monitoring* section with a reference to ‘regenerated at free growing’.

**ACTION:** Wendy to draft new wording for *Measurement and Monitoring* section and circulate among licensees by December 23, 2005.

#### c) *Improve Indicator 8*

**DECISION:** The wording under *Monitoring and Measurement* will be changed to read as follows:  
“Licensees will report volume of Canada #1 that was applied and volume of total seed applied and also in percentage terms.”

### 4. Recap of CSA Technical Committee Meeting

Pat and Will reported on this meeting. Pat advised that it was a good meeting. The Technical Committee people were surprised at some of the issues that were raised. There were quite a few people from other parts of Canada and the meeting and field trip were an eye-opener for some of them as to how things are done in BC. Pat added that the Technical Committee members were made aware that communication about the reason and rationale for the changes to the CSA standard would have been very helpful and that they needed to improve their communications. There were discussions around where the advisory groups would like to see the CSA evolve: towards effectiveness monitoring and away from compliance monitoring. Pat felt that the Technical Committee members understood and were favourably disposed towards this suggestion.

### 5. Recap CSA Audit Results

#### *Aspen Planers*

Jerry began by reviewing the comments obtained by the auditing firm, QMI, from the PAG member survey adding that they were on track for meeting the needs identified in the survey. Aspen Planers’ compliance record was examined by QMI with staff and Ministry of Forests Compliance and Enforcement personnel. The company has been recommended for certification and is awaiting an answer.

**5. Recap CSA Audit Results (Cont'd)**

There followed a brief discussion. It was noted that it would be helpful to receive the auditor's comments of each other's audits.

**ACTION:** Jerry to send the auditor's report to the other licensees.

*BC Timber Sales*

Pat reported that BC Timber Sales had applied for CSA and ISO certification. The auditor found a major non-conformance area: the Ministry of Forests Small Scale Salvage Program was not reporting on many of the indicators. BC Timber Sales was asked to address this issue before continuing with the application process. To that end, there was a meeting and after the meeting, Gord MacDonald (BC Timber Sales Program, Kamloops) drafted a memo to the Merritt Public Advisory Group. The memo was distributed and Pat went over its contents (Attachment as a PDF file to these minutes). A brief discussion followed.

**DECISION:** To accept and include in the 2006 SFM Plan the list of indicators that the small scale salvage (SSS) program and the non-replaceable forest license program will report on.

Will advised that to-date, the small scale salvage operators have not had to report on these indicators. Pat responded that this will now be a requirement beginning in 2006.

Further discussion ensued about the practicalities of the reporting and the difficulties. Pat suggested that how that would be done would be for all licensees to get the information to Jennifer (Lisle) and she would compile it and include it in the annual reporting report. For the 2005 report, the Ministry of Forest has committed to try to report on a couple of indicators.

Another issue that was raised was how the small scale salvage operations will impact the licensees' defined forest areas as described in the SFM Plan.

**ACTION:** Brian will follow-up with Don Embury to get clarification and direction on how to resolve this concern.

There was one more concern raised and that dealt with Gord's comment in his memorandum that the Small Scale Salvage Program is only able to monitor and report on areas that are greater than 1 hectare in size. These were the only areas for which a professional report was being prepared. The Ministry of Forests would use the report and the required follow-up visit by the professional as the tool to monitor and report on activities related to the CSA indicators. However this excludes any areas smaller in size than one hectare, and it was suggested that external auditors will need to evaluate the suggested BC Timber Sales approach as part of their audit follow-up.

As a result of the need for BC Timber Sales to report on indicators 4 and 31 beginning in 2006, the following changes to the existing wording under TARGET and MONITORING AND MEASUREMENT for these two indicators were proposed:

Indicator	Addition under TARGET	Addition under MONITORING AND MEASUREMENT
4. Percent of First Nation commitments addressed.	Under the Small Scale Salvage Program, ensure that First Nation referral comments or commitments requiring action are carried out by the licensee.	The Small Scale Salvage Program will report on the number of First Nation referral comments or commitments achieved by the licensee that required action compared to the total number of First Nations referral comments or commitments.

**5. Recap CSA Audit Results (Cont'd)**

<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Addition under TARGET</b>	<b>Addition under MONITORING AND MEASUREMENT</b>
31. Number of written comments from stakeholders and public related to the Forest Development Plan / Forest Stewardship Plan proposals and the number of responses.	Small Scale Salvage licensees will report communications with stakeholders and public that have occurred during the development of their professional submissions. Where these communications result in expressed concerns, these concerns will be addressed in the licence document.	The Small Scale Salvage Program will report on the number of stakeholder and public comments that were reflected in the licence document and the number of stakeholder and public comments subsequently achieved on the ground.

The changes were accepted.

**6. Public Advisory Group Fall Field Trip**

The general consensus was that the field trip was interesting, well organized and a good learning experience.

Pat asked for suggestions for next year’s field trip.

The following ideas were put forward:

- a) showcasing the latest in technology and how it is being used
- b) accompany the auditors when they do their audits – some reservations expressed about having the public present when the auditors talk to the operators.

Pat proposed that the field trip be on the agenda item for the spring meeting.

There was a request for a one-page summary on the last field trip.

**ACTION:** Todd will prepare a brief summary and distribute it to the licensees.

**7. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8pm.

*Minutes prepared by Elizabeth Salomon-de-Friedberg*

## ATTACHMENTS

Agenda of September 29, 2005 Communications Committee Meeting

Minutes of September 22, 2005 Sub-Committee Meeting

Memorandum from Gord MacDonald – PDF file, sent separately



**ASPEN PLANERS LTD., QWA'EET FOREST PRODUCTS LTD.,**

FL A18695

FL A55525



**FROM:** J.C. Canuel **DEPARTMENT:** Woodlands  
**DATE:** Sept.29, 2005  
**TO:** Communications Committee  
**ATTN:** Will Sloan, Paul Wilms, **FAX:**  
Elizabeth Salomon de Friedberg,  
Al Clarke

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**SUBJECT:** CSA Communications Meeting Agenda

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**MESSAGE:**

1. Communication Plan/Strategy

Issues:

- Public Representation:
  - public participation in general is limited
  - public representation of Princeton community is lacking
  - many employment sectors of both Merritt and Princeton are not represented.
    - Business
    - Education
    - IWA
    - City
    - Recreation
    - Service industry
    - Others
- Recruiting Methods
  - Radio information updates
  - Newspaper ads
  - Television
  - Member recruiting
  - Others
- Information Sharing to the Public
  - Daily Radio updates/interviews (preceding events such as field trips, fall/spring sessions.
  - Television
  - Newspaper articles
  - Evening meetings
- Other Issues:
- Next steps/Action Plans/Meeting dates:



**FROM:** J.C. Canuel **DEPARTMENT:** Woodlands  
**DATE:** October 5, 2005  
**TO:** PAG  
**Committee Members:** Will Sloan, Paul Wilms, **FAX:**  
Elizabeth Salomon de  
Friedberg, Al Clarke, Jerry  
Canuel

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**SUBJECT:** CSA Communications Meeting Minutes

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**MESSAGE:** A Communications meeting took place on Sept.29, 2005. The meeting minutes are as follows:

1. Communication Plan/Strategy

**Discussion:**

• **Public Representation:**

- public participation in general is limited
- public representation of Princeton community is lacking
- many employment sectors of both Merritt and Princeton are not represented.
  - Business
  - Education
  - IWA
  - City
  - Recreation
  - Service industry
  - Others

▪ **Recruiting Methods**

- Radio information updates
- Newspaper ads
- Television
- Member recruiting

*Action Items:*

- **Member recruiting**

Each committee member is responsible for recruiting one individual for our next meeting. In addition, the following contacts will occur:

**Paul:** Approach the teaching fraternity for involvement.

**Jerry:** Approach the Steel Workers Union, Loggers, Princeton community.

**Al:** Other News media people, City, Chamber of Commerce (Robin Grebulinas), Clergy.

**Elizabeth:** Contact Brad @ Shaw cable.

*Information Sharing to the Public*

• *Television*

Elizabeth: Contact Shaw Cable, Develop a short presentation on CSA in our TSA.  
Film field trip, PAG meetings and set up an introduction to the general Public to encourage new members

**Update:** Shaw attended field trip, completed some interviews, set up to attend next PAG meeting on Dec.1, 2005.

Jerry C discussed the intent with Shaw (Ken) to develop a short presentation including all of the above.

• **Daily Radio updates**/interviews (preceding events such as field trips, fall/spring sessions.

Jerry/Will to contact local radio for interviews and information sharing notices(ie Tolko Kamloops ad)

**Update:** Jerry contacted Radio NL aquired Tolko's Ad from Kamloops, rewrote an add for Merritt with Elizabeth Laird(NL) and ran add 5 times/day for four days preceding the Field Trip.

• *Signage*

Discuss the idea of providing information to the public through info brochures, signs at specific locations along major highway corridors.

- Helmer Interchange, Okanagan connector, Hwy 5a south etc..

• **Annual Meetings in Merritt and Princeton**

Assign/arrange seating to ensure all members are comfortable and can communicate effectively with the group.

Other Issues:

Consider providing vests, hats to members for additional advertising and encouragement to become involved