

# **Barriere-Nehalliston LRUP Summary**

**February 3, 2003**

**Barriere Community Hall**

## **Agenda**

Introductions  
Old Business  
Participant Concerns  
Licensee Presentations  
Forest Service Presentations

## **Old Business**

### **Follow up**

#### **a) Access to No Name Lake (Meadow Lake Fishing Camp)**

The decision was to replace the old closure sign and keep it posted.

#### **b) Cone Lake Loop Road**

The issue has been resolved. The loop road was existing and identified in the Nehalliston access document and therefore will continue to exist on the ground.

#### **c) Access to Patrick Lake?**

Why is the blockage not in place? The blockage will be replaced in May when the Small Business Program has completed works in the area.

#### **d) Snowmobiles at Phinetta Lake**

Safety of Snowmobiles at the Phinetta Lake highway crossing and on the old

#### **e) Brake Check at Nehalliston Creek**

Is a blockage going in here to limit access to the lakes near the new road? Yes

#### **f) Broken Hook Lake**

What is happening with access to Broken Hook. The access will be controlled with the same gate or blockage used for Copper/Grizzly.

#### **g) Brown Creek Trail**

There are some First Nations concerns with the trail location and use. The club will have to meet with concerned bands to address the issues.

#### **h) Blockage on Lemieux Creek road at 14 mile?**

Why is the blockage not up yet? Larry will contact Barry Mayer to ensure the blockage is placed in time for the summer traffic.

## Participant concerns

1) **Why do we not have a gate at Patrick Lake?**

The fisheries values in Patrick and surrounding lakes are very significant and fragile. A decision was made years ago regarding this area to close the roads with an effective blockage to reduce traffic to these lakes. The concern is that people will find a way around a gate or find a key for the gate. Blockages are a more effective method to stop the majority of people.

2) **When will the new Recreation RFP close?**

We do not know the actual date at this time.

3) **Concern about copies of gate keys floating around.**

This is a general concern and one reason we try very hard to limit the number of gates in the district. This is more difficult during the Mountain Pine Beetle infestation. Licensees are spending a lot of time on layout and follow-up activities.

4) **Mountain Pine Beetle within city limits of Barriere**

Issue passed along to Dave Pigg in Forest Health. He will contact city administration.

5) **Concern about cattle grazing near Taweel Lake – consultation required.**

Nehalliston Fishing resort was not aware of the tenure award and were concerned about the presence of cattle in the resort. The new tenure holders want to place a gate on the old road to Tuloon Lodge to help control cattle movement and reduce the potential for drift to Taweel Lake.

6) **FS easement through property should be honoured – Dunn Lake area.**

We will pass this issue through Andy Oetter to the new Easement specialist at the regional office.

7) **Signs for alpine protection at Baldy and Harp Mountain are needed.**

Local ATV club willing to place signs in these areas. We will provide some signs for the club.

## Licensee Presentations

1) **Tolko Industries**

**Mt pine beetle overview**

MPB has been a problem in British Columbia since the major outbreak in 1998. This was due to a long hot summer that allowed the beetles to increase their populations to epidemic levels. Since then, warm winters have allowed this population to survive and thrive. Typical expansion rates have ranged from 2:1 to 20:1. With the mild winter we expect a 8:1 expansion of the population in 2003.

‘Climate’ is the most effective factor to control MPB. A cold snap of at least –30C for 3 to 4 weeks with low snow cover is needed to kill a significant number of MPB larva in the infested trees. Other than ‘climate’, the next best effective control, is to remove the beetle infested trees from the forest through harvesting. This is because ‘milling’ of the trees removes the bark, under which the beetles are hibernating and developing.

With the mild winters, we are experiencing we expect to continue to chase the beetles for several more years. The peak of the beetle population cycle typically lasts 5 to 8 years and we are going into the sixth year of the cycle. The last epidemic occurred between 1980 and 1986. Cold weather early in the winter killed the beetles in late 1986. Until climate ultimately controls the beetle, management strategies such as harvesting will be employed.

Mt pine beetle has reached epidemic levels in several forest regions in the province to the point where control through harvesting is no longer possible. The MOF has increased the annual allowable cut by 5.3 million m<sup>3</sup> in the Lakes, Prince George and Quesnel Timber Supply Areas to salvage as much of the pine as possible before it loses all of its value. In the Kamloops Forest District the MOF and licensees have been aggressively harvesting Mt pine beetle infested stands since 1998. To date this strategy has been successfully controlling the spread of the beetle for the most part so an increase in the AAC has not been needed.

**Mt Pine Beetle in BC (from MOF)**

Forest Region	Vancouver	Caribou	Kamloops	Prince Rupert	Prince George	Nelson	Total
Hectares	174,171	539,315	35,903	511,798	685,598	21,856	1,968,641
M <sup>3</sup>							50 million
AAC increase (m <sup>3</sup> )		908,000		1,500,000	2,900,000		5.3 million
Value (\$)							\$4.2 Billion

Tolko currently has more than 1 year of AAC of Mt pine beetle in the company’s operating area. Other licensees (TSP, Interfor, Weyco, Ainsworth) are helping Tolko out by harvesting beetle attacked stands throughout Tolko’s operating area (approximately 300,000 m<sup>3</sup>). In 2002 85% of Tolko’s AAC was in Mt pine beetle stands. In 2003 we are planning 90% of our AAC to be in pine beetle stands. In the Kamloops TSA 31% of the timber harvesting landbase is comprised of pine stands. Losing this portion of the timber supply would have huge social implications for Kamloops and the surrounding communities.

**2002 summary of silviculture operations**

- In 2002 we planted 1.2 million trees over 902 ha, site prepared 814 ha and carried out brushing and weeding activities on 110 ha.

**2003 plans for silviculture**

- This year we have planned 1.0 million trees to plant over 777 ha, 746 ha of site preparation, and 451 ha of brushing and weeding.

### **2002 summary of harvest operations**

- All of CP 218 (315 ha) and 999 blocks in Darlington were harvested. All blocks were beetle as were CP 219 (170 ha) at Thuya Cr. Also logged 7 ha of beetle at Demers Cr.
- Some green wood was harvested while beetle permits were in process. These included 201-11 (200 ha) at Cone Lake and 856-2 at Demers Cr.

### **Other activities**

- We felled and burned over 600 trees at 14 Mile Creek.

### **2003 plans for harvest**

- We will continue harvesting beetle at Darlington (CP 222). Approximately 70,000 m<sup>3</sup> will be harvested prior to breakup (blocks 6, parts of 1, 2 and 11, 3, 4 and 12. The rest will be logged next summer (40,000 m<sup>3</sup>). We also plan to log the 5000 m<sup>3</sup> of CP 996 blocks at Montigny Cr next summer as well.
- Weyco will harvest 120,000 m<sup>3</sup> of beetle at Eakin Cr. SBFEP (will be TSP) will harvest 50,000 m<sup>3</sup> at Lupin Lakes, Mulhulland Lake and at Thuya Cr.

### **Other activities in Nehalliston**

- All temporary roads and landings in CPs 218 and 219 will be reclaimed and planted. Will also deactivate roads at Thuya Cr (CP 855).
- Gate at break check (CP 204) will be installed prior to breakup. Some beetle activity on this road system so may have some harvest this fall.
- We are looking at changing the road access for 856-4 to eliminate a creek crossing.
- We are planning to do extensive beetle probing at Akehurst Lake, 14 Mile Creek

### **Barriere**

#### **2002 summary of silviculture operations**

- Planted 493 ha, brushed 172 ha, broadcast burned 6 ha, excavator site prepared 170 ha, piled 24 ha, slashed 20 ha and stumped 244 ha.

#### **2003 plans for silviculture**

- Will plant 398 ha, replant 7 ha, brush 377 ha, weed 2.5 ha, broadcast burn 7.5 ha, excavator site prepare 96 ha and stump 547 ha.

#### **2002 summary of harvest operations**

- Beetle areas were harvested at East Barriere River (CP 327), Leonie Cr (CP 334) and Sprague Cr (CP 319-7,9). Other harvesting was done at North Lake (CPs 310-3, 9b, 311-14, 926-2b, 2c, 2e, 4), at Bear Creek (CP 934-6, 11), Swale Rd (CP 312-1, 2), East Barriere Lake (CP 922) and the roads at CPs 935 and 936.

### 2003 plans for harvest

- More beetle at Leonie Cr (CP 334), Haggard Cr (CP 329) and East Barriere River (CP 327) will be harvested. Other planned areas of harvest include Birk Cr (CP 301), North Lake (CP 311, 926), Swale Rd (CP 312), East Lake (CP 922) and Dixon Lake (CP 936). However, plans for these blocks may change with Mt pine beetle priorities.

### Other activities in the Barriere watershed

- Roads will be constructed at north of East Lake (CP 304) and Bendellin Cr (CP 317).

## 2) BC Timber Sales

**Small Business Forest Enterprise Program** will officially be changed to **British Columbia Timber Sales** with the passing of the Forest and Range Practices Act in the spring

- Originally one SBFEP department in each District office, now only **12 Business Units (Timber Sales units)** throughout the province of BC
- One of those main units is in Kamloops
- Kamloops B.U. covers five original Forest Districts - Kamloops, Clearwater, Merritt, Lillooet and 100 Mile House
- Main **Timber Sales office** in Kamloops
- Four **Field Units** are in Kamloops, Clearwater, Merritt and 100 Mile House
- Still located under the Ministry of Forests umbrella; however, "separated" to make us more like a licensee
- Our objective is still to provide opportunities to access wood volume to those registered in the program and gain the best monetary value from the timber for the Province of BC - this will lead to less social direction (ie. training and job creation)
- With downsizing there will be fewer staff to run the program - will need to become more efficient with larger timber sales being offered for sale and less salvage opportunities
- 'Small scale salvage' will now be run through Field Services (main MoF office)

• Barriere/Nehalliston volume harvested	2002		2003
- Peterson Creek:	54,900 m3	,	50,000 m3
- Eakin Creek:	none	,	none
- Dunn Peak:	none	,	none
- Fadear Mt:	3,700 m3	,	5,000 m3
- Barriere Ridge:	7,900 m3	,	10,000 m3

Then, I discussed the Mountain Pine Beetle and its effects on our operations:

- 85 - 90 % of our harvesting over the past four and a half years has been MPB harvested
- 10 % greenwood due to our obligations to our mill / value added registrants

- cannot sell MPB wood to mills due to longer term of sales and the need to remove the wood prior to flight
- remove all pine and leave all other species except where there are operational or safety constraints
- almost all of our sales have been harvested before beetle flight in July/August
- any that weren't have been baited and held until the fall
- also have had fall and burn contracts in our Operating Areas for single tree disposal where we couldn't salvage the timber
- all sales (where applicable) are site prepped and planted based on available stock
- utilizing First Nations bands to help with fall and burn and salvage opportunities
- maintained contact (referrals) with all affected stake holders where impacted by our salvage operations

Finished off with requesting input from people present wherever concerns arose throughout the year and stating that BCTS is always open to discuss our developments and proposals at any time. Offered to view our maps and ask any questions after the meeting.

### 3) **Weyerhaeuser**

#### **Nehalliston Activities**

- 1) Caverhill area is currently Information only in FDP.
- 2) more recci / layout work completed this winter.
- 3) intent is to Amend Kamloops District FDP in late winter / early spring with Proposed A blocks.
- 4) concentrated efforts on MPB and less visually sensitive areas.
- 5) ongoing interaction with stakeholders.

#### **Barriere**

Three approved cutting permits in Saskum (CP 201, 205, 206) ~143,000 m<sup>3</sup>.

Currently right of way logging and building road on all three permits.

Harvesting to start in 2004.

Work being done on three new permits for submission this year (already in approved FDP) ~118,000 m<sup>3</sup>.

#### **Nehalliston**

Beetle salvage being done on areas that other licencees could not get to.

~ 120,000 m<sup>3</sup> in Tolko's Thuya and Eakin Cr area.

~ 20,000 m<sup>3</sup> in GSFP's Round Top (Lemieux Cr) area.

Harvesting has already started and we anticipate being completed by the end of June.

Areas that we can not complete harvesting on this year will be baited to attempt to hold the beetles within the approved blocks.

#### **General Activities Completed in 2002**

Pest Management: Generally, Weyerhaeuser is experiencing epidemic Mountain Pine Beetle populations in the following areas; Deadman, Gisborne, Watching Creek, TFL 35(Jamieson, Venn Creek, Rushton, Stuart Lake, Whitewood, Skull) and Hyas Lake. Bonaparte Logan Lake and Greenstone area have endemic beetle populations and Weyerhaeuser continues to monitor areas. Approximately 80%+ of our 2002 cut was

managing salvage volume.

Two other areas were developed in 2002; Bonaparte Lake (south shore) and Cannine/No Name Lakes.

Forest Development plans approved; last remaining item is to provide public with agency/other road blockage requests (green squares on map)

#### **Activities Planned for 2003**

Development and harvesting of epidemic Mountain Pine Beetle in the chronic areas from the past few years. Our expectation is that volume of salvage will remain at or higher than 2002 levels. Initiating layout on Watching Creek and Hyas shortly for summer harvest. FDP major amendments including advertising and referral with stakeholders will be completed within the next few months.

#### **Communication**

Weyerhaeuser will respond to all comments and questions generated from FDP amendments. It is imperative that public, stakeholders, First Nation and agencies provide comments and concerns early in the planning process.

#### **4) Gilbert Smith Forest Products**

Nehalliston/ Barriere

-CP 700 is new in Taweel, 3 blocks, 89ha, 36,782m<sup>3</sup>

-Logged portions of CP 701 in Taweel (two blocks), Guido commented that visually this was good logging (a couple photo's of this logging will be incorporated in the SFM plan)

No new FDP proposals

Weyerhaeuser is removing bark beetle infestations in our operating area (north end of Lemieux Creek)

#### **5) Range**

##### **RANGE ACTIVITIES 2002**

##### **Range Use Plans:**

The tenures that were referred at this meeting last year have been awarded to Charlie Pecor and Bar D Bar Ranch Inc. This will mean 250 head of cattle will be turned out to the Mt Olie and Grassy knoll units, 100 will graze the area up Lemieux Creek and up 14 mile creek over to west of Taweel Lake and 150 head will be turned out to the Grassy Knoll Unit and graze up towards Deer Lake and north to west of Taweel Lake. The new tenure holders will consult with the existing tenure holders to refine management strategies for these areas.

The regulations were changed in December extending all current plans to the end of 2004. We still hope to issue the submitted plans in some form this year, but have to wait for the new regulations, which aren't ready yet.

##### **Improvements:**

The Grazing Enhancement Fund (GEF), which supplied most of the funding for the range improvements in this area over the last five years has been terminated.

##### **Weeds:**

- Numerous bio-agents also released. Good potential for Toadflax and Houndstongue control.

### **Ecosystem Restoration:**

Burn plans for the Dewdrop and Hat Creek areas were put on hold with the late spring.

## **RANGE ACTIVITIES 2003**

### **Range Use Plans:**

Range will be working with the ranchers to ensure that Range Use plans are in place for 2005, which will mean issuing over 200 over the next 2 years.

We are also taking over responsibility for McBride, which adds over 40 tenures to the workload. Now have 4 staff covering Kamloops and the new Headwaters District.

### **Improvements:**

Future project funding is not known. A few materials for short fences or water developments are available. The new tenure holder in the Nehalliston area would like to install a gate on the old Fourteen Mile Creek Road to Tuloon Lake Resort. This gate is to prevent cattle drift and to keep cows off the old road except when they are being moved.

### **Weeds:**

- Forest Service funding is going to the Southern Interior Region who will do a containment program, primarily on newer weeds.
- Government has said it will continue with biological control.
- Keep watching for newer weeds, including Field scabious, Perennial pepperweed and Rush skeletonweed.

### **Ecosystem Restoration:**

Hope to carry out burns in Hat Creek and Dewdrop in late March/early April. Future funding is questionable. Hat Creek is being logged with commercial spacing first. Commercial thinning of Douglas fir is also happening on Duck Hill and there may be some potential in the Eagle Point area.

## **Forest Service Presentations**

### **Recreation**

The Forest Service is not going to change direction at this point. Recreation sites and trails will not be managed by Forest Service staff. The request for proposal to manage sites and trails in Kamloops District generated 4 responses. Only the TNRD proposal was comprehensive. The other proposals were for small groups of sites. All proposals were being reviewed in Victoria when a decision was reached to purchase liability insurance and remove that component from the Request for Proposal. A new Request for

Proposal will be sent out soon with a goal of awarding contracts in April or early May for Recreation Site management.

### **Mountain Pine Beetle**

We are on the cusp of a serious outbreak. The licensees have been working diligently on this problem but the weather is cooperating with the beetle not us. There is still a slight chance the weather will assist us in our management. If the warm weather continues and we see another dry summer the beetle may outstrip our ability to manage under our current Annual Allowable Cut.

Provincially we are in much worse shape. There is no short term hope for the districts in the north-central part of the province. They are working on strategies that will try to reduce spread but there is so much salvage material that is not being harvested the province is losing significant value every year. Linked is a summary of slides used at the meetings.

[Link to MPB slide show](#)

### **Forest and Range Practices Act**

Government is bringing in new legislation that will reflect priorities of the new government. These changes are happening very quickly and we want to present a very short overview so you are aware of some of the more significant changes coming.

- There will be a phase in period for the new legislation to allow for growing pains during the transition.
- The goal is to maintain the strengths of the Forest Practices Code while removing some of the complexity and impediments to innovative management.
- The new act will allow industry to respond to market conditions while still meeting their public obligations.
- The new act will not sacrifice environmental standards.
- The standards set in the act will be enforceable.
- Staff will be employed to enforce conditions of the act. The penalties are under review and will be made available as soon as possible.

[Link to FRP slide show](#)

### **Summary**

We expect to return next year and hope to discuss forest management with everyone.