

Land Based Investment Strategy and FMLT Opportunities



LBIS Provincially:

- **Purpose of the LBI Strategy:**
- to guide ongoing resource investments to realize environmental sustainability and economic prosperity.
- Actively manage a portfolio of natural resources to uphold and enhance their value.
- Mitigate impacts due to catastrophic environmental disturbance or human action.

Future Uncertainty:

- Significant reduction in LBIS budget projected for 2013/14 to be around \$38 million from \$71.6 million.
- Focus will be only on critical needs such as planting but.....planning continues and prescriptions need to sitting on the shelf ready to go!
- The budget is projected to go back up to \$68 million in 2014/15 and continue at this level.
- Mid-term timber supply committee recommendations may have impacts on future intensive silviculture funding?
- The coast receives overflow from the interior in the form of surplus funds and fertilizer. Hence the need to be ready.

Five Year Annual Operating Plan

- The plan drives LBIS funded activities on the coast.
- September 30th- draft plan developed for LBIS.
- November 1st - LBIS budget submitted to Deputy Minister.
- December 31st - 2013/14 AOP 2nd draft firm based on projected budget.
- March 15th - 2013/14 AOP finalized based on received budget \$.
- April 1st – 2013/14 AOP in effect.

Outcome of Regions Information gathering for 5 Year AOP:

Many respondents wanted to conduct unsupported activities such as:

- Fertilizing Coastal Western Hemlock..say it isn't so!
- Barge based fertilization in the North Gulf Islands and mainland coast sounds good but are too expensive.
- Hand apply fertilizer for “job creation” but remember LBIS is not a social program.
- Spacing to create habitat for Northern Goshawk?

Feedback into Regions 5 Year AOP for the Coast viewed as polar?

Dichotomous key to Silviculturalists

Silvo-Pessimists



Silvo-Optimists



“Let’s try
something
new”

“I know best, what works and what does not!”

West Coast Region AOP

Compromise Plan: Similar budget as 2012-13

- Current reforestation (150 ha.)
- Lots of aerial fertilization (8,500 ha.)
- Removal of Vexar tubing from defunct licensees in DHG
- Some Red alder spacing (~100 ha./year)
- Spacing (280 ha.) Chilliwack (Fd) & Haida Gwaii (Ss) with PITA surveys
- Pruning (100 ha. 2015) high SI stands, budget permitting
- Some hand fertilization (~80 ha) where feasible
- Consider barge based fertilization in future years

Brief DNI LBIS Update:

- Pre-87 backlog surveys completed this summer 2012 on TSA's only. RESULTS updates outstanding (700 ha). All Defunct NRFL's surveyed and in RESULTS (800 ha).
- 2005-2011 TSA fire areas reviewed, no planting opportunities except possibly 90 ha in Bella Coola but waiting for PEP to repair bridges and roads to reduce access costs.
- Mid-coast THLB to be planted in 2013 by BCTS (45 ha).
- Alder stands been spaced by yearly NWH as per the CFAP and CRIT discussion paper on deciduous management and mid-term timber supply.
- BCTS to deliver 1000 ha's of fertilization on the Kingcome TSA in 2012.
- District contacted Tolko (Williams Lake) about fertilization delivery in Bella Coola, no opportunities in 2013 but they are interest if feasible \$ = +ROI. Suspect we need to push this hard for it to occur.
- VQO's in mid-coast field reviewed 2011 by Region under LBIS funding.
- DNI FMLT met to discuss overall fertilization strategy on the TSA only in early July. Present were Strategic Ltd, BCTS, IFP, and FLNRO (District, Region, and Branch). Outcomes were fertilization is more challenging than most are aware but group agreed with the overall approach by the District and BCTS in the Kingcome TSA.
- District has no clear picture of what is happening on all the TFL's, with invasive plants, other investment categories? To discuss.

Is there a need and value to expand FMLT into the following?

- **A Strategic LBIS-FMLT Silviculture Working Group**; which oversees both TFL's and TSA's investments, activities, and overall direction?
- FMLT SWG to discuss specific issues related to LBIS and other practices on the THLB that maintain or enhance future flows?
- FMLT SWG would collectively drive the 5 year AOP for the District and ensure the best strategic investments are made while addressing timber flow concerns.

Consider that.....

- This is how FMLT can influence LBIS.
- An important aspect of this proposed group is to identify the issues specific to the area (including TFL's) and determine if silviculture has a role in addressing them.
- This is the opportunity for the local area to provide the professional opinion to region and the Province on what realistically needs to be done and how it gets done.
- If the funding does not follow at least the local group has examined the problem and brought the messages forward.
- If funding or new investment criteria are developed DNI FMLT can quickly respond to what needs to be done.

FMLT SWG Expectations:

- Prior to December 15:
 - Ensure a common understanding of the priorities and directions in the most recent silviculture strategies for the management units in the district.
 - Review and confirm the 5 year AOP submission for planned activities.
 - Review the draft annual operating plan for the up-coming field season.
 - Review the appropriateness of costs and proposed budget amounts.
 - Have general agreement on priority treatments and locations, and Identification of the method of delivering the various components of LBIS.
 - Discuss what other LBIS funded activities should be done in the district to address high priority issues (i.e. inventory, spacing in community forests, ecosystem restoration, wildlife and habitat work).

FMLT SWG Outputs

- District, industry, BCTS and delivery agents before March 31, 2012:
 - Review accomplishments for the 2012/2013 fiscal year.
 - Identify successes and shortcomings to the assigned goals.
 - Identify areas for improvement in the local program.
 - Identify areas for improvement that need to be considered at the regional or provincial level.
 - Identify work, survey results, research or studies that would change practices for the next fiscal year.
 - Identify budgetary and delivery agents needs for the next fiscal year.
 - Discuss what other LBIS funded activities remain to be carried out of interest to DNI FMLT which constituents need to be aware of (i.e. inventory, ecosystem restoration, invasive plants, spacing in the community forest, wildlife and habitat work, etc).
 - Meetings 3-4 times a year.

Moving forward does DNI FMLT want a Silviculture Working Group to influence LBIS?

Brushing

"I love spacing"

More Sitka Spruce!

Low site harvest levels

Cedar pruning?

Invasive plants removal

White pine and Fdc mixed planting?

Genetic Worth

TSR assumptions

Timber objectives



Species Diversity

Maximizing site potential

Fertilization

PITA surveys

Bean counting 101