

Terms of Reference

North Island – Central Coast Resource District

Forest Management Leadership Team

Objectives

To enhance trust and relationships to resolve local issues.

To provide the local forest sector with a stronger voice at the Operational Issues Forum (OIF) and the Coast Region FRPA Implementation Team (CRIT).

To improve the efficiency of the forest sector overall by providing an organized structure for clear and productive communications, and promoting cooperation in management.

To support continued learning for licensee and government professionals by sharing innovative ideas, transferring new or current technological information, and working to understand the challenges faced by all members of the group.

Mandate

Work in a team environment to resolve local forest sector issues, to communicate direction and guidance from OIF and CRIT, and to provide a forum to voice local issues and to raise issues to a regional level through OIF or CRIT.

Guiding Principles

The following general principles will govern the team:

- Foundation of professional reliance
- Build open, strong relationships and teams
- Respectful regard for different points of view
- Seek to understand issues with an open mind
- Apply science, logic and reason; identify gaps in knowledge
- Practice only within bounds of authority, training and experience
- Seek help in resolving disputes
- Promote the understanding of professional reliance and the concept of the contract of trust
- Respectfully consider First Nations values and interests that may be affected by our activities and actions
- Promote the use of field trips to improve decision making and forest practices
- Uphold legislation, and review and consider policy
- Consider safety in all decisions and guidance

Scope

The focus will be on resolving local operational issues within the North Island – Central Coast Resource District (NICC), under the *Forest Act* and the *Forest and Range Practices Act*. The team will seek a balanced approach to issues by considering all the objectives established under the *Ministry of Forests and Range Act*.

- Encourage maximum forest productivity.
- Manage, protect and conserve the forest resources.
- Plan the use of forest resources and other natural resources in consultation and cooperation with other ministries and the private sector.
- Encourage a vigorous, efficient and world competitive timber processing industry.
- Assert the financial interest of government fairly.
- Resolve local issues within provincial and/or regional interpretations of current policy and legislation.
- Discuss and propose amendments to policies and legislation to improve efficiencies and forest stewardship.

Structure

The NICC Forest Management Leadership Team (FMLT) is a working team comprised of representatives of local licensees spanning different tenure types, BCTS and ministry staff. Membership is flexible and others may be asked to join based on the agenda topics, but the FMLT should strive to have the following core people:

- District and licensee/BCTS co-chair
- Local CRIT representative and/or
- Local OIF representative

Members from CRIT and OIF will provide updates from regional meetings and ensure they represent local interests at those meetings. The team will elect its own chairs and develop its own TOR based on the core principles described in this document. Representation and participation of other local groups such as First Nation licensees, woodlots or other small tenure holders and other agencies should be considered in the form of core members, adjunct members or invited guests.

The membership will be amended annually and appended to this document.

Meetings will be held in January, April and October of each year. The April meeting will involve a field component. Members may arrange to attend meetings by conference call or video call, although face to face is preferred. Members may also designate an alternate to attend on their behalf if they are unavailable. Any alternate should come prepared to fully participate in the meeting. The Co-chairs will alternate as the meeting Chairperson. Project subgroups may be formed, and meetings held as required to complete tasks.

The team will conduct an evaluation of each meeting to assess effectiveness. This qualitative evaluation will be done verbally. Results of the meeting evaluation will be documented as part of meeting minutes.

Requirements for Success

- Leadership support from managers of licensees, BCTS, ministry staff, and other agencies to support staff participation in meetings, field trips, and group tasks
- Managing the size of the team and representation of the different interests
- Clarity on roles and responsibilities of members for communicating to and representing their constituents
- Co-chairs will be responsible for ensuring that their team looks after its own administrative needs (e.g. meeting arrangements, document preparation and distribution, records of decision, etc.)
- Focus on forest management issues (*Forest Act, Forest and Range Practices Act*, related resource legislation) at the local level
- Plan to 'Celebrate the Successes'
- Continued focus on mandate
- Effective communications
- Commitment to participation

Decision Making and Documentation

The NICC FMLT will strive for consensus for the purpose of decision making, but where consensus is not reached, the co-chairs will be accountable to determine when an acceptable number of members support a decision, action or recommendation. Consensus for the purposes of this TOR is defined as general agreement or acceptance of decisions, actions or recommendations by members. Members may have concerns about specific aspects, but can accept and support that the overall decision, action or recommendation goes forward .

Relevant documentation for NICC FMLT meetings, including agendas and decision records will be sent to participatory group members in a timely manner and kept on a central file for future reference.

Reporting

Team '*Minutes*' or '*Decision/Action Items*' will be recorded, distributed and kept by the facilitator/chairpersons. An annual report will be developed annually, and will be completed and circulated by the end of July each year. The Annual Report will be forwarded to the ABCFP, regional OIF and CRIT. The summary report will outline, as a minimum, the issues addressed and the results, and describe any planned actions for the upcoming year.

The FMLT will also routinely share information with the ABCFP, CRIT or OIF consistent with the scope of those organizations regarding any local level solutions which might be useful elsewhere in the region or province, and forward topics which require resolution at the regional or provincial level to the appropriate organization (ABCFP, CRIT, or OIF).

Appendix

Membership for 2013-14

Western Forest Products (Vancouver Island): Jon Flintoft, Vadim Stavrakov

Western Forest Products (Mainland, Central Coast) Mona Desgorseilliers, John Pezel

International Forest Products: Kai Sonnenburg, Steve Check

Richply: Tom Cole

Bella Coola Community Forest Ltd: Hans Granander

Nuxalk Forestry Limited Partnership: Randy Hart

Strategic Natural Resource Consultants: Mike DesRochers, Lisa Lenarduzzi

Capacity Forest Management: Ryan Clark

TimberWest: Bill Grutzmacher, Peter Share

Bella Bella Asset Holdings: John McLaughlin

Mill & Timber: Ryszard Mycek

Northwest Hardwoods: Brian Kyle

BC Timber Sales: Scott Mitchell

Independent: Gord Glover, Ione Brown

Ministry of Forests, Land and Natural Resource Operations: Andrew Ashford, David Flegel, Lisa Nordin, Amy Beetham, Cyndy Grant, Paul Barolet