

Minutes
CSA Community Advisory Group
To Western Forest Products
May 9, 2016
Western Forest Products Boardroom

Attendance: refer to attached sheet

6:00 pm: Meeting called to order
Quorum met.

Safety Review

Facilitator noted fire exits and first aid attendants in case of emergency. Meeting place in case of emergency was noted.

Code of Conduct

Code of Conduct for Community Advisory Group was reviewed.

Welcome and Introductions

Chair welcomed guest speaker and members introduced themselves.

Review and Acceptance of Agenda

Agenda was accepted.

Review and Acceptance of Minutes

Minutes not yet available for review.

Correspondence

Copies of recent correspondence was provided and reviewed

Letter to PRPAWS

Email from SCT restriction near Suicide Creek

Emails to First Nations

Cathy Bartfai resignation letter

Email containing links regarding certification and to the CSA User Groups

Alaska Pine Road closure email

Letter re: Chief Forester Opinion Regarding the Impact of Deletion of Tla'amin Nation Treaty

Goat Main reopening email

Operational Information Map Update

Current Activities

Harvesting – TM-263, ST063, GI-130, GI-062, GI-061, GI-064, ST-065, ST-066, TM-247, GI-119, GI-140, ST-152, WL-014, FH-041, PD-463, PD-464, PD-530, PD-480, PD-531, PD-262, PD-164, PD-539, PD-287

Road Construction – ST-096, ST-328, BT-915, GI-134, PD-287, PD-500, ST-249, ST-388

Engineering – ST-067, ST-055, EL-702

What's New on the Map

New Blocks – GI-202

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New Roads – GI-202

Cutting Permit Approved Areas – GI-117, PD-163, PD-262

Logging Complete – ST-075, ST-294, ST-298

Road Construction Complete – GI-115, GI-117, WL-346, UL-830

Engineered Blocks – GI-134, GI-135, GI-136, GI-206

Engineered Roads – GI-134, GI-135, GI-136, GI-206

There were no new blocks near the Sunshine Coast Trail.

Company Updates

The CAG workshop on September 22nd and 23rd is coming together. A number of Powell River CAG members are planning on attending.

Guest Speaker: Eveline Stokkink – Ambrosia Beetles

In 1968, Eveline began working for John Borden, a professor at Simon Fraser University that started the whole investigation into ambrosia beetles.. She brought a bag of tiny ambrosia beetles for the group to see. There are about 7 species of ambrosia beetles in the Pacific Northwest and 3 have been economically important to the forest industry.

They have no enemies in nature and perform the valuable function of decomposing dead and downed trees; making them nature's recyclers. The Pacific Northwest is made up of many different species of conifers in the forest which provide the home and habitat of the ambrosia beetle. Over the many millennia that the two have coexisted, they have worked out an effective relationship. The ambrosia beetles are the first organism that goes in and starts the decaying process. They burrow in and make galleries. They do not eat the wood like bark beetles, they kick it out and that is why you see the little bits of frass. They use the gallery to produce their brood. They emerge from the gallery and the following year the galleries are places for other organisms such as bacteria and fungus to get in and start the rotting and decaying process which allows the forest to regenerate.

Trypodendron lineatum do 70% of the ambrosia beetle damage in this area. They over-winter in the duff and rotten stumps, and come out in the spring to search for a home. This would likely be a tree that has fallen on the ground. They are photopositive during this part of their life cycle. If a tree falls down, there is an opening in the canopy making the area brighter, to which the beetle is drawn.. There are also odors that the fallen tree produces that draw the beetles to it. These host odours are especially attractive to the first emerging beetles (pioneers) as there are no pheromones around. They come out of the log in August and fly to their over-wintering area, and hibernate. Unlike other hibernating species, they will wake up if it is unusually warm. Their flight muscles atrophy in order to conserve energy. If they wake up in the middle of winter they can't fly anywhere. They need about 3 or 4 days of 13 to 14 degree weather to allow their flight muscles to reactivate. At that point they are ready to fly and search for a host. When they find one they have to attract a mate as well as other ambrosia beetles. They produce an aggregating pheromone to attract both male and female beetles. This works well for trapping because both sexes are caught in the traps. When the beetles have found their new home they start their gallery production. The female does all of the work and the male scoops out the frass. They are called ambrosia beetles because they carry the ambrosia fungus. They carry the fungus from their natal gallery

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and inject the ambrosia spores into the walls of the fallen tree. After 10 to 14 days the spores grow into a fungus that the beetle can eat. They haven't eaten since August and they are probably getting pretty hungry because by now it is about mid-April. The only thing that can kill these beetles is a warm, wet spring. Warm wakes them up and wet stops them from flying and if it is warm and wet for an extended period of time they use up their energy. All of the information they learned about in the 1960s and '70s helped them design a program to eliminate ambrosia beetles from storage yards, dry land sorts and mills.

Gnathotrichus sulcatus is another ambrosia beetle that you might find in the same log as *Trypodendron lineatum*.

In nature you get more blow down during winter storms. Over the millennia, ambrosia beetles have learned to prefer winter felled wood. The process worked very well; with beetles breaking down logs and allowing them to go back to nature. Beetle populations are completely based on how much host material is available. If there is a natural disaster and lots of blow down, the beetle population grows and if there is very little the following year the beetles die off. In the early days of logging there was little change because just a few trees were taken, but when we became more industrialized, issues developed. For example, road right-of-way logs stored at roadside during road construction until they are loaded out. The beetles moved in to the road right-of-way wood and the brood and then fly out to the forest margin which is then cut. Then we take the infested wood to staging areas with lots of nice host odors. It takes about 3 to 5 years to build up a huge base population. There is always a small base population in any area so it is difficult not to bring in infested logs. For various reasons, some stay at the sort. The beetles fly out in the spring to find lots of 'disaster' wood just sitting there waiting for them. Eveline said she likes to describe these sorts or mills as a 'bathtub' and the traps they put out as the 'drain'. The traps are the only way to kill the beetle. The hot and cold water taps are the amount of beetles coming in to the sort. The cold water tap is the weather so if there is a warm wet spring, the 'tap' won't be putting much water in because there is a lot of beetle mortality. If it is a warm spring and if there was a long warm fall the cold water tap is wide open. The hot water tap is the number of beetles being brought to the sort or mill in infested wood. You could reduce the flow by controlling how much infested wood you bring in. If it a year when the weather cooperates and you are trapping, you could actually drain the 'bath'. Eveline said she has had one or two sites that have done that. Most of the time she catches many, many beetles every year.

The whole program started because, in the late sixties, John Borden, discovered that Pine Beetles had pheromones. They thought that ambrosia beetles must have pheromones also and started working on finding them. Eveline had the pleasure of dissecting thousands of the little critters and sending the hind guts to a chemist to be broken down into compounds. He would send the compounds back to Eveline and they would run beetle races to find out what attracted them. After four years they came up with the compound that made the *Trypodendron* pheromone and it took another three years to produce it artificially. The lure releases pheromone all year round. The highest number of beetles Eveline found in a trap was 47,000 beetles last weekend up in Port McNeil. A grad student at Simon Fraser University created the multiple funnel trap that is used to trap ambrosia beetles. The funnels are dark and the jar they fall into is white. The beetles are photopositive so they don't notice the funnels, they just smell the good pheromones and when they fall into the jar they won't fly out because it is white and they won't fly up into the dark funnels. In 1973 they started with some research sites with MacMillan Bloedel. They have different traps for the two species they are trapping because they use different pheromones. Because *Gnathotrichus* beetles live in the log throughout their entire life cycle, they are often found in larger lumber pieces. Their fungus requires less moisture than the *Trypodendron* fungus so their brood can continue to develop in the lumber if they survive the milling process. This creates a phytosanitary problem as beetles are then exported to other countries. This adds costs as it is necessary to fumigate ships if live beetles are discovered.

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Trapping suppresses resident populations of both species of ambrosia beetle, monitors hot spots, and influences log supply practices by improving staff awareness.

There are lots of ways you can use traps and knowledge of ambrosia beetle biology to influence planning. This will hopefully reduce the number of beetles brought into dry land sorts.

Question: Do they still use sprinklers to suppress beetles at sorts?

It is one of the ways that was suggested in the past. The problem with sprinkling is that you have to do it all of the time. If somebody shuts it off all of the host odors bloom up and the log they go to will become a massive trap log. Beetles only need 1 ½ hours to burrow into the log. Once they are in, sprinkling does nothing. Eveline still suggests it sometimes but not often because it takes a lot to monitor the sprinkling.

Comment: It is still fairly common in the Interior.

They do it mostly to prevent checking.

Question: What about storing in fresh or salt water?

Fresh water is really good. The problem with salt water is teredos. The first thing Eveline suggests is watering your wood and that is good for 70% of it but if you have a bundle 30% will be above the water. It is still the most effective way to protect your wood.

Question: Do you see an increased problem with climate change?

Yes. We have had two fabulous years of dry warm springs and warm falls. In prime weather years, Trypodendron can produce two broods a year and Gnathotrichus can have two generations.

Question: Does the investment into management strategies match the loss?

No. The industry lost 10 billion dollars last year to ambrosia beetle. A program like Stillwater's would cost about \$10,000 per year.

Question: Why don't they put up more traps?

This would not necessarily help, what needs to happen is less beetles at the sort.

Jane Cameron – What's New in CSA Z809

Some of the highlights of Z809-16 include changing all of the aboriginal indicators to be in one place. The guidance suggests different ways to engage aboriginal people such as WFP could create a separate advisory group for Tla'amin Nation if that was the way people wanted to be engaged.

In the standard public involvement is reaffirmed emphatically as really fundamental to CSA. Some organizations find it onerous so when they worked on the standard you will see a change in the amount of audit material available for the public. This will not be a problem for WFP because they have already been doing this for 2 or 3 years. Other companies have been putting forward a very brief summary. What will be available now will be quite detailed. They have also recognized that a group like ours that

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has been running for 16 years will run differently than a brand new group so there is some softening and more discretion for these older groups.

Communications was spread throughout section 5 and it has been brought together in one place.

The forest resilience element has been integrated into forest ecosystem condition and productivity. This has been done to align to the Canadian Council of Forest Ministry who have put out criteria and indicators.

The profile of wetlands has been raised and there is a new definition. The profile has been raised so that this is a discussion item under two different criteria. We will be learning a lot about wetlands.

The discussion topic about carbon has changed and it has brought more opportunity to look at the importance of the forest systems in the carbon cycle.

Plantations are no longer mentioned in the standard, but forest plantations are. They are different from what is done in regeneration projects. Forest plantations might be established if somebody wants to grow trees where a farmer's field had been. Maybe they would be maple trees that somebody wants to harvest syrup from. These are not common in the TFL and generally regeneration is planted to mimic the surrounding forest.

In Ontario heritage and culture are used as one word – heritage/culture and when Jane wanted heritage added to geological and biological they could not see the need but here forestry culture has a strong relationship to the First Nations whereas heritage is more like the forestry history in a DFA. This concept was strongly supported by the people from BC so we ended up with heritage values being added.

In safety the indicators are not new but they have been put together and there is separate element for safety.

The reporting for economic and social benefits has been quite cumbersome. Economic and social benefits is talking about the value of timber and non-timber benefits for the community and how the organization (company) contributes to the sustainability of the community. Now there are easier ways to express it.

There was a lot of discussion about forecasts. Some thought they were not really necessary and others felt they must be done. You cannot plan without forecasting what you are expecting.

Companies can use numbers created for other purposes rather than create numbers just for the audit which should cut down the work load.

Volume based tenures and group certification is more company oriented and is not of concern to advisory groups. The same goes for other systems that have been put in place. The companies will find lots of streamlining has been done.

There were quite a few changes in definitions. There were a lot of suggestions that came from advisory groups and mostly WFP advisory groups. Some were not accepted but many were. Some of the new definitions we need to understand include: afforestation, deforestation, forest plantations, biomass, and wetlands.

This is a standard written specifically for Canada. There is a strong and mandated role for advisory groups. The plan is current, relevant and evolving. There is a requirement for transparency. There are firewalls to provide independence in transparency. CSA has the use of the PEFC label which provides assurance that the wood has come from a legal source and from a certified forest.

PEFC is a program for the endorsement of forest certification. It is an international body that has dozens of certifications under its umbrella and they are auditing our new standard as they have done before and they will come out with a multi-page report. For CSA to get international recognition it must pass through this process.

2015 SFMP Indicator Results – Stuart Glen

Indicator 4.1.1 Carbon uptake & storage

SFO met the target for 2015

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Indicator 1.1.1 Ecosystem area by type
SFO met the target for 2015

Indicator 1.1.2 Forest area by species composition
SFO met the target for 2015

Indicator 1.1.3 Forest area by seral stage
SFO met the target for 2015

Alternate Strategies

Stuart listed strategies used for each indicator

THLB Stabilization Project – Stillwater TFL39

This project looks at the land base to see if all the reserves established over many years, often independently of each other in the right place. The landscape unit plan establishing Old-Growth Management Areas (OGMAs) was last done in 2000-2002. This will look at OGMAs relative to new reserves and wildlife information to form a more coordinated plan which best optimizes socioeconomic and environmental values. WFP has an opportunity to put in a project proposal for Stillwater to be one of the areas used for this joint project with government.

Action List Items

Action Items			
<i>Ongoing</i>	Who	Meeting	When
Fix Road Hotline	Stuart/Zac	February 2016	
Look into having the website send emails regarding updates to subscribers	Stuart/Zac	January 2016	

Adjourned 9:00 pm

Stillwater CSA Community Advisory Group Western Forest Products May 9th Attendance

Name	Position	Member Seat
PRESENT		
Jane Cameron – Chair	Primary	Member at Large
Nancy Hollmann	Primary	Tourism
Wayne Brewer	Alternate	Tourism
Colin Palmer	Primary	Local Governments
George Illes	Alternate	Environment

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Mark Anderson	Alternate	Member at Large
Dave Hodgins	Primary	Recreation
Read English	Alternate	Recreation
Barry Miller	Primary	Environment
Paul Goodwin	Primary	Forest Dependent
Bill Maitland	Primary	Local Business
Karen Skadsheim	Alternate	Local Government
Andy Payne	Primary	Employment & Education
Joseph McLean	Alternate	Local Business
8 Seats represented		
ABSENT MEMBERS		
Doug Fuller	Primary	DFA Worker
Russ Parsons	Alternate	DFA Worker
Ben Berukoff	Alternate	Forest Dependent
Mark Hassett	Alternate	Contractor
Rory Maitland	Primary	Contractor
Resource – others	Resource – others	
Eveline Stokkink		
Will Sloan	WFP	
Stuart Glen	WFP	
Valerie Thompson	Facilitator/Secretary	