

**Spray Lake Sawmills
Public Advisory Committee
SLS Boardroom
November 6th, 2018**

Present: Ken Birkett, Erik Butters, Joe & Denise Nickel, John Buckley, Liz Breakey, Doug Collister, Tim Giese, Bette Beswick, Jason Mogilefsky, Matt Denney

Absent: Daniel Grant, Corey Stoneman, Scotty Many-Guns, Mike Korman, Judy Stewart, Jacqueline Nelson, George Roman

Meeting commenced at 4:00 p.m.

Round table introductions – Review of agenda

- No new items added

Agenda item – SFI/PEFC update

- SLS Passed out the results of the SFI Audit.
- Highlights what SFI items were reviewed and the locations the Auditor visited when he was here this summer.
- Auditor reviewed a number of new sites, in general he spent a lot of time in the field.
- Noted that SLS needs to develop a policy for use of the SFI logo. Currently have been requesting permission to use the logo, but also need a policy on how the logo gets used.
- Auditor identified some notable practices for forest management including the protection of juvenile Whitebark pine on a small scale.

Agenda item – Vegetation inventory (AVI) & forest volumes (TSPs)

- SLS passed out a map showing the field plots associated with developing the new forest inventory (AVI).
- SLS has been taking a staggered approach to generating the vegetation inventory and getting approvals for sub-sections of the forest management area as the inventory is generated.
- SLS has provided two submissions of AVI to the GoA for audit. Both submissions exceeded the AVI standards.
- SLS is planning on the final submission for audit this December. Final approval from the GoA after the sub-sections are merged together. Anticipated for early next year.
- SLS passed out a map showing the Temporary Sample Plot (TSP) locations that were established this summer. The TSP is a systematic random sample to review

the forest volumes across the forest management area. Approximately 350 plots were established where the trees were measured. Plots are 300 m² in size.

- Data from the TSPs will be used in conjunction with the AVI data for developing a lot of the technical components of the forest management plan.

Agenda item – Public, First Nation and Quota holder Communication

- SLS passed out a handout of the activities related to consultation on the Forest Management Plan (FMP). The document is a live document and will be updated as the plan progresses.
- SLS maintains a contact list (currently at about 400 people) for providing notification of events or consultation opportunities.
- First Nations are updated regularly (about every 4 months) on plan progress as well at certain milestones for the FMP.
- Quota holders are updated about the FMP regularly as well. All quota holders were offered a seat on the Plan Development Team (PDT) but chose not to join, but rather be informed as the plan develops.
- PAC – for First Nation consultation sometime its best just to focus on relationship building and not the technicalities of the GoA requirements.

Agenda item – Values, Objectives, Indicator & Target (VOITS)

- SLS provided a handout of the current VOIT table.
- SLS is working with the GoA on their development, now that the PDT is meeting regularly.
- Through working with the GoA it became clear the most efficient way to progress with VOITs development would be to start with the GoA VOITs as identified in the GoA Forest Management Planning Standards, rather than the last management plan resource management objectives and strategies.
- SLS has been working with the PDT to agree upon wording changes when required.
- Split out there are 32 VOITs, but some of the VOITs have multiple items (using a, b, c, etc.). A good example of this is VOIT 14 which represents a significant amount of work for the FMP.
- PAC – it would be helpful to understand what is GoA wording and what are items SLS has changed.
- Most of the time the changes are in the reporting column where the standard did not have anything specified or in the target (which works in conjunction with the reporting requirements). The majority of the content is from the GoA standards.
- PAC – Some of the bird species identified in VOIT 14 are really quite rare in the FMA area – you'd be hard pressed to find either the Canada Warbler, or Black-throated *Green* Warbler. How was this list derived?
- The Forest Management Branch & Alberta Environment and Parks came up with the list as well as the habitat models that will be used during the FMP process.
- Some of the wording has not been finalized with the GoA – these are identified in gray on the summary sheet.

- PAC – For water values – has SLS considered using John Pomeroy models and research?
- Currently ECA is the standard & will be required to achieve GoA approval, but SLS has preliminary reviewed the prospect of working with John and using his models / research.

Agenda item – FMP/VOIT Workshop/ Informational session

- SLS is seeking advice from the PAC for how to consult on the current VOITs. Initially thinking about a workshop but are open to ideas.
- PAC – Workshops are probably the best forum - keep doing what you have been doing, some people at the meeting are looking to learn so keep providing the background information.
- PAC - Set side boards on what the Company can and cannot do; in scope/ out of scope.
- PAC - Invite all the ENGO groups and some folks who are also open to learning about forest management. Trails associations and hiking groups should also be considered.
- PAC - Invite First Nations
- PAC - Water Valley, Turner Valley and Benchlands are good locations to hold workshops, maybe add Bragg Creek.
- PAC - Don't hold the workshop in Water Valley on wing night.

Agenda item – PAC representation gaps

- Through our FMP consultation two questions were raised about PAC representation, so it was thought best to bring it up as an agenda item with the PAC.
- PAC – Overall feels that there is good representation. PAC can really be considered a focus group and its really not up to others to decide adequacy.
- If SLS is looking for individuals a good source is from watershed stewardship groups such as Elbow river watershed or Ghost watershed stewardship group. Or could go right to the top with Bow river basin counsel.

Adjourn: 6:50 p.m.