



HIGH LEVEL FORESTS PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, September 5, 2006
5:00 p.m. @ NAIT College

Minutes

ATTENDANCE:

John Thurston, Chair
Marilee Toews
Caleen Warren

Monty Moore
Jeremy Beal
Scott McNeil

George Friesen
Henry Friesen
Cal Dakin

Arlene Powers – Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

John Thurston, Chair of the High Level Forests PAC called the meeting to order at 5:38 pm.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION

Moved By George Friesen

That the agenda be accepted as presented.
CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES – July 4, 2006

Marilee requested that handouts from the meeting be forwarded to those absent.

MOTION

Moved By Scott McNeil

That the High Level Forests PAC meeting minutes of July 4, 2006 be accepted as presented
CARRIED

4. ISSUES AND CONCERNS

There are none at the present time.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Annual Operating Plan & General Development Plan (handout)

FMA 0200040 – Sept 5, 2006

Major components of what is currently happening:

- Fire Protection Plan – done by George Burns from Tolko. Submits plan on behalf of both companies.
- General Development Plan – Scott to review 5 year plan in the fall
- Annual Stewardship Report – Marcel & Jeremy to submit. Will bring up in future meeting.

Scott to make a FMA PowerPoint presentation in some future meeting.
Suggestion made to review 5 year plan complete with maps

Q – Where can the public expect log trucks this winter?

A – FFP – Trucks will be originating from all directions

Tolko – The largest haul will be from Steen & Bistcho

Information will be available on www.highlevelwoodlands.com

Q – What is a Special Access Area

A – A Special Access area is an area set aside due to higher than usual wildlife activity.

5.2 Annual Allowable Cut

Jeremy presented a PowerPoint presentation – Annual Allowable Cut
FMA 0200040 – Ramp-up as per DFMP

Q – Why is there a shortage of Black Spruce Seed?

A (Bruce Avery, 09/25/2006) - Tolko has no real shortage of black spruce seed. Up until 2003 (last DFMP) Tolko has never harvested within Black spruce leading stands so there has not been a need to collect large amounts of black spruce seed. From 1991 we have a total inventory of 0.899 kilograms of black spruce seed which equates to approximately 719,000 seedlings at 100% germination. Since 2004 we have stepped up our effort to collect black spruce seed and will continue to do so.

Q – Would White Spruce grow as well as Black Spruce?

A (Bruce Avery, 09/25/2006)– White spruce tends to be a better competitor than black spruce on our normal growing sites. On extreme sites, black spruce tends to be a better competitor. Across the landscape the wetter sites are dominated by black spruce and tamarack larch because these species can tolerate the conditions better than white spruce. On the dryer sites (sandy well drained soils) black spruce and pine dominate, again because they can tolerate the site conditions better than white spruce.

If competition was removed from the “growth equation” I would think that black spruce would grow just as well as white spruce. It would be hard to see a difference.

5.3 Terms of Reference Review

Tabled to October. Arlene to send out electronic copies for members to review prior to the October meeting.

5.4 Future Topics & Guest Speakers

This generated quite a bit of discussion. It was noted that the mills need a commitment from the public in order to bring people up as speakers due to cost, etc.

Jeremy – to assist Tolko and FFP develop VOIT's (Values, Objectives, Indicators and Targets) for the 2007 Detailed Forest Management Plan, speakers could be used to assist the PAC provide direction to the companies. Jeremy will email a suggested list of topics that can be discussed at the October meeting.

5.5 PAC Promotion (Community GYKY Nights)

High Level GTKYN – Wednesday, Sept 13

- John & Scott to take lead roll

La Crete GTKYN – Friday, Sept 15

- George to take lead roll

Rainbow Lake Community Night– Wednesday, Sept 20

- Monty to take lead roll

Ft Vermilion GTKY Night– Thursday, Sept 21

- Marilee to take lead roll

6 OLD BUSINESS

6.1 Clipping Service (handouts)

Jeremy handed out copies of newspaper clippings.

6.2 PAC Field Trip

The Field trip has again been postponed. Derek Sidders (Silviculture Operations Specialist) from Canadian Forest Service is coming to High Level the last week in October while conducting a technical base tour. There is a possibility that interested parties can tag along. Jeremy to follow up.

Scott to look into something for November (possibly a hot pot / sulfur pot tour).

7. CORRESPONDANCE

There is none at this present time.

8. AROUND THE TABLE

Jeremy – will find out when Derek Sidders is coming to High Level to evaluate scarification on Tolko blocks. Jeremy to see if Derrick is available as a guest speaker for the October PAC meeting to discuss silviculture challenges and successes in the Boreal.

Cal – clarified SRD’s role at HLFAC meetings. Their role is as an advisory capacity only to the group, public and industry. They cannot consent to or endorse company views. They will answer questions but they cannot volunteer information.

Monty – If the group is interested, someone from Husky will make a presentation as to who they are and what they do.

9. NEXT MEETING – October 3, 2006 @ 5:00 pm at the Fairview College

10. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 8:00 p.m.