

Fraser Public Advisory Group (Fraser PAG)

Meeting #12 Minutes: SFMP Review

April 24, 2007

1. Call to order

Ron Frank, Fraser PAG Facilitator, called the 12th, meeting to order of the Fraser Public Advisory Group at 4:50 p.m. on April 24, 2007 at the Pantry Restaurant, Chilliwack, BC. The meeting start was delayed due to the Hatzic attendees being tied up in traffic.

2. Registration of FRASER PAG Members

The following members were present:

Al Stobbart, Inch Creek Hatchery	Chief Andy Alex, Union Bar FN	John Warren, Boston Bar First Nation
Allan Johnsrude, Ministry of Forests	Chief Sidney Douglas, Cheam Indian Band	Sharie Conroy, Hatzic Valley, Durieu, McConnell Creek Ratepayers Association
Bruce Edwards, Hatzic Prairie	Jim Baker, Boston Bar	

Members Absent:

Don Harris, Douglas First Nation / In-SHUCH-ch FN	Gurdev Sidhu, Agriculture	Lloyd Forman, Boston Bar Resident
Bruce Peel, Agriculture	Jean Warkentin, Norrish Creek Resident	Mark Bond, Reo Rafting
Earl Graham, United Steel Workers	Keith Warrener, Fraser Valley Regional District	Martin Edwards, Shxw'ow'hamel First Nation
Garry Davidson, Seabird Island Indian Band	Ken Webb, Agriculture	Shawn Gabriel, In-SHUCK-ch First Nation
Gordon Sherwood, Cacus Point Resident	Kerry Grozier, District Manager, MOFR	Steve Harvey, Hope Machine Shop.

Others Present:

Ed McWaters, May Trucking	John Pichugin, Teal	Ron Frank, Facilitator
Heather Morlacci, Observer	Keith Chapman, Teal	

3. Documents Distributed to Members:

1. Fraser PAG Meeting #12 Agenda

2. Fraser PAG Information Tracking System – List of Completed Tasks
3. Fraser PAG Information Tracking System – List of Outstanding Tasks
4. Fraser PAG Meeting #11 Minutes: *Criterion and Indicator Review* (Continued)

4. Health and Safety

Ron Frank reviewed health and safety items and asked members to put forward any health and safety issues.

5. Introductions of new faces at the table

Ron Frank welcomed and introduced Allan Johnsrude, Ministry of Forests. Ron asked the table to introduce themselves. Members introduced themselves.

6. Review Agenda for Meeting #12 / Adapt / Ratify

Ron Frank asked the group to look at the Agenda for Meeting #12.

Sharie Conroy asked that Sites of Special Significance be added to the Agenda. No additional agenda items were presented prior to the meeting. Ron Frank asked for the table to ratify the agenda as amended. Sharie Conroy 1st, Al Stobbart 2nd, all Members were in favour - none opposed. The Agenda was ratified.

7. Previous Meeting Minutes: Review for ratification

Ron Frank asked members to put forward any revisions to the minutes from the March 20th Meeting (#11) meeting.

Sharie Conroy asked Keith Chapman for clarification on what was meant by “detailed measurements” (Page 4, 3rd paragraph from the bottom).

Keith explained that the measurements include the tree trunk diameter, the tree height and the spread of the tree’s crown in two directions. These measurements are then scored by the Big Tree Registry criteria. [Height: 1 “point” per foot, Trunk circumference: 1 point per inch, Crown spread: 1 point per 4 feet. See: <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/bigtree/measure.html>].

Sharie Conroy clarified the statement (2nd paragraph, pg 10). The last sentence of the paragraph should read: The community can evaluate whether the professional is seeing and understanding what they are seeing and experiencing.

Sharie noted a typo on page 10, last paragraph, first sentence: “now” should be changed to “knew”.

Bruce Edwards requested that his statement in the 4th paragraph from the bottom of page 9 be amended. The paragraph was changed to:

Bruce Edwards said that all indications are that logging can only increase stream flow. The present condition of the creeks is an issue. Creeks are already overflowing at present without any increased run-off due to logging.

Bruce also requested that the 11th paragraph on page 10 be changed. The first three sentences of this paragraph were changed to: *Bruce Edwards said that no community should be endangered by logging. It is not a matter of just Hatzic Valley. No community susceptible to flooding should be endangered by logging.*

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Ron Frank asked the table for any more changes to the minutes. No more changes were put forward. Ron asked for a motion to adopt the minutes as amended. Sharie Conroy 1st, John Warren 2nd. The minutes were adopted as changed.

Ron Frank reminded the Table to be respectful of each other and each other's opinions.

Sharie Conroy, John Pichugin, and Heather Morlacci said that receiving a 100 plus page document on the Friday before the meeting was unacceptable.

Keith Chapman apologized for the poor timing of the distribution.

John Warren asked if the Table could focus on the outstanding issues as they have already seen the VOITs that they have developed.

Ron Frank responded that it would be good to review it so we have seen what we are moving forward with. We are only going to be looking at it for 45 minutes and then get back to the unfinished and important matters that John Warren has referenced.

8. Presentation: Fraser Sustainable Forest Management Plan

Keith Chapman displayed the Sustainable Forest Management Plan (SFMP) document on the overhead projector and started the presentation. Keith read the Introduction and the Acknowledgement sections. Keith asked John Pichugin to comment.

John Pichugin thanked all of the members for their commitment to the process on behalf of Tom and Dick Jones.

Keith Chapman continued reviewing the SFMP: *Sustainable Forest Management*, the *Canadian Standards Association*, the *CSA Forest Management Standard*, *Sustainable Forest Management System*, *Public Participation*, *Sustainable Forest Management Performance*, and the *Third Party Audits* sections of the SFMP. Keith reviewed the *Defined Forest Area* section including Tenures within and outside of the DFA and a general description of the physical setting of the DFA and an overview map of the DFA.

Ed McWaters commented that Teal looks after the Pitt Operation and Norrish Creek Community Watershed. May Trucking looks after the other areas on behalf of Teal.

Keith continued reviewing the SFMP. Sections on *Traditional Territories within the DFA*, *Forest Management Regime*, *Sustainable Forest Management Planning*, *Landscape Unit Plans*, *Operational Plans*, and the *SFM Plan & Links to Management Regime* diagram.

Ron Frank reminded Keith that the Table does not want to spend a lot of time reviewing that which they are very familiar with such as Chapter 4 (Values, Objectives, Indicators and Targets). We just need to know that it is there.

Allan Johnsrude commented that even though Keith commented that this plan is 'bare bones', it is enough to provide the information needed.

Ron Frank commented that he thinks the document will provide a great orientation document for new members to this table.

Jim Baker asked, "As a PAG group, how do we follow up on this?"

Keith Chapman responded that the Table will look at this in the last portion of today's meeting. Keith said that he would like to see two Members attend the external Audit in the fall. Also the PAG will get the full audit report which will provide info on how the audit was conducted and what good and bad things the auditor found.

Ron Frank said that it is time to address the Table's uncertainty around this.

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John Pichugin commented that it is good to be here and not in a place like Iraq where we can all speak out. We do have different values and we can express them openly. It is not a bad thing. It's wonderful that we can have that trust and openness. We need to find out what is important to other people. Teal did not know where this would go, but knew that it would be tough. Corporately, though, we knew it was what we needed and wanted. I am hoping people are getting more understanding and comfort of what Teal is about. Maybe we need a field trip. Maybe see the mills too? Our mills use logs as small as a 4 inch top and recycle the sawdust. It is okay if we don't agree.

Keith Chapman put Appendix 1 of the SFMP on the screen. Appendix 1 is a very similar format to the tables of VOITs that the PAG has been working on. The PAG still needs to derive Variances to the ratified Targets to date. This is one of the priorities for the Table. The other very high priority items for the Table include the issues the Hatzic community has raised and the Multiple Benefits to Society criteria for the Boston Bar community. The FPAG Table will start filling in the holes in this document.

Ron Frank commented that this table serves as a template for continual improvement utilizing all of the work we have done to date.

Keith Chapman noted those Indicators still under review (i.e. un-ratified VOITs from previous meetings).

Action Item: 12A Provide lists of VOITs under development for the Boston Bar and Hatzic sub-committee groups.

Environment Dept. Keith Chapman Due Date: May 2, 2007

Keith Chapman said that the Audit is scheduled for late September. This gives us about 5 months to work some of this stuff out. Generally, we are thinking of having 6 meetings (including tonight) before the next edition of the SFMP is drafted. We could have two meetings on our regular time line (i.e. 1 a month), take a break over summer and then have meetings generally every two months or so. We can spend the next two meetings tackling the high priority items to the Hatzic and Boston Bar communities.

John Warren asked for clarification on that the fact that what we have now is a "completed" SFMP with gaps.

Keith Chapman responded that indeed they presently have an SFMP with large gaps. This SFMP could potentially be put forward for auditing. The auditor would look to see if we have addressed the components of the CSA Standard. There is always more to be added – this document is really never considered finalized or completed. Once the PAG has ratified new indicators, then Teal will start tracking them.

John Warren said that, from his Lillooet PAG experience, they did a review with the Auditor and we revamped it and then it was audited a year later. We did not have blanks but we had an understanding that there were things we need to finish. We all know it is an ongoing process.

Chief Andy Alex pointed to the Glossary of the SFMP and the entry for Aboriginal Rights. Chief Alex said that he did not like the definition presented there. We have a lot of natural resources, there are social aspects, and there is the Traditional use of the forest.

Keith Chapman responded that we will always go to the understanding within our relationship when working with items such as Aboriginal Rights. Keith agreed that the definitions given there are culturally insensitive and "cold".

Ron Frank suggested that these terms related to First Nations be redrafted with the input from the First Nations membership.

Action Item: 12B Re-draft the SFMP Glossary definitions for the terms: Aboriginal, Aboriginal Rights, Aboriginal Title and present it to First Nations representatives (Chief A. Alex, Chief S. Douglas) for review.

Environment Dept. Keith Chapman Due Date: May 29, 2007

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Heather Morlacci commented that accuracy of these documents for professional review is important. In my professional work, the word accreditation – in reference to comments that spaces can be left without completion for CSA review – we call it quality assurance. In this process for accreditation, never is any space left incomplete. So the same should apply to these standards for Sites of Special Significance – despite however much time it takes to complete the indicators etc – all documentation needs to be clearly completed. We need far more time than getting a September deadline for this. It is important to have completion so Teal is aware of what commitments are made. I have only had since Friday to look at this SFMP document.

Al Stobbert commented that this process will go on forever if we cannot come to agreement. I don't want to see this go on and on.

Allan Johnsrude asked if the Audit can only go forward if there is a plan to deal with the gaps?

Keith Chapman responded that “yes” – this is an adaptive process and the adaptive management loop is so integral to this process. We can go on this for years and years. There is something like 42 +/- ratified indicators [actually 51 ratified Indicators] and 10 Values that have not been resolved/ratified with individual Indicators and Targets. We are close on a few of these “gaps” and not so close on a few others. The process to deal with these gaps is to prioritize them and tackle them in priority.

Jim Baker commented that it will be tough to get it all together. It is impossible. We can amend the SFMP at any time.

Keith Chapman commented that (wearing a “Corporate Hat”) Teal cannot go into a process that has no end target. The company is investing resources and it needs to take them in the direction of Sustainable Forest Management. We want buy-in from the Table, not a 51+% majority on contentious items. We have had remarkable consensus on all of our ratified Indicators to date. I would like to reach that state of consensus on these remaining items.

Chief Andy Alex said that he did not like Ron Frank's use of the term “mistrust” when speaking about the relationships between Teal and the communities.

Ron Frank apologized for using the term.

Chief Sidney Douglas said that you are not going to get anything done within a year. I am glad Teal is doing this. September will tell us how Teal has worked with the plan when the results of the Audit come out. It is a good think Teal has done this and I give them credit for having First Nations and members of the public advise them.

John Warren said that within 90 days of today an economic plan for the use of the land of the old mill site in Boston Bar. The economic plan can be developed with the Jones, the community and First Nations. This issue is a key factor to the communities in Boston Bar. We can develop this plan and Indicators for addressing economic benefits to the community.

Keith Chapman responded that the two issues - a plan for the mill site and indicators for economic benefits to the community - will need to be split apart. The old mill site is not part of the DFA or this SFM Plan. The mill site proposal will be a challenging document in itself.

John Warren responded that Teal's chart areas surround the community of Boston Bar and Criterion #5 is about benefits to society.

John Pichugin commented that the issues with the old mill site have been brewing for some time. I am willing to facilitate a meeting between Tom and/or Dick Jones, First Nations, and members of the Boston Bar Community. If you have a plan we can discuss it.

John Warren responded that there has to be a commitment to coming up with a plan, a commitment for that piece of property.

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Jim Baker said that we have plans in the community to use wood and we need a place to put it. Teal will not have to burn so much of their waste wood and we will get some people back to work in small mills. That site will require \$3-4 Million to clean it up in order to sell it. We are stuck right now. There is no other land available.

John Pichugin repeated that there is an offer to facilitate a meeting. John said that he would like to move forward.

John Warren said that we found in the Lillooet PAG that there are some things the company can track and that would help. So we could get some data that says "we generate \$X in the area". We could then start to set targets. I am part of this PAG because I want to see CSA certification.

John Pichugin said that Brian Taylor could meet with Jim Baker and John Warren to come up with indicators for Economic and Social Benefits for the Fraser Canyon communities.

John Warren said that they had completed a strategy paper 3 years ago. We could come up with that paper. We could aim for a meeting for mid May. We can work on Indicators for Multiple Benefits to Society and a strategy for the mill site.

A discussion at the Table determined that May 29th would be the date of the next FPAG meeting. A portion of the agenda of this meeting would be to determine dates for the other meetings.

Action Item: 12C Inform FPAG Members of the May 29th meeting date

Environment Dept. Keith Chapman Due Date: May 2, 2007

Sharie Conroy asked about Sites of Special Significance – where did this Indicator go?

Keith Chapman explained that this Value and Objective went into CFM Criterion 5: Economical and Social Benefits, element 5.3 Fair Distribution of Benefits and Costs. This was placed here because of the community's concern that they would unfairly be burdened with the negative effects (i.e. the "costs") of harvesting in their area.

Sharie Conroy asked where the Sites of Special Significance commitments?

Keith Chapman explained that this Indicator was not ratified by the Table so the Indicator and Target need to be developed to the satisfaction of the FPAG.

Ed McWaters commented that all of the concerns of the Hatzic community were noted in their comments to Teal's Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) advertisement. These commitments are in the FSP and Teal is legally bound to address them.

Sharie asked "So where did the Indicators go?" We are ready to talk. It is very unsatisfying. This should be put at the top of the May 29th Agenda.

Action Item: 12D Keith Chapman to put the Sites of Special Significance topic at the top of the May 29th meeting agenda.

Environment Dept. Keith Chapman Due Date: May 2, 2007

A brief discussion at the Table adjusted the Sites of Special Significance Sub-committee team members to: Heather Morlacci, Bruce Edwards, Sharie Conroy, Ed McWaters and Keith Chapman.

Bruce Edwards asked about potable water.

Keith Chapman responded that we did talk about potable water and it is in appendix 1 of the SFMP without an Indicator and Target. There was an issue that surface water cannot be potable.

Al Stobbart added that well water is not always potable.

Action Item: 12E Keith Chapman to distribute definitions and limitations to what can be called “potable water”.

Environment Dept. Keith Chapman Due Date: May 29, 2007

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

**The Next FRASER PAG Meeting will be held May 29, 2007 at the Pantry Restaurant, Chilliwack at
4:30 PM to 7:30 PM**