

**Sustainable Forest Management Committee  
“Ensuring the CSA Standard”**

**SFM Committee Meeting**

**April 14, 2010 (evening)**

**April 15, 2010**

**Tolko Woodlands Meeting Room**

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**April 14, 2010**

A. Introduction Meeting:

1. The meeting began at 5:30 p.m., with a supper hosted by Tolko.
2. Chairman Ron Black welcomed members attending the meeting.

B. CIF E-lectures:

1. Viewed two Canadian Institute of Forestry Web Seminars.
  - i. Stream Temperature Response to Forest Management and Natural Disturbance by Dan Moore.
  - ii. Wildfire Effects on Water Quality by Kevin Blandon.
2. Discussions following the presentation occurred, some of the items discussed include:
  - i. Monitoring of streams following fire and logging
  - ii. Use of buffers in Manitoba operations; the differences between Manitoba and BC
  - iii. Rehabilitation options
  - iv. Water stewardship board
  - v. Effects of fire on watershed in Manitoba observed to be much less than what was shown on the BC fire; presumably due to low slope and comparatively light rain events.
  - vi. Monitoring of road and culvert installation and deactivation
  - vii. Impact of beaver on water quality

C. Adjournment:

1. Wednesday evening meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m.

## April 15, 2010

### A. General Business

Chairman Ron Black called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. at the Tolko offices.

1. The minutes from the March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> meetings were reviewed with no changes noted.
2. Business arising from the minutes:
  - i. Review of Public Concerns Table was added to the agenda under New Business. Noted this will become a regular item on the agenda.
  - ii. Woodlands Manager, Doug Hunt was asked if there had been any progress on the utilization of Tembec wood. Response was that it is still in discussion.
  - iii. Briefly discussed export tax of 10% - with low rate of export to the US expect the 10% penalty export tax to be around for awhile. Normal export tax for Manitoba is 5%. Discussed lumber prices and Tolko sales to China.
3. New Business:
  - i. Resignation of committee member – reviewed letter of resignation dated April 3, 2010, from Lee Theriault. Letter to be filed with Tolko.  
  
Moved by Paul Chapman to accept letter of resignation from Lee Theriault. Seconded by Richard Gibbons. Carried.  
  
It was noted verbal notice was received from Chris Smith that due to his schedule he is unable to commit time to attend meetings.
  - ii. Member meeting assessment report review:
    - Individual surveys are kept by Ron Black who prepares a summary of the comments. Please try to hand in surveys to Ron Black at the end of the meetings.
    - Reviewed summaries of assessment surveys for January 20/10 and March 3-4/10. Discussed comments.
    - Summary to be attached to the minutes. Copy will be filed on the CSA site and available for audit.
    - Discussed idea of developing survey for people who do not attend meetings. After discussion decided it was not practical.
  - iii. Discussed information sharing.
    - Interested citizens to be included in distribution of minutes and agenda.
    - Discussed idea of expanding on community meetings to include presentations to community groups such as Chambers of Commerce, Rotary Clubs, schools, etc.
    - Discussed changing location of meeting – once or twice a year committee could meet in a community outside of The Pas.
    - Provide links on the website to forestry information to create learning opportunities on sustainable forest management.
    - Tolko indicated they would be interested in providing some resources to assist with the ideas put forth.

iv. Review of Public Concerns Table

- Due to time constraints and length of Public Concerns Table it was decided to table review to next meeting. Committee members to receive copies for review and discussion at the next meeting.

B. Indicators

Chairperson, Ron Black led discussion of 6.3.3 Criterion 3 - Soil and Water

Conserve soil and water resources by maintaining their quantity and quality in forest ecosystems.

**1. Review and Consideration of Indicator 6.3.3**

- Core Indicators:
- 3.1.1 Level of soil disturbance
  - 3.1.2 Level of downed woody debris
  - 3.2.1 Proportion of watershed or water management areas with recent stand-replacing disturbance

Discussion:

**i) Criterion 3.0 Conservation of Soil and Water Resources**

Element 3.1 Soil Quality and Quantity  
Conserve soil resources by maintaining soil quality and quantity.

Value 3.1.1 Healthy soils that will sustain forest-related ecosystems

Objective 3.1.1.1 Maintain soil productive ability, extent and variety

Indicator 3.1.1.1.1 Extent and duration of in-block seasonal roads and landings

*Discussion: Target 3.1.1.1.1 (A)*

Discussed reducing target of less than 8% of total harvest area for in-block roads and bulldozed landings and campsites. Company is doing less bulldozing with in-bush chipping operations. Roads are costly – industry is doing as little as possible.

Discussed should annual training and tailgate meeting reviews become targets or remain as management strategy.

Discussed mechanism for constant improvement and monitoring/helping contractors in the event of non-conformance issues.

After discussion it was decided Target 3.1.1.1.1 (A) will remain the same with the exception of reducing 8% to 5% in the target and management plan and adding '*including process improvement and corrective action plans*') at the end of the first paragraph under Implementation in the management plan..

Target: 3.1.1.1.1 (A)

Limit extent of in-block roads and bulldozed landings and campsites to less than **5%** of total harvested area each year.

Implementation:

Limiting the extent of in-block roads, and bulldozed landings and campsites will be achieved through awareness and training of contractors and through the operational control provided for in the EMS (*including process improvement and corrective action plans*).

Discussed adding a target around scarification of roads to increase productivity. Regen productivity on scarified Vs non-scarified would have to be monitored over a period of time in order to provide data to develop target. After discussion it was decided a target around scarification of roads is not required; present practices suffice and will be recognized in the management strategies.

*Discussion: Target 3.1.1.1.1 (B)*

Discussed insertion of 'non-productive period' into target. After discussion decided to leave wording as is as non-productivity is covered within the renewal implementation program for each cutblock.

Remainder of discussion focused on reducing the length of time before a road's productivity is restored. Discussed best management practices or scenarios for variations of scarification techniques to roads to reduce non-productive area. Could a target be developed around actively working to reduce non-productive period by a measureable percentage? Target would have to be specific and measureable.

Paul Chapman will come back to the committee with a proposal for a target to have a percentage of roads with an active silviculture treatment. Target 3.1.1.1.1 (B) will be tabled for review with Paul's proposal.

*Discussion: Indicator and Target 3.1.1.1.2 – duplicate of 3.2.1.1.1*

Indicator 3.1.1.1.3 Amount of area in all-weather roads (Categories 1 & 2) in place at any given time.

*Discussion: Target 3.1.1.1.3*

Discussed definition of road categories: Category 1 is more of a permanent road whereas Category 2 is 3 to 5 years.

Discussed need to keep target or if it could be dropped. Roads are expensive and Company is not going to spend money building. Discussed some issues around road decommissioning related to government and community considerations. Should Tolko be released from decommission if government/community wants road left. Politics is not relevant to this indicator.

Options discussed: Put a time frame to control how long non-active roads sit dormant. Notify government on decommissioning within 5 years. If can show satisfactory evidence goal cannot be reached would be released – if not would be in non-compliance. Work permits have a clause in place re decommissioning.

After discussion committee decided to keep Target 3.1.1.1.3 as is.

Indicator 3.1.1.1.4 Forest cover composition of reforested cutover areas

This indicator is a repetition and will be eliminated and kept for consideration under Element 2.1 Forest Ecosystem Resilience.

Indicator 3.1.1.1.5 Amount and distribution of coarse woody debris

*Discussion: Target 3.1.1.1.5*

Target is addressing the same topic as 3.1.2 (level of downed woody debris) – is it overlapping? Committee decided to wait on report from Fiona Donald on coarse woody debris before reviewing.

Discussion:

**ii) Criterion 3.0 Conservation of Soil and Water Resources**

Element 3.2 Water Quality and Quantity  
Conserve water resources by maintaining soil quality and quantity.

Value 3.2.1 Healthy watersheds

Objective 3.2.1.1 Maintain water quality and quantity as a result of woodlands operations

Discussion:

*Discussion: Core Indicator 3.2.1 – Proportion of watershed or water management areas with recent stand-replacing disturbance.*

Discussed how to define the watershed as it relates to the DFO. The watershed is so large and the DFO is only a small area in the watershed. Management of DFO is land based. Stream classification information is not available. Water shed goes all the way back to the Rocky Mountains – how could it be mapped for the DFO? How could it be monitored and complied with? This is a complex issue and the committee felt more information is needed before making determination on target. Troy Werstroh was asked to provide information from the government on the drainage basin for the DFO. Tabled core indicator for later discussion.

Indicator 3.2.1.1.1 Adherence to work permit conditions and Tolko SOPs guiding Tolko and contractor forestry operations on the DFA including those pertaining to rutting, protection of non-timber values, and for operations adjacent to watercourses including buffers and the handling and storage of fuels, lubricants and herbicides.

*Discussion: Target 3.2.1.1.1*

Discussed whether water sampling is applicable. SOP's (Standard Operating Procedures) are in place and reviewed with contractors.

After discussion committee decided Target 3.2.1.1.1 is acceptable as is.

Indicator 3.2.1.1.2 Condition of stream crossings and roadways in terms of erosion control

*Discussion: Target 3.2.1.1.2*

Committee felt target was fine as is with one change. Under Acceptable Variance decided to delete 'No variance in maintenance of crossings or roadways to prevent siltation and blockage that results in serious impacts to commercial or recreational fish bearing watercourse' and simply state 'No variance'.

Acceptable Variance: No variance.

**iii) Criterion 3.0 Conservation of Soil and Water Resources**

Element 3.2 Water Quality and Quantity  
Conserve water resources by maintaining soil quality and quantity.

Value 3.2.1 Healthy watersheds

Objective 3.2.1.2 Work towards an understanding of watershed health impacts /influences of forest operations.

Indicator 3.2.1.2.1 Reporting on evolution of watersheds research specific to forestry planning and operations.

*Discussion: Target 3.2.1.2.1*

Discussed origin of target – set up because targets could not be set due to lack of information. Should this target be kept or deleted? Is the research complete – could any information gathered be used to develop a new target?

Committee decided information resulting from 3.2.1.2.1 will be used to develop a new target for 3.2.1 and then 3.2.1.2.1 will be deleted.

C. Adjournment:

1. Next meetings are May 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.
2. There will be two indicators to roll over for discussion from this meeting.
3. Criterion 4 – Role in global ecological cycles will be on the agenda for discussion and review.
4. Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:15 p.m.

Attendance	
April 14 <sup>th</sup>	April 15 <sup>th</sup>
Paul Chapman	Paul Chapman
Terri Wyatt	Angela Enright
Bob Huck	Richard Gibbons
Ron Black	Ron Black
Angela Enright	Bob Huck
Troy Werstroh	Troy Werstroh
Richard Gibbons	Ron Spence
Ron Spence	Doug Hunt
Doug Hunt	Terri Wyatt
Amanda Lathlin	Joyce Totte

Attachments to Minutes:

Summary of Meeting Assessment Survey  
Public Concerns Table  
Criterion 4 – Discussion Items