



**Haida Gwaii Management Council
Quarterly Meeting Minutes
April 24-26, 2017
Coast Funds office, 745 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, BC**

In attendance (for all or part of the meeting):

Council:

Percy Crosby	Member—CHN
Sharon Hadway	Member—BC
Tyler Bellis	Member—CHN
Brian Bawtinheimer	Member—BC
Warren Mitchell	HGMC—Chair

Council Support:

Laurie Whitehead	HGMCIC-CHN
Veronica Cadden	HGMCIC— BC
Janessa Chinana	HGMC Admin Assistant

Staff: Nick Reynolds, Christine Fletcher, John Sunde

Guests: Jeff Mosher (Taan), Bob Brash (Taan), Dave Marquis (A&A Trading), Alesha Van delft (A&A Trading), Jonathan Fane (Husby), Tom Johnson (BCTS)

Day 1- April 24, 2017

1. Meeting with the Licensees

a. LUOO proposed amendment feedback

HGMC met with licensees to discuss amendments to the Land Use Objectives Order (LUOO). Licensees stated they would like to see the final approval of the LUOO amendments as soon as possible to facilitate the approval of their new Forest Stewardship Plans this summer. Generally, the licensees are happy with the proposed amendments but do note that other amendments proposed by the licensees are not in this set of amendments. The HGMC feels that for some proposed amendments not included in this LUOO amendment package, other tools could be applied by licensees to resolve the issues.

b. Forest Strategy Summary:

The responsibility for the implementation of the Forest Strategy has moved from the HGMC to the Reconciliation Table. During the recent Forestry Forums, there were many questions about the status of the implementation. Communication to the public on this has been poor to date. HGMC did ground work on the Forest Strategy—next steps to be developed by the Reconciliation Table. There have been training opportunities and some work on access to small scale salvage wood has been undertaken. A FLNRO engineer has a group in place to discuss road access issues. The licensees would like to work with the Parties and the communities to find solutions. It was suggested that the HGMC/Communications officer consider putting together a fact sheet on why manufacturing is not done on HG.

Action item: HGMC Chair to engage with Reconciliation Table on Forestry Strategy implementation status.

c. AAC Timelines discussion Summary:

An update on the status of the Timber Supply Determination was provided. The current timeline for the AAC determination is early 2018. Data collection and analysis is ongoing, and the status of cedar on Haida Gwaii is a topic of consideration for the HGMC.

d. Overview of Public Forums Summary:

The public forums presented by the major licensees on Haida Gwaii were held the week of April 3rd-6th. All major communities on Haida Gwaii were visited and had good community turnouts. The meetings covered a broad range of topics including local jobs and manufacturing, over harvesting of cedar, reforestation, road issues, ferry issues, and wanting to understand licensees, and CHN and BC's vision for the future. Each meeting focused on slightly different topics. A lack of public trust in licensees and governments was a concern. The HGMC and licensees discussed how licensees, governments and the public working together to develop jobs and provide better communication can help improve the industry.

2. Administrative Topics

a. Adoption of agenda:

Approved with amendments

b. Approval of February 2017 HGMC Quarterly Meeting Minutes

Minutes approved with edits as suggested.

Action: AA: make edits as suggested to February 2017 HGMC quarterly meeting minutes, circulate revised version for review, then create a PDF and post to HGMC website.

c. Review of Action items

Actions updated and accepted.

Action: HGMC to review website and make suggestions for updates to HGMC Admin Assist and Implementation Coordinators.

d. Old Business and New Business

N/A

Day 2-April 25, 2017

Staff: Nick Reynolds, Christine Fletcher, John Sunde, Sean Muise (via teleconference)

3. Timber Supply Review

a. Socio-Economic Objective:

The HGMC discussed the need for analysing socio-economics on Haida Gwaii as part of the Timber Supply Review. The HGMC discussed three general questions to analyse.

- 1.** What is needed for forestry to be a sustainable part of the economy of Haida Gwaii?
- 2.** How is the current industrial model working on Haida Gwaii in terms of achieving social and economic objectives?
- 3.** How does forestry fit with other types of forest uses and values in terms of its contributions to social and economic wellbeing?

Categories of information:

1. Current and historic economic conditions – direct and indirect inputs of forest industry to the local economy
2. Log market and logging phase info
3. Role of cedar
4. Community sustainability issues
5. What do companies need to be sustainable?
6. What are issues and where are bottlenecks?
7. Are concerns on Haida Gwaii at high enough energy level to warrant conducting a SEA?

Several options for HGMC consideration were discussed; including Issues around cedar, community stability. The TWG have prepared a draft document that provides approaches for socioeconomic assessment for the HGMC to review.

Action item: Warren: Contact RT to find out the status of the socio-economic letter from the Parties to the HGMC.

Action item: HGMC: Review and provide feedback to HGMC Chair on ‘Socioeconomic assessment for the Haida Gwaii Timber Supply Review’ document for May 5.

Action item: Warren: Consolidate and send comments on the ‘Socioeconomic assessment for the Haida Gwaii Timber Supply Review’ to TWG by May 9th.

Action item: TWG: explore contractors who may be able to undertake a socio-economic analysis for the HGMC TSR and get estimates.

b. TSR TWG Budget tracking update:

Discussion: Budget update was provided by the TWG.

Action: CHN IC to confirm we have right amounts allocated for TSR and other HGMC work
Discussion about whether to allocate additional budget to growth and yield project

Action: Christine to speak with FAIB personnel about level of effort to get growth and yield data incorporated into improved growth curve model for TSR

Action: TWG to speak with contractor about providing TSR support

c. VRI Update:

Status update provided on mature and young stand monitoring work that FAIB are contracting for. Main findings include lack of cedar regeneration (due to deer browse), site indices appear to be lower for all species than what was used in last TSR, and young stand monitoring projections are in line with managed stand yield projections (behind by 3%).

d. TSR LUOO:

Discussion of issues encountered with licensee LUOO reserve data for features such as CMTs, bear dens, etc. and whether patches of timber were being isolated. Disclaimer that there has been no attempt towards co-location of values retained in buffers to date.

Action: TWG to present on extent that LUOO reserves have been built up/level of constraints at next meeting.

e. Cedar partition:

During the 2012 Annual Allowable Cut, the Chief Forester (CF) gave the licensees 3 years to voluntarily follow a soft partition for cedar, with the intention that the HGMC would conduct a review to see if any further action should be undertaken. In March of 2017 a regulation under the

Forest Act was put into force that allows the Chief Forester to create Section 85 partitions at any time. The HGMC will consider this option. The TWG has results from the 3-year soft partition analysis that could be provided with a recommendation to the Chief Forester to move ahead with a hard partitioning if necessary. If the HGMC chooses to pursue providing the Chief Forester with a recommendation to create the hard partition, significant analysis work may be required. Additionally, asking the Chief Forester to move forward with a hard partition may push back the timelines for the TSR.

Decision: The HGMC will pursue the idea of recommending a hard partition, starting with a meeting with the CF to determine what kind of information the CF needs to make a decision.

Action item: Warren: arrange a meeting in late May between the CF and HGMC, in conjunction with Christine. Also, touch base with CHN to let them know the meeting is going to happen. An interest of the HGMC is to know what kind of information the Chief Forester needs to make a decision.

4. LUOO Amendments and Public Review

Discussion: During the LUOO Amendment Public Review, comments were received from six people. The six comments were reviewed (summary of comments and HGMC responses posted on the HGMC website) and addressed. Licensees brought up no issues with the proposed amendments and provided no written comments. The HGMC is planning to make a decision on the proposed Haida Gwaii LUOO amendments at their summer meeting in July.

Action: JTT to draft a response to go into HGMC decision package (and following input place on website)

a. Forest reserves

Minor edits to the Forest Reserve spatial layer are anticipated to be complete by mid-June.

b. LUOO amendment frequency and Heron nests

When the LUOO was drafted, the Heron nest fidelity for Haida Gwaii herons was unknown. As a result, there is no mechanism for licensees to pull up Heron nest information. HGMC discussed the option to add the nests to the LUOO Schedule 12 during this amendment or a future amendment process.

Action: JTT: look to see if there is an administrative process to let the licensees know where the nest sites are and to look into improving the language in the B&I document around data submissions.

Action: HGMC/AA: add to next agenda the development of a process for LUOO amendments – frequency etc. (to deal with continuously trickling in proposed amendments)

Day 3- April 26, 2017

5. Administrative Topics

e. Budget

A review of the HGMC budget was conducted and refinements discussed.

Action: CHN IC to confirm extent of carry-forward from last fiscal and work with SHN Finance to update HGMC budget template

f. HGMC Policies and Procedures Manual and LUOO Decision Making Process amendments:

Decision: HGMC approves minor amendments proposed by the Reconciliation Table.

6. Solutions table, Quarterly Report

HGMC reviewed the Solutions Table 4th Quarterly report for 2016-17.

Action item: Warren: write a letter to Solutions Table and cc Reconciliation Table noting that Solutions Table concerns regarding the Streamlined Process will be relayed to the Reconciliation Table.

Action item: Warren: talk to Solutions Table co-chairs about providing a short description of each non-consensus application in the Solutions Table quarterly report.

7. Heritage Policy update

The HGMC is working with contractor and FLNRO to create a second draft of the Heritage Policy for HGMC review that would meet the commitments in the Protocol. It is expected that this draft will be ready for the summer HGMC meeting.

Action: Sharon/Laurie: Request estimate for Heritage Policy work, including Briefing Note, policy document to use for regulatory framework, presentation and travel for meeting in Haida Gwaii. Develop contract for contractor that outlines work to be done by summer HGMC meeting.

8. Protected Areas Update

Discussed the progress of the development of the various Protected Area working groups and how communication between the groups should flow.

Action item: Tyler/Brian: follow up with Don Cadden and Robert Russ to have informal conversation about how they see the POAWG and HGMC work together in the future. Discuss process and let them know we have money to support the creation of the document to bring back. Invite to next meeting with MC.

9. Communications Update

CHN posting for a Communications Officer closes on May 4th. If new Communications officer is in place by the summer meeting, the HGMC will invite that person to attend the next HGMC meeting to discuss a communication plan for HGMC.

10. Next Meeting

July 18, 19, 20-Masset, Haida Gwaii.

Topics to include: TSR, LUOO, Protected areas, Heritage, Communications, afternoon field trip

Fall meeting: Nov 6-10, 2017, District Office, Queen Charlotte City.