

Haida Gwaii Forestry Strategy Forum Breakout: Group 3, Day 1

1. What are the most important factors that limit the delivery of economic benefits from the forests to islands communities?

- Energy (access, cost)
- Shipping
- Workforce (lost capacity)
 - o lack of young entrants
 - o end of baby boomers in workforce
 - o need to utilize new skill sets
- Provincial policies
 - o disadvantages milling
 - o need to subsidize shipping
- Matching fibre to processing (opportunity)
- Lack of understanding of impact of policy on investment
- Slow complex approval process
 - o Need to act fast to take advantage of good markets
- Big Thinking distracts from Smaller Action
- Wood waste
 - o Cost of disposal here
 - o Elsewhere, byproducts generate revenue
- Lack of Communication and Collaboration
 - o Strength in unity
 - o Sharing between management bodies
- Small scale of industrial tenures
 - o Unable to generate necessary capital for investments desired
 - o Slow process of growing businesses accessing more capital
- Cost of maintaining existing infrastructure
- Transition from old growth to second growth
 - o Balancing act
 - o Manufacturing to add value to lower value wood
 - o Volume of viable wood on accessible landbase
- Management systems hindered by finances, staff, additional duties

2. What are the best ways to improve this situation?

- Consolidate tenures
 - o Access existing funds to acquire Husby and Jones tenures for local control
 - o Increase access for salvage
- Expedite and simplify permitting process
 - o Increase co-ordination between licensees, ministry, salvage operations

- Matching permits to market conditions
 - o Selecting areas in favourable conditions with favourable profile for current markets
 - o Would reduce wasted wood
- Better planning for blowdown
 - o Recognize areas where blowdown is likely and plan for salvage
- Coordinate workforce
- Containerized shipping
- Training
 - o Career planning
 - o Entrepreneurship and skills
 - o K-12 curriculum, trades programs
 - o Access to funding

3. What are the top 3 priorities or opportunities for immediate action?

1. Steady employment
 - o Longer term contracts
2. Training
 - o Access to funding
 - o Stability of employment for trainees
3. Improving access to salvage
 - o Management capacity
 - o Speed up approvals
 - o Outside the AAC

Other priorities

Non-timber forest businesses

- o Tourism
- o Foods/botanicals
- o Maintain access

Balancing short-term and long-term initiatives

Virtual log yard

Haida Gwaii Forestry Strategy Forum Breakout: Group 3, Day 2

More specific immediate goals/short term actions (building on DAY 1 list)

Priorities, Who and How

1 Steady employment

- Guarantee of long-term work for local people
 - o 4-5 year contracts
 - o Attractive communities
- Database of employable individuals, qualifications
- MOU – “Hire Haida Gwaii”
 - o Bring all parties together on this – licensees, communities, governments, training providers
- Develop manufacturing capacity
 - o Common vision (community infighting)
 - o Export fees to be re-invested locally
 - o Utilize Athlii Gwaii/Gwaii Trust to support investment in local ec. dev projects and facilities
- Identify alternative (non-timber values in the forest)
 - o Utilize resources wisely
 - o Not necessarily harvest

Longer term ((employment)

- Incentivize long-term employment
 - o BC TS larger sales exclude local, smaller operators
 - o Smaller sales don't offer long term employment
- Need to consolidate timber base (one tenure, joint planning and operations).

2. Training

- Graduated licensing system
 - o First aid, pcol, food safe
 - o Driver training in schools
 - o Proceeds from crime funds
- Skills development for employers
- Mentor programs
 - o Match interested youth with industry mentors
 - o HG Trail as a training opportunity
 - o MIEDS community forest as training area
- Careers resources
 - o What jobs exist
 - o What skills, training, certifications are needed
- Entrepreneurship and business skills

- Promote these courses in high schools
- Build on these skills with post-secondary and adult education (NWCC, HGHEs)
- Collaboration between education providers
- Co-op programs with local businesses
- MIEDS, OMED, Gwaalaaga Naay, Youth Assembly
- Support (Forest) business development
 - Call for proposals, business support (HGCF)
 - Financial support (GT, AGLT)
 - Include training component (NWCC etc)
- Understand the end products

3 Salvage Operations

- Approval process is too slow
 - Need to respond quickly to market conditions
 - Regulations are appropriate if followed
- TO DO – submission to HGMC
 - Discussion at HGMC meeting
 - Working Group to
 - Lobby for legislation or policy change
 - Work with solutions table
- Pilot project to identify where delays occur in permitting process
 - Target 20 days, not 6 months
 - Is this possible? How? Why not?
 - Better to go through FLNRO and CHN than HGMC
- Access to small volumes for small scale local manufacturing
- Data base of wood needs for current value added
 - Mechanism to match fibre to those needs
- Pilot project? Pre residue survey Mieds economic survey to see potential of salvage/blowdown
- Need a mechanism to address salvage policy

Longer term (salvage)

- Salvage certification
- Pilot projects for other components of the forestry management regime
 - Reduce management costs
 - Reduce operational costs

Longer Term Priorities

Better Regen Planning

Recognize environmental characteristics and replant accordingly

- Plant alder?
- Protect cedar regen?