

Forest Gene Conservation TAC Meeting

Monday, April 30, 2001

Weyerhaeuser Office, 65 Front Street, Nanaimo

Attendance

Alvin Yanchuk
Brian Barber (for Dale Draper)
Sally Aitken
Jack Woods
Diane Medves

Question: Can Dave Kolotelo join the committee?

Review of Budget and Time Frame (Sally presented update) please refer to handouts of the meeting.

- All projects on going.
- Need to prioritize as soon as possible which species to tackle first on item 2B of the handout. The following two species are of interest:
 - Arbutus
 - Birch native (contaminated by introduced species)
- Need a one-day workshop with literature reviews on considered species.
- Could attract federal dollars to this work.

Ideal project works would be to tag cataloguing genes with scientific studies/questions on the species, then they both get done.

- Some of these are insect pollinated—Prunus, Cornus, Arbutus.
- different pollination dynamics to look at

Action:

Should have a background seed collection program to support any work required.

- Bank
- To deal with periodicity (Seed Centre).
- To deal with seed quality and testing (Seed Centre).
- Seed Collectors—Imperative to the program.
- Genecology studies require a technician.

We have \$20,000 this year for collections.

Action:

Develop a plan of what FGC Centre does and role of MoF in this program.

- Develop a strategy and in that create roles and responsibilities.
- Centre—Collects and distributes information with recommendations for actions of in-site and ex-site.
- Where do recommendations go? To be addressed?

Issue—Where do project needs get done?

- There could be Gene Conservation Projects that will require a structure like ETAC committee to be done.
 - Field component of conservation programs, i.e., Whitebark pine plantation requirements.
 - Long-term care of plantations and follow-up.
 - data
 - measurement and maintenance
 - analysis
- Need to get monitoring of plantations in-site areas (Parks, etc.) are the species regenerating, are populations still healthy?

Action: Get strategy in place.

- Response to strategy: role of Tree Seed Centre and MoF with Gene Conservation Centre at UBC.

Justin Stead: Certification Needs of Genecology

FSC Process: Weyerhaeuser private dollars used for his two-year stint in Vancouver at UBC.

Global Initiatives for certification:

- What has been certified, i.e., Fletcher Challenge in New Zealand, Sweden—in family selection?
- What should be?
- Certification schemes?

****Paper on what should be considered in the genetics components of certification systems.

*All in approval of this project.

Staff for UBC Centre for EGC

- Propose to interview both candidates—Sara and Andreas.
- Key to position: organized, personable, etc. administrative skills very important.

(Alvin and Jack in on interviews with UBC Sally at the end of May.)

All in favour.

Post-Doc from Brazil

- Scholarship of \$19,000—funding leveraged
- Looking for \$11,000 more for salary (Council will provide) plus project funding.
- Approved as long as the work is following on Council's priorities.

Issue of species: Water dispersal pollination mechanisms are not as applicable as insect pollination→more applicable Dogwood or Arbutus.

New Initiatives for FGC TAC

- Draft strategy and roles and responsibilities
 - Climate Change issue—could be something that needs study in future.
 - ↓
 - Centre could take on research components
 - ↓
 - Provenance study will move into climate change studies as well.
 - ↓
 - Date requirements: So we can play BC “What if” trends.
- Dependent on director of the UBC Centre scoping out this work.
- Need to go back to original proposal to FRBC and what it all encompassed for future directions.

New Members

- Dale as interim Chair (Jack to talk to Dale)
- Dave Kolotelo (possible)
- Don Piggot (possible)
- Solicit through Council, with members.
- New Chair required.
- Original Committee
 - Alvin Yanchuk
 - Jack Woods
 - Dale Draper
 - Sally Aitken
 - Cheng Ying
 - Diane Medves

Next Meeting

Location and time to be announced.

Forest Genetics Council Meeting: Wednesday, June 6, 2001 – new members for TAC should be on the agenda.