

MINUTES

Forest Genetics Council – Meeting June 15, 2011

Meeting held at the West Fraser Timber Ltd. offices, Quesnel, BC

Attending in person: Brian Barber (Chair), Larry Gardner, Tim Lee, Barrie Phillips,

Attending by phone: Rob Guy, Scott King, Joe LeBlanc, Al McDonald, Kerry McGourlick, Annette Van Niejenhuis, Raoul Wiart

Regrets: John Mitchell, Gernot Zemanek

Others: Darrell Wood, Jack Woods

Action Items

Responsibility	Action
Jack	Include discussion of FGC Bylaws on the September meeting agenda.
Items moved forward from March 16, 2011	
Jack	Schedule for discussion at an upcoming FGC meeting the issue of increasing the FGC role to include organizing nursery support.
Annette	Will quantify issues associated with growing high-gain coastal Douglas-fir in nurseries, and pass this information to Brian Barber and Barrie Phillips for TIB staff to investigate.
GCTAC members	Review the 2007 Indigenous Tree Genetic Conservation plan and seek input beyond GCTAC members. A new draft is requested for the FGC to review in September, 2011. Complete a revised plan by December, 2011.
Tim Lee	Lead discussions among the parties interested in the Thompson Okanagan high and low-elevation orchards and bring a recommendation to the FGC regarding where the orchards should be established.

Summary of Motions:

1. **MOVED** (Gardner / Phillips): Minutes of the meeting held March 16, 2011 are hereby approved. **CARRIED.**

Meeting called to order at 10:00 A.M. by Brian Barber (FLNR Co-Chair)

1. **Agenda:** Approved as provided

2. **Approval of March 16, 2011 minutes:**

MOVED (Gardner / Phillips): Minutes of the meeting held March 16, 2011 are hereby approved.
 CARRIED.

3. **Old Business and Action Items from March 16, 2011**

The following action items were reviewed and accepted as presented below.

Summary of action items and progress from the March 16, 2011 FGC meeting

Responsibility	Action to be done	Action
Jack, Brian, Kerry	Draft a letter from the FGC to Jim Snetsinger about the importance of genetic conservation and the social license component, and stress the need to have these activities properly resourced.	Done by Kerry
Jack	FGC members will review the Terms of Reference for the Decision Support subprogram and vote on whether to endorse it by an email vote.	Done
Jack to lead	FGC members will vote by email on appointing Guy Burdikin as DSTAC chair.	Done
Jack to lead	Prepare a letter by March 18, 2010, to Jim Snetsinger, recommending LBIS Tree Improvement Program budget allocations.	Done
Jack	Schedule for discussion at an upcoming FGC meeting the issue of increasing the FGC role to include organizing nursery support.	Advance to September
Annette	Will quantify issues associated with growing high-gain coastal Douglas-fir in nurseries, and pass this information to Brian Barber and Barrie Phillips for TIB staff to investigate.	Advance to September
GCTAC members	Review the 2007 Indigenous Tree Genetic Conservation plan and seek input beyond GCTAC members. A new draft is requested for the FGC to review in September, 2011. Complete a revised plan by December, 2011.	Underway
Lee Charleson	Communicate with anyone who may be interested about the availability of Aspen root-cuttings from genecology collections made in 2010.	Done
Tim Lee	Lead discussions among the parties interested in the Thompson Okanagan high and low-elevation orchards and bring a recommendation to the FGC regarding where the orchards should be established.	Underway
Larry, Jack, Lee Charleson, Guy Burdikin	Develop information outlined in the 4 steps above regarding Pli seed supply in the Big Bar and Chilcotin (see item # 5) and distribute to FGC members for discussion prior to the June 15, 2011 meeting	Discussion underway

4. **FGC membership**

Brian welcomed Raoul Wiart (Canadian Wood Fibre Center and CFS) to Council. Raoul replaces Judi Beck as the CFS rep. A representative for FLNR operations is still needed and is under discussion within the FLNR. It is expected that this position will be filled by September, 2011.

Brian noted that he and Annette recently received 3-year term extensions from Jim Snetsinger.

ACTION ITEM: Jack to include discussion of FGC Bylaws in the September meeting agenda.

5. Final LBIP budget allocations to subprograms

Budget allocations have been delayed due to provincial government processes. Final allocations are anticipated within two weeks. There is a low risk of significant modification to the budgets recommended by Council at the March, 2011 meeting.

6. Status of genetic conservation within the FLNR Tree Improvement Branch

With staff losses in the Branch, responsibilities for genetic conservation work have been reassigned. A review of these responsibilities will be carried out later this year. The Genetic Conservation TAC is reviewing the 2007 plan, as requested by the FGC, and expects to have a draft for FGC discussion in September, 2011. The internal TIB and GCTAC work will be coordinated.

7. Pli seed supply and need in the Big Bar and Chilcotin zones

Larry provided an overview of the issue and a summary of the field tour and meeting held on June 14th in the Williams Lake TSA. Increased planting due to fires and MPB have increased seed demand. While there is a large supply of seed in general, some elevation bands and some licensees are short of seed. The need for good seed inventory and background information was stressed. In addition, clear information on seed transfer is needed and any opportunities to modify seed transfer to free up seed supply for areas with limited availability would be helpful. Brian pointed out that Alvin Yanchuk will be asked to review existing FLNR policy regarding the collection of seed from plantations established with Class A seed. Larry mentioned that they are looking at a variety of ways to obtain needed seed, including seed production areas and wild collections.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM.

Next meeting: September 21, 2011 (to be held at the Provincial Tree Seed Centre in Surrey)

Minutes prepared by Jack Woods and Darrell Wood

