

## Minutes - Northeast EFP Core Team Meeting

**Date:** June 22, 2006

**Location:** Ontario Government Complex, Porcupine – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, NESI boardroom

### **Participants:**

Don Bazeley, Ken Durst, Dave Etheridge, Mac Kilgour, Jeff Leach, Rodger Leith, Scott McPherson, Stephen Mills, Lino Morandin, Annie Morin, Sue Pickering, John Pineau, Kelly Pyke, Dan Simis, Bill Snell, Chad St. Amand, Al Stinson, Sarah Sullivan, Tammy Tellier, Jian Wang, Nancy Young, Chad Yurich

### **Rodger Leith - Acceptance of FMP Models**

- Terms of Reference (FMP) must address how proposed model fulfills all FMPM requirements even if model is approved.
- Approval of model will include list of conditions for the use of the tool (may not be able to use Patchworks for all modeling applications).
- Planning team must be comfortable using the selected modeling tool (final decision rests with them).
- Approval of Patchworks is expected (with conditions) by mid-summer 2006.
- **A/I: Rodger to send link to FMPM directive.**
- Forest Analysis and Modeling Unit (FAMU) will assist SFLs with FMP modeling (support) and ToR development relating to models
- Benchmark Modeling – four spatial models are currently being tested and compared.
- Spatial models still have some issues to work out:
  - Choose 100% suitable stands for marten/NDPEG; don't make cores of 70% suitable with surrounding areas like non-spatial models
  - Must account for natural depletions (no spatial models can do this yet)
  - Must be able to do natural benchmark run and scoping analysis
  - Strategic planning is made more difficult b/c at time of public consultation, spatial models have already selected the blocks... model must be entirely re-run if there are issues with those blocks (resulting in different outcomes for AHA, etc.)
  - Hard to differentiate between strategic and operational planning.
- New tool has been developed to transfer SFMM files into spatial models; Best option may be to build all inputs in SFMM, then transfer to Patchworks for scoping part of strategic planning.
- Will need to be lots of collaboration (MNR, SFL, Planning team, etc) and good reporting.

### **John Pineau, Al Stinson, Annie Morin – RMF FMP Progress report**

Handout: summary list of projects that should be incorporated into new FMPs (i.e. genetically improved stock yield curves, marten core research, etc.)

**A/I: Need to show project status on abovementioned list (in progress/in use or approved/not)**

**A/I: Provide electronic copies of list to attendees/ post on website**

**A/I: Core Team to provide input and feedback on list...**  
**A/I: Post NRIN link on FRP website (Forestry Gateway)**

**Lino Morandin, Chad Yurich – EFP Pilot (Block 18) Update**

- Corrective Action Required in plan regarding communications
- Pw cones are available from Gurd and Thessalon for use in Chapleau
- Operational – will need target of EFP areas to placate FSC
- Very few individual trees left onsite other than Pw

**A/I: Variance from FMP needs to be documented to placate FSC auditors**

- Need some kind of formal exemption in FMP if doesn't meet guidelines,
- State the variance and how compensating for it (*i.e.* aggregate patches, monitor wildlife, etc.)
- Attach Chad's reports and CAR report to the plan
- Field verification of hydrology mapping to occur in late July
- Want to apply as much FRP science as possible in this block (AgNav, LiDAR, hydrology mapping, bird study, yield curves)
- Residual target is currently 10% of the area; should be 25% hdwd retention for NDPEG
- Shifting site from Mxwd to conifer – shouldn't conifer NDPEG targets be used? What would be left if stand burned?

**Dave Etheridge – Historical Forest Reconstruction Project**

- See how forests have changed over time w.r.t. disturbance and management
- Scanned/merged old twp maps into a GIS and overlaid current photos to show that what we currently model isn't true (discrepancy b/n 1961 and 1991 data).
- Aiming to have RMF data done by mid-summer
- Should use this as background/historical info for FMP

**Jian Wang – Growth Intercepts**

- 1<sup>st</sup> application/presentation of Pj Growth Intercepts study in ON (currently only used in BC).
- GI info is used to learn potential of sites by assigning a site index to plantations (must be pure, even-aged stands).
- GI is the annual growth above bh – measured approx. every 5yrs.
- Model links Site Index to ht growth (use equations to predict hts)
- Goal is to link physical attributes of site (soil, etc.) to growth
- Correlates well at 15 and 20 years (natural and plantations).. but not so well at younger ages.
- This data should now be used in planning instead of Plonski's b/c forests are more complex than 3 site classes. Could collect SI info while doing FTG surveys.
- Next want to develop conversions for interspecies changes in stand (esp. for Sb)
- Assumes that height growth is not affected by density – only by SI.