

## AGENDA

**9:00 AM - Wednesday, September 22, 2010**

**Location:**

Western Forest Products Saanichton Forestry Centre,  
8067 East Saanich Road, Saanichton, BC (see map sent separately)  
(Saanich Forestry Centre tel. 250-652-4023) (Jack's cell 250-715-6285)

From East Saanich Road, watch for a green mail box and a chain-link fence. Proceed through the gate and a stand of D-fir to a brown building on the right. The meeting will be held in the conference room in the brown building.

Time	Length (min.)	#	Item	Presenter
9:00	10	1	<b>Welcome and introductions</b>	Kerry
9:10	10	2	<b>Approval of minutes from June 16, 2010</b>	
9:20	10	3	<b>Old business and action items from June 16, 2010</b>	Jack
9:30	15	4	<b>Report on Pli orchard support</b>	Tim, Annette, Jack
9:45	15	5	<b>Update on 2010/11 budget allocation and commitments</b>	Darrell Wood
10:00	20	6	<b>2009/10 FGC Annual report</b>	Jack
10:20	20		<b>Break</b>	
10:40	30	7	<b>GenomeBC; purpose, direction, current applied call-for-proposals</b> Discussion on increased collaboration between the FGC and GenomeBC	Dr. Gabe Kalmar
11:10	15	8	<b>Overview of provincial seed orchard capacity and shortfalls</b>	Jack
11:25	35	9	<b>Subprograms:</b> - Cone and Seed Pest Management subprogram direction and chair - Decision Support subprogram report	Brian / Jack Lee Charleson
12:00	45		<b>Lunch</b> (provided)	
12:45	30	10	<b>Deer-browse resistance breeding success in western redcedar</b>	Dr. John Russell
1:15	25	11	<b>2011/12 business planning cycle</b> - Alignment with LBIS funding, expectations and process (3-year business planning)	Brian / Lee Charleson
1:40	30	12	<b>MFR Research Knowledge and Information Management Branch direction and issues</b>	Dr. Susanna Laksonen-Craig / Barrie Phillips
2:10	50	13	<b>Policy issues</b> - Forest Practices Board review of seed transfer - Professional reliance and seed transfer - Moving forward with climate-based seed transfer	Brian Lee Charleson
3:00		14	<b>New business</b>	
			<b>Location for next meeting (December 15<sup>th</sup>) (conf. call?)</b>	
3:20			<b>Adjourn business meeting</b>	
			<b>Overview of the SFC and tour of the seed orchard and nursery (as time permits)</b>	Kerry / Annette

Attachments to the agenda (September 22, 2010)

**Agenda item 3 – Action items from June 16, 2010**

<b>Respon- sibility</b>	<b>Action requested</b>	<b>Action taken</b>
Jack	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare a letter to Jim Snetsinger and Kathy Chopik thanking them for LBIS funding support, and express concern regarding FGC and MFR ability to meet MFR Service Plan objectives that are based on the provincial genetics/ tree improvement program given recent staffing cuts in the Research and Tree Improvement Branches.</li> <li>• Contact all FGC subprogram leaders and seek proposals for LBIS tree improvement funds that are unallocated. Response date June 30<sup>th</sup>. A recommendation will be prepared for Jim Snetsinger by July 7<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>• Put the three-year business planning process on the September FGC meeting agenda for discussion.</li> <li>• Add professional reliance and climate-based seed transfer to the September FGC meeting agenda</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Letter to Kathy Chopik from Kerry on behalf of W. Forest Products</li> <li>• Meeting/tour of WFP Saanich Forestry Centre; led by Kerry and Annette with Jack in attendance. Discussion of issues</li> <li>• No letter to Kathy and Jim, pending a meeting on Sept 29<sup>th</sup> with Shelagh Ryan-McNee and a better understanding of the issues</li> <li>• Done. Call for proposals let by MFR TIB (Darrell), with support from Jack. Review committee set up to evaluate proposals.</li> <li>• Ongoing</li> <li>• Done</li> </ul>

**Agenda item 4 – Support for lodgepole pine orchards – Tim, Annette, Jack**

At the March 25, 2010 FGC meeting, a Pli Support Committee was set up to look into the issue of support for lodgepole pine seed orchards that are having difficulty remaining financially viable. This issue was brought to Council’s attention by the Vernon Seed Orchard company. There were three primary elements to the request:

1. Support for seed-price increases
2. Support to re-establish existing orchards in locations expected to have better seed set
3. A per-ramet subsidy for all operators of Pli orchards.

Following the meeting, it was determined that point 2 was already available through the OTIP subprogram, and that this type of support had been used in the past by both private and MFR orchard managers for re-location. In addition, price increases are currently being reviewed by the MFR.

As a result of these discussions, VSOC decided to withdraw their request for Pli orchard support. It is the view of the committee that further support is not needed at this time.

**Agenda item 6 – FGC 09/10 Annual Report (and 10/11 Business Plan document)**

Annual report over-view to be presented. Annual Report being prepared. 2010/11 Business Plan and Species plans completed, with the exception of one information component. Publication in early October.

Attachments to the agenda (September 22, 2010)

### **Agenda Item 7 – GenomeBC purpose, direction and current applied call for proposals – Dr. Gabe Kalmar, Executive Director, Operations**

GenomeBC, as a component of Genome Canada, was set up to lead the investment of federal and provincial grant funds in genomics research across a variety of discipline areas (including forest trees). They have been operating for 10 years. Through a new applied call for proposals, they are seeking to move their investments to greater application. Increased communication between GenomeBC and people associated with the FGC is desirable. Dr. Kalmar will provide an overview GenomeBC structure and investments.

### **Agenda item 9 – overview of provincial seed orchard capacity and shortfalls – Jack**

Provincial orchard capacity, with the exception of Pli in some seed planning units (SPU), is generally sufficient to meet long-term needs (see table below).

Summary comments by species:

- Sx, Lw, Hw – generally sufficient orchard capacity for SPU with tree improvement programs. Nearly all seed planted is from orchards.
- Fdc and Cwr – sufficient orchard capacity and virtually all seed used is Class A, but there are some challenges to obtain sufficient seed across all SPU.
- Fdi - orchards producing well as they mature and it is anticipated that they will adequately supply provincial needs within the next 5 years (some SPU are already there).
- Ss, Pwi and Pwc – orchards producing adequate seed, but planting levels are relatively low and there are issues with the uptake of resistant material by operational foresters.
- Yc – remains problematic due to lack of seed from orchards and the cost of cuttings relative to using wild seed. High genetic gains from the breeding program are not being sufficiently utilized.
- Pli - orchards are substantially increasing production, but orchard capacity for some zones remains inadequate and production levels in the orchards is often below planning levels. Pli orchard production continues to be the largest impediment to the FGC meeting its objective for 75% of provincial seed use to come from select sources by 2013.

Attachments to the agenda (September 22, 2010)

<b>Summary of provincial seed orchard needs and current or planned orchard size by SPU (September 2010)</b>									
This summary does not consider possible expansion or contraction of SPU seed need with climate-based seed transfer									
Missing SPU #s have no breeding or seed orchard work underway									
<i>Seed planning unit</i>				5-yr. ann. planting (million)	SPU activity category <sup>a</sup>	Avg. seedling orders (mm) 2006 to 2010	# ramets		
SPU #	Species	SPZ	Elev. band (m)				Needed orchard capacity	Current and planned orch. capacity	shortfall and excess
1	Fdc	M low (south)	1-899	13.0	1	12.2	10222	10100	-122
2	Cw	M low (all lat.)	1-699	6.7	1	5.8	682	990	308
3	Hw	M (south)	1-599	0.9	2	0.7	262	1701	1439
4	Sx	NE mid	1000-1699	6.8	1	6.4	1273	2014	741
5	Sx	NE high	1700-2100	2.1	2	2.0	399	2071	1672
6	Ss	Mall PEST	1-500	0.8	2	0.7	867	1030	163
7	Pli	NE low	700-1599	3.5	1	3.2	4209	2776	-1433
8	Pwc	Cst (PEST)	0-1000	0.2	1	0.1	780	1135	355
10	Pli	TO low	700-1399	12.4	1	9.8	8482	10778	2296
11	Yc	M	1-1100	1.2	2	1.0	cuttings		
12	Pli	PG low	700-1599	40.0	1	37.8	32799	21693	-11106
13	Lw	NE	700-1599	3.5	1	3.0	988	2020	1032
14	Sx	PG low	600-1399	32.1	1	32.5	6491	5500	-991
15	Pwi	KQ PEST (currer)	500-1400	0.7	1	0.6	780	3728	2948
16	Pli	TO high	1400-1600	10.6	2	11.8	6346	3901	-2445
17	Pli	BV low	700-1399	17.4	1	16.7	14500	12806	-1694
18	Pli	CP low	700-1299	10.0	1	9.0	10242	7807	-2435
19	Fdc	SM	400-1199	1.4	2	1.1	881	1011	130
21	Fdi	NE low	400-1199	2.7	1	2.4	1808	2187	379
22	Fdi	NE high	>1200	2.2	2	1.8	1380	3350	1970
24	Hw	M high	600-1100	0.6	2	0.5	189	516	327
25	Sx	EK	750-1899	3.0	2	2.7	539	276	-263
28	Sx	TO high	1500-2100	3.6	2	3.9	787	1329	542
30	Sx	TO low	700-1499	2.8	1	3.1	614	681	67
31	Fdc	M High	900+	0.5	2	0.5	405	247	-158
32	Pli	EK low	800-1499	2.7	2	2.5	2140	2383	243
33	Cw	M high	700-1500	0.9	2	0.7	89	0	-89
34	Lw	EK	800-1500	2.1	1	1.9	618	1500	882
35	Sx	BV low	500-1399	9.9	2	9.0	1807	2630	823
37	Fdi	QL	700-1400	1.0	2	1.1	842	1305	463
39	Fdi	EK	700-1399	1.4	2	1.2	939	1147	208
40	Sx	PR mid	650-1200m	4.5	2	4.0	940	3964	3024
41	Fdi	PG	700-1199	2.8	2	2.5	1882	1293	-589
42	Sx	PG high	1200-1550	1.9	2	2.1	411	1125	714
43	Fdi	CT	600-1400	1.3	2	1.1	862	956	94
44	Sx	NE low	<1000	1.0	1	0.9	171	900	729
50	Lw	NE high	1200-1800	0.1	2	1.1	358	400	42
51	Py	All s. int.	all	1.2	2	0.9	673	1949	1276
							117,657	119,199	
<b>a. Activity category:</b>									
1. Advanced-generation breeding and orchards									
2. First-generation breeding and orchards only									
3. Genecology and seed transfer research only									

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## **Agenda item 9 – Subprograms**

### **Cone and Seed Pest Management (CSPM):**

Dr. Robb Bennett, who chaired the Pest Management Technical Advisory Committee, laid off as part of the MFR staff reductions. His strong leadership of the subprogram is missed. With this change, some discussion of the direction of the CSPM is warranted. The following points are relevant:

- CSPM set up by the FGC in 2005 following a review of needs
- Seed losses to pests are a significant cost to orchards and a major block to meeting FGC objectives for select seed use
- Three basic elements to the overall cone and seed pest management program are:
  1. Operational pest control (orchard managers; mostly OTIP supported)
  2. Extension to assist orchard managers
  3. Research to develop control methods
- The CSPM provides #'s 2 and 3 above
- The primary issues addressed by CSPM are:
  1. knowledge development to manage pests (not much is known about many pests)
  2. working with regulatory agencies to keep or add to pesticide options (very few are registered for use)

With Robb no longer providing leadership to this group, the FGC will need to either re-structure the CSPM, or appoint a new chair.

### **Decision Support subprogram:**

Lee Charleson (MFR Tree Imp. Br.) was charged with reviewing the Decision Support Subprogram. This review is now complete and Lee will present her recommendations. A review paper was sent with meeting attachments. I suggest focusing on pages 12 and 13 if you don't have time to read the full report (Key Findings; Options and Recommendation).

## **Agenda item 11 – Business planning cycle and alignment with the Land Base Investment Strategy (LBIS)**

The business planning cycle for the 2011/12 fiscal year begins with this meeting. Various subprograms advisory committees will be meeting through the fall and winter to develop their recommendations to the FGC. Calls for proposals for OTIP and Seed Transfer work will be released in December. All recommendations will be brought to the FGC for final LBIS budget recommendations to the Provincial Chief Forester in March, 2011.

The LBIS structure has business-planning expectations that will impact FGC planning. Brian will discuss expectations. Adjustments to FGC planning will be needed in some areas.

**Next meeting – December 15, 2010**