



Coastal Technical Advisory Committee

MINUTES

Tuesday November 6, 2001
Victoria, B.C.

Attending

Members: Sally Aitken, Patti Brown, Tim Crowder, Dave Kolotelo, Don Pigott, Dave Reid, John Russell, Michael Stoehr, Annette van Niejenhuis, Joe Webber, Alvin Yanchuk.

Non-Members: Charlie Cartwright, Diane Gertzen, Leslie McAuley, Gordon Morrow, Roger Painter, Dave Ponsford, Dan Rudolph, Jack Woods, Cheng Ying.

Action Items

Responsibility	Action Item
van Niejenhuis	Follow-up distribution problems with Painter and the Secretariat. Draft a letter regarding germplasm sale for Council's consideration.

Motions Carried

1	That an expenditures and progress report for each Seed Planning Unit will be tabled at the first Species Committee meeting of each fiscal year for review.
2	That each Species Committee will revise Species Plans annually prior to the fall CTAC meeting. Each Species Committee will meet at least once annually and provide minutes from the meetings to CTAC.
3	That seed needs for Seed Planning Units will be averaged over ten years (or as many years as available up to ten years) for planning purposes.
4	That all changes to seed transfer limits be reviewed by the appropriate Species Committee and widely circulated to silviculture personnel prior to implementation by the Ministry of Forests.

1. Minutes:

MOVED (Crowder) that the Minutes of May 29 be approved. **CARRIED**.

2. Species Committee Business Procedures

Program Administration

Jack Woods presented the timeline for administration of the program. The October due date may be pushed into November if necessary. The breeding program budget should be 'rolled up' by the fall CTAC meeting.



Distribution

Distribution of information continues to be a problem. The latest versions of the Business Plan and Annual Report were not received by a number of CTAC members.

ACTION ITEM: Annette will follow this up with Roger Painter and the Secretariat.

A discussion resulted in the following two motions:

MOVED (Crowder) that an expenditures and progress report for each Seed Planning Unit will be tabled at the first Species Committee meeting of each fiscal year for review. **CARRIED**

Program administrators will provide the summary of breeding, OTIP expenditures, and KPI for the past fiscal year.

MOVED (van Niejenhuis) that each Species Committee will revise Species Plans annually prior to the fall CTAC meeting. Each Species Committee will meet at least once annually and provide minutes from the meetings to CTAC **CARRIED**.

3. Species Committee Reports

Western Redcedar Species Committee (John Russell)

Species Plans (SPU 2, SPU 27, and SPU 33) have been circulated among members of the Species Committee for review and are now complete. The tropolone studies are important, as end users need to be confident that wood quality factors are not significantly degraded by increases in growth attained through the program. Evaluation of seed zones is ongoing, but changes are not expected for a few years. Marker-based DNA studies will provide us with information on the degree of selfing and the efficacy of attempts to reduce selfing.

MOVED (van Niejenhuis) that seed needs for Seed Planning Units will be averaged over ten years (or as many years as available up to ten years) for planning purposes. **CARRIED**.

Sitka Spruce Species Committee (Annette van Niejenhuis)

Production and breeding orchards are developing as scheduled. The donor program continues, and S.E. development is underway. The Species Plans have been reviewed and updated (SPU 6 and SPU 23). The Spruce Species Committee meeting of 10 April, 2001 brought the following issues to CTAC:

- The donor program seed should be on a 'use it or lose it' basis so that we make as much material available as possible to all users. This assumes continued support for the donor seed production program.
- All sexually recombined material released should have pedigree information released as well.
- Charlie Cartwright will recommend elevation transfer limit variances to the districts for weevil resistant spruce after discussions with the MOF breeders. This will be a temporary measure, and will be reviewed annually until adequate information supports or denies a definitive adjustment to the transfer limits.

Western White Pine Species Committee (Patti Brown)

The Committee has adjusted the estimated need for rust resistant Pw from 3.0 million to 1.5 million seedlings annually. Additionally, the nursery factor has been adjusted, encouraging nurseries to use rust-resistant seed more sparingly. Species Plans were reviewed and SPU 8 was updated. Questions about the value of the rust-resistant U.S. parents will be reviewed further.

Yellow Cypress Species Committee (John Russell)

Good progress is being made to meet all regeneration needs with high-value cutting material. The plans have been reviewed and SPU 11 was updated. Transfer guidelines will be reviewed in a few years when more information from trials is available.

Coastal Douglas-fir Species Committee (Tim Crowder)

Species Plans have been reviewed and updated (SPU 1, SPU 19, and SPU 31). At the October 22, 2001 meeting of the Coastal Douglas-fir Species Committee, the following issues were addressed:

- The Committee recommends moving the current southern source limit from 48 degrees to 46-degree latitude.
- The Committee will maintain current values for nursery factor (0.56) and seeds per gram.
- S.E. will be included in the coastal Douglas-fir program as a technique for delivering regeneration material.

Western Hemlock Species Committee (Charlie Cartwright)

All Species Plans have been reviewed and updated (SPU 3, SPU 24, and SPU 38). The revised breeding values will be presented in January 2002. The breeding program has made good progress, and orchard seed production is maximizing the delivery of gain in a timely fashion.

True Firs Species Committee (Don Pigott)

Species Plans for amabilis fir (SPU 9) and grand fir (SPU 36) were reviewed and updated. Two issues need to be addressed:

- Seed production areas in the northwest are critical to regeneration programs, and must be addressed by the Forest Genetics Council.
- The seed transfer guidelines were changed without consultation. This affected the business of a seed producer.

MOVED (Pigott) that all changes to seed transfer limits be reviewed by the appropriate Species Committee and widely circulated to silviculture personnel prior to implementation by the Ministry of Forests. **CARRIED.**

4. Future Program Funding

Jack Woods reported that the Forest Genetics Council is expecting to be funded at similar levels from the new Forest Investment Account that will replace Forest Renewal B.C. at the end of this fiscal year.

5. Strategic Plan Update

Jack Woods reported that Council will review the objectives of the program. The 75% orchard seed use target is not yet attainable, and will not be attained by 2007. A new Strategic Plan will be produced that will cover objectives, program areas, roles and responsibilities, Council and committee structure and principles of cooperation. This Plan is expected to be tabled with the Council in March 2002, and will likely be distributed for review by Council at that time.

6. Genetically Modified Organisms in B.C.

Alvin Yanchuk discussed the policy recommendation circulated in September 2001. This includes a moratorium on deployment of GMOs on Crown land in British Columbia. However, it recognizes that GMOs could be a useful tool, and thus research is permitted under strict guidelines and regulations.

7. Supplemental Mass Pollination / Controlled Pollination Funding Criteria

Joe Webber presented a draft guideline for the evaluation of SMP and CP funding eligibility under OTIP. This was developed by the *ad hoc* committee to review this issue. It has been circulated for further comments to both CTAC and ITAC before being recommended for implementation.

8. Germplasm Exchange

Annette van Niejenhuis discussed the request for access to tested sitka spruce germplasm by U.S. Pacific Northwest tree improvement programs, and the opportunity to obtain desirable germplasm for other species (e.g., western white pine) in exchange.

ACTION ITEM: Annette will draft a letter to be sent from Council to Ken Baker recommending that a germplasm exchange deal may be struck while the weevil resistant Sitka spruce is of value to the interested Americans. This draft letter will be sent to Council for consideration.

9. Gene Conservation TAC

Sally Aitken reported on progress with gene conservation.

Diane Medves has resigned from the position of Chair of the Committee. Dale Draper has been appointed Interim Chair.

Two upcoming workshops are noted below:

- A one-day workshop to review literature on minor species genetics and demographics and prioritize species for further attention is planned for December 2001 or early January 2002. Interested parties please contact Sally Aitken.
- A review of genetics and certification undertaken by Dr. J. Stead of the World Wildlife Fund, and G. Auld of U.B.C. will be the theme of a workshop on January 22, 2002. Contact Sally Aitken to participate.



10. Interior TAC

Jack Woods reported that the Interior TAC held a series of Species Committee meetings over a number of days in late October / early November 2001. They had good participation by industry affiliates.

11. Extension TAC

Diane Gertzen presented the current plan for Extension projects, and discussed the positive feedback from the extension activities. A number of publications will be available from this year's projects.

12. The meeting was adjourned.

Shiela O'Shea, *for*
Original signed by

Sally Aitken
Chair,
Coastal Technical Advisory Committee