

Geraldton Area Natural Resource Advisory Committee  
 Date of Meeting: June 2, 2010  
 Location: Longlac Sportsplex – Meeting Room  
 Approved Meeting Minutes

<u>In Attendance:</u>	<u>Present:</u>	<u>Regrets:</u>
Hector Vincent, Facilitator	*	
Evan Armstrong, MNR LCC Liaison	*	
Doug Haldane, MNR Area Supervisor		*
Tom Gross, Conservation Officer		*
Kim Groenenyk, MNR District Manager		*

Members Present:

Bill Hoff		*
Bernie Baillargeon		*
Deanna Hoffman	*	
Edgar Lavoie	*	
Ed Hoffman (Chair)	*	
Gary Selinger		*
George Horobec	*	
Harold Donohue	*	
Jamie Armstrong	*	
Remi Moretton		*
Louis Garon	*	
Steve Crawford	*	
Toni Moroz	*	
Yvette Metansinine		*

Alternates:

Bill Arnott		*
Bill Davidson	*	
Cory Nephin		*
Greg Riou		*
John Espinola	*	
Linda Beaulieu	*	
Harry Kelly	*	
Kyle Polesky		*
Scott Koski		*
Tom Hunt		*
Jeffrey Cameron, GFMI Planning Forester-Ogoki		*

1. Call to order – Hector called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.
2. Review of agenda – nothing added or deleted.
3. Approval of previous meeting minutes – no changes noted – Toni Moroz moved to approve the minutes, motion seconded by Linda Beaulieu, meeting minutes approved.
4. Business arising from previous minutes – No business arising from last meeting minutes.
5. Financial report – No financial report was made.
6. Correspondence – No correspondence.

## 7. New Business –

- A. Ogoki Update – Steve Crawford reported they went through their annual certification audit last week and all went well. They are working on the Painter Road and tree planting started today and will run for the next 5 or 6 days then they'll be heading further south.
- B. Kenogami Update – Steve reported one machine working to clean out culverts and road issues and that he and Deanna have been working on the FMP. Steve Yeung sent letters out to BMA operators concerning spraying this year with maps showing what areas will be sprayed. Louis Garon was asked by Evan what he thought about the fact that only the BMA holders received these letters and not the trappers. Louis said although he doesn't like spraying overall and wonders about toxicity, he realizes from a forest management standpoint, sometimes it's the only way to get the results needed. All trappers are encouraged to get in touch with Steve or Deanna about their trap lines if there are any concerns. All trappers do get the Annual Work Schedule letter and are encouraged to contact the company then also. Concerning spraying, there is also a 30-day notice in the newspaper. Overall, it seems there is adequate and sufficient notice being provided. Also of note concerning spraying, it will be necessary to use spraying going forward as it is often times the only way of bringing back the-conifer in numbers necessary for caribou.
- C. Objectives, final roads, allocations, etc. on (Long Term Management Direction) LTMD – Deanna reviewed all of the objectives with the group. Harry Kelly asked what would be the net reduction in production with the new caribou guidelines. Steve said the average has been about 23% reduction but it will depend on the age structure of the forest cover over the next 100 years. The reduction will be immediate now given they are permitted in only 1/5<sup>th</sup> in the new caribou mosaic at any given time. Harry would like to nail down a total reduction number. It will be difficult to say exactly given the plan is preparing to cut and map out areas with the new guidelines.

Edgar noted the plan does not show utilization of wood/timber (meters going to where, etc.) and was wondering if that was a requirement under the plan –whether or not the actual mills were named in the plan. Hector wasn't sure and said he would get back to Edgar after reviewing the FMP book. The 2004 manual is used for the FMP until LTMD, and then the 2009 planning manual will start to be used.

Steve then showed us on the map the roads being planned for the Kenogami. They have received many letters and had good discussions on the Meta Creek Road link with the Tester Road on the Ogoki. These three options all cross Meta Creek – they were asked to look at other options (by remote tourism outfitters). The Maun Road leads to eligible wood in 2016-2026 (B-block) which won't be allocated in this FMP as there is too much road to build in such a short time frame. They will try to stay on boundaries of C&D blocks. There is a lot of opposition in previous Plans on crossing the Esnagami river, which is the only potential alternative to accessing this particular "B" block. An Esnagami river bridge would be expensive and it's a huge amount of distance to haul gravel – especially since there's not much gravel in the area of the Storm Rd and it has to be trucked in. These are just a few of the issues surrounding this area.

Sedge Lake Road – Gamsby Road – Statesman South (Lake Nipigon Road link) looking to upgrade and widen. Lake Nipigon FMP shows 3 options to provide a shorter haul distance to Terrace Bay. They're wanting an option to link up with the Gamsby Road to the Goldfield, so that's the one that appears to be the best choice – a 60 to 80 foot bridge needs to be built, (which is a big expense).

South-end roads – lots of rugged ground – the yield per hectare is lots less here. The whole area wasn't roaded well in the past. They are using 3 dimensional views to develop a plan for suggested roads. Construction expenses have lessened a bit over the years due to the new equipment available and more information/detail. There will be more long term construction here due to few stands being selected for harvest by SFMM. The Esker Lake road linked off the Catlonite road to provide access up to the Catlonite and to Terrace Bay and from the Pic River Ojibway Forest too. The status of the Aquasabon Project and how it will flood parts of the Catlonite road is unknown right now. It could be a huge problem on how to reposition the road. This road and the Wintering Road were built along the valleys amongst cliffs – it's just not known what affect the project will have. Louis Garon noted not much is happening right now with the project.

The Kassagimini Link to the Big Pic Forest for winter roads to haul wood to Hearst and Kap will change from temporary to permanent access. Little Selwyn will continue to the Rail Line to facilitate some volume going to the east (Lecours Lumber).. Castlebar Road has been connected to the old LWI road (Trestle East Road). It's very swampy terrain to the north and very rocky/hard terrain to the south. Other roads in this area of the Rail Line discussed were the Ogahalla Creek Road and the Atikasibi Road. The Mistake Creek/Phillips and Broadsword/Pout existing links to the Big Pic, will also be upgraded to Primary.

There was some discussion about cutting large clear-cuts to the highway. Toni was concerned about the aesthetics and its affect on the traveler and tourism. This is also some of the best wood, easier to obtain and will be necessary in order to meet obligations. Edgar suggested cutting the first part along the highway in the first 5 to 10 years, then the balance 10 to 20 years after that to allow for some growth in the front before taking from the back.

- D. Statement of Plan Support: Toni and Louis represent GANRAC on the FMP planning team for the Kenogami Forest. As a requirement of the plan, a "Statement of Plan Support" was presented and read to the group, for Ed Hoffman's signature. Toni and Louis both provided information on how the process has been going so far and made themselves available for questions. Toni moved to have the Statement of Plan Support accepted; the motion was seconded by Harry Kelly – statement accepted. There are no objections to the LTMD process and resulting management strategy and subsequent allocations thus far.
- E. Joint Meeting Feedback: Edgar gave us a nice slide show on the Mining and Land Reclamation workshop. 16 people attended, 11 were LCC members from our LCC and the Lake Nipigon LCC. 5 were presenters and MNR staff. The total expenses for the workshop were \$181.50. Thanks to Edgar and George for all of the arrangements.
- F. Minor Items:
- 1). The Adopt an Access Point work is still in progress. We need to make sure we get all the old and out-dated signs back in for correction. Evan asked that anyone seeing an old sign please remove it and return it the MNR.
  - 2). Starting with the September meeting, we will start having supper meetings at every meeting, not just a couple times a year. The Lake Nipigon LCC does this and maybe it will help to increase our attendance and membership if we offer dinner with the meeting. We will try it and see how it goes.
  - 3). Evan put up a few slides on the wood processing sites/mill closures throughout Ontario highlighting the ones closed. Action: He will forward this to everyone.

- G. Kenogami Dam Update/GEDC Application - The GEDC approved our request for the \$5,000 for the Kenogami Dam Access trail. The letter to OPG requesting their share (\$5,000) was sent and we're waiting on their response. Receipts will need to be submitted and then reimbursement made.
  - H. Crown Land Camping - Conservation Officers will now be enforcing Access point camping times and enforcing the 21-day camping rule. Access Point campers must now be at camp from 11pm to 5am. This will be enforced by the C/Os at Fraser, Elizabeth and Jesse Lakes access points. On Wild Goose Lake, McKay Lake, Turkey Lake, Lauhti's the C/Os will be enforcing the 21-day camping rule – and the 100 meters distance has been changed to a 1000-meter move, thereby eliminating the ability to stay at the same lake in most cases. This will begin August 1<sup>st</sup> and will appear in the newspaper to inform the public. There may be some grace periods in the first year.
  - I. Tenure Reform Meeting – In order to get one of the speakers making the “road trip” presentations, we must have at least 75% of our group in attendance (15 members). The majority of the group felt that June 22<sup>nd</sup> would be the best date. Harold and Harry attended the presentation in Hearst and are planning on attending the one in Nipigon on June 17<sup>th</sup>. Dinner will be served there at 5:30 and the presentation is at 6:30pm. Action: Evan will advise the group.
  - K. McKay Lake – Bill Davidson just had a quick question about what some guys were doing out at McKay. Evan said they are doing mercury sampling on lake trout. They do have a scientific collectors permit to do the sampling.
8. The next meeting is September, but the Fire Centre is not available. We're looking at the 15<sup>th</sup>, but Action: Evan will need to advise later.
9. Adjournment – Ed Hoffman moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 pm.