

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

It is great to see the flow of benefits from the Mid Island Forest Operations continue to build with new jobs and spending coming to the local economy. 2011 was a better year for our forest sector than in some of the recently past years.

Through the recent Public Participation Satisfaction Survey, one of the MIFLAG-WFP Indicators, members agreed that MIFLAG and the CSA forest certification process worked! With that said, members indicated a need to communicate better with the public, to continue to invite, encourage and include First Nations representation on MIFLAG and to look at more interaction with other local decision-making processes that are involved in sustainability issues.

The number of regular meetings of MIFLAG fell this year with weather being a big factor! Still we did have our annual field trip and it was good to have Jeff Ternan, MIFO Manager provide the guest presentation at our Christmas meeting. Most of MIFLAG's energies this year were spent making the transition from an old CSA standard to the new standard by reworking and replacing our indicator set—those things we measure annually to track how continual improvement in forest management on the DFA is progressing.

MIFLAG has provided public participation to the CSA certification of the DFA since 1998. During this time, several forest companies have managed these lands. I am pleased to report that WFP has been supportive, responsive and dedicated to the relationship with MIFLAG and forest certification.

Thank you to WFP for being responsive to MIFLAG and for providing technical support, research, meals, meeting space and the all-important field trips and guest speakers. These things help make MIFLAG the success it is.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the past and present MIFLAG members who have given so freely of your time and energy to MIFLAG in the effort towards sustainable forest management and sustainable communities. Your efforts have certainly not gone unnoticed. I also thank the families of our MIFLAG members who support our efforts and who go without their loved ones while they attend MIFLAG meetings.

For More Information:

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ISO 14001



MIFLAG 2011 ANNUAL REPORT



Who Are We? Mid Island Forest Lands Advisory Group (MIFLAG) is an independent body providing organized and regular input to the development, implementation, and ongoing improvement of Western Forest Products (WFP) Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) system at the Mid Island Forest Operations. The Mid Island Forest Lands Advisory Group operates under Canadian Standards Association Z809-08 Forest Certification.

Our Mission as volunteer members is to represent the values of our communities, our stakeholder groups, and ourselves in order to ensure Sustainable Forest Management practices on the Defined Forest Area. This is accomplished by: developing, tracking, discussing and continually improving a set of 'Criteria and Indicators' related to these values; and by having an ongoing dialogue with Western Forest Products representatives to ensure that the environment of the Defined Forest Area, and the communities which rely on them, are sustained.

Our Representatives range from many community stakeholder groups and First Nations from the surrounding communities, including Sayward and Campbell River.

The Defined Forest Area (DFA) is the land base on which MIFLAG advises Western Forest Products and includes approximately 157,000 hectares of provincial crown forest land within Block 2 of Tree Farm License 39. This includes much of the Memekay River, White River and Adam River watersheds.



Accountability is a strength of the Canadian Standards Association Z809 (CSA Z809) found through the process of public stakeholder and First Nation participation through MIFLAG and in auditing, by third party auditors, to ensure compliance with agreed upon measurables, which are called indicators. MIFLAG currently has 43 indicators measuring and tracking a range of items from respect for First Nations values, public education and outreach, to stakeholder and First Nations satisfaction with the process. There are indicators reflecting environmental, social and economic aspects of forest certification. These indicators have been developed by MIFLAG with WFP in our effort to measure continued improvement in Sustainable Forest Management while truly reflecting the community values expressed by MIFLAG representatives.

Certification of Western Forest Products Mid Island Forest Operations (MIFO): Since May 1999, MIFO has successfully passed all audits and MIFLAG continues to express our community and First Nations values through this forest certification process.

Mid Island Forest Lands Advisory Group

MEMBERSHIP IN MIFLAG OVER THE PAST YEAR

This past year Morgan Ostler, a long standing member of MIFLAG in several capacities has said ‘good bye’. Her enthusiasm and buoyant attitude always lifted our spirits, while her determined work ethic kept us ‘on our toes’. Morgan has moved on to other things and we wish her well while thanking her for all she has given us. Morgan’s Irish humour will be missed.

We have said hello to Sayward Councilor Norm Kirschner who replaces an energetic and insightful Rosemarie Croteau. Thank you to Rosemarie for your energy, time and commitment to MIFLAG over the past few years. Rosemarie stood out among MIFLAG members for focusing on dessert and not dinner!



Our membership has remained relatively stable over this past year, however, MIFLAG has provided direction to ensure membership participation is dedicated and participatory. To do this, MIFLAG continues to invite and encourage First Nation representation and is focusing on ensuring existing members have alternates so that their respective stakeholder groups and First Nations may be well served by MIFLAG’s efforts in the area of Forest Certification.

Active Members		Standing Members	
John Andres	MFLNRO	Tony Clark	Western Forest Products
Kelly Arkell	Dyer Logging Co. Ltd.	Michel de Bellefeuille	Western Forest Products
Sandra Barnes	CR Environmental Committee	Cindy Fife	Western Forest Products
Maureen Brinson	Member at Large	Jeff Ternan	Western Forest Products
Colin Buss	CR Chamber of Commerce	Alternates	
Clay Carlson	Timberline Secondary School	Colleen Evans	CR Chamber of Commerce
Richard Glover	Sayward Fish and Game Club	Al Braybrook	Village of Sayward
Norm Kirschner	Village of Sayward	Ron Pollock	Seniors Representative
Rod Naknakim	Hamatla Treaty Society	Al Rimell	Acklands Grainger
Lynn Nash	Seniors Representative	Julie Sigurdson	CR Environmental Committee
Melissa Quocksister	K’ómoks First Nation	Mary Storry	Strathcona Regional District
John Smith-Chief	Tlowitsis First Nation	Bill West-Sells	Sayward Fish and Game
Rick Wangler	United Steelworkers Local 1-363	Support Staff	
Gerald Whalley	Strathcona Regional District	Ron Frank	Facilitator-Shelterwood Forest Management Ltd.
Ted Wild	Acklands Grainger	Cindy Huber	Recording Secretary

MIFLAG MEMBERS SPEAK

MIFLAG works by consensus but our members have their stakeholder/First Nation perspectives and their own viewpoints and key values which they represent to MIFLAG. Here is what some of our members had to say about MIFLAG in 2012:

Sayward Fish and Game: Through MIFLAG WFP has been responsive to our concerns as we continue to work for the health of the Salmon River and its fish populations. We didn’t have a lot of meetings this year because the weather was awful.

—Richard Glover

Campbell River Chamber of Commerce (COC): The local Chamber advocates for about 435 members in Campbell River and District. MIFLAG highlights for me were the field trip and seeing a bear, and the fun Christmas meeting. I will continue to provide updates and a report to the COC based on my participation with MIFLAG.

—Colin Buss



K’ómoks First Nation: This past year has been an extremely busy year for our K’ómoks First Nation as we move quickly towards ratification of an Agreement in Principle with Canada and British Columbia. With our limited capacity it has not been possible for our Nation to be fully represented at MIFLAG. We do keep up to date on MIFLAG issues through the Chair, Ronald Frank, and sometimes send feedback to the MIFLAG table through him. We do support MIFLAG and encourage members to focus efforts on sustaining the forest resource base on which we all rely.

—Melissa Quocksister

Seniors Representative: Through a set of criterion and indicators that MIFLAG has developed, MIFLAG endeavors to provide WFP with a broad perspective on how we feel the public’s forests can be managed sustainably and to the best advantage of all. MIFLAG representatives take their responsibilities very seriously and WFP respects the collective wisdom of the group.

—Lynn Nash

