

MIFLAG Meeting Minutes Field Tour Thursday July 20, 2017

Time: 3:30 pm- first stop

Pickups: 3:00 pm pickup Spirit Square, 3:30 pm pickup Big Tree Junction

Drop off Spirit Square: 9:30pm

Attendees: Richard Glover (Sayward Fish and Game Club), Lynn Nash (Seniors Rep), Sandra Barnes (Campbell River Environmental Committee), Jason Hutchinson (medium size contractors, SNRC), Maureen Hunter (member at large), Harvey Hunter (observer), Christine Kuizema (small contractor, Ranger Forest Services Ltd.), Jill West (facilitator)

Campbell River Chamber of Commerce Reps: Gina Forsyth, Leona Perkins, Craig Rennison, Bev Herperger, Renee Lange

WFP Attendees: Taisa Brown (Field Planner), Sarah Germain (Field Planner), Kelly McMahon (Area Planner)

Kelly reviewed safety protocol and what the group would do in the event of an emergency. PPE (high vis and hardhats) were provided for all present.

1st Stop: Salmon River Bridge Stop along the Big Tree Mainline- Tony Clark- Mid Island Area Planner met us to discuss the topic of gravel guards. Discussion continues and consensus is not achieved on this topic. There is lots of member interest in putting in gravel guards. Tony discussed the bridge structure, maintenance program currently at Mid Island and the current mitigation strategies to decrease sediment into the Salmon River.

2nd Stop: Herbicide block- Taisa Brown walked the group through a herbicide treatment for Alder in a very brushy area. She also noted the use of LiDAR to be very effective in planning blocks for treatment.

Taisa explained the different application methods, aerial and ground and detailed the pros and cons of each. Taisa also noted the active ingredients in the ground application and went over the half-life and specific concerns related to soils, riparian and wildlife.

Taisa reviewed a sustainable development study in which chemical and manual treatments analyzed the effects on various ecological, social acceptability, worker health and safety, job creation, public health and safety.

Action item: Taisa to email out study and active ingredient documents to group.

Taisa also noted that the Notice of Intent to treat for Mid Island in alignment with the Mid Island PMP was being reviewed and blocks were being determined.

Action Item: WFP to review the NIT blocks in the September meeting.

3rd Stop: Karst Block- 40276

Taisa mentioned that she did the Site Plan field walk for this block and it has a multitude of resource features including: riparian, karst, goshawk, visuals, rec site, sensitive soils to name a few. Sarah led us through a tour of an inactive goshawk nest within this block and detailed the engineering phase of block planning. She reviewed the goshawk protocol that WFP undertakes when working in and around goshawk nests.

Sarah then led us to some karst features, a sink hole, disappearing stream and cave within the block. She discussed the assessment process when working in areas with karst features and reviewed the harvest instructions for the block. Sarah also reviewed windfirming techniques with the group and when and where it is used.

The group adjourned around 8:00pm and drove back to the original pickup locations.