Wood Preservation Canada
Préservation du bois Canada

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MINUTES
October 27th, 2014
Vancouver, BC

Dave Alexander	Michael Hoffman	Rod Stirling
Kevin Archer	Marc Landry	Ron Zeegers
Ana-Mari Banu	Pat Lauriente	
Jake Blackmore	Tom Lewis	
Kathy Bleiker	Ian Macdonald	
Corey Boilard	Elizabeth Marion	
Dallin Brooks	Peter Mason	
Brad Burmeister	Larry McTaggart	
Linus Clark	Paul Morris	
Sylvain Couture	Tom Moryto	
Mary-Anne Dalkowski	Russ Permann	
Paul Dandy	Shea Pletzer	
Brian Delbrueck	Lawrence Prendiville	
John Douglas	Maureen Prendiville	
Craig Frohlich	Howard Pruden	
Danny Goodine	Todd Schoffstoll	

Staff:

Martin Tauvette

Committee Members:

Mr. Marc Landry (Chairperson)
Mr. Craig Frohlich
Mr. Brian Delbrueck
Mr. Rick Knechtel
Mr. Jim Mogan
Dr. Paul Morris
Mr. Lawrence Prendiville
Mr. Craig Wilson

202 – 2141 Thurston Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1G 6C9
TEL 613-737-4337 • **FAX** 613-247-0540 • info@woodpreservation.ca • **www.woodpreservation.ca**

1. Call to Order

Chairman M. Landry called the meeting to order.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Motion by D. Goodine to adopt the agenda.
Seconded by P. Dandy

CARRIED

3. Adoption of Minutes

Motion by E. Marion to adopt the minutes of the previous meeting held April 28th, 2014.
Seconded by D. Goodine

CARRIED

4. AWPA Activities

Dr. Paul Morris reported on the activities of the American Wood Protection Association (AWPA) at the 2014 Annual Meeting in Newport Beach, California. Much discussion focused on issues of quality assurance and changes to standards, as reported premature failures of treated Southern Pine decking have escalated from a handful a year to as many per month. Canadian shell treatment studies are turning out to be relevant in studying this trend. A proposal to increase retentions by 15% to ensure that treated material met third-party inspection was turned down. A proposal to raise 2" decking to UC4A (ground contact) was turned down. Task forces were struck to revise the use class system and to educate consumers and retailers. A proposal was approved to require field treatment of cuts in Southern Pine that expose wood to decay. An FPI proposal to change the assay zone to match the penetration requirement in thin sapwood species received only 50% approval and thus was turned down. FPI will address the negative comments and submit a revised proposal.

The 2015 Annual Meeting of AWPA will be in Victoria, BC.

5. Mountain Pine Beetle Range Expansion and the Potential Threat to Canada's Forest

Dr. Kathy Bleiker, research scientist in bark beetle biology and ecology with Nature Resources Canada (Canadian Forest Service) presented her work on the range expansion of mountain pine beetle (MPB) and the potential threat to our forests. She mentioned that MPB is arguably the most significant natural disturbance agent in western pine forests, even bigger than fire. Since the mid 1990's, the outbreak in British Columbia has had ecological and socio-economic impacts. Dr. Bleiker started her presentation by speaking about the reproduction of the MBP and mentioned that when the conditions are good, one tree can easily produce beetles to kill 3-6 trees. She informed WPC members that BC is favourable to many beetles due to the availability of food and the favourable weather. Trees most susceptible to be attacked by the MPB are aged between 80 and 160 years old. Dr. Bleiker also showed in her presentation that there is a 75% increase in areas of extreme climatic suitability which results in a rapid range expansion into new habitats. Further in the presentation, she presented a summary of the BC outbreak:

- 18 M hectares affected to some degree in BC
- 10 M hectares affected of the 22 M hectares Timber Harvesting Land Base (THLB)
- ~ 750 M m^3
- ~ 56% of provincial pine volume lost by 2017.

Dr. Bleiker also mentioned in her presentation that of the 10 million hectares of impacted THLB, 4.8 million hectares (48%) of impacted forests are not pine-dominated and have a significant non-pine component not killed my MPB. These trees can contribute to future stand conditions and mid-term timber supply. As the pine falls out, the new gaps will promote understory growth, making the stand more diverse. 5.1 million hectares (52%) are in pine-dominated stands.

On the pine dominated stands, between 1999 and 2009, 1.0 to 1.3 million hectares of pine-dominated stands were harvested. At these rates or 75% of current rates, this represents 1.7 to 2.6 million hectares or roughly 1/3 to ½ of the impacted pine-dominated stands.

As part of the license to cut, the license holder has a legal obligation to reforest the area and to achieve a free growing stand within a reasonable time frame. Most of the area is planted and an increasingly larger proportion of seedlings are grown from select seed – which is orchard produced seed or superior provenance collected wild stand seed. For example, sowing requests in 2012 called for select seed for 46% of pine seedlings and 91% of spruce seedlings. So we can expect that 1/3 to ½ of the pine-dominated stands will be regenerated to fast growing plantations.

Unfortunately, dead pine has a limited shelf life of about 5 years for saw logs, and 15 years for other fibre products. Because of the sheer size and scope of the attack and the deterioration of the dead wood, a large proportion of stands – between 2.5 and 3.4 million hectares (49% to 67%) may not be harvested and

regenerated.

Of the un-merchantable pine-dominated stands, about 300,000 hectares are expected to be rehabilitated under the Forests for Tomorrow program (FFT).

The program was introduced in 2005 by government with the aim of improving the future timber supply and addressing risks to other forest values through the re-establishment of young forests on land that would otherwise remain under-productive. The program focuses on land that is primarily within the timber harvesting land base yet outside of forest industry obligations.

The focus of FFT in MPB impacted areas is to rehabilitate stands with more than 70% pine.

Estimates based on a number of studies published since 2006 indicated that 70 to 80% of impacted pine-dominated stands may have sufficient secondary structure to contribute to mid-term timber supply or understory density to be considered well stocked.

Based on these studies, it is estimated that between 1.5 to 2.5 MM hectares of un-merchantable stands will recover without intervention.

Assuming 20% to 30% of un-harvested pine-dominated stands do not have sufficient secondary structure or understory densities, then about 450,000 to 720,000 hectares will either be intentionally left for environmental reasons (habitat, hydrology, etc.) or will need rehabilitation.

6. Comments from Members

No comments from members.

7. Adjournment

Motion by E. Marion to adjourn the meeting.
Seconded by D. Goodine.

CARRIED