

South Island Forest District Fibre Recovery Zone Pilot Workshop

Breakout Session Summary #2 - Sharing information between Primary Harvesters (PH) and Secondary Users (SU)

Summary/Common Themes

1. Communication between the PH and SU needs to start as early as possible, preferably during the planning/layout stage of the Cutting Permit.
2. Development of a directory of both the PH and SU in the district. Different formats of the directory were suggested: web site, social media page, and spreadsheet. Bring back the old position of a District Fibre Officer to help facilitate/champion communication.
3. Proposed Cutting Permits should consider the operational needs of the SU (e.g., turn arounds for chip/bin trucks, switch backs and pre harvest planning).
4. Both the PH and SU need to consider how they plan to deal with the various liabilities/obligations associated with a Cutting Permit.
5. The SU needs to make a commercial commitment to purchase the fibre.
6. The establishment of intermediate sites for chipping and grinding. These can be either permanent or temporary facilities.
7. Current waste policy impacts the utilisation of residual fibre.

The following outlines the discussion of the individual groups:

Group #1

- Waste and residue assessment has different rules in roadside work areas than block – this can impact waste billing amounts
- Having things set up for SU to harvest could lead to higher waste volume assessment
- High cost to take stick piles (burn piles) apart
- High % of volume in burn piles is not recoverable for the SU
- Waste rules may be a dis-incentive to creating orientated piles
- Do things to make sure no additional costs are incurred by the PH
- Communication with the PH operators can reduce problems
- Timing of the information sharing – it should be happening at the block planning stage, not at the completion of primary harvest
- Distance of piles from roadside – need some place to work
- Tridem drive system helps access more blocks on steeper grades
- How to make SU's fibre needs known
- Issues with BCTS licensees wanting to get deposit back early instead of getting SU to complete deactivation obligations
- Aggregate blocks to reduce mobilization/demobilization costs
- Benefits of cruise based sales for ease of accessing residuals
- Logging specifications will impact the amount of chips recovered – smaller diameter logs are more difficult to chip/handle, with less volume recovered
- Easy for SU to look after deactivation and waste piling
- Option to transfer road deactivation obligations to SU as an option to address the concern regarding return of security deposit
- Three hour round trip to pulp mill is economical for chips
- FESBC supports the harvest of residual fibre outside of the economic zone to reduce carbon
- Moving residual fibre in either log or bush chip/grind form is situation specific.
- Utilization of the residual fibre reduces the fire hazard
- Daily maintenance and housekeeping of the grinding/chipping machine is required

- PH fear of high waste and residue bill due to setting up the block for the residual harvest – need better policy regarding waste billing
- Weigh scale chips/hog fuel at scale site
- Opportunity for the District Manager to offer different process to scale residual fibre
- PH also has a contract with the contractor to harvest the timber
- Always more efficient to only touch the wood once
- More effort required by both PH and SU to communicate with each other
- The PH/SU need to have the commercial arrangement in place at the time of block planning
- Benefit to have a level of certainty to fibre supply

Group #2

- SU is defined as someone harvesting none saw log/peeler material.
- Need coordination of schedules – at least 6 months to a year prior to harvest, including information regarding: harvest type, location, operational constraints and anticipated volumes
- Need ongoing relationship/communication between PH and SU
- PH/landowner are concerned about having too much information being publically available
- Timing of meeting obligations/release from obligations
- There are challenges with the current policy (waste and residue, pricing, CP obligations)
- Harvest plans – share as part of business to business agreement not public information
- District has a list of Crown Tenures (location and volume) that can be shared
- Fibre Connections BC (approx. 10 years ago) had a Fibre Officer in each district; a similar role is needed today
- Need to develop a registry of both the PH and SU in or adjacent to the district and what are the SU's fibre needs
- Use the power of the various representative groups to improve communication
- Option for a residue broker to help move fibre – could be a role for government or FCI
- Option for a co-operative business model
- Need to set up a central location for chipping/grinding operations
- What comprises the high waste levels in the South Island Forest District?
- Waste policy – concern with the Crown charging for waste and then subsequently selling the residual fibre
- What is the true cause of unavoidable waste?
- Option to salvage older piles

Group #3

- Licensee (BCTS and FLTC) want to get deposit back as soon as possible
- Agreements between the PH and SU need to be made as early in the planning process as possible
- Turn arounds need to be built large enough to handle chip/bin trucks
- Suggestion that the various SU need to prepare a pamphlet outlining their operational needs. This could be an extension of FPI's best management practices
- Option to have the SU look after the piling of waste
- Planners need to understand SU needs
- Need firm commitment from pulp mill to purchase fibre early in the planning process. The take or pay model or deposit was suggested
- Central chipping/grinding facility – could use old abandoned log sorts, landings or gravel pits. These would need to be strategically placed to reduce costs and have enough room to stock pile fibre for processing
- Identify locations that would work well for a chipping facility
- Barge option for moving chips/hog from remote locations where trucking is not a viable option
- Need to spend some time on the inventory piece – getting a better estimate of residual fibre available
- Challenges with information overload, need someone to help filter the information
- Option to revise the website WoodSourceBC to become a registry/directory of SU
- Make the prescribing the use of residual fibre a Site Plan requirement
- FRPA Timber Objective – GAR order requiring all possible uses of fibre explored
- Proposed smoke regulation, restricting burning near communities encourages utilization of residual fibre
- Option to use a social media platform (e.g., Facebook) to post and maintain directory

