Project Name   Second Old Growth Workshop

Program Area   Ecological Integrity
Project No.   EI 01b

Related Projects EI 03 – Ecological Current Condition
                      DS 04 – Co-location Modelling to Inform Old Growth
                      Reserve Selection

Start Date   February 1, 2008
Completion Date   December, 2008

Overview
This project was initiated to meet two goals (1) refine the old growth thresholds outlined in the EBM Planning Handbook and (2) make recommendations about how best to implement old forest representation on the North and Central Coast. The first goal was addressed in a workshop held in February 2007, which provided consensus recommendations on the old growth representation target levels needed to maintain ecological integrity. This second workshop will address outstanding questions regarding how to *implement* old growth representation in planning and on the ground, including addressing TEM inventory gaps.

Objectives
- Provide expert recommendations on outstanding questions related to implementing old growth representation targets. These questions include:
    o Is there a better way to define old growth in coastal ecosystems than 250 years in the area covered by the CFN legal objectives, and 180 years in the areas covered by KNT legal objectives?
    o When should stand level retention "count" towards landscape old growth targets; and what attributes must it have to meet old growth criteria?
    o How should changes in species composition created through partial cutting be addressed in old growth representation accounting?
    o How can targets set as a proportion of natural old forest (based on natural disturbance rates) be achieved and implemented while natural disturbance continues on the landscape?
    o Should there be a representation target for any leading deciduous ecosystems?
    o Will applying old growth representation targets using site series surrogates (SSS) capture TEM site series representation as intended?

- In answering the above questions, the project will provide advice on priorities for filling TEM inventory gaps (formerly EBMWG project EI-05).

Expected Use/User/Benefits
- The primary use of the information delivered under this project is to provide scientifically based recommendations on outstanding questions related to implementing old growth representation
- Primary audience that will use the recommendations defined in this project will include land-use planners (within provincial and First Nations governments and industry), operational foresters, parties undertaking adaptive management projects, and TEM program managers within government.

Key Tasks
- Hold initial meeting with provincial ecologists (where available) and expert contractors to confirm list of topics, identify pertinent products to be presented at the 2nd Old Growth workshop, and assign responsibilities and timelines to develop these products
- Complete defined products/deliverables
- Confirm 2nd Old Growth workshop date and invitee list
- Circulate products/deliverables to workshop invitees
- Hold 2nd Old Growth workshop: discuss circulated products and aim to reach consensus regarding recommendations and possibly where further research is required
- Document the 2nd Old Growth Workshop
- Refine deliverables to incorporate results from the 2nd Old Growth Workshop and comments received after the workshop.
- Ensure consultant providing services for this project are aware of relevant research findings resulting from other EBM WG projects via an EBM WG Briefing Session.

Deliverable(s)
- Products to address each topic (to be presented at the 2nd Old Growth workshop)

Milestones
- Initial meeting with provincial ecologists and contractor representatives held
- List of confirmed topics, related products, product leads, and timelines developed
- Products completed
- 2nd Old Growth workshop date, agenda, and invitee list completed
- Products circulated to workshop invitees
- 2nd Old Growth workshop held
- Project close-out submit to EBMWG
- Project close-out report approved and forwarded to LRFs.

Responsibilities
- The project will be lead by Audrey Roburn and Sally Leigh-Spencer

Peer Review Requirements
- The workshop itself will serve as a peer review of the products developed (which will include, where possible, proposed recommendations).

Linkages to other EBM Projects or Initiatives
- This project addresses the following types of research described in the EBMWG ToR:
  o uncertainties or knowledge gaps to support full implementation of EBM by 2009;
  o Applied research into the operational implementation of EBM that does not include operational direction or instruction
- This project is explicitly referenced in the TIP (as "Refine Ecological Indicators - old-growth thresholds") and should contribute to a number of other TIP items relating to full EBM objectives and further EBM planning
- Current EBMWG projects this project relates to include:
  o EI 03 – Ecological Baseline and Current Condition - the recommendations derived from this (EI 01) project pertaining to the representation and definition of old growth, could influence the ecological indicators which are being verified in the EI 03 project
  o DS 04 – Co-location Modelling to Inform Old Growth Reserve Selection - the recommendations derived from this (EI 01) project pertaining to the representation and definition of old growth, may also influence the delineation of old growth reserve areas as inputs to co-location models in the DS 04 project

Method of Implementation
- State the implementation approach (check box with an "X"):

☐ Contract: RFP, RFQ, etc.

☒ Expert Panel / Workshop

☐ Internal EBMWG Task

☐ Other: _____

Budget
- include estimated cost of the project
- include annual cost if on-going (and make a note that it is annual)
- include funding source if not EBMWG).
- Break it down by task/item/deliverable if appropriate

Item	Budget	Source
Total	$ 45 000.	EBMWG