

Domestic Wood-Cutting Workshop

Workshop #2

Friday, May 6th, 2005

Pepsi Centre, Corner Brook, NL

Facilitated by: Dr. Alistair Bath (709) 437-6780

Agenda for Domestic Wood-Cutting Workshop #2

GOAL: Work toward understanding and addressing the key issues facing domestic wood-cutting in NL

1) Presentations

- Emerging from the first workshop, participants believed it would be useful to have background presentations from various regions to help better understand the nature of the domestic wood-cutting issue.
 - Northern Peninsula Case Study (George)
 - Avalon Peninsula Case Study (Bill)
 - Understanding the users (Floyd)
 - Parks Canada – Gros Morne experience (Blaine)
- Issues arising from the presentations

2) Revisiting the Key Issues

- What are the most important parts of a domestic wood-cutting strategy?
- Understanding the key components

3) Stating Objectives & Defining Actions

- Identifying needs, first steps, and specific actions

Some Messages From the Various Presentations

Northern Pen (George)

Need a good understanding of economic values of wood

- implications to local economies

Implications of Kyoto protocol to domestic cutting unknown

Need to understand the benefits of domestic woodcutting above just economics

District, Region or provincial strategy needed?

- advantages/disadv?

How changes in rural areas will occur over time?

- domestic ↑↓ - ?

How and what do we manage for? Future?

Parks (Blaine)

Working with communities takes time and money but works

Relevance of park example questioned

Scale of issue and scope of cutting pressure unique compared to regions within the province

Avalon (Bill)

Getting an assessment of what percentage of illegal harvesters really exist

- how many permits illegal?

Moose browsing issues – population #s up

Avalon – fir browsed to death

With proper mgmt. domestic use can go down (Avalon)

- regulated through consultation

Different strategies needed for different regions

- different scales

Dynamic changing

- e.g. moose hunter cuts wood and hunts

Understanding Users (Floyd)

Regulating “domestic” use

Education is the answer

- PR job

Let “domestics” use blow-down areas

Need deterrent

- legal consequence
- need a mechanism e.g. compliance agreement

Problems are in rural areas close to communities

- Corner Brook, Gander, Grand-Falls
- close to home of user

Actions Arising from Presentations

Basil will put together a package for discussion

- **Package to include issues of legislation, use and demographics of regions if possible, nature of provincial social policy and implications, if any, to domestic wood-cutting**

Copies of presentations for minutes to be sent to Glenda Garnier, WNMF, glendagarnier@wnmf.com - Telephone # 709-637-7300

Jim to explore logistics of implementing an economic study to assess the value of domestic wood-cutting to the province. Study should include benefits beyond the actual price/worth of wood per cord.

Understanding the Key Components of a Domestic Wood-Cutting Strategy

Domestic Cutting Plan (options, sustainability)
poor forest management practice: eg. cutting young age classes, poor utilization
Define land base/wood (harmonize S=D) Sustainability & Development
Full Management Regime needs to be explored including silviculture practices

Education
Understanding concepts of forest management
Lack of education within Domestic Harvest Group (i.e. of forest management practices)

Policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ allocation of resource ▪ provincial strategy ▪ rural development
Lack of management for best end use
Provincial, regional, district objective for the future of domestic harvesting

Resources
\$\$ -- planning
Shortage of people and resources

Public Involvement
Consultation mechanism to engage domestic wood cutters specifically. (Town representation as well)

Compliance
All limits CBPP>/ACCC/Crown
Lack of ability to control domestic harvest on company limits (legislation)
Legislation framework to provide uniform compliance across ownerships
Appropriate regulations needed Crown Company working with government and users

Comprehensive Plan
For comprehensive analysis of the value of domestic wood harvesting
Socio-economic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ socio-economic analysis ▪ transparent ▪ reg. need for resources (\$)

1.0**Policy**

	Objective (1)	First Step (2)	Who and When? (3)
1.1	1.10 Domestic harvesting is a valuable use of the provincial forest resource	1.11 Have economist conduct valuation of domestic cutting (I.e. social, cultural, economic values)	1.111 Jim Taylor to arrange for meeting with Rob Bates to explain project goals by July 1.
1.2	1.20 Provincial forestry management strategy must explicitly state priority of allocation where allocation is at max. sustainable level	1.21 Develop policy (if one does not exist) and incorporate into 5 year plans	1.211 Basil English/Charlie Butler to determine if formal policy(s) exist (re-domestic cutting by July1)
1.3	1.30 Domestic strategy must be integrated in any provincial social policy	1.31 Liaise with social policy committee of cabinet and strategic social plan.	1.311 Basil English/Len Moores to find out who these people by July 1
1.4	1.40 Policy set within context of outside driving factors	1.41 Identify outside driving factors	1.411 Jim by next report meeting Sept. 1 Initiate contact with responsible agencies - NL stats Agency - CBS
1.5	1.50 The general public must be consulted (re development/implementation of a domestic strategy)	1.51 Ensure domestic cutting interests are represented on 5 year planning teams	1.511 Basil English to talk to Planning Team Co-Chairs (to ensure domestic cutting is addressed) by July 1

Domestic Cutting

	Objective (1)	First Step (2)	Who and When? (3)
2.1	2.10 Provide landbase for domestic wood cutting	2.11 Identify areas where domestic cutting areas are warranted. Identify areas to be harvested in 5-year plans	2.12 District begins issuing domestic cutting permits annually
2.2	2.20 Involve communities in planning for domestic cutting	2.21 Design consultation process Set meetings with communities	2.22 Meet with communities during 5 year plan consultation process
2.3	2.30 What are we prepared to allocate (metres ³) on a sustainable basis	2.31 Determine proportion of wood supply to be dedicated to domestic cutting	2.32 Allocate supply based on areas identified in 5 year plan
2.4	2.40 Manage domestic cutting areas to maintain their productivity	2.41 Inventory domestic cutting areas to determine their present status and analysis of data collected	2.42 District includes backlog problem areas in their annual silviculture plans
2.5	2.50 Experiment with alternative fuel supplies (i.e. different species)	2.51 Literature review and consultation with experts to determine possibilities Begin operational trials on information received	2.52 District begins annual monitoring of trials.

3.0

Education Strategy

	Objective (1)	First Step (2)	Who and When? (3)
3.1	3,10 Messaging (consistent messaging from big four) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cultural values ▪ economic values ▪ good forest mgmt. practices ▪ ecological values 	OUTCOME / OUTPUT Consistent message from Big Four Presentation and modification from senior level	3.111 Jim will identify task force and meet by June 30/05
3.2	3.20 Who are the educators? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ District Rangers ▪ Parks Canada ▪ CBPP ▪ ACCC 		1. Identify budget work plan 2. Develop key activities (i.e. costs and numbers of pamphlets) 3. Field trips
3.3	Define target audience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ domestic fuelwood users ▪ community leaders ▪ other interest groups ▪ schools (curriculum objectives) ▪ internal audiences program (e.g. executive, staff) 		
3.4	Educational Tool-box <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ pamphlets ▪ ads ▪ computer presentations ▪ web page ▪ extension service ▪ field trips/demo forest 		

4.0

Compliance

	Objective (1)	First Step (2)	Who and When? (3)
4.1	4.10 Co-management of whole resource	4.11 Modify Hardwood Transfer agreements to include domestic cutting blocks on company limits for (Hardwood and softwoods i.e.: 5000 stands blowdown) and include compliance of all areas currently outside of existing 5 year plans	CBPP & ACI & Crown to draft agreement satisfactory to all parties with 6 months for review CBPPL to write letter to DNR requesting that DNR modify the hardwood transfer agreements to include domestic cutting.
4.2	4.20 Identify and transfer non-commercial wood to crown		
4.3	4.30 Identify resources and associated costs		
4.4	4.40 Allow crown to identify and flag blowdown for domestic harvest on company limits	4.41: Inventory domestic cutting areas to determine their present status and analysis of data collected 4.42: Domestics to contact district office of potential sites 4.43: No harvesting inside buffers 4.44: No restriction on utilization of timber	Pick pilot project within a district to implement strategy Develop a common communication strategy using a committee of key groups

Next Steps

- ✓ Updates of action item results by next meeting to be held in September/October 2005
- ✓ Write-up and email results to Jim and Linda to be circulated then to participants
- ✓ Present results of initial workshops (i.e. table of contents/framework of exercise) to Big 4 for comment and interest
- ✓ Propose a pilot project in a management district

Recommendations to further the understanding and then addressing of domestic wood-cutting issues in Newfoundland and Labrador

Introduction:

From the results of the two domestic wood-cutting workshops, there is a clear indication amongst participants that the existing situation of domestic wood-cutting management (or lack thereof) needs to be improved. There is also a strong commitment from the participants of the workshops to actively work toward addressing the key issues and improving the situation. The key issues seem to revolve around:

- the need for a clear policy, or implementation of an existing policy if sufficient,
- the nature of how much domestic wood-cutting can occur for the resource to remain sustainable, and a need for a common understanding of sustainability,
- implementing compliance amongst users, and
- the need for an effective communication strategy which clearly involves listening and involving users and key interest groups in the decision-making process, but also involves sending out key messages through a strong educational program.

In the various presentations made at workshop #2, speakers suggested that significant differences could exist between regions and districts. If the regions and districts are significantly different, there may be a need to have different domestic wood-cutting strategies. Workshop participants need to think through the advantages and disadvantages of a provincial strategy versus regional or district domestic wood-cutting strategies. A simple advantages/disadvantages exercise could be implemented at a future workshop with participants.

Working toward understanding domestic wood-cutting issues:

There are still topics that need to be discussed to further the understanding of the domestic wood-cutting issue. Future decision-makers need to understand the implications of the Kyoto protocol on wood burning. Within the province, an accurate assessment of the number of users is needed. The current permitting system offers a partial assessment of user numbers and quantity of use, however, illegal harvest does occur and some idea of these numbers would be necessary to formulate an effective strategy. Little is also known of the true value of domestic wood-cutting and whether differences exist across districts and regions of Newfoundland and

Labrador. Rural population numbers continue to decline in many areas of the province. How has domestic wood-cutting use changed over time, and how will it continue to change as the demographics and rural nature of the province changes? Should a domestic wood-cutting strategy fit into the province's strategic social plan? If yes, how should this be done? What should be the priorities and how should they be determined?

While there is a growing recognition that moose, an introduced species, are having a significant impact on the forests in the province by heavily browsing young trees, little is known of the public's and government's willingness to address the issue. Should innovative measures be taken to address this impact on forests? There is also a need to have an accurate resource inventory of how much land and wood is available for domestic wood-cutting and whether the public feels there should be more or less land made available for domestic use. Discussion of these issues will allow all participants to gain a better understanding of the issue. Several action items arising from workshop #2 will see participants begin to explore these issues. The next workshop will provide an opportunity to report back to the group on some of these issues.

Working toward addressing domestic wood-cutting issues:

To effectively address the key domestic wood-cutting issues requires an innovative approach with all key interest groups and users. Such an approach should actively engage communities and users in a meaningful way over an extended period of time so that participants design and truly "own" their domestic wood-cutting strategy. A five-year planning consultation process currently exists, but is this process in its existing form adequate to effectively address the key domestic wood-cutting issues? Would a facilitated human dimensions workshop approach with key users, key people within the community, and key interest groups be a more effective tool to reach a domestic wood-cutting strategy?

Participants in the workshops tend to agree that each region and possibly each district are different, and thus may require its own individual approach to reaching its own domestic wood-cutting strategy. Participants could select two model areas for a pilot project involving a human dimension facilitated workshop approach. Such an approach could be tested at a district or regional level to gain a domestic wood-cutting strategy that could be mutually agreed upon by all key user groups of the forest. This approach would be a significant first step toward an effective communication strategy. "We are born with two ears and one mouth so as managers we should be listening at least twice as much as talking to the various users". Working with key users of the resource would effectively allow managers to listen and learn from concerned citizens and to develop a strategy that had strong public support.

In addition, an information and educational campaign regarding domestic wood-cutting issues to increase public awareness about the issue could be another important aspect toward developing a successful domestic wood-cutting strategy. Such a campaign should identify key weaknesses in knowledge that are most directly linked to attitude and behaviour so that educational messages could be specifically targeted to ensure the best results. Conducting such human dimensions research upfront ensures that educational programs are not targeted too high or too low, or on items that are not important in influencing attitudes. Assessing the credibility of the messenger and the best media for specific audiences will also ensure the successful development and implementation of educational materials. Existing educational materials could also be assessed for their effectiveness as part of a continuing process to gain stronger acceptance and understanding of domestic wood-cutting issues within all sectors of society in the province.