

**Public Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting**

Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 - 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. (includes catered light supper)  
Peace River Provincial Building (9621-96 Avenue) – Main floor Meeting Room

**AGENDA *REVISED***

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| <b>Dinner service</b>  | 5:00 p.m. |
| <b>A) Welcome and introductions</b> Terry Kosabeck, Facilitator<br>Review of agenda  | 5:15 p.m. |
| <b>B) New / Old Business</b> Terry Kosabeck, Facilitator<br>• <u>Mar 15, 2017 Meeting notes</u> (Errors/edits and adoption).                             | 5:20 p.m. |
| <b>C) Area sawmills update</b> (current initiatives info share) - <i>Westside mills &amp; Eastside mills</i><br>Business Arising – Q/A                   | 5:25 p.m. |
| <b>D) Alberta Gov't update</b> (current initiatives info-share)<br><i>Al Benson, Alberta Government</i>  | 5:35 p.m. |
| <b>E) Presentations:</b> 1. <b>Woodland Caribou Information Share –Alberta Gov</b><br>2. <b>DMI Contributions to Caribou range planning preparations</b> | 5:45 p.m. |

This evening will offer insight on 2 topics relevant to DMI Forest Management Area (FMA) tenures.

*At-risk species* are a distinctly challenging area of biodiversity conservation, serving as an example of one of the multiple values receiving consideration within Canadian and Alberta *sustainable forest management* policy. Alberta forest management plans and practices on Alberta public lands are required to adapt to the evolving policy aspirations of governments in the recovery efforts for such species. PAC members expressed interest in better understanding current preparations of governments for **Woodland Caribou**, as that effort has been assisted by significant collaborative investments to-date in science-informed recovery strategies for this species. **Governments (federal, provincial) are ultimately responsible for setting goals, objectives and recovery planning processes into play for at-risk species. Forest Management (government policy + forest industry) can offer some particular tools and contributions to analyses, collaboration in the science that is necessary to support effective long-range planning, as well as the eventual government implementation of those species recovery plans.**

PAC interests reflect a curiosity intersecting ecological science, policy on species management aspirations, and the prospective future requirements on industry sectors and public users of regional forests within key caribou habitat locations.

**Topic-1: Woodland Caribou –Province of Alberta**  
(status, northern Alberta ecology, policy and action planning)

**Alberta Environment & Parks, Policy & Planning Division**  
Jennifer Renton, MNRM, P.Biol. (Caribou Range Planner)  
George Duffy, RPF, P.Biol. (Caribou Range Planning Lead)

5:50 p.m. – 6:50 p.m.  
(incl. 15 min Q/A)

*Woodland Caribou is an imperiled protected species in Canada and Alberta. Parallel sets of legislation create recovery management obligations on both the federal and provincial Ministers. In both cases, authority and direct-management responsibility for this species rests with government. Caribou is an example of one (1) species among c.20,000 diverse forest species persisting in the boreal region along with multiple other natural resource values inherent in industry forest tenure allocations. Their consideration as part of a range of ecosystem services, and their integration with other values associated with the provincial economy and societal interests, are both important challenges in seeking balance across values and risks, in an era of changing climate.*

*Industry sectors, government and academic researchers have amassed a large body of scientific knowledge for Woodland Caribou, both within Alberta and on the broader Canadian landscape. DMI is one of a number of organizations investing in this species since its habitat range intersects “parts of” company forest tenures. Canadian and Alberta Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) policies require forest management plans to adapt to such science and evolving government recovery policies by encouraging collaborative roles to be defined in future government range recovery plans. The company’s investment and partnership history for this particular species reaches back to the 1990’s and eclipsed \$1million in 2016. Until recently, the information synthesized about two (2) local caribou ranges intersecting DMI’s northwest Alberta tenures has been limited and is underway; Chinchaga(incl. Clearhills), Red Earth.*

*This presentation will provide key background on caribou and its presence in northwest Alberta, lending insight into current state-of-knowledge and practical messages from Alberta research. It will overview government efforts to prepare the way for future shared-stewardship efforts in the recovery of this species, while also addressing the broader social, economic and environmental interests of regional stakeholders. Collaboration will be critical across all parties; governments, public, Indigenous peoples, industry sectors. The presentation will cover:*

- *Official Woodland Caribou status in Alberta/Canada*
- *Basic ecology and distinctions associated with northern Alberta boreal forest ecotype,*
- *Orientation to northwest Alberta caribou ranges (where are they? landscape size?, etc)*
- *Synopsis of population inventory, monitoring (collar data history), decline agents & knowledge gaps*
- *Alberta caribou recovery policy and action planning activities (range plan development schedule)*
- *Landscape context implications and considerations; -Northern Alberta natural disturbance (fire, MPB), Climate change scenarios, Other important overlapping species, Community social & economic aspects*
- *Clarification of Alberta government interaction with federal & BC governments (roles, collaboration)*

**Break**

6:50 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Topic-2: DMI Contributions to Caribou range planning preparations (DMI history in this Alberta file, What are we currently working on)**

**Daishowa-Marubeni, Woodlands Department**  
Jim Witiw (Biodiversity Stewardship coordinator)

7:00- 7:40p.m.

*DMI has been engaged in caribou projects collaboratively across science, policy and innovation at the local, provincial and national level since the mid-1990’s. The company has participated in federal government consultations during their development of national science assessments and the national recovery strategy. The company’s engagement in the “Canadian Boreal Forest Agreement” saw direct participation in setting an innovative science-based national planning approach and document in-place in collaboration with notable caribou biologists, Canada’s largest forest companies (FPAC members) and leading Environmental Organizations. This novel CBFA planning approach has served to guide pilot caribou action planning efforts across Canada, wherever it has been adopted.*

**Q/A period (10 min)**

7:40- 7:50 pm



**F) Next Meeting - TBD**

7:50 pm

- Proposal: EMEND Forest Research Station tour (with Canfor PAC, DMI field staff, Canfor field staff) ....late August, 2017
- Proposal: mid-October, 2017 PAC meeting:
  - i. **Scoping DMI's Next Detailed Forest Management Plan (2020)** –What is involved? Who is involved?
  - ii. **Forest Products Certifications** –What are they? What objectives do they serve?