

TTC Advisory Team Call 11/7/25

Summary

PARTICIPATION

- Attendees: Mike Cooney, Jeremy Douse, Brian Kleinhenz, Ashley List, Anthony Mallot, Greg Palmieri, Andrew Thoms, Robert Venables (Connie Lewis facilitated)
- Tried to attend but couldn't get on the call: Bob Christensen
- Unable to attend: Tessa Axelson, Dan Kirkwood, Priscilla Morris, Dan O'Leery

REVIEW OF KEY TAKE-WAYS FROM TTC MEMBERS MEETING OCTOBER 23-24

- Citizens Alternative – lots of work already accomplished, concurrence on doing more, and a very tight timeline.
- Timber supply – lots of urgency in the near term, desire for long term vision (and some different ideas about what that would look like), and continuing need for data/modeling to map out future growth/harvest etc. scenarios (e.g., economic analysis - sector impacts/opportunities with a timber sustainability harvest to market forecast with a 150–200-year horizon)
- Roads and other types of infrastructure are a critical consideration
- Tribal involvement – need to step up inclusion / involvement / outreach / membership. It could be valuable to convene a broad-based tribal group that would engage more tribal entities and help map out major issues and potential compromises
- Forest health, habitat, restoration – good work continuing, but there is much more to accomplish, e.g., invasives are an example of something needing more attention
- Recreation – needs to be more regularly incorporated into discussions – how recreational uses are considered and supported in concert with other uses
- Work by the Bell Group looking at local markets for young growth could be relevant to our work

DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED TTC STRUCTURE FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE:

Advisory Team:

- There was agreement that the Advisory Team should continue to: a) provide overall guidance for the TTC; b) coordinate among the various committees, task groups, etc., and; c) serve as a deliberative body to review recommendations/draft plans etc. before they go to the full TTC membership.
- Greg Palmieri was welcomed on to the Team. He is the new Regional Forester for the Coastal Region, has been a forester for the State Division of Forestry in Haines for 30 years, and has worked in southern Southeast.
- There was agreement that Jill Weitz should be added to the Advisory Team
- Upcoming Team calls are scheduled for December 5, January 9, February 6. Connie is going to delete the previous calendar invitation for these calls and issue a new one in order to avoid duplicative invites that have been appearing on Team member calendars

Citizens Alternative:

Bob Christensen has drafted the second version of the draft alternative and shared it with the working group leads. He will be circling back to them next week to get their feedback before sharing it with the Advisory Team/TTC membership.

The Team recognized the rich, deep work that has already gone into the draft alternative and they acknowledged that some of the content will be “sticky”, but that it is worth the effort to continue the effort and try to reach as much agreement as possible on an alternative that reflects the needs of the people who live in this region.

Connie will work with Bob to develop a timeline with a schedule of convenings/calls to review and update the draft alternative – probably involving a meeting/call in December to discuss the draft after it’s been through a couple of iterations of review and comment, including by the Advisory Team, and a full TTC member call/meeting in January to gather additional input and to ascertain the level of support for the alternative from the full TTC membership. Robert will follow up on a suggestion to establish a workspace on the TTC website for collaboration and information exchange.

Foundations Committee (probably needs a different name):

Andrew Thoms floated an idea for a committee focused on the foundational elements of long term economic/ecological/and social sustainability in the region. Its purpose would be to build connectivity, momentum and relationships by helping coordinate policies, investments and projects across a suite of interrelated topics such as:

- Forest Management: PCT, inventory for sales layout, etc.
- Capacity building
 - Milling
 - Product utilization
 - Harvest
 - Transport
 - Workforce (Community forestry crews, High school CTE programs, Forest stewardship/management career tracks)
 - Wood sector business development
 - Markets
 - Economic linkages
 - Land managers and sales development capacity
- Investments
 - Wood innovations
 - Pilot projects for harvest, milling, utilization
 - Product development and experimentation
 - Biz start-up, financing,
 - Road/infrastructure
- Culture of Forest Management and Forestry - turning the page from conflict to collaboration and pride with full participation from tribal partners esp. native corps who have important timber supplies on their lands and who are key partners in later phases. This is a generational effort that has already started but needs to be cultivated and invested in.
- Long-term vision.

The Team responded favorably and asked Andrew to produce a succinct overview of the idea that could be distributed to the Advisory Team in the coming days. Robert noted that there is a grant opportunity associated with POW disaster funding that might provide substantial resources for transformative work in this arena (e.g., the forest campus idea for shared equipment storage, training facilities, etc.).

Sustainable Timber Supply

Connie raised the idea of a small knowledgeable task group whose purposes would be to:

- take a very deep dive into what inventory data and modeling tells us about the amount of timber that can be produced on a sustainable basis under different management scenarios for both young and old growth over various time horizons
- examine implications under each scenario for jobs, impacts on other uses, community/public support, etc.
- explore areas of possible agreement on a path forward, or at a minimum raise awareness about the consequences associated with different scenarios

The suggestion is to have a convening, perhaps 3-4 hours, timing TBD, with the best possible information in hand, and probably some pre-work to begin outlining potential scenarios. The Team expressed interest in this approach while acknowledging that it is an ambitious undertaking. Connie is going to determine possibly interest in participating in the task group and will start looking at scheduling a convening as well as compiling background materials.