

Tongass Futures Roundtable
Draft Action / Decision Log
April 5, 2007

Roundtable Actions

1. Endorse Framework Committee Proposal (attached)
2. Approve Letter to USFS with TFR Decision Record (delegated to Admin Committee for approval)
3. Approve Tongass Futures Roundtable letter to Legislature to endorse funding a State Division of Forestry economic MOU with the US Forest Service. The MOU will allocate \$100,000 for collaboration in very early stages of timber sales.
3. Approve next meeting: Tentatively Petersburg in late August

Committee and Work Group Actions – To Do List

Administrative Committee (*Bruce Botelho, convener*)

Review and approve communications:

Letter to USFS with TFR Decision Record

Prepare pie chart of current membership

Establish stable funding and commitment for Tongass Futures Roundtable

Prepare and submit grant applications for Tongass Futures Roundtable

Prepare Application for Membership form

Prepare August Agenda Items

Design and propose process for member financial support

Circulate Charter proposal on Quorum and Voting Requirements

Circulate FACA pro and con statement and proposed action (if any)

Organize Foundations briefing – roles, focus

Framework Committee (*Chris Maisch, convener*)

Continue to explore the time-out concept

Develop a list of sales on which to collaborate

Develop a process that has the potential to provide volume in the short term for the timber industry and meet conservation needs

Next meeting scheduled Friday, April 13, morning time TBA

Quality of Life Work Group (*Denny Bschor & Byron Mallott, conveners*)

Review Committee Charter for possible amendment at August meeting

Prepare issues for August meeting

Sacred Sites proposal: Rob Sanderson, Byron Mallott, Murray Walsh, Rosita Worl, John Autrey

Land Tenure & Selection briefing: Rick Harris

Tongass / Southeast Alaska Heritage Area (strategy for marketing)

Climate Change resolution (Review resolution postponed from Craig)

Herbicide use (hold pending THCC resolutions)

Economic Sustainability Work Group (*Russell Heath, convener*)

Review Committee Charter for possible amendment at August meeting

Organize Presentations for August meeting

Southeast Economy: McDowell Group, Headwaters Economics, Wilderness Society

Role of USFS: What is the total role of USFS in developing the region's economy?

Consider process to address Mining, Tourism, Transportation, Energy

Develop collaborative project for entrepreneurs or local economic development

Second Growth Management Work Group (*Rick Harris, convener*)

Draft Committee Charter for action at August meeting

Plan for restoration

Plan for management of second growth

Initial members: Rick Harris, Scott Snelson, Jim Russell, Tricia O'Connor, Niel Lawrence, Eric Jones, Rob Sanderson, George Woodbury, Kirk Dahlstrom, Mark Rorick

Endorse a restoration partnership or projects to advance the process

Mapping Work Group (*John Schoen, convener*)

Draft Committee Charter for action at August meeting

Identify areas of Tongass with high biological or cultural values

Identify Tongass lands suitable for intensive management

Initial members: John Schoen, Dave Albert, Laurie Cooper, Joel Hanson, Gregory Vickery, Mark Kaelke, Michael Kampnich, Jim Russell, George Woodbury, Ron Wolfe

Draft Framework Committee Proposal

April 5, 2007

The Forest Service, the timber industry and the conservation community agree to the following arrangement.

1. Timeline: Until March 1, 2008, unless one party gives 45 days notice to the other parties that they no longer support the arrangement.
2. Conservation organizations, the timber industry and Forest Service agree to work collaboratively on timber sales in previously roaded areas to review and offer suggestions to improve sale economics while still protecting resources.
 - Collaboration will look for opportunities to combine restoration work with commercial logging projects that are collaboratively designed, especially at the same time roads are reopened for timber sales.
 - Collaboration may also include working to develop smaller sales done on EAs to keep volume in the system while a full scale EIS is done from scratch.
 - Collaboration could also include working to develop timber sales with a second growth component that may work in the short-term to improve fish and wildlife habitat, provide timber volume, and to move toward transition from old-growth.
 - The collaboration process means that the timber industry and the conservation community would hire respective experts to represent their interest to work together and with the Forest Service and other experts to make recommendations to the Forest Service, and report to other groups, on how timber sales could be planned, offered and operated to improve sale economics while still protecting resources.

The specific timber sale issues the conservation community may support on a case-by-case basis include the following, all of which should be reviewed and evaluated periodically for both biological and economic effectiveness:

1. Use of lower impact temporary roads in place of "spec" roads.
2. Extension of some units of a developed-area timber sale into the margins of adjacent roadless areas may be considered, as long as connectivity and other significant habitat values are addressed.
3. Develop a commercial timber sale component in second growth to accomplish conservation goals and to provide commercial timber.
4. Flexibility on standards and guidelines may be considered, with the understanding that a modification to a standard or guideline does not set a precedent for future timber sales or future Forest Plans.