

MINUTES

Forest Genetics Council — Conference Call

April 6, 2006

Attending:

Councillors: John Barker, Michael Carlson, Dale Draper, John Elmslie, Frank Gundersen, Gary Hogan, Scott King, Mike Madill, Al McDonald, Alvin Yanchuk

Regrets: Sally Aitken, Chris Hawkins

Others: Roger Painter, Jack Woods

Meeting called to order at 2:30 PM

Purpose:

To finalize budget recommendations from the March 6, 2006 Council meeting.

Summary of Discussion:

1. Projects with activity and budget details available at the March 6, 2006 meeting:

The first four projects listed in Table 1 received sufficient discussion on March 6th, and it was decided these need not receive further discussion.

2. Incremental seed orchard production quantity and quality boosts (OTIP):

Roger Painter outlined an ITAC meeting held to discuss topics for an additional call for proposals under the OTIP subprogram. The call for proposals will follow the same general procedure and the ongoing OTIP call, but fewer topics will be eligible for funding (summary provided in advance of meeting). This procedure was approved.

3. Climate change analysis for seed deployment and genetic resources:

Project outlined by Dale Draper (summary provided in advance of meeting). Total cost will exceed the \$30,000 request; the remainder will be paid by Tree Improvement Branch. Project approved.

4. Review of provincial gene resource management program:

Project outlined by Dale Draper (summary provided in advance of meeting). Concern was expressed over the intent and need for this project. A more detailed terms of reference is needed prior to final approval of a provincial review. Development of a comprehensive terms of reference for further discussion was approved.

5. Orchard pest management:

A project list prepared by the Pest Management TAC (summary provided in advance of meeting) was reviewed and approved.

6. Design of inter-specific genetic trials:

The need to involve other disciplines (growth and yield, ecology) was emphasized. Alvin Yanchuk said this consultation is happening now. Budget reduced to \$25,000. Project approved.

7. Applied Tree Improvement and Biotechnology (UBC):

Project approved in principle. Council wants the project Steering Committee to review and approve individual projects within the broad plan provided by Yousry El-Kassaby.

8. UNBC capacity building in forest genetics:

Dale Draper outlined discussions with Jim Snetsinger to date. Jim has asked Dale, JW and Alvin to begin discussions with Max Blouw of UNBC. Concern expressed over Council's ability to make a long-term funding commitment to UNBC. John Elmslie agreed to act as the contact to develop industry support, and asked that any UNBC initiative coordinate with UBC skills and activities in forest genetics. Approved in principle. Further detail and discussion at the Council level is needed when more information is available.

9. Flower induction methods for lodgepole pine and Douglas-fir (Uvic):

Project approved in principle. Council wants the project Steering Committee to review and approve individual projects within the broad plan provided by Patrick von Ardekas. Steering Committee guidance is needed, and Council recognizes that projects may move to areas not currently set out in the interim plan.

10. Seedlot response to climate change:

Project list provided by Sally Aitken was approved.

Budget:

A review of the overall FIA budget is needed at the June 2006 meeting to allow Council to consider adjustments and changes.

Motion: (Draper / Elmslie). That the budget in Table 1 is hereby approved with the caveats listed. CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM

Next meeting is scheduled for June 15, 2006 .

Minutes prepared by Jack Woods, FGC Program Manager



Table 1. FIA Tree Improvement Program Incremental Budget -- 2006/07

Information provided for FGC Conference call -- April 6, 2006

Project	Project leader	Budget	Caveats	Status following April 6, 2006 conference call
Projects with activities and budgets approved by FGC at March 8, 2006 meeting				
Tree Breeding - Long-term trial additional maint./meas.	Alvin Yanchuk	\$448,000		Approved
Lodgepole pine B+ source reconnaissance	Mike Carlson	\$15,000		Approved
Strategic planning and analysis (GRIM)	GRIM Steering Com. Leslie McAuley	\$30,000		Approved
Provincial analysis of broadleaf genetic resources and opportunities	Broadleaf Comm. Chang-yi Xie	\$40,000		Approved
Projects with additional information needs following March 8th meeting				
Incremental seed orchard production enhancements	OTIP Roger Painter	\$200,000		Approved
Climate Change Analysis for Seed Deployment and Genetic Resources	Brian Barber Tree Improvement Br.	\$30,000		Approved
Review of provincial gene resource mgt. Program	Dale Draper	\$50,000	Terms-of-reference development approved. FGC requires further discussion on TOR	Approved TOR development
Improving applied cone and seed pest mgt. practices in seed orchards	Pest Mgt. TAC Robb Bennett	\$152,000		Approved
Inter-specific trials (design development)	Greg O'Neill Res. Branch	\$25,000	- Budget reduced to \$25,000 - Council emphasized need to involve other disciplines	Approved
Applied Tree Improvement and biotechnology (YE-K)	UBC - Yousry El-Kassaby	\$200,000	- Steering Committee to review and approve individual projects	Approved
Capacity building in gene resources management at UNBC	Draper / Woods	\$150,000	- Further Council discussion needed when more information is available	Approved in principle.
Flower induction methods for lodgepole pine and Douglas-fir	UVic - Patrick von Ardekas	\$120,000	- Steering Committee to review and approve individual projects	Approved
Seedlot response to climatic variables; support for seed transfer policy	UBC - CFGC Gene Cons. TAC Sally Aitken	\$50,000		Approved
Total		\$1,510,000		
Risk managed amount		\$10,000		