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**FFP Truro Workshop, 2008 02 20 - Results of Scenario Discussions**

Forest Futures Workshop of the Sustainable Forest Management Network

Transcribed from flipchart notes and workshop recorder files by Peter Duinker, Project Manager

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**Scenario A - Goods from the Woods**

- found this was most similar to current conditions

2.1 Logical Inconsistencies

- focus on urban forests does not equal escalated conflicts
- if the focus is on urban forest, we should not see much conflict as there is not much forest to fight over
- the assumption that focus would be on urban forests we thought was overstated especially in NS; if so, not a lot of urban forest to fight over
- is it possible to have more forest species at risk at the same time as having improved ecological integrity?

2.2 Local Implications

- strong forest employment trends against depopulating rural NS. In NS, focus on urban forests seems less likely, therefore, more focus on rural forests
- if the forest industry is very strong, then the trend of population being urbanized may not happen here to the same extent

2.5 Outcome Desirability

- multi-national control? Don't like this idea, unless "nice" corporations
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**Scenario A - Goods from the Woods**

- felt it was most similar to current conditions.

2.1 Logical Inconsistencies

- none noted

2.2 Local Implications

- private land in province will be at odds with a lot of the trends in the scenario; e.g., on governance side, it talks about a lot of forest control in provincial land
- because of the private land, there might be more investment funds in NS
- the Atlantic Gateway: coastal location important for ex/importing biofuel (refineries for petroleum - why not biofuel?)
- biodiversity - 22% protection nationally is high for NS; may be hard to get that here with all of the private land
- private land overriding factor

### 2.3 Indicators

- increased use of forest products for forest land and improved integrity
- need ecological indicators that are not present now and ways to evaluate them and ensure validity; also need a method to incorporate them into an index

### 2.6 Policy Implications

- private land: tax incentives and other policies for private landowners to contribute to ecological integrity and protected areas
- more policies to promote renewable energy
- policies on uranium mining and nuclear power
- nuclear power is on the rise, presumably because it is determined to be more acceptable
- need to change policies of uranium mining in province
- increase incentives for mgmt of private land
- regulate more activities on private land/harvesting beyond the current water protection

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## **Scenario B - Peace in the Woods**

### 2.1 Logical Inconsistencies

- warmer wetter leads to forest operations implications re: meeting harvest forecast

### 2.2 Local Implications

- if the forests are not the main wealth generators, what is?
- policy re: landownership?

### 2.6 Policy Implications

- what can we put in place to encourage the positive sides of scenario B. Many similar to Scenario C (what can we do to avoid aspects)
- transition from commodity to "other" economy for communities and workers
- manage forests for diversity
- foster development of forest-based community businesses
- R&D re: bioenergy/biomaterials
- support for education efforts in schools on the forests

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## **Scenario B - Peace in the Woods**

### 2.1 Logical Inconsistencies

- NS forests are primarily owned by private owners (70%)
- protected forest is going to be difficult as the Crown does not own that much forest; some private lands need to become protected areas
- PA may be consistent if PA definition is more outcome-based and not mechanism-based
- need inclusive/different definition of PAs
- less shift in ownership to community (only Crown land)
- may be shift in mgmt from private to community

## 2.2 Local Implications

- governance: shift in mgmt from Crown or private individuals to communities is not ownership
- to achieve 35% PA, difficult with 70% private lands unless PA is outcome-based
- lack of site advantage in NS for ecotourism; NS is less likely to take advantage of recreation
- we do not have a lot of recreational activities; more ecotourism mostly opportunity-based, not need-based, because needs of NS might not match with all Cdns

## 2.6 Policy Implications

- the scenario does not capture the global competitive advantage Canada has
- we have advantage in fibre, can compete with Scandinavian countries
- scenario doesn't reflect that advantage - we can achieve!
- more investment for value-added industry
- more human-resource-development programs for training skilled labour force
- incentive policy to compensate loss to landowners
- need incentive to encourage landowners to not cut their land
- policy to create PAs on private lands
- policy to encourage and create communities of private forest owners

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## **Scenario C - Turbulence in the Woods**

### 2.1 Logical Inconsistencies

- NS has less difference between hinterland forest and urban forest with comparison to other provinces

### 2.2 Local Implications

- increase in harvest possible for NS (Soft on sustainability)
- exports can be maintained, may be diversified (Europe)
- NS will be well off with bioenergy industry
- increased harvest primarily for salvage questionable for 40 yrs!

### 2.3 Indicators

- governments' loss in legal battles

### 2.6 Policy Implications

- to have policy which is soft on sustainability in order to increase harvests
- policy to diversify and look for new markets (Asia/Europe)
- restoration of damaged forest
- need a policy to match what industry and private land owners demand
- need regulations on water and air quality; the current policies should be revisited

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## Scenario C - Turbulence in the Woods

### 2.1 Logical Inconsistencies

FFP Truro Workshop 080220 - Results of Scenario Discussions 4

- consistency re: stagnant Cdn exports with a high global demand if we can't use what we produce?
- because we can't or don't choose to supply?

### 2.2 Local Implications

- disincentive to investment/maintenance of forests
- very hard on rural communities/unsustainable jobs
- less prone to "timber-baron" due to private ownership pattern
- bigger disparity within Aboriginal community

### 2.5 Inevitables/Outcome Desirability

- don't want to lose community-based economies
- don't want to lose ecosystem integrity/diversity

### 2.6 Policy Implications

- manage forests to be as resilient as possible
- foster development of community-based forest industries of a wide variety of products/services
- diversity leads to redundancy/resiliency
- need for firm implications to ecosystems in response to forecasted climate change (i.e. what ecosystem is suited to NS given conditions "x") and develop transition plans in response
- invasive species or ecosystem adaptation? Policy to develop ecosystem science and mgmt in order to engineer ecosystem adaptation using native survivors and appropriate imports
- R&D to embrace bioenergy and biomaterials
- gov't support re: policy for school education on forests/environment, trying to mitigate effects of all-hell-breaks-loose
- to mitigate migration to mainly urban environment, because fewer people have experience with forests

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## Scenario D - Restoration in the Woods

### 2.1 Logical Inconsistencies

- poor-quality forests should lend them-selves to biofuels
- if woods in poor condition, not good for making most products, but biofuels could still be made
- is "small growth in demand" consistent with global population increasing and extreme climate change?
- outcome re: small growth in demand for global forest products with population growing and worst-case climate change - more people in world wanting wood products, and Cda might be one of the few places temperate enough to grow wood
- questioning this assumption re: no market for biofuel

## 2.2 Local Implications

- demographics exaggerated in NS
- shift in land use to other uses, the sea, farming, urban, etc. will lose infrastructure to climate change. Looking at water rising and what this means for altering land use: farming, roads, settlement gets pushed inland, less room for forests
- NS climate-change refugees: people may move here from US, demographics might change due to this

## 2.5 Outcome Desirability

- don't want:
- negative ecological condition
- water quality/quantity challenged
- high population growth
- do want:
- non-wood renewables
- modest amount of conflict

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## **Scenario D - Restoration in the Woods**

### 2.1 Logical Inconsistencies

- had a hard time with this one re: logic, with calamity around increased climate change yet a peaceful geopolitical situation and modest conflict
- hard to assume everyone would just get along, but then think "Titanic" - it may be possible!

### 2.2 Local Implications

- NS would be desirable place to live and definitely have an influx of population
- increase in storm events wind storms, hurricane risks

### 2.3 Indicators

- site productivity
- remote sensing
- ability to determine that ecological integrity maintained with increased industrialization demand
- ecological indicators e.g. water quality
- method to integrate indicators
- difficult to get into this without further knowledge of the drivers that lead you there