

Mistik Public Advisory Group Tour

June 20, 2023

The Mistik Public Advisory Group (“PAG”) met for a field tour on June 20, 2023. The tour was held in the Divide Forest south of Meadow Lake and at the NorthWind Forest Products mill in Glaslyn. The field tour portion featured stops to view active processing in the Burner North area, a regenerating jack pine stand that was harvested in 1971, and a block where harvesting accounted for a visually sensitive area adjacent to Highway 4. The field tour was followed by lunch and a tour of the NorthWind mill and post plant.

1. **Burner North Stockpile and processing** – wood harvested late in the winter of 2022/23 was forwarded to an area that is accessible in all weather conditions for processing. This wood is primarily small diameter which takes longer to process. Moving it to an all-weather accessible area allows for better utilization of the processors (i.e. spring processing when you would not normally be in the forest). We were able to watch two of the P&E Logging processors working in the area. The group had a chance to view the processor up close as well as speak to one of the operators and gain his perspective of running this machine.



P&E Logging processors working in Burner North



2. **1971 Harvest in a jack pine stand**

This area located near Alcott Creek was harvested in 1971 and was pre-commercial thinned shortly after that. There was abundant vegetation growing under the regenerating trees.



1971 regenerating harvest area – near Alcott Creek



The regenerating stand had a diverse shrub population in the understory

3. Recently harvested block with a Visually Sensitive Area (VSA) adjacent to Highway 4 and the Turtle Lake access road.

Areas that have been designated as visually sensitive areas include major highways and roads, and high recreation-use lakes and rivers as well as other areas identified based on input from the public. The intent is not to hide nor try to disguise our activity within visually sensitive areas along highways but will attempt to ‘soften’ the visual harvest effect. The block is located near Turtle Lake and was cut in 2020.



Regenerating spruce tree (planted) and group discussion near Turtle Lake.

4. NorthWind Forest Products mill in Glaslyn.

NorthWind Forest Products is owned by Meadow Lake Tribal Council. The mill is primarily a post and rail operation. The group braved the rain and had a tour of the site.



Tour group at the NorthWind mill in Glaslyn

Mistik would like to thank all who took time out of their day to attend the tours. We very much appreciate all of the great conversation and perspectives of the PAG members. We look forward to seeing you at the next meeting in Meadow Lake this fall.

The following groups/organizations were represented at the PAG spring tour:

Cold Lake First Nations
Flying Dust First Nation
Ducks Unlimited
Divide Forest Advisory Council Corporation
Mistik Forestry Contractors
Town of St. Walburg
Zone 8 Trappers
Northern Village of Île à-la-Crosse
Northern Lights Snowmobile Association
NorSask Forest Products Union staff
Thunderchild First Nation
Village of Goodsoil
Ministry of Environment – Forest Service – Meadow Lake
Ministry of Environment – Forest Service – Prince Albert
Meadow Lake
Mistik staff

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