

WEDNESDAY AM WORKSHOP #4: SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

Workshop Session	Sustainable Forest Management
Names of presenters	James Drescher, Bill McKay, Holly Dressel, Sangay Wangchuk, Elizabeth May
Name of rapporteur	Skylan Parker

PRESENTER 1

Presenter #1 Holly Dressel
Title of Presentation
<p>The <u>Innovative Practice or Strategy</u> that the speaker is presenting.</p> <p>Ecoforestry, is typically done in the tropics. Few forests were being managed by humans and the land was left alone. Occasionally some use would involve collecting medicinal medicines, some firewood collection, etc. Next step would be in areas used for gardens, both shared and owned. There would be systems of tenure and punishment. Done by the Iroquois nation in Canada and all over the world. This practice is gone now from most parts of the world.</p>
<p><u>Focus/ Alternative Vision</u>: Transforming TENURE Methods around the world.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Looking at who really 'owns' the forests, it is a great practice, but the reality is they are being sold off and not maintained or passed on. - The question today is who should own the forests and who is selling the forests. - 150 years ago, near Adirondak Forests, land was planned to be kept wild forever. Laws were created to keep the land, compromising individual's interests throughout this process. - Adirondak Park is now 6000 acres in one of most industrialized areas in NA. Some animals have been reintroduced, but most have returned when the trees returned. - The one thing that does work is pristine forestry. The Adirondak Model is the same as the original ecoforestry model.

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Success Factors:

- 1.8 million acres in northern BC has used this model to involve all stakeholders to keep this land.
- Another example, **The Forest Conservative**, has preserved 26 million acres in Maine, NH & NY.

Key Challenges:

- The industrialization of our forests.

PRESENTER 2

Presenter #2 Sangay Wangchuk
Title of Presentation
The <u>Innovative Practice or Strategy</u> that the speaker is presenting. <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Dedication to sustainable environmental management.- Bhutan has been recognized by UN for its environmental practices.- 22% of Bhutan still under forest cover.- 26% is under forest conservation area (equivalent to National Park Service).
The " <u>Mainstream Practice</u> " Western land/forest development
The <u>Alternative Vision</u> Careful protection of land for future life using a natural approach which encompasses respect for all life, as in the Buddhist tradition. No need to convert people since this is a tenant of the national faith.
<u>Success Factors:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- No species yet extinct in Bhutan, although some are considered highly threatened.- E.g., tiger population is well protected and natural aspect is kept in tact.- King of Bhutan's leadership demonstrates a commitment to conservation. Policies are in place to protect land to ensure sustainability.- New constitution is being drafted to incorporate at least 60% of country to maintain forest cover. It will become law.

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Key Challenges:

- Degradation is a major problem.
- Know export of tiber is a big business elsewhere, but Bhutan saw danger in simply harvesting the land. They see it as better to produce own products, and attract business through own products rather than through tiber sales.
- Poor people in rural areas rely more on forest harvesting. Forest is linked to survival, making it a challenge to limit forest practices.
- Hydropower generation is big industry and arguing for forests competes with hydropower as an economic priority.

Overcoming Challenges:

Fees for tours & use of land are used to manage human impact. High volume is not what they want.

Moving from the Fringe to the Mainstream:

A commitment to sustainability as a nation – in terms of survival.

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PRESENTER 3

Presenter #3 James Drescher
Title of Presentation
The <u>Innovative Practice or Strategy</u> In Maritimes or the Acadian Forest (used interchangeably): a transformation is taking place: how we relate to forest creatures, how we relate to the natural world, to looking at carbon release, to marketing which discriminates between needs and desires, of public awareness, policy, the human forest, and the relationship between relationships in the human world – these are all changing.
The “ <u>Mainstream Practice</u> ” As disconnected from the whole process of relationship that takes place with our forests.

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The Alternative Vision

Humans are drawn to one another to create well-being. This general concern for others brings people together. This inseparability of all beings – in the Maritimes, they are all forest beings – even though some areas have been converted into parking lots etc. Caring for all beings means everyone.

Done by closing loops, everyone works to bring everyone else along, not just special interest groups and not imposed; otherwise, it does not fit this vision of togetherness.

There is a circle of respect and care for insightful forest planning (the forest is our environment).

HOW: There is an integration of forest animals, harvest methods and how forests are used also minimize community disruption. ** We really need to hear all the voices of people in our community. We need to minimize carbon costs. Minimize capital costs, evaluate market systems and use appropriate technologies (e.g. using local manufactures and determining use of products and who will use them). Maximizing enrichment and minimizing harm involves community involvement, creating public awareness. Incentives and disincentives effect how forests are managed.

Success Factors:

One example: **Acadian Forest Families**, currently 22 families making wood products using certified organic wood. Talk to Bill McKay or James Drescher.

Key Challenges:

Need for research and information dissemination.

Involving everyone.

Process of transformation needs to consider certification, so families could help to promote this system of sustainable forest use.

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Presenter #4 Bill McKay

FOREST CERTIFICATION

Acadian Forests Family, stewards to 6500 acres in NS. Came together to do the right thing.

Used other standards as a base, using a very rigid structure that could be negotiated.

Support for social aspects is a part of their practice. E.g. they have silent time as a group and people involved share similar interests: such as time, family, care for one another, working together as a family and a community.

Certification standards is the main goal, and involvement from others is encouraged to support this initiative. The holistic approach incorporates forest practice and the values important to how they live their lives.

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SUMMARY OF WORKSHOP DISCUSSION

Workshop Discussion: Summarise statements, questions, responses:	
Name/Question	Comment/Response
Elizabeth May	<p>FOREST STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL to set standards, an important factor now in Canadian forest management.</p> <p>Ecosystem-based management is still not in place; it is taking longer than expected.</p>
Comment	<p>Layer of optimism was surprising, in spite of disappearance of forestry everyday – request from speaker for more umph to reassure everyone that we’re going to go for it to save our forests.</p> <p>Responses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - J. Drescher, reply that there is a reality to what is said. - H. Dressel, why we are here is to look for solutions - E. May, Keith Ashfield Minister of Environment for NB criticized Irving for the first time to the media in response to the public outcry.
Question: How does NS management of forests compare with other provinces?	<p>May: simple to say that people management is needed. Stora has improved (never thought she’d say that).</p> <p>Management system is allowing people to take too much, taking old growth forest (80% of old growth is gone). More needs to be done with a minority gov’t to push opposition to lobby for change.</p> <p>NS is <u>most</u> least ecological gov’t in the country.</p>
NS Director of Cooperative Council: Feels this bubble of data and politicization still results in clear-cutting. Why is gov’t allowing wholesale clear-cuts instead of controlled – is there really a transformation taking place???	<p>J. Drescher: For transformation to take place, a vision is needed. Practices and action like mentioned is taking place supporting this transformation.</p> <p>May: NB is a good step in the right direction. Quebec has banned biocides. NS is much slower. Need for public pressure on gov’t and this is being seen across country. Action is happening.</p>

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	Comment: Corporation control of forests is not being stated by gov't as wrong. Do not see global transformation, more is seen in following corporate control.
	Comment: More needs to be seen in support for retailers and changing consumer behavior. More awareness of FSC in Netherlands versus NA consumers at Home Depot. We have a long way to go; we're missing the key decision-makers (consumers).
Qu: Is there concern in Bhutan about the will of the people changing in years to come?	Grassroots people are not that affected since most concerned with getting daily needs from the forest. Ideology will change over time, yes, (care for all things) – but this can be reduced by having gov't support for forest preservation. How people perceive natural resources is not expected to change very much; there will be much destruction since the forests are so critical to survival.
Last words, Holly Bill McKay & James Drescher May	This is a globalization fight. Bhutan one of few countries that has not joined WTO. A lot has happened to those that have joined and they must produce forest trade. People must act, demonstrate and work together. Jim: seeking practical ideas from people who want to work together. Please contact. Certification: not enough people are aware of our ecological footprint. Need transformative information sharing, engaging people to bring about change. Sierra Club Canada, Atlantic Chapter Annual General Meeting at Windhorse Farm with Jim Drescher, July 16 th and 17 th – Come out!