
HERBICIDE ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (HAP) 2.0 GATHERING

SUMMARY

AUGUST 26 TO 28TH 2019

CHAPLEAU, ONTARIO



PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

The purpose of the meeting was for participants to get to know one another and build relationships. As funding in support of HAP initiatives has been approved by Natural Resources Canada (NRCAN), the parties met to confirm and clarify HAP 2.0 actions developed from the previous HAP workshop in October 2018 and to continue strategic thinking for opportunities and possibilities for HAP 2.0 over the next two years.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:

Nelson Thiffault (NRCan – research scientist)
Guy Smith (NRCan – project coordinator)
Rob Fleming (NRCan – research scientist)
Christopher Edge (NRCan – research scientist)
Paul Hazlett (NRCan – research scientist)
Kim Chapman (NRCan – forest ecologist)
Travis Jones (NRCan – forester)
Wayne Bell (OMNRF- research scientist)
Erin Seabert (OMNRF- planning biologist)

Dave Morris (OMNRF – research scientist)
David Flood (Wahkohtowin Development GP)
Isabelle Allen (Wahkohtowin Development GP)
Isabelle Souliere (Missanabie Cree First Nation)
Dakota Souliere – (Chapleau Cree FN)
D enis Ayotte (Rayonier Advanced Materials)
Chris McDonell (Rayonier Advanced Materials)
Stephanie Seymour (Ph.D. Candidate, UofT)
Carla Tangie (Michipicoten FN)

AGENDA

Aug 26
6:30 pm - Arrive in Chapleau, introductory evening



Blueberries from a cut block visited on the tour

Aug 27

8:30am - Depart Aux Trois Moulin for field tour

3:00pm - Gathering at Chapleau Cree FN band hall

6:00pm – Dinner and discussion of the day

August 28

8:30am – Meeting at A3M, building partnerships to move forward on an action plan

HAP 2.0 GUIDING PRINCIPLE

The people who gathered in October 2018 see potential to build the HAP model into a new phase with an emphasis on knowledge sharing, technology transfer, and applied research. A foundational principle of HAP 2.0 is **engagement with Indigenous People to encourage connections among indigenous knowledge, ecological research, and advanced technology.**

ACTION PLAN

1. A) Synthesis of challenges, needs, and opportunities.
B) Finding potential Herbicide Alternative Practices by learning from natural systems.
A basis for collaboration and a way forward to find herbicide alternatives
2. Explore state-of-the-art technologies.
Potential use of technology to identify sites with limited vegetation competition
3. Mining the knowledge of past experiences and evaluate promising practices.
Learning from experience to find options for the future
4. Practitioner's Toolkit.
Decision support guidance with supporting tools for applying herbicide alternatives
5. Develop and grow Indigenous practitioners in forestry.
Tapping the innovative talent and potential of Indigenous businesses and communities

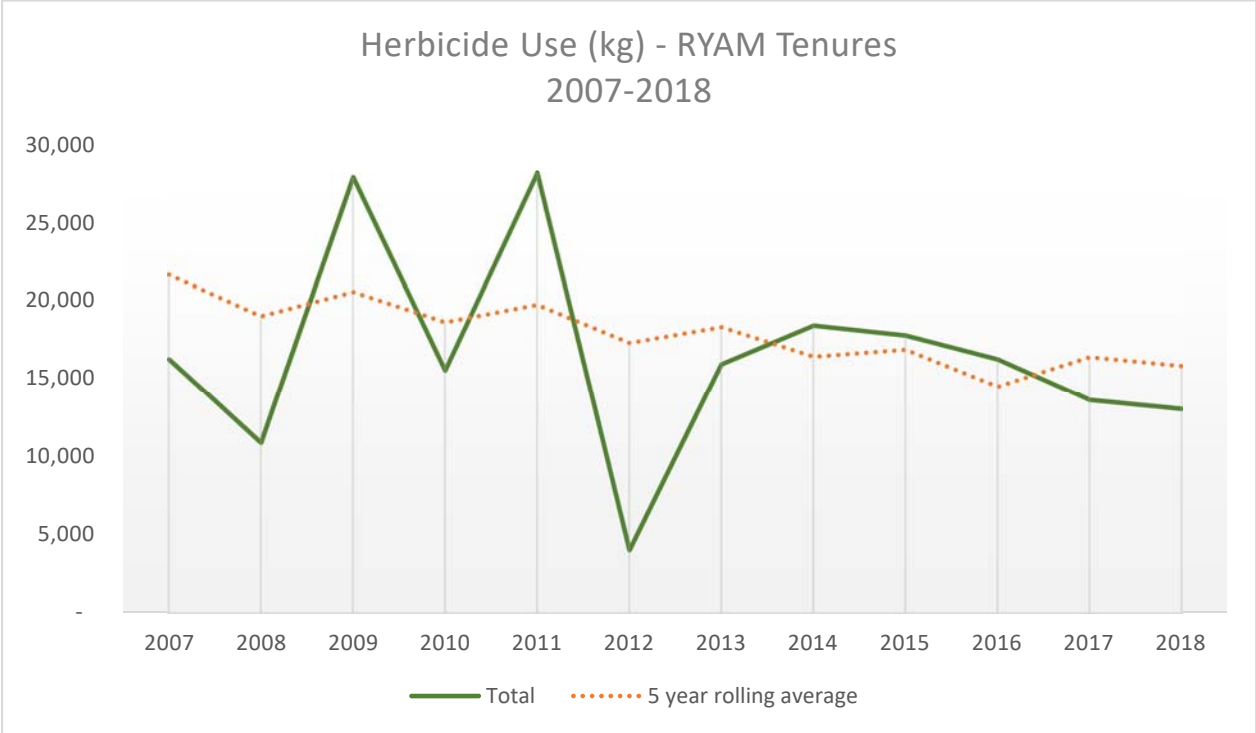


CONCLUSION

The 2019 workshop promoted thorough discussion amongst the participants, looking into different herbicide alternative strategies. Some ideas brought up over the course of the two days were: the usefulness of identifying sites that will not require treatment prior to harvest, the need for mechanical brush saws without harmful emissions, the intensity of site preparation, increasing public awareness and understanding, and the implications of climate change. The action plan items identified will allow for further collaboration among participants after the workshop.

HAP SUMMARY

The Herbicide Alternative Program was started in 2011, and includes the Romeo Malette, Gordon Cosens and Martel Forests. These forests total about 3.7 million hectares of RYAM’s forest tenure. From the program’s start in 2011 to 2018, a reduction of about 20% has occurred (see chart). The rolling 5-year average has been used to determine this as it smooths out significant variability in annual activity.



The focus of HAP to date has been on the Martel Forest, which contains roughly 400,000 ha of the Chapleau Crown Game Preserve. This focus has been placed as a result of indigenous interest in the area, as well as availability of staff. Efforts such as vegetation surveys and larger seedlings are being introduced on the Martel Forest to gain confidence and validation prior to initiating application to other forests.