

Stillwater Timberlands Community Advisory Group

February 8, 2006

Minutes

Town Centre Hotel

Island Timberlands

Attendance: refer to attached sheet

7:30pm: Meeting called to order

Welcome and Introductions

Chair welcomed and introduced guests.

- Diane Medves, Corporate Forester
- Bill Waugh, General Manager of planning and forestry
- Kraig Urbanoski, Field planner

Structure and organization

Bill Waugh

Bill provided personal background information. Began working for Western Forest Products, moved to Port McNeil, Macmillan Bloedel – Weyerhaeuser. Island Timberland offices are in Nanaimo and forest planners are based at North West Bay (Nanoose).

Copies of chart showing senior management team were provided. It was noted that Island Timberlands has 260,000 hectares of land base on the east side of Vancouver Island, Port Alberni, Buckley Bay, Campbell River and Port Hardy, also 7,000 hectares in Powell River and Sunshine Coast. There are 10,000 hectares in the Queen Charlottes. Company is in the process of bringing data together. Island Timberlands is a timber growing company practicing sustainable harvesting.

Policies

Environmental policy, access policy and safety policy have been stripped down. (Safety policy remains the same)

Property Sales

Manager of Timberlands and properties evaluates properties. (Some have been taken off the market)

Question – What legal mechanisms are in place – is there any AAC involved?

Answer – All lands are managed forest (98%), under the managed forest designation. Forests are managed for timber regeneration.

There is SFI or CSA certification on all lands except the Queen Charlottes.

Question – Is it possible to see the company’s policy on access management?

Answer – It is the same as before- not changing

ACTION- Provide copy of company’s Access Management plan.

Question – Is there an estimate of timber on the stump on this side (including Sechelt)

Answer – Standing timber volume not available at this time.

Question – Can you explain the regulations for private managed land and crown land re- export?

Answer – Lands granted before 1906 – no regulations - they can be exported.
Lands granted after 19096 – restricted, government collects tax.

Question – For the lands granted after 1906, is there an allowance for the logs to be advertised first before being exported?

Answer – Yes

Question – What % is pre-1906 (more exportable)?

Answer – Not known, but will get information.

ACTION - Provide information on percentage of land that is pre-1906 (more exportable)

Question - What will the rotation be - 40, 60 or 80 years?

Answer – Some sites grow faster than others –company is looking at the economic rotation- between 40 and 120 years.

Question - Does company manage for value added?

Answer – Yes- there are plans in place for contractors. Managed for fir where appropriate.

Question – What percentage is exported as raw logs?

Answer – It varies from month to month - between 65% and 70%.

Diane noted that it depends where the market is for better return. Customers are from Korea, US and Japan. Strategic planning considers where the market is. Smaller value added producers need a steady supply. Coastline Industries on the Island is a steady customer. Company is always “open for business”

Question – What about the domestic market or are exports more profitable?

Answer –Will always try to keep all customers happy and provide a consistent product of the best quality.

Bill noted that Island Timberlands wishes to be a good neighbour and to communicate with the community. It is not clear at this point where the company is going with certification.

Member asked for confirmation that Island Timberlands is not changing the Access Management policy.

Access policy will remain the same other than where there are safety concerns.

Bill noted that Brascan has changed name to Brookfield Asset Management Inc. – an asset management business- they own four other timber companies in North America and Brazil.

Island Timberlands hopes to maintain sustainable forestry, manage for future and noted that there are important considerations to be noted for the Powell River area.

Question – Can you elaborate on considerations for Powell River?

Answer – Eagle River site – stopped operations there to talk to the community. Public meeting is planned for Monday February 13, 2006.

Kraig Urbanowski
Field Planner

Kraig provided background information. Worked for Weyerhaeuser Stillwater from 1996 – November 2004- transferred to South Island Weyerhaeuser, that became part of Island Timberlands.

Plans for 2006

Operational information maps were posted. Red for 2006, blue for 2007. Two planned blocks require road construction. Plans are fluid and can be reversed or changed as company sees fit. E.g. Olsen Valley – some blocks may drop off- some blocks are ex-TFL39, some are Catalyst owned and some are Island Timberlands owned.

Question – Where lands are removed from the TFL, how long is the company required to hold certification?

Answer – Diane noted that there is a clause in the “removal letter” - CSA and ISO remain on lands as per public advisory process. Looking into the time frame.

Question – Catalyst owned land- is that Lot 450?

Answer – Kraig noted that there is a portion south west of the pole line and a block in Wildwood that was inherited from Weyerhaeuser.

Question – Any plans for the Millennium Park and Willingdon Beach Trail?

Answer – We are working on plans. Catalyst has asked company to remove assets (trees) tentative plans are for 2006.

Question – Any other lands?

Answer – Yes Olsens, Fiddlehead, Jim Browne Creek, Rainbow Lodge private lot, small lot at Okeover, Malibu and Princess Louisa area lots

Question – What are the terms of agreement with Catalyst?

Answer – Timber reserves have an expiry date. Catalyst lands are private and not a managed forest. If under a managed forest, it would be under 150 regulations and procedures.

Questions on CSA certification

Are Island Timberlands continuing under CSA?

Answer - Details are still to be worked out. For example, above the pole line is ISO certified but not CSA. For now we are working under the 2005 SFM plan from Cascadia until May 2006. We will not be jointly registering for 2006.

Maps posted showed planned blocks. ST-61. Spur 18 on Goat Lake, TM-130 and PR-13 up Cranberry Lake.

Drainage concerns

Cranberry

Question – Are there any liability concerns regarding drainage around the Tatlow Road spur?

Answer – There have been site visits by hydrologist Brian Carsen, identifying properties affected by streams. Company is reviewing documents and identifying properties. Company has built culvert to transfer water across property. Recommendations have been given to the Municipality. Drainage affects 15-20 homes in the area- half are within the municipality and half are in the regional district. Hydrologist notes that there is no significant increase in water runoff since logging, but in storm events, there would be problems.

Member, who lives in the area at the end of Coburn Street, noted that yards are now flooded, and noted that it has never happened in the past. Logging has definitely affected drainage.

Kraig noted that culverts were built to transfer water across property. Some homeowners have small pipes that can be plugged up with leaves etc. Hydrologist reports can be shown. Homeowners have been notified regarding logging plans and company personnel will be knocking on doors.

Horseshoe River

Question – What are the plans for Horseshoe River?

Answer - Plans are for the west side of the river. Tentative boundaries have been laid out. Waiting for engineering consultants and windthrow reports. This area is in the 2007 logging plans. It was noted that this area is part of the Powell River Canoe Route and particular care has to be taken there.

Question- What about riparian buffers?

Answer – Horseshoe River has three different classifications. F-1, F-2 and F-3- (Fish or no fish) Basic regulation states - 20 trees over 30 centimeters in diameter evenly distributed and proportional in a 100-metre stretch.

Question – When is logging planned?

Answer – August.

Question - What are the planned buffers for TM-230?

Answer – on average- 30-metres but variable-down to 25-metres. Very preliminary, we need to go on site to assess windthrow.

Question – Why is the company using their own fish stream designations?

Answer – They are in the provincial legislation for private managed land.

Question – Is Island Timberlands operating in Jefferd Creek area or BCTS?

Answer – Island put in a plan for Canoe Main. Canoe Main will be active but no loading to Canoe mainline.

Question – Are logs from Stillwater going to the log dump or dryland sort?

Answer – They are taking the Stillwater logs through the dryland sort. Some will go through North West Bay and some through Chemainus. There are bids for contractors to do the work. Sechelt operators' bids came to Powell River. Try to incorporate all contractors to their advantage.

Certification

Diane Medves

Diane noted that the private lands are mixed- some are CSA and others are SFI certified. All are ISO certified. Task is to see where to go with certification. Removal letter states certification requirements.

Question – When Cascadia and Island Timberlands split into two companies, what happened to the links that existed?

Answer – Links such as silviculture research will remain. Existing plans and accreditation for certification are still linked. Minor audit showed name change, and showed that they could get into joint CSA certification with all divisions – (North Island, West Island, Port McNeil etc.) The portion of lands under CSA are jointly operating with the 2005 Cascadia SFM plan since May 2005. Plan has finished now and new plan not ready yet. There is a “transition period” until the new plan is in place.

Question – Is there a time limit for transition period?

Answer – Have to have gone through a new audit. Operators are maintaining CSA separate from Cascadia. Island has to come up with a new plan. Island has met with other CAGs - West Island in July and has been invited to North Island to see how they fit in.

Island Timberlands would prefer to use groups that are already here, they have the background, training and experience, as long as they meet all the components and standards. Some streamlining for the company could be used- for Diane to meet with each group – there would be a total of four advisory group meetings a month.

Question – Is there a demand for certified logs in the export market?

Answer – For one customer it is important, some are not asking for certified.

Question – What about local sales?

Answer – Would have to check.

ACTION – Check on demand for certified logs for local sales.

Bill noted that Home Depot is a customer that insists on certified wood and limits what they will accept. Cascadia mills have specific CSA customers. Western is CSA certified.

Member noted that CAG has created the framework according to 2002 standards. Values, objectives, indicators, and targets have been written into the SFM plan. What was developed has now been upgraded to 2002 standards for Cascadia. CAG and Island might agree to share the work that has already been done.

Question – What is the ISO 14001?

Answer – Environmental certification.

Question – Is there a way to find out what's required- how do management plans come about, cutting approvals etc?

Answer – Ministry of Forests oversees plans.

Question – What criteria is there for private managed forest land?

Answer – Independent body reports to the Ministry of Agriculture and private managed forest land council. When Crown land the Ministry of Forests is involved, when private it is more similar to agriculture so Ministry of Agriculture is involved.

Question – What about laws regarding road building, riparian rules etc?

Answer – Riparian regulations are not the same. There are different regulations around fish streams- it can be confusing. There are also heritage, fisheries regulations etc. Crown land needs an FSP, private land does not.

Question – Is the designation of private managed forest for business and tax purposes?

Answer - Yes.

Eagle River
Public Meeting February 13 Moose Hall

Member noted that the Eagle River public meeting will be held on February 13, 2006.

Question - To be a good neighbour, would Island Timberlands consider in future holding open houses?

Answer – It is a brand new company, there will be new issues. Contacting all neighbours where there are logging plans is part of the business. When preliminary engineering was begun for Eagle River, Judy Abrams was contacted. Issues were raised. (Swimming, access, trail etc) It is standard business to be open to communication with the public. Draft plan for Eagle River is not finalized yet.

Pest Management Plan

Question - Member asked about the pest management plan for Island Timberlands.

Answer – Company has no plan now- has to go through the same plan as Cascadia.

Member requested a copy of the pest management plan from Nanaimo.

ACTION – Provide a copy of Island Timberlands’ latest pest management plan from Nanaimo.

Paul Kutz noted that North West Hardwoods as well as Island Timberlands are both covered under one (Cascadia) plan.

Question - Member asked about sustainable cutting for the future – could they level one area to save another?

Answer – We have to adjust harvest levels around community issues. It may make sense to be active for one or two years then to pull out.

Variable retention

Question – Does Island Timberlands have a VR policy?

Answer – We are doing retention within all cutblocks. Basically VR-like, less retention but trying to put more in riparian zones - similar to what has been done in the past.

Question – Has VR recently been defined as part of FRPA?

Answer – Yes- previously wording from Bill Beese came from FRPA. Lots of companies are not using VR.

Question – If not required to – why do it?

Answer – For visuals, old growth and interface.

First Nations

Question – Any considerations to do with First Nations around Eagle River site?

Answer – Eagle River borders Sechelt band land - they have been consulted. Archaeological assessments and traditional use comments on the block have been obtained.

Chair noted that First Nations are invited to CAG but do not attend. They may in the future when treaty negotiations are finished. Agenda and minutes are sent each month.

Steve noted that they found the process interesting and may be interested in the future.

Facilitator noted that in the values and goals table, members chose not to comment on First Nations values, since they do not have an active member at the table.

Island Timberlands –

Diane noted that CAG could be their advisory group if willing to continue working, when the new SFM plan is done, they would like to be able to share the work.

Terms of Reference

Member suggested that the Terms of Reference could be reviewed as they are now written for Cascadia. There could be some differences/additions.

Open to Public Meetings

Member noted that CAG meetings are open to the public once a month – would it be the same for Island Timberlands?

It was noted that Island Timberlands is a private company, different from Cascadia.

Chair thanked Diane, Bill and Kraig for the informative meeting

Meeting adjourned 9:08pm

**Stillwater Timberlands Community Advisory Group
February 8, 2006
Attendance**

Name	Position	Member Seat
PRESENT		
Jane Cameron – Chair	Primary	Member at large
Ken Jackson – Vice-Chair	Primary	Recreation
Dave Rees- 2nd Vice Chair	Primary	Tourism
Eagle Walz	Primary	Recreation
Monty Tyrwhitt-Drake	Alternate	Recreation
Michael Conway Brown	Primary	Environment/Access
Mark Forsyth	Alternate	Environment/Access
Patrick Brabazon	Primary	Local Govt. (Regional)
Joanne Cameron-Nordell	Primary	Local Business
Rory Maitland	Primary	Contractors
Kathy Kirk	Primary	Education
Erika Hein	Primary	Youth
Jack McClinchey	Primary	Motorized Recreation
Don Krompocker	Primary	Labour
Nancy Hollmann	Primary	Environment
Paul Goodwin	Primary	Forest Dependent
14 Seats represented		
ABSENT		
Bill Maitland	Alternate	Contractors
George Ferreira	Alternate	Local Business
Bernie Angel	Alternate	Local Business
Paul Holbrook	Alternate	Forest Dependent
Les Falk	Alternate	Local Govt. (Regional)
Lorne Marr	Alternate	Recreation
John Passek	Alternate	Motorized Recreation
Andrew Pinch	Alternate	Tourism
Kevin McKamey	Alternate	Contractors
Debby Waslewski	Primary	Citizens
Dan Waslewski	Alternate	Citizens
Andy Davis	Alternate	Citizens
PRESENT		
Resource – others		
Diane Medves	Island Timberlands	
Bill Waugh	Island Timberlands	
Kraig Urbanoski	Island Timberlands	
Stephen Chaplin	Cascadia Forest Products Ltd.	
Paul Kutz	Cascadia Forest Products Ltd.	
Cathy Bartfai	Facilitator	
Pam Dowding	Secretary	