

Stillwater Timberlands Community Advisory Group

December 13th, 2000

Minutes

Recording Secretary: Pam Dowding

Attendance: refer to attached sheet

6:00pm: Dinner

6:30pm: The facilitator opened the meeting and welcomed all members.

Presentation of Agenda

The agenda was presented and it was noted that one of the items, a Vision exercise, would not take place due to illness. This item will be presented at the next meeting on January 10th. Three items were added to the agenda.

1. Concerns on zoning on map
2. Announcement of workshop
3. Access to information request

Review of Minutes from November 22nd

The minutes of November 22nd were reviewed and amendments noted. Weyerhaeuser gave an explanation with respect to the 5% of the TFL AAC that goes to small business.

Concerns regarding the High Falls – Diane Lake area

This area was discussed and the concerns and wishes of the group were again addressed. The group's wish for an old growth area with 100% set aside for wildlife was

discussed. Weyerhaeuser had offered a different area (Powell Daniels). There is presently a problem due to a 20-hectare small business Timber Sale License in the valley. The Timber sale was reneged on due to difficulties in getting the wood out. The Ministry of Forests will re-advertise the Timber Sale License. Several members of the CAG approached the Ministry of Forests and Weyerhaeuser

about swapping the Powell Daniels Timber Sale License for another of equal value within the TFL. Weyerhaeuser was unable/unwilling to arrange a swap. Discussion continued regarding this area. It was noted that after the small business moves out, the road would be deactivated so that no 4x4-wheel vehicles could gain access, but the road would be suitable for hikers. It was suggested that the only way to get vehicles up to this area would be by barge. Concerns regarding the Grizzly Bear corridor and Marbled Murrelet habitat were raised. The group agreed that their wishes were still for **two** areas that should be set aside untouched for wildlife and Marbled Murrelet. (Powell Daniels and Diane Lake)

Discussion of Forest Development Plan and letter dated April 27th

Items regarding attachments to plans and management strategy were discussed. Weyerhaeuser noted that plans are not final and that consultations and inventory planning are still taking place. Copies of a letter from Weyerhaeuser dated April 27th were made available as a handout.

Discussion regarding how much (or little) authority the local Ministry of Environment actually has regarding recommendations of an environmental nature.

Continued discussion regarding the importance of the goat and deer winter range and Grizzly Bear habitat areas. Members of the group voiced their opinion that these areas shouldn't be cut at all. Weyerhaeuser pointed out that logging had been taking place in the Phillip's Arm area for more than thirty years, and that the Grizzly Bears in that area are doing fine.

Invitation to Gordon Wilson

It was suggested that Gordon Wilson, Minister of Forests and local MLA be invited to speak to the CAG at the next meeting in January. The group was encouraged to get questions prepared for this important meeting, so that Mr. Wilson could provide answers.

Workshop – March 29-30th, 2001

Weyerhaeuser has agreed to sponsor a workshop, to take place at the Tigh Na Mara Resort in Parksville, March 29-30th, 2001. Combined Advisory groups will get together and share ideas. Tigh Na Mara has been booked for these dates for approximately 40 people. Members were asked to contact Dennis Fitzgerald by e-mail if interested in attending

Values and Goals Review

A copy of Doug McCormick's latest document will be e-mailed to members. It was noted that the website (www.cagstw.org) will be updated with everything so far, and will include copies of the latest Values and goals.

The handout "*Comparison of Stillwater Advisory Group Goals Documents*" was discussed. The final (July) column was reviewed for omissions and changes. The group recommended the following changes. All changes refer to the "July" column of the document.

1. Conservation of Biological Diversity –

a. Ecosystem Diversity

- Protect rare plants
- First bullet – change wording

- Second bullet

- change to : *Forests are managed to conserve ecosystem diversity to avoid the extinction of indigenous plants and animals*
- Third bullet
- Change to: *Interconnectiveness of biocommunities is maintained at the landscape level.*

BREAK 7:50pm – 8:10pm

Continued Values and Goals discussion

a. Species Diversity

- Pt 5 – Habitats are adequately protected... move to 1a)

a. Genetic Diversity

- Change- *There is to be no harvesting of any specific species or grades*
- Change- *Where reforestation is promoted through planting varieties of seeds of coastal provenance is used.*
- Add- *Weyerhaeuser will follow all BC seed transfer guidelines*
- Add: *No introduction of genetically modified species*

The group was informed of a seed orchard in Sechelt, run by Canadian Forest Products. Tight guidelines are imposed regarding transfer of seeds. The Forest Service has established provenance trials for different trees all over the BC coast. It was suggested that some of the trees from the Stillwater area have an excellent performance.

Question from guest speaker John Keays was raised regarding root rot problems in this area and the restrictions to "local" seedlings. It was suggested that other areas might have a solution for root rot that should be considered.

Guest Speaker: John Keays

A handout on the subject of DNA adducts was provided for the group. John described his findings and experiences in the area of Williston Reservoir. This area was studied as part of the federal environmental effects monitoring program (EEM). John described his thoughts on the report that was recently published and has asked the federal government not to accept it.

The group was encouraged to ask more questions and described some of the chemistry involved in his research.

- Concerns about the effluent from paper mills and the effects of chlorinated organics were described.
- Concerns about the midge larvae were raised. They were found to be deformed and sick in the Williston Reservoir area. Deformed red worms were also found.
- Concerns regarding submerged wood were also mentioned.
- Concerns regarding the health of fish in lakes where there is submerged wood. (Powell Lake, Lois Lake)
- Concerns regarding the amount of wood fibre in the fresh water system
- Concerns regarding the use of glyphosate
- Concerns regarding 17 sites that have already been tested in a Vancouver Island study – results ranging from very poor to quite good
- Concerns regarding the cost of studies in this area, and the many "unknowns"

Question from the CAG regarding the submerged wood already in Powell Lake – Solution would be to try and prevent wood fibre going into the water

It was noted that the cost to take out the trees from the lakes is huge. Bark is falling off the trees already there and it is difficult or impossible to remove from the water.

It was also noted that paper mills historically have added to the problem with the use of chemicals

Question on whether ocean studies have been made regarding the same problems, and the answer was No, not in this area

In conclusion, the group was encouraged to be very cautious with the use of herbicides. Any further questions were invited, and John can be contacted by e-mail or phone.

The chair thanked John for coming out to speak to the group and stated that the CAG is opposed to the use of herbicides

Next meeting

The next meeting of the CAG will be January 10th, 2001. The facilitator asked the group whether they were happy with the present facility (Coast Town Centre Hotel), or whether anyone had any other suggestions. It was decided to stay at the present meeting place.

Map – Ten copies of a map were available for group members. It was noted that zoning of the area around Inland Lake on the map is not yet finalized.

Binders – The final version of the detailed proposal for the Stillwater Timberlands Pilot Project was distributed to CAG members.

Gifts – Rod Tysdal thanked the group for all the time and effort and hard work over the past few months, and presented everyone with a book as a token of appreciation.

Website and Library update

A suggestion was made to include information from John Keays' presentation, and also Dr. Dost's information which was provided to the group. These will be added to the website for the public display.

Request for information

Three items were addressed and it was noted that members are still waiting for copies of documents.

1. Copies of Doug McCormick's response to BC Environmental Network requested
2. Lois River Main – information was requested on the status of this road – This area is still under discussion.
3. Recreation Management Plan for Powell River area – request to the group to follow up with a request for a copy of this "routinely releasable" document. It was noted that other areas had provided information without any delays. A request will be faxed on behalf of the group. No objections were heard to this suggestion.

AAC

Question was raised regarding the increase in the AAC. It was noted that the 60-day review process would provide opportunities for comment.

Question regarding the cut from 40 to 60 years' rotation. 70 – 80 years is the normal rotation for TFL Block1. Alder rotation would be 40 – 50 years' maturity.

Forest Development Plan #8 – Major Amendment

Copies have been made available to the group. The 60-day review period would be until February 15th, 2001.

The group was encouraged to take the time to look over the value and goals documents and to make notes and comments to speed up the continuation of the review process.

Meeting adjourned 9:20pm

Stillwater Timberlands Advisory Group

Dec 13th, 2000

Attendance

Present

Name	Position	Member Seat
Ken Jackson**	Primary	Recreation
Bill Maitland	Alternate	Contractor
Janet May	Primary	Environment
Michael Conway Brown	Primary	Environment
Linda Scheiber	Primary	Tourism
Jim Stutt	Alternate	Recreation
Bill Duff	Primary	Citizens
Lorne Marr	Alternate	Recreation

Sally Keays	Alternate	Environment
Ian Fleming	Alternate	Local Business
Bill Maitland	Alternate	Contractor
Joanne Cameron-Nordell	Primary	Local Business
Mark Desnoyers	Alternate	Tourism
Leni Goggins	Alternate	Youth
** <i>Chair</i>		
* <i>Vice - Chair</i>		

Absent

George Ferreira	Primary	Recreation
Paul Holbrook	Alternate	Forest Dependent
Rita Rasmussen	Alternate	Environment
Kathleen O'Neil	Primary	Education/Training
Peter Ranger	Primary	Forest Dependent
Eagle Walz*	Primary	Recreation
Rory Maitland	Primary	Contractor
Bob Baxter	Alternate	Recreation
Terry Peters	Alternate	Citizens
Sonny Rioux	Primary	IWA
David Gabelhouse	Primary	Local Govt.

7 - seats in attendance, 7 - absent

Resource /Other:

Rod Tysdal – Weyerhaeuser

Dennis Fitzgerald – Weyerhaeuser

Guest – John Keays

Facilitator - **Cathy Bartfai** - chamber@prcn.org

Secretary - Pam **Dowding** - pamdowding@home.com