

Stillwater Timberlands Community Advisory Group

November 27th, 2002

Minutes

Coast Hotel

Attendance: refer to attached sheet

Quorum noted

Bill Maitland to be acting chair

6:00pm: Dinner

6:20pm: Meeting called to order

Acceptance of Agenda and additions

Steve Chaplin moved to the beginning of the agenda

Goat Island Cutblock

Steve Chaplin was given a brief background on why CAG had asked him to come to speak to them on this matter. The cabin owners had brought concerns forward to the Chair and when the operations map was presented to CAG they felt the group should know more details on this matter.

Steve brought along maps and digitally enhanced photos showing Weyerhaeuser's plans for logging in the area.

Steve noted in the beginning Weyerhaeuser was looking for 50 000 cubic meters to grapple bunch helilog. Operations map used to help identify the areas with characteristics suitable. The company was still at this stage when the cabin owners approached the company regarding this area. It was explained to the cabin owners that there were a number of steps to look at prior to harvesting such as identifying goat winter ranges, fish, reviewing the plan with CAG and then, finally, to

send a letter and map to the cabin owners outlining the companies intentions. At the point of contact the notification stage had not happened yet.

Steve walked the area with the cabin owners. Powell Lake Strategic Plan has identified constraints for cabin locations, identified wildlife areas, area of spawning, rockfall hazards. In this area there are wildlife and rockfall issues. Cabin owners were worried about rock falling down the hill and eventually crashing thru the trees and hitting their cabin. No letters have been received from the cabin owners. Steve hired a consultant to look at the rockfall hazard zone. Report was just received just prior to CAG's meeting. Areas identified as a potential slide area in the next 1000 years. Trees could provide some relief but if a shelf were to release the trees would provide no relief.

Biggest issue was trails. Cabin owners had created a network of trails for the community of cabins (some of the trails are 40+ years old). Some park benches and viewpoints were established also.

Main issue brought forward was that the cabin owners thought that the trails would stay there forever. Steve explained to the cabin owners there are MOF processes to identify established trails in the community. One such trail is Frog Pond Lake trail. The cabin owner's trails were not registered as one of those but the commitment the company made was that any trail that was harvested over would have another trail established and the slash would be moved away from the trail. This process is consistent with CAG's values and goals and the SFMP. Steve went and modified some boundaries after meeting with the cabin owners.

Steve was hoping that some of the cabin owners would be at the CAG meeting as some of the mapping is new. He intends to send the map with the letter to them.

Question - Is this crown land?

Answer - Yes it is. Crown land is managed by the MOF to bring maximum \$ to the government. MOF is not interested in dealing with this issue.

It was pointed out the cabins are in the water and they have a short ramp to the land.

Digitally created photos presented to show what the VR would look like from the water.

Company committed to bringing in "tree monkeys" to prune trees about 10 m in along cut

boundaries to reduce or prevent any hazards.

Discussion was had regarding grapple bunch helilogging and why it is chosen and why this block is chosen for this method. It was mentioned that the helicopter is leased yearly and there is an opportunity to use it here in the winter when other locations may not be suitable. Good business decision. The helicopter will be looked at being used other places in the TFL also.

Concessions for this block have been given for early spring logging by the Min of Environment, taking into account the goat winter ranges. The company could have been logged in November but safety concerns made the spring a better time to choose. Harvesting of this area will only take one week. Logs will be bunched and dropped into the water at specific drop locations. Flight paths for the helicopter have also been designed.

Total of all cutblocks aprox 22 ha.

Question – Did the cabin owners not realize they were building trails on crown land and are they asking or demanding concessions for these trails.

Answer – They are asking for the trails to be taken into consideration in the planning stages.

Question - What about the VQO?

Answer – Partial retention used at 7% which is less than half of the requirements. Digitally enhanced pictures showed what it would look like from different elevations.

Question – What has changed from your original plans and what concessions have you made

Answer – area cut away to allow for some of the cabin owners requests, boundaries reestablished to take into account some outhouses and trails and viewpoints. Given up aprox. 2000 cubic meters of timber.

Steve pointed out that some people have asked for *more* trees to be taken down to give them more light. Some concession was made for that also.

Legally people are not allowed to cut trees on crown land without permission. MOF can give the necessary permits if approved. Example of this is Sunshine Coast Trail, which was done thru the MOF and done legally. This also makes it a recognized trail or established trail.

More blocks are being looked at for future logging, but fewer cabins will be directly

affected. No trail systems involved.

Question – What are the plans to harvest other cut blocks in that area and what is the rotation.

Answer – this cut is probably maximized the opportunity and you probably won't see another pass for many years. There may be an opportunity for single tree selection.

Question – Will the area be replanted

Answer – Company is committed to replanting every block or the natural regeneration has to show it is sufficiently stocked at assessment after 3 years. Only used if there is an area where there is not competing brush or vegetation.

Steve will prepare the letter to the cabin owners next, including attending CAG meeting and all the background done.

Harvesting only takes aprox. a week. 5 weeks aprox to get logs out of the area and boomed. Anticipates the logs to be gone by end of April.

Company has made a commitment to MOE to use a small window of time – end of March and first week of April. If this can't be met the block will be deferred till 2004. Have to make sure all the schedules line up.

Question – What is the predominant species

Answer -94% fir, 3% cedar

At this point the cabin owners have not seen all of the details presented to CAG.

Steve said any further disagreements or concerns the cabin owners had could be presented to the company or MOF and suggested the cabin owners do it in writing.

Steve was thanked by acting chair Bill Maitland.

Review of Minutes of October 23rd

No changes noted.

Review of Minutes of November 13th

No changes noted.

Audit report

Member reported on his participation on the 2-day audit with Symmetry Consulting and Weyerhaeuser. Company not only does the audit but also makes suggestions as to how the standards of the FPC can be met. They saw 4 blocks, which were randomly selected by the computer. The first day the group went in trucks and second day in helicopter. Noted another CAG member also went. Member noted that the auditors were generally pleased with conditions. Many photographs of the 2 days were passed around and explained.

Break

Communications Policy

Handed out for CAG's perusal with a note that this is a *draft only*. Rod asked to bring Ray Balogh to the next meeting to present it and take comments.

Discussion on CAG's role in the Dispute Resolution process. After much discussion it was generally agreed upon that CAG was not an appeal board and that some members felt like there was a need for an ombudsman like position to handle disputes if no agreement could be reached at the company level. The company pointed out that most disputes can go to the MOF District manager and he would be able to make a decision. It was decided this topic needed more discussion at the next meeting.

Indicators

Rod said he had made the changes that were recommended by CAG thusfar.

Indicator 40 – options re: managing old growth added. Addition includes a commitment is to look at it over the next year.

Changes suggested by member to be added to objectives in Indicator #53 ... visitor friendly signage installed at the start of mainlines. Rod

stated that signage plan will be brought to CAG to review and make suggestions. All the suggestions such as visitor friendly signs would be included. No need to add another indicator.

Indicator 38 - member would like to add "maintaining historic levels". Objection raised about the timing of the discussion of this issue as it as the end of the meeting once again. Contractors had been negatively affected by the agreement made last January regarding fiber supply. Member pointed out that was not the intent. The intent was to positively impact business and employment.

If the policy for fiber sale hurts local contractors then it was suggested that a Goal for CSA be "no harm to local business thru CAG agreements"

After much discussion Rod said that Weyerhaeuser itself would commit to adding into the indicator "while honoring local historical relationships".

Rod will write this into the SFMP and present the revised document to CAG.

Facilitator will remind all to bring their purple SFMP binder to the next meeting.

Question asked regarding the Access Management Plan discussed in the communications plan....most likely a mistake. The plan is embodied in the FSP.

Discussion regarding letters to be sent to the Municipal council, Regional District and the School Board thanking them for their participation in the past 2 years and asking to have someone appointed to the CAG after the November election. Facilitator to get the letters out.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05

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Stillwater Timberlands Advisory Group		
October 23 rd 2002		
Attendance		
Name	Position	Member Seat
<u>PRESENT</u>		
Bill Maitland	Alternate	Contractors
Jane Cameron	Alternate	Recreation
Nancy Hollman	Primary	Environment
Dave Rees	Alternate	Tourism
Joanne Cameron-Nordell	Primary	Local Business
Kathleen O'Neil	Primary	Education

John Passek	Primary	Motorized Recreation
Jack McClinchey	Alternate	Motorized Recreation
Lorne Marr	Alternate	Recreation
<i>8 seats in attendance</i>		
<u>ABSENT</u>		
Eagle Walz Chair	Primary	Recreation
Ken Jackson - Vice-Chair	Primary	Recreation
Michael Conway-Brown	Primary	Environment
Sonny Rioux	Primary	IWA
Andrew Pinch	Primary	Tourism
George Ferreira	Alternate	Local Business
David Gabelhouse	Primary	Local Govt
Terri Thompson	Alternate	Education
Paul Holbrook	Alternate	Forest Dep. Biz
Christine Hollman	Alternate	Environment
Rory Maitland	Primary	Contractors
Peter Ranger	Primary	Forest Dependent
Jason Lennox	Alternate	Tourism

Resource – other		
Rod Tysdal	Weyerhaeuser	Stillwater
Colin Koszman	Weyerhaeuser	Stillwater
Steve Chaplin	Weyerhaeuser	Stillwater
Cathy Bartfai	Facilitator	