

Stillwater Timberlands Community Advisory Group

April 23rd 2003

Minutes

Town Centre Hotel

Attendance: refer to attached sheet

6:00pm: Dinner

6:20pm: Meeting called to order

Quorum noted

Acceptance of Agenda and additions

Agenda was reviewed and additions made. Agenda adopted as amended

Review of Minutes

Minutes of April 9th were reviewed and adopted. No amendments.

Review of Action List

Action list from April 9th was reviewed. Ongoing items were discussed and questions answered.

QMI Audit

Facilitator noted that a coastal wide audit will take place in May. Members discussed the herbicide and pesticide issue and agreed to forward the re-worded indicator to the auditors ahead of time so that the item can be re-visited.

ACTION – Re-worded indicator to regarding herbicides to be forwarded to auditors before May 15th.

Salmonberry Research Reports

Member requested a copy of research reports for salmonberry if available.

ACTION – Research reports for salmonberry management to be provided for members.

CD – Managing for Sustainability - by BC Market Outreach Network

Copy of a CD recently produced with government funding was provided for the group. It was noted that forestry tours are planned and will be a feature that can show BC forestry practices to a wide variety of groups. It was noted that some of the shots were filmed in the Stillwater area and will be used as a marketing tool for potential companies looking for a sustainable market to buy their timber. Member noted that the Forest Ethics group also showed an interest in the tours.

Dodd Lake area cleanup

Member reported on the area that was cleaned up by Weyerhaeuser and noted that the area had recently been "blown out".

Open House Committee Report

Open House committee reported that plans were underway for the upcoming Open House to be held on June 12th. Members noted that the Open House that was held two years ago was very successful and a similar format will be used for this year. Items to be organized include advertising, invitations, display booths, food, comment sheets, entertainment, door prizes, speaker. Member suggested that a photo of each member would be appropriate for a poster at the entrance. It was noted that more volunteers are needed to attend the next Open House committee meeting on April 30th. Members will be e-mailed with time and location. Members were invited to submit ideas or suggestions to the committee.

First Quarter Local Sales

First quarter local sales report was provided. It was noted that 832 cubic meters was sold to seven different local businesses or

individuals in the first quarter of 2003. It was noted that 732 cubic meters of cedar and 100 alder was sold.

Question -Member asked whether historical agreements were still working and whether customers are getting what they want.

Answer - It was noted that Stillwater is not always producing the right wood for local use.

Question – Member asked whether there was a cedar siding market.

Answer - Member noted that the cedar logs are in tight supply and prices are high. It was also noted that communications have improved at the dry land sort and some agreements have been reached for buying wood.

Question - Member asked whether there is a market for poles.

Answer – Prior to six or eight months ago, no, company gets more for logs, but poles are worth more now.

Field Trip – Vancouver Island – May 3rd

Members were provided with correspondence from the North Island Advisory Group. Invitation to CAG members to join the field trip that is scheduled to take place on May 3rd. Focus of the trip is the vegetation management plan and methods of control. It was noted that no herbicides or pesticides are presently used in that area but may be in the future. One or two members expressed an interest in joining the trip. The possibility of flying instead of ferry was suggested.

Nanaimo Coastal Conference – May 30-31

Facilitator noted that arrangements have been made to take CAG members to Al Hopwood's small woodlot in Campbell River on May 29th. This will take place prior to driving down to Nanaimo for the conference. Several members will participate.

QMI Audit

Facilitator noted that the next meeting date may be changed from May 14th to the 15th to accommodate the auditors from QMI.

Members will be notified by e-mail.

BREAK 7:10 – 7:20pm

Rainy Day Lake- Proposed Fish farm discussion

Members were provided with copies of recent correspondence between members regarding the proposed fish farm on Rainy Day Lake. Members concerns regarding the proposal were discussed:

Rainy Day Lake is too small for fish farm

Not enough flow

30 meter buffer zone in place

Recreation area

Lake dries up in summer

Member encouraged others to visit the area and look at the lake, which is

in a beautiful, peaceful location.

Question - Member asked how a tanker truck could get up the road that is deactivated.

Answer – Member noted that there are plans for a new road that would disturb the Stillwater watershed.

Question – Member asked where this item fit in with CAG's Terms of Reference objectives.

Answer – It was noted that CAG has created old growth and recreation zones and buffers that were entrenched in legislation for the Pilot project.

Objectives from the Terms of Reference were read out and discussed and it was agreed that such items were within the groups' mandate.

It was noted that Weyerhaeuser was interested in CAG's opinions on the matter. Weyerhaeuser will respond to the government's request for comments from a forest management perspective.

Member noted that the government has requested an open house for the public be held before May 13th. It was noted that no date has yet been set. Public comments deadline is May 15th.

Member moved that CAG request that the government denies the application on the basis that it infringes on the zoning on the land and is in contradiction to the recreation values of Rainy Day Lake.

Seconded. Members agreed unanimously that they were not in favour of the unsuitable usage. Members noted that they were not opposed to a fish farm at a different location. Members also noted that the Canoe route, Sunshine Coast trail, beautiful recreation sites and lakes and quality of life in Powell River are what attract people to the area. It was also noted that the visual aspects of a fish farm on a small lake should be considered.

ACTION – Letter will be drafted with CAG's comments regarding the Rainy Day Lake fish farm proposal to Ministry of Land Air and Water protection.

Member asked who letter will be sent to (MWLAP) and requested cc to the Regional District. It was noted that Weyerhaeuser would also receive a copy of the letter, and the Premier of BC.

Doug noted that the government was aware of the Stillwater Pilot project and the public review process for zoning.

Goat 1 Road deactivation

Doug reported that the walking trail on top of deactivated road was built for 1.6 km and then stopped. It was reported that Rod would look into the reasons for the stoppage. Member requested a copy of the contract regarding deactivation of the road.

ACTION – Copy of road deactivation contract for Goat 1 to be provided for member.

Dianne Lake - Access

Maps showing logging plans for EL-668A were provided for members. Plans are in place to provide access across the Eldred River. Road has been built up to a point. Road will be suitable for 4x4 vehicles but will not be maintained. The last 500 meters of road will be debuilt. Bridge across Whiskey Creek will be removed every year.

Question was asked about the difference between debuilt and deactivated roads.

Answer - Debuilt – road thrown back up and returned to grade

- Deactivated – culverts pulled out and not maintained

Long-term plans for the Dianne Lake area are for access to be maintained for 7 – 10 years, depending on how much brushing etc. is required. There will be a walkable road surface

Question was asked how one would cross Whiskey Creek when the bridge is removed each year.

Answer – Company would make way where one could walk on the trail.

Question – Where would there be an opportunity to get out of Dianne Valley into the lake?

Answer – Through the switchback trail.

Question – Would that route be too steep?

Answer – No, but would be walking up river.

Question – Why is road deactivating done?

Answer – If not done, Weyerhaeuser has to maintain the culverts, they have to be cleaned if plugged – cross ditches eliminate that.

Member commented that if road is open for logging, then it should be open for recreation.

Question – Would Weyerhaeuser consider putting a log bridge across?

Answer – Could consider it but company would be liable if accident happened.

Member noted that as far as crossing the creek one could walk across.

Member asked about access for trails when road is in – will there be some strips unlogged or 50-70 meters of logging slash left?

Doug asked if member could come up and show Weyerhaeuser where the trails should be.

ACTION – Members will go up to Dianne Valley to show Weyerhaeuser where trails should be.

Recent Blockages on logging roads

Member reported that an official complaint had been made regarding blockages on the Stillwater main line near B-branch. Official complaint made because of the following:

Telephone line – misinformation.

No flag person – 10am Saturday

Wrong location advertised

It was noted that six other companies have been using the road. Weyerhaeuser grants a road use permit to other companies to use the road. Member requested a copy of the terms and conditions of the road use permit for Stillwater Main.

ACTION- Request a copy from Weyerhaeuser of the terms and conditions of the road use permit for Stillwater Main.

Another member made a comment about riding through the Haslam/Dodd Lake area where road blockages were not a problem.

Doug explained that Weyerhaeuser holds the road permit and is responsible for maintenance of the road. Road permit is public record and is available at the Ministry of Forests office. Other small business contractors get a road use agreement from Weyerhaeuser in order to use the road. Some contractors park trucks and equipment on the road and block access. Member noted that 24/7 access is not available if trucks and equipment is parked. Member suggested that road use agreement could say "Don't block the road". If telephone line says road is open then tourists expect to be able to get through. It was noted that the Ministry of Forests awards the contracts to other companies, and it is not Weyerhaeuser's job to police the road. It was suggested that the Forest service could make it part of their agreement that roads were not to be blocked by trucks or other equipment. Member noted that Weyerhaeuser has written a new communications policy and better communications are needed in this area. Member agreed to contact Weyerhaeuser regarding this issue.

ACTION- Weyerhaeuser will be contacted regarding road use permits and problems pertaining to blockages by other contractors on Stillwater main.

Northwest Hardwoods - major amendment

Members were informed of a major amendment to Northwest Hardwood's 2001-2005 Forest Development Plan. Members agreed that they were interested in

learning more about the amendment, and asked for someone to come to the next meeting May 14th or 15th to give more information.

ACTION – Arrangements to be made for speaker from Northwest Hardwoods to attend next meeting, to give more information about major amendment.

One Way Loop

Notice was given that the one way loop will open on May 10th. Delay is due to another company hauling to sort and using the road. When logging is finished the road will open. May 10th is forestry tour day and the opening will coincide with that date. Ads will also be posted in the paper. Member asked what happens in future when trucks can't make the turn – will road be widened?

Sharp rocks – shredded tires

Member asked whether it was necessary to use crushed rock for roads, and noted that the sharp rocks had shredded many tires. Member wondered whether any alternative material could be used.

Richard Ringma – future speaker

Doug noted that Richard Ringma, who supervises BC Coastal buying and selling, would be available to speak to CAG on May 28th. Members were asked to prepare questions ahead of time so that answers could be given.

Suggested questions from members were:

What happens to logs from the Stillwater area – where do they go from here?

How does the Howe Sound log sort work?

What is the criteria for export?

What about private land vs. crown land re stumpage fees?

More information on the new market value at auction system; how does that change exporting?

Selling logs to the US – is there a different scale used to determine price? (Doug answered – there is only one way to measure in BC , that is the measurement used)

More information about the softwood lumber agreement – are tariffs a way to get Canada to export more raw logs?

Members were asked to e-mail any further questions to secretary before next meeting.

Working Forest Discussion

Facilitator noted that the deadline for comments on the Working Forest discussion paper was April 30th. Members agreed to send comments. Facilitator agreed to draft a letter for approval of the group.

Members who attended the recent forum commented that there were a lot

of unanswered questions and some vagueness in the document. Members were encouraged to go to the website <http://srmwww.gov.bc.ca/rmd/workingforest/> and learn more about the working forest initiatives. It was suggested that the letter should contain a summary of what CAG has done and suggested that they (Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management) incorporate some of the principles of the Pilot project – re zoning that was locally driven, review process etc. Members were asked to e-mail any further ideas or comments to be incorporated into the letter

ACTION – Letter to be sent before April 30th expressing CAG's views and comments on the Working Forest discussion paper.

Open House

Members were reminded to think about ideas and preparations for the Open House on June 12th. Display booths and slide shows etc. will be shown.

Invitation lists also were suggested and it was noted that some members may wish to hand out invitations personally. Members were encouraged to participate in the planning of Open House and reminded of the next committee meeting on Wednesday, April 30th at 7pm.

Terms of Reference

Member noted that the Terms of Reference committee would look at the mandate and review the document in the coming weeks.

Other Business

Question – Where are all the logs going from Wildwood area?

Answer – Could be going to the Stillwater dry land sort. Alder goes to Delta mill. The rest could be going to Chemainus, Port Alberni or to the Vancouver log market to be sold or traded. If fir from private land, it could be exported.

Meeting adjourned 9:08pm

Stillwater Timberlands Advisory Group		
April 23rd 2003		
Attendance		
Name	Position	Member Seat
<u>PRESENT</u>		
Eagle Walz Chair	Primary	Recreation
Jane Cameron	Alternate	Recreation
Michael Conway-Brown	Primary	Environment/Access
Patrick Brabazon	Primary	Local Govt (Regional)
Russell Storry	Primary	Local Govt (Municipal)
Ken Jackson - Vice-Chair	Primary	Recreation
Joanne Cameron Nordell	Primary	Local Business
George Ferreira	Alternate	Local Business
Jack McClinchey	Primary	Motorized Rec.
Debby Waslewski	Primary	Citizens
Rory Maitland	Primary	Contractors

Dave Rees	Alternate	Tourism
Nancy Hollmann	Primary	Environment
<i>11 seats represented</i>		
<u>ABSENT</u>		
David Gabelhouse	Alternate	Local Govt (Municipal)
Dianne Mason	Alternate	Education
Dave Perrin	Alternate	IWA
John Passek	Alternate	Motorized Rec.
Peter Ranger	Primary	Forest Dependent
Les Falk	Alternate	Erg District
Sonny Rioux	Primary	IWA
Kathleen O'Neil	Primary	Education
Lorne Marr	Alternate	Recreation
Terry Peters	Alternate	Citizens
Bill Maitland	Alternate	Contractors
Kevin McKamey	Alternate	Contractors
Paul Holbrook	Alternate	Forest Dependent
Andrew Pinch	Primary	Tourism
Jason Lennox	Alternate	Tourism
Christine Hollmann	Alternate	Environment
Resource – other		
Doug McCormick	Stillwater	

	Timberlands	
Cathy Bartfai	Facilitator	
Pam Dowding	Secretary	