

Stillwater Timberlands Community Advisory Group

July 2nd 2003

Minutes

Recreation Complex

Attendance: refer to attached sheet

6:00pm: Dinner

6:04pm: Meeting called to order

Quorum noted

Review and acceptance of agenda

Agenda was reviewed and additions made. Agenda accepted as revised.

Welcome and Introductions

Guest Paul Kutz was introduced.

Review of Minutes

Minutes of June 25th were reviewed and adopted as amended.

Chair noted that the minutes were well written by the recorder, and compliments were given for the good work.

Open House – Shaw Cable coverage

Member asked whether anyone had seen the coverage of the recent open house that was held on June 10th. Concerns were expressed about whether all participating booths were covered in the filming. Facilitator will follow up and see whether coverage was given to all booths.

ACTION – Check with Shaw cable re open house coverage.

Local Sales Report

Copies of the local sales report from January to June were provided. It was noted that only 1,162 cubic meters were sold. Questions were asked about fibre supply, and whether there was a lack of fibre. Members noted that the unusually low amount was because it was difficult to get the right log at the right price. Member noted that when customer required logs, there was no one at the sort to give a price because of vacation. Doug noted that arrangements were made to have someone come up to Vancouver within a couple of days to price logs. It was noted that the bulk of requests for local lumber are for cedar, and the supply is not there. It was noted that Weyerhaeuser has to supply their own mills. It was also noted that the coastal mills are all shut down for a month.

Suggestion was made by member that Weyerhaeuser should have a man on site at all times to price logs, and if there is a shutdown, maybe someone else could get logs from TFL39 block1? It was noted that customer only bought two thousand dollars worth of logs instead of ten thousand, and had made arrangements for another supply because of the uncertainty of Weyerhaeuser source.

ACTION – Member will talk to Weyerhaeuser about local log sales and supply and ensure that agreement that was made is working.

Bio-herbicide update

Paul Kutz – Area Forester

Paul gave information on the latest brush weeding programmes and described the research and development of bioherbicides for management of forest weeds such as salmonberry. Methods that have been used in the past are manual brushing, chemicals, sheep and goat brushing.

A brief history of the development of bioherbicide use was given. In 1996 BC Hydro used bioherbicides. Paul called and spoke to Simon Francis Shamoun, scientist with the Canadian Forest Service. Simon has worked on studies of bioherbicides all over the world. Paul initiated and got funding for a brushing programme - \$20,000 per year since 1997. Grad students from UBC are hired. Programme focussed on naturally occurring

fungus (mushrooms) until the year 2000. Some findings were too toxic for humans. Last year researchers found an icelet called *phoma* that works for salmonberry. Greenhouse trials have been done. Field trials are planned for Powell River area. Field trials will be done in one-hectare openings. Areas will be compared using glycosate, no treatment and phoma. Phoma so far has had no effect on conifer trees. Trials will show what other targets are effected. Weyerhaeuser will provide funding for a two to three year period and at the end of trials they will be able to get the product registered. Phoma will become another tool for salmonberry control. Poster was shown featuring background information on assessment of endemic fungi as potential biological control agents in coastal BC. How used – active ingredient (spores) are ground and mixed with oil and water and used in a spray application that goes into the root system. Once the plant dies, spores die and dissipate.

Question – How is the solution sprayed?

Answer – It is used in a five-gallon backpack with spray gun applicator. No aerial spraying.

Question – Would it be detrimental to alder or maples?

Answer – Target species is salmonberry and thimbleberry – so far no damage to alders etc.

Question – How do spores get into oil and water?

Answer – Spores are put into a blender and pulp is mixed with oil and water and put into spray packs. Surfactant is added so solutions covers leaves better.

Question – How do you protect workers from inhaling the mixture?

Answer - Same WCB regulations are followed as for other applications – personal protective equipment is used.

Question – How can a naturally occurring species be patented?

Answer - They will find something that will sell – Microtech has patent for east of the Rockies for alder.

Question – Who is registering the product?

Answer – Canadian Forest Service – federal government. Partners in research are SSM/Quebec who employ scientists funded through different agencies. Weyerhaeuser and other lumber companies have a co-op that funds graduate students for research programmes.

Question – Does this normally attack salmonberry and thimbleberry?

Answer – That's its target – it exists all over the world – attacks potatoes too.

(lesions on leaves).

Question – When will field trials begin in Powell River?

Answer – Sites will be picked soon.

Question – What about the people who are making a living collecting salal?

Answer – Salal is difficult to control and difficult to deal with. Here in Powell River salmonberry is a problem. Powell River is six or seven years ahead - company has obligations to meet free growing regulations.

Question – Protective equipment is almost impossible to wear. If it is as safe as they say – then could it be used without protective gear?

Answer – Don't think WCB would allow if not safe to use.

Question – What is the surfactant used? Is protective gear needed for that?

Answer – Two or three non-toxic widely available varieties are used.

Question – Is there any chance of bioherbicide spreading spontaneously to salal?

Answer – Literature says no – target host is salmonberry and thimbleberry.

Question – Where will test sites be located?

Answer – Sites will be selected this summer in late August. Sites will already have current pesticide permit.

Question – What will the new bioherbicide cost to apply?

Answer - \$5 a litre – about a quarter of the cost of glycosate, which is \$26 a litre.

Question – Will be popular if it works better than glycosate?

Answer – Intention is not to replace but to use as another tool.

Facilitator suggested that CAG members could be invited to sites for a field trip in the fall.

Paul noted that spraying of herbicide and pesticides is usually done in warm and dry conditions, but for the new bioherbicides, evening spraying is preferred with dewier conditions.

Chair thanked Paul for the presentation and was encouraged to see that the trials are proposed and that the company is working towards alternatives.

Operational Information Map

Doug provided copies of the information shown on the operational information map. It was noted that harvesting is shut down for a month on the coast.

Blocks that were currently being harvested (but shut down for a month) were shown.

New road and new block on the map was shown (TM-230 – Lois Lake).

Salvage blowdown area has been completed.

New salvage blocks at Goat Lake

Question – What was salvaged at Goat Lake?

Answer – Cedar – salvagers have gone and found 10-12 foot short lengths of downed logs. Cedar prices are high

Question – Diane Valley – proposed trails will they be placed where it doesn't affect logging?

Answer – Members of CAG will go up to area with engineer as per previous commitment from Weyerhaeuser.

Question – Is there some equipment in the way?

Answer – Yes - Road building equipment and explosives, it would be best to wait until road is finished. Trail will be made eventually.

WL-909 Windsor Lake

Doug noted that no decision has yet been made for commitments. Company can agree to a rustic campsite on the other side of the lake. Company will discuss with CAG ideas for the load-out area for new improved recreation site after logging is complete.

TM-182 – Timber Reserve - Stillwater Main

Doug noted that the engineers went out again and looked at the site along the Stillwater Main where older trees were a concern. An e-mail message from Steve Chaplin, Area Engineer, was circulated. The block is within part of the one-way loop between both the Stillwater and Goat Lake Main. According to CAG's wishes and request, an area of older trees will be preserved and removed from the cutblock – the area totals about two hectares or 2,200 cubic meters for a value of approximately \$225,200. (Net value to Stillwater – approximately \$40,000)

Question – Maybe site could be used for educational value?

Answer – Company is not prepared to spend more dollars on site.

Question – Maybe volunteers could work on signage to draw attention to older trees?

Answer – No opposition to that idea.

Question – How do we know the age of the trees (1859)?

Answer – Engineers do cruise through and statistical samples

are used. Aerial photographs are also used to determine the age of a stand.

It was suggested that a letter of thanks should be sent to Weyerhaeuser for their consideration of the values of the community, and for changing a well designed cutblock at the request of CAG.

ACTION – Letter of thanks to be sent to Weyerhaeuser re TM-182.

Next meeting – RSVP's required

Facilitator noted that RSVP's will be required for fall meetings that will commence Sept 10 2003. New locations and caterers will be used.

Reminder – Summer Barbecue August 16th

Facilitator noted that a barbecue will be held for all CAG members including groups from Vancouver Island. A possible field trip and a walk through the woods will be on the agenda. RSVP required

BREAK 7:50pm – 8:00pm

Questions and Comments from Member

Vision for the future – where are we (each chair) going to be in 10 –20 year's time? Maybe Weyerhaeuser could share their visions for the future?

Why is there no urban chair? Advisory groups should include all the people of BC.

Work in our local forests is mostly all contracted out - teams come in and take the wood out - loss of local jobs is a concern.

What has each chair (member) gained over the last three years?

CSA requirements are changing – what's good for Weyerhaeuser is not always good for Powell River.

The forest is growing "chips" that will be chopped up and shipped out

of the community. This creates a low value forest.

Survey presented at Open House was biased – did not really seek input but approval.

What has happened to the northern end of the poplar plantation in Wildwood? Some of the trees look very sick.

Food for thought – is it possible to have a logging road to Whistler?

Regarding item #1 - Member noted that each chair had provided a vision statement in the past.

Facilitator and chair agreed that members needed a break over the summer, and the above items would be re-visited in September.

Open House Committee Report

It was reported that the open house sub-committee had met and some ideas for improvements for next year were noted. Thank you notes have been sent out to booth participants. The need for early planning and to book a speaker ahead of time was noted. Speakers that were invited this year were already booked for June 10th. Member asked why David Suzuki foundation was invited to speak – and it was noted that they (Suzuki) did a report on the BC rain forests but did not look at the Stillwater Timberlands area of Powell River. Member noted that the turn-out was fairly good for Powell River. Member noted that participation of CAG members could have been better, and it should be a commitment for members to attend. It was recommended that sub-committee planning begin in the fall for next year's (spring) open house.

Silviculture Conference Report

Copies of silviculture conference report were provided. Conference was held in Powell River on June 18th and 19th 2003. Members who attended learned a lot and shared experiences with the group.

Question – What's happening with the poplars?

Answer – They are useful for pulp but are also being used for lumber these days the same way alder is being used.

Comment – Looks like some have blown down and others are all brown and look almost dead in the northern end of the plantation.

Brushing Report

Questions and comments regarding the brushing report were tabled until September meeting. Member requested a copy of report on alternatives for salmonberry.

ACTION – Copies of report on alternatives will be provided for first meeting in September.

Survey

Copies of the recent survey were provided. Discussion followed on how to improve survey. Survey will be revamped according to members' suggestions. Further input from the public will be invited when the new survey is published in the local newspaper on Saturday, July 12th. Members were asked whether names and organizations should be used in the survey and most agreed that the seats represented would be adequate. Further information on membership can be found on the website.

ACTION - Survey to be revamped and published in the newspaper.

Nanaimo Conference

Discussion continued from previous meeting. Minutes from the Nanaimo Conference were provided.

Members discussed the concept of a centralized advisory group. It was noted that the discussion in Nanaimo stated that 75% of indicators were common to all groups. All members felt strongly that they were not in favour of any type of "blanket indicator" system.

Members felt strongly that local input was the key to advisory groups' success and taking away local input would be the end of the advisory groups as they stand today.

Request to prioritize items by September – members agreed to table this item for September meeting.

Members would like to see agenda and date set earlier for next conference so there would be more time to prepare agenda items.

Free advertising for companies was not appreciated. (Conflict of interest)

Members felt that they have made a difference and would not have devoted two or three years to meetings if they felt they were not making a difference.

Members agreed to write a letter to Weyerhaeuser to state that they were opposed to

blanket certification and to a structure that could be known as a "Super CAG"

CAG wishes to remain independent and has proved that the process works well when locally driven.

CAG should ask for more clarification on the idea of an executive council or Coastal Advisory Group.

"Wellbeing Assessment" that was presented at conference – proposal for a means of assessment for community stability. Looks at assessing not just forest sustainability but sustainability of the community.

Members agreed that the "Wellbeing Assessment" tool could add more knowledge to the group for their work on indicators.

Members stressed the need for some straight answers when dealing with corporate levels.

Members agreed that they have a unique niche with Weyerhaeuser locally and have already made an impact provincially with their input into the Stillwater Pilot Project and Forest Stewardship Plan.

List of demands regarding quarterly meetings was made before quarterly meetings were agreed to.

Member (Chair) noted disappointment at not being able to attend due to work commitments – No response was received to request for compensation of lost wages from Weyerhaeuser.

Consensus was that CAG is opposed to blanket certification and opposed to a two-tier CAG.

CAG is in favour of maintaining status quo and wishes to keep CAG as it stands in Powell River.

ACTION – Letter to be written to Michel deBellefeuille, CSA co-ordinator, regarding CAG's stand on blanket certification and the concept of a Coastal Community Advisory Group.

Members who wished to have input into letter were asked to respond by e-mail.

Members agreed to table further discussion until September.

Access to Khartoum Lake campsite – rough road

Member noted that the road to Khartoum Lake is good, but the turnoff to the forest campsite is badly chewed up and needs work. Member noted that the road

would probably not last for the summer for two wheel drive vehicles. Doug noted that Weyerhaeuser staff will go up and take a look to see what needs to be done.

History of CAG

Facilitator noted that the job would be undertaken over the summer recess.

Photo Album

A photo album will be compiled with CAG photographs. It was suggested that a historian for the group could be appointed to take photos in future and to maintain the photo album.

New Member's Guide

Guide for new members will be on the list of to-do projects in the fall.

Access

Facilitator noted that any questions or problems with access over the summer could be reported to member for environment/access.

Inspection reports and deactivation contract for Goat 1

ACTION - Facilitator will obtain copies of inspection reports and copies of deactivation contract for Goat1 for September meeting as per member's request.

Meeting adjourned 9:22pm.

Stillwater Timberlands Advisory Group		
July 2nd 2003 - Attendance		
Name - Present	Position	Member Seat
Eagle Walz Chair	Primary	Recreation
Jane Cameron	Alternate	Recreation
Michael Conway-Brown	Primary	Environment/Access

Patrick Brabazon	Primary	Local Govt (Reg.)
Russell Storry	Primary	Local Govt (Mun)
Ken Jackson - Vice-Chair	Primary	Recreation
Joanne Cameron Nordell	Primary	Local Business
Jack McClinchey	Primary	Motorized Rec.
Debby Waslewski	Primary	Citizens
Andrew Pinch	Primary	Tourism
Kevin McKamey	Alternate	Contractors
Lorne Marr	Alternate	Recreation
Nancy Hollmann	Primary	Environment
Peter Ranger	Primary	Forest Dependent
<i>12 seats represented</i>		
<u>ABSENT</u>		
David Gabelhouse	Alternate	Local Govt (Mun)
Dave Rees	Alternate	Tourism
Les Falk	Alternate	Reg. District
Sonny Rioux	Primary	IWA
Dave Perrin	Alternate	IWA
John Passek	Alternate	Motorized Rec.
Kathleen O'Neil	Primary	Education
Paul Holbrook	Alternate	Forest Dependent
Dave Rees	Alternate	Tourism

Rory Maitland	Primary	Contractors
Bill Maitland	Alternate	Contractors
George Ferreira	Alternate	Local Business
Dianne Mason	Alternate	Education
Terry Peters	Alternate	Citizens
Jason Lennox	Alternate	Tourism
Christine Hollmann	Alternate	Environment
Resource – other-present		
Doug McCormick	Stillwater	Timberlands
Paul Kutz	Stillwater	Timberlands
Cathy Bartfai	Facilitator	
Pam Dowding	Secretary	