

Stillwater Timberlands Community Advisory Group

October 8th 2003

Minutes

Brooks School

Attendance: refer to attached sheet

6:06pm: Dinner

Meeting called to order

Quorum noted

Field Trip Planning and Discussion

Members were asked whether they would participate in a field trip that included a look at Triton Logging operations, a cutblock at Horseshoe Lake (HS188), Windsor Lake where logging will be done, and possibly the fungus block trial area. Members discussed half day and whole day outings, and the general feeling was for half-day trips. Member suggested that a field trip could be planned for once a month. Chair noted that October 25th would be the next date for a field trip. Facilitator noted that a Triton Logging presentation would be on the agenda for the next meeting on October 22nd.

Rod noted that extra field trips can be arranged anytime for members in small numbers, and he will make the time to take members out.

Introductions

New manager Robin Murray at Brooks School was introduced. It was noted that menus and calendars for coming events were available.

Acceptance of Agenda and additions

Agenda was reviewed and accepted with additions.

Open House October 14th – Harvesting Plans for Lot 450

Notice of Open House to review fall 2003 and 2004 harvesting plans for Lot 450. Hours for viewing at the Town Centre Hotel will be between 3:00pm and 7:00pm on October 14th. Member asked whether Norske representative would attend, as there was another meeting regarding Biosolids on that date at Sliammon where the municipality and Norske were expected to attend.

Action List

Members were asked to complete actions if their name appeared on the list. Action list will be reviewed in more detail at the next meeting.

Review of Minutes

Minutes of September 24th were reviewed and amended. Accepted as amended.

Correspondence

Rod thanked the group on behalf of Doug McCormick for the letter containing good feedback and comments on the FSP.

Rod also thanked the group for the letter of support that was received for FIA funding. It was noted that Weyerhaeuser had also received a letter of support from the Rod and Gun Club.

Facilitator noted that copies of recent correspondence were contained in the handouts.

Letter of support to Weyerhaeuser for FIA funding

Letter to Shaw Cable re: Open House coverage

FSP letter to Doug McCormick

Letter to Neil Hughes re: Pesticide Management Plan

E-mail from IWA member regarding labour issues – facilitator noted that this item will be discussed when reviewing indicator #55 when member is present on October 22nd

Operational Information Map

Members reviewed map and operational information map update. Member suggested that a grid on the map would be helpful for identifying areas.

ACTION - Rod will check to see if a grid can be added to future operational information maps.

New items on the map included current activities for harvesting in PD-410 (Powell Daniels) north of Brown Creek, BT-631 (Beartooth) and HB-014 (Haywire Bay).

New blocks on the map were shown – ST-152 and ST-184.

Cutting permit approved areas – HB-109, HB-138, HB-138A, HB-153, HB-167 and HB-014 – (Haywire Bay area) – west of Inland Lake.

Question – How large will the openings be in HB-109?

Answer – Less than two hectares- they have to be within the scope of the zoning.

New Salvage Areas – Hotham Sound, Jim Brown and Powell Daniels

Salvage Areas Complete – MacMillan Creek, Fiddlehead, Windsor Lake, Freda Creek, Jefferd Creek, Spur-13

Question – Who assigns salvage areas – Weyerhaeuser or Ministry of Forests?

Answer – Weyerhaeuser assigns areas.

Indicator Review

Members reviewed the SFMP annual report and indicators. Rod offered to meet with any new members at a later date who wish to spend more time reviewing the values, goals and indicators. Chair thanked Rod for the offer on behalf of the group.

A total of 111 indicators were reviewed and discussed. Annual report showed 2002 results and acceptable variances.

Forest age Class Summary – OGMA's, including recruitment areas, have been identified for all landscape units.

Question – How old is old growth?

Answer – 250 years

Stand level retention – summary by zone provided in annual report

Note – Some retention level percentages have been exceeded.

Forested Patches > 500 hectares that are connected and are > 80 years old, as a % of patches > 500 hectares in the DFA. – Of 22 areas greater than 500 hectares, 11 are connected by suitable timber. No change from 2001.

4. Percent of total S1, S2, and S3 stream length with adjacent forest buffer 40 years or older. The % of formalized buffers by stream category is:

S1 = 32% or 40.7 km's

S2 = 63% or 242.5 km's

S3 = 63% or 155.5 km's

In 2001, portions of the Eldred and Lois Rivers were included by error.

Percent of total S4, S5, and S6 stream lengths with official adjacent forest buffer. No non-compliances in 2002.

Number of identified red and blue listed species in the DFA – As per QMI audit, Rod noted that some work would be done to make consistent with other coastal groups.

An effective habitat management program exists for red & blue listed species – Approved programs are established for all red and blue listed species.

An effective habitat management program exists for each identified species of special interest. – No other species have been identified to date. Members discussed whether this indicator should still be there – suggest leaving in for the future in case any species are identified. (Member noted that there is a study in Victoria on bullfrogs)

Total number of trees at "free-to-grow" vs. the number of trees planted, by species. 2002 results from 18 blocks surveyed included in report.

Percent of timber species in the DFA compared to historic baseline – Pine and spruce have been affected by harvesting and pests. 2002 results show all native commercial species continue to be well represented compared to the 1961 Baseline, except for western white pine and sitka spruce.

Percent of harvest volume by species annually – no native species are presently endangered

Percent of seed that is registered or certified All seed, including the MoF Small business

program planting, was either certified or registered

Area in hectares burned by natural wildfires No natural fires in 2002

Area in hectares burned by natural wildfires - The seasonal blowdown from natural windthrow events affected an estimated 1.9 hectares with an estimated volume of 1000 m³. These figures will add to our baseline data

Percent of DFA at high risk of mortality due to insect or disease attack. No outbreaks in 2002. Area was identified by member and will be recorded in 2003.

Area of slides from natural causes. Three natural slides in 2002. Heather, above Chippewa Bay, Powell Daniels- Rehabilitation not appropriate (steep slopes)

Area of operationally caused fires – two small operational fires were reported in 2002

Area of operationally induced windthrow. The seasonal blowdown from natural windthrow events associated with harvest boundaries and roads affected an estimated 33.1 hectares with an associated volume of 17,000 m³. Retention levels for standing trees ranged from 5 % to 60 %. These figures will add to our baseline data.

Question – If road is built through and 10m trees are lost is that described as operational windthrow?

Answer – Yes

Member suggested that Indicators 14 and 18 could be combined in future

Number of reportable oil/gas spills- one reportable spill in 2002- from backhoe in the water. New procedures in place – (no machines in the water)

Area of prescribed burn – no broadcast burning in BC since 1996, just pile burning, 15 hectares affected by pile burning in 2002

Annual percent of opening areas in permanent access structures Of the 517.4 hectares surveyed in 2002, total site degradation due to permanent access was 25.74 hectares or 4.9%. These hectares do not include the heli-logged areas where there was no site degradation caused by permanent access structures.

Indicators 22 – 27 - Targets have all been met

22 Area of slides from harvest areas or roads

23 Area that does not meet "free to grow" commitments

24. Annual area harvested as a % of the total productive forest area

25. Equivalent years of "Area Awaiting Reforestation

26. Area of regeneration failure at 1st year survival

27. Average Mean Annual Increment per hectare

Question – Conflicts around herbicides – is company tracking?

Answer – Will be in existing SFMP.

Question – Is spacing being done?

Answer – Little done these days

Question – What about commercial thinning?

Answer – Very little done. Spacing is done where changing species for composition of the stand.

Question – When spacing hemlock and cedar are they blended or planted side by side?

Answer – Blended.

Question – Is there better stock with a few species?

Answer – Yes, increased annual increment. Average growth per hectare was 7.7% and now is up to 9.8% from Management Plan 7 to Plan 8.

Question – Will changes in the mean annual increment affect the AAC?

Answer – Yes it will.

Question – Are areas included?

Answer – Yes, set asides, canoe route buffers, old growth management areas etc.

Question - At Windsor Lake, small sections were approved, how many hectares will be affected

Answer – At the load – out, 8-10 trees, small area

Indicators 28-34 – all objectives met.

- 28. Percent of identified OGMA's and Old Growth Zones under special management*
- 29. Percent of rare physical environment identified as compared to the DFA land base, # of rare areas, and # of rare types.*

Member asked how targets are met for indicator #29. No rare physical environments have been met. It was noted that the community values rare physical environments. Criteria for rare physical environments?
- 30. Percent of productive forest area in the DFA*
- 31. Total productive forest area in the DFA*
- 32. Percent of area in permanent access structures*
- 33. Annual percent of openings harvested in which soil disturbance exceeds the level specified in the Silviculture Prescription.*
- 34. Hectares of site degradation other than permanent access structures (roads, landings, pits, etc.)*
- 35. Area of restoration activity (e.g. Restoration of permanent access structures, landslides, areas of excessive soil disturbance.*
- 36. Forest Practices Code contraventions related to road, soils, and water management*
- 37. Water quality and quantity for selected streams*
- 38. Community Watershed Assessment Plans are completed for watersheds of identified concern*
- 39. Hectares of herbicide/pesticide treatment*

Suggestion was made that indicators 23 and 39 could be combined.

Question – Are there any studies of potential impact from herbicide use?

Answer – UBC study will measure to see impact of herbicides. FIA funds set aside if students have lab time before March 31st2004.

Fungus project field trials are on-going.

Question- Wildwood is not in the official water shed for Powell Lake -1200 residents need some sort of protection - who should ratepayers contact?

Answer – There will be some protection in the Pesticide Management Plan – contact Ministry of Land Air and Water Protection branch. If watershed areas are not identified, they should be brought forward to Rod at this time.

Rod also noted that indicators could be reviewed and discussed at any time during the year, not just on an annual basis. e.g. herbicides – may have an annual update, but can be discussed at any time. New indicators can be added at any time.

40. Annual Growth Increment in the DFA (MAI times # of productive hectares)

41. Hectares burned by escaped slash fires.

42. Hectares burned by other human causes

Question – Assume there were no fires caused by Weyerhaeuser employees?

Answer – None caused by Weyerhaeuser employees or contractors. Public is usually responsible in this area.

Question – How much FIA funding is available this year?

Answer - \$15,000 available this year.

43. Annual harvest as a percentage of the Long Run Sustained Yield (LRSY)

2002 results show a 4% increase.

44. Annual harvest level vs. (AAC). Total harvesting from the DFA in 2002 was 696,643 m³, which includes 32,721 m³ of MoF Small Business Sales. This amounts to 127 % of the AAC level (550,000 m³).

For the 5-year cut control period from 1996-2000 the actual cut was 104% of the AAC. New cut control period for 2001 – 2005.

Question – With increasing MAI – is 110% a conservative estimate?

Answer – New AAC for 2003 is greater than 2002.

45. Actual Harvest Cut over the 5 – year cut control period vs. the Long Run Sustained Yield (LRSY)

46. Timber made available at fair market price.

Members suggested adding in the word "locally" (available locally)

47. Annual volume of marketable timber harvested from the DFA

663,922 m³ were harvested by Stillwater Timberlands from the DFA in 2002. Members discussed the difference in volume from 696,643 and noted that the small business sales were 32,721.

48. Volume sold by species and grade to local entrepreneurs. Grand total sold to local entrepreneurs – 10,947 cubic meters.

49. Corporate and community partnerships and alliances are strengthened or formed. In 2002, numerous financial donations of \$28,835 to 26 community organizations.

50. Local small business plan(s) created in compliance with the Pilot Project commitment. Members discussed whether local pricing was available – not yet available – Logs are still priced in Vancouver. Member noted that PR Wood would contribute money to get local pricing – Member noted at fast pricing is needed to avoid delivery delays. Tracking of the number of successful transactions is easy. Member suggested using the number of written complaints as a guide. It was noted that a sub-committee is working on a new improved policy.

51. Payroll man-days per year (Total of company)

Total man-days in 2002 were 15,525. This is a decrease of 16% from 2001. Drop in payroll man-days is directly the result of the sale of the Stillwater Dryland Sort operation to Olympic Logging Ltd. in September 2002. There are more employees there now than before. More

sorting is going on there now as wood comes in from other companies.

Discussion on tracking of payroll man-days – it was noted that it is difficult to track contractors. Rod noted that with 20% of the cut going, 5-6 jobs would be affected.

Comment from member – AAC has gone up 20% since CAG began, and company has become certified. How many \$ have come into the community, and with the 20% cut in the AAC, others will be working. This item was noted for further discussion.

ACTION – *Indicator #51 to be on agenda for future discussion.*

52. Stillwater Timberland's profit margin – report showed profit before income taxes rose from 4.9% to 6.4%. Note: Stillwater division was the best performer of all Coastal operations.

53. Distribution of Stillwater revenues by percentage

The Forest Stewardship Plan is developed in consultation with the Community Advisory Group. This indicator to be re-worded as FSP has been developed.

The # of hectares heli-logged – Item to be discussed next time-October 22nd agenda.

ACTION – *Indicator #55 (The # of hectares heli-logged) To be on agenda*

56. The # of non – conformances with the company's Variable Retention (VR) standards

96% of the Stillwater Timberlands harvested area met VR standards vs. a target of 80%. Target for 2003 – 100%.

The # of written public complaints regarding harvesting practices – hard to track not all

Complaints are written. Phone complaints regarding environmental issues are tracked. e.g. smoke from burn piles.

Community economic profile by employment sectors – chart provided

From BC stats BC Regional Index.

Number of "Free Use Permits" – no free use permits issued until the end

Of October – due to fire danger.

The Visual Quality Inventory is maintained and up-dated every 5 years.

ACTION – Future agenda item to be discussed.

and extent of violations of the Forest Stewardship Plan zoning

The Forest Stewardship Plan was officially approved in July 2002. Areas harvested under the official plan met or exceeded the zoning requirements for retention requirements and opening size.

62. Visual Quality objectives met.

Ecotourism zones (timbered buffers) are retained adjacent to important trails and other sensitive recreational and spiritual areas (e.g. the Sunshine Coast Trail, Powell River Canoe Route, the Knuckleheads and the Alpine Divide.

Although harvested prior to the approval of the FSP, Block ST45 did not meet the expectations of the Powell River Parks and Wilderness Society for buffering along the adjacent Sunshine Coast Trail. Although a buffer was retained it was not as wide and effective as PRPAWS had reached oral agreement on. It was a five metre buffer, and not a

10/20.

. Number and kilometers of trail access destroyed annually

Access is maintained to recognized trails and routes. Access plan is part of the FSP. Currently access plan maintains access roads to recognized trailheads.

Member expressed concerns regarding the 24/7 one-way loop, two motorists were observed going the wrong way. RCMP is issuing tickets. Suggested that more signs may be needed.

Kilometers of 2-wheel drive roads and kilometers of 4-wheel drive roads with highway access

Kilometers of 2-wheel drive roads and kilometers of 4-wheel drive roads in remote areas not highway accessible

Degree of integration of Stillwater Timberland's recreation inventory data and working

field maps.

ACTION- Add canoe route and natural campsites to map. Members' suggestions to be forwarded to Rod before next printing.

GIS overlay of recreation features programmed to be always printed on all maps

Interpretive and directional signs installed and maintained

Improved road and recreational signs that are maintained and visible

Number of safe parking areas associated with recreation sites and trails

ACTION – Parking areas to be discussed

Recreation maps available – It was noted that maps are available from the Visitors' Bureau, Edgehill Store, Marine Traders and the Weyerhaeuser office

Recreation Inventory is up-dated every 5 years

Recreation Inventory is available on the local Stillwater website 24 hours a day and seven days a week

Recreation Inventory available to the public at the Stillwater Timberland's office during normal working hours

Number of non-conformances with the Recreation Inventory, annually

On-going consultation process with the Community Advisory Group

Maintain current recreation commitment to fund the maintenance of the Canoe Route

Member noted that good comments were received from tourists regarding the canoe route.

Member noted the condition of Eagle River that is in need of a major clean-up. Garbage, old cars and refrigerators etc. dumped in the bush is an ongoing problem. Shingles and building materials have been dumped. Conservation officer has fined people for dumping when caught.

Company meets its commitments towards establishment of the

Millennium Park Stillwater Timberlands has maintained its moratorium on harvesting within the proposed Park area through 2002. We have also encouraged discussions between the provincial and municipal govt.'s to resolve the land issues.

Company meets its commitment to cooperate with establishment of the Eagle River suspension bridge

Mainline road closures are advertised. A direct dial message system has been installed at the Stillwater Office. This will provide up-to-date road access status for the public 24/7 by calling 604 - 485 -3132. This was implemented in June 2002. Several problems regarding the accuracy of information were identified and better up-dating procedures have been implemented

Suggestion – Track non-compliances

The Access Plan is developed in consultation with the Community Advisory Group – to be updated

The Access Plan is annually reviewed with the public at large – track

The # of kilometers of debuilt road annually

The # of kilometers of trail built on top of de – built roads

Trail was built on top of road de-activation on GL 1A1. Not as much trail was constructed as was originally planned due to environmental concerns caused by the steep sideslope.

To date there are 4 trails built on top of de-built roads:

Goat Lake IA1 – 1.6 km

Goat Lake II (Triple Peaks) – 1.9 km

E-130 (Beta Lake) – 1.5 km

Good Hope – 2.5 km

Grand total 7.5 km

ACTION - Access committee to discuss trails on top of de-built roads.

24 hour/7 days a week access for the public to Dodd Lake Campsite, and the junction of the Third Lake Road and Stillwater Mainline.

Member asked about plans to extend the loop. Cost estimates have been requested for engineering plans to extend to Spring Lake junction.

The Access Plan is communicated to the on-site contractors

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The # of non-conformances with the Access Plan, annually

Identify the # of public vandalism events that could possibly lead to future access restrictions Vandalism was generally limited to campgrounds and associated facilities. There was extensive vandalism caused by a graduation party at Dodd Lake campsite. Although not directly vandalism, dumping of garbage on the DFA is a persistent problem.

Achievement and maintenance of Canadian Standards Association certification

Achievement and maintenance of Forest Stewardship Council, Canadian Standards Association, (CSA), and ISO certification - still monitoring. First Nations communications – company can't meet standards at present.

Recordable Incident Rate (RIR) Company is pleased with recordable incident rate.

of Stillwater Timberland employees

of new employees hired compared to the # of new employees hired from the Powell River area

Meet legislative requirements respecting aboriginal treaty rights – *Members wondered whether this indicator is necessary.*

100.Regular consultation with 1st Nations. 2002 ok, 2003 not so good. Members discussed another invitation for First Nations to meet with CAG.

ACTION – CAG communication with First Nations to be followed up

101.Actively consult with local bands to plan for treaty right and cultural features

102.Plan for management of cultural features

103.A public communication and consultation policy exists, which includes a summary of available public information

104.Compliance with the Stillwater Timberlands communication and consultation policy

105.Attendance at public meetings and forums

106. # of formal responses to each public process

107.The Stillwater website is available to the public 24 hours a day, 7 days a

108.Information is available to the public at the Stillwater Timberland's Office during regular working hours

109.Compliance with the Forest Stewardship Plan

Suggested- # of changes or amendments applied for in the FSP to be tracked.

110.A communication policy is developed and implemented between Stillwater Timberlands and the on-the-ground contractors – Has been done.

108.Plan for management of cultural features

109.The public communication and consultation policy includes existing formal and informal dispute resolution processes

110.An education and training program exists.

Member noted that work placement for students is in the planning stages.

111.The CAG is continually pursuing improved knowledge on local forest conditions and sustainable forest management

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Facilitator noted that a revised copy of indicators will be available and sent out to members.

Books for CAG library

Weyerhaeuser provided two new books:

-Well-being of Nations – Robert Prescott-Allen

- Dogwood Initiative - Land and Peoples in BC

Books are available for members on the CAG bookshelf

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Next Meeting - October 22 2003

Pest Management Plan - Open to the Public

Advertisement will be placed in the Peak

Meeting adjourned – 9:20pm.

Stillwater Timberlands Advisory Group		
October 8th 2003		
Attendance		
Name	Position	Member Seat
<u>PRESENT</u>		
Eagle Walz Chair	Primary	Recreation
Michael Conway-Brown	Primary	Environment
Patrick Brabazon	Primary	Local Govt (Regional)
Russell Storry	Primary	Local Govt (Municipal)
Debby Waslewski	Primary	Citizens
George Ferreira	Alternate	Local Business
Jack McClinchey	Primary	Motorized Rec.
Bill Maitland	Alternate	Contractors
Peter Ranger	Primary	Forest Dependent

Paul Goodwin	Alternate	Forest Dependent
Kathleen O'Neil	Primary	Education
Nancy Hollmann	Primary	Environment
<i>12 seats represented</i>		
<u>ABSENT</u>		
Jane Cameron	Alternate	Recreation
John Passek	Alternate	Motorized Rec.
Dianne Mason	Alternate	Education
Dave Perrin	Alternate	IWA
David Gabelhouse	Alternate	Local Govt (Municipal)
Ken Jackson - Vice- Chair	Primary	Recreation
Sonny Rioux	Primary	IWA
Nancy Hollmann	Primary	Environment
Dave Rees	Alternate	Tourism
Lorne Marr	Alternate	Recreation
Terry Peters	Alternate	Citizens
Rory Maitland	Primary	Contractors
Dana McKamey	Alternate	Contractors
Paul Holbrook	Alternate	Forest Dependent
Andrew Pinch	Primary	Tourism
Jason Lennox	Alternate	Tourism

Christine Hollmann	Alternate	Environment
Resource – other		
Rod Tysdal	Stillwater Timberlands	
Cathy Bartfai	Facilitator	
Pam Dowding	Secretary	