

Stillwater Timberlands Community Advisory Group

February 9th 2005

Minutes

Marine Inn

Attendance: refer to attached sheet

Quorum noted

6:05pm: Meeting called to order

Welcome

Chair opened the meeting and welcomed members.

Safety Review

Facilitator noted safety rules – fire exits and first aid attendants in case of emergency. New meeting place - location of fire exits and first aid attendants were noted.

Review and Acceptance of Agenda

Agenda was reviewed and accepted with addition.

Code of Conduct

Facilitator noted code of conduct.

Review of Minutes of January 26th

Minutes from January 26th were reviewed, and accepted with one amendment to the attendance list.

Correspondence

Letter from Diane Medves –. Steve noted that a draft of the FSP will be made available for Stillwater soon. Presentation showing comparisons will be made for members for review and comment.

Question - Member asked about timelines for the submission of the FSP.

Answer - Steve noted that there is a June 05 target for submission but consultation has to take place between all CAG groups and six or seven different First Nations.

Question – What about a change of ownership – what would happen to this project?

Answer – We don't know yet, but companies would still be required to have an FSP for all crown land by Dec 2006.

Facilitator noted that government had changed the original date of December 2005 to December 2006.

Tabled letter to Greg Hemphill – ongoing discussion on community values –(recreation, tourism, working forests etc.)

Confidentiality agreement between advisory group and Weyerhaeuser-discussion.

Correspondence regarding access item. Request by members to include access item for contractors' checklists has been completed.

Notice of new position - Tom Holmes was named as the new Vice

President of Canadian Forest Lands.

Letter sent to Community Forest committee

Handout – "Forestry needs to change" – Global Canada news

Action List

Action list was reviewed and discussed. Some items are still ongoing, and

others have been completed.

Member noted that website is in need of an updated new members' notice

ACTION – Update website with new members’ notice showing seats that are vacant.

Company Updates – Stephen Chaplin

New Vice President of Canadian Forest Lands

- On Monday January 31st, 2005, Tom Holmes was named as the new Vice President of Canadian Forest Lands.
- Tom is now responsible for aspects of Forestlands Operations in BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario and New Brunswick.
- The position will be based out of the Vancouver office.
- Tom will continue to responsible for the BC Coastal Timberlands, Tenure agreements, and Forest Stewardship.

EMS / Certification Updates

- QMI audit planned for April 20, 21, and 22.

(Change CAG meeting date to April 20)

- This will be a surveillance audit.
- Stillwater will be audited on Chain of Custody and CSA Z809.
- Other units will be audited on ISO 14001 to the new 2004 standard and will have 12 months to correct any findings. Stillwater will be audited on ISO 14001 in 2005.
- Coastal Advisory Group Spring Conference was discussed. Conference is still in discussion stage. Will review again at new certification meeting sometime in March.

BC Coastal One FSP Update.

Reviewed draft 4 of the FSP

Portions of the FSP are incomplete and still need to be written.

Letters to advisory groups and First Nations have been sent out to start the public and

review and comment process.

Meetings with First Nations are currently not scheduled; however we are targeting meetings for mid March.

Plan is to have FSP final draft available by Friday February 11th.

Plan will be made available to the Advisory Group once it is released.

Steve Chambers and Diane Medves will be here on March 9th to review the plan in detail.

Operational Information Map

Paul Kutz

Maps were provided and copies of handout were provided.

Current Activities

Harvesting – ST-048, LC-006, WL-912, TM-224

Road Construction - GI-098, TM-191

Engineering – GI-054, NA-911, ST-184, PD-203, BT-650, GI-095

Salvage Areas – Powell Daniels, Chippewa, Goat Island, Lewis Lake, (UL-806), Goat Lake, K Branch, B Branch.

What's New on the Map

New Blocks: – BT-650

New Roads – There are no new roads this month.

Cutting Permit Approved Areas – There are no new cutting permits

New Salvage Areas – Barbra Lake Main Area, EL-667 Area,

B Branch Area

Annual Silviculture Update - Revised to show all planned activities for 2005.

Map Updates

Logging Complete – LL-052A

Road Construction Complete – GL-019, FH-027

Road Construction Update – None

Engineered Blocks – OL-558, PD-201, PD-245, BT-649P, TM-300, ST-260, ST-257, ST-259, ST-151, GL-014

Engineered Roads – G-Loop Road was re-routed, Spur Road HC-13A Sta. 0 – 792m accessing block TM-218 was added to the OIM Map.

Paul Kutz answered questions-

Question – Is the company obligated to consult with First Nations?

Answer – Government consults with First Nations, and the licensee is obligated to carry out consultation at the stand level. With Sliammon there is an "information exchange" with a letter from First Nations noting cultural heritage sites.

Question – Will the new Fiddlehead Road go through to Haslam Lake Road?

Answer – Waiting for final approval from government – an engineering adjustment has improved alignment in that area.

Comment from member – There are some concerns from residents on the lake there is a way into the back of the cabins?

Answer – Road is laid out but there is no final decision yet.

Question – Where the road crosses the Sunshine Coast Trail, will there be no interruption of access?

Answer – As far as we are aware- No.

Question – Does information exchange between Weyerhaeuser and Sliammon ever result in archaeological assessments before the license to cut is granted.

Answer – There are two levels – Traditional Use Study (TUS) and Culturally modified trees (CMT's) and shell middens. Archaeological impact

assessments are done and permission has to be given. It can be a lengthy process but doesn't happen too often. (maybe four times in nine years).

Question – Is there more activity with First Nations going on in the lower coast?

Answer – It depends on the areas- company can risk-rate cut blocks. Along the coastline there is more going on, Sliammon has its own assessments.

Question – Is all TFL39 Block 1 covered by aboriginal consultation?

Answer – Yes.

Question – Salvage areas around BT-650 - are they near the Beartooth trail? (Roads were clogged with debris)

Answer – Ben Lessard looks after salvagers – will check with him.

ACTION – Check with Ben Lessard about debris from salvagers at Beartooth trail

Question – Are the salvagers working and hauling on weekends?

Answer – If hauling they have to use a pilot car

FRPA/FSP Presentation

Steve Chaplin

Questions

Question – Where FRPA says "maintain environmental standards"- by whom will they be maintained?

Answer – The government of BC, Ministry of Forests will have more compliance enforcement – they have already hired a couple of people locally.

Question – What does "science – based approach" mean?

Answer – Under FPC, rules were different – Under FRPA, regulations say to restock stands using guidance, experience and guidebooks etc.

e.g. – If new information becomes available, Weyerhaeuser could move to do more what research says.

Question – What about professional liability – are professional foresters subject to fines?

Answer – Professional foresters have a code of ethics, they are acting under rules and regulations and are responsible to the public, the company and other RPF's. If regulations are contravened, the RFP Association deals with it through disciplinary action, fines and impacts on jobs.

Question – When due diligence is done, is forester personally liable if something happens?

Answer – If forester went off on his own and made a mistake- he would be personally held accountable.

Steve noted that there is enhanced professional reliance embedded throughout FRPA. It was noted that there is a code that binds RPF's and there is a link on the web with more information. www.rpf-bc.org/bylaws-old.html#bylaw14

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Question – Is there room to experiment?

Answer – New FRPA allows professional foresters to use trials with justification and due diligence.

e.g. New skidder – forester decides whether it will be right for the site.

If something happened, the rationale would have to be provided.

Question – Do foresters carry personal liability insurance?

Answer – No- company covers them and is supportive if due diligence has been used

Question – Who pays to clean up?

Answer – Company is ultimately responsible.

Question – Where are the community values? Are there any default values to fall back on?

Answer - Riparian management areas, local employment, recreation, trails and visual quality objectives. Powell Lake landscape management area

Comment - CAG has some special values

Answer – Under FRPA there are no legal objectives set for recreation etc. There are previously issued orders for Lois Lake, Nanton Lake, campgrounds etc.- they are still legal and have to be maintained.

Question – Are only previously identified sites included?

Answer – Yes. They are the higher level plans.

Question – Who decides when higher-level plans are needed?

Answer – Public, MLA's and government. CAG was the " front runner" for trails – variable width buffers etc.

Steve noted that the Powell Lake landscape unit plan was made available to member electronically.

Member noted that CAG helped develop old growth management and recruitment areas, wild life tree patches, recreation and tourism zones. Legal orders are in place and have been carried over.

Question – Has all CAG's work not been carried over? The old growth management zones, Fairview Bay, Mt. Troubridge, recreation tourism etc.

Answer – The Powell Lake Landscape unit plan was the result of CAG's efforts. Other components of the FSP and Regulation have been carried over.

Member noted that the values that are dearest to the community are – tourism, recreation, diversity and the local economy.

Steve noted that Ray and Walt would decide whether the Stillwater Pilot stays.

Question - Member asked whether the Sunshine Coast Trail could be included as orders.

Answer – Industry does not have the capacity to make orders. Weyerhaeuser committed to the Sunshine Coast Trail and Canoe Route but it is not a legal order. Orders are made by government. Weyerhaeuser committed to do more than required and signed a legal document. Ministry of Forests can enforce agreement.

If Stillwater Plan were cancelled, there would be no legal obligation to protect the trail.

Question - If BC Coastal plan, things could be different?

Answer - Under the BC Coastal plan, only higher-level plans and recreation trails and recreation sites with orders and objectives are included in the FSP.

Suggestion – CAG could write to MLA regarding tourism values.

Comment – If someone else buys the company – they could cancel FSP.

Question – What about OGMA zones that are part of VR and established biodiversity?

Answer – OG zones were voluntary zoning and targets for VR – may be gone but not sure

Question – What about lake buffers – 30m around Canoe Route

Answer – They are part of the riparian management plan – a commitment to the district manager; they might be a legal order. They are part of the results and strategies for riparian zones.

Question – Is the 30 metre buffer binding or could a new owner come along and change it?

Answer – Not if established in a higher-level plan.

Question – If CAG wants values in a higher-level plan – we would have to go to government for action?

Answer – Canoe route is already in riparian management under FPC.

Question – Was the original FSP agreed to between Weyerhaeuser and the Ministry of Forests?

Answer – Yes – if breached they could lose certification.

Steve noted that CAG's objective could be to conserve values at the highest level – riparian zones, reserve zones, small lakes etc.

Member noted that access to Alpine trails and the 30-metre buffers around Horseshoe Lake and Lois Lake also need to be conserved.

Member noted that much of CAG's work could be threatened or gone in the future.

Paul Kutz noted that members should not jump to conclusions, as foresters are not about to log around lakes and trails. The trust should still be there for the company to carry on as usual. With new owners, unless it is enshrined in law, it could be jeopardized.

Steve noted that unless there is an order, the protection is not there, industry cannot write the orders; it is up to government, MLA's and public.

Break – 7:55 – 8:10pm

Marine Inn

Facilitator asked for feedback on the meeting place. Most approved of the location, but noted that poor lighting was a problem.

Recreation and Sunshine Coast Trail

Members discussed the suggestion to write a letter to government to ask for protection of important recreation features such as the Sunshine Coast Trail.

Member noted that the Alpine Club and PRPAWS should wait to see new draft of FSP and to see what is included when comparison presentation is made.

Member noted that Paul Kutz and Steve would do the best for the community whoever takes over.

Paul Kutz agreed, noting that the trails are also used by foresters for recreation.

Steve noted that the March 9th meeting would bring more information, with the new FSP stripped down and made easier to understand. Members could then write comments and questions for the review and comment stage. Ray Balogh and Walt Cowlard will attend meeting on March 9th.

Facilitator noted that copies of the FRPA regulations would be available. <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/tasb/legsregs/frpa/frpa/frpatoc.htm>

or call secretary for hard copy.

Question – All in support of getting the Sunshine Coast Trail as a legal order?

Answer – Members agreed by consensus to proceed.

Facilitator noted that when going through the draft FSP, members should also consider their constituents wishes.

QMI Audit

Audit will take place on April 20 2005. (changed to Apr 13 – 15 2005)

Review of Indicators

Members reviewed indicators and discussed data collected.

Indicators that were discussed were –

1. Landslides

Objective – To minimize the incidence of operationally related landslides

Target – The annual number of slides that are related to post 1995 operations are zero.

Question – When logging in high rainfall years, is the company held accountable for slides?

Answer – Yes they are still accountable – company is doing an evaluation on terrain stability on the coast

2. Employment

Objective – Job level in the forest sector is maintained or enhanced to ensure economic stability within the community.

Target – Maintain or grow employment by hiring of locally qualified people.

Use only local contractors

Questions and discussion–

What is CAG doing to encourage local employment

BC Timber sales

First Nations

5 year average

Separate indicator for block 5

Changing AAC levels

Contractor hours – true numbers are not available

Machines cause loss of jobs

Weyerhaeuser can't dictate to contractors who they hire

Fewer people are working for the same volume – new technology

Importance of using local contractors

Data for how many \$ come back into the community available?

Fear in the community – BC Timber sales gives no assurance for local employees

2002 standards have regulation for community stability

Measure how much Weyerhaeuser brings to the town – grants for summer students, hospital foundation, Kings hockey, rock climbing, donations etc.

Taxation, Stumpage rates paid could be an indicator

Facilitator noted that members concerns and comments will be directed back to Michel.

Members noted that a Saturday workshop might be needed to complete indicator review before April 20 (audit). Members agreed that some indicators might have to go, as they are no longer relevant. Maybe a side list of "interesting items" could be started. It was noted by new member that the group did a great job creating the indicators in the beginning.

Essentials of ISO

Steve will bring a copy for CAG – when CSA makes one available for purchase -will be a handy guidebook.

Future Speakers

Suggested

Shannon Jansen- representative for the Central Coast Forest initiative

Will come to CAG anytime at the groups' invitation.

ACTION – Send invitation to Shannon Jensen to come to CAG meeting

Kevin McCouvier? – Log Supply, Auction, Exports

Current director of West Coast Environmental Law Society – may have some good comments

Sliammon Update

Member noted that there is a new land strategy plan –

Brian Smart – consultant forester and Steve Wilson on reserve would be willing to come to CAG. Trying to get more for the community and want to go to value-based forestry.

ACTION – Send invitation to Brian Smart and Steve Wilson to come to CAG meeting

Interest note

Trees that are left in VR – trees develop huge tops.

BCTS – Kerry Davies

Member will meet with Kerry Davies of BCTS and asked for any questions from to be forwarded. Member requested a map showing 20% takeback areas.

Field Trip

Field trip will take place on March 19 2005.

Next meeting – February 23, 2005. Location - Brooks Secondary School.

Meeting adjourned 9:10pm

Stillwater Timberlands Community Advisory Group

February 9th 2005

Attendance

Name	Position	Member Seat
PRESENT		
Eagle Walz - Chair	Primary	Recreation
Ken Jackson - Vice-Chair	Primary	Recreation
Joanne Cameron-Nordell	Primary	Local Business
Paul Goodwin	Primary	Forest Dependent
Jane Cameron - 2nd Vice-Chair	Primary	Member at large
Debby Waslewski	Primary	Citizens
Dan Waslewski	Alternate	Citizens
Michael Conway Brown	Primary	Environment/Access
Dave Rees	Alternate	Tourism
Jack McClinchey	Primary	Motorized Recreation
Tony Smith	Primary	Education
Fran Ferguson	Alternate	Recreation
Paul Holbrook	Alternate	Forest Dependent
Patrick Brabazon	Primary	Local Govt. (Regional)
George Ferreira	Alternate	Local Business
13 Seats represented		
ABSENT		

Jeff Mah	Primary	Local Govt. (Municipal)
Nancy Hollmann	Primary	Environment
Bill Maitland	Alternate	Contractors
Andy Davis	Alternate	Citizens
Rory Maitland	Primary	Contractors
David Gabelhouse	Alternate	Local Govt. (Municipal)
Les Falk	Alternate	Local Govt. (Regional)
Lorne Marr	Alternate	Recreation
John Passek	Alternate	Motorized Recreation
Andrew Pinch	Primary	Tourism
Dianne Mason	Alternate	Education
Kevin McKamey	Alternate	Contractors
Erika Hein	Primary	Youth
Resource – others		
Stephen Chaplin	Stillwater	Weyerhaeuser
Paul Kutz	Stillwater	Weyerhaeuser
Cathy Bartfai	Facilitator	
Pam Dowding	Secretary	