

Stillwater Timberlands Community Advisory Group
June 8, 2005
Minutes
Marine Inn

Attendance: refer to attached sheet
Quorum noted

6:06pm: Meeting called to order

Welcome

Chair opened the meeting and welcomed members and guests, Mark Forsyth, Alpine Club member and possible alternate to Environment/Access seat. Walt Cowlard and Doug Wainman, Cascadia.

Review and Acceptance of Agenda

Agenda was reviewed and accepted with additions.

Safety Review

Facilitator noted safety rules – fire exits and first aid attendants in case of emergency.

Code of Conduct

Facilitator noted code of conduct.

Review of Minutes of May 11th and May 25th 2005

Minutes from May 11th and May 25th were reviewed and accepted.

Correspondence

Copies of recent correspondence were provided and reviewed.

1. Letter from Wildwood Ratepayers regarding logging in Wildwood- residents are pleased with the results and thanked Weyerhaeuser for saving the trails.
2. Letter from Tourism seat regarding switch from primary to alternate position.
3. Letter from Stephen Chaplin - copies were provided and e-mailed to members-
Members discussed contents of letter.

Question – Is Jeff the new manager now at Stillwater?

Answer – Jeff Ternan is acting manager.

Question – For Lot 450 concerns – who would we contact? Is there a rep in this area?

Answer – Contact Jeff Ternan or Ray Balogh for information. Diane Medves is involved with certification and private lands. Ray is now with Island Timberlands and has moved to Deep Bay.

Comment – There are some concerns regarding the suggestion in the letter that the group moves to one meeting a month – there may not be time for community values, CSA and indicators.

Answer – There is always the opportunity to discuss any concerns with Steve - the door is always open. Don't feel that you have to wait for the next meeting, phone Steve with any concerns.

Comments –

- The idea of one meeting a month is Steve's proposal, and not necessarily the wishes of the group - meeting times will be determined by the group.
- We will have to sit down in September and respond in writing after further discussion.

Correspondence/handouts – cont

4. List of indicators being removed from CSA
5. Facilitator noted that she will participate in a conference call next week between other Advisory Groups on the island – Facilitator will report back to group.
6. News Release – Re Weyerhaeuser sale to Brascan completion – May 30 2005

Action List

Action list was reviewed. Some items were completed and some are ongoing. Action item regarding letter to Cascadia about VR and Forest Project – accuracy was disputed. Tape recording will be checked to see what was agreed to. It was noted that only six surveys were completed – a disappointing number.

Access Management Plan

Steve noted that a requirement of the CSA certification is the annual review of the Access Management Plan. Auditors noted on the last CSA audit that the plan was due for review. Steve noted that the map and access plan was displayed at the public review that was held at the mall. Steve noted that Walt and Doug would be able to give input and answer questions on access issues. Copies of the Access Management Plan were provided. Steve noted that the Access Management Plan contains items such as safety, communication, road deactivation, planning, etc.

Copies of the Access Management section of the Forest Stewardship Plan were also provided. This document specifies certain areas that are to be maintained, and is also to be reviewed annually.

Question – Branch 41 is not under Block 1 anymore – it has been transferred to a small business block.

Answer – Yes – it will have to be written out – along with some other areas.

Walt suggested that members look at the plan, and noted that some road maintenance has exceeded original plans. It was noted that a bridge came down just past D-branch, and a proposal to FIA has been made for funds to remove the bridge. Walt suggested that Access committee members should meet again to discuss access issues.

Member noted that access has been an ongoing problem – machines left on the road etc. but members do not expect the company to maintain roads where there has been an avalanche etc.

Question - What would be a reasonable time to clear roads after a blow down or avalanche?

Answer – Steve – Reasonable time would be three weeks.

Member noted that volunteers did most of the clearing last time.

Member noted that the two incidents regarding the A branch cabin access - it was noted that the incidents happened on the first long weekend of summer

1. Truck parked on the road, blocking access – member was able to move truck
2. Family turned back because of truck blocking road –and abandoned trip to the A-branch cabin. (They were ignored by worker who was fixing truck)

Question – Are there any regulations that say anyone can log here? Someone who is not familiar with the area may not realize there are access rules.

Answer – Strangers (contractors) to the area can get the information they need.

Member asked for copy of the “Logging Release Package” to be made available.

ACTION - “Logging Release Package cover sheet” for ST-260 to be made available.

Another incident was also reported – a family was planning on camping and two machines were on the road, blocking access to the cabin.

Question – Facilitator asked if there was any news on the status of the FSP

Answer – No new information.

Question - Can the wording from the FSP be copied into the Access Management Plan?

Answer – Sounds like a reasonable idea (Steve)

Comment – Member noted that there doesn't seem to be any method of enforcement in place.

Suggestion - If a company truck is on the road, blocking access, someone could take a note of the number and call the office.

Member noted that it is the contractor's responsibility to inform employees about access. It is against the law to block a public road.

Question – Does Cascadia have responsibility to inform employees?

Answer – (Walt) Employer is accountable for everything that happens. Any road that the company uses operationally has to be maintained – they have access management plan and will maintain access were reasonable for public access. If we only have a couple of complaints a year, we're doing ok.

Question - Member noted that the main concern is – who is the person accountable?

Answer – Complain to Cascadia – contractor has to inform employees (Doug)

Member noted that there were concerns for someone who may already be up there and may not be able to get out.

Doug noted that there is a 24-hour call line with information on road closures and the public should call first to avoid problems with access.

Member noted that ATV riders travel many miles a year in the backcountry, and have never been denied access. Generally, if they take time and ask permission there are no problems.

Doug noted that he would be contacting the contractor regarding the blockages on the long weekend.

ACTION – Contractor to be contacted regarding blockages on the long weekend.

Member noted that it seems like a communication problem-

Doug noted that the road should have been open for the weekend – the 24-hour phone line noted any roads that may be blocked. Company expects the public to phone in to get information. Cover sheets have a section on access and part of the agreement with contractors deals with SOP's etc.

Question – What recourse is there if blockages happen again?

Answer – We will talk to the operator.

Member noted that some operators just won't obey the rules. The public should ask them to get out of the way.

Member asked whether the company would consider writing a letter to the company involved.

Doug noted that most correspondence is done by e-mail, and could copy to CAG.

ACTION - Send letter (e-mail) to company about blockages on long weekend and cc to CAG.

Doug noted that loggers make use of the roads on weekends too, and don't purposely block roads to the public.

Company Updates

1. Employees received letters from Hugh Sutcliffe, President of Cascadia
2. Company needs to be profitable – in business to make money!
3. Brascan wholly owns Cascadia
4. No senior management team yet - Craig Neeser and Tom Holmes are not part of Cascadia and are staying with Weyerhaeuser
5. Stillwater has the best fibre on the coast
6. Employees have been told “Don't wait for change”
7. Cascadia has concerns about the bottom line – they are not a big company like Weyerhaeuser or M&B.
8. Company (Stillwater Timberlands Weyerhaeuser) did well for the first five months of 2005
9. Re-forecasting is being done for the rest of the year

Dianne Valley Road

Question – When will the road be open?

Answer (Walt) – There is a bit of road construction to finish up, and then we have to wait for the road to stabilize. Bridge to Whiskey Two is now open – log will be removed when logging begins.

Question – If Brascan owns 100% of Cascadia, how is it 100% Canadian owned?

Answer – Coastal BC is locally managed and Cascadia expects each business to operate independently.

Question – Does Brascan support Cascadia (Stillwater division) the way Weyerhaeuser did?

Answer – No –Cascadia is expected to borrow money. Company is watching expenditures very closely - they don't have a big cash flow at present.

Steve also noted that Doman sawmill is closing for the summer.

Question – Are mills a separate unit – are they subsidized?

Answer – There will be a transfer price (for logs) – Cascadia expects each business to operate on its own.

Determination from Greg Hemphill

Steve reported that a decision on contravention of Section 31 of the Pilot Project has been made.

Audit showed contravention of section 31, and company will be fined \$2000. Maximum fine could have been \$100,000. There is a thirty-day period for appeal. Steve noted that since the contravention was accrued two years ago under Weyerhaeuser, they (Weyerhaeuser) will pay the fine. It was noted that the Forest Service named three parties, but fined Weyerhaeuser.

It was noted that Cascadia will begin with a clean slate.

Another contravention regarding visuals at Beartooth, Chippewa and Olsen's is still awaiting a decision.

Operational Information Map

Steve Chaplin

Maps were provided and members were informed of activities (no handout)

Current Activities

Goat Island -Fire was contained
PD-201 – Falling
WL-909- Road construction
Kent's Beach – Loading
K-Branch – Road construction – 3 more weeks
ST-260 – A-Branch – skidder – falling
HL-403 - Hotham – loading
UL-806 – Salvaging
Beaver Main – Salvaging
Kent's Beach – Salvaging

Engineering

Fiddlehead 27 –
Henderson Bay – looking for log dump
Inland Lake
Beaver Lake – Doug McCormick scouting around
BG Main

Member asked about flagging at Henderson Bay where there is flagging down to the beach, and noted that there is an Osprey nest on the corner.

Steve thanked member for the information and will pass it on.

ACTION – Steve will pass on information that there is an Osprey nest on the corner at Henderson Bay

Cutting Permit

PD-304
PD-203

Cutting Permit Approved

Eldred

New Areas

TM-203- Road from K-branch is pushing ahead

Questions regarding Brascan sale

Question – If asset only purchase, what about taxation and employees obligations? Does the sale include the requisition of CSA and CAG? What regulations are in place and where do we (CAG) fit in?

Answer – (Steve) – Weyerhaeuser sold the assets, liabilities stay with Weyerhaeuser. Cascadia took over agreements that were in place. Environmental permits, road permits, licenses etc are now all under Cascadia.

Question – CSA agreements are they assumed by the new company?

Answer – Yes – Permits are all re-written. Company will assume same certification for Crown Lands only.

Question – We (CAG) had a formal agreement with Weyerhaeuser, should we have a new agreement with Cascadia?

Answer – Cascadia took over agreements that were in place. Terms of Reference have evolved – see if any changes should be made to reflect new company.

Member noted that the Terms of Reference are “grand-fathered”

Facilitator noted that the Terms of Reference are being revised using the 2002 CSA standards.

Break – 7:50 – 8:00pm

Facilitator noted an item on the agenda for “in camera session” should actually have been agreed on by members. No notable objections.

Regional District Update

1. Letter has been written to Hugh Sutcliffe asking for Variable Retention to be continued.
2. Meeting is planned with Mayor and Council, Sliammon, PRREDS and Hugh Sutcliffe.
3. Powell River was the Forest capital of Canada in 1998 – Regional Board suggested that an application could be made again - to apply there is a huge stack of paperwork.

Membership Change

Member noted that the Primary and Alternate Tourism seats will switch.

Discussion on Citizens' seat – no need for a change at this time.

Indicators

Facilitator suggested a Saturday session in order to get the work done.

Steve noted he is not available for Saturdays but would see if Paul Kutz is available.

Members did not feel they wanted to work on Saturdays.

Steve noted that the information from Bill Beese's presentation should be studied and those five indicators done first. Maybe the group should dedicate a whole evening to indicators.

Member noted that some of Bill Beese's presentation items haven't been discussed yet.

Member noted that one meeting a month does not seem feasible at this time.

Member noted that some items from the presentation were confusing – large blocks and small blocks – in five years the science has changed.

Steve noted that now they don't need large tracts for bugs, slugs etc. It was also noted that the Ministry of Environment is managing for wildlife polygons and with riparian buffers along streams etc.

Member noted that indicators have to be completed before mid-September, and suggested that the group take some time over the summer to see how Cascadia "flushes out".

Members discussed the problem of getting the work done and decided to start the next meeting at 4:00pm, and begin with indicator work. It was noted that the facilitator has to be present for the indicators as she has the knowledge and expertise to guide the group. Members agreed on the 4:00pm start time – no notable objections.

Facilitator suggested that Bill Beese's presentation would be a useful guide, since science has changed in the last five years, and if there are any questions – e-mail Steve and he will answer them.

Proposal for Field Trials

Control of Maple Coppices without herbicides

Member provided a handout - outlining proposal for alternate methods for controlling maples.

Steve noted that the proposal has been forwarded to Rudi for response. It was noted that new methods have to be sponsored by the Ministry.

Member asked whether Cascadia could just go ahead and try new ideas, without going through the Ministry.

It was noted that Indicator #40 refers to alternate methods etc-:

Allocation of resources to the development and implementation of non-herbicide and non-pesticide alternatives specific to current herbicide and pesticide uses as reported quarterly to CAG.

Member suggested that this might be a good time to re-word the indicator to say “locally”.

Member asked whether proposal will be forwarded to Greg Hemphill.

Steve suggested that members should wait for Rudi’s response.

Stillwater Water Works Update

Member reported that most of the watershed in the Jefferd Creek area is now private land belonging to Island Timberlands. Member noted concerns that the watershed is in jeopardy.

Steve suggested that member talk to Ray Balogh.

Member asked whether the Regional District could look at the situation if something is in danger of destroying the water system.

It was noted that the Chair of the Regional Board walked the area, and was assured that the water would be protected. The water system cannot be impacted (by logging) even though it is private land.

Member suggested that Coast Garibaldi Health Unit would be aware of the situation.

Elections – June 22 2005

Member noted that elections would take place at the annual general meeting on June 22. Arrangements were made for any absentee members to vote.

Candidates will have a five-minute platform with a question and answer session, with voting to take place at around 8:00pm.

Next meeting

June 22 2005 - 4:00pm.

ACTION - E-mail reminders will be sent out.

In-camera session

Meeting Adjourned 9:20pm

**Stillwater Timberlands Community Advisory Group
June 8th 2005
Attendance**

Name	Position	Member Seat
PRESENT		
Eagle Walz - Chair	Primary	Recreation
Joanne Cameron-Nordell	Primary	Local Business
Jane Cameron - 2nd Vice-Chair	Primary	Member at large
Ken Jackson - Vice-Chair	Primary	Recreation
Nancy Hollmann	Primary	Environment
Michael Conway Brown	Primary	Environment/Access
Patrick Brabazon	Primary	Local Govt. (Regional)
Andy Davis	Alternate	Citizens
Erika Hein	Primary	Youth
Paul Goodwin	Primary	Forest Dependent
Rory Maitland	Primary	Contractors
Tony Smith	Primary	Education
Dave Rees	Primary	Tourism
Jack McClinchey	Primary	Motorized Recreation
Jeff Mah	Primary	Local Govt. (Municipal)
15 Seats represented		
ABSENT		
George Ferreira	Alternate	Local Business
Paul Holbrook	Alternate	Forest Dependent
David Gabelhouse	Alternate	Local Govt. (Municipal)
Les Falk	Alternate	Local Govt. (Regional)
Lorne Marr	Alternate	Recreation
John Passek	Alternate	Motorized Recreation
Andrew Pinch	Alternate	Tourism
Dianne Mason	Alternate	Education
Kevin McKamey	Alternate	Contractors
Debby Waslewski	Primary	Citizens
Dan Waslewski	Alternate	Citizens
Guest		
Resource – others		
Stephen Chaplin	Cascadia Forest Products Ltd.	
Doug Wainman	Cascadia Forest Products Ltd.	
Walt Cowlard	Cascadia Forest Products Ltd.	
Cathy Bartfai	Facilitator	
Pam Dowding	Secretary	