

**CSA Community Advisory Group
to Stillwater Timberlands - Western Forest Products Inc.
Nov 8, 2006
Minutes
Town Centre Hotel**

Attendance: refer to attached sheet

6:05pm: Meeting called to order
Quorum noted

Welcome and introductions

Chair welcomed guest Bill Beese, forest ecologist with Western. Members introduced themselves around the table.

Safety Review

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

Code of Conduct

Code of Conduct from Community Advisory Group was posted and noted.

Review and Acceptance of Minutes

Minutes from October 11th were reviewed and accepted with one amendment.

Review and Acceptance of Agenda

Chair asked for approval of the agenda. Agenda was accepted with additions.

(Island Timberlands portion of meeting - separate minutes)

Review and Acceptance of Minutes

Minutes from October 11th were reviewed and accepted. Copies of amendment from September 13th were provided. Facilitator noted that the minutes are published on website when approved by members. If members are asked why the minutes are not published sooner, they should let the public know that they are sent to the website after they have been approved.

Correspondence

Copies of recent correspondence were provided and reviewed.

1. Copies of letter from Friends of Eagle River – (Nadja Hocking) - sent to Jeff Ternan at WFP

Stuart noted that Western has sent a response. Some people from the office have volunteered their time if a future project at the river is planned.

2. Copy of letter from Plutonic Power sent to the Honorable Barry Penner, Minister of Environment.

Martin noted that he had a meeting October 24 with Plutonic representatives and the Forest Service to discuss issues regarding the transmission line. Plutonic has a new COO Grig Cook; Grig says he understands the importance of visuals around the canoe route as he was kayaking in the area this summer before joining Plutonic. Plutonic is hosting an information luncheon Nov. 9 in Powell River. Martin noted that he is preparing a letter to the Minister of Environment in response to Plutonic's letter to the minister of October 16 and will not finalize it until following the meeting.

Action List

The action list was reviewed and updated.

General PAG meeting

Stuart noted that the PAG meeting has been postponed until January 26, 2007. Various circumstances have conspired so that the date initially being planned for isn't going to be feasible.

Chair noted that a suggestion has been sent (by e-mail to Michel) that the CSA task force that is working on 2007 standards could be invited to the general PAG meeting as CSA auditor has noted that the task force has very little input from advisory groups.

Field Trip

Stuart noted that the field trip to the UL-806 and TM-188 experimental sites on November 8 went well and everyone enjoyed the day with Bill Beese.

Operational Information Map Update (TFL39 Block 1

Stuart Glen

Map was posted and Stuart gave an update of harvesting, road construction, engineering, what's new on the map, and map updates:

Current Activities

Harvesting – GI-053, GI-054, GI-100B, LL-064, LL-066, PD-203, PD-304A, PD-304SS, PD-208, PD-453, PD-453A, ST-008SS, ST-331, UL-801, WL-926A
Heli falling for: BT-638, GI-145, LL-027, LL-027SS, WL-909, WL-910 (These 6 blocks are scheduled to be helicopter yarded in November/December)

Road Construction - EL-669, HE-516, PL-001, PL-002, UL-825

Engineering – BT-650, GI-111, PD-247, PD-248, PD-455, UL-812

What's New on the Map

New Blocks – reconfigured GI-111

New Roads – Frogpond East

Note: No new blocks or roads are adjacent to the Sunshine Coast Trail.

Cutting Permit Approved Areas – None

Map Updates

Logging Complete – None

Road Construction Complete – None

Engineered Blocks – PD-440

Engineered Roads – None

Question – Will the bridge be taken out at Diane Valley?

Answer – They are still road building but the plan is to remove it again this year.

Question – Will there be an announcement (access concerns)?

Answer – The phone hotline will be updated with the change. In the last several editions of the Peak newspaper an ad has been placed to remind people of the road hotline which provides updated road information.

Question – How close is the cutblock to Frogpond Lake?

Answer – GI-111 – layout is recently finished – the reconfigured block is shown on the OIM. There is a buffer retained along the length of the cutblock adjacent to the lake. Blocks at the far end and opposite side are on the OIM as future.

Question – What is the buffer requirement?

Answer – There is a 10m reserve and 20m management zone with 50% retention in the management zone on Frogpond Lake.

Question – That was identified in the Stillwater Pilot Project?

Answer – Yes.

Fibre Meeting Update

Local millers met with company and members to see how the fibre supply agreement is working. Member noted that the agreement is working very well. Chair thanked the members who organized the meeting.

Break 7:00 – 7:18pm

Extra Handouts

Facilitator noted that copies of appendices updates for Terms of Reference were included in members' packages.

Company Updates

CSA Z809 - 2002 May 9-11 2006 - Audit Results

Stuart reported the results of the May 2006 QMI audit. It was noted that members are welcome to come into the office to review the 13-page document.

New FSP

Question – What is the status of the current FSP that is pending?

Answer – (Stuart) – Work is ongoing with the Ministry of Forests. Changes and further information being provided – working towards approval.

Question - When does the Stillwater Pilot come to a natural end and will 10 audits be done?

Answer – (Stuart) - The Stillwater Pilot Project FSP is due to expire in March of 2007. The intent is to have a smooth transition into the new FSP and no audits are currently planned.

Question – If audits are done, will company ask CAG for participation?

Answer – Yes.

Chair encouraged members to review QMI audit report at the office.

Plutonic Power

Martin noted that there were still safety concerns regarding equipment clearance on the proposed transmission line clearances. Adequate clearance for machinery is needed at all existing crossing. We are also looking at where future crossings may be, as once the line is in place I don't see it moving. Western's requirements for clearance were forwarded to the Environment Assessment Office in March by Walt Cowlard. Clearance is required for a grapple yarder on a lowbed.

It was noted that the exact location of line is still not known, Plutonic has a transmission line builder looking at this.

Question – Would the transmission line affect Island?

Answer – (Island Timberlands) We have looked at the plans – the Jim Brown property (planned for logging in 2008) could be affected.

Question – Has Plutonic been in contact with Island?

Answer – Yes.

Member noted that the Plutonic website states “no impact on the forest land base”
Member noted that there are still issues in the Toba area (roads/fish).

Question – Do they have an Environmental Assessment certificate?

Answer – (Martin) Not yet – they stopped the clock at 173 days of the 180 day process to work on issues at the Toba end of the project.

Bill Beese WFP Forest Ecologist

Presentation – Monitoring and Adaptive Management – Progress Report

Bill provided a review of results from the adaptive management program. The presentation is relevant to the following indicators: Indicator 1, Indicator 2, Indicator 3, Indicator 13, and Indicator 27. The presentation included up to date learning's from the established experimental blocks in relation to various alternate harvest strategies.

Bill began the presentation by providing a background to the adaptive management program and the goals of the company.

1. Sustain biological diversity
2. Maintain a safe and profitable business
3. Learn and improve over time through monitoring and adaptive management.

Definition of Adaptive Management: A formal process for continually improving management practices by learning from the outcomes of operational and experimental practices.

There are 15 experimental blocks planned. (9 completed to date). There are 5 comparisons each replicated 3 times.

- Group Retention
- Riparian Retention
- Group Size
- Dispersed Retention
- Group Removal

Types of monitoring being completed:

- Structural monitoring – retention, snags, vegetation etc.
- Species monitoring – birds, amphibians, beetles, slugs, snails-squirrels were dropped after 1-year
- Growth and Yield, regeneration, windthrow

Bill then shared a summary of the monitoring results. This was a review of results from alternative harvest strategies being monitored.

- Structural Monitoring:
 - Retention:
 - Reviewed the differences and 5-year change of group vs. dispersed retention. (dispersed better for larger trees, < live trees in dispersed vs. group, >herb and shrub in dispersed)
 - Reviewed edge effects – within 10m of edge
- Species Monitoring:
(includes birds, canopy epiphytes, carabid beetles, amphibians, gastropods, mycorrhizal fungi, vascular plants.)

Carabid beetles:

- show response to patch size. Higher catches in large vs. smaller patches.
- 3 years post-harvest – patches retained forest specialists in all sites.

- several species of beetles built up at or close to edge of patches.
- 30% dispersed retention provided more habitat than other dispersed retention treatments.

Snails and slugs:

- Total of 27 species found from VI surveys
- Few species above 400m
- Retention had more of some species than cut areas of the block
- Some species show no effects pre and post logging and some species show effect consistent with logging.

Mycorrhizal fungi:

- Found that generally leaving trees will enhance fungi on seedlings nearby.

Forest Birds:

- Different species respond differently to harvesting – some preferring larger patches, others the harvested areas, and others utilizing a range of patch sizes.
- Groups generally better than dispersed for habitat

Lewis Lake Streams:

- Reviewed and discussed information collected to date.

- Growth and Yield:
 - Tree growth effects evident within first 10m of edge
 - Magnitude of <growth approx. 50%
- Windthrow:
 - Damage varies regionally
 - Factors: height, exposure, fetch, elevation, topography, rooting depth
 - Large patches have less than small patches

Bill thanked everyone for their interest and for the opportunity.

Other business

December meeting

Facilitator noted that a new venue will be found for the December 13th meeting.

ACTION – E-mail to be sent regarding venue for December meeting.

Meeting Adjourned 8:55pm

**CSA Community Advisory Group to Stillwater Timberlands
Western Forest Products Inc.
Nov 8, 2006
Attendance**

Name	Position	Member Seat
PRESENT		
Jane Cameron – Chair	Primary	Member at large
Kathy Kirk	Alternate	Member at Large
Ken Jackson – Vice-Chair	Primary	Recreation
Dave Rees- 2nd Vice Chair	Primary	Tourism
Patrick Brabazon	Primary	Local Governments
Ted Byng	Alternate	Local Governments
Rory Maitland	Primary	Contractor
Brent Rothwell	Alternate	Contractor
Doug Fuller	Primary	DFA Worker
Ron Fuller	Alternate	DFA Worker
Wayne Borgfjord	Primary	Forest Dependent
Paul Goodwin	Alternate	Forest Dependent
Mark Hassett	Primary	Local Business
Bill Maitland	Alternate	Local Business
Nancy Hollmann	Primary	Environment
9 Seats represented		
Absent members		
Dave Hodgins	Alternate	Recreation
Andrew Pinch	Alternate	Tourism
George Illes	Alternate	Environment
PRESENT		
Resource – others		
Stuart Glen	Western Forest Products Inc.	
Martin Buchanan	Western Forest Products Inc.	
Bill Beese	Western Forest Products Inc.	
Diane Medves	Island Timberlands	
Kraig Urbanoski	Island Timberlands	
Wayne French	Island Timberlands	
Cathy Bartfai	Facilitator	
Pam Dowding	Secretary	