

Stillwater Timberlands Community Advisory Group

April 22, 2004

Minutes

Access sub - committee meeting

Weyerhaeuser office

Attendance: refer to attached sheet

7:00pm: Meeting called to order

Welcome and Introductions

Michael Conway Brown welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Safety review

Paul Kutz gave information on fire exits and first aid attendants in the building.

Introductions

Introductions were made (see attached attendance list)

Review of Map

Map was available for viewing. Roads accessible for 4-wheel drive and

2-wheel drive was shown.

FSP Access Plan

Paul Kutz gave a brief explanation of the Access Management Plan that was developed in co-operation with the MoF, MWLAP and the Community Advisory Group and was incorporated into the Stillwater Timberlands Forest Stewardship Plan. Copies of

the Access Management Plan were handed out.

Question – Are there any changes to the Access Management Plan?

Answer – None at this time.

Access Concerns

Members and guests were asked whether there were any concerns or comments about access:

Windsor Main -There was a slide on area near Windsor Main but it has been opened up now. It was noted the road will open up from Goat to Windsor - there is a small business block in that area.

D-Branch – landslide – It was noted that FIA funds have been approved for this problem but are less than was asked for. Funds will be used to stabilize road.

D-800 – Will funds be used to stabilize top to D-800? – Walt Cowland is looking after the tender process. Members asked whether the process could be fast-tracked since there is no snow there now, and spring trips to Mt. Alfred are planned for the area.

ACTION – D-Branch landslide - Paul will check with Walt to try to get work fast-tracked to allow access for spring and summer.

22 mile at Freda – Washout – culverts are plugged. Heli logging planned – Weyerhaeuser will fix problem. Paul will contact Doug Wainman, (production supervisor)

ACTION – Fix culverts that are plugged at 22-mile at Freda – fix road to allow 4-wheel drive access

5. Goat –2 - Small backhoe needed to clear spur (3-km up spur) – It was noted that there are shake blockers working in the area (old growth). Note-FIA funding was used to rebuild a spur on the opposite side of the Goat I valley – road was rehabilitated and made more accessible.

ACTION – Goat 2- Small backhoe needed to clear spur (3-km up spur)

B-Branch – Access to Emma Lake - After the snow, 1000's of stems left overhanging the road. 200 hours of volunteer time was used to clear the road.

Question - Member asked for clarification on the meaning of "maintain to 4-wheel drive standards – does that include brush control?"

Answer – No, it does not include brush control. Limited funds are available for brushing.

Question – Would it be ok for volunteers to take a machine up there to brush?

Answer – Yes it would be ok – if Weyerhaeuser has a machine in the area they could tie in with other work, but can't commit to run a machine up to B-Branch. It was noted that there is a machine up there now.

Paul suggested a request in writing to the production department would be the best way to go.

ACTION – Send request in writing for a machine to brush roads near B-Branch

Question – How could we find out location of machines?

Answer – Contact Doug Wainman

Question – Ok to take saws for alders?

Answer – ok – but not in fire season – April 1 – Oct 31?

Question – Has anyone approached Harold Long's office with questions regarding FIA funding?

Answer – No – but only limited funding is available this year. If application is in with FRPA Section 57 co-op management plan, outlook is better for funding to be approved.

ACTION - Member will talk to Harold Long's office about FIA

funding

Goat Lake Mainline past Dianne Lake – will this road be brushed this summer? – Maybe brushed when machine are going up to Dianne Lake. Volunteers from the Alpine Club helped open up the Main line. Machines to help would be useful.

Member noted that 4-wheel drive roads don't qualify for brush control but 2-wheel drives do.

Member noted that D - branch is in better shape than the Main line.

Lois Lake Valley past Khartoum Lake campsite – Slide between the barricade and the park. Member reported rough road (full of potholes) down to the campsite last year, and Weyerhaeuser said that if they were in the neighbourhood with a machine, they would do it. It was noted that logging may begin soon in that vicinity.

ACTION – Fix road with machine in area of Lois Lake and Khartoum campsite.

Dianne Lake – *Question* - When will road building begin?

Answer – Plans have changed – machines are now working out at Kent's Beach. Member requested that Weyerhaeuser ask contractors not to block road with equipment. Two or three year's use of road would be nice (while harvesting is taking place). Mountaineering parties are planning Sunday outings to that area. Group will go up to try to find routes for trails – there is a commitment from Weyerhaeuser for trails through the cut block. (last year route was blocked with equipment parked on the road).

Member noted that blocking roads to prevent vandalism is not allowed.

ACTION – Contact Doug Wainman to ensure roads are not blocked by equipment – (Access regulations should be on SOP's)

Member noted that the Rod and Gun Club had offered to re-activate the "Wilderness Watch" programme to prevent vandalism. No response to offer. It was noted that better communication between contractors and Weyerhaeuser is needed to keep equipment from blocking the roads.

Gates at Lewis Lake – It was noted that gates were locked at Lewis Lake – timber had

been poached from the site.

Suggestion – Hire security guards to look after site after hours.

Heli-logging – Blocked access to Emma Lake – It was noted that access was blocked for three weeks last year despite advertisements in the paper that road was open. Member requested that Weyerhaeuser communicate with the helicopter company this year so that access problems can be avoided.

ACTION – Weyerhaeuser will communicate with Canadian Air Crane and others to avoid access problems.

Rock Climbing Area – Lois Main at 2-mile – It was reported that a logging truck went off the road and climbed on to rocks in the pullout area. Access is mushed out and filled with rocks. Trench needs to be re-filled. It was noted that there is active logging there and machines are in the area. Member mentioned Indicator for "adequate trailhead parking"

ACTION – Fix pullout at rock climbing area (Lois Main at 2-mile) Grader needed to repair damage caused by logging truck.

Haslam Lake – Gates locked – Gates locked by municipality due to concerns for the safety of the drinking water from Haslam Lake. It was noted that the locks have been broken (April 21 04) Discussion on watersheds and whether they should be locked. Member noted that in many parts of the province, gates are locked and inaccessible to the public in watershed areas. Members noted that 4-wheel drive vehicles can go right through from head of Haslam Lake to Fiddlehead Farm. It was suggested that CAG could write a letter to the municipality to keep gate open.

ACTION – Write letter to municipality to request gates to Haslam Lake be left open for access.

Wilderness Watch – member noted that watchful eyes in the forest can help deter vandals. Policing can be done by recording of license plate numbers and reporting suspicious activities to RCMP. Reporting illegal garbage dumping activities has been successful in some cases. Poachers have been caught by Weyerhaeuser.

Question – What is the company's policy regarding trees that are blown down and laying across the road?

Answer – Can be bucked open by volunteers if necessary. Piles of wood get taken away from side of road.

Ten miles up to St. Vincent's bay has recently been bucked open – road was blocked due to windstorm.

Access problems due to lack of brush control – Member noted that after almost every winter there are access problems due snow falls that bring trees down on to the road. – Paul noted that if machines are in the area, they will go and clear road for access.

Canoe Route – It was noted that Mo F and Weyerhaeuser clear danger trees from the Canoe Route, and fire crews also use the area for practice. Danger trees such as Alders are being taken down from Nanton Lake area.

It was noted that better access to the forest was the main goal and communication between Weyerhaeuser, CAG and all community groups was important.

Michael thanked everyone for attending.

Meeting adjourned 8:20pm

Stillwater Timberlands Advisory Group

Access sub-committee meeting

April 22nd 2004

Attendance

CAG Members

Ken Jackson - Vice-Chair	Primary	Recreation
Eagle Walz Chair	Primary	Recreation
Jane Cameron	Primary	Member at large
Michael Conway-Brown	Primary	Environment/ Access
George Ferreira	Alternate	Local Business
Jack McClinchey	Primary	Motorized Recreation
Lorne Marr	Alternate	Recreation

Others

Greg Cooke		ATV club
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Mario Gusola		ATV club
Gary Pulkrabek		ATV club
Mark Forsyth		PR Alpine Club
Moe Kaufmann		PR ATV
Allen Parsons		PR Alpine Club
Colin Dionne		Climbers Access Society of BC
Mike Hill		BOMB Squad
Roger Taylor		BOMB Squad
Len Swanson		BOMB Squad
Jay Bresse		BOMB Squad and PRPAWS
John Graham		BOMB Squad
Paul Kutz	Forester	Weyerhaeuser
Pam Dowding	Recording Secretary	CAG