

# Stillwater Timberlands Community Advisory Group

April 28, 2004

## Minutes

Brooks School

Attendance: refer to attached sheet

6:15pm: Meeting called to order

Quorum noted

### **Welcome**

Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed new members.

### **Review of Minutes**

Minutes from April 14<sup>th</sup> were reviewed and accepted. No amendments.

### **Acceptance of Agenda**

Agenda was adopted as amended.

### **Correspondence**

Letter to unions in Powell River – seeking new member for labour seat

Reply from Ken Matthews – BC Timber Sales - accepting invitation to come to CAG meeting in May

### **Review of Action List**

Action list from April 14<sup>th</sup> was reviewed. It was noted that some items were completed and some are still ongoing.

**Helilogging evening** is planned for June 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Safety Course (one- hour)** for interested CAG members will be arranged for June 16<sup>th</sup>.

**A-Branch bridge – blockage** – Member reported that logs are still in the ditches. Salvager was contacted last August – Paul Kutz will follow up to find out why logs are still there and will arrange for the removal of logs in ditches.

**Agreement** between Weyerhaeuser and Ministry of Forests regarding recreation was provided for reference only. It was noted that the agreement contains a 30-day bailout clause.

**New CSA critical elements** – training to be arranged for facilitators and new members soon.

**D - Branch landslide** – Weyerhaeuser is trying to get work fast tracked before spring and summer. Doug contacted FIA in Nanaimo re boulders.

**Spur on Goat – 2** – Backhoe will be used to clear spur.

**B - Branch** – It was noted that there is no plan to do brushing on B -Branch. Member noted that the Alpine Club will send a request in writing to Weyerhaeuser and cc: to CAG.

**Lois Lake and Khartoum campsite** – Doug noted that grading of the road is on the schedule. May have to get Geo tech to look at the site.

**Road blockages – vandalism at Lewis Lake** – Doug noted that contractors do not block roads unless they have to. Access policy is to be included in contractors' SOP's. It was noted that vandalism has been a problem in the past. Member noted that permission in writing can be obtained from the Forest Service to block road when necessary.

**Heli-logging – Road Blockages** - Doug will bring copy of notice to Canadian Air Crane re- access. It was noted that access was a problem last summer during heli-logging,

**Gates at Haslam Lake** watershed area – Hold decision on letter to Municipality until next meeting. Member noted that locks on one of the gates have been broken. Further information may become available.

### **Action List – "Parking Lot" review**

**History of CAG** – will be written into the new members' guide

**Vacant Seats** - Seeking new members for Labour, Education and Youth seats is ongoing

**Trails in Dianne Valley** – waiting for snow to clear – members will go up to show Weyerhaeuser where trails should be

**DSA's for PMP blocks** - Copies of detailed site assessments are available at the Weyerhaeuser office

**Public participation** – Member suggested a spot on Jump radio to inform the public of CAG's activities. Facilitator also suggested an ad in the local paper.

**ACTION** – Place ad in local paper and contact Jump Radio for public participation and information.

### Access

#### Road blockages and vandalism

Discussion regarding vandalism and roads that are sometimes blocked by equipment. Member noted that "Wilderness Watch" programme has been successful in the past. It was noted that machinery that blocks access is aggravating to the public. Members suggested the use of security guards to protect machinery and equipment from vandalism. Contractor noted that most small businesses now put up a gate to protect their equipment, and obtain a letter from the District Manager of the Forest Service for permission to block road while harvesting. Members noted that access to public lands should never be blocked. Facilitator noted that the contractor's voice should be heard when access committee meets again.

#### Haslam Lake watershed

Members asked about the Haslam Lang Creek watershed. Member asked about the Integrated Watershed Management Plan (IWMP) that was written for the area, and whether rules were being enforced. It was noted that there is lots of industrial activity going on in the area at this time. Member noted that there are buffers of 1200 metres around the intake. ATV owners spoke to the city about access. Member noted that plan was completed in 1997, and was the first plan for the Powell River area, a new plan would probably have more stringent regulations. Doug noted that all Weyerhaeuser operations are operating within the law as far as the IWMP is concerned. Members noted that the municipality is testing water regularly on streams and creeks. Member suggested that the group looks at the IWMP for Haslam Lake/Lang Creek before deciding whether a letter to the municipality is necessary. It was noted that the area (Haslam Lake watershed) is not in the TFL 39 Block 1, but is in the TSA.

**ACTION** – Member will bring copy of IWMP for review and discussion regarding Haslam watershed.

### **CAG Field Trip**

Member suggested a location up Southview Road for a field trip. It was noted that there is a lot of root rot in the area. It was noted that Paul Kutz was involved with salmonberry control and alternate methods could be seen at the same time.

Member suggested an evening field trip in May or June.

**ACTION** – Field trip to be arranged

### **Water Quality**

It was noted that Powell River has a new drinking water specialist – Dan Glover. Weyerhaeuser will arrange for water quality testing for Powell Lake that will be done once a week for five weeks, as per CAG's request when discussing the PMP. (Pesticide Management Plan)

It was noted that Brian Carsen, hydrologist would be willing to speak to CAG on water quality concerns

**ACTION** – Arrange meeting with Brian Carsen, hydrologist

### **Access sub-committee meeting - April 22 04**

Member reported on the Access meeting that was held on April 22<sup>nd</sup> 04

Seven CAG members and twelve members of the public from local groups attended – PR ATV club, Alpine Club, Bomb Squad and PRPAWS. Paul Kutz from Weyerhaeuser was also present. Copies of the minutes from the meeting were provided. Access concerns and solutions were discussed and actions were added to CAG Action list. Several action items from the meeting have already been discussed.

### **Heli - logging evening**

Facilitator noted that June 9<sup>th</sup> is the scheduled date for helilogging education meeting. Member suggested that the meeting could be open to the public. No speaker yet but former member will be present to provide ideas and information.

**Break 7:34 – 7:49pm**

### **FSP Audit**

Two members reported on second day of the recent FSP audit. Goat Island block that was audited was felled by machines, with small openings. Sites were clean but machines caused some damage. Trails behind cabins were wrecked but will be re-built. A tree fell and damaged an outhouse. Members also looked at the block at the top of Goat Island – new roads have been laid out. It was noted that the timber at the top is thick and of poor quality.

Doug noted that the audit results were very good. Forest Service will decide whether Weyerhaeuser achieved objectives in about a month. Only one big issue – some soil disturbance where there were lots of logs on the ground. Forest Service will re visit site after the logs are gone. It was noted that three different machines were used – feller buncher, processor, and hoe chucker.

Member asked whether harvesting small dense growing timber is worthwhile.

Doug noted that they are logging the profile and it was worthwhile if mechanized harvesting methods were used.

### **High grading**

Member asked whether the new FRP Act allowed for high grading of timber. It was noted that Interfor was logging Cedar and Douglas Fir in the Squamish area and leaving hemlock. If practice continues over decades, there will be only Hemlock left.

Doug noted that the government has relaxed utilization requirements. Current rules have changed and government will charge for what's left on the ground. Government surveys site for avoidable waste and stumpage is charged accordingly. Companies were previously required to apply to leave timber behind but now rules have changed. Debris is left for biodiversity reasons.

*Question* – Is the timber that is growing at the top of Goat Island fine-grained timber suitable for value added businesses?

*Answer* – No – it is growing badly -hemlock, fir and balsam – there maybe some tight grained that would be suitable for small mills. There are lots of shake blocks from old cedar stumps.

Final review of FSP audit will be provided when complete.

**ACTION** - Final review of FSP audit will be provided when complete.

### **Company Updates**

PMP – Government has not yet reviewed Plan. Sechelt First Nation came to Weyerhaeuser and wanted to send comments to Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection.

WL-909 – Block at Windsor Lake – Road has been tagged. Geotechs are going in to look at gravel deposits.

Forestry Tour – Saturday, May 8<sup>th</sup>. Tour will go up Powell Lake. Heli-logging and yarding will be shown. Six crew boats are available to take 50 people. Ad will be in the newspaper and public is required to phone Weyerhaeuser office to book a space.

Local fibre supply – new contact person is Wade Jensen – can be contacted at 604-485-3125

20% takeback – Discussions for Block 1 are ongoing in Nanaimo. Member asked whether a community forest could come out of the 20%. No decisions have been made yet.

### **Review of Indicators for SFMP**

**Partial review of indicators was provided: data provided was explained and discussed. Indicators that were reported were:**

**Indicator #2 – Stand level retention in all cutblocks as a percent of total cutblock area, by Stewardship Zone.**

**(Hectares of stand level retention are shown as higher % than planned)**

**Indicator #6 – Forest Practice Code and Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection related to road, soils and water management.**

**(Two potential contraventions – Goat Island Block 23 and Lois Lake 162 - waiting for MoF determination)**

**Indicator #8 – Compliance with the Central Coast LRMP process and results. Cooperate with the Central Coast LRMP and honour the moratorium on the Phillips Lake spruce flats and estuary until the flats are designated a protected area.**

**Indicator #9 – An effective habitat management programme exists for locally identified species of special interest.**

**(Other than the Mountain Goat, there are no species of special interest identified at this time)**

**Indicator #10 – Total number of trees at "free to grow" vs. the number of trees planted, by species. (Survey results shown)**

**Indicator #12 – Percent of seed that is provincially registered or certified.**

**(100%)**

**Indicator #13 – Hectares spaced in planted stands and comparison of before/after stocking levels by species**

**(509 natural 612 planted crop trees - 1121 total crop trees per hectare)**

**Indicator #14 - # of fires and hectares burned, by category –**

**(1 wild fire in Block 1 – none in block 5)**

**Indicator # 16 – Percent of the DFA at high risk of mortality due to insects or disease attack – (Hemlock looper outbreak covers approx. 400 hectares – 25% of outbreak area. Current risk assessment is moderate. 80-year-old stand. No plans for spraying yet and not as dangerous as the pine beetle.**

**Indicator #20 – Area that does not meet "free to grow" commitments and objectives. (none)**

**Indicator #23 - Area of regeneration failures at 1<sup>st</sup> year survival (Block 1 - 2.5% failed, Block 5 - 6.9% failed)**

**Indicator # 24 – Hectares of logging adjacent to 1-metre green-up. Notification of 1-metre green-up to CAG when it is planned. (None yet)**

**Indicator #25 – Research is supported by Weyerhaeuser Company. (Work has been continuing on the Lewis Lake (Harvesting and monitoring) and Nanton Lake (monitoring) sites. Note: Goat Island work started in 2004.**

**Indicator #26 – Number and extent of violations of the Forest Stewardship Plan zoning. (No violations in 2003) Member noted that there may be a violation in the trail buffer zone of ST-269. Doug will look into this (ACTION from previous meeting)**

**Indicator # 27 – The # of non-conformances with the company's Variable Retention (VR) standards.**

**(Target of 100% has been met for both Blocks 1 and 5)**

**Indicator #28 – Number and type of applications for variance, and their resolutions, made regarding zoning and commitments made in the FSP.**

Member noted that the indicator should include the wording "CSA champion to review with CAG prior to submission" Member suggested an extra column could be added to the report on page 129 to include "Brought forward to CAG"

(Y or N)

ACTION – Amend Indicator # 28 to include extra wording and add extra column to report on Page 129 of review.

Members discussed whether all applications for variance had been brought forward to CAG. WL-909 and HB-109 was brought forward, but members did not recall notice for UL-806 (Variance to fall trees within RRZ on S4 stream)

Indicator #29 – Annual mean annual increment (MAI) growth per hectare and annual growth increment in the DFA (mai times # of productive hectares)

(Increases are shown in annual growth increment for Blocks 1 and 5 due to the fact that trees are growing faster than originally predicted)

Indicator #30 – Percent of old-growth Management Areas (OGMA's) and Old Growth Zones, by netdown %'s, under special management within the DFA, compared to the DFA land base.

(Application to Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management to remove 2.5 hectares from the OGMA at Windsor Lake WL-909 – will be brought forward to CAG) Recruitment area is second growth timber.

Indicator #37 – Community Watershed Assessment Plans are completed for watersheds of identified concern.

(Haslam/Lang completed September 2003 – next due date September 2006, Jefferd Creek completed May 2002 – next due date May 2005,

Silver Creek completed March 1997- next due date prior to any harvest activities)

Indicator #68 – Maintain current commitment to fund the maintenance of the Canoe Route. (Weyerhaeuser expects to continue funding for maintenance of the Canoe Route as long as FIA funding is available)

Indicator #69 – Company meets its commitments towards establishment of the Millennium Park.

Member noted that there is no timeline or date on the indicator.

Member noted that talks are ongoing and a decision may be made soon.

Member suggested the wording "*continued commitment*" should be added to the indicator when reviewed in November.

ACTION - Revise wording to include *continued commitment* to Millennium Park indicator.

Question – Who reports contravention?

Answer – Anyone can report them to the Forest Service. If any Weyerhaeuser employee sees contraventions, they are required to report to manager. Weyerhaeuser has reported themselves for contraventions in the past.

Question – Is there any protection for "whistleblowers"?

Answer- No but an indicator could be created regarding whistleblower protection.

ACTION – Create an indicator for whistleblower protection

Open House 2004

Planning for open house in September 2004. Members' suggestions for guest speakers welcome.

Questionnaire

Members were provided with a questionnaire from the Canadian Forest Service and were asked to complete the national survey of Citizen Committees for public participation in forest management.

Terms of Reference Review

Member noted that the annual review of the Terms of Reference is due to be completed before June. Sub-committee will meet and members were asked to review and e-mail suggestions for changes and additions to the Terms of Reference.

ACTION – Review Terms of Reference and e-mail suggestions to chair of sub-committee

Annual General Meeting

Date for annual general meeting will be June 23<sup>rd</sup> 2004.

Areas of Concern

Chair noted that a meeting will be scheduled for old members who were present for zoning discussions. Concerns regarding recreation zones, retention, trail buffers, lake buffers etc.

SFMP – 2004 - Indicators

Facilitator suggested that indicator reports could be e-mailed to members for review when ready prior to the next meeting.

ACTION – Indicator reports to be e-mailed to members for review before

May 12<sup>th</sup>.

Next Meeting – May 12 2004

Guest speaker will be Ken Matthews, Timber Sales Manager from BC Timber Sales, Strait of Georgia. CAG members may wish to prepare questions ahead of the meeting.

Meeting adjourned 9:15pm

**Stillwater Timberlands Advisory Group**

**April 28th 2004**

**Attendance**

CAG Members

Present

<b>Ken Jackson - Vice-Chair</b>	Primary	Recreation
<b>Eagle Walz Chair</b>	Primary	Recreation
<b>Jane Cameron</b>	Primary	Member at large
<b>Michael Conway-Brown</b>	Primary	Environment/ Access
<b>Nancy Hollmann</b>	Primary	Environment

<b>Debby Waslewski</b>	Primary	Citizens
<b>Dave Rees</b>	Alternate	Tourism
<b>Kevin McKamey</b>	Alternate	Contractor
<b>Joanne Cameron-Nordell</b>	Primary	Local Business
<b>Jeff Mah</b>	Alternate	Local Govt -
<b>Tony Smith</b>	Primary	Municipal
<b>Paul Goodwin</b>	Primary	Education
<b><u>CAG Members</u></b>		Forest Dependent
Absent		
<b>George Ferreira</b>	Alternate	Local Business
<b>Jack McClinchey</b>	Primary	Motorized Recreation
<b>Lorne Marr</b>	Alternate	Recreation
<b>Patrick Brabazon</b>	Primary	Local Govt –
<b>John Passek</b>	Alternate	Regional
<b>Russell Storry</b>	Primary	Motorized Recreation
<b>Les Falk</b>	Alternate	Local Govt -
		Municipal
		Local Govt –
		Regional
<b>Christine Hollmann</b>	Alternate	Environment
<b><u>Others</u></b>		
<b>Doug McCormick</b>		
<b>Cathy Barfai</b>	Weyerhaeuser	
	Facilitator	
<b>Pam Dowding</b>	Recording Secretary	