

# Stillwater Timberlands Community Advisory Group

February 11<sup>th</sup> 2004

## Minutes

Westview Pizza

Attendance: refer to attached sheet

Quorum noted

6:12pm: Meeting called to order

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Introductions were made – guests Greg Hemphill, District Manager – Sunshine Coast Forest Service and Alan Parsons - Alpine Club, were introduced to the group by the vice-chair. Members introduced themselves and gave brief outlines about the sector they represented

### **Acceptance of Agenda**

Agenda was reviewed and accepted.

### **Review of Minutes**

Minutes of January 28th were reviewed and accepted.

### **Training manual**

Member asked whether a copy of the Foresters' training manual was available for the group. It was noted that it could be a useful tool to help members understand more.

**ACTION-** Copy of Foresters' training manual to be obtained for CAG use.

## **Correspondence**

No incoming correspondence.

Members discussed invitation to First Nations person who has worked with other Community Advisory Groups and has a broad perspective on issues of concern. Members agreed to re-word the invitation and send out by e-mail for members' comments.

## **Review of Action List**

Action list from January 28<sup>th</sup> was reviewed. It was noted that some items were completed and some are still ongoing.

## **Harvesting Plans for HB-171**

As per request, harvesting plans for HB-171 (Haywire Bay) were provided.

## **Applications for Licenses of Occupation**

As per request, Rod provided information on applications that have been made to date.

Terracentric Coastal Adventures Ltd.– Lund – Sea Kayaking etc.

(Christine Hollmann will arrive later to explain application and answer questions)

Natural West Coast Adventures - application for 4.7 hectares for campsite

Youth Life – Malibu Princess Louisa – not for Block 1

Ryan Foster – Princess Louisa –Pemberton area

One other application is asking for Section 102 status for Eldred River area campsites and trails.

Copies of applications were available for members to view.

Questions regarding applications –

*Question* – What standards will there be if someone wants to build sheds for storage etc?

*Answer* – Standards already exist, Land and Water BC would evaluate and make decisions. Idea is to create some commercial recreation opportunities and diversification.

Facilitator noted that Malcolm Leong from Land and Water BC would be available at another date (next meeting) to answer more questions.

*Question* – What is the referral process? Is Weyerhaeuser a direct referral?

*Answer* – Proposals are referred to other government departments. Licensees are consulted for input.

*Question* – Is there a permit to use the backwoods at the commercial level?

*Answer* – Legislation has been in place since 1998, but was unregulated in the past and not enforced because of staffing levels. Businesses had to pay a permit fee – rates have gone up this year. Not known whether all groups using the backcountry have been paying. Charge for making an application is \$267.50.

It was suggested that groups that are making applications should communicate with each other.

### **Safety procedures**

Facilitator informed guests and members of fire exits, first aid stations and attendants in the building.

### **Windsor Lake area logging plans**

#### **– Greg Hemphill**

Members discussed and asked questions about the plans for harvesting in the Windsor Lake area. Plans for heli-logging had been discussed with CAG and submitted, but Ministry asked for another plan using conventional methods, which means a road would have to be built around the other side of Windsor Lake.

Greg noted that the Ministry of Forests makes the determination on methods of harvesting for appraisal purposes, and that rules are made for the financial interest of the forest. It was noted that the submission for heli-logging the area would mean a difference of \$300,000 - \$400,000 in revenue for the government.

Licensees are expected to use the least cost alternative methods. It was noted that there are provisions in the legislation to allow building of a road through an OGMA and protected area. It was explained that the Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management agreed to adjust the boundaries of the recruitment OGMA (Second growth). Appraisal by the Ministry has been done. It was noted that Weyerhaeuser could still choose to heli-log, but higher stumpage rates would apply.

*Question* – Does Ministry take into account other values such as access, visual quality and the canoe route?

*Answer* – Roads provide access down the road for long term forest management.

*Question* – Will road be de-activated or permanent?

*Answer* – No plans to de-activate road, there won't be anything else happening there in the future.

*Comment* – CAG discussed this area at length and in this case were mostly all agreeable to heli-logging. Visual quality and the pristine area of the lake were important values and CAG did not want a road through an OGMA.

*Answer* – Ministry recognized that there were some issues in the area, but revenue implications were significant. Area is not critical old growth or wildlife habitat. Another decision maker was involved (Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management). It was noted that flexibility is needed in the TFL. Process was set out and the Ministry respects the fact that CAG recommended heli-logging in this case.

*Question* – Concerns are that roads may be gated and not open to the public.

*Answer* – Some reasons for gating would include safety issues and environmental reasons.

*Comment* – "Environmental" can be open to interpretation.

Agree

*Comment* – CAG's decision was not unanimous – some disagreed with heli-logging plans.

*Answer* – Policy is to make sure that the crown gets the most dollars.

Member suggested that the gating of roads could be referred to CAG.

Decisions on gating are up to Weyerhaeuser. Rod could bring gating notices to meetings and include with company updates.

Member noted that some members of the community (cabin owners) would like to see more gates to prevent vandalism.

Member noted that CAG came to consensus on heli-logging for several reasons, privacy for that section of the Canoe route, away from the road, visual quality, vehicle activity that could spoil the pristine environment.

Member noted that conventional logging will look the same in the long run, and that Windsor Lake already has a road two-thirds of the way around.

Doug noted that the company doesn't want to block the road, as they are responsible for re-forestation.

Member suggested that if the area is logged with a road built around the lake, the Ministry should explain in a letter to the public the reasons for that decision.

Facilitator noted that Doug and Rod would keep the group updated on plans for the Windsor Lake block.

### **Access management information to be included in harvesting plan SOP's**

As per request, Rod noted that information would be included in the next batch of SOP's that are made. Copy will be provided for CAG.

### **Invitation to Tom Holmes**

Members discussed invitation to Tom Holmes. Rod will invite to CAG meeting in the near future. Member noted that information on manufactured wood products would be of interest to the group.

### **20% Takeback - Bill 28 and Bill 45**

### **Timber re-allocation - Greg Hemphill**

Handout was provided showing the details of the 20% takeback that will affect Weyerhaeuser's operations on the coast. Total for TFL 39 will be 560,000 cubic meters. 82,000 cubic meters will be removed from Block 1, 147,000 from Blocks 2 and 5.

Handout outlining details of the Timber Reallocation Project was provided.

Legislation – Bill 28 – Forestry Revitalization Act 2003

Reallocation Objectives -

BC Timber Sales (BCTS) – half added to timber sold to BCTS

Half redistributed to First Nations and community tenures

Working targets – Pricing – First Nations – Small Tenures

Reallocation principals – 28 companies affected by the AAC takeback

Flexibility to match supply and demand tied to the AAC takeback from a grouping of licenses

Transition – AAC reallocation and area selection process will take place over three years

Licensees may continue logging at current AAC until reallocation or

Province may sell unused volume competitively

Project Implementation

**Phase 1** – License level AAC takeback targets for each affected company-2003- (will be finalized soon)

**Phase 2** – Area selections to match AAC reallocations – 2004

Complete majority of area selections in 2004, priority on completing the coast early in 2004

All pricing area selections; areas to support allocations to completed First Nations agreements: areas to support issuance of priority Small Tenures

**Phase 3** – Minister's orders completed – 2005

### Compensation

It was noted that there would be some funding available for compensation - \$200 million for companies and \$75 million for workers who are affected by the changes and takebacks.

*Question* – What amounts are targeted for small businesses?

*Answer* - New volume for small businesses – 1.2million cubic meters

New volume for First Nations - 3million cubic meters.

*Question* – Which companies are affected?

*Answer* – Five main companies are:

Weyerhaeuser

Canfor

Interfor

Timberwest

Doman

Small businesses are protected – the first 200,000 cubic meters is exempt.

*Question* – How will the new auction process work?

*Answer* – It will be based on market pricing, fair market value and people will bid on timber offered for sale.

*Question* – How much timber will be exportable?

*Answer* – No export permits planned – aim is to try to get into competitive log market and use timber for local market base

*Question* – What about a community based forest? Would it be mixed, second growth or old growth?

*Answer* – Community based forests would have access to similar profile as large companies

*Question* – Seven companies on the coast are involved in the takeback – five large and two small companies

*Answer* – On the coast, of the five large companies, not all are required to give up the same percentage, but it will be the same percentage provincially. In some areas where there are First Nations, there will need to be some flexibility and some tenures will be hit harder than others.

*Question* – Will this create an uneven impact on communities?

*Answer* – Yes but volume is going to the communities and there will be compensation for the large companies for lost harvesting rights.

*Question* – What about other funding?

*Answer* – There is \$75 million fund to help out communities when workforce is impacted.

*Question* –Is funding for workers or project – geared?

*Answer* – Not for projects, but for contractors and workers and communities that can't easily adjust.

It was noted that some contractors may surrender rights to cut if volume is impacted, and may try to sell.

Member noted that it seems like TFL's are getting smaller.

Greg explained that volumes are just being reallocated with First Nations and communities and small businesses getting a larger share. It was noted that the new Forest Revitalization Act will bring lots of changes leading to the streamlining and moving to a more market based economy. It will also provide an opportunity for new players and investors to purchase tenures.

*Question* –Could Weyerhaeuser put up large chunks for sale?

*Answer* – Theoretically they could but it would not be practical.

*Note* – Timberwest just sold off TFL-46 in South Island to G.S. Jones – a Fraser River company that is growing rapidly.

*Question* – When timber is allocated to First Nations, are they accountable to the same standards?

*Answer* – Yes, they will reach agreements and will contract out or do the harvesting themselves.

*Question* – With new small businesses, community forests and First Nations involvement will they go through community advisory groups and will they be certified?

*Answer* – They would probably like to be certified and CAG should be advised.

*Suggestion* - Maybe someone from the new BC Timber Sales could come to CAG meeting and give input.

**ACTION-** Invite someone from BC Timber Sales to CAG meeting.



It was noted that with the takeback certain geographic areas will be given out, and in the short term will still be part of the TFL. Contractors will be logging for the next three years, but the government wants to get things moving fairly quickly.

*Question* – Will this community be impacted right away?

*Answer* – It should be ok for now, 2004, after that 2005 could be a "soft" period.

*Question* – What does impact mean for CAG?

*Answer* – CAG may want to work with other groups that come in.

*Question* – Will Landscape unit planning stay in place?

*Answer* – It's good that it has already been done for this area.

*Question* – What about the FSP that was designed for all of Block 1?

*Answer* – It will still be in place – volume will be reduced by about 15% in Block 1 but the AAC has just gone up by 15% - that is good news for the Sunshine Coast. Impacts will be greater in other areas.

Doug noted that Weyerhaeuser is ahead with the new Forest Range Practices Act.

Zoning around stewardship zones is safe – 100% of those areas are done, OGMA's are done, Goat habitats are done, some visual quality objectives are done. However, Canoe route and lake buffers could change but the likelihood of lake buffers at risk is small. Impact on recreational facilities inside the TFL is small – they will still be there.

*Question* – What about buffering on the Sunshine Coast Trail? Isn't that entrenched in the Stillwater Pilot project regulation?

*Answer* – If amendments are required it would require an order in council, the administration process would be horrendous.

*Question* – Would any changes require public consultation?

*Answer* – Yes, if any changes were proposed, CAG would be consulted.

**Break 8:00pm – 8:10pm**

*Question* – Will Block 5 be gone from the TFL?

*Answer* – Some parts will be gone (taken back) – Company will have to look at options when process is complete. Note – Blocks 2 and 5 are grouped together under the Campbell River area.

*Question* – What about CAG's values and goals for employment – e.g. Dry land sort?

*Answer* – Sort is independent and will sort logs from other sources as well as Weyerhaeuser operations.

*Comment* from member – Seems like a good idea to redistribute volume and create more opportunities for small businesses, communities and First Nations.

**BC Timber Sales** – Greg noted that this is a new arm of the Ministry and they have to sell timber at the best price. Previously the system that was in place did not work well and tended to not be reflective of market prices. Moving to a market pricing system will be more intensive on making a profit.

*Question* – Is there a penalty for companies for not meeting the AAC?

*Answer* – Yes, they could lose the AAC if not used over a five-year period.

*Question* – Over the last four years CAG has worked hard as a group and rules and regulations have been implemented. Some issues have been left for the company and group to "agree to disagree" (e.g. 1 meter green-up vs. 3-meter green-up). Now with the new rules and new contractors, what about restocking – will contractors re-plant to their own results? Areas may not grow as expected and Weyerhaeuser will no longer have the obligation to manage sustainable forest (in areas that are taken back)

*Answer* – There will be Ministry of Forests looking at results and responsibilities are with the licensee. Regeneration will be checked.

*Question* – Can company sell silviculture liabilities?

*Answer* – Will follow up on that question

**ACTION** – Can companies sell silviculture liabilities? – Follow up.

Doug noted that restocking standards are written in the FSP, and company is held accountable to reach those standards. Company has not used 1-meter green-up yet but wants to have the flexibility to do so, even though it is not standard practice. There have been no adverse results yet.

*Question* – Does the Ministry of Forests have the manpower to do the checking?

*Answer* – All the people who were reviewing plans will now be out checking results.

*Question* – For restocking, what are the policies concerning the seed stock to be used?

*Answer* – Policies for seed stock are to be reviewed. Ministry of Forests was a big player but now is passing on to large companies where professional foresters can look at seed stock and have input into research and development.

*Question* –What about the use of engineered seed, chemically modified seed such as Monsanto?

*Answer* – Historically seedlings have been regulated in BC. Engineered seed is already here in BC. If companies want to deviate, performance –wise those companies could be the losers. In 2005 regulations could change regarding seed stock. Greg noted that he could follow up with more information when available

It was noted that the Ministry of Forests is getting out of the business of seed orchards.

**ACTION** – More information to be made available regarding seed stock and seed nurseries.

Rod noted that the government wants industry to operate seed nurseries. Standards will still have to be upheld.

*Question* – There are some concerns regarding silviculture prescriptions with liability being sold to sub-contractors

*Answer* – More information on this item needed - Greg will check

**ACTION** – Information on sub-contracting out of silviculture prescriptions and liability issues.

*Question* –Who will oversee BC Timber Sales?

*Answer* – They have managers- some are from the existing forest service field team. Main office is in Campbell River, with a satellite field team here. Managers will do contract supervision.

It was noted that transition from the old Forest Practices code to the new Forest and Range Practices Act is going well. The Stillwater Pilot Project was closely looked at for the new act. Some parts go further than the FSP and some not as far.

## Training Programs

Good level of information available

Innovative opportunities

Results on the ground

Good framework

**Question – Looks like there will be less paperwork for companies with the new Forest and Range Practices Act but will there be less care for the environment?**

**Answer – There are differences but foresters will have to take on liabilities – e.g. slopes and terrain assessments – onus is on the companies to show due diligence in planning. Penalties have been strengthened. If anything goes wrong, company is liable.**

**Question – Is there the manpower for checks to be done?**

**Answer – Yes**

**Question – Where do they go further? What about 1meter vs.3-meter green-up?**

**Answer – FSP requirements still apply – plan is no less onerous. Higher level planning was done for OGMA's under the FSP and that will continue for at least five years. Green up allowed more (1.3 meters on 500 stems per hectare).**

**Question – Does new plan include CAG's requirement?**

**Answer – CAG is not a requirement but obligation is for public consultation and public review forums. Companies still have to advertise plans. Now most companies want certification.**

**Chair thanked Greg for the input, and information that will very helpful.**

**Terracentric Coastal Adventures Ltd.**

**Christine Hollmann**

**It was noted that two applications have been submitted to Land and Water BC for licenses of occupation for the above company. Application is in two parts**

Upland Use – Application for 11 areas of non-exclusive use- some in provincial parks and some on existing trails.

Sea Kayaking

**It was noted that advertisements have been placed in the newspaper, and a public meeting will be held on Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup>.**

**Concerns of the applicant include questions as to where the dollars generated from licenses goes. Revenue generated at present goes into general revenue- it would be beneficial if fund could be used to maintain parks and trails. Plans for the applicant include trips to the Eldred River Valley for rock-climbing.**

**Question – Temporary camps – what are they?**

**Answer – Some small areas that would be used to set up camp – maybe a picnic table etc. All supplies would be hauled in and out.**

**Comment – Guest noted that a lot of volunteer hours have been put into the trail systems and cabin building. Guest noted that there are areas that could become too crowded if too many groups travel up to the Knuckleheads area. Conflicts could arise where facilities are small. It was noted that the Alpine Club would ask that the area of the climbers' camp be removed from the application. Cabins are for emergency use only and there is not enough room for public and commercial use. It was suggested that maybe commercial groups could construct their own cabin.**

**Answer – Use of the cabin is only requested for mid-week use, day use only with no overnights stays. Maybe there could be a reservation system set up.**

**Greg noted that there are some wide-open spaces and commercial entrepreneurs should not be penalized. Companies and others should try to work together to make things work. It was noted that there is a proposal for a Canoe Race on the Canoe Route for one weekend in August – no problems are foreseen for this event.**

**Christine recognized the value of volunteerism in the community, and noted that her groups would also try to clean up the trails when necessary.**

and that the company would like to put some money towards the maintenance done by PRPAWS and BOMB squad volunteers.

Member noted that the Alpine Club is opposed to the government inviting private use of the public huts. Reservation system has been tried but was dropped. The potential for abuse is great; vandalism in the community is a huge problem at campsites (Dodd Lake etc).

Christine noted that the opportunity for youths to be educated exists with a guided educational trip, they can be made aware of responsibilities and would make sure clean up was done.

It was noted that groups could plan ahead for kayaking trips by checking with local operators and the visitor's bureau. Joint use agreements mean that recreation groups need to communicate with each other.

Chair noted that there has been a huge amount of work done on the trails and picnic sites by volunteers. It was noted that tourism should be encouraged and it is good to see local entrepreneurs go out and get the opportunities that are available. Serious concerns were noted regarding the funds that the government generates – funds should be funneled back to area volunteers in the community to maintain facilities. Also concerns regarding the over-use Knuckleheads Cabin are an issue. Chair wished the applicant (Christine Hollmann – Terracentric Coastal Adventures Ltd) Good Luck with the application.

Facilitator noted that Malcolm Leong from Land and Water BC would attend a CAG meeting in the near future to answer further questions.

#### Indicators Review

Members were provided with draft of indicators for 2004. Final review to be done next meeting.

#### New Members Package

Facilitator noted that a new members package is being put together. Any suggestions for content should be e-mailed.

#### Old Growth Sub-committee

It was noted that the first meeting for the old growth sub-committee had taken place. Minutes were provided. Discussion will take next meeting.

## Millennium Park Update

Member noted that there are only three weeks to the deadline of February 29<sup>th</sup>. Donations from the public are being accepted at the Powell River Credit Union.

## Company Updates – Rod Tysdal

### Conference

Rod noted that he has been invited and plans to attend a conference in Prince George February 17-19, 2004. Conference will be held at the University of Northern British Columbia for Communities and Natural Resources in Transition.

It was noted that CAG's website was monitored and invitation to participate was sent partly because of the (excellent) website.

### Forestry Education

Rod reported that a second group of students from Brooks School had attended the office and field trip outing on Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>.

### Pesticide Regulations – Draft copies available

New draft regulations are available by e-mail. Hard copies available on request.

### FIA Funding

Funding for this year will be down by 15%-40%.

Work to be done includes suspension bridge – some big issues

Alpine Club has applied for Section 102 status and proposed partnership.

Slides near the Eldred River - \$\$ needed to rehabilitate

Canoe route - \$\$ needed

This year's budget will be in the region of \$60,000.

## Operational Information Map

Doug McCormick

**Operational information map was posted and handout was provided.  
Current activities and new items on the map were shown.**

**New Blocks - HB-174, SBEP - Theodosia**

**New Roads - HB-174, SBEP - Theodosia**

**New Salvage areas – Head of Powell Lake, Goat Island and March Lake**

**No new cutting permits were approved.**

**It was noted that engineering crews would be returning to work at the office  
next week.**

**Meeting adjourned 9:15pm**

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**Stillwater Timberlands Advisory Group**

**Feb 11<sup>th</sup> 2004**

**Attendance**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Member Seat</b>
<b><u>PRESENT</u></b>		
<b>Ken Jackson - Vice-Chair</b>	Primary	Recreation
<b>Eagle Walz Chair (late arrival)</b>	Primary	Recreation
<b>Jane Cameron</b>	Primary	Member at large
<b>Michael Conway-Brown</b>	Primary	Environment/ Access
<b>Patrick Brabazon (late arrival)</b>	Primary	Local Govt (Regional)



<b>Nancy Hollmann</b>	Primary	Environment		
Christine Hollmann (late arrival)	Alternate	Environment		
<b>Joanne Cameron-Nordell</b>	Primary	Local Business		
George Ferreira	Alternate	Local Business		
<b>Jack McClinchey</b>	Primary	Motorized Recreation		
Lorne Marr	Alternate	Recreation		
<b>Debby Waslewski</b>	Primary	Citizens		
<b>Paul Goodwin</b>	Primary	Forest Dependent		
Kevin McKamey Alternate Contractor				
<b>11 seats represented</b>				
<b>ABSENT</b>				
<b>John Passek</b>	Alternate	Motorized Recreation		Local Govt (Municipal)
Paul Holbrook	Alternate	Forest Dependent		
<b>Russell Storry</b>	Primary	Local Govt (Municipal)		
<b>Andrew Pinch</b>	Primary	Tourism		
Dave Rees	Alternate	Tourism		
<b>Rory Maitland</b>	Primary	Contractors		
<b>Kathleen O'Neil</b>	Primary	Education		
Dianne Mason	Alternate	Education		
<b>Sonny Rioux</b>	Primary	IWA		
David Gabelhouse	Alternate	Local Govt. Municipal		
Bill Maitland	Alternate	Forest Dependent		
Terry Peters	Alternate	Citizens		

<b>Resource – others Present</b>		
Rod Tysdal	Stillwater	Weyerhaeuser
Doug McCormick	Stillwater	Weyerhaeuser
Greg Hemphill	District Manager	Ministry of Forests
Guest	Alan Parsons	Alpine Club
Cathy Bartfai	Facilitator	
Pam Dowding	Secretary	