

# **Stillwater Timberlands Community Advisory Group**

**May 12, 2004**

## **Minutes**

**Brooks School**

Attendance: refer to attached sheet

6:15pm: Meeting called to order

Quorum noted

### **Welcome**

Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed guests Ken Matthews, Timber Sales Manager and Greg Cawston, Certification Officer from BC Timber Sales and Martin Phillips, teacher from Brooks Senior Secondary School, standing in for Tony Smith, Education seat.

### **Review of Minutes**

Minutes from April 28<sup>th</sup> were reviewed and accepted. No amendments.

### **Acceptance of Agenda**

Agenda was adopted as amended.

### **Correspondence**

No correspondence.

### **Review of Action List**

Review of Action List was postponed until next meeting.

## Company Updates

Relationships between Weyerhaeuser and Sliammon are improving.

*Question* from member – What about the news that 1.2 million cubic metres of raw logs are going to be exported from BC to China and Japan?

*Answer* – Doug noted that Stillwater is reporting what's exported from this area at under 10%.

**ACTION - Doug will find out more about exports to China and Japan and report back to CAG.**

### Forestry Tour

**Member reported that the forestry tour that took place on May 8<sup>th</sup> was a great success and complimented Weyerhaeuser on a superb job. Sixty-two people participated in the tour altogether and five CAG members were present. It was noted that the public relations material provided was excellent. Member noted that the heli-logging at Goat Island was very interesting. Member noted that there were some concerns regarding 1-metre vs. 3-metre green-up and that the area adjacent to the new harvesting block looked rather raw and not greened up. The steeper the slope the higher the green up has to be to provide good visual quality.**

**Doug noted that similar tours from Japan and Germany have been organized by the local forest service in the past and they have been very successful. The Canadian Government paid for those tours.**

### Operational Information Map

**Map was shown and handout-showing updates was provided.**

#### Current Activities –

**Harvesting– ST-267, LL-056, GI-100, HE-517, HE-519, TM-182, ST-290 and ST-144.**

**Road Construction – UL-801, WL-910, WL-912, TM-230, ST-253 and PD-201**

**Engineering – New ST-260, NA-916 and WL-005 (Windsor Lake) (heli-drop at Goat Lake)**

**New on the map – New block WL-005, New road WL-909**

Question – What are the plans for recreation picnic area on the west side of Windsor Lake now that road is being built instead of heli-logging?

Answer – It is in the plan when funds are available. Not sure of location yet but Georgia Coombs is looking at site.

Doug asked about the road at Windsor Lake – should it be deactivated or left open. (Company would prefer to keep open for 7 – 8 years). This item should be discussed and decided upon by CAG.

ACTION – Road at Windsor Lake – to be discussed by CAG at a later date.

#### Sunshine Coast Trail impacted by logging

Member reported that there is a section of the Sunshine Coast Trail that has been impacted by logging. Area near Mowat Bay – there is a vertical drop of about 10 feet-caused by blasting. Dangerous situation has been created. Member noted that the indicator calls for consultation and establishment of a reroute prior to impacting the SCT. This did not occur and has resulted in an unsafe condition of the trail. Remedial action would need a load of dirt or stairs to get down, or some other speedy resolution.

ACTION – Doug will look into dangerous situation at Mowat Bay where Sunshine Coast Trail has been impacted by logging.

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#### Windsor Lake block WL-909

Question – Will boundaries be moved for logging through OGMA?

Answer – Paul Kutz will provide updates when details become available

ACTION- Updates on WL-909 to be provided when available

#### Nanton Lake Access

Member asked whether there were any plans to widen the road at Nanton Lake.

It was noted that there are no plans yet, and agreed that it is difficult to turn around at that site.

Ken Matthews, BC Timber Sales Manager

Greg Cawston, Certification Technician

## Presentation

**Ken noted that Kerry Davies, Area Forester for the Powell River Field Team was unable to attend this meeting due to unforeseen circumstances.**

**Members were provided with two handouts that outlined details of the new BC Timbers Sales (a division of the Ministry of Forests). Items of importance were explained to members.**

## Strategic Goals

*To provide a credible reference point for costs and pricing of timber harvested from the public land in BC.*

*To optimize net revenue to the province, within the parameters dictated by our benchmarking mandate and sound forest management practices.*

*To provide opportunities for customers to purchase timber in an open and competitive market*

**It was noted that BC Timber sales will be responsible for all levels of planning for the 20% takeback areas that will be allocated to small business, First Nations and Community tenures.**

## Organization

**Organization chart was shown for the Strait of Georgia area that includes Field Services, BC Timber Sales and Fire management. How BCTS is organized provincially and locally was shown. Locally there are three divisions – Port Alberni, Powell River and Campbell River.**

## Responsibilities

**BC Timber Sales will monitor activities and any certification systems that are in place. FSP plans will be the responsibility of BCTS. Engineered blocks will be sold and reforestation and post harvest treatments will be BC TS' responsibility.**

**Chart showed functions of all field teams -:**

Timber Sales Layout

On-the-ground activities

Appraisals

Engineering - Roads and Bridges

Timber sale Administration

Silviculture Contracts

### **Organizational Structure - Map**

**Map showing the new Timber Sales offices. Booklet provided contains addresses and phone numbers of all offices.**

### **Timber Re-allocation Volumes (Bill 28)**

**Summary of timber re-allocation volumes from April 1 2003 to March 31 2004 was provided. It was noted that the Powell River area had a lower volume than the others:**

Campbell River - 325,000 cubic metres

Port Alberni - 325,000

Powell River - 75,000

### **Stillwater Timberlands – Block 1**

**Doug noted that CAG was aware of the 20% takeback. It was noted that the company would like the 20% to be land based (not scattered). It was noted that re-allocation timetable should be done by the end of July. Process was begun in February. Ministry of Forests is going through the block and looking at the profile.**

**Question – What about the capacity for community forests? Companies have trained foresters to manage but municipalities do not have the staff.**

**Answer – This is a difficult problem for Government. Government does not want timber to sit idle and wants people working. Also, some First Nations are not willing to negotiate at this time.**

**Question – What about Block 5 – Phillips Arm?**

**Answer – It could be selected, Weyerhaeuser has submitted ideas. Process has to be worked through.**

**Question – Allocation to First Nations and community forests would be subject to the same market – based system and stumpage?**

**Answer – Yes, they would pay the same stumpage.**

**Question – Small business accounts for 10% of takeback?**

**Answer – Only about 7% on the Coast – but higher in the interior. We have not achieved 20% on the South Coast, but only approximately 18%. There is a huge First Nation's demand on the Coast.**

**Question – What percentage of total annual harvest is at auction?**

**Answer – We are aiming at 20% for a fair and representative comparison.**

**Question – Weyerhaeuser now has 100% variable retention (VR) in their cutblocks, what about small business lots – are you committing to VR in these blocks?**

**Answer – BCTS has control and they can say what percentage of blocks will be VR (not 100%). It could be a problem when dealing with independent licensees.**

**Question – What is the position of BCTS on certification?**

**Answer – Small companies will find it difficult to get certification. The Sunshine Coast Forest District is certified under EMS, and will re-certify under ISO. They will go to the next level of certification as Vanderhoof and Fort St. John have done. BCTS is working with a public advisory group in those areas. A huge portion of the takeback is coming from TFL44. BCTS works with three TSA's and eight blocks.**

**Question – Will contractors that are building roads etc. be local or will work be open to others?**

**Answer – No guarantees that they will be local. The size of the contracts and efficiencies are to be considered. BCTS is obligated to advertise contracts widely to be viable and to get the best price. Engineering of bridges, layout of roads, pest control and silviculture would all be contracted out. There is no protection for where they (contractors) come from.**

Question – When all is settled for First Nations and Community Forests, they may not want to take out the timber right away - would it be an incentive to others to take out trees for export?

Answer – Difficult question to answer. Timber has to go through the advertising process locally and then (if not sold) may be exported.

Question – Will there be "bonus" bids?

Answer – In order to bid on a timber sale, they have to cruise site and stumpage is set at an upset rate. \$'s could be added to bid.

Doug noted that Sliammon received 50,000 cubic meters of AAC under the AIP. A portion of this cut (22,000 m<sup>3</sup>) will come from the 5% government take-back for the tenure transfer from MacMillan Bloedel to Weyerhaeuser. The Minister of Forests has invited Sliammon to apply for a 5-year non-replaceable tenure that would come from the 5% take-back from Block 1. We do not know whether Sliammon has or will take the Minister up on his offer. When Weyerhaeuser was initially notified of the 5% take-back, the Minister indicated that it would be an area-based removal from the TFL. We have recently been informed that the minister has changed his mind and that the takeback will be volume based, at least for the next 5 years. This does not stop Weyerhaeuser and Sliammon from agreeing on a specific area from which the volume would be allocated.

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Sliammon is still due 38,000 cubic meters AAC under the AIP. A portion, all, or none of this remaining volume may come from Block 1 under the 20% take-back.

Question – Takeback may or may not be a piece of the TFL, could it be taken from some other place? From TSA's maybe?

Answer – Decision not made yet – Most would probably say take a piece off the TFL. All operations could put stewardship plan in place.

Question – Concerns regarding fibre supply for local sawmill. At present fibre supply comes from local Weyerhaeuser and Western Forest products. If Weyerhaeuser gives up 20% of local volume – local wood supply for mill could disappear. Would category #2 grow to the same proportion with BCTS?

Answer – Can't comment on category #2 until entire 1.6 million sales is reached. There will be no additional protection

**Question – Non-replaceable license was given to Sliammon - what does this mean?**

**Answer – Under the AIP 50,000 cubic metres was awarded – it could be from Weyerhaeuser, they were told it would be from Block 1 – area based.**

**Negotiations are now for a non-replaceable (non-renewable) five-year license to harvest 5% volume based within the TFL. We don't know where the 5% is coming from yet. Ministry has invited Sliammon to discussions.**

**Question – Where sales are put up – is BCTS aware of trails, canoe route etc? May be someone from the BCTS office could sit in on CAG meetings to find out more about recreational sites and important areas?**

**Answer – Kerry Davis from the Powell River office is familiar with the area. First Nation is picking blocks off (22,00 cubic metres). BCTS could arrange for representative to come to CAG for recreational values. Port Alberni has good groups that have been consulted.**

**Question - When BCTS has engineered and laid out the blocks, would contractors know about special recreation areas?**

**Answer – Planning department knows about trails and protected areas, and are obliged to follow EMS rules. Greg Hemphill conducts inspections of blocks, and FSP's have to be submitted. BCTS is responsible for outcomes. Licensees have to post deposits.**

**Question – Will volume based tenders continue and be put up for bid?**

**Answer – There will be one-time opportunities for bids**

**Question – When stewards of the parcel are finished harvesting – what next?**

**Answer – Currently they are responsible up to free to grow then returned to the TFL.**

**Question – Oregon State has a statewide certification programme, what is the possibility of province-wide certification for BC?**

**Answer – Limited – by land base. By business for areas that BCTS manages, the possibility exists. Fort St. John TSA is certified by CSA.**

**Question – If you take block, cut and then give back to Weyerhaeuser, can they wait 60 years then cut again?**

**Answer – 75,000 of the AAC would be lost initially.**

**Question – What are the tolerances – if 5000 cubic metres are allocated, what happens if 11,000 cubic metres come out?**

**Answer – Block is cruised and volume could be more or less**

**Question – What happens if only 2000 is cut and then contractor walks away?**

**Answer – When licensee buys sale, 10% deposit is put up. Deposits are surrendered if land is untouched, and licensee could receive a bill for 10,000 cubic metres (waste bill). With market pricing, we can't have speculators.**

**Question – When 20% is carved off, what are the silviculture obligations and what about road de-activations?**

**Answer – Responsibility remains with company.**

**Question – How is the amount of cubic metres estimated – based on scale?**

**Answer – Amount estimated is based on cruise.**

**Question – Can timber be scaled here or at other places?**

**Answer – That will be the District Manager's decision. To avoid risk and fairness, it is better to have scaled here.**

**Question – What is the time frame for a sale?**

**Answer – Tenders are posted for three weeks. They are opened at the office in Campbell River; bids can get going in three weeks. Maximum terms are four years. Normally terms will be 1-2 years to prevent speculation. Ideally sales will be completed in one month and harvesting completed within one year.**

**Question – Who is eligible to buy timber at the auction?**

**Answer – Companies that are registered in BC.**

**Question – Are there any more specific details about the percentage of VR?**

**Answer – 60% non-clear cut but the goal for the Sunshine Coast district is much higher.**

**Question – What was formally VR could be changed to clear-cut?**

Answer - Engineered blocks from Weyerhaeuser will be bought. If working with group certification, we could look at a number of reasons why not 100%. Chilliwack achieved 100% VR with a lot of small scales.

Ken thanked members for the invitation and offered to come back again after decisions are made in July. He also noted that BCTS is interested in maintaining some level of certification.

Members agreed that another meeting would be beneficial when details are less obscure. Chair thanked Ken and Greg for attending and extended a further invitation.

Break 8:16 – 8:26pm

### Review of Indicators for SFMP

Copy of the new SFMP for 2004 was provided. Members reviewed indicators; data provided was explained and discussed. Indicators that were reviewed were:

*Indicator #1 – Age class distribution summary, by landscape Unit and by BEC variant* Acceptable variance – An old growth deficit exists in some landscape units, as illustrated in the 2001 forest inventory. No harvesting to be done in old growth zones. Some harvesting done in habitat zones – will be done at Dianne Lake.

Member noted that the answer to the groups' question about old growth was contained in the data on page 80 (13,673.4 cubic metres).

*Indicator #4 – Percent of total S1, S2 and S3 stream length with adjacent buffer >40 years.*

Data for 2003 showed 57% compared to 53% in 2002.

More information is required to complete reporting on this indicator.

*Indicator #7 – Number of locally identified red and blue listed species in the DFA and the number of effective habitat management programs.*

Latest information available for 2003 shows 3-red and 15-blue listed species. Information is obtained from website.

### SFMP for 2004 – 2005

Doug suggested that the new plan could be in effect for two years instead of one.

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

100 % of seed used in reforestation is registered or certified. Members will discuss GM seeds at a later date

Indicator #22 – Equivalent years of "Areas Awaiting Reforestation"

2003 data shows 1.3 years for 813 hectares of AAR.

Indicator #24 – Hectares of logging adjacent to 1-metre green-up. Notification of 2-metre green-up to CAG when it is planned.

2003 data shows 0%, 2002 also 0%

Member asked whether Northwest Hardwoods is included in the data provided.

Yes, if it is included if it falls within the TFL.

Facilitator will research further information regarding Indicator #24 and report back to CAG.

ACTION - Facilitator will research further information regarding Indicator #24 and report back to CAG.

#### Water Quality Testing

Doug noted that water testing on Powell Lake will be done soon and that Weyerhaeuser will be billed for the initial testing.

Indicator #45 – Compliance with Local Fibre Sale Agreement Policy, Volume sold by species and grade to local entrepreneurs, Documented written complaints

Member asked how the 20,000 cubic metres that are made available are measured. Member also asked whether the low amount of 1,379 cubic metres sold locally reported for 2003 included timber from Block 5.

Doug noted that the amount did not include block 5. Members asked for Block 5 to be included in the report.

Doug noted that there was no record of any written complaints in 2003, although there were some verbal complaints.

Indicator #47 – Develop a strategy to ensure old growth timber is available to local small business in perpetuity.

**Objective - In 2004, explore possible ways to achieve this indicator.**

**Members noted that more meetings of the sub-committee are needed to discussion the old growth strategy.**

**Indicator Review sub-committee meeting**

**Members agreed that more time was required to review the remaining indicators. Members agreed to meet at the Weyerhaeuser office on Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 – 6:00pm. Reminder will be sent by e-mail.**

**Other Business**

**Emma Lake Trail Clean up**

**Member noted that a clean up of the Emma Lake trail was planned for the coming weekend. All volunteers welcome.**

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**New member**

**New alternate member for recreation seat (Fran Ferguson) will be welcomed to the next meeting.**

**Member's Resignation**

**It was noted that a letter of resignation had been received at the Weyerhaeuser office from alternate member for municipal government.**

**Meeting adjourned 9:25pm**

**Stillwater Timberlands Advisory Group**

**May 12th 2004**

**Attendance**

**CAG Members**

Present

**Ken Jackson - Vice-Chair      Primary                      Recreation**

<b>Eagle Walz Chair</b>	Primary	Recreation
<b>Jane Cameron</b>	Primary	Member at large
<b>Debby Waslewski</b>	Primary	Citizens
<b>Kevin McKamey</b>	Alternate	Contractor
<b>Joanne Cameron-Nordell</b>	Primary	Local Business
<b>Jeff Mah</b>	Alternate	Local Govt -
<b>Martin Phillips (Tony Smith)</b>	Primary	Municipal
<b>Paul Goodwin</b>	Primary	Education
<b>Patrick Brabazon</b>	Primary	Forest Dependent
<b><u>CAG Members</u></b>		Local Govt.-
Absent	Alternate	Regional
<b>Dave Rees</b>	Primary	Tourism
<b>Nancy Hollmann</b>	Primary	Environment
<b>Michael Conway-Brown</b>	Primary	Environment
		Environment/Access
<b>George Ferreira</b>	Alternate	Local Business
<b>Jack McClinchey</b>	Primary	Motorized Recreation
<b>Lorne Marr</b>	Alternate	Recreation
<b>John Passek</b>	Alternate	Motorized Recreation
<b>Russell Storry</b>	Primary	Local Govt -
<b>Les Falk</b>	Alternate	Municipal
		Local Govt –
		Regional
<b>Christine Hollmann</b>	Alternate	Environment

10 seats represented

**Guests**

**Ken Matthews**

BC Timber Sales  
Manager

**Greg Cawston**

Certification Officer

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**Others**

**Doug McCormick**

Weyerhaeuser

**Paul Kutz**

Weyerhaeuser

**Cathy Barfai**

Facilitator

**Pam Dowding**

Recording Secretary