

Stillwater Timberlands Community Advisory Group

September 15th 2004

Minutes

Westview Pizza

Attendance: refer to attached sheet

Quorum noted

6:06pm: Meeting called to order

Welcome

Vice-Chair opened the meeting and welcomed members and guests.

.

Introductions

Guests Andy Davis and Steve Chaplin were introduced. Members introduced themselves and noted the sectors they represented.

Review and Acceptance of Agenda

Agenda was reviewed and accepted with changes to times and additions.

Safety Review

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

Review of Minutes of June 23rd

Minutes from June 23rd were reviewed and accepted. No

amendments.

Review of Minutes of July 1st – (Old Growth sub-committee meeting)

Minutes were reviewed and accepted.

Old Growth report

Member noted that there are ongoing actions arising from the minutes and more information is needed about species, grades and quantities needed for local business. Doug noted that the concept of value added businesses looking for and cutting their own logs was feasible, but noted that they would have to take the whole tree. Member noted that this decision to allow customers to find the old growth was a huge step forward from three years ago when the idea was discussed.

Member noted that local timber frame company still has to buy wood from the US. The specialty-milled timber that is required is not available locally.

ACTION - Facilitator will call member who is looking into old growth requirements of small businesses.

Correspondence

Suggested letter to be sent to Sliammon new Chief and Council – invitation to attend CAG meeting. **ACTION**

Information from Michel deBellefeuille on "Background on Conditions of Private Land Removal"

Operational Information Maps

Handouts for July, August and September were provided.

July – Harvesting, Road Construction, Engineering and New Blocks were shown.

New on the map – ST-208.

Aug - New on the map – GL-019 and LL-009B

Not a lot of activity this month because of weather conditions (dry)

September - Harvesting, Road Construction, Engineering and New Blocks HB-173, St-260. St-262, OL-748 and OL-748P were shown.

New Road at ST-262

Cutting permit approved – ST-013

Salvage Area – Dianne Lake and Head of Goat Lake

It was noted that the bridge to the Eldred valley will be pulled out for the winter. Photos of the trails in Dianne Valley were shown.

Question - Member asked about the hemlock-looper problem in LL-011, is anything being done?

Answer - Ministry of Forests will be looking this at with Paul Kutz.

Doug noted that there are some bark beetles in fir, but are in small patches of less than one-hectare; they are visible from the air – trees turn orange. No spraying will be used – they will be cut.

Question - Member asked whether the wood with bark beetle is useable.

Answer – It is useable for domestic purposes, but cannot be exported.

Phillips Arm Map Update

It was noted that harvesting in PH-2 has been in progress since June and will be done until mid-November. Projected volume for this year is 80,000 cubic metres. Doug noted that he would bring plans for next year to next meeting. Since there was a possibility that Phillips Arm was part of the 20% take back, no engineering was done as it was thought it may have gone to small business.

Question – Member asked what engineering involved

Answer – Survey of the block, hanging of ribbons, and deciding which trees to cut. Cutting permit is then applied for and CAG is informed with monthly updates on information map. The time to comment is when the engineering is being done.

Question – Does private land within the TFL show on the map?

Answer – Yes

Question – Replanting is required on crown land

Answer – Yes there is a strict stocking requirement

Question – What is the timeframe for replanting?

Answer – 8-10 years to reach free growing stand – Can be put off for two years, to plant early is better. In ST-311 – Timber zone was planted quickly; second growth stand (habitat zone) will be assessed and planted if necessary. Hemlock comes back naturally but we don't get cedar and fir, they would be the species that are re-planted.

Terms of Reference review

Copies of revised Terms of Reference were provided. Members reviewed changes and additions. New position for second vice chair was discussed. This item has been added to the Terms of Reference. Member will arrange nominations and election for next meeting for second vice chair position. Revised Terms of Reference were adopted by consensus.

Third party relationships were discussed. Members reviewed and discussed terms and requirements for third party relationships. Member asked for more time to evaluate document. Member noted that other advisory groups in other areas had been asked to get involved with other companies and some operated as advisors for joint companies. It was noted that costs could be shared with Weyerhaeuser if there was another interested party.

Observer to Attend CAG meeting

Facilitator noted that Brian Smart of Sechelt and some members of council from Sechelt would like to attend a CAG meeting to ask questions and learn how the group works. No objections to request. Invitation will be extended to interested parties.

Access

D- Branch slide – fixed

Main line slide – FIA funding was turned down – geo-tech report has been done. Decision will be made soon - no environmental concerns

Broken stringer on bridge just past D-branch. Cost estimate \$200,000 to fix – won't be fixed unless forced to do so

Whiskey 2 crossing Dianne Valley, large trees in gulley – avalanche slide paths concerns – logs on embankment

Member would like to see bridge left in –Dianne Valley – geo-tech report recommends that they be taken out every year – based on professional geoscientists report.

Member requested copy of above report regarding bridge removal – Doug noted that it would be available at Weyerhaeuser office.

ACTION – Geotech report regarding bridge removal be made available for member

Access Management Plan – auditors recommended that members clarify Access Management Plan – issue of brushing to be defined.

ACTION – Members to revisit Access Management Plan as per as auditors report.

Member asked about Mt Mahoney old road down to Haslam Lake – no Weyerhaeuser logging operations there – small Business block

Members asked whether roads are saved after logging is complete Doug noted that they are not required to save roads

Break – 8:35 – 8:47pm

BC Timber Sales

Member provided map and information on BC Timber Sale small business blocks in the local area. Two cutblocks at Finn Bay and eight blocks on the Malaspina Peninsula (24 hectares total) and six blocks in the Stillwater –Hamil- Beaver Lake area were shown. Harvesting will be done with retention. More information can be obtained from BCTS field office in Campbell River (Rob Martin).

Company Updates

2,500 hectares of productive land have been reallocated from Weyerhaeuser’s tenure on TFL39 Block 1

Handout was provided for information regarding conditions that apply to the removal of Weyerhaeuser’s private lands.

"Background on Conditions of Removal"

- Future forest management - (VR will be maintained)
- Water Quality – Company will be part of Haslam Lang IWMP group
- Critical Wildlife Habitat Areas to be maintained for two years while long term plan is developed
- Certification – ISO and CSA certifications will be maintained and CAG will be consulted regarding private lands as per CSA standards
- Access – Plans won't change. Canoe route will be maintained
- Log Exports – Voluntary moratorium, of log exports from private lands removed from TFL's until January 1, 2006.
- Research Installations – new memorandum of understanding between Weyerhaeuser and the Ministry regarding research installations located on the private lands

Question –What's in it for Weyerhaeuser?

Answer – Financially they could expect to be able to export logs after two years. Also riparian management zones may be looser.

Ministry of Water Land and Air Protection

New Riparian Regulations

Question Is the company happy with new regulations?

Answer – Regulations are still under review – volume of timber retained on crown land will be less.

Member noted that at first glance it looks like there is more protection – would there be no green-up requirements?

Question -What about requirements for private lands?

Answer - Company is committed to use CAG and still be certified.

Question – What if CAG's goals are higher than government regulations – will Weyerhaeuser comply with CAG's standards?

Answer – CAG had no input into Private Forest Land regulations, but CAG has some influence on what Weyerhaeuser does. Weyerhaeuser may elect to do minimum or more than minimum. If CAG came to Weyerhaeuser and asked for different standards it would be assumed that it would be for

better water quality etc. Under the code regulations were set up to manage water, riparian zones and to maintain some biodiversity. Weyerhaeuser is still committed to doing VR and agreed to leaving 10% in the timber zones but in fact retention patches are averaging 24%-26%. When laying out blocks under the old PLFA, CAG had some influence.

Comment - Maybe Weyerhaeuser would be interested in trading small private lots into one large block?

Question – How will new regs affect PMP and buffers?

Answer – It won't have any effect.

Question –Is private land subject to First Nation treaty negotiations?

Answer – Weyerhaeuser holds title only. Back east there was a case where they were trying to subdivide a large parcel that First Nations has laid a claim to.

Question – In future will operational information map show private lands?

Answer – Yes

Question - How are CAG's values and goals affected under the new riparian regulations?

Answer – Rules are different and company has the option to manage differently

Question – Can CAG have a copy of the new Private Land Act?

Answer – Yes, regulation can be provided.

ACTION – Copy of private forest land act (PFLA) to be provided for CAG.

Question – When sold – is it managed differently?

Answer – There were previously very tight rules. Sechelt properties are being sold and rules stay with the Forest land Reserve (New Name)

Question – Are the Chatham Creek watershed lands affected?

Answer – Not Weyerhaeuser's tenure.

Question – Is there any assertion of Aboriginal title on private lands?

Answer – Some private land is reverting to Crown land for tax purposes – First Nation are challenging a larger piece of (foreshore) land attached to private land.

If government takes out from Weyerhaeuser and puts into BCTS, then it could be opened up for First Nation small business

20% Take Back

Doug noted that an agreement has been reached between the government and Weyerhaeuser for 1.2 million hectares to be transferred to BC Timber Sales. In the Powell River area it looks like 13% as well as the original 5% will be carved off. Land will likely remain in the TFL for a year.

Question – Who does the silviculture to free to grow if carved off?

Answer – If BCTS they will be responsible. They would have to get their own FSP.

Question – How much compensation for Weyerhaeuser?

Answer – \$32,000,000.

Doug noted that the bulk of the 20% in the Stillwater area goes to BCTS, and the remainder to First Nation. If a community forest were granted, it would come from some other licensee, not Weyerhaeuser.

Boundaries for the carved off portion will be –

South and east from approximately 7km on Lois Mainline, along Lois main and the edge of Khartoum Lake, along the edge of the old Canfor TL to Hotham Sound.

Question – What about OGMA's?

Answer – They are not affected by this change and there will be no harvesting of OGMA's.

Member asked about ribbons in an OGMA site east of Saltery Bay.

Doug noted that they are not harvesting there – they are old ribbons.

Member noted that OGMA's can be made un-OGMA's as in the cutblock behind Windsor Lake, but Doug noted that Windsor Lake was a special case.

Question – Is the agreement a "done deal"?

Answer – Yes – but not signed yet.

Question – Was there any public input?

Answer – No public input, negotiations were between Weyerhaeuser, government and First Nations.

Question – With First Nations and possible community forest from other licensees, will new people operate under Weyerhaeuser's FSP and values that were agreed to with CAG?

Answer – Discussions are ongoing with the Forest Service, talking about what part they get - they will probably stay under Weyerhaeuser's FSP. It is possible that all licensees could be under the current FSP. It will be difficult to report data from others.

Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP)

Doug noted that BC Coastal Group is considering bringing all operations under one FSP. If successful, plan would end the Stillwater Pilot Project when new FSP is approved – Timeline could be June 2006. Original concept would be offered to BCTS so all could be under one FSP.

Comment – Chair noted that CAG's visions for the last four years have been for world class forestry operations in the area. It was noted that the Stillwater Pilot Project was used as a model for other plans. Not all other areas have such a healthy thriving forest. With one FSP for all, protection will be less and there will not be higher standards for all, more likely a "dumbing down" of the plan. If this is the case, CAG could express opposition to such a plan. Community has to speak up and let head office know their position.

Member noted that to combine each area seems to make a mockery of the community advisory groups. It would seem impossible to use only one group when each area is so unique.

Doug noted that there is a team of Weyerhaeuser people working in Nanaimo on the new concept - which is still at the initial discussion stage. A new FSP could be more streamlined and more simplified. New FSP would look different, zoning, trail buffers etc. would be noted and if rules were broken, company would be subject to fines. Stillwater still has the flexibility to stay on its own FSP.

Question – Isn't the Stillwater Pilot Project is entrenched in legislation?

Answer – Yes, but government has two months to get out.

Comment – When one "super CAG" was discussed, members felt strongly that it was not a good idea. Members feel that the Nanaimo office should consider all the work that has been done and honour all that has been accomplished.

Suggestion – Member suggested that Tom Holmes could answer some questions and also Bill Waugh could be invited to speak with the group. Member noted that CAG was a part of the process when the FSP was written, and wondered how a new FSP could be done without CAG?

Member noted that issues have to be addressed if group is to maintain autonomy. Questions-

If there is flexibility – can we keep the old FSP?

How much flexibility is there?

How much public trust?

How much decision-making is there in Powell River?

What's in it for this community?

How can CAG be involved?

Doug noted that one FSP may not be a bad thing, but discussions have only just begun. By December 2005 every company must have an FSP. There will be public consultation in every community. Regulations allow for one big plan.

Member suggested asking for a member of CAG to be part of the discussions in Nanaimo

Members agreed contact Tom Holmes, Bill Waugh and Michel deBellefeuille.

ACTION – Invitation to be sent to Bill Waugh in Nanaimo to come to CAG meeting- ask to be part of FSP discussions in Nanaimo

ACTION – Invite Tom Holmes to CAG earlier than November

Price fixing - Member noted that Weyerhaeuser was recently fined millions for price fixing in Oregon.

Company Updates

In the BC Coastal group, 18 – 20 foresters and engineers have been given lay-off notices. In the Stillwater office, 8 will be laid off. Some staff positions will be created. (less than 8 positions). Adjustments are required due to the 20% takeback.

Letter from MoF has been received regarding BT-632. Powell Lake Chippewa area. Looking at possible violation.

Harvesting is ahead of schedule for this year.

Community Forest

Member suggested another letter to the provincial government to show that CAG is still in support of a community forest.

ACTION – Letter to be sent to Provincial government regarding community forest.

-

First Nation – Sliammon - Invitation

Member noted that a verbal invitation has been extended to new Chief Walter Paul. Members agreed to send a written invitation.

ACTION – Letter to be sent to new Chief and council at Sliammon to attend CAG meeting.

BCTimber Sales Invitation

Member suggested that a second invitation to Ken Matthews and Greg Costin of BCTS to come back when areas are announced.

ACTION – Invitation to be sent inviting Ken Matthews and Greg Costin to CAG meeting.

Sliammon Lands

Doug noted that when Sliammon got some volume (according to the AIP), they were invited to apply for a non-renewable license to cut 22,000 cubic metres a year for 5 years. More volume (32,000 cubic metres) is now available as part of the 20% takeback. Weyerhaeuser is in discussions with Sliammon for the rest of the 32,000 cubic metres volume based land.

Meeting Schedule flexibility

Facilitator asked whether members would be open to another meeting night other than the scheduled time if it could be arranged with Tom Holmes. Members were in agreement.

Next meeting – Sept 29 2004 – 6:00pm

Meeting adjourned 9:20pm

Stillwater Timberlands Advisory Group

September 15th 2004

Attendance

Name	Position	Member Seat		
<u>PRESENT</u>				
Eagle Walz - Chair	Primary	Recreation (late arrival)		
Ken Jackson - Vice-Chair	Primary	Recreation		
Jane Cameron	Primary	Member at large		
Patrick Brabazon	Primary	Local Govt (Regional)		
Michael Conway-Brown	Primary	Environment/ Access		
Debby Waslewski	Primary	Citizens		
Paul Goodwin	Primary	Forest Dependent		
Jeff Mah	Primary	Local Govt (Municipal)		
Dave Rees	Alternate	Tourism		
Fran Ferguson	Alternate	Recreation		
Joanne Cameron-Nordell	Primary	Local Business (late arrival)		

Jack McClinchey	Primary	Motorized Recreation		
Nancy Hollmann	Primary	Environment		
Terry Peters	Alternate	Citizens		
12 seats represented ABSENT				
Lorne Marr	Alternate	Recreation		
George Ferreira	Alternate	Local Business		
John Passek	Alternate	Motorized Recreation		Local Govt (Municipal)
Bill Maitland	Alternate	Contractors		
Andrew Pinch	Primary	Tourism		
Dianne Mason	Alternate	Education		
Rory Maitland	Primary	Contractors		
Kevin McKamey Alternate Contractor				
Erika Hein	Primary	Youth		
Tony Smith	Primary	Education		
Resource – others PRESENT				
Doug McCormick	Stillwater	Weyerhaeuser		
Stephen Chaplin	Stillwater	Weyerhaeuser		
Cathy Bartfai	Facilitator			
Pam Dowding	Secretary			