

Stillwater Timberlands Community Advisory Group

September 29th 2004

Minutes

Westview Pizza

Attendance: refer to attached sheet

Quorum noted

6:06pm: Meeting called to order

Welcome

Chair opened the meeting and welcomed members and guests.

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Introductions

Guest Dan Waslewski was introduced. Members introduced themselves and noted the sectors they represented.

Review and Acceptance of Agenda

Agenda was reviewed and accepted with additions.

Safety Review

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

Recorded meetings

Facilitator pointed out to new members that CAG meetings are tape-recorded.

Review of Minutes of September 15th

Minutes from September 15th were reviewed and accepted with amendments.

Question – How can one tell what's private land on the map?

Answer – Private land is shown as areas of squares on the map, but they are not a different colour.

Correspondence

Copy of letter sent to Tom Holmes – invitation to CAG meeting. Facilitator noted that Tom Holmes has accepted and will attend on October 13th

Question - What is Tom's position?

Answer - Tom is Vice-President BC Coastal Timberlands

Craig Neeser is Vice –President – BC Coastal Mills

Copy of letter to Bill Waugh – Facilitator noted that Bill has confirmed that he will attend CAG meeting on October 27th

Chair noted that invitations were issued to Ray Balogh and Walt Cowlard to attend Oct 13th. Ray may be able to attend for part of the meeting.

Copy of letter of invitation to Ken Matthews, Manager of BC Timber Sales – No reply yet

Copy of letter of invitation to Chief Walter Paul – Sliammon.

No reply yet

Correspondence between facilitator and council member regarding Community Forest letter of support – CAG should wait until after October 25th –

Company Updates

Doug McCormick

Bill Waugh's role maybe changing due to restructuring at Weyerhaeuser's Nanaimo

office. Bill may not be the FSP person. All private land reporting in south and west Island has changed. Now South and West Island engineering and forestry report to Bill Waugh. Different reporting structures are being implemented – similar to the way business is done in the states. Private land for Stillwater reporting will remain in Powell River (only 2,500 hectares here). Same reporting for the Queen Charlottes.

Internal Audit – Michel deBellefeuille and two others are conducting an internal audit at the Stillwater office. Trips have been made to Phillips Arm, Stillwater and up Powell Lake. Audit is looking at facilities and environmental systems. A verbal report will be made on Friday (Oct 1)

BC Coastal – FSP Initiative meeting will be held in Nanaimo on Tuesday and Wednesday next week. Doug McCormick, Steve Chaplin and Neil Hughes will be attending.

MoF investigating visuals in blocks ST-104 and BT-62. Forest service is also investigating salvage harvesting in LL-162 and currently talking to contractors and Weyerhaeuser employees – a charge may be likely.

Stillwater will be putting out one or two blocks to competitive bids. Will advertise to anyone who wants to bid – the logs will belong to the harvester, and Weyerhaeuser would do the reforestation. Reasons? – To make the AAC, and to help determine a competitive rate for Bill 13 contractors.

Question – How big are the blocks?

Answer – Around 20,000 cubic metres – not more than 5% of AAC.

Question – What about the CSA, Forest Stewardship Plan and VR etc?

Answer – Weyerhaeuser still has the responsibility for CSA etc, but logs won't belong to Weyerhaeuser.

Question – Will there be a certain area that is offered?

Answer – Uncertain where it will be at this point

Question – Any plans for setting aside some Old growth fir?

Answer – Nothing is designated yet – baseline is still to be decided

ACTION – Doug will keep CAG updated when decisions are made regarding blocks that are put out for bid

Handout – RPF Newsletter "Forum"

A copy of publication of the Association of British Columbia Forest Professionals was provided.

– Topics included:

Variable retention - does looking good equal good forestry?

Variable retention in Coastal BC: expectations and challenges

Variable retention: the public response

Yield implications of variable retention harvesting

The science of variable retention

Company Update – Chair

It was brought to the attention of the group that the facilitator's hours were cut by Weyerhaeuser in the spring of 2004. Members noted that it would have been reasonable to consult with CAG on this matter. It was noted that hours of valuable research and review of documents are a necessary part of the facilitator's position. Member requested that any changes to the agreement for financing facilitator and secretarial services as stated in the Terms of Reference, should be brought forward to CAG in future. Member asked for some assurance that wage caps wouldn't affect CAG employees. Doug noted that he would consult with Ray Balogh on facilitator hours and wage cuts for CAG employees.

Access

Member for access absent for this meeting so item will be held over for another meeting. Facilitator noted that there are concerns about the time it takes to get actions regarding access completed.

Question – Member asked about notice in the newspaper regarding Southview Road bridge closure.

Answer – Bridge is in the Okeover/Theodosia area, access to the Sunshine Coast Trail will not be affected by closure

Review of Action List

Current action list from September 15th meeting – all items have been completed.

Ongoing action list items were reviewed and revised. Outstanding items will be completed soon.

Member suggested that a list could be compiled of things that Weyerhaeuser has done regarding access. It was noted that this list would help to re-enforce CAG and company relationship.

ACTION – List to be compiled of items that have been completed for access management

Member asked for some clarification regarding private lands from the TFL and managed forest units such as MFU 19 outside the TFL. It was noted that Lot 450 is not part of any managed forest unit.

Private Forest Land Act and Regulations

Copy of the above regs was provided as per member's request for CAG's reference library – to be kept on the CAG bookshelf.

Old Growth Information

Doug provided information that was requested by Old Growth sub-committee.

2004

Maps of Block 1 and Block 5 were provided, showing total volume of old growth stands in TFL 39.

2004 YTD volumes were provided (cubic metres):

Fir 4,500

Hembal 33,000

Cedar 19,000

Cypress 3,500

There are still 70,000 to 80,000 cubic metres to come in 2004, mostly from Phillips Arm. That will bring the total for 2004 to roughly 140,000 cubic metres. Also, 80,000 cubic metres out of the 180,000 for 2005 will be coming from Phillips. Company may elect to scale that portion in Howe Sound.

2005

2005 Forecast

Fir 18,000

Hembal 91,000

Cedar 55,000

Cypress 16,000

Members will bring information provided to next Old Growth sub-committee meeting.

Local Contractors requirements

Members have completed a poll of local contractors for the requirements for old growth. Total is just under 1.000 cubic metres. Member will get confirmation for this volume.

Local Sales since May 2004

Information on local sales was provided – Volume of sales year to date is only 269.9 cubic metres. Sales were made to 9 different customers (12 transactions). Volume of 269.9 does not include timber sold to Goat Lake.

Predominate species was cedar, no fir. Salvagers are meeting commitments.

Question – What is old growth cedar used for?

Answer – Siding, shingles, float logs. Second growth cedar is better for siding there are fewer knots and smaller pieces are ok for siding

Question – Regarding the Fibre access agreement for 20,000 cubic metres to be made available for local needs. Old growth committee has shown a requirement for local old growth fir, but agreement is not species specific.

Answer – There will always be old growth fir but price the main issue. Weyerhaeuser logged old growth fir but didn't sell any locally.

Member noted that the old growth committee and company are co-operating but numbers are confusing.

Member noted that if members lobby for old growth recruitment, it has to be demonstrated that there is a need. Need has to be amended annually.

Some customers are happy getting fibre from elsewhere.

Question – What is the reason for looking but not buying – too high a price?

Answer – Yes, it could be a pricing issue.

Member noted that Weyerhaeuser has gone out of its way to help locals to find single logs.

Member noted that the wording of the current Fibre Sale agreement needs to be amended to include 5% by sort as per original document

ACTION - Fibre Sales Agreement to be amended to include wording "5% by sort" as shown in original document.

Break – 7:40 – 7:55pm

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WL-909

Map will be provided on October 27th for discussion regarding Windsor Lake block 909 (roads).

ACTION - Doug will bring map of WL-909 for discussion at Oct 27 meeting.

Indicators – missing information

Doug provided information on data that was incomplete on SFMP Report for 2003 indicators.

Field Trip

Facilitator noted that a field trip for fall should be arranged soon.

Member had some ideas for an alder research project – if not possible, maybe members can suggest something else that would be interesting to look at.

ACTION – Facilitator will research locations and possibilities for fall field trip

Second Vice Chair Election

Member at large was nominated for the position of second vice-chair. No other nominations. Members congratulated new second-vice chair Jane Cameron on the election.

Plutonic Energy – Implications for Block 1

Member noted that the Plutonic Energy company has a proposal for a company to invest \$250 million on a green energy project that would stretch from Little Toba River at Montrose Creek down to Saltery Bay, a distance of 145km. Poles will be made of wood. It was noted that there would be no impact on fish-bearing streams. Large penstock - 2 –3 metres in diameter would be required. Water will flow at 16 cubic metres a second. Electricity that is generated is to be sold to BC Hydro. Wild life could be an issue. Route of the power line would be from across the back of Little Toba River into Daniel River Valley to the head of Powell Lake, down through the Canoe Route across Khartoum Narrows and down past Rainy Day Lake to Saltery Bay. There will be a pole line right of way. The project will impact the AAC; once the first cut has been made there would be no more harvesting. Pole line might be 30-40 metres wide. Company wishes to make use of existing logging roads. People who work on the building and maintenance of project would use Powell River as a base. Green energy is re-usable and non-polluting, but there would be scarring on the landscape in TFL 39 Block 1.

Member noted that there is another similar project – McNeer Creek Hydro Project - information can be found on their website.

Question – Is the temperature of the water raised?

Answer – There are many questions to be answered. Plutonic Energy Company will come to Powell River, there has to be extensive public consultation.

Member noted that the company (Plutonic Energy) will be briefing the Regional District at the Regional District office on October 6th at 1:00pm. Members of the public are invited.

Doug noted that they will also be briefing Weyerhaeuser on the same day.

It was noted that the way the law is written, it looks like the company will be able to do the project. They will probably stay high up in the Alpine and along the existing road network. Recreational areas may be affected.

Member noted that there would be considerable benefits to the community.

Suggestion – Maybe the company could come and meet with CAG to answer questions.

Question – What is the timeframe for completion of the project?

Answer – Could be up and running by 2008, after environmental review process

Question – Will they be part of the Regional District tax base?

Answer – Yes.

Question – Who are the Plutonic Energy people?

Answer – Company is a numbered company, trading on the Toronto Stock Exchange. President is Donald McInnes.

Comment – Could be a re-run of the Rainy Day Lake issue – running power lines through buffers.

Facilitator suggested the maybe some CAG members could attend meeting at the Regional District office and report back.

Community Forest Update

No new information available at this time.

Observers to Attend CAG meeting

Facilitator noted that Brian Smart of Sechelt and some members of council from Sechelt plan to attend a CAG meeting on October 13th to observe and ask questions about how the group works. Member suggested that facilitator should check with Tom Holmes to see if that would be acceptable.

ACTION – Send e-mail to Tom Holmes re: Sechelt contingency – Oct 13.

Review of Indicators

Facilitator noted that the review and comparison of indicators by Michel deBellefeuille is not yet complete.

– Members discussed the following indicator and objective:

Indicator #32 "Number of Foresters at Stillwater Timberlands Weyerhaeuser that have

received recent formal education on identification of rare plants and endangered plant communities

Objective: *Company has staff in the local office able to identify rare plants and rare natural plant communities.*

Question – Is the training happening in 2004?

Answer – Yes, some endangered species training is going on- no field training yet. There is a one-day EBM (Eco-system based Management) course and another course to be held in Comox on October 18th that will be more detailed.

Member commented that there is no assurance that a faller could recognize a rare and endangered species – one that could be saved.

Doug noted that they will be training foresters, not fallers.

Member expressed concerns that there doesn't seem to be any guidelines for saving rare and endangered species.

Doug noted that there is a list and EBM is committed to follow that list. Detailed mapping has been done. In areas already protected, Weyerhaeuser will look and they will protect ecosystem, but will not necessarily protect every occurrence.

Question - Member noted that Block 5 has signed on to EBM- how does it relate?

Answer – If a rare and endangered ecosystem was found, it would be protected, but not all will be conserved.

ACTION – Doug will find out more about guidelines for rare and endangered ecosystems.

Facilitator suggested that members review minutes from September 15th and to prepare questions for meeting on October 13th with Tom Holmes.

ACTION – Members to review minutes of September 15th and prepare questions for Tom Holmes on October 13th.

Next meeting – Oct 13th 2004 – 6:00pm at Brooks Secondary School

Meeting adjourned 8:48pm

Stillwater Timberlands Advisory Group

September 29th 2004

Attendance

Name	Position	Member Seat		
<u>PRESENT</u>				
Eagle Walz - Chair	Primary	Recreation		
Ken Jackson - Vice-Chair	Primary	Recreation		
Jane Cameron- 2nd Vice-Chair	Primary	Member at large		
Patrick Brabazon	Primary	Local Govt (Regional)		
Dan Waslewski (guest)	Alternate	Citizens		
Jeff Mah	Primary	Local Govt (Municipal)		
Dave Rees	Alternate	Tourism		
Fran Ferguson	Alternate	Recreation		
Joanne Cameron-Nordell	Primary	Local Business		
Jack McClinchey	Primary	Motorized Recreation		
Erika Hein	Primary	Youth		
Tony Smith	Primary	Education		
Andy Davis	Alternate	Citizens		
Nancy Hollmann	Primary	Environment		
Bill Maitland	Alternate	Contractors		
13 seats represented				

ABSENT				
Debby Waslewski	Primary	Citizens		
Michael Conway Brown	Primary	Environment/Access		
Lorne Marr	Alternate	Recreation		
George Ferreira	Alternate	Local Business		
John Passek	Alternate	Motorized Recreation		Local Govt (Municipal)
Terry Peters	Alternate	Citizens		
Andrew Pinch	Primary	Tourism		
Dianne Mason	Alternate	Education		
Rory Maitland	Primary	Contractors		
Paul Goodwin	Primary	Forest Dependent		
Kevin McKamey	Alternate	Contractors		
				Forest Dependent
Resource – others				
PRESENT				
Doug McCormick	Stillwater	Weyerhaeuser		
Cathy Bartfai	Facilitator			
Pam Dowding	Secretary			