

**CSA Community Advisory Group
to Stillwater Timberlands - Western Forest Products Inc.
Jan 10, 2007
Minutes
Town Centre Hotel**

Attendance: refer to attached sheet

6:00pm: Meeting called to order
Quorum noted

Welcome and introductions

Chair welcomed everyone and wished members a Happy New Year.

Safety Review

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

Code of Conduct

Code of Conduct from Community Advisory Group was noted.
A new poster sized Code of Conducts will be ordered.

ACTION – New Code of Conduct to be made for posting at meetings.

Meetings are tape-recorded.

Facilitator noted that meetings are tape-recorded, and requested that members speak up and avoid chatter when someone else is speaking.

Welcome Guests

Rudi van Zwaaij and Martin Buchanan were welcomed and introduced by the Chair.

Review and Acceptance of Agenda

Chair asked for approval of the agenda. Agenda was accepted with additions.

Minutes- November 8 – amendment

Stuart noted an amendment from Bill Beese to the minutes of November 8th.

ACTION – Amendment to November 8th minutes to be e-mailed to secretary.

Correspondence

Copies of recent correspondence were provided and reviewed.

1. E-mail correspondence from Bill Waugh – Island Timberlands- They will come in February- staff are overloaded and short-staffed.
2. Copy of reply sent to Cranberry Ratepayers
3. Copy of letter from Sue Bonnyman, Project Assessment Manager – BC Environmental Assessment office.

Chair noted that a reply is requested by January 13th. A response will be sent by fax.

ACTION – Response to Sue Bonnyman letter to be drafted and sent by fax before January 13th.

4. Report from Shearwater services – re Plutonic project- to be discussed.

Action List

The action list was reviewed and updated.

Action #1 – The updated Visual landscape inventory data and map has been provided to the Ministry of Forests.

Action #2 – Computer images of Canoe route, Toba Inlet and other areas of concern regarding the route of the transmission line have *not* yet been sent to CAG .by Plutonic Power Corp or Knight Piesold Ltd.

Action #3 – Members will be e-mailed regarding meeting in Courtenay with other Advisory groups.

Action #4 – Complete – Bill Beese’s presentation was summarized in minutes of November 8, 2006.

Action #5 – Question regarding the gravel pit clean-up – member wanted to know who was doing the clean-up- ongoing until more information is available. Stuart will look at the site tomorrow.

Member noted that only a few stumps are left.

Member noted that it was nice to see it cleaned up.

Company Updates

1. FRPA FSP

Stuart noted that the FRPA FSP is now approved.

Approval was on January 4, 2007.

2. Jan 26 2007 general PAG meeting in Courtenay

Copies of draft agenda for PAG meeting in Courtenay were provided.

Stuart noted that Michel de Bellefeuille suggested that five members from each group could attend.

Car-pooling and overnight accommodation to be arranged.

Chair encouraged members to try to participate if their schedules allow.

Chair noted that an e-mail will be sent out prior to January 26th to see whether there are any additions to the agenda.

ACTION – e-mail members to ask for any additions to Jan 26th Courtenay meeting agenda

3. Thanks to members

Stuart thanked CAG members for volunteering over the past year.

Operational Information Map Update (TFL39 Block 1)

Stuart Glen

Map was posted and Stuart gave an update of harvesting, road construction, engineering, what's new on the map, and map updates:

Current Activities

Harvesting – BT-650, FH-027, HB-116, LL-027, LL-027SS, PD-241, PL-001, PL-002, ST-331, WL-909, WL-910, WL-926A, GI-053, GI-054 (currently curtailed due to snow)

Scattered blowdown salvage operations commencing.

Road Construction - BT-650, HE-518, PD-456, PL-001, PL-002, ST-258, ST-258A, ST-324, ST-334, ST-335, UL-825,

Engineering – PD-455, PD-456A, TM-222, TM-263, UL-808

Assessment and layout of scattered blowdown salvage areas throughout TFL.

What's New on the Map

New Blocks – None

New Roads – None

Cutting Permit Approved Areas – None

Annual Silviculture Update – Annual map update showing planting, and brushing areas.

Map Updates

Logging Complete – LL-066

Road Construction Complete – None

Engineered Blocks – PD-248, PD-252

Engineered Roads – PD-248, PD-252

Stuart noted that blowdown salvage operations scattered throughout the TFL were commencing.

Question – Regarding the Fiddlehead area blowdown – there is some good wood there.

Answer – Yes – we have just started salvage of blowdown in FH-027.

Stuart noted that there is blowdown near ST-331 that they would like to salvage. Rudi noted that (ST-331) is scheduled for planting in late March.

Question – How will salvaging of that block that be done?

Answer – The windthrow along the SMZ will be yarded up to the road in ST-331 if possible. There is also some windthrow in some of the retention patches within the block.

Stuart noted that initial recce work is just starting in ST-822. This polygon area is located to the south of ST-331 and Stuart showed the location of the area on the map. The Sunshine Coast Trail is located within the ST-822 polygon area. WFP will be in contact with PRPAWS regarding this block.

Question – Member asked how the VR that was shown on the field trip [TM-188] held up in the recent storms.

Answer – Stuart noted that on their flight on Tuesday that it appeared that there was no blowdown of note in this block. Some blowdown was noted in the block [TM-191] we drove into on the way to TM-188. The adaptive management block on Goat Island [GI-100] has experienced more blowdown.

Question – What size were the retention areas that blew down at the top of GI-100?

Answer – Don't have the exact information on the size of patches where windthrow occurred but there is quite a bit of windthrow overall in this block in general.

Question – How will Cutting Permit approval change with the new FSP? Is the concept similar to the old FSP, what is the planning process for submitting to government? Will it be slowed down or similar?

Answer – (Martin) - Actual approval time will be not much different. Stillwater already has had an FSP here and processes in place, so there is not expected to be much change.

For areas that have been operating under a Forest Development Plan it will be more of a change. Most areas approved with FSP's have a process for First Nations information sharing.

Question – First Nations are consulted?

Answer - Yes, The Crown ensures consultation is completed during the development of the plan. The FSP also outlines a process for information gathering and sharing.

Sunshine Coast Trail

Comment - Chair requested a continuation of the change in format to the Operational Information sheet - to include a separate line for the SCT.

Answer – Yes, the new future block just came up today [ST-822] and a line for the SCT in regards to ST-822 will be added to the Operational Information sheet next month.

Correspondence with the Public

Chair noted that updates will be provided to PRPAWS on a periodic basis to provide information and updates brought forward which pertains to the Sunshine Coast Trail.

Information updates to be provided this month in regards to ST-331 and ST-822. No communication from PRPAWS was received by the Community Advisory Group over the last month.

FRPA FSP

Rudi noted that with the FRPA FSP, there will be a transition period. Once the Stillwater Pilot Project FSP ends; there will still be cutting permits that were issued under the Pilot Project FSP that will not all be harvested.

Question – Will WFP be doing the 10 required audits from last year?

Answer – No.

ST-331

Rudi noted that the contractor did a great job of logging the SMZ along the Sunshine Coast Trail in ST-331. It was noted that the trail looks really good, with little blowdown.

Review of the Terms of Reference (TOR)

Chair noted that it would be good to have a discussion again regarding the means for public participation in the CAG meetings.

Chair initiated a general discussion in regards to the current means for public participation outlined in the Terms of Reference and to see if there was a general consensus on if the members wished to explore changes.

It was decided to form a Terms of Reference sub-committee who will meet between now and the February meeting to consider and bring forward any recommendations of change to the TOR for consideration.

A range of ideas, suggestions, and concerns were provided by members on the topic.

Chair asked for volunteers and noted that everyone is welcome to attend.

ACTION - Members of the ToR sub-committee will work to bring recommendations back to the table in February.

Chair reminded members that it is also important to respond to comments from other members of the public in a timely fashion.

Rudi reviewed the remainder of the areas on the map to be planted and treated.

Question – Two blocks at Fiddlehead were logged one year after another. What about 3-metre green-up?

Answer – Section 2.4.2 of the Pilot Project FSP specifies the maximum cutblock size and adjacency requirements. The two blocks at Fiddlehead are harvested consistent with a patch size distribution analysis which was completed prior to harvest.

Question – How much time after planting are trees established?

Answer – It depends on the site, in general, we try to plant during the next spring planting season - usually within 6 months to 1 year in low elevations.

Question – Is there an issue as far as resources go?

Answer – Yes, it is a tough labour market, and silviculture contractors note that it is harder to get planters these days.

Question – What kind of herbicides are used?

Answer – Same as for the last 8-years.

1. Release (Triclopyr) for hardwoods
2. Vision (Roundup - glyphosate)

Rudi noted that Vision is one of the safest herbicides and is used to spray brush such as salmonberry, thimbleberry etc. They don't spray entire area, just spots where needed. In 2006, 30 hectares of maple coppices in ST-48 were treated.

Question – Vision – does it actually kill or just knocks back brush?

Answer – Is designed to kill the brush when used properly and can also be used to set back the brush depending on the objective.

Question – What concentration is used?

Answer – Approximately 3% product to 97% water. It comes in much higher concentrations if bought off the shelf (for home use).

Question – What time of year is planting done?

Answer – The majority is completed in the spring: (March – April). The higher elevations however, are completed in the late summer/fall: (late August). In the summer, the trees are “hot-lifted”. These trees are actively growing and are moved from the nursery and planted as quickly as possible. Trees planted in the spring are lifted in the fall, frozen for the winter and then thawed in the spring just before they are planted.

Handouts:

- **Research results from growing alder in conifer stands.** Generally, the results show that up to 200 stems per hectare of alder in a conifer stand is actually increasing the growth and volume of the conifers. The Ministry of Forests is in the process of amending the stocking standards to allow

Licensees to have some alder in their stands at free growing. WFP believes that this will reduce brushing costs, as well as reduce herbicide use.

- **Preparing for Climate change: executive summary by the MoF climate change task team.** Includes recommendations and potential impacts to forest dependent communities.
- **Forests for the new millennium: making forests work for people and nature; a summary on the status of world forests and life that depends on them.** It indicates, among other things, that using community input to develop a set of indicators for local forests is seen as a very good system to connect people and their forests.

Ministry of Forests research into broad leaf maple

Rudi noted that research into broad leaf maple for commercial crops is ongoing. Martin noted that there is a site beside the Island Highway in Campbell River.

Question – Are there any red alder blocks being planted?

Answer – In the new FSP, up to 4% of the total area harvested can be reforested to red alder. It is finally getting some acceptance with government.

Wild Weather – November and December 2006.... and Now January 2007 – presentation by Stuart Glen

Stuart provided an overview of the windthrow that has occurred within the DFA as a result of the unusually intense weather systems that have occurred during the past several months.

Stuart noted that the top two Environment Canada Weather Stories of 2006 are the extreme weather encountered in B.C in November and December.

Stuart showed a sample of windthrow pictures taken across a variety of cutblocks. WFP is initiating plans and beginning operations to proactively salvage the windthrow where it is safe and feasible.

It is estimated that approximately 40,000 m³ – 50,000 m³ has been affected by windthrow.

Question – What is the cost for salvage – is there a reduction in stumpage?

Answer – (Rudi) We have a salvage permit for salvaging of windthrow and we also have the option of a regular cutting permit.

Question – Would the company walk away from some areas if not profitable?

Answer – (Stuart) Some areas may be tricky – such as small patches around the lake.

ACTION – Provide an electronic copy of presentation “Wild Weather” for record book.

Other business

Brooks has a small mill

Member noted that Brooks has a small mill if they know of anyone who has small chucks of wood available.

Jan 25-26 General Advisory group meeting

ACTION – Members should let Cathy know if available for Jan 26 meeting in Courtenay.

Next Meeting - February 14, 2007

Meeting Adjourned 8:50pm

**CSA Community Advisory Group to Stillwater Timberlands
Western Forest Products Inc.
Jan 10, 2007
Attendance**

Name	Position	Member Seat
PRESENT		
Jane Cameron – Chair	Primary	Member at large
Kathy Kirk	Alternate	Member at Large
Ken Jackson – Vice-Chair	Primary	Recreation
Dave Hodgins	Alternate	Recreation
Dave Rees- 2nd Vice Chair	Primary	Tourism
Patrick Brabazon	Primary	Local Governments
Rory Maitland	Primary	Contractor
Brent Rothwell	Alternate	Contractor
Doug Fuller	Primary	DFA Worker
Wayne Borgfjord	Primary	Forest Dependent
Paul Goodwin	Alternate	Forest Dependent
Mark Hassett	Primary	Local Business
Bill Maitland	Alternate	Local Business
Nancy Hollmann	Primary	Environment
George Illes	Alternate	Environment
9 Seats represented		
Absent members		
Andrew Pinch	Alternate	Tourism
Ted Byng	Alternate	Local Governments
Ron Fuller	Alternate	DFA Worker
PRESENT		
Resource – others		
Stuart Glen	Western Forest Products Inc.	
Martin Buchanan	Western Forest Products Inc.	
Rudi van Zwaaij	Western Forest Products Inc.	
Cathy Bartfai	Facilitator	
Pam Dowding	Secretary	