

**CSA Community Advisory Group
To Western Forest Products
November 12, 2008
Minutes
Westview Pizza**

Attendance: refer to attached sheet

6:00pm: Meeting called to order
Quorum noted

Safety Review

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

Welcome and Introductions

Chair welcomed Stuart Glen and CAG members

Code of Conduct

Code of Conduct for Community Advisory Group was reviewed

Review and Acceptance of Agenda

Agenda was accepted

Correspondence

Copies of recent correspondence was provided and reviewed

- Letters to PRPAWS
- PPC emails regarding possible meeting dates
- Emails and formal invitation letters to Sliammon and Sechelt First Nations
- BC Timber Sales email

Action List

ACTION #1 – Provide volume figures from right of way to group. The forest grows an average of 9 cubic metres per hectare per year. 514 hectares times 9 cubic metres per hectare equals 4626 cubic metres per year of lost forest growth in the right of way.

Question: Is there only compensation if it is over 5%?

Yes. Across the TFL.

Question: Does that include all of the access roads?

No.

Question: Are they going to be permanent?

I don't know. I'd think they would like to keep them for maintenance access but I haven't heard what Plutonic plans to do with them.

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Comment: As their budget dwindles the roads get less permanent. They were originally building them to use cranes to put polls up and now the roads aren't good enough so they are using helicopters.

ACTION #2 – Contact city regarding new member to replace Ted – waiting until after election.

ACTION #3 – Include volume cut on the herbicide use table for indicator 16 – ongoing

ACTION#4 – Distribute drawings and map of Freda Creek generation site, penstock and transmission line - done

Review and Acceptance of Minutes

Minutes from Western Forest Products September 10th meeting were reviewed and accepted.

OIM Review

Current Activities

Harvesting – EL-669, GL-636, HE-516, PD-242, PD-246, PD-414, ST-262

Road Construction - A-100, GI-029, GI-032, GI-111, GI-113, ST-822

Engineering – EL-676, EL-678, EL-681, GL-664, PD-421, PD-422, ST-308

What's New on the Map

New Blocks – None

New Roads – None

Cutting Permit Approved Areas – None

Map Updates

Logging Complete – PD-245, ST-229, ST-233

Road Construction Complete – ST-062, ST-256

Engineered Blocks – GL-044, TM-222

Engineered Roads – TM-222

Question: Are you finished logging up at Diane Lake this year or do you have more to go next year?

There's heli logging up in the Eldred that we have not done yet. The bridge still has to go back in to complete that.

Question: Next year?

Not next year. At this time we don't have any operational reason to put it in next year, but that could change.

CAG Visit to Goat Island in Pictures

Member reviewed October 24th trip to Goat Island with the assistance of a photo slideshow. Appreciation was expressed for the opportunity to see the area and some operations such as road building. Participating members saw some big blowdown areas. One had been cleaned up, but looks very different due to the size of the block and the exposed root balls. Another is a test area and blowdown has been left on the ground as part of the study. Most of the patches of trees left in the test area were thinned right out.

Question: Bill Beese said that you couldn't salvage anything because you are still collecting data?

Yes. Data about how much wind throw is on VR blocks. It will be interesting. Slug and frog data may be affected. They may be able to hang out under the logs. It is too bad from a true research point of view.

Question: What about deer and bear?

We were commenting the other day that we don't see a lot of deer on Goat Island. There must be cougar.

Comment: There are apparently elk there as well.

Question: Are you going to use this data for blowdown?

Yes. I can't remember the exact number, but the number of plots is very extensive across all of WFP. It will pick up the variation of the landscape, which is what you want it to do.

With the Western strategy, Bill Beese wants us to use our clearcut with reserves on areas where there is a higher hazard of trees blowing over and keep the retention for areas where the hazard is lower. For all of our blocks we look closely to decide what makes the most sense for each block, because it is a shame to put patches in and then they blow over.

Question: Do they also test for the vegetation?

I don't think plants are part of the monitoring.

CAG Freda Creek Discussion

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CAG members reviewed the Freda Creek Project from the information provided on Plutonic's website. The members reviewed where the penstock, powerhouse, and transmission line would sit in relation to Stillwater Main as depicted on the photo and map. There appears to be an intake on Freda Creek and on one of the tributaries. They then take this water down a pipe that runs to the powerhouse.

Members discussed the amount of water that could be diverted. A member recalled Donald McInnes indicating it could be up to 97%.

Members discussed fish presence in Freda Creek, the transmission line in relation to the defined forest area and values such as the canoe route, timber impacts, visuals, and transmission line height safety.

A letter from Donald McInnes to the regional district planner was read. The letter refers to the two projects that Plutonic submitted in September. Upper Toba River, Jimmy Creek and Dalgleish Creek projects referred to as the Upper Toba Valley Projects. They also submitted eighteen projects up at Bute Inlet on three drainages - the Southgate, Orford, and Homathko. They maintain that there are still two options for the transmissions lines to connect into projects to the BC Hydro grid. One option is to twin the existing Toba/Montrose line with connection at Malaspina and the second option is from Bute Inlet to cross over to Campbell River. The preferred route has not yet been selected. They say that Hydro makes that selection. The letter includes a map. If the lines do come down our way the existing line will be twinned which means it will be a minimum of 50% as wide again as the existing line. If there are obstacles it will have to be diverted making it the full width again. There is a good possibility the existing line will be twinned.

The advisory group felt it was important to comment on the Freda Project and the Chair will draw up two letters and send them out electronically for suggestions, additions, or deletions.

CAG Transmission Line Discussion

A file including a map regarding Hawkeye's proposals was also reviewed. They appear to be going over the Britain River which takes them out of the lower portion of the TFL.

Stuart read Martin Buchannan's notes regarding transmission line projects as Martin was unable to make it to the meeting.

Hawkeye is proceeding at a quick rate to get an agreement with BC Hydro for power purchase. The proposed Hawkeye agreement parallels Plutonic's in the Eldred for about eight kilometres.

Martin has not officially heard that the CSA line heights are going to be accepted by WorkSafe, but information sources indicated it will probably happen. The line heights are done to CSA right now, so if this doesn't go through we will have a significant problem. The difference is approximately one metre. There are still locations that need more line height than Plutonic wants to give assuming on all the rest CSA line height works. It's actually a little worse than that because they moved the transmission line in

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some to places where there weren't any roads, but roads may need to go through some time.

The provincial government has formed eight inter agency teams led by ILMB including the Federal Government to develop a guide for IPP proponents. The document is approximately four hundred pages long. Two coastal teams: one for south and one for Campbell River north to Prince Rupert. The purpose is to provide proponent information and agencies will be in a better position to review applications. They want the IPP written plans to be monitorable and enforceable. MoF wants more information on timber harvest land base, timber isolation, road standards, and visual management before its professional sign off. Guide to be release shortly. Agency to coordinate conflicting mandates. Martin says people at different levels are starting to get concerned and this is a step towards correcting the problems.

ACTION: Martin to provide the eight different agencies and leads.

Amphibian Wetland Habitat

Stuart presented a slide show created by Elke Wind based on her study and recommendations which WFP and Island Timberlands sponsored. What she was looking at was the importance of small seasonal wetlands. Bullfrogs are taking over the ponds and do not live in these areas, so these wetlands have become even more important for the other amphibians. The slide show was presented to WFP as a training session to help foresters better identify good habitat to protect amphibians.

Company Updates and Other Business

Stuart had a meeting with the government regarding the Visual Landscape Inventory. The Visual Landscape Inventory will go through the government action legislation process which is the new regulation under FRPA. There will likely be an advertised open house for people in town to come out and make comments on the recommended VQO before they are established. It should be soon.

In the new year Stillwater will be getting two new foresters from Vancouver Island.

Stuart presented and described to the group several documents used when planning a block for harvest. First he showed the FRPA Planning Checklist – a 37 page document used to record and explain decisions made regarding a block. In addition, Stuart showed and explained to the group the FRPA Road Site Plan, Harvest Instructions and Road Instructions.

Group was generally very impressed with the huge amount of detail taken into account when planning a cutblock.

Next CAG meeting – December 10th with IT

Next meeting with WFP – January 14th

Meeting Adjourned 8:50 pm

**Stillwater CSA Community Advisory Group
Western Forest Products
November 12th, 2008
Attendance**

Name	Position	Member Seat
PRESENT		
Jane Cameron – Chair	Primary	Member at large
Ken Jackson	Primary	Recreation
Rory Maitland	Primary	Contractor
Bill Maitland	Alternate	Local Business
Doug Fuller	Primary	DFA Worker
Wayne Borgfjord	Primary	Forest Dependent
Paul Goodwin	Alternate	Forest Dependent
Nancy Hollmann	Alternate	Tourism
7 Seats represented		
ABSENT MEMBERS		
George Illes	Alternate	Environment
Ron Fuller	Alternate	DFA Worker
Colin Palmer	Primary	Local Governments
Barry Miller	Primary	Environment
Dave Rees	Primary	Tourism
Mark Hassett	Primary	Local Business
Dave Hodgins	Alternate	Recreation
PRESENT		
Resource – others		
Stuart Glen	WFP	
Valerie Thompson	Secretary/Facilitator	