

Minutes

**CSA Community Advisory Group
To Western Forest Products
October 13th
Minutes
Western Forest Products Boardroom**

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.

Code of Conduct

Code of Conduct for Community Advisory Group was reviewed.

Welcome and Introductions

Chair welcomed new member Russ Parsons and group introduced themselves. Chair announced that Makenzie Leine will be leaving Island Timberlands to work in Colombia.

Review and Acceptance of Agenda

Agenda was accepted.

Review and Acceptance of Minutes

Minutes from September 8th Island Timberlands meeting were reviewed and accepted.

Correspondence

Copies of recent correspondence was provided and reviewed

- Emails inviting First Nations to meetings
- Goodbye letter to Dave Rees
- Letter regarding Stephen Frasher invitation
- Letter from Minister Pat Bell

Operational Information Update

Current Activities

Harvesting

HE-521, OL-544, OL-554, OL-747, ST-154, ST-244, ST-245, ST-246, ST-247, TH-500, TH-501

Road Construction

GI-059, TM-223, PD-458, ST-287, ST-035, UL-809

Stuart mentioned that he has found that one of the most important factors when planning in the Stillwater area is the visuals. Green up and adjacency are the main drivers as to where you can log, but because so much of Stillwater is in scenic areas visuals are a far greater restriction. The key is to start the next pass and get the next trees growing as soon as visual green up occurs in the visual areas that

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Western is logging. Otherwise, visuals will be the limiting factor on the volume cut in the future. When planning WFP makes an effort to pick up the viewscapes that have no logging on them so that the first pass is done, new trees are started and the next pass can occur. That is the idea behind Chippawa North, Dunn Main, and the Sherman's area. The whole rainbow area is nicely greened up now so perhaps around 2013 the next pass will take place.

Question: Are you still looking at 3 metre green up in visual areas?

Yes, for standard green up and adjacency, but in a lot of areas you might need more for visuals because of the slope.

Engineering

CH-402, CH-404, PD-460, PD-463, ST-148, ST-232, TM-111, UL-805, UL-807, UL-836, WL-907, WL-952, WL-954

What's New on the Map

New Blocks

ST-024, UL-805 (shifted), PD-460, PD-464

New Roads

ST-024, UL-805 (shifted), Chippewa North Log Dump, PD-460 (was PD-461), PD-464

Cutting Permit Approved Areas

ST-027, ST-216, ST-244, ST-246, ST-247, TM-169,
TM-223, WL-028, WL-044

Note: There are no new blocks and roads located along the Sunshine Coast Trail.

Map Updates

Logging Complete

GI-106, GI-116, ST-203, ST-208, ST-340(blowdown), ST-822

Road Construction Complete

WL-950

Engineered Blocks

CH-400, ST-011, ST-020, ST-022, ST-035, PD-421, PD-458, PD-459, PD-462

Engineered Roads

CH-400, ST-011, ST-020, ST-022, ST-035, PD-421, PD-458, PD-459,
PD-462

Company Update

Stuart announced that the CEO of Western Forest Products, Stephen Fraser, is no longer with the company. The press release gave no details regarding why.

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Stephen Frasher has concerns regarding Western's AAC. He feared that as it has not been economically possible to harvest the AAC for the last few years the government might take back more land. When the AAC has not been harvested the government can reallocate it. So, despite the fact that it would have devastated the industry and put WFP under, Frasher has been deeply concerned that the MoF may reallocate this volume. The key messages he wants communicated are that WFP is here for the long term, it employs 2300 direct and contract employees, that will continue to grow as the industry recovers, and the AAC is critical to the ongoing success of WFP.

Douglas Fir Bark Beetle

Those of you that have been out driving around may have noticed dead trees all the way down the peninsula. They are stressed out trees that have been attacked by the Douglas fir bark beetle. We started noticing a few of the dead trees last year, but we thought it could have been just stress as they were mostly along cut edges where trees tend to be more stressed. We now know that it is the Douglas fir bark beetle. They have appeared like clockwork three years following the big storms that knocked over so many trees in Stanley Park and all over the coast. Rudi told us at the time that we would have to watch for this and they have arrived. All of the blow down wood allowed a build up of numbers and now they are attacking other trees. The MoF had three entomologists in town and Stuart and a CAG member accompanied these individuals in the field for part of a day.

Comment: The first indications are the red trees with their needles still on. There are often others near by with yellowing needles which are also dying. The bark beetle aggressively attacks stressed trees. They are always around, but there has been a big outbreak due to the big storm. More blow over and stressed out trees. They will attack stumps, debris or anything like that. We went out to three different locations looking for trees that have been freshly attacked during the past season. We only found two trees which is encouraging, but also bad because it shows how hard it is to find the trees. The beetles will fly up to half of a kilometer looking for the scent of a stressed tree. It could be drought conditions, root rot area, wind or something that will cause the tree to give off the scent. They attack the tree, lay their eggs in the 'parental gallery' in strips up the tree, and when the eggs hatch they start feeding out and effectively girdle the tree. There are a couple of ways of combating them. One is targeting infected areas and taking out the trees with the larvae, anytime between now and May is the time, and putting them in the water and milling the trees. You don't want to be cutting them up for firewood and transporting them to town. They prefer larger diameter trees. If it isn't economical to harvest infected trees and send to market, the best thing to do is find an area a couple hundred metres away from the infected trees and fall trap trees. They should be left full length with their top and limbs intact. This should be done within 6 months of May, because when the beetles start to fly in May they will go to that stressed out tree.

Question: Do they behave like an Ambrosia beetle?

Comment: Ambrosia beetles go deeper. The bark beetle just gets the cambium layer and the ambrosia comes in later. The red sawdust comes from the bark beetle and the white from the ambrosia.

They say that the trap tree method will get rid of up to 85% of the bark beetles in an area. It sounds like we don't have a problem like the mountain pine beetle in the interior if we can act on it fast enough and if MoF has the policies in place so we can move on it.

Question: Are there any areas that are bad right now?

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Comment: Root rot and drought areas.

I noticed a big change between last year and this year, but I understand that the beetles are being opportunistic right now. The beetles are going after stressed trees not healthy trees. It seems that if trap trees are used to capture the beetles and if they are removed before the next flight we should be able to radically reduce the numbers.

Question: Are they quite different from the pine beetle?

They can fly a lot farther, they live twice as long (two days), and they are not as aggressive. It is good that they can fly farther, because the trap trees will work a lot better.

Question: Is it winter hardy?

Yes, the winter won't do anything to it. I felt much more comfortable after spending time with the entomologists. We didn't find a lot of beetles in the trees next to the dead ones. This means the beetles are not just attacking the next tree, they are actually looking for stressed trees.

Question: Did Rudi keep any data from the last outbreak about ten years ago? We used trap trees then. I believe close to 40,000 metres came out. It wasn't all bug kill as it did include some surrounding trees.

We don't know if the last time went away because the trap tree work was done or if it would have died away anyway.

Question: How high is your level of concern regarding adjacent areas like parks?

I asked the entomologist and they said just do what you can do. The more that are taken out the better.

SFMP Z809-08 Updated Indicators

Stuart explained that WFP is moving from the 2002 standard to the new 2008 standard and reminded members that at the last meeting the group went through the current indicators, the new core indicators in the new standard, and looked at which were similar and which are not.

Stuart distributed an Indicator Table of Contents on which he noted which old indicators matched up with the new 2008 standard core indicators as well as his first draft of the new core indicators that WFP has to have under the new standard. If the existing indicator matched up perfectly with a new core indicator Stuart used it, he modified some similar indicators, and if there was nothing similar he developed a new indicator.

Stuart ran through his first draft of the new indicators 1.1 through 1.4. Element 1.1 represents Ecosystem Diversity. He was able to slot existing indicator 1 into Indicator 1.1.1 and existing indicator 6 into 1.1.2. Group was comfortable with this.

Indicator 1.1.3 is a new core indicator, forest area by seral stage or age class. Stuart chose to set the target as the percentage of productive forest area of the DFA that is in each of the three seral stages that is within levels recommended by the Biodiversity Guidebook or approved Landscape Unit Plans for each (NDT) Natural Disturbance Type. Each NDT has a recommended distribution of age classes based

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on the return frequency of stand replacing events. Stuart hasn't prepared the dataset yet to know how well the targets recommended by the Biodiversity Guidebook would be met at this point.

Question: What happens if the mills and economics suddenly start requiring wood that is thirty or forty years old from these very rich sites? It will be hard to achieve your target.

With the landscape planning that is being done I think that the target can be achieved. The +250 year growth is OGMAs and those areas have been designated, so 13% of the land base already is set aside in OGMAs, plus all of the areas that are too steep, riparian, marbled-murrelet habitat areas, and goat winter ranges etc..

Question: There is a deficit of +250 years in some areas. How do you make that up?

Enough area to cover that deficit has been set aside in OGMAs to make up the deficit over time. Harvest history of the DFA makes it impossible to meet the target right now.

Group suggested better wording for the variance.

He was able to slot existing indicator 2 into Indicator 1.1.4. The group expressed concern regarding the 25% variance. They wondered if the variance was consistently needed would the company have trouble making it up.

Indicator 1.2.1 is consistent with existing indicator 3. Stuart plans to work on the language he used for the target. The indicator addresses animal species at risk and group asked whether plant species at risk should be considered. The indicator is based on the provincial species at risk list.

Indicator 1.2.2 is a new core indicator, degree of suitable habitat in the long term for selected focal species, including species at risk. Stuart said this indicator goes one step further by addressing 'suitable' habitat. Stuart felt that marbled-murrelet habitat was the best choice to run models on. This can be based on forest cover and the specific stand attributes marbled-murrelet's look for as habitat. They could look to see how much habitat will be available for the long term within other reserves across the landbase.

Question: If you don't know how many murrelets there are how can you decide how much habitat to set aside?

There are nests on the DFA. They are in the fairly extreme places and are not generally where you would log. We check our maps for the nests before we log. Biologists can use stand characteristics (large limby moss covered branches) to determine habitat quality.

Indicator 1.2.3 is a new core indicator, proportion of regeneration comprised of native tree species. WFP is not legally allowed to grow anything that is not a native tree species.

Indicator 1.3.1 is consistent with existing indicator 5. Stuart had trouble writing a target for this indicator and asked group if they could help with wording. He thought it could be kept as simple as an indicator regarding no genetically modified trees. Group agreed.

Indicator 1.4.1 is consistent with existing indicator 7. Stuart included a chart tracking the hectares set aside for areas of special significance such as parks and OGMAs. Target needs better wording. Group liked concept.

Indicator 1.4.2 is consistent with existing indicator 46.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm

**Stillwater CSA Community Advisory Group
Western Forest Products
October 13th
Attendance**

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