

**CSA Community Advisory Group
Island Timberlands Field Trip to Stillwater Bluffs [DL 3040]**

March 7th 2012

Attendance: Jane Cameron, Wayne Brewer, Colin Palmer, Barry Miller, George Illes, Laura van Diemen, Read English, Dave Hodgins, Nancy Hollmann, Ken Jackson, Bill Maitland.

Morgan Kennah, Wayne French [Island Timberlands]

Patrick Brabazon [guest and scribe]

Start: All but two met at the Town Centre Hotel at 14:30 to car pool out the site.

Safety Review: Delivered by Wayne French

Procedure: Group assembled at site of former Stillwater school. Wayne explained to group that he had visited the property a couple weeks previous to get an idea of ground conditions, trail locations and timber variability. He indicated openly he did not have a draft plan in place. Jane indicated that it would be beneficial if CAG members and Wayne and Morgan could share their different thoughts as we walked into the Bluffs, stopping along the way to promote discussion. Guided by Bill Maitland, the group entered DL 3040 via private property [with permission].

Followed a trail to the junction with the old logging road entry from the adjacent dryland sort. Wayne advised that this would be the IT entry point for logging.

Carried on along the trail towards the bluffs. A junction with a trail heading to higher terrain that had been logged a decade ago as part of 2001 harvesting was noted but the group held to the lower one.

Along the trail Wayne advised that there would be no harvesting between the trail and the water. He also mentioned buffering on the high side of the trail but offered no details.

When asked, Wayne advised that there would be no logging this year (2012) but possibly next year or 2014. It is possible that some road work will be done this year. He offered the opportunity of another field trip after the ribbons are hung. Maximum openings are estimated at 2 1/2ha and there will be retention within those openings. IT also wants to "manage visuals," both from the water and from the primary trail.

Action: Another visit after plans progress.

Regarding public access it was noted by Wayne and CAG members that Hollingsworth Road ends adjacent to DL 3040. Frolander Bay Rd offers access to the water near DL 3040.

Action: IT will check on trail mapping done by Chris Laing. It may be completed already and publicly available at the Regional District. If not, IT will map the trails as part of the planning process.

All harvesting would be ground based, no grapple yarding. Falling would likely be both machine and hand falling.

When asked, Wayne advised that adjacent property owners would get a "thorough briefing" prior to harvesting. Perhaps one or two "door knockings."

Morgan and Wayne shared the details of the meeting with members of Friends of Stillwater Bluffs (FOSB) from earlier in the day. They also indicated they were meeting with members of the Powell River Regional District in the morning.

Discussion of Powell Forest Canoe Route

CAG reconvened to the Town Centre Hotel for a debriefing and discussion of proposed harvesting along the Horseshoe Portage.

IT presented a plan of the proposed harvesting. A field trip is planned for the week of March 19th and will include non-CAG members.

Action: Wayne to confirm a mutually agreeable time and date with those who would like to have a field visit.

Engineering work is finished. The minimum buffering along the Horseshoe Lake Portage Trail will be 15m but it could be up to 30m. It was noted that this buffering included 25% removal in the first 15m and 50% in the next 15m. Some wind-firming will be done via tree pruning.

When asked about “an isolated parcel adjacent to the Duck Lake protected area” Wayne advised that there were no plans to log it at this time.

When asked about the possibility of transferring land to public ownership IT advised that the company received no tax write-offs for donations.

The discussion ended at 18:10

PJB