

**CSA Community Advisory Group
To Island Timberlands
June 12, 2013
Town Centre Hotel**

Attendance: refer to attached sheet

6:00 pm: Meeting called to order
Quorum not met.

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 members and members introduced themselves.

Review and Acceptance of Agenda

Agenda was accepted with changes.

Correspondence

Copies of recent correspondence was provided and reviewed

- Emails to FNs
-

Review and Acceptance of Minutes

Minutes to be sent to members for input and acceptance.

Terms of Reference – Island Timberlands

Morgan wishes to create Terms of Reference specific to Island Timberlands rather than adopt the ToR used for the group in its relationship with Western Forest Products. Her concern is the existing ToR has many references to CSA certification and Island Timberlands is not CSA certified. Their certification is SFI. She went through the existing ToR and showed the group all of the changes she would like to make to create an Island Timberlands specific ToR. Most of the changes were removal of references to Western Forest Products, deletions of references to CSA, and references regarding CSA-specific indicators; the SFI certification program has a framework of ‘Objective – Performance Measure – Indicator.’ Other changes were regarding the different relationship that IT has with the group as less of an advisor group and more of communication board. SFI certification does not require an advisory group.

Question: Are you not audited on the concerns of the community?

Morgan said they were not. They are audited on what they are doing.

Question: Does that not affect the community?

Minutes

Yes. They audit for 4 or 5 days and they do not spend 3 or 4 of them in the office reviewing every article. They may choose one issue and look deeply into it.

One item Morgan highlighted to remove was regarding forwarding agendas and minutes to the First Nations.

Question: Is there a reason for that? The agenda and minutes are public on the website.

Morgan's only concern is that their land is fee simple so they want to make sure that anyone reading the minutes understands this.

Question: Does your SFI certification require your company to have this committee? If not, how can we be part of your certification? We are just a sounding board for Island Timberlands . I don't think you can use the word 'certification' in the ToR.

Comment: Could we use 'consultation'?

Morgan said she preferred 'advisory role'. The group agreed with the change.

Morgan removed the word 'consensus' from one of the terms and was asked to keep it as this is how the group works and Morgan agreed to keep it.

The group expressed concern regarding rewording that appeared to allow for Island Timberlands to dictate group members. As this group meets regularly with Western Forest Products and only occasionally with IT members wanted assurance that IT accepted the group with its existing membership. Morgan agreed that if there is a problem with a member it would be up to the group to deal with the issue.

Question: What is your definition of sustainable forestry?

To our company it means that we have a long run sustained view and that we have an inventory plan that runs over 200 years. We can see how the trees will grow and how they will be harvested so that we have the ability to grow and harvest trees in perpetuity. There is an evaluation done every year by an independent auditor so that the shareholders can see what their asset is.

Question: How is the public involved in that?

Morgan said that meetings such as this, visiting neighbours, and next week they are meeting with members of Vancouver Health, the Regional District, and the Ministry of Transportation to talk about Crowther Road and issues raised by the community. (i.e. social aspect of sustainable forestry operations)

Comment: If you auditor found that your practices were not sustainable we would never know.

Minutes

Morgan said that we could look at the SFI website and any major issues that come up during an external audit would be published.

Website for public reports: <http://www.sfiprogram.org/sfi-standard/audit-reports/params/filter/I/>

Comment: We desire sustainability in this community over the long run and I find the SFI system a little disappointing because we don't get any real input into the process other than communication.

Morgan said our best avenue for change would be to try and affect the SFI revision process which is going on right now. Some companies do a lot less than IT as far as public consultation.

Question: I think some members in the group struggle with your vision of sustainable forest management because ours includes more than just trees. Our vision includes the critters and the fish are cared for. That the community is sustained and not boom and bust. We work hard toward this goal. Our vision of sustainability is very broad and what we hear from you is that it is just the tress. Is that fair?

Wayne said that he doesn't feel that it is a fair assessment. They consider many of the same issues as they do on Crown land. Island Timberlands' private property holdings are relatively small in Powell River compared to WFP and BCTS so trying to look at sustainability at little plots of land is difficult.

Morgan said they are under the same legislation as Crown land regarding fish and wildlife.

Morgan said that she would make all of the changes discussed in the meeting and will send the newly created ToR to the group for input and approval.

Comment: I don't know why you would want to complicate the Terms of Reference used by this group because all we do is come to exchange information. We are not involved in decisions regarding indicators or audits. Perhaps all we need is a memorandum of understanding.

Morgan said that the Terms of Reference need to be adjusted for IT to continue meeting with this group to reflect the changes in their business as the company is now SFI not CSA certified. The ToR may not need to be as in depth and a memorandum of understanding may suffice. Morgan said that she would send a draft copy of a memorandum of understanding with the draft of the Terms of Reference.

Operational Information Map Review

Engineering Active

Cutblock

883256 – Lot 450 above powerline

Issues

Trails, urban interface, fish creeks.

Engineering Completed

Cutblock

894361 – GL1103-8

Issues

Horseshoe Lake

Minutes

884109 – Tanner Rd.
512354 – Sechelt
794152 – Roberts Road
793208 – Stillwater sort
883405 – Loadout Road

Neighbour's interface.
None
Urban interface.
Urban interface.
Public highway.

Road Construction Active

Cutblock

None

Issues

Logging Active

Cutblock

None

Issues

Road Construction Planned Next

Cutblock

793419 - Canoe 004
894361 – GL1103-8
793208 – Stillwater sort

Issues

Powerlines.
Horseshoe Lake.
Digging shallow wells

Logging Planned Next

Cutblock

793419 (Canoe 004) - 4900 m3.
894361 – (GL1103-8) – 6000m3.
892352 (STW 7 mile) – 350m3.
793425 (STW Main). – 700m3.
793430 (STW Main). - 900m3.
984410 (Giovanni) – 9500m3.

Issues

None
Horseshoe Lake
None
Nancy
None

Engineering Planned

Cutblock

883404 (Valentine Mountain)
883256 – Lot 450 above powerline

Issues

Public, visuals.

2013 Plan

1.7 km. of road construction. Revised to 548 m.
93,000 m3 of harvesting. Revised to 23,000 m3.
• 32,000 m3 on Cortes Island. Revised to 0 m3.
• 7,000 m3 in Sechelt. Revised to 0 m3.
• 23,000 m3 in Powell River.

Question: Could you talk to us about Crowther Road?

Wayne said they logged the top block of roughly 60 hectares in 2011-12. They worked with the Okeover Ratepayers Association regarding the time of year they logged and other issues. They made a commitment to the neighbours that they wouldn't take the entire hillside until they had some green up in the original block. They feel since the markets are good right now they could take some small polygons

Minutes

on the top side of Crowther Road and are now in lots of discussions about this area. There are no final plans in place at this time. There is a lot involved to harvest small polygons as there are so many issues in this area. They have to build five small spurs up off Crowther Road, they will need to do some hoe chucking. There is Crown land of variable width between Crowther Road and the block in question (i.e. public highway right-of-way). There are also public safety issues, powerlines, and water issues – people have licensed wells on IT's property. They can work around all of these issues. They are just not going to go in there right now due to the economy of scale and they do most of their planning and harvesting in Powell River in the fall/winter.

Question: Do you have any timeline in mind?

We are still thinking it could be almost any time, but we are in no hurry especially this time of year. Island Timberlands has way bigger projects that they are working on that will give a much bigger benefit right now. Right now they are working on the areas that they have access to for the four months a year that they are not covered in snow. Perhaps they might come back to Crowther this fall.

Morgan said that they will be telling the Ratepayers that the soonest they will be back is this fall. They have pulled back there ground work due to all of the attention they received when people saw their crews in hard hats and visi-vests 15 metres from their driveways. There have been a lot of questions about what legislation applies and what surveys have they done. They have given a list of all of the legislation that applies and told them that no surveys have been done to date aside from typical forestry layout type work because they are not investing in the site until they know they are going to log it.

Question: Anything new on Stillwater Bluffs?

Wayne said no. Nothing.

Wayne said they haven't really done any work on Valentine Mountain. He has hung a few ribbons and he has some ideas about what he would like to do. They know where the Sunshine Coast Trail is and has been talking to Eagle Walz about moving the trail. He showed the group a map and pointed out where he might put a road in, but has no definite plans or a timeline.

Question: Are Island Timberlands and TimberWest amalgamating?

We don't know. We do know that China Investment Corp put a bid on to become one of our limited partners. They were three limited partners and one has now exited. The other two limited partners refused China Investment Corps entry and the shares have now been redistributed between the two remaining partners.

Standard Review Process for SFI

Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) is a North American standard. The same standard is applicable for all participating organizations in North America. They need to demonstrate how they are meeting the objectives and indicators. IT is now operating under the 2010 – 2014 Standard. The revision process kicked off on June 5th to create the 2015 – 2019 Standard. The first intake of comments takes place until August 6th. From January through mid March will be the second intake of comments. SFI hosts

Minutes

workshops around the continent and the closest is likely somewhere in Western Canada. We can send you information regarding the location to you if you would like. All of the comments will be published online. This process created 6 new objectives during the creation of the last standard. The standard went from 13 to 19 objectives. It added more detail around public lands, aboriginal involvement, public participation and community involvement.

(For more information on the Standards Review Process, see link: <http://www.sfiprogram.org/sfi-standard/introduction-to-the-standard/standard-review-process/>)

Question: When you get us the date and location for the nearest workshop could you please also send us the webinar?

Morgan said that if there is one she could send it out. She said she could try and bring the person running the revision process up as a speaker in the fall. The new draft standard should be up by June 2014.

Crowther Road Rate Payers Meeting

Comment: There is a high level of anxiety and anger that we do not usually see in this town.

Wayne said that he is aware of it.

Morgan and Wayne will be meeting with neighbours of the Crowther Road block next week as they have received a number of letters, postcards, emails and phone calls regarding this block. They have had a number of questions that Morgan has prepared a letter providing as many answers as possible. The Powerpoint slideshow prepared to share with the Ratepayers and local government was reviewed quickly and addressed the questions shared below.

What legislation applies?

Morgan listed all of the provincial and federal legislation that applies.

What government oversees them?

She said this depends on the legislation.

Why is private land exempt from Canadian environment assessment level reviews?

Morgan said that the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act is more applicable to new projects and usually of a larger scale. It can apply to things like new log dumps but is not usually applied to a business like forestry which has ongoing multiple activities taking place.

Minutes

Many people stated that forest harvesting will cause increased runoff in the soil of the cutblock which will contaminate local non-sealed water levels either on IT property or neighbouring property.

Morgan cited the Land Management Handbook which says that when you harvest the top layer of soil dries out more than it normally would and the bottom multiple layers are wetter as a result of no roots so generally the soil water ratio is higher after harvest not lower. It usually increases peak flows in the summer and in the winter the soil is already completely saturated and water is already running off the surface. The only reason for concern is if they damage the soil by heavy compaction with machinery.

There is a lot of concern regarding liability. What kind of insurance does IT carry in case direct adverse damage?

It has enough insurance to cover them, but they do not want to get into a situation where they are would have to pay out a large sum of money in insurance. That is why we hire people like Wayne or other experts to do all of the assessments that the company needs to protect themselves. Their contractors also have to hold insurance.

What kind of insurance does the company carry to deal with challenges under legislation affecting material negative damage to drinking water?

They have two ways to make sure they are not going to cause any material adverse impact. One is they employ qualified people Wayne and his contractors go out and assess things such as streams to check if they are fish bearing, how hydrology or the composition of the rock and the slope are going to be risky. He will hire people that he feels are necessary such as stability specialists or hydrologist to make assessments. They are held to legislation so the company can be penalized or they could be penalized individually with fines or jail terms. They have business processes and systems designed to meet or exceed legislation.

Did a logging truck on contract to IT dump its load on Malaspina Road during 2011 and 2012?

Nobody in the company is aware of this occurrence. People are very concerned about industrial traffic and residential traffic on their narrow gravel road.

When do you plan to harvest?

Undetermined. The original idea was that they may do some road construction this fall and begin harvest next year, but right now that is not the plan as they can see that it is creating a lot of public concern.

How much time would it take to harvest?

Minutes

An example timeline looks like: Road construction would take two weeks, harvest would take six weeks, and reforestation would take one or two days.

How big of an area?

The size of the legal property is about 140 hectares. The possible cutblock size they are looking at is a series of small polygons between 5 and 15 hectares.

Wayne said they would likely be closer to 5.

How big was the cutblock that was harvested in 2011?

63 hectares.

When will that property be replanted?

It was replanted this year and last year.

What is the company's management plan around the wells?

They are going to work around the wells that people have registered on their property and make sure that they do not impact them.

Does the company need any permits in place to install culverts on their property?

No.

Does the company need any other government permits for the project?

Based on preliminary planning to date, they anticipate they need a license to create a junction with Crowther Road and they need a license to cut in order to remove some crown timber that is on the right of way. These are two very standard applications that the company applies for all of the time so they do not foresee any issues.

Wayne said when they apply for the permit to create a junction the permit will specify that they have to put culverts in, where the private land roads meet the public highway (Crowther Road).

Minutes

How does the company identify species at risk on the site?

They use data that they have internally from previous site visits or from information that the government collects all over the province that they can access. They pull the data from the government into their system every year and update their own database. They also do staff and contractor awareness training.

There is an eagle's nest on the neighbour's property. What happens if the company damages the eagles nest?

This is covered by the provincial Wildlife Act and Wildlife Regulation. There is no chance that they would damage the nest. If they did the conviction would be for the first time damaging a nest upwards of \$100,000 fine and /or one year in jail. If they can prove that it was the second time damaging a nest the conviction would be between \$2,000 and \$200,000 and/or two years in jail. If it is your first conviction, but you have had other infractions or if it were a serious offense for something like hunting at night with a pit lamp it would also be considered as a second offence.

What responsibilities exist to maintain the water quantity on the neighbour's wells?

None. This could change if the government ever creates the Water Sustainability Act which is a new Water Act that has been considered for a number of years but has not moved forward.

Tree harvesting is going to damage the tourist industry.

Our property is owned and managed for forestry. We do consider tourism and we look to find some balance with things like self imposed timing restrictions. They do not plan to be active during the summer tourism season.

Has the company planned to address noise pollution?

Although it does not apply to our company we normally go by the noise bylaw. This area does not have a noise bylaw so the company will likely operate Monday through Friday from 7am to 6pm or something similar to that.

Will there be traffic control measures in place?

Minutes

The MoTI junction permit will probably specify. As there is likely to be conflict they might hire flag people or something like that.

How does the company plan to mitigate trees falling on their residential neighbour's property?

When they are harvesting the harvest is controlled with supports to ensure the trees fall where they want them to.

Wayne said that when they are operating within a tree length of a powerline they have to use quality controlled falling. No handfalling unless there is a line on the tree or a buncher. This is a self imposed company standard.

Morgan said that post harvest they would likely do tree pruning similar to what Island Timberlands completed along the Portage Trail along the Powell Forest Canoe Route to reduce the tree sails.

What is the road status of Crowther Road?

It is considered a public highway. There is inadequate room for turn-arounds on the road for logging traffic so the company will plan a safe turn around when they get to that stage.

Can the road handle logging traffic?

The company uses equipment that is legally registered to use public roads.

Who determines whether the road can withstand logging traffic?

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.

What happens if there is a conflict with emergency medical services?

We would make sure that our traffic gets out of the way as quickly as possible.

How will the company manage interaction of public traffic with logging traffic?

We will make sure that we communicate our hours of operation and when we plan to be working.

Wayne said that they work in a lot of urban interface areas and have never had a problem in the past.

Comment: It is a very narrow road with poor visibility.

Minutes

Wayne said that the drivers will be instructed to drive slowly.

What responsibilities exist to repair damage to Crowther Road?

Morgan said that normally what happens depending on the Regional District and the local MoTI rep they usually do what they consider regular maintenance for a gravel road as they are operating if they are causing it to be extremely rough or something. They make sure this plan is in place before hand because they do not want to be caught altering a public road without prior approval. They would maintain it similar to a logging road so they would have a grader working it. This will also be something they figure out once they start planning. They would never leave a public road in disrepair after they are finished.

What reforestation plans does the company have for the cutblock that was harvested in 2011-12?

The company replanted last year and this year.

What is the potential of water contamination from forestry based chemicals?

Legislation addresses this. There are expectations for the time of year and weather conditions when spraying can take place for competing brush as well as expectations for distances away from water courses and wells.

Someone alleged that the company damaged a creek in 2011-12.

They are not aware of this. They have asked that the issue be brought to their attention so that they can address it as this is something that would be contravening legislation.

There is concern regarding the potential that the company may harm critical wildlife habitat.

There is legislation in place to identify and how to manage critical wildlife habitat and there is not any located on the block in question.

There is concern regarding marine aquatic species such as the oysters on racks in the bay out front.

There is legislation to protect against this.

Adjourned 8:30 pm

**Stillwater CSA Community Advisory Group
Islands Timberlands
June 12th Attendance**

Name	Position	Member Seat
PRESENT		
Jane Cameron – Chair	Primary	Member at large
Dave Hodgins	Alternate	Recreation
Nancy Hollmann	Primary	Tourism
Bill Maitland	Primary	Local Business
Colin Palmer	Primary	Local Governments
Andy Payne	Primary	Employment & Education
Paul Goodwin	Alternate	Forest Dependent
Wayne Brewer	Alternate	Tourism
Cathy Bartfai	Alternate	Member at large
5 Seats represented		
ABSENT MEMBERS		
Ken Jackson	Primary	Recreation
Russ Parsons	Alternate	DFA Worker
Mark Hassett	Alternate	Contractor
Debbie Dee	Alternate	Local Governments
Barry Miller	Primary	Environment
Doug Fuller	Primary	DFA Worker
Rory Maitland	Primary	Contractor
Laura van Diemen	Alternate	Employment & Education
Read English	Alternate	Local Business
George Illes	Alternate	Environment
Rob Stewart	Primary	Forest Dependent
PRESENT		

Minutes

Resource – othersPRESENT		
Wayne French	Island Timberlands	
Valerie Thompson	Facilitator/SecretaryWFP	
Morgan Kennah	Island Timberlands	
Russ Brewer	Guest	