

Minutes
CSA Community Advisory Group
To Western Forest Products
December 11, 2013
Western Forest Products Boardroom

Attendance: refer to attached sheet

6:00 pm: Meeting called to order
Quorum 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 introduced guests. Members introduced themselves.

Review and Acceptance of Agenda

Agenda was accepted.

Correspondence

Copies of recent correspondence was provided and reviewed
Letter to PRPAWS
Emails to FNs
Letter to Eagle Walz
Email thanking Makenzie Leine
Email re: canoe route detour

Operational Information Map Review

Current Activities

Harvesting – BT-659, LL-010, LL-012, PD-168, PD-421 (inactive for the winter), PD-460, ST-296,
ST-327, ST-329, UL-827, UL-838

Road Construction – BT-656, BT-669, GI-119, LL-038, ST-070, TM-123, TM-256, TM-260, UL-816,
UL-817, UL-819

Engineering – BT-915, GI-064, LL-037, ST-103, ST-128, ST-820, TM-254

What's New on the Map

New Blocks – CH-043, FH-041, ST-333, PD-306 (was part of PD-302),
PD-480 (was part of PD-460), UL-848, WL-009

New Roads – GI-140, ST-333, FH-041, UL-848, WL-009

Cutting Permit Approved Areas – BT-649, BT-659, EL-665H, EL-697, EL-698, EL-700,
EL-701, LL-012, ST-030, TM-258

Minutes

ST-333 is a new block planned along the Sunshine Coast Trail.

Question: Does Eagle Walz still walk blocks that affect the SCT?

Yes. Since our meeting with Eagle in October I have walked two blocks with him. I will show the maps of these two blocks later this evening to show what Eagle and I came up with.

Logging Complete – PD-302, UL-814

Road Construction Complete – GI-131, LL-012, TM-258

Question: What activity determines active versus non-active logging in winter conditions?

Road conditions, snow and risk determine whether logging is active in an area. It is very expensive to keep the roads clear in snowy conditions.

Comment: I would like to take this time to appreciate the care that WFP has taken in informing what they are doing on the edge of our property.

Engineered Blocks – CH-018, CH-045 (was part of CH-018), CH-042 (was part of CH-018), CH-044 (was part of CH-043), GI-061, GI-062, GI-130, LL-038, LL-039, ST-040, ST-070, ST-283

Engineered Roads – CH-018, CH-042, CH-043, CH-044, CH-045, LL-038, LL-039, ST-040, ST-070, ST-283

Guest Speaker: Chief Councillor Clint Williams, Sliammon Nation

Clint gave the status of Sliammon Nation's treaty agreement. They have their final agreement. There was a referendum that took place two years ago that endorsed the final agreement. They now have provincial approval and are currently awaiting the federal government approval. They were promised that they would have it by the end of 2013, but that is unlikely at this point. This will likely push back the effective date of the treaty about a year, so the earliest possible time that they will have the final agreement in place and have Sliammon be a treaty nation is 2015 or 2016.

The referendum approved the final agreement for the framework of the nation to be built including laws in all of the key areas. Right now they have three working groups in effect out at Sliammon. One group is dealing with governance basically building the government and the whole system that Sliammon will manage itself under. Another is dealing with lands and resource and the last is working with finance. The three working groups are made up of a combination of legal, staff members, community members, and consultants.

The forest resources that Sliammon current holds are: Woodlot 1672 (around Big and Little Sliammon Lakes) that has an AAC of approximately 3,000 cubic metres, community forest license made up three areas (the Bunster Hills, upper Haslam, and behind Edgehill School) that has an AAC of 28,000 cubic metres, and TFL39 take back (near Lang Creek, head of Haslam and Inland Lake) that has an AAC of 22,000 cubic metres. These areas make up an AAC of approximately 53,000 cubic metres. Right now it is in the form of a forest license to cut for a five year period. The reason it is in this non-replaceable license form is because they are waiting for an effective date to look at rolling all of their tenures into one and the form that they have their eye set on is into their community forest license. In the final agreement an additional 25,000 cubic metres is identified on effective date. They will then be at 75,000

Minutes

cubic metres AAC specific to forest tenure. With that Sliammon will also be receiving about 6,100 additional hectares of land which will be identified as treaty settlement land. These are the lands that stretch along Okeover and cross over to Powell Lake, there is about 350 hectares behind the WFP office, and about another 300 hectares near Pocahontas Bay on Texada Island. These settlement lands will support an AAC of approximately 22 – 25,000 cubic metres. This will give Sliammon an AAC of 100,000 cubic metres. Clint feels it would be nice not to have to cut the Treaty Settlement Lands. He would like to see these lands left as an asset they hold.

Question: Who is in control of the collapsed culvert near Pocahontas Bay?

That is one of the areas that we do not have early access to, so it would still be the Ministry.

Comment: The bridge is actually collapsing and when it does there will be major erosion problems.

We have noticed that, but we don't have authority right now and the Ministry office wants to direct people our way. If we had the authority we would do something.

Question: Where do your logs go?

We have a log marketing agreement with A and A Trading. They are a log broker with a head office in downtown Vancouver. They are also log brokers for the Klahoose and Sechelt. All of the cedar goes to the Goat Lake group.

Question: Are the logs sold domestically if possible and if not, offshore?

Yes. Honestly, a lot of it is export. It is where the money is.

Question: Have you been approached locally other than by Goat Lake to purchase cedar or fir?

Somebody did talk to us about fir and then they never came back. They came once and we said we were willing to talk and then we never heard from them again. We are looking for employment for our people. If somebody wanted to set up an agreement for x amount of cubic metres per year we would jump at it.

Land use plans will be created for all of Sliammon's areas. Sliammon under the old Indian Reserve system had six reserves. IR#1 which they live on, IR#2 which is Harwood, IR#3 which is on Cortez Island facing the marina (95 hectares), there is one in Grace Harbour, another in Theodosia, and another at the head of Okeover. All of those make up about 1,900 hectares. They are doing land use planning for those Indian Reserves and the Treaty Settlement Lands. One of the issues is that people would like to live in isolated areas with privacy. These areas have no infrastructure; no power, no water, no sewer so they are trying to gather information and see where everyone would like to be so that sustainable planning can be attained.

Comment: My main interest is in mountain biking and we are really appreciative of how supportive you have all been of us running the BC Bike Ride here every year in your traditional territory. We attended a mountain bike tourism symposium in Sooke earlier this year. Chief Gordon Plains was in attendance and we asked what we could do for him. He said 'get our kids involved'. Mountain biking is huge industry and Sechelt is building a new year round bike park. People are really excited and there is going to be a lot of money pouring into that. There is potential to build a bike park in Powell River which would produce revenue and jobs. It has been suggested that we throw the idea out to you. We

Minutes

don't have any specific ideas or plans, just the idea to keep in mind. It could be big. This area is just getting discovered and people love our trails and love it here.

For sure. When you look at the map from Saltery Bay to Bute the Sliammon Treaty Settlement Lands has about 80% of the trails. This is something that we look at seriously and we have a good relationship with the BOMB squad and PRPAWS. We weren't sure how the first logging block we had with the SCT meandering through the whole block was going to go. We had a meeting with Eagle and they rerouted the trail. We gave them a little bit of money and they built a shelter, a wharf, and a few bridges. They rerouted the trail through some rough slash and it all went really well. We welcome ideas like yours, because we are also involved in tourism initiatives mainly tied to the Lund Hotel. The Sliammon Chief and Council have created a youth council to get a youth perspective on things. They meet regularly and have been in existence for about 6 months. We bought them a 39' fiberglass canoe because they are keen to go on a canoe journey from Bella Bella.

Question: Who heads up the youth council?

It was Drew Blaney, but he has now gone to UVIC and Ryan Pielle has taken over. Ryan is a Brooks student and is in regular contact with Drew.

Question: Could you please give us a picture of Sliammon's current employment? As you get more land would you hire more people?

Right now Sliammon's employment statistics are not great. There is quite a young population and there is a big generation gap from back in the heyday of the logging with the choker shows and 12 people on site. Times were pretty good back then for employment. Right now the unemployment rate is 80%. That is why we are so keen to find new opportunities.

Question: With what you are logging right now are some of the residents working with you?

Yes. Our harvest show has a couple of Sliammon Band members. There are also a couple of logging truck drivers out in Sliammon, but one is with another company. We really want him to work for us, but he prefers steady employment. Another had a pretty big scare and is not interested. Our problem is there has been a two generation gap since the old days when the 'jack of all trade' logger was around. In my grandpa's days they ran the yarder, jumped on the excavator, and could do whatever. Right now we are having a really hard time finding people. We are building a good inventory of machinery and we have had some good Sliammon people on the machinery, but when the work is not steady we lose them to Fort McMurray. We have also lost some people to the mill. We are trying to build up an inventory of equipment so that we can have a Sliammon independent crew. Right now our partners have operators from the local area. They are non-native so their money is flowing in the Powell River community. We met with Ken MacKenzie and Adam Culos a couple of weeks ago and learned about the new logger training that is happening over on the Island. We are really keen to send one or two people over for that and have put it in our monthly newsletter to see if anyone is interested.

Question: So, your business needs to grow in order to provide permanent employment?

We had a long journey getting all of the licenses. It sounded good on paper, but there was a lot of lag in between. We started out with just woodlot 1672. The community forest took three years to select the areas, develop plans, and FSP. We are just laying the wood out for the forest license to cut 'take back'

Minutes

volume now. This timber came from an arrangement that took place in 2006. It is now heading into 2014 and we are finally hanging ribbons. We will start harvesting mid-January.

Question: Do you go through the same types of processed that WFP does such as Forest Stewardship Plans, Sustainable Forestry Management Plans, and setting up the AAC?

Our AAC is already set, where WFP has a big TFL. We are not a TFL we are just a community forest. Having studies done to show what level of AAC the sites would allow for is part of what took so long.

Question: So, the level of AAC is considered sustainable?

Yes.

Question: If you do not harvest within + or – a certain percent of your AAC over the whole TFL then you are fined, correct? I don't know the difference between a community forest license and a TFL.

We have to be within 5% or 10% in either direction.

Stuart said that the main difference between community forests and TFLs is that the Ministry of Forests does the management plan calculation to get the AAC for community forests and TFL holders have to give the background data to support their suggested AAC.

Question: With a community forest do you have the ability to do a CSA or SFI certification? And are you planning on doing that?

Maybe further down the road. Right now we are just getting established and wanting to get our licenses under one management plan. Right now we have three and possibly four under different management plans. All of those require different planning, so we would like to bring them all into one so that we only have one license to look after.

Comment: We would love to see you go through the certification process over the years. The exercise itself is brilliant and it gives so many people a chance to give input.

Our log broker has certification that they go through. What we do reflects on them.

Question: Is it like a Chain of Custody?

Yes, there is sale agreement that shows what is happening.

Question: Does your piece of land go into the Inland Lake park?

No. It butts up to it on the height of land.

Question: Is there an opportunity to look at your maps?

Yes. Our office is next to the Band office and we are in the phone book.

Question: Could you tell the group what your backgrounds are?

Minutes

Clint said that he started out as a silviculture contractor and then went to a silviculture training program in Mission. Of the 25 participants, 12 got jobs and Clint was one of them. He was lucky enough to end up back home. He then worked for the Ministry of Forests for about 10 years. Craig has a Forest Resource Management degree from UBC and John has a diploma in Natural Resource technology from the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology. He worked as a summer student for Weyerhaeuser doing planning and timber cruising.

Comment: Thank you. I wanted everyone to know how much experience you all have with the industry.

These forest tenures have gotten Sliammon through some pretty rough times. The money that was generated by the tenures helped pay off some big debts that had compiled over time. The management of Sliammon may have been taken over by a consultant sent by Indian Affairs if the debt was not paid. They got active with the forest tenures, generated forest revenues and worked their way out of that debt. Bands are labeled under three categories by Aboriginal and Northern Affairs Canada: high risk, medium risk, and low risk bands. Sliammon was up in the high risk category for many years, went briefly to medium risk, and their latest financial statements now have them in the low risk category. This gives the band much more credibility for funding. They were lucky to get any grant funding in the past, but now they are looked at with a new appreciation. This did not happen over night, they went through some rough times and there are elections every two years with people wanting to see results.

Question: The day the treaty is signed will you basically be on your own?

We will be at a provincial level of government. One of the main mission statements in the treaty process was seeking independence.

Question: Are you looking to make governing terms longer than two years as part of the treaty process?

Yes. We had that in the works three or four years ago because treaty was looking questionable. It is tough to get anything done with a two year term because you are in campaign mode most of the time. We went through a referendum and people endorsed a four year term and were getting close to signing it off when the treaty referendum came up. If the referendum failed they were still going to pursue the longer term. With the treaty referendum passing the governance working group is developing new rules and has landed on four or five year terms.

Question: What is the status of the Theodosia Round Table?

That was a Denise Smith and Eric Blaney initiative. The treaty negotiation table dealt with initiatives was they would create a Treaty Related Measure which seems good at the time because they give an injection of funds, but the funds are only good for one year which makes it tough to be sustainable. They managed to get a couple of years of funding and they are still talking about it.

Comment: I found it very informative, especially about the improvement from the fisheries perspective.

Yes. There was a lawsuit that we settled on the landslide that happened that led to the side channel project. We built a cabin there this summer so people can go up there and appreciate the valley. Cathy Galligos in our Lands Department has the key. It is just before the dry land sort.

Question: How many people are employed by fishing?

Minutes

The hatchery is made up of two sections: the (SEP) Salmon Enhancement Program, and the (AFS) Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy. The SEP takes care of egg monitoring and AFS takes care of food fish. There are four people employed at the hatchery. We also have a partnership with some people in Okeover. They are looking at getting the plant at the end of Cannery Road operational and back to its glory days thirty years ago when they were processing oysters and gooey ducks and clams. Some people have tried to make a go of it with just oysters, but it is not enough. There needs to be more diversity of products.

Question: Is there still concern for increased mercury levels in the area? This was mentioned by a federal government employee at the round table.

I'm not sure. We would have to check with Eric or Denise. We do have some monitoring that is going to get started. Alterra Power is looking to generate some environmental credits. They need to create some habitat to make up for the changes they have created in the Toba Valley. There weren't any creeks in the area that were suitable to get them the environmental credits that they need, so they approached us about doing some more work on the side channel. There are a couple of little add ons that will include some ongoing monitoring.

Question: Did you have a choice to be a community forest?

We were negotiating a forest range accommodation agreement and they kept trying to encourage us to have non-replaceable 5 year licenses. We did not want to have to come back every five years with our hands out asking for more. They wanted a long term tenure. About two years into this negotiating period, the City of Powell River had the community forest dropped into their lap. We were not happy, because we spent two years negotiating for a long term tenure. We told them they could just give the City a community Forest and then not give one to Sliammon. In the end it worked out because we ended up with a long term tenure. After all this and then working with the community forest license they tried to push us into a First Nations Woodland license which had different rates. We told them we would stick with the community forest license.

Comment: Thank you very much. There are two seats held for Sliammon in this group and we would be delighted if you would sit at the table with us.

We will keep that in mind. Our operational area for the next couple of years we will be in the Upper Haslam and Bunster areas in the same general areas as WFP so it would be beneficial for us to keep ourselves informed.

Indicators

Stuart said he has not been able to close Indicators 5.1.1 and 5.2.1 so it will be discussed at a future meeting. He said he would like to speak to Shannon Janzen before closing the indicator off and she is on vacation at this time.

ACTION: Stuart to speak to Shannon Janzen about Indicators 5.1.1 and 5.2.1.

Ungulate Winter Ranges and Wildlife Habitat Polygons

Stuart presented a map showing deer winter ranges in the DFA. These ranges are about snow interception so that the deer are not stuck out in deep snow conditions. The winter ranges are established on south facing slopes because these areas are warmer, have more sun and less snow. They have trees mature enough that they are intercepting snow.

Minutes

Comment: I understand that the age class of tree that they are looking for is 60 -100 years. This will give enough protection and still enough light for under growth.

Stuart said he agreed with that. The selection of the deer winter ranges was done with Ron McLaughlin at Weyerhaeuser and Steve Gordon with the Ministry of the Environment, Lands and Parks. They worked on it in 2000 and it was done with mapping as well as walking around the hillsides to verify that they were good deer winter range spots. They did a detailed assessment for each area and there is a book with each of the assessments at WFP. The map Stuart presented showed the deer winter ranges, goat winter ranges, marbled murrelet habitat areas, and the grizzly bear polygons. WFP has these habitats in their GIS so that they know when they are working in or near them. Deer winter ranges are included in the (FSP) Forest Stewardship Plan and the FSP outlines the requirements for working inside the deer winter ranges. There are 13 deer winter ranges in the DFA. The FSP says there are three tests that have to be met when harvesting within deer winter ranges: a maximum of 20% of the productive part of the polygon can be under 20 years of age, a minimum of 20% has to be at least 80 years of age, and at least one patch of at least 20 hectares in size has to be at least 80 years of age. Each time WFP is managing a harvest within deer winter ranges they have to ensure that they meet each one of the three tests. This formula provides enough trees for snow interception and provides enough forage areas.

Question: Do they know if the deer are there?

They did note deer signs as part of the field assessments, but we have never gone back to check whether deer are still using the spots. Because of the present age classes of the TFL at this time the limiting factors are not going to be winter ranges. Predation is a far greater limiting factor.

Question: Do deer stay in the same area or do they move about?

Individual deer tend to stay in the same area.

Question: So, if the area they habitually go to is logged they have to move?

Ken MacKenzie said they did a study in the Sayward Valley when he was a forester there. They studied the deer over a period of time with different snowfall levels with collar tracking and they found that some deer are very resident unless they are subjected to extreme circumstances like heavy snow. Other populations of deer migrate long distances. That is how they designed the deer winter ranges. They pick up some of the resident deer and transients.

Stuart said these areas are large and you are only able to harvest small areas of them, so any logging that takes place in them would have little impact on the deer using them.

Harvest Plans and SCT/Trail Riders review for LL-038 and ST-070

Stuart displayed maps of LL-038 and ST-070. The maps show trails on each block. Block LL-038 has a horse corral adjacent to it as part of a recreation site and the trail riders group uses this corral about three times per year. Currently they have had problems with vandalism. The group likes the idea of access to their corral but is concerned about the vandals. WFP is going to put in a gate and give them a key.

Comment: There are a number of regulations coming in with the new outdoor recreation vehicle legislation. This is going through the RCMP and ICBC so if anybody is not behaving they could have their vehicle confiscated.

Minutes

Question: I believe we have all agreed in the past that we were not in favour of locked gates. If a gate is put up in this area, where does it stop?

The gate on A Branch cabin is WFPs as well. We are just storing it up there for the time being and seeing it how goes. We are not cutting traffic off on a major branch. You can walk down to the point, it is just a neighbourly thing we have done with the trail riders to see if it will help.

Comment: It is human nature to try and solve problems with gates, but they don't work. Honest people won't enter and vandals still will. In the end, it is public land and it shouldn't be gated.

Comment: The issue is there isn't consistent enforcement.

Ken MacKenzie said they had a lot of problems with vandalism in Sayward. They formed a partnership with the Sayward Fish and Game Club to take care of maintenance. They gave them a sign that said this site is maintained by the Sayward Fish and Game Club. The vandalism stopped very quickly. They were no longer beating up Weyerhaeuser's recreation site, they were now beating up the recreation site maintained by the people they lived with in Sayward. Perhaps a sign could go up with the restricted access. Maybe people will see it differently.

Comment: It has worked here on some trails where we put up ATV Club and Fisheries signs up.

The Sunshine Coast Trail mostly runs along the shore. They are going to do a short reroute of one section. Eagle would like to build another shelter in this area.

Question: How many of the huts or in the TFL

Two.

Question: Does he have any fire management plans for them?

Good question. The fires that we get out there are recreation fires. There are fire trucks sitting right there during logging. It is something that should be looked at.

The SCT trail cuts across ST-070. Eagle and Stuart decided that the trail should come straight down the hill. WFP put retention along the trail.

Question: Along both trails how many metres of trail will be rerouted?

Approximately 350 metres.

LL-039 and Jefferd Creek Community Watershed

A corner of this block is inside the watershed. WFP will be talking to the Stillwater water group. There is about 1.5 hectares of the block inside the watershed and the area is a long way away from the creek. WFP had Brian Carson out to look and he said there was nothing that WFP could do in the area that would affect Jefferd Creek. The area is actually a gravel pit that people have tried to get licenses for. There is a small creek that used to connect to Jefferd Creek and now just runs down an old road and drains into the ground. Brian Carson said they could leave it or dig a little connecting ditch and reconnect it to Jefferd Creek. This is the one item that needs to be managed properly.

Minutes

Community Engagement

Stuart asked the group for ideas regarding community engagement and information sharing.

Comment: One of the things that I think is very important is the difference between Western's Tree Farm License on Crown Land and private interests because people tend to lump the whole thing together and think all harvesting is done by WFP when it is another group. I brought in a map from Oregon that explains what happens where by whom as an example.

Comment: It would be interesting to show the Sunshine Coast Trail on a map with all of the forest interests marked on it. This would show it as a walk through a working forest.

Comment: I would like to thank WFP for putting the viewpoint in the paper. It would have been great if it was less general. People said it would be great if it said what is happening on the ground.

Comment: People think government is taking care of the canoe route, they don't understand that it is WFP. You should let people know all of the great things you do.

Comment: Does the website say who your community partners are? You could sponsor the Kings hockey team.

Comment: I know there are issues with signs, but Oregon has great signage. Harvesting always has signs that say when and who harvested. They also say which group's organizations have partnered with such as the Boy Scouts of America.

Ken MacKenzie said that the company is currently looking at a regional communications strategy for each of the regions. Each one has specific needs. He encouraged members to give their suggestions. Ken is wary of signs because they look great for about a year and then they start falling apart and reflect badly on the company.

Stuart said engraved cedar signs weather well.

Ken said if they are going to put up signage they need to do it right and commit to it. Then it is a worthwhile project. He would like to put more concrete information in the paper.

Comment: A lot of people are addicted to social media so I would suggest Facebook.

Comment: You should have people come to see what you do. You have visuals that you work with on your computer that nobody is aware of, spiral pruning and the work you do on landscape units. Nobody knows about any of the work you do.

Comment: It would be great if your regional strategy was to speak on only one topic like fiscal input into the community for a month or two before moving onto sharing other information. Keep it simple.

Stuart said perhaps they could put a forestry fact column in the paper.

Minutes

Comment: Put a powerpoint no longer than 20 minutes long together. Give a presentation to the council, the regional board, the chamber, and tourism board. There are many groups that are always looking for speakers.

Comment: I also don't like signs, but if you are going to put signs up make a nice kiosk with a bench in a strategic area and put good information on it. Nine mile would be a good spot.

Comment: Take one of your more generic cut block maps when you go to a speaking engagement and show people all of the work that goes into preserving the environment as your extract trees.

Action List Items

Action Items

<i>Ongoing</i>	Who	Meeting	When
Speak to Shannon Janzen about Indicator 5.1.1 and 5.2.1	Stuart	Dec 13	

Adjourned 9:10 pm

**Stillwater CSA Community Advisory Group
Western Forest Products
December 11th Attendance**

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

Minutes

Andy Payne	Primary	Employment & Education
Doug Fuller	Primary	DFA Worker
Barry Miller	Primary	Environment
Rob Stewart	Primary	Forest Dependent
Debbie Dee	Alternate	Local Governments
Mark Hassett	Alternate	Contractor
PRESENT		
Resource – others		
Chief Clint Williams	Sliammon First Nation	
Craig Galligos	Sliammon First Nation	
John Hacket	Sliammon First Nation	
Stuart Glen	WFP	
Valerie Thompson	Facilitator/Secretary	
Ken MacKenzie	WFP	
Fred Westarp	WFP	
Walt Cowland	WFP	