

Minutes
CSA Community Advisory Group
To Western Forest Products
February 11, 2015
Brooks Sewing Room

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 new member Mark Anderson. Members and guest Chris Westgate from Tilt Contracting introduced themselves.

Review and Acceptance of Agenda

Agenda was accepted.

Review and Acceptance of Minutes

Minutes were accepted.

Correspondence

Copies of recent correspondence was provided and reviewed.

Letter to PRPAWS.

Emails to First Nations.

Email re: Alan Rudson's approval of minutes.

Thank-you Doug McCorquodale and Kylie Anderson.

Operational Information Map Review

Current Activities

Harvesting – CH-018, CH-042, GI-122, GI-129, GI-131, LL-012 (inactive), LL-038, ST-026, ST-103, TM-254, TM-260, TM-265

Road Construction – FH-033, GI-130, LL-037, ST-040, ST-111, ST-152, TM-265, UL-846

Engineering – GL-661, ST-065, ST-112, UL-844, WL-014

What's New on the Map

New Blocks – GL-031, GL-118, GL-661, ST-112, UL-823

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New Roads – GL-031, GL-118, GL-661, ST-112, UL-823

Cutting Permit Approved Areas – LL-038, TM-265, FH-033, PD-505

There are no new blocks or roads along the Sunshine Coast Trail.

Logging Complete – EL-693, EL-698, EL-669, EL-665H, EL-700, PD-168, PD-421, ST-283, TM-123, UL-817, UL-819, UL-820, UL-827, UL-828

Road Construction Complete – ST-103, ST-820

Engineered Blocks – BT-915, FH-037, FH-041, PD-541, ST-031, ST-093 (was ST-031), ST-133 (was ST-031), ST-294, ST-298, ST-313, TM-183, TM-247

Engineered Roads – BT-915, FH-037, FH-041, PD-541, ST-031, ST-093, ST-294, ST-298, ST-313, TM-183

Guest Speaker – Russ Parsons and Chris Westgate – Tilt Contracting

The Chair said that Tilt Contracting has a stellar safety record for which they won a special award. Owner Operator Russ Parson's has been selected as one of the three Powell River residents to be a member of WFP's safety committee.

Russ said that Tilt Contracting began business about 11 years ago with one machine. The company was named for its Tilter feller buncher which would fall and process the timber to length. Tilt has since grown larger and acquired new equipment including log loaders, grapple skidders, and feller bunchers. They went from felling and processing to falling, yarding tree length, processing roadside and sorting for Western Forest Products.

Russ went on to speak about the hazards and safety issues of mechanical oversize tree processing and how Tilt manages for them. There are danger trees, oversize danger trees, and oversize trees for the machine (or what they refer to as a multiple cut tree). They have a safety plan in place that they use for the process starting with WFP engineering the design of a block, through the supervisors, to the operators and the people on the ground. There are hazards to be watched for from phase to phase. The plan identifies ways in which hazards can be minimized such as leaving trees nearby the oversize tree to provide cover for the operator. They can hoe-chuck mechanically felled timber to establish a safe falling location cleaning the area up for a hand faller to come in. They have danger trees assessed by certified danger tree assessors. Russ has his danger tree assessor ticket. These individuals have training to understand what conditions make a tree dangerous.

Question: Is the issue oversize or is the issue danger trees? If it is the oversize why bother chasing them? I know there is lots of value in them.

The problem with oversize danger trees for us is that feller-bunchers are limited to a certain size that it can fall safely. The limit is about 44 inches. That is placing four cuts into a tree; an undercut, two side

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notches, and then a back cut. The problems with an oversize danger tree depends on what is going on with the tree. The tree could have some issues such as a heavy top. These trees could be four feet around and be just a shell and there could be thousands of pounds of debris on top. If you push on it, it could fall back on you.

If we decide not to fall the tree with a machine we would pass it on to a faller and he may feel it is safe to fall. If not, it may possibly be blasted. This would depend on the hand faller's opinion on the tree. Some fallers have a blasting ticket.

The plan states that under no circumstances should the operator assume all oversize trees are identified and safe to work around. There are lots of hidden hazards for the operator even after engineers and Russ have walked the block. There are rocks, oversize trees, flare trees, and leans. Operators must walk the falling area as required to identify upcoming hazards within his work zone and have a current falling plan to address those hazards. Any new oversize trees that cannot be mechanically felled safely concurrent with the falling activities must be communicated to the supervisor and a plan developed to hand saw. This will be documented in the change to workplace plan. The description within the block plan should include species, approximate location and mitigation strategies.

Question: The document you are reading to us – is this something you use, work on and revise with WFP?

No. This is my company's document. WFP has a 'blue book'. It is like a mechanical falling standard. My standard operating procedures are continuously updated. WFP has a basic standard and they change it year by year. Every year we get a new EMS binder and it will be the same as the previous year's with some additions.

Question: Stuart, when you are accepting a contractor do you see their SOP manual?

Yes.

Question: When you tour a block and write up a harvest plan does a copy before you start go to WFP?

Yes. About a year ago they started to require our workplace plan. We fill it in and email it to Stuart and they put it in their binders. As we go we add to it as 'change to workplace plan'.

Question: Do you include graphics such as a map?

Yes. Our map shows how we plan to process a block. It shows areas that there are buncher and hand fall areas. It gets amended as needed.

Question: When you are all done do you need a stamp of approval before you proceed?

Yes. Adam or Ken will check the workplace plan, they check the emergency response plan to see who the first aid attendant is, and they go through everything before they sign off on it. At the end of the job we hand in our block plans to WFP, trucking contractor, hand fall contractor, and to BFSC for certification.

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When dealing with oversized dangerous trees the operator must work in an alternate location out of the hazard zone of the oversized dangerous tree until the tree is removed or a danger tree assessor has deemed it to be safe to work around. If the operator based on his training, qualifications and experience can safely create an opening to hand fall the dangerous tree without putting himself at undue risk he may proceed. The supervisor must have knowledge of the plan. If the danger tree hazard cannot be eliminated and may adversely affect another phase or another permanent hazard is identified, a hazard report form must be completed and given to the supervisor. All new permanent hazards will be communicated through the permanent hazard report form and marked on an updated harvest instruction map. All mechanical falling operators are required to maintain the block plan within the mechanical falling binder.

Question: Chris, what happens when the economy is bad and you feel the need to produce?

The machine can only go so far safely. You have to think of your own safety at the end of the day. I have a little girl at home and I want to be able to go home to my family.

Question: Does it feel safer when the economy is better?

Russ said that is a pretty in depth question. Everybody always wants to make a margin. Safety is foremost, and production follows from there.

Question: How many people do you have to communicate with?

I have one other supervisor, Rick, that has been in the business as long as I have. I trust him and the guys trust him. I have 10 machines so I have ten guys plus a mechanic. I full time supervise and Rick spends about 25% of his time supervising. It is full time supervising and running the business.

Chris said that Russ and Rick are just a call away at any time.

Question: When you supervise do you communicate over radio?

Yes.

Western Safety Start-Up Meeting – Jane Cameron and George Illes

Jane attending the safety meeting that WFP puts on for its contractors. Ken MacKenzie covered the same safety information presented to CAG during the January meeting. The MIR (medical incident rate) for contractors at Stillwater is not very good. The MIR for the whole company is very good, but Stillwater had a poor year. They are talking about a culture change where safety belongs to everybody.

It is not the company president's job. It is everyone's job. You develop a safety culture if everyone owns safety. It is important to have rules, standards and clear expectations. Information and hazard alerts are shared. WFP has set up a safety council and the Stillwater representatives are Adam Culos, Rick Allen, and Russ Parsons. They are leaving management out of it. It is the people working in the field looking at ways to make WFP a safer company. The term safety culture was first used in Chernobyl where the decision on what had happened was that safety culture was lacking. Since that time, there has been development of this idea. It was repeated when the Challenger blew up, again when the Deepwater Horizon exploded in the Gulf of Mexico and after the Lac Megantic train wreck. Each time a lack of safety culture was evident. It goes through various stages starting with 'it's not my problem' and it ends with people recognizing that it is their problem.

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George said that the goal is zero accidents. They are giving the tools to do the job. Funds are being provided and they are making sure that each of the people in the volunteer group has the skills to work on the best solutions. It was impressive that every contractor that works for WFP was in attendance participating. They focused on the positive things that are being done. There was a talk on sleep apnea and the need to drink enough water. There was a lot of good information. They said to pay attention because this is your health. You can be 15 or 16 years old and have sleep apnea. I have it and I have had a machine for 5 years and I am ready to rock and roll when I get up.

Stuart liked the focus on taking care of your health. Emphasis is on moving safe, being an 'industrial athlete', good nutrition, and drinking enough water. Safety has been driven to cover all of the procedural activities and this goes beyond that right down to the individual and their ability to do their job that day. Most people have gone through working with the psychologist and are working on their thought processes. It is an evolutionary culture change.

SFMP – 2014 Indicator Results

Indicator 1.2.3 Proportion of regeneration comprised of native tree species

There is no hemlock planted because hemlock always comes back by itself. In order to keep the profile the same as it is now we have to plant fir and cedar because they do not regenerate as well as the hemlock.

Question: How do you know the hemlock is coming back as it should?

We do our surveys at regen as well as free growing and we are counting the total amount of trees of everything that is out there.

Target: The proportion of regeneration comprised of native tree species is 100%.
SFO (Stillwater Forest Operation) met the target for 2014.

Indicator 1.3.1 Percentage of the trees planted annually that are GMOs

Target: The percent of the trees planted annually that are genetically modified organisms is 0%.
SFO met the target for 2014.

Question: What about Island Timberlands?

I think that Island Timberlands may have some seed lots from Oregon planted up here.

Indicator 1.4.1 Proportion of identified sites with implemented management strategies.

This pertains to sites of special interest in the TFL that we have management strategies for such as Inland Lake Park, OGMAs, ungulate winter ranges and marbled murrelet habitat.

Question: How will that change when the treaty is completed?

It won't change at all.

Question: When you are audited after the treaty and the land base changes will you report that the area has changed due to whatever the circumstance is?

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There has been a couple of changes to the area over the years and you will see on a couple of the indicators that the base line has changed. There is one piece of land north of the Shinglemill that is treaty settlement land and it is still included in the TFL figures right now.

Target: 100% of identified sites have implemented management strategies.
SFO met the target for 2014.

Indicator 1.4.2 Protection of identified sacred and culturally important sites with implemented management strategies.

Target: The proportion of sacred and culturally important sites identified each year with implemented management strategies is 100%.

SFO met the target for 2014.

Question: This doesn't say it is limited to First Nation Heritage sites. Should we be looking at other heritage sites for this community like the corduroy road?

It is something we can consider.

Action: Consider adding other heritage sites to this indicator.

Indicator 2.1.1 Reforestation success

Target: The equivalent harvest years of area awaiting reforestation (AAR) annually is < 3 years.

SFO met the target for 2014.

Question: What is the significance of quick reforestation? Is it just financially prudent?

The management plan has an assumption regarding the timeliness of reforestation in it so it does tie to the harvest level. WFP holds liability for everything that is not free growing. It also affects scenic viewscapes and why wouldn't you plant quickly? It makes sense and is the proactive thing to do.

The Chair said it is a National core indicator. We do want the forest growing not just left.

Indicator 2.1.2 Proportion of identified biotic and abiotic factors (fire, wind, insects, and wildlife) with implemented management strategies.

Target: Proportion of identified biotic and abiotic factors (fire, wind, insects, and, wildlife) with implemented management strategies is 100%.

SFO met the target for 2014.

Indicator 2.2.1 Additions & deletions to the forest area.

Target:

- 1) The % of productive forest deleted due to permanent access structures is < 7% of the DFA.
- 2) Report third party applications with the potential to impact the available DFA landbase or deletions to the DFA.
- 3) Report any additions to the DFA.

SFO met the targets for 2014.

Indicator 2.2.3 Amount of area treated with herbicides.

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Target: The amount of area where herbicide is used for brush control on the DFA is $\leq 25\%$ of the total area brushed annually.

SFO did not meet the target for 2014. The variance for the indicator was met. A total of 28% of the brushing completed used herbicides. The focus of this treatment was to control maple coppices, dense alder, and cherry.

Question: Why are there a couple of years that are really high?

It depends where you are harvesting. Much of the herbicide use was for individual tree treatments. This is used for alder and maple because these trees multiply if manually brushed. Alders are usually girdled unless it is too dense. Maple trees coppice out if brushed.

Question: This has a very large variance. Does it need to be that large?

We based the variance on what we saw over a number of years. The key is based on minimizing the herbicide use.

Question: Who tests the water?

We stay away from water. It has been tested to make sure it is safe. It is not broadcast, it is applied directly to the tree. It is ground foliar that is a broadcast spray on foliage.

Indicator 3.1.1 Level of soil disturbance.

Target: The annual number of harvest openings in which soil disturbance exceeds the levels specified in the Site Plan is zero.

SFO met the target for 2014.

Indicator 3.2.1 Proportion of watershed or water management areas with recent stand replacing disturbance.

Question: Do you communicate with the other groups harvesting in the watershed.

Yes. We communicate with Community Forests and Sliammon regarding the watershed. WFP also ensures that our harvesting will not exceed the harvest limits in a particular basin or sub-basin.

Comment: All of the operators in a watershed have to be in communication so that they don't go over the stand level disturbance percentage and not be aware of it. If they are going to harvest another operator might have to wait a few years until the area becomes hydrologically stable enough for another pass. That is why there is the condition in CWAP that they all must communicate.

We have already communicated our plan of harvesting for 15 years into the future and we also check before we go into a block.

Target: The proportion of community watershed water management areas with recent stand level disturbance is less than 30% or other limit that may be specified in a detailed Community Watershed Assessment Plan.

SFO met the target for 2014.

Action: Invite Brian Carson to speak regarding CWAP and FREP monitoring.

Indicator 3.2.2 The annual number of Provincial Emergency Program (PEP) reportable spills

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Target: The annual number of PEP reportable spills on the DFA is zero.

There were three spills in the DFA. One was a self-loading logging truck had a fitting on a main hydraulic line fail. It was on a logging road and cleaned up and reported. The second spill was sheen on Horseshoe Lake called in by one of the truck drivers. It was near a campsite and we think it was likely camping related. The third was motor oil that came out of the stack of a boom boat associated with an engine failure. All spills in water have to be reported.

SFO did not meet the target for 2014.

Indicator 3.2.3 The annual number of non-conformance issues on water quality and quantity on streams in the DFA.

Target: The annual number of non-conformance issues on water quality and quantity on streams in the DFA is zero.

SFO met the target for 2014.

Indicator 4.1.1 Net carbon uptake.

Target: The net annual carbon uptake on the DFA is positive on a five year rolling average.

SFO met the target for 2014.

Indicator 5.2.1 Level of investment in initiatives that contribute to community sustainability.

Target: Level of investment in initiatives that contribute to community sustainability and the local economy is greater than ten projects annually.

SFO met the target for 2014.

Comment: I read in the paper that WFP was runner-up in the Horizon Business awards category of Community Impact.

Indicator 5.2.2 Level of investment in training and skills development.

Target: Prior to the commencement of harvesting activities, all employees are trained in the safety and environmental requirements specific to the area they will be working in.

SFO met the target for 2014.

Indicator 5.2.3 Level of direct and indirect employment

Target: Level of direct and indirect employment is relatively stable varying by less than 25% from year to year.

SFO met the target for 2014.

Indicator 5.2.4 Level of Aboriginal participation in the forest economy.

Target: A number of Aboriginal economic opportunities are in effect in and around the DFA.

SFO met the target for 2014.

Indicator 5.2.5 The % of reviews or field walks completed where harvesting is planned consistent with the approved Management Principles along the Sunshine Coast Trail.

Target: The % reviews or field walks completed where harvesting is planned consistent with the approved Management Principles along the Sunshine Coast Trail is 100%.

SFO met the target for 2014.

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Action List Items

Action Items

<i>Ongoing</i>	Who
Indicator 1.4.2 – consider adding non-FN cultural heritage.	Stuart
Bring copies of approved Management Principles next time	Stuart

Adjourned 9:00 pm

Stillwater CSA Community Advisory Group
Western Forest Products
February 11th Attendance

Name	Position	Member Seat
PRESENT		
Jane Cameron – Chair	Primary	Member at large
Barry Miller	Primary	Environment
Andy Payne	Primary	Employment & Education
Russ Parsons	Alternate	DFA Worker
Colin Palmer	Primary	Local Governments
Cathy Bartfai	Alternate	Member at large
Nancy Hollmann	Primary	Tourism
Paul Goodwin	Alternate	Forest Dependent
Mark Hassett	Alternate	Contractor
Laura van Diemen	Alternate	Employment & Education
Karen Skadsheim	Alternate	Local Governments
George Illes	Alternate	Environment
Read English	Alternate	Recreation
Dave Hodgins	Primary	Recreation

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Joseph McLean	Alternate	Local Business
Mark Anderson	Alternate	Member at large
10 Seats represented		
ABSENT MEMBERS		
Rory Maitland	Primary	Contractor
Bill Maitland	Primary	Local Business
Doug Fuller	Primary	DFA Worker
Rob Stewart	Primary	Forest Dependent
Wayne Brewer	Alternate	Tourism
PRESENT		
Resource – others		
Stuart Glen	WFP	
Valerie Thompson	Facilitator/Secretary	
Chris Westgate	Tilt Contracting	