

West Island Woodlands Advisory Group - Island Timberlands Limited Partnership
Thursday March 10 2011 Final Minutes Held at the ACRD Boardroom

Advisory Group Members:

✓ ✓	Harold Carlson Barbra Baker (alt)	Forest Recreation	✓	Stefan Ochman	Bamfield
✓ ✓	Rick Avis Judy Carlson (alt)	Naturalists	R	Keith Hunter	Multiple Goods & Services
✓	Dave Chitty	Watershed/Fisheries	R	Jim Creighton Neil Malbon	Small Business/Tourism
✓	Ken McRae	A.C. Regional District	✓ ✓	Darlene Clark (alt) John Smith Phyllis Francoeur	Alberni Fish & Game AV Hill Climbers AV Hill Climbers (alt)
		Port Alberni & District Labour Council	R	Jack McLeman	City of Port Alberni
R	John McIntosh Bob Redhead (alt)	Parks Canada	✓	Jane Morden	Environment

✓ = attended R = regrets blank = did not attend V = vacant seat Q = Quorum

Resources Present:

Kraig Urbanoski – ITLP
Rod Christie – ITLP
Brad Rodway - ITLP
Jennifer Dyson – Facilitator
Holly Massop – Recording Secretary

Guests

Frank Stini
Mike Stini
ACRD Director, Mike Kokura

18 Present for the March 10 Meeting

Welcome and Introductions @ 5:30 – 5:40pm

Safety Orientation

Jennifer reviewed safety procedures.

Action Items

October 20, 2010 Approved by consensus to accept minutes

Action Item 1: Minutes to be posted to website – approved for posting

Kraig Urbanoski Presentation

This meeting was arranged quickly after the cancellation of a tour due to weather in the Look Out area, thank you for coming on such short notice

IT Managed Forest; Branch LL15

Kraig provided an overview of the area and history. The features include; Karst terrain, maintaining water quality, water sampling strategies and recreation areas

Harvest strategy

- project started 3 years ago
- Area behind the look-out; the process is measured and calculated, nothing is done on the spur of the moment

New technology

Light Detection And Ranging (LIDAR); is an optical remote sensing technology that can provide measurements of a target by illuminating the target with light, using pulses from a laser. LIDAR technology has application in archaeology, geography, geology, forestry; Company based out of Sidney BC., (Terra Remote Sensing)

- LIDAR provides real contours vs. photo interpreted contours; accuracy provides realistic office planning, tree heights in forest inventory, provide maps of steep slopes for machine operators
- Huge volume of data from this project, no other forest company in BC is doing this with their own dollars; this almost a million dollar investment and is very important to point this out because it shows ITL's commitment to staying here
- China Creek was the test project; pictures are detailed; can see old Pack-Horse trails, mineral creek, etc

Barb B; you get a bare earth display then overlay tree heights overtop of that

Kraig Urbanoski; the points of the lasers bounce back to the computer every 0.7 of a meter, and then that information is converted into maps, etc.

Harold C; is it also deciphering the water / streams

Kraig Urbanoski; yes, China Creek was a test to see if this can be done (visuals shown)

Karst Terrain Mapping

- Over last 7 years ITL has been collecting data with terrain specialists and staff with regards to Karst terrain in the Lacy Lake area
- Comprehensive post-harvest review conducted summer 2010, the intent is to develop practices that will manage risk to Karst feature in moving forward
 - o water management and culvert locations
 - o protecting key features with retention
 - o Field surveys areas were conducted to find indicators of Karst Terrain caves, and sink holes
- Karst overview map created to aid IT planners in block development
- It is ITL's responsibility to not impact the water supply during harvest. We know that with all the Karst features that this is an extremely sensitive area in terms of water and water quality.
- With regards to the area above the train tracks accesses via the export road; there has been contamination in the water from this area at times for residents. We have shut down the road to cut off access due to the disruption of the water supply (motorised access)
- Unfortunately there are people who are just moving the rocks on the deactivated Export road and using the road anyway

Frank S; do you think ATV's do more harm than logging
Kraig Urbanoski; both have an opportunity to mess things up; lots of sediment can be moved by people making quad trails
Rod Christie; logging will assist the ground to recover; planting (and restoration
Kraig Urbanoski; if logging does something unintentional to water it is dealt with right away; where a quad user may not understand that their constant use of an area will have a lasting effect, i.e. moving sediment, etc.

- ITLP will be doing some dye testing in some of the areas to determine small streams are draining; important to know where water is draining to determine implications on drinking water and wildlife, etc; ITL is not committed, but discussing it

Candy Store Area

- June 2010 field visit; Committed to doing work in this area but there are no harvesting plans yet. There are plans to rebuild old and new roads in the area and replace decaying structures in the summer of 2011. We are committed to doing things differently in this area.

Harold C; In the candy store area, Hupacasath FN has intent to do harvesting in their woodlot at this site

Brad Rodway; no idea that the HFN woodlot went that far, but they have not had any conversation with ITL

- Will start at the road, which is already a usable road; want to upgrade the road and surface it out for walking and driving use

Barb B; how will ITL get out to the highway?

Kraig Urbanoski; use existing exit points, by Twin City Auto Body

Harold C: Timberwest has permission to use far end of the Long Train Trail and one of the complaints was they left the surface too rough for horses and bikes, etc

Kraig Urbanoski; we see the importance of recreation and want to have a good walking surface for people

Mike K; responding to Harold's mention of complaints, there was not a single complaint coming to ACRD about Timberwest or ITLP for that matter. If the public has concerns please let local government know.

- ITL owns a portion of the Log Train Trail (LTT); we do want to get rid of the water on the road, the water is draining across roads and into water source which is a source of sediment

Harold C; if you compare where the ATV's don't go, just south of Roger Creek, there are not the same problems as on the front side of the LTT

John S; cannot blame ATV's for all the damage; there are always idiots in every group and they are ruining it for others; thriving club in PA that are trying to help and get along – the damage on the LTT is from a 4x4 and from logs being hauled

Barb B; who is moving the deactivation rocks

John S; not quads, mostly trucks -4x4's people will cut locks and gates to get into the area to 4x4

Jane M; can you use the higher road?

Kraig Urbanoski; too far to bring all the wood up to the railway; ITL does not own the railroad tracks

Barb B; is ITL still thinking of putting a road between the candy store road and the railroad tracks

Brad Rodway; work on the candy store first and then have more flexibility with operations

Jane M; can the lower road match the high road

Brad Rodway; envisioning something more like McLean Mill (narrow with edge) but it depends of topography

Rod Christie; the narrower the road between cut blocks the better, you don't get a "landing strip" effect

Kraig Urbanoski; this is one thing that is being discussed, widen the existing; not committing to any concrete harvesting locations, we are committed to plan the harvesting right now

Frank S; what is the future plan for the motor-cross track

Kraig Urbanoski; there was trouble last year. The club was doing maintenance with excavators and creating a lot of disruption; operations were suspended by ITL until drainage and a proper plan was in place, there is now a permanent sediment control plan that was developed by a hydrologist, re-vegetation with grass seed. As long as the track follows what they say they are going to do they can remain in business; good for the local economy

Operational and Planning Review; the Lookout

- Everyone is interested in what is happening in the "lookout"; ITL recognizes that there is special residential interest in portions of their property, and this is one of those areas. To be successful in running a business ITL needs to continue to be respectful and inclusive of the people who live here and use the ITL property
- Listening to people and discussing; working and planning is in-line with the ITLP core values which encourages public involvement and we will consider feedback. The primary goal is to harvest and grow trees.
- ITL hires competent specialist to advise, methodically plan harvesting and work with the community to assess current environmental conditions and seek improvement where possible. We will attempt to find balance as we make harvest decisions, building roads and managing water quality.
- There has been lots of conversations, thousands of hours of field work just from ITL in this area, lots of water sampling, learning the area and develop strategies

Frank S; what the people want to know is how much old growth is still going to be logged up there?

Kraig Urbanoski; currently the "3 sisters" is not in IT plans, but people must remember that ITL is a forest company and to be sustainable means we need to harvest over all the properties.

Frank S; this is the issue though!

Kraig Urbanoski; there is some areas that will be harvested with old growth and some areas that have old growth that will never be logged in this area

Mike K; out in the Bainbridge area there was no complaints, keeping people informed and taking back input helps keep the people happy

- **KU has been involved with area from 2007. our** intent is to do a good job and properly manage the area, strategies include:
 - o **identifying the values at risk;** water quality, recreational, unique sites, timber

- **develop plans to manage those risks;** culvert placement, deactivate old roads, work around unique features, planned harvesting, communicate, evaluate, revise as necessary

What's next – 2011 plans; Reference Slides from Kraig,

- Planning to harvest in 2011 by Loon 15

Judy C; if you cannot tell us what you are going to cut with regards to old growth, can you tell us what your going to leave? Is this sustainable?

Kraig Urbanoski; we are sustainable across our entire landbase

Judy C; this is part of the SFI though, to have a sustainable old growth management plan and there is not been any answer about this; are you just waiting until everything is gone?

Harold C; this group has asked this question for 5 years, and this will be the first question the group brings to the new sustainability manager

Kraig Urbanoski; not privy to the particular conversations that give you the answers to these questions

Ken Mc; what about logging near the railway, the Community Forest owns 50 feet of trees on either side of the railway, wondering if ITL has logged any of these trees

Kraig Urbanoski; absolutely not

Phyllis B; what is the reasoning behind clear-cutting vs. taking just some of the trees out

Kraig Urbanoski; traditional logging was just to take everything, ITL does clear-cutting with reserves and does replanting, etc., switched from variable retention and now focusing on biodiversity, did not add a lot of value to have just a patch of trees in the middle of a clear-cut, now our retention is focussed on streams and unique features

Phyllis B; how long between cuts?

KU; depends on sites, species, etc

Jane M; would you be taking the bent trees

Kraig Urbanoski; if a faller approaches a tree that is bent, so long as it safe and there is no value to the company in cutting it then it can be left, the fallers have this type of flexibility

- This year going to build and upgrade roads, going around Surprise Cave and the old limestone quarry, up close to Lacy Lake, also upgrading culverts and will connect up to Loon Lake Main
- 2012 harvesting below Lacy Lake, and another area upstream of Cascade Cave
- 2013 harvesting just above railway tracks - preliminary field work has been done; looking at improving roads for sediment runoff

Phyllis B; roads over sinkholes; won't that be harder to maintain

Kraig Urbanoski; trying to go avoid the limestone bedrock, and don't put roads over sinkholes

- Where it can be done, ITL will work with and around trails; commit to clearing debris off the main trails if they are crossed by new logging roads

Frank S; will ITL maintain the culverts

Kraig Urbanoski; depends on if the road will still be being used, if so then the culverts will be maintained, if it is a road specific for logging, the culverts may be pulled

Mike K; what's the age of the timber being harvested in the lacy lake area?

Rod Christie; established in the late 40's

Ken Mc; community forest harvest will be starting soon; jobs for the community is the most important aspect of community forest, it would be nice if ITL could create some jobs for the community. There needs to be more done in this area.

Kraig Urbanoski; the North West Bay crew, is made-up mostly of people who are from the Ocean side area, Port Alberni, Parksville, Nanaimo area.

Ken Mc; Wood-tech 21, log-exports is a problem in this community; why is the APD is down, and WFP exporting off the coast

Kraig Urbanoski; it is not just the harvesting, it is all the man power for the people out in the forest, etc

Ken Mc; wood is a valuable fibre and innovation is the key

Island Timberlands Updates –

New Sustainability Manger is Morgan Kennah; Morgan will be starting by the end of the March

Announcements

Ken Mc; looking for funding for Adventure Tourism in the community and trails are a big part of this

Kraig Urbanoski; come up with a proposal for ITL

Harold Carlson; just about finished Part A of the Inlet Trail, now need a bridge across China Creek, it is a fairly long span and need help with funding for the bridge

Next Meeting(s)

- 1) Western Forest Products Meeting; March 24, 2011
- 2) Island Timberlands Meeting; Unknown

ACTION ITEMS

Action Item	New Action Items	Date of request	Projected Completion Date (Progress)	Person Responsible
1.	Posting of previous ITLP Meeting minutes on WIWAG website	After minutes approved		Jennifer
2.	Ideas for other meetings innovation in forestry and investment in the future	March 10, 2011		Perhaps work with Community Forest WFP and ITLP
3.	Recreation Access Inventory for WIWAG	October 2010		ITLP require update
4.	Presentation on Ungulate Winter Range and Old Growth Management areas	February 11, 2010;	Postponed until Fall	ITLP
5.	DC, ML and KU to potentially work on a salmon habitat restoration presentations for the two watersheds being logged in Roger creek / stokes creek	February 11, 2010;	Postponed until Fall	Makenzie, Dave, Kraig

All Completed Actions see file [Actions completed\ITLP Complete tracking.doc](#)