

West Island Woodlands Advisory Group - Island Timberlands Limited Partnership
Thursday February 11, 2010 Final Minutes

Held ACRD Boardroom - Advisory Group Members:

✓	Harold Carlson	Forest Recreation			
✓	Barbra Baker (alt)				
✓	Rick Avis	Naturalists	✓	Jim Creighton	Small Business/Tourism
✓	Judy Carlson (alt)		✓	Neil Malbon	
R	Dave Chitty	Watershed/ Fisheries	✓	Darlene Clark	Alberni Fish & Game Club
✓	Dave Clough (alt)				
R	Ken McRae	A.C. Regional District	✓	Jack McLeman	City of Port Alberni
✓	Mike Kuruliak (alt)	Port Alberni & District Labour Council	✓	Jane Morden	Environment
✓	John McIntosh	Parks Canada	✓	Stephan Ochman	Bamfield
	Bob Redhead (alt)				

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

Resources Present:

Makenzie Leine – Island Timberlands, Manager of Sustainability and Community Affairs

Kraig Urbanoski - Island Timberlands

Jennifer Dyson – Facilitator

Holly Massop – Recording Secretary

Guests

Frank Ullman – Recreation Officer, Ministry of Sport and Tourism

Frank and Mike Stini; Log Train Trail Reps

John Smith; ATV Club

Lee Blais; Alberni Valley Riders

Welcome and Introductions

Safety Orientation

Jennifer reviewed safety procedures.

Approve Agenda

1. **Action Items from Previous ITL minutes**
 Posting of previous ITLP Meeting minutes
2. **Look at having Ally Gibson come to a ITLP meeting to discuss the salvage and grinding operations**; still in the works – unavailable for this meeting, will come to an upcoming mtg.
3. **Organize a tour out to Ash Operations sometime in January or February**; will send out some dates for this event; due to weather this has been postponed to march
4. **Set-up guest speakers for events in the early spring**; chairman of the log export committee speaking @ ITL meeting in April

November 12, 2009 Minutes Approved by consensus to accept minutes

Action Item 1: Minutes to be posted to website

Island Timberlands Updates - Makenzie Leine (ML)

Safety / Hazard Alert from Timber West; if anyone sees ITL gates they feel need improving, please contact ITL; working on upgrading all their gates

ITL has a new website; launched a couple of weeks ago (Makenzie led WIWAG through website)

- suggestion that WIWAG members take a look at it and provide feedback
- Information on the website about ITL and sustainability, products, community; lots of in-depth and relevant knowledge; ITL has also added a “working with us” page that encourages contractors to make use of the resources in the communities they are working (as per previous WIWAG meeting)
- ITL also has a BLOG; can provide information on major closure issues
- Website has an “extranet” website for contractors which provides information on the EMS for ITL, will also eventually have information on safety; also has a training link that “links-up” to the group that does EMS training for ITL & has interactive quizzes and information; it is mandatory for all contractors to be trained in the information in info-flip and safety, supervisor and principals of the company have additional training in other levels of information;
- ISO does not have a set standard for training, but ITL has a rule – if you want to work for us you must do the training; there are no barriers to this training – ITL will ensure you get it

Inlet Trail; the process is moving along – no signed agreement yet, but getting close; coming along really well and very exciting; suggestion that when this is done there should be a celebration – a presentation or a walk along the trail

Action Item #2; ML to send link for ITL website to JD and have it forwarded out to the group

Operational Update Presentation - Kraig Urbanoski (KU)

Crews operating in Marcy Lake Area & are working down towards Lacy Lake; doing further planning in the area

Export Rd / Stokes Creek; above and below the railway is owned by ITL and there are several Karst sites; have brought in an excavator that will clean the area up and we are very careful.

- No forest interest in this road but cleaning it up anyway for other service providers; not making any road improvement but trying to manage risk to water users in the area
- Harold Carlson (HC); shame that this has become a garbage dumping site and gates are not the solution
 - o KU/ ML – ACRD and RCMP are helping with this
- ML; this road is not something ITL needs for access, but they do have agreements with service providers for access part of the agreement is that these service providers keep the road up to a certain conditions, this is not an access road, so ITL will not manage it as such
- Continuing to meet with water boards and officials, the City, Beaver Creek, Cherry Creek, etc. to ensure water protection
- Proactive in touring of the area in preparation for logging, taking samples & establishing a baseline for water system, then when ITL begins their operations they can show that they can work in these environments and not have a negative impact

- “Candy-Store” area; very interesting site and there are concerns because of the diverse groups that use the site
- Parts of the old road have been washed out; there are a number of trails in this area; varying from foot trails to large scale trails, also there is good valuable timber growing on this land; figuring out what to do with this area; lots of areas for retention in this land base
- ML; seeing the challenges as an opportunity to do something quite unique
- KU; Google earth presentation of ITL cut blocks, etc.; shows the landscape, terrain, we are looking at options to work with the community
- Jane Morden (JM); what is the time frame for these plans
- KU; still early in the process – there is a lower and upper areas that need to be considered; lower will be much more sensitive containing the log train trail, etc – upper, although loved because they are single track trails – they do not get the same amount of use
- JM; important to consider that although the upper trails may not get as much use from people they get plenty of use from quads, bikes, etc
- Dave Clough (DC); could there be a risk assessments done on the trails – what impact do the trails have on the environment and watersheds; need to remove heartfelt feelings from the trails and really look at the environmental impacts of many of the trails
- ML; these assessments are sort-of done by everyone, but who is accountable when this information is gathered who is responsible for the cost of repairing the trails, etc
- KU; discussed developing a trail rating system; the accountability would probably lie with trail user
- Neil Malbon (NM); there are multiple creek crossings in the upper road system which goes over three major creeks; should possibly be looking @ the old road grade as entrance / exit points
- KU; looking @ doing some permanent structures, harvest over a longer period of time; do something different, grow trees, etc.
- Barb Baker (BB); can ITL log right over the log train trail?
- KU; in certain places the log train trail is on ITL land, therefore ITL can log right over it as it is owned by them, unlike McLean’s Mill
- John Smith (JS); does this mean there will be ditch line and improvements made?
- KU; this is the reason for this conversation – making changes, making improvements. Looking @ bringing back the old logging road as a new road
- Rick Avis may be an opportunity to restore the proper drainage, many of the original drainage has collapsed in some areas restoration had taken place - had been considerable work there. Suggest we go and have a look at some examples off of McLean Mill
- ML; this would be great for feedback and point of reference
- KU; this is a unique project and piece of land; this is an opportunity to do some interruptive logging, something new & different

- Harold Carlson (HC); Timber West used the log train trail on the other end; the major complaint was the surface it was left with was too coarse; concerns about the mountain bike trails
- KU; can debate trails, however it is ITL land and they need to try something on it; working to do find dual purpose; ITL can get business done and the public can still use the trails
- JM; can there be corridors in place so that when tourists and people walk the trail it is still treed up to the look-out, combination of forestry and wilderness; it is important that people can still see the trees – no one wants to walk through a clear-cut!
- KU; clear-cutting is a snapshot in time, forestry is global and people from other countries have seen logging
- HC; Cascade caves may be a good example of this
- KU; hesitate to say there will never be activity in the cascade area – who knows what system will be being used in 10 – 20 years that logging could take place in the area
- RA; a lot of the picturesque trees are @ the top of the hill
- ML; ITL is looking for dual value
- KU; ITL would never commit to preserving anything; works in time frames; preserving means forever& that would not happen
- NM; the lookout is arguably the most used trail and it is important to preserve it
- HC; in the ITL forest management system is there an old growth management system?
- KU / ML; yes
- ML; throwing around the idea of having different focus on retention & being area specific, not just arbitrary numbers that may not best suit the cut block; old growth retention strategy is in riparian strategies and ungulate strategies, having a specific old growth strategy would be redundant, as the old growth is protected in how ITL logs
- KU; 2nd road / upper road would be built to a more robust standard; would be convenient way to address all the issues in the area; need to consider productivity, etc
- HC; could ITL operate off the old railway?
- KU; ITL does not own the railway
- NM; but with the small distance between the road and rock bluffs, it could be argued that ITL could pick up some of it
- HC; what about between there and Loon Lake
- KU; standard forestry operations
- ML; the conversation is starting to sound like its about how ITL and forest users can avoid each other; in terms of the importance of this area to the community the conversation needs to be about how can ITL and forest users can integrate together in a working forest that still

maintains its value to the community; everyone needs to step outside of the box and come together to create a sustainable working forest that everyone can use

- JM; if things are stretched out over a long period of time it may be easier to handle; tourism is going to become more and more important in the Valley and the log train trail is going to be important to that
- RA; there have been successful operations where forests were working along side forest users, i.e. the Arrowsmith Trail with Timber West
- HC; is there something that can be done in the way some of the trails are logged that would make it easier to restore them as trails; there is a lot of branch debris and soil disturbance
- KU; this is sort of where the trail rating system would come in; if a trail is an "A" and needs to be treated specially then ITL would be open to that; could pretend it's a creek – doing fall away / yard away; but ITL needs to know what trails need to get this special treatment
- HC; there is a need for the classification of trails

Action Item 3; **JUNE 10th 2010 proposed fieldtrip out to the McLean Mill area that corresponds to the information from KU's presentation on smaller logging ** This would be done earlier in the day.

- JC; will there be consultation on other cut-blocks as well; i.e. Loon Lake?
- JM; is there cut blocks in the Loon Lake that are old growth
- KU; will be cutting in this area by the end of the year – plan is to log the old growth
- Frank Stini (FS); what happens with the old growth trees when they are cut?
- KU; there are many markets for these logs; ITL markets logs and if the best value is for the logs to be exported, then that is what will happen
- FS; is there no obligation to the community?
- ML; yes there is, all logs must be advertised domestically prior to being sold on the global market
- JS; is there not a difference in price between the domestic and national market
- ML; yes there is, exported logs can be sold for sometimes double; there is a strong commitment to domestic logs and logging and milling

Action Item 4; ML to do a presentation Ungulate Winter Range Strategy

Action Item 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

Announcements

Ryan Dvorak; SD70 has reinstated Forestry Class

Feb 20th – 2pm AGM for log train trail, meet @ McLean's Mill

Next Meeting(s)

- 1) Western Forest Products – April 22, 2010
- 2) Island Timberlands – Pending due to tour planning

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 Dyson
2	ITLP Website: http://www.islandtimberlands.com/	February 11, 2010		Jennifer
3	JUNE 10th 2010 proposed fieldtrip out to the McLean Mill area that corresponds to the information from KU's presentation on smaller logging ** This would be done earlier in the day.	February 11, 2010		Jennifer, Makenzie and WIWAG
3	Presentation on Ungulate Winter Range	February 11, 2010		Makenzie
4	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		Makenzie, Dave, Kraig
5	Setup having Ally Gibson come to a ITLP meeting to discuss the salvage and grinding operations	November 12		Makenzie Leine and Jennifer Dyson

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