

West Island Woodlands Advisory Group - Island Timberlands Limited Partnership
Thursday June 11, 2009 Final Minutes

Held ACRD Boardroom - Advisory Group Members:

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

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

Total of 12 Advisory Group (AG) members	17 AG including alternates	Q	6 is the quorum	8 AG Present 12 including resources
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Resources Present:

Makenzie Leine – Island Timberlands, Manager of Sustainability and Community Affairs
 Tony Norris - Island Timberlands, Area Planner
 Jennifer Dyson – Facilitator
 Holly Massop – Recording Secretary

Guests

Libby Avis
 Robert Gunn

Welcome and Introductions

Safety Orientation

Jennifer reviewed safety procedures.

Approve Agenda – approved, with addition for recreation points

April 9, 2009 Minutes

Action Item 2 from April 9, 2009 Meeting

Makenzie; response to Ken McRae’s questions around Labour Day Lake; responded to letter from Arrowsmith Parks and Land Use Council addressing concerns about logging around Labour Day Lake & Cathedral rove, concerned group does not want any logging in that area at all. ML met with the group and is taking their concerns and information under consideration. The concept of no logging on ITLP lands is not realistic.

Action Item 4 from April 9, 2009

ML was to respond to recreation letter, however it has not been sent – letter was sent to Brookfield and it will take longer to deal with bring back to the next meeting.

Minutes Approved by consensus to accept minutes of the April 9th 2009 Island Timberlands - WIWAG meeting.

Action Item 1: Minutes to be posted to website

Action Item 2: Makenzie will provide group with letter from Brookfield regarding recreation letter (note this is a carry over action from April 9, 2009)

Agenda Item 4; Island Timberlands Updates - Makenzie Leine (ML)

Fires; anticipated to be a dreadful fire season – particularly in Nanaimo area. Someone is intentionally setting fires. There have already been 12 fires on ITLP land. These fires are under investigation with RCMP, Ministry of Forests and Range and other interested organizations – any suspicious behaviour can be reported to Crimestoppers, RCMP or ITLP. ITLP urges the public to be more aware of the importance of forest and infrastructure. ITLP completely shut down last week due to heat, will often shut down before the shut down order comes – higher safety precautions; now running at “low-risk operational level”

HC; heard that ITLP is issuing a ban on ATV’s – concerned that there may be uprising from this, overheard people saying they will torch the forest. Need to look at the Access Policy

Theft; people are angry and acting out – ITLP had a whole cold-deck of logs stolen

Community Forest AGM; was a very good event, well received

Side Channel Restoration; Area on the south side of Sarita, BC Conservation Foundation, Bamfield, Huu-ay-aht First Nation and ITLP all involved with this project. ML will keep everyone updated

Inlet Trail; ITLP has done two presentations to senior management and is working to answer all their questions. This is a huge decision; it is an encumbrance ITLP being asked to put a non-exclusive licensing trail on ITLP land.

RA; frustrated and asks when will this be dealt with, have already lost \$10,000 in Tourism Funding for Trail Building – stand to lose up to \$150,000 if this is not dealt with quickly

HC; where are the trail locations?

ML; cannot tell you when; This needs careful consideration from senior management.

ML; Rick has offered to present and that would be great, but the senior management is not all in the same place with this, it is on us (ML and Randy) to give senior management all the information that the group has provided

ML; once a decision is made, ITLP would be happy to get involved with the trail building funding agencies and help out with information, etc

DC; would be a real shame to have this project die

ML; ITLP feels the pressure – but need to get all the information to talk nuts and bolts to senior management; have all the current information now

JD; there is feat from the volunteers involved that funding will be lost altogether. RA and ML do talk about what needs to be done and how WIWAG needs to be involved.

Guest question; there are non-exclusive agreements with other trails throughout the island, PA is not setting precedent.

ML; ITLP is looking at putting in a long-term plan, this takes longer

Guest; the trail society needs to know

ML; cannot say that the senior management will say yes or no; we (ML and Randy) have said they will support the trail

McLean Mill; ITLP has a communication plan & will discuss this later in Issues Management

Environmental Management System; there is a whole new system – this really fits for ITLP and they are working on really honing the system; developing communications - really focusing on using the tools that ITLP has and making sure these are fully understood and being used to their best and fullest potential, i.e. info-flip & the development of the “extra-net”, this site has all the manuals, forms, online training, messaging, etc., also starting an EMS Focus; a single point environmental focus for the week – Hopeful that these tools will help ITLP to meet the goal of minimal environmental impact

Agenda Item 5; Operational Update Presentation, Tony Norris

- Upcoming Cuts; Small heli-blocks, a block above the highway, skyline block on the mountain range on the way out to china creek, a block near labour day lake, block near the King Solomon Basin – this is going through the old growth; near the upper reaches of the community watershed; Have met with the community water board & received approval for this
- Father and Son Lake; done some road improvement, 2-wheel drive could probably make it now; will be doing two 2nd growth cuts in the area
- One old growth block near Museum Lake

Jane M; what % of old growth logs are actually being taken out of the cut blocks

TN; depends on market – trying to sell everything that is cut

- Bridge at the mouth of Franklin River – right now the bridge is condemned, but no plans to destroy it;

HC – would like to keep the bridge open for walking

- A couple of blocks up near Corrigan

Jane M; anything planned up near lookout

TN; nothing yet, still in conversational stage

ML; There has been a natural slide at the back end of China Creek, no infrastructure damaged, but the city also monitoring it for turbidity, etc – there has not been enough snow-melt to tell if it has hit water

Agenda Item 6; Recreation Issues

JC; Darlene had some issues around Elise Lake

Darlene C; Have been staying away from WIWAG because the focus of this group seems to be trails, sort-of “anti ATV’s”, “anti-hunters”, etc.

For years Alberni Fishing and Game Club (AFGC) has been camping-out at Elsie Lake for years and having a kids fishing derby and this year AFGC decided to do the “right thing” and contact ITLP for permission and was told “no” and that “M&B had the same policy”. This has left a bad

taste for the group because they have been working so closely with ITLP. The AFGC is now wondering why this is happening and we are helping ITLP if they are not allowing club members to do this.

Members of BC Wildlife Federation – outdoor passport program allowing hunters to access private lands and lets companies know that these people are ethical and good people in the forest

JD; for many land owners and forest companies it has been a tremendous asset to have more people out there helping out the forest

Darlene C; look at the “Wilderness Watch” program, setup to help the companies – however now people are getting more angry and upset with companies and overlooking the “untoward behaviour” people are participating in, i.e. fire wood theft. With the way of the economy is going - if it gets out the people can no longer camp out in Elise Lake, there will be war and it will not be pretty – there will be a lot of disappointed and angry people

ML; this has always been the policy “no overnight camping in non-designated areas”; the only designated area is McTush

John M; in private parks in Europe, people are required to provide their own insurance - would that be something that ITLP would be interested in?

Darlene C; very respectful of the fire-ban and BC Wildlife Federation is insured and as this is a group event so they would be covered under that insurance, ITLP is aware of this insurance and it is still a no-go

ML; starting to manage areas more, being more aware of who is on the land at what time and why; looking more at the passport program and other programs,. ITLP is not looking at more restrictive access, but enforcing more of the policy and being more “present” on the landbase. We spend a significant amount on security and it is very challenging. We want to look at a better program for everyone.

Darlene C; BCWF and AFG are willing to help ITLP, but now they are being kept out

ML; need to respect the fact that this private land, understand that this is keeping out the ears and eyes of people that are responsible; ITLP allows access, but no overnights – seems to be very little recognition that ITLP does allow people to use their land, more so then other private land owners in other areas

JD; Can-Four has developed a list of sanctioned groups that can camp overnight on their land; this maybe something ITLP would look into

ML; will bring the issue of overnight camping back to ITLP and the appropriate people and inform them the BCWF has proper insurances, cannot make any promises – but will try

Dave C; is there any link up between ITLP and BC Hydro

ML; often people think they were on ITLP land, but really on BC Hydro land; suggest that BCWF approach hydro

RA; cannot stop demand for overnight camping, but maybe develop an overnight camp site and start charging for usage

Dave C; people here see free camping out in the bush as a right

Jane M; what about tourism; if the word gets out that you cannot do overnight camping in our “beautiful BC forests” and that people will be charged for everything; what impact will this have on tourists

Darlene C; Wilderness Watch is getting support, and organizing a “garbage clean-up” for next weekend up in Loon Lake and Ship Creek area – if they can get permission

ML; Fire Prevention Partnerships; M of FR, TimberWest, etc; focus in Nanaimo but will be moving to use this on whole landbase, also looking at having increased security on the landbase

Darlene C; has had positive feedback from group members about the security

ML; McLean’s Mill rolled out communication plan so whole community knows what is going on; this is a 5 year plan – looking at starting to cut first block in the next month or so

Guest Comment; the bear den near McLean’s Mill needs to be protected

ML; will look into this; trying to let everyone know what is going on; meeting with different people and hosting community meetings; hauling is the biggest concerns, ITLP will be enforcing strict policies on speed limits, etc., also spoke with people who have and don’t have water licences

HC; what will the road access be?

ML; depends on the cut block; the roads out there are supposed to be built to a standard that can handle the logging trucks, but working closely with the Ministry of Transportation; the best person to talk to about this is Rod, ML will have him call HC

Guest Comment; ATV’s should be numbered by the government and then when they destroy the land, they can be reported, lots of damage done by ATV’s

Darlene C; BCWF is strongly behind registering ATV’s, there is a brick wall between ICBC and the government on how to do this; looking at treating ATV’s like boats, registered with the government for the life of the ATV

Jack M; who would you speak to if you want timbers from McLean’s Mill

ML; Jim Sears, this is his project; the steam donkey is rigged up and fell a few logs on ITLP land; hoping to get McLean’s Mill to do some contract work

Agenda Item 7; Communication Activities

a) New Brochure - updating

b) Certification Shorts; small newsletter that is outlining what is upcoming – Forest Fest, Fall Fair, etc., also includes what WIWAG is up to

c) Community Outreach; need to educate people about forest maintenance; ATV Education, etc.

Is ITLP going to be in the Fall Fair; ML and JD will work this out

Jane M; is there a course like Gently Down the Creek for forestry, like how to walk on a trail, etc?

Dave C; this is actually a component of gently down the creek – there are two forestry components to Gently Down the Creek

ML; Canadian Women in Timber are great resource, lots of materials, a great van full of forestry education stuff

HC; would this fit with Forest Fest in July?

ML & JD will connect about this resource

Dave C; ML should connect with Ryan Dvorak about this resource as well

ML; also does a teaching teachers program

Announcements;

Black Powder Club, Western Canadian Championships; 2 weeks in July

Acknowledgement of work that Rick and Libby Avis have done regarding the trails, etc

New signage in the parks and around town about the ecology of the creeks and streams

Next Meeting(s)

- 1) Western Forest Products - September 10, 2009
- 2) Island Timberlands – November 12, 2009

ACTION ITEMS

Action Item	New Action Items	Date of request	Projected Completion Date (Progress)	Person Responsible
1	Posting of previous ITLPP Meeting minutes on WIWAG website	After minutes approved		Jennifer Dyson
2	Makenzie will provide group with letter from Brookfield regarding recreation letter	April 9, 2009	November 2009	Makenzie

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