

WIWAG Approved Minutes March 9, 2006

West Island Woodlands Community Advisory Group Regional District boardroom, Port Alberni

Present:

Advisory Group Members:

*	Harold Carlson Judy Carlson (alt)	Forest Recreation	R	Carol Cutforth Independent Sawmills
*	Rick Avis	Naturalists	R	Bill Coates Logging Contractors
*	Phil Edgell	Watershed/Fisheries		Andrew Whittock Placer Mining
R	Ken McRae	A.C. Regional District	*	Jim Creighton Neil Malbon Small Business/Tourism
			R	Ed Sanders A.V. Sportsman's Association
			*	Darlene Clark (alt)
R	John McIntosh	Parks Canada	*	Gary Swann S. I. Woodlot Owner's Assoc.
R	Peter Whyte (alt)			
R	Dennis Morgan	Bamfield	*	Chris Law Environment
R	Judith Sayers	Hupacasath	*	Jack McLeman City of Port Alberni
*	Brandy Lauder			

* = attended R = regrets blank = did not attend

Resources:

Steve Chambers - Cascadia
Diane Medves - ITLP
Mike Davis - Cascadia

Tawney Lem - Facilitator
Ryan Dvorak - Recording Secretary

Guests:

Jane Morden Annette

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Safety Orientation
3. Agenda: Remove – ROI inquiry until after ITLP has completed the Timber Supply Analysis (Fall)
 Shift – Stokes Creek update and Harvest Plans to the April meeting
 Add – Hupacasath Scenario Request
4. Announcements:
 - i) There will be a public open house March 28th at the Ministry of Forests office dealing with how the Sproat Lake area industrial roads will be treated under the BCTS program.
 - ii) BCTS sends their regrets that they could not make this meeting, but plan to attend a future WIWAG meeting.
 - iii) Due to the Easter holiday, the next WIWAG meeting will be April 6th.
 - iv) The Elder College will be holding a series of presentations on a variety of issues next week. If you are interested please register with the Elder College.

- v) It was noted that there have been a series of discussions around the issues of water quality and log exports, and that WIWAG has been a topic of some of these discussions.
 - vi) The Loon Lake enhancement project will go ahead, in partnership with ITLP and with the Alberni District Sportsman's Association as the local lead agency.
 - vii) Recreation sector will be holding a stakeholder meeting in April to identify concerns over trails and access issues.
5. Minutes of February 9, 2006: Approved
6. Action Item List Review:
- i) Item #8 A tour has been indicated as a priority for WIWAG. The LightHawk organization offers flights that may be accessed. Steve noted a concern over liability exposure, and that the interested organizations should seek out further information about this program. (Gary will research LightHawk) In a field tour context, WIWAG needs to determine what the goals are for the tour/areas they would like to see. North Fork, Franklin, Park Trade Boundary, Turtle Lake & Ash Valley were suggested, looking at both Private and Crown harvesting. A tour committee was struck including Harold and Phil. There will need to be a minimum of 8 people to make this tour feasible.
 - ii) What is the rate of cut on the Private Lands? The question is either one of area or volume, and will be addressed in ITLP's TSA.
 - iii) There was a concern noted over parceling out the landbase (in a landscape unit context) and how that relates to a sustainable harvest rate – referred to the ecological sub-committee for discussion.
 - iv) Is the rate of cut on Private Lands the same now as it was under Weyerhaeuser – ITLP responded that this is too difficult to compare as the company is operating under a different legislative regime than Weyerhaeuser.
 - v) ITLP noted that they will be conducting the TSA over all of their properties and that it will include some on-the-ground cruise data.
 - vi) There was a question over the variation between a planning map layout and the actual ground layout. – It was noted that in many cases, the planning map is not finalized until the engineering has been completed.
7. Sustainability Sub-committee:
- i) Previous meetings identified how the AAC rationale is prepared, and Peter Kofoed has prepared a document that outlines the net-downs for TFL #44 in Management Plan #4. WIWAG will need to analyze these to determine if they are adequate to protect the values of the SFMP. This process may also include looking at harvesting at a landscape unit level.
 - ii) What are net-downs? – The areas of a forest that cannot be harvested due to a variety of factors eg. Riparian areas.
 - iii) Are jobs a part of the “sustainability” discussion. – Concern over out-of-town people working in the Valley. Is there anything that can be done from a WIWAG perspective to address this issue?

- iv) Steve indicated that the best way to move an issue is to identify it with the SFMP, to look at gaps in the Plan and the development of indicators.
 - v) It was noted that WIWAG could make a formal request for a local hiring policy of Cascadia and ITLP.
 - vi) Steve noted that from a Cascadia perspective this would be a difficult time to commit to new policies prior to the Western Forest Products take-over.
 - vii) It was noted that Cascadia and ITLP have only a limited control over socio-economic issues, as they are now less involved in the overall harvesting in this area.
 - viii) It was noted that the development of 12% Parks had only a 2% negative impact on the AAC.
 - ix) OGMA planning was noted as another concern.
 - x) Tawney will e-mail WIWAG for volunteers to sit on this committee.
8. Hupacasath Old Growth Cedar Strategy Scenario Request:
- i) Hupacasath is committed to working with WIWAG in completing these scenarios.
 - ii) Brandy Lauder has been doing some ground truthing of potential old growth areas for cultural purposes, and has found very little volume of the type of timber Hupacasath would require. She is waiting for snow to clear in some areas before she can complete the Old Growth Cedar Strategy.
 - iii) Hupacasath would like to see several scenarios ran: a) Riparian buffers of 50m on fish streams, 30m on non-fish streams, and 100m buffers on all waterways with sacred significance; and b) Implementation of the Hupacasath Old Growth Cedar Strategy
 - iv) Steve noted that it was likely that the modeling of areas with sacred significance could be done in such a way as to keep the areas as confidential as possible.
 - v) It was noted that S4 non-fish streams would not be spatially modeled.
9. ITLP SFM Plan Development:
- i) The proposal before WIWAG is to have 2 separate SFMP's to reflect the realities of 2 separate companies. There is a lot of work to be done around this issue and tonight is really just an introduction to this process.
 - ii) Cascadia noted that they will be going forward with their registration in May for Cascadia certification on their DFA. This does not include the Private Lands; therefore, 2 separate plans will be necessary.
 - iii) It was noted that WIWAG seems to want the same indicators applied to both the Crown and Private Lands.
 - iv) Both companies have agreed that they will have 2 separate plans, registrations and DFAs, and that ITLP will be going ahead with the development of their own SFMP.
 - v) It was noted that Values, Objectives, Indicators and Targets are developed through consensus between the company and the public Advisory Group.

- vi) Much of the language of the current WIWAG SFMP is based on Crown legislation and designations that do not fit with the legislative regime ITLP operates under.
- vii) It was noted that CSA does look at Private Lands and recognizes certain rights held by owners of Private Land.
- viii) ITLP has 4 separate CSA certified areas, and notes that the CSA standard does allow for a non-contiguous DFA that can encompass all of ITLP's properties as a way of streamlining their certification process. ITLP is also looking at First Nations input in this process.
- ix) ITLP's current registration lasts until July 17th.
- x) ITLP has an ISO/SFI maintenance field audit in April that covers all of their properties.
- xi) What does CSA do for ITLP? – Certain markets want certified wood for specific certification systems.
- xii) For ITLP to proceed with WIWAG's SFMP, the Values, Objectives, Indicators and Targets of the plan would need to be altered to reflect the regulatory regime ITLP operates under and to modify the language to fit that reality.
- xiii) ITLP will bring proposals for discussion points to sub-committee meetings. It was noted from WIWAG that the documents should show the original wording and the proposed changes.
- xiv) Chris noted that it would be difficult for him to continue participating in WIWAG under 2 plans.
- xv) It was noted that Dennis Fitzgerald's presentation on certification and sustainability acknowledged the long-term nature of this process.
- xvi) It was noted that WIWAG seems to be lowering the bar around certification.
- xvii) How is the original DFA currently being managed? – The 2005 Data Set will reflect the consolidated DFA.
- xviii) It was noted that WIWAG can play a role in terms of public oversight on Private Land management.
- xix) It was noted that under the new SFI standards a Public Advisory body is required on Crown lands but only recommended on Private lands.
- xx) Tawney will canvass the group for those interested in participating in the ITLP SFMP development (Jack) and split the topics for existing sub-committees to address. Tentatively starting April 6th.

10. Cascadia SFMP:

- i) Michel de Bellefeuille has brought several suggestions to amend current indicators.
- ii) Some indicators are not truly indicators – they are processes or procedures that could be tracked in other documents
- iii) Indicator #36 – Could place this indicator in the communications plan and upon completion evaluate and determine if an indicator around recreation needs to be developed.
- iv) Cascadia noted that they need more information around recreation.
- v) Leave indicator #36 in the Plan.

- vi) Indicator #37 – Inventory of Karst and Historical Sites – Leave in plan and remove “requiring preservation or protection”.
- vii) Indicator #42 – Leave in plan.
- viii) Indicator #48 – Leave in plan.

11. Criterion 6.3 Sample Indicators:

- i) Indicator #56 – the current indicator is a bi-annual survey of the WIWAG.
- ii) Results of a review of sample indicators from across Canada indicate that the current indicator #56 that WIWAG uses speaks well to the standard.
- iii) It was noted that the public participation process goes beyond this group, and there is another opportunity to survey the public’s satisfaction with the CSA process.
- iv) WIWAG members could bring a sector based questionnaire to their constituent group for their input on a yearly basis.
- v) The question is, who do you survey to find representative groups.
- vi) The survey questions should be structured to consider the workings of the advisory group, as well as to query sectors’ general satisfaction about operations on the landbase.

12. Western Forest Products Transition:

- i) There will be an execution of this deal prior to the end of the month.

Next Meeting: April 27, 2006

Location: Alberni Clayoquot Regional District Boardroom

Time: Dinner 5:00pm Meeting 5:30pm

Flagged Items List:	Plan Towards Action
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define Sustainability 	Subcommittee
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private Land 2006 SFMP: Decision re: adopting existing or modifying? VQO’s, FEN’s, FN input into CHR’s - % of blocks where agreement is reached. This is a ITPL/sub-committee item. 	Begin at March meeting Schedule subcommittee Completion by end of June
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicator 42 – WIWAG group has an interest in the indicator being amended to “100% of crown land logs within the DFA are converted locally”. • Socio-economic indicators (local hiring) 	Review after WFP transition is complete
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety indicators / presentations 	Review after WFP transition is complete
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicator 17 – harvest of 1% of the volume vs. 1% of the area 	Address during next indicator review
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return on Investment 	Re-visit once ITLP timber supply analysis is complete

WIWAG Action Items: March 9, 2006			
	Actions Held Over:	Completion Date:	Person Responsible:
1.	ITLP to provide their plan for demonstrating commitment to the objectives in the 03/05 SFMP to WIWAG. Can they provide an analysis of a random sampling of blocks (to include the Bamfield block) that shows the management against SFMP indicators?	May 11th	Diane/Wayne
2.	Run the harvest scenarios for crown land (as per Nov. 24 scenario memo) & present to group	May 11th	Steve/Consultant
3.	Ryan to work with ITLP to identify streams in Private Lands to monitor.	ASAP	Ryan/Diane
4.	Ryan will work with Diane to secure equipment for water quality monitoring	ASAP	Ryan/Diane
5.	WIWAG to receive details on the legislation around cut control, specifically any recent changes.	Completed – presentation scheduled for June	Tawney
6.	Diane will bring the 2006 Private Land harvest plan to WIWAG when it is completed. Loon Lake and the China Creek community watershed blocks are of particular interest.	April 6th	Diane/Wayne
7.	ITLP to demonstrate their model for determining their AAC on the Private Lands when developed	Pending (August)	Diane
8.	Organize a tour looking more broadly at key aspects of harvest on both crown & private land	2006, Date TBA	Tawney/Steve/Diane
9.	Approach labour organizations for a labour representative	ASAP	Tawney/Jack
10.	Completion of benchmarking for Indicators 1, 31, 32	May	Neil
11.	Complete benchmarking for Indicator 33	Within 2006	Neil
12.	Re-draft the AAC for Dummies document to account for the new realities of Cascadia and ITLP	June	Tawney
13.	Re-visit the Local Employment and Purchasing section of the Certification Shorts with Cascadia management	Prior to next edition of Shorts	Steve
14.	ITLP to investigate the engineering of the Stokes Creek cut-block (discrepancy between field tape and mapping reserves).	April 6th	Wayne
15.	ITLP will look at the Old Growth component of the block to see if there is a discrepancy between the inventory and what is on the ground	April 6th	Wayne
16.	Wayne to e-mail Ryan the data tables for the stream presentation.	Completed	Wayne
17.	ITLP will adjust the stream length data to reflect only that section of the stream that lies within the cut-block.	April 6th	Wayne
18.	Presentation of the ITLP access policy	Once completed	Diane
19.	Send list of ITLP contractors to Ryan	ASAP	Diane

	New Actions from March 9th Meeting	Completion Date:	Person Responsible:
1.	Set up subcommittees for ITLP SFMP and Sustainability	ASAP	Tawney
2.	Send road inventory to Attila at the MoF	Completed	Ryan
3.	Request an the name of an alternate for Bamfield	Completed	Tawney
4.	Speak with Chris Law re: continued participation in WIWAG	Completed	Tawney
5.	Development of Advisory Group / Sector Satisfaction Survey	May	Tawney
6.	Gather information on LightHawk re: DFA flights	May	Gary Swann

SUB-COMMITTEE Action Items: Ongoing			

Outgoing Correspondence Outstanding:

- Contractor survey re: employment & spending policies/data: Oct. 31/05