

**West Island Woodlands Community Advisory Group
Nov. 8, 2000
Regional District boardroom, Port Alberni**

Present:*Advisory Group Members:*

✓	Avis, Rick	Forest recreation	R	McKay, Pat	Independent sawmills
		Tourism	✓	McKay, Jack	Logging contractors
	Cootes Jr., Charlie	Uchucklesaht	✓	Powell, Dan	Provincial government
✓	Edgell, Phil	Watershed Committee			Small business
✓	Flynn, Shawn	Small woodlots		Leachman, Greg	Labour
	Johnsen, Gary	Toquaht	✓	Swann, Gary	Regional government
	Johnson, Larry	Huu-ah-aht	✓	Thornburgh, Jack	Environment
	Laviolette, Brian	Education/Youth			Ucluelet
✓	Lem, Tawney	Hupacasath	✓	Trumper, Gillian	City government
		Bamfield		Watts, David	Tseshaht
✓	McIntosh, John	Parks Canada			

Resource/Other:

Steve Chambers - Weyerhaeuser
Michelle Colussi - Facilitator

Neil Malbon - Weyerhaeuser
Diane Morrison - recorder

1. Welcome and Introductions

Michelle opened the meeting asking members to speak briefly on their ideas on the meaning of sustainability.

Michelle - likened it to a triple bottom line or three-legged stool. The legs are economic prosperity, environmental quality and social equity or justice and the balance between these three elements in a community are necessary for sustainability.

Swann - In terms of forestry, not destroying ecosystems, doing away with pesticides and herbicides, using fuel cells to reduce carbon dioxide, community forestry licenses to enable local reward for forests around them.

Trumper - Enduring. If looking at sustainability of forest, look at having enduring forests, enduring industry and enduring social world.

J. McKay - You have to have economic and environmental and social values together in harvesting of forest or it won't work. All three have to support one another. Never deplete forest resource at greater rate than it can replenish itself.

Powell - Maximum long-term benefits to people. There is an impact on biological systems whenever there is harvesting. At what point does it become too much impact?

Avis - There are always changes but the forest can recover from it. System remains constant over time.

Edgell - Future generations have the same opportunities as past ones. Not just fiber supply but the same diversity in the ecosystem.

Lem - Not taking more than you can put back. There are so many variables that change balance. Need to strive for more than no net loss. Leave something in better condition than you found it in if you alter it in any way.

Flynn - Growth is not sustainable yet that is a major underpinning of society. People have not accepted that there is a finite resource out there. We have to identify the maximum amount that the resource can produce.

Leachman - Allow the forest to be there for future generations.

Chambers - Forest resource is a renewable resource. Resources such as steel, petroleum are not renewable but forest resource is.

Thornburgh - The measure is having similar or better diversity in the ecosystem for future generations.

McIntosh - Not only ecosystem sustainable. Social and economic benefits derived from that resource are sustainable.

Malbon - Not currently maximizing the resource. The challenge is the maximize it without causing problems. Maintain it for future generations. Create more opportunities for future generations. Create a show piece, something for others to strive for. Put TFL 44 on the map as an example others will look at.

2. Approve agenda

Discussion around item #5 Respond to people who gave comments:

Small business - Why not ask those people to come to a WIWAG meeting and speak with group.

Item will be discussed later.

Web site (Neil)

The WIWAG may use Stillwater web site as a model. Some material was passed around.

Recreation - Very impressed by amount of work Stillwater advisory group has done and how far they have gone. Lot of work achieved by sub-committees. Interested that plan will supercede FPC if an Order in Council will allow.

Wey - Stillwater not seeking certification under CSA standards but developing pilot project with fewer regulations and performance-based approval system. Different / broader mandate. Beyond WIWAG. May be used as model for others.

Small business - not bound by silviculture prescriptions. Looking at possibility of achieving good management with less bureaucracy.

Question - Is anyone going for FSC certification?

There is a small woodlot licence in Vernon operated by Al Hopwood that has FSC certification.

Agenda was accepted.

3. Acceptance of minutes from October 4

Section 4, Pg 2 - In discussion around decision-making and recognizing disagreement. A member said there had been agreement at Oct. 4 meeting to record strong disagreement. Oct 4 minutes will be revised to reflect this comment.

Small business - The optics don't look good if there is opposition to something. Not a note of confidence if the group can't come up with something to address it.

Michelle - Total agreement would be impossible but at least a basis on which we can move forward.

Wey - When people have strong disagreement or objection, concerned that they bring it forward so it can be addressed.

Hupacasath - Issue #6 - Integrate/Respond to Higher Level (Land Use) Plan Issue Correction - it will allow practice variations of the FPC, not changes to the Code. Minutes will reflect this correction.

Minutes were accepted with noted changes/corrections.

4. Old Business

New guidelines with additions were distributed for white binders

Draft news release

Members felt focus on disagreement was not good.

Paragraph two was deleted. New headline to include "towards sustainability".

Contact numbers will be Facilitator and Alberni Forest Visitor Centre.

Small business - The first question that will be asked is if this is a sustainable management plan.

Wey - the company is certified to CSA standards. Developing the SFM plan is part of that process. Having a plan and doing it are two different things.

Community - this is exactly the point that was made to the auditors. This is a plan to get there.

Small business - expressed concern that the Wey release will say they are managing in a sustainable way.

Wey - will work with person doing the release to deal with any incorrect inferences.

Membership Update:

Nothing has been heard from the representatives for Uchucklesaht and Huu-ah-aht. Michelle will take the non-response as an indication that they are no longer interested/able to continue on the advisory group. Michelle will write a letter asking them if they still want to receive minutes.

Michelle will contact the following organizations, asking for a new representative to be appointed: Chamber of Commerce, Ucluelet FN, Bamfield, PRTA, Uchucklesaht and Huu-ah-aht.

There was some discussion about the possibility of the Alternates participating on a regular basis so they would be better able to sit in when the regular representative is unable to attend.

Michelle - would they be observers or participants? A meeting could be weighted if some sectors have two advisors present.

Port Alberni - they should come as observers as often as they are able.

Hupacasath - WIWAG said it would post meetings on web site and that meetings are open to the public.

Environment - They would attend not to weight meeting but because they put a lot of time in to be able to make a comment on the process. Numbers would be limited. Perhaps they could also be asked to join a sub-committee.

Local Level Indicators Conference:

Phil Edgell, Rick Avis, Dave Watts, Michelle Colussi attending. John McIntosh will be there for Parks Canada. Steve Chambers will be there for Weyerhaeuser.

5. New Business

Approval of meeting schedule:

Michelle will book room and make arrangements for meetings on:

January 10, 2001

February 7, 2001

March 7, 2001

May 9, 2001.

This information will be added to web site.

Communications Plan:

1 d) - make "reception" bigger and have public open houses in Port Alberni and Bamfield. Need to update the public.

Discussion around having SFM Plan available at the public open houses being held by Weyerhaeuser for it's Forest Development Plans (FDP). Would it be seen as Weyerhaeuser's SFM Plan or the Advisory Groups' plan? The advisory group would be there to speak to it and it is another vehicle for reaching the public.

Wey - the budget for Communications will depend on the plan presented by WIWAG.

Target Groups were clarified. Four in total:

1. stakeholder groups represented by advisors
2. interested others who currently receive only minutes by e-mail
3. list of those who attended initial open house and asked to receive further information
4. the general public.

It was decided to send a letter of closure to those names collected at the original open house (group #3), telling them that further information about the continuing process is available on the web site and through the Forest Visitor Centre.

Wey - How is WIWAG going to address providing an opportunity for input for the public. Press releases don't do it.

Government - Not sure we want to encourage the general public to come to the meetings. There are media releases, the web page could include specific ways of commenting in writing to the Facilitator. They may be asked to make a presentation to WIWAG.

Environment - Would like to encourage people to attend as observers.

Michelle - inform the public by way of the web, AFVC, releases, classified ads 3-4 times a year, Shaw Cable and FDP open houses. Michelle suggested advertising that the SFM Plan is available and contact information for more info.

Discussion around combining Weyerhaeuser FDP and WIWAG SFM Plan - Small business - Don't know if they are compatible. The SFM Plan is under the WIWAG banner, not Weyerhaeuser banner.

Wey - There is a lot of overlap. Don't think WIWAG Plan would get lost. In any case, usually very poor turnout to FDP open houses. Could do both meetings with Weyerhaeuser and independently.

Labour - Might attract more people with Weyerhaeuser and might learn more.

Port Alberni - Easy tool.

Government - Not sure independent if there with Weyerhaeuser.

Small business - Important to advocate for ourselves.

Michelle - Link with FDP and have a WIWAG representative there. Track if it creates confusion and links WIWAG with Weyerhaeuser too closely. Also hold independent open house just for SFM Plan. Relationship between WIWAG and Weyerhaeuser important to stress.

Communications Plan 2 d) Series of articles

Possible Topics

- Process of trying to determine what is sustainable
- Explain CSA Certification and how it differs from FSC, ISO, etc.
- Pick one goal from the Plan that would be of interest to the community and explain it in greater depth. Such as "investment".
- Biodiversity presentation that Dunsworth gave.
- Harvest rates - historic and future
- Timber harvest levels, AAC and LRSY - How they are developed. How they are different.
- How to get more from the resource.

Diane will look at what is already available, what articles are timely and manageable. Starting point could be 1. Certification, 2. Sustainability and 3. Harvest Rates.

Small business - Why put harvest rate by itself? Look at economy, ecology and harvest rates together. Talk also about affect on communities and environment.

Michelle will update the Communications Plan for January meeting.

Letter to CSA expressing concerns about lack of attention paid to public education in their standards.

Encourage them to do more to support advisory groups in doing this.

Community - they should be clear about developmental aspects of sustainability.

Michelle will write this letter. She will not have to bring it back to the group first for approval.

January meeting/deadline

Indicator Working Group:

This group is reviewing Indicators of concern, prioritizing them and bringing recommendations back to group on which ones to tackle first.

Government - Rhonda on secondment. She may not be able to be part of this group. If not, Dan will take her place. Dan will confirm with Diane.

Michelle - advisory group did not talk about who in this group was responsible for calling meetings and for reporting back. This group did not want to meet after December 15. Group will get together and decide on meeting dates.

These dates will be communicated to WIWAG members.

Sustainability on agenda for January.

Material from Dennis, Michelle, Jack Thornburgh will be sent out in advance of January meeting.

Response to comments on draft SFM Plan

Michelle - Should we respond to those people in writing thanking them for their comments?

Small business - They were serious comments. Could they be invited to come to meeting and make presentation and discuss. Offer to put them on minutes list if interested.

Wey - Comments valid and in depth but lacked appreciation of process gone through and work done.

Michelle to write and thank them for their comments, ask if they would like to come to a meeting and ask if they would like to receive minutes on regular basis.

6. NEXT MEETINGS

January 10, 2001

February 7, 2001

March 7, 2001

May 9, 2001

Location: Regional District Boardroom
 Fifth Ave.
 Port Alberni

Time: 6:00 dinner
 6:30 meeting

