



# WHISTLER

## MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING OF FOREST & WILDLAND ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2014, STARTING AT 3:00 P.M.  
In the Flute Room  
4325 Blackcomb Way, Whistler, BC V0N 1B4**

### PRESENT:

Meetings to Date: 3

Rob Davis, M-A-L	2
Candace Rose-Taylor, M-A-L	2
Gordon McKeever, Chair	2
Councillor Jayson Faulkner	1
John Hammons, M-A-L	2
Kurt Mueller, M-A-L	2
Ken Melamed, WORCA	2

### REGRETS:

Bob Brett, M-A-L	0
Johnny Mikes, M-A-L	0
Bryce Leigh, AWARE	2
Peter Ackhurst, CCF	2

Recording Secretary, Heather Beresford	3
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### ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Ken Melamed  
Seconded by Candace Rose-Taylor

**That** the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee adopt the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee agenda of March 12, 2014.

CARRIED

### ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by Ken Melamed  
Seconded by Candace Rose-Taylor

**That** the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee adopt the Regular the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee minutes of February 8, 2013.

CARRIED

### VERBAL REPORTS

#### Council:

- CCF Board deferred harvesting in Cheakamus Valley through 2014. Cascade Environmental hired by RMOW to complete Integrated

### 3. Updates

mapping project. Stakeholder consultation will occur. A five year plan will be developed building on the mapping project. The question of the extent of participation by members of the public attending the meeting was raised and will be followed up.

**AWARE:**

- 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary event in April.
- Working with WORCA on mitigating the effects of alpine mountain biking.

**WORCA:**

- Confirmed that AWARE has contacted WORCA.
- Garibaldi Park Management Plan released. Included option to look further into alpine mountain biking. WORCA considering forming a stakeholder group to discuss an approach to present to the province. Suggestion that the existing Trail Planning Working Group (WORCA, ACC, RMOW) could be the core with the addition of BC Parks and WB.

Rob Davis arrived 3:25  
p.m.

**RMOW:**

- RMOW hired Cascade Environmental Resource Group to complete the Integrated Resource Mapping project for CCF. OGMAs drafted and will be submitted to MOF in next 2 weeks. EBM reserves and harvesting opportunities/constraints is next phase.
- The CCF has asked H. Beresford to take over its administration. Concern was expressed that the RMOW does not have professional forest management expertise on staff. With the complexities of dealing with the land management issues associated with the community forest and the need to deal with Provincial professional land management staff, consideration should be given to adding this expertise to the RMOW staff to assist H. Beresford.
- RMOW reviewing carbon project agreement.

**Cheakamus Community Forest:**

- Carbon project validation by Stantech complete, verification by Rainforest Alliance in March. Still negotiating profit-sharing split with province.

**4. 2014 Proposed CCF  
Harvesting Plans**

**W02 – FWAC supports the plan for W02.**

- Close to Comfortably Numb. Buffers are at least 50m wide with 25 – 30m vertical separation.
- Much of opening A and the west part of opening B were selectively logged, probably in the early 1930s.
- These two openings are in Biogeoclimatic zone CWH, so the default suggested silvicultural strategy is 1-2 hectare opening with variable retention or 2-10 hectare two-pass shelterwood (moderate retention and greater). The layout of these two openings is compatible with the suggested silvicultural strategy.

- These moderate retention openings should be assessed at a future date to see if and when the understory regeneration is sufficient to allow removal of some of the overstory.
- Bike Master Plan identifies increased bike trails off Comfortably Number. Consider connecting W02 trails/roads with Comfortably Numb.

#### **R04 – FWAC supports the plan for R04**

- This area is part of the LRMP Frontcountry zone where “Visual quality and recreation values are primary foci for the management of the Frontcountry Area” (April 2008 Sea-to-Sky LRMP document). The proposed long, linear layout parallel to Highway 99 and the proposed retention levels should be compatible with this LRMP direction.
- Most of the area has been harvested earlier so what will be harvested is what was left from this earlier harvesting or has regenerated since. Openings B and C and the west ½ of A were harvested in 1958 and the north ¾ of A just before or during World War II.
- It is in Biogeoclimatic Zone CWH, so default suggested silvicultural strategy is 1-2 hectare opening with variable retention or 2-10 hectare two-pass shelterwood (moderate retention and greater). The harvesting layout is compatible with CCF Silvicultural Strategy.
- There is no indication in the provided summary as to what the long-term management intent should be for the high retention areas. These areas should be assessed at a future date to see if and when the understory regeneration is sufficient to allow removal of some of the overstory.

#### **Brew 02 – FWAC does not support the plan for B02 without modification.**

- Map indicates 3.9 hectares of low retention (block H) while summary sheet indicates 4.2 hectares. Needs clarification.
- This opening is adjacent to a block that FWAC looked at on the ground a short time ago where very small groups of shelterwood leave trees were harvested from an earlier 1998 harvest operation. This 1998 harvesting is to the west and north of Brew-02 and has visually greened up.
- Brew02 is in Biogeoclimatic zone CWH, so default suggested silvicultural strategy is 1-2 hectare opening with variable retention or 2-10 hectare two-pass shelterwood (moderate retention and greater). At an indicated 3.9 or 4.2 hectares of low retention, this opening is not compatible suggested silvicultural strategy. It should either be reduced in size or the retention level should be increased. Breaking this into two smaller blocks would also not be acceptable. Consider leaving more retention, or break up into more blocks and harvest others later.
- Request opportunity to discuss with CCF and RSTBC the possibility of using machinery when in the area to improve road access to Brew Lake trail. Current access to existing Brew Lake Trail is illegal because it requires walking along rail road. Proposed work on East

branch of Brew Lake FSR involves leveling for a 3-4 car trail head and smoothing of 2 cross ditches.

**B01 – FWAC does not support the plan for B01 without modifications to opening J.**

- These four openings are in Biogeoclimatic zone CWH, so the default suggested silvicultural strategy is 1-2 hectare opening with variable retention or 2-10 hectare two-pass shelterwood (moderate retention and greater).
- Openings I at 1.4 hectares and L at 1.5 hectares are compatible with the suggested silvicultural strategy. Opening H at 2.9 hectares with moderate retention would also be compatible as a two-pass shelterwood and should be assessed at a future date to see if and when the understory regeneration is sufficient to allow removal of some of the overstory. The silvicultural strategy is a guideline, not a rule, so opening H at 2.9 ha could well be acceptable as is as a one pass opening rather than as a two-pass shelterwood.
- Opening J at 4.4 hectares is adjacent to opening A that was harvested in 2012 and is clearly not compatible with the suggested silvicultural strategy; this opening layout should therefore be revised. This opening is generally horseshoe shaped, and it would probably be best to remove the east most leg (adjacent to the 2012 harvesting) from the opening, but there could be other options.

**CMA 01, Openings A-F – FWAC supports the plan for CMA Openings A-F**

- These six openings are in Biogeoclimatic zone CWH, so the default suggested silvicultural strategy is 1-2 hectare opening with variable retention or 2-10 hectare with two-pass shelterwood (moderate retention and greater).
- The map color scheme for retention level is not the same as used on other site plan maps. If the retention strategy given in area summary block in the upper right hand side of the map is actually followed on the ground, these openings are compatible with the suggested silvicultural strategy. Although opening A is quite large at 10.9 hectares, and exceeds the 10 hectare guideline, it is actually well broken up with reserve patches and should be compatible with the intent of the suggested silvicultural strategy.
- The openings with moderate retention should be assessed at a future date to see if and when the understory regeneration is sufficient to allow removal of some of the overstory.

**CMA 01 Opening G – FWAC supports the plan for CMA 01, Opening G**

- This opening is in Biogeoclimatic zone CWH, so the default suggested silvicultural strategy is 1-2 hectare opening with variable retention or 2-10 hectare with two-pass shelterwood (moderate retention and greater).
- The strip cable layout is an innovative approach for meeting the

suggested silvicultural strategy.

- As this opening is within LRMP Non-Commercial Winter Recreation Zone: RA1, Non-Motorized, it is important to take steps to protect the integrity of this zoning. Therefore, to discourage winter snowmobile access, it is suggested that the CCF work with RSTBC to post very prominent signs on the access roads built to harvest these areas at the boundary of the LRMP Non-Commercial Winter Recreation Zone.

**CMA 01, 2014 Alternative – FWAC supports the proposed plan subject to review of detailed map showing openings.**

- Need to see final harvesting plan map, but if strategy outlined in K3V 2014 summary sheet is followed, there should be no problem with this one.

**W08 – FWAC supports the plan for W08**

- Harvesting dictated by Wedgemount Power Project

**P07 – FWAC does not support the plan for P07 without modification.**

- Needs Edna Creek bridge to access P07.
- This opening is in Biogeoclimatic zone CWH, so the default suggested silvicultural strategy is 1-2 hectare opening with variable retention or 2-10 hectare with two-pass shelterwood (moderate retention and greater).
- The two small blocks at 0.94 hectares and 1.98 hectares to the east of the access road are scheduled for cable logging with low retention which is compatible with the suggested silvicultural strategy.
- One central block above and below the road is scheduled for ground based harvesting and this is also compatible with the suggested silvicultural strategy.
- Two blocks located above the road (ground based harvesting) are scheduled for low retention and are probably too big for low. Recommend these harvesting blocks for moderate retention.
- As this opening is within LRMP Non-Commercial Winter Recreation Zone: RA1, Non-Motorized, it is important to take steps to protect the integrity of this zoning. Therefore, to discourage winter snowmobile access, it is suggested that the CCF work with RSTBC to post very prominent signs on the access roads built to harvest these areas at the boundary of the LRMP Non-Commercial Winter Recreation Zone.

Discussion re: Edna Creek Bridge. Request to withdraw opposition.  
Province should do more to control access to non-motorized area.

**ACTION:** Invite Tom Cole to next meeting to explain rationale for Edna Creek bridge.

Discussion re: Silviculture strategy. FWAC supports the existing silviculture strategy with its focus on visual values but notes that CCF does not consistently follow it. FWAC recommends that the CCF either follow the

strategy or change it to reflect current practice.

**RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:** FWAC recommends that Council consider contacting the CCF Board to recommend it review the silviculture strategy to determine if the present focus on visual values is appropriate.

Discussion re: CCF recreation plans. Concern that Richmond Plywood is setting road use/recreation policy in absence of overall CCF policy or plan.

**RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:** FWAC recommends that Council consider contacting the CCF Board to recommend it develop an interim road policy/recreation planning process until the Resource Road Act is passed.

Discussion re: FWAC comments need to be distributed to CCF Board and Richmond Plywood.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **New/Other Business & Upcoming Agenda Items:**

- Coarse Woody Debris (April)
- Edna Creek Bridge (April)
- CCF Discussion re: comments on harvest volumes, accommodating commercial recreation interests, alignment with LRMP, and road network planning.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Rob Davis  
Seconded by Jayson Faulkner

**That** the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee adjourn the March 12, 2014 meeting at 5:05 p.m.

CARRIED

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CHAIR: Gordon McKeever