

**Cheakamus Community Forest Board of Directors Meeting  
October 13, 2011 10:00 – 3:00 p.m.  
Whistler Olympic Park**

Attendance:

Lucinda Phillips, Lil'wat Nation  
Jeff Fisher, Squamish Nation  
Peter Ackhurst, RMOW, Chair  
Ken Melamed, RMOW  
Tom Cole, Richmond Plywood  
Neil Hughes, Ecotrust Canada

Heather Beresford, RMOW, Secretary

Regrets:

Chief Bill Williams, Squamish Nation  
Geordie Ferguson, Lil'wat Nation

**MEETING AGENDA:**

Welcome from Lindsay Durno, Director Whistler Olympic Park

- Discussion re: ski jump trail to Madely Lake

October 13, 2011 Meeting Agenda approved with addition of:

- Waste wood use agreement with RMOW/composter
- Development pressures in back country and the effects on the CCF

July 6, 2011 Meeting Minutes Approved by all

Review of July meeting actions:

- Squamish Nation suggestion to province that CCF be responsible for harvest on WB
  - Action: Peter to speak with Doug Forseth first
- Cheakamus Cultural Management Area Planning progress.
  - Action: Jeff clarifying desired First Nations cultural forestry opportunities in CMA with Chief Williams; discussing with Tom; field trip planned.

**1. 2011 Administration Budget Review**

Budget approved at February 17, 2011 meeting.

Revenue and expenses approved at \$45,000.

Expenses to date: \$12,188

Logging profits more than estimated. Budget on track to year end.

**2. RichPly Harvesting Update**

Compartment	Status	Volume
Brew02	Complete	3507 m <sup>3</sup>
Rainbow03	Complete	781 m <sup>3</sup>

Wedge01	5% (roaded)	5490 m <sup>3</sup>
Powder01	100% Felled. Complete by Oct. 31	4100 m <sup>3</sup>
Fee03	Road Upgrade & new access.	5350 m <sup>3</sup>
TOTAL		19,228 m <sup>3</sup>

Fee wood won't come out in 2011 but will still look for 20,000 new m<sup>3</sup> for 2012. Development costs covered in first phase, so little cost for next phase of harvesting.

Not sure at this time where the locations will be. The WOP trail could be ~7,000 m<sup>3</sup> with no development costs as they will be carried by WOP.

### **3. Cheakamus Cultural Management Area Planning**

The Squamish Nation is identifying its cultural forestry sites and opportunities in the area. May not be a formal plan but more of an approach. Still want to use the Lil'wat small scale forestry method.

Due to progress on planning, there is low risk to RichPly to carry out planning in the Cheakamus CMA – anticipate clearing way for cutting permits to be issued in 2012.

What areas may be harvested? Cheak10 is a low quality/value site but has a good road. Would do various retention logging strategies and provide public education (signs) as directed in WIF and CCF objectives.

Both First Nations agree with Cheakamus CMA planning approach. Draft plan ready by next spring.

### **4. EBM Plan**

CCF is the only timber harvesting licensee in the Whistler Landscape Unit, but other entities such as IPPs, mines, etc. can change the landscape. CCF needs to be careful because they can end up having to absorb effects of forest loss on the landbase due to other projects. CCF must vigorously promote its plan/goals and request compliance or compensation.

Discussion re: should place emphasis on identifying recruitment zones in areas that are already protected to leave unfettered areas for harvesting in future. Need to check classification of forest around Cheakamus Lake. Appears to be classified as young when it must be mature and/or old.

Discussion: Reverse emphasis in the EBM plan by starting out with the CCF's goals/vision and then supporting with the detailed analysis. Rewrite the executive summary to highlight the targets and goals. Move the important recommendations from the back to the front.

Discussion: BC Capacity Initiative Funding. Could be applied for and used for CMA planning. Squamish and Lil'wat reps comfortable with approach discussed earlier for completing CMA plans, and don't require funds from the program.

EBM plan identifies how the WLU designation moves the blue listed ecosystems into moderate risk because there are so much of them in this area. Higher than provincial standards.

Risk to biodiversity in old growth is considered and addressed. CCF will not be drawing down forest to high levels of risk to biodiversity. EBM gives CCF the strategy. State in front of EBM document.

**ACTION:** Post draft plans to website after Board has had a chance to review and comment. Send further comments directly to Neil Hughes at Ecotrust.

## **5. Old Forest Plan**

Draft discussion paper, intended for public release and input. Applies to CCF landbase only, not the entire Whistler Landscape Unit. Goal is to identify 40% of old forest to be preserved as per EBM plan recommendation.

<b>Age Class</b>	<b>Hectares</b>
170 - 249 years	2 146
250 + years	13 756
NSR	262
Alpine	6199
Urban	379
Water	236
Other	1 153
<b>Total</b>	<b>33 018 hectares</b>

There are 12,196 hectares protected by government regulations.

Total Forest available for harvest = 13,436 hectares

Tree Harvesting Land Base (THLB) = 16,588 hectares

Total Forest Preserved = 16,430 hectares

Additional areas suggested by public for protection – Train Wreck site, Daisy Lake Road climbing area, North Aire Mine area, Rainbow Trail, etc. CCF will invite public input on other areas at the November 2 open house and other opportunities.

- Total old forest – 13 756 ha
- Old forest preserved – 61% of the total (8365 ha)
- Total land base preserved – 50% of the total (16430 ha)
- THLB – supports 20 000 m<sup>3</sup>/yr harvest, boundary at 1200 m elevation
- More work on the EBM Plan is planned
- Visual quality of the landscape is important
- Public input is invited

Requested First Nations input for cultural sites that may be in old forest that need to be protected and added to maps.

**ACTION:** add to Old Forest Plan recommendations that the plan will meet or exceed government Old Growth Management Area (OGMA) standards.

Discussion: need to resolved how other uses (e.g. commercial recreation) may affect the identified OF areas. For example, is it OK to build CR trails through an area that the CCF has identified as protected old forest. How to get tourism/CR to contribute to the upkeep of the CCF.

**ACTION:** apply for funding to develop a CCF guidebook or map.

## **6. Funding**

The CCF was successful with the following grant applications:

- RBC Blue Water Fund (awarded to Ecotrust) \$25,000. Will move to next phase of EBM plan. Ecotrust will use this as leverage funding for other grant applications.
- Community Foundation of Whistler \$10,000 for Forest Stewardship Council audit.
- Whistler Blackcomb ~\$10,000 for improvements to Ancient Cedars area signs & trails
- CFOW – may release second call for projects. May apply for outhouse at Loggers Lake.

**ACTION:** Neil will email next steps to BOD and use RBC funds to leverage other funds.

## **7. Forest Stewardship Council**

CCF has put a hold on pursuing FSC certification due to their increased costs in last year. Now \$20,000 to do audit, plus cost of completing identified deficiencies, and annual audit costs of ~\$3500.

CFOW gave CCF \$10,000 to do the audit; choices are to complete audit, return funds or request an extension from CFOW until FSC Canada & BC standards are revised (~2 years).

Discussion re: benefits of FSC: third party confirmation that CCF is being managed sustainably; tells market CCF is sustainable; takes care of some monitoring requirements.

Market isn't paying premium for FSC wood yet, but it opens new markets for those that want certified wood. E.g. UK market as per info from Richmond Plywood. FSC costs about \$1.00/m<sup>3</sup>.

EBM is our voluntary equivalent. At this point, the CCF financial position doesn't allow it to pursue FSC certification.

**RESOLUTION:** Wait until revised FSC standards are confirmed. Request CFOW allow CCF to hold funds into the future.

**ACTION:** Investigate long term costs associated with FSC certification.

## **8. Finance Strategy**

The CCF has ~\$40,000 in the bank.

CCF members recognize that financial cushion reduces risk in case the market declines. CCF stated in the Limited Partnership Agreement and at previous meeting to develop a \$50,000 "rainy day fund".

**MOTION:** CCF Board supports paying \$20,000 of the 2008 – 2011 RMOW liability this year, and in future will pay entire year's RMOW liability plus an additional amount against the remaining 2008 – 2010 liability.

KM/LP passed

**ACTION:** Update the Five Year Plan

#### **9. BCCFA 2010 Conference**

CCF tried a variety of combinations to bring costs down for the proposed 2012 BCCFA Conference in Whistler, but in the end could not meet the BCCFA's budget. Catering proved the biggest expense.

**ACTION:** CCF would like to try again for 2013; consider getting food from outside Whistler or provided through another group such as Rotary.

#### **10. Old Forest Workshop**

November 3, 2011 at Whistler Library common room from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.

- EBM Plan
- 2011 Harvesting Results
- Old Forest Plan – public input
- John and Don presentation

Lucinda away but will see if Geordie Ferguson can attend.

#### **11. Non Timber Forest Products Workshop**

Purpose of workshop is to increase public awareness and discuss opportunities. Lil'wat not currently developing a NTFP economic plan. Ecotrust doing plan for Clayoquot. Plan workshop to coincide with identification of cultural areas. CF license gives right to manage NTFP and generate income. First Nations interests are the priority.

**ACTION:** Hold workshop when cultural areas identified.

#### **12. Carbon Offsets**

RMOW would like to buy its carbon offsets from the CCF rather than going outside the community. Could generate \$50,000 per year for the CCF. Need about \$70,000 to prepare for being able to sell offsets.

Living Carbon Investments – a partnership between Brinkman and The Land Alliance. Ecotrust involved. The LCI is interested in providing funding to do the upfront analysis and get the CCF ready for carbon sales. The CCF would then repay LCI through the sale of carbon.

The estimate is that 5,000 – 10,000 tonnes of carbon are available for sale each year in the CCF. CCF could sell 2,000 tonnes to the RMOW, have remainder to sell on the market.

LCI proposal – a scoping exercise/feasibility study to see if project could work under Forest Carbon Offset Protocol (FCOP). Could be ready by March 31, 2012. CCF needs to do a timber supply review to show the baseline compared to EBM. If CCF doesn't sell carbon because it doesn't get certified, CCF would not have to pay back the funds to LCI.

Discussed: business as usual scenario vs. carbon offset management. EBM plan provides rationale for providing additional carbon beyond business as usual scenario. LCI wants to prove the case for these types of small volume projects.

Success of carbon offsets in forests depends on MOF giving ownership of carbon to tenure holders.

**ACTION:** Ecotrust distribute Living Carbon Investments proposal to CCF Board for review before decision.

**ACTION:** Ecotrust will visit CCF members to hold carbon offset information sessions.

### **13. Firewood**

RichPly placed an ad for alder, but no response. Tom will keep working on it, and is paying contractor to leave the wood at the side of the road. Post firewood collecting locations on the website. No liability because no contractual arrangement, just telling where wood located.

**ACTION:** CCF to make free firewood available to public.

### **14. CCF Website**

New website at [www.cheakamuscommunityforest.com](http://www.cheakamuscommunityforest.com)

RMOW included the development in its website overall, CCF contributed \$500. Suggestion to add Flickr link to the website to allow user created content to be added.

**ACTION:** Tom will send some photos for the gallery.

### **15. Goals**

Board reviewed 2011 goals, most achieved.

Draft 2012 goals:

- Develop a new three year logging plan and hold Open House in March
- Complete the EBM Operational Guidelines by September
- Host two public workshops - one in March and October
- Complete the Access Management Plan (Road Atlas) with FWAC by December (what is deactivated and what is open and maintained). Discuss with the BCFS.
- Sign road agreements with the commercial recreation operators (6 companies) by July
- Lobby province to include road use agreements in commercial recreation tenures
- Finalize outstanding road management issues with MOF
- Submit a proposal to the BCCFA to host a conference in 2013 by June.
- Reach agreement with province for CCF to received tenure, zoning and permitting referrals
- Complete next phase of EBM plan with RBC Blue Water funding
- Work with SLRD to ensure CCF management directions incorporated.
- Log 25,000 m<sup>3</sup> in 2012
- Reforest 20 ha in 2012
- Earn \$100,000 in 2012

- Pay back \$40,000 to the RMOW by the end of the year.
- Reach agreement with the RMOW on carbon offsets in the CCF. Receive \$50,000 in sales by March 31.
- Complete the outhouse, signs and parking lot at Loggers Lake by July
- Complete the Cheakamus CMA management plan by April and start the Callaghan CMA plan by October
- Complete the development plan with Canadian Snowmobiles by March
- Showcase the cooperative project with Blackcomb Snowmobiles and announce to the public by September
- Complete the signs/trail project to the Ancient Cedars, including grading the road, signs and parking lot. (include WBF Envirofund, RMOW, MOF, CCF, and Wildplay in the funding)
- Assist WOP with their ski trail project
- Complete a business deal with the Composter on logging slash utilization

**16. New Business**

Composter & Debris Use: it's less expensive for RMOW to get wood waste from Vancouver than from CCF. CCF can burn but would prefer to have a No Burn policy. Need commitment from RMOW to use CCF debris. RMOW has to go for lowest cost option. Need to determine if there's a business case to handle CCF wood waste.

ACTION: Tom email Ken with information.

**17. Next Meeting**

New year 2012.

Meeting Adjourned.

**Task Timeline Identified at September 2010 Meeting**

Year	Project
2010	Communications piece around VANOC parking lots and red legged frog habitat
2010	Western Forest Products Timber License transfer complete. Win: a majority of low elevation old growth will come from these areas.
2010	Whistler Off Road Cycling Association (WORCA) letter of understanding
2011	Get FSC Certified (Further funds required for FSC: \$10,000 for audit by Smartwood; \$7500 annual audit, Richmond Plywood will pay out of logging revenues).
2011	Composter – wood waste to regional composter at Callaghan
2011	Canadian Snowmobile – develop plan together and sign off.
2011	Whistler Olympic Park – Letter of understanding developed
2011	Recreation Site Improvements Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do work complementary to S2S Trail?</li> <li>• Build a trail</li> <li>• Powerline Hill pullout – interp sign re: First Nations Black Tusk myth (Johnny Jones/Tom Cole idea)</li> <li>• Field Guide to Special Ecosystems in CCF – Bob Green (identify red/blue listed sites, create a handbook for public)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Family toboggan hill along Callaghan Road (glade a plantation)</li></ul>
2011	Develop integrated program with Firesmart (RMOW Fire Services & CCF)
2011 – 2013	Land Based Investment Program – complete the 2010 spacing project, receive more funding
2013	FWAC trail subcommittee identifies/rebuilds trail with CCF involvement
2013	CCF is financially secure with \$50,000 in the bank