



BCFC Board Meeting Minutes September 8, 2021

Meeting held at the Ucluelet Community Center

Ucluelet, BC

Attendance: Terry, Ken, Gary, Geoff, Julian, Dario (all in person)

Absent: Noah

Guests:

Mayor Mayco Noel, District of Ucluelet

Councilor Rachele Cole, District of Ucluelet (morning only)

Erik Holbek, RPF General Manager, BCFC

Andrew Sawden RPF, Copper Canyon Forestry Consulting

Tom Balfour, Central West Coast Forestry Society.

Notes: Ken (not all topics described in the order the topics were discussed; topics are grouped for continuity)

Meeting called to order by the Chair at 10:26 am

1) Agenda

Requests for additional or changes to agenda items:

- Motion for confirmation and change of signing authorities
- Discussion on request for collaborative work on supplying Christmas trees
- Change in agenda to allow discussion of the Draw Lake timber sale and the presentation by Andrew Sawden to be moved ahead in the agenda.

Motion by Geoff, seconded by Julian to adopt the agenda as amended. **Carried**

2) Minutes of the August 9, 2021, BCFC Regular Board Meeting

Motion by Geoff, seconded by Gary to approve the minutes of the August 8, 2021, regular BCFC Board meeting as presented. **Carried.**

3) Advertisement (re-Tender) of the Draw Lake timber sale.

Ken reviewed the reasons why the re-tendering of this timber sale did not occur as per the Board's direction in the July and August meetings. Key reason being:

- Change in general manager and the need for the new general manager to ensure we had all required information in our files and to review both the documents and work completed in the field.

Erik Holbek has completed both the document review and field review and has found the following points (may not be a complete list) which are being worked on:

- The engineering and field layout of roads and cutting areas is fine.



- Inconsistencies were noted in the work the engineers completed in formulating the harvest plans and the work and maps provided by the contractor doing the silviculture prescriptions and site plans. Erik will work with Copper Canyon and the site plan forester to adjust the site plans and ensure the inconsistencies are corrected.
- Language in the tender must be improved to deal with the fact that there is a noted time restriction for operations during migratory bird nesting seasons. Erik will collaborate with the biologist on this and ensure it clear for prospective bidders.
- The original tender did not show a requirement for wind firming of stand edges after logging. Erik will develop a plan to deal with required wind firming after falling.
- Erik recommends the harvesting be prescribed to retain stand stem retention up to 20% for long term habitat. This would be done without field marking with faller selection to allow it to be completed safely. The cruise may need to be re-compiled.

Erik suggested this work could take about 10 days if Copper Canyon consulting has time to re-do some of the mapping and the cruise can be re-compiled.

The revised tenders will be posted on the BCFC website and the parties that requested tender packages in the original offering in June would be sent the new tender as soon as they packages are ready. If these deadlines can be met, BCFC should have a closing date for tenders prior to the scheduled October Board meeting.

Motion by Gary, seconded by Geoff, to proceed with the re-tendering of the Draw Lake timber sale as proposed by Erik and as discussed by the Board with changes to the payment schedules to reflect the delays in tendering. Carried

4) Old Forest Strategy. Presentation by Andrew Sawden on status current old forest stands on the community forest.

Andrew Sawden RPF, is a forester and forestry engineer working with Copper Canyon Forestry Consulting and has been involved with the engineering and layout of all of the timber sales sold by the BCFC since 2015.

In February 2021, Copper Canyon and Andrew in particular, were given a contract by the BCFC to review and assess all stands of old growth forest on the community forest. Copper Canyon has completed the work and submitted a draft report. Andrew presented the results to the Board. A key piece of Andrew's report was comparing his findings with the data that was used in previous timber supply reports and timber supply analysis. The data from the Copper Canyon report will be used in the development of the strategic old forest strategy and in the development of Barkley Community Forest management plan #2 and the determination of a new allowable annual harvest level.

Some key points from the presentation and discussion are:



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- a) Andrew noted that the definition of old growth forest was based on age and that there was no exact definition of what the age cut off was for coastal forests. Andrew also noted that previous inventory maps may not have correctly stated timber stand ages. As such if we use 251+ years as the definition of old forest and existing forest cover maps, we may not capture all stands which are in the 251+ category because they are possibly labelled in the 140–251-year category. In the Barkley Community Forest, there are young stands resulting after logging which are less than 80 years old; there are small areas of older stands which are in the 80- to 140-year-old range which likely resulted from historic windthrow events, and the remaining stands are old forest which are mostly over 251 years of age.
- b) Andrew noted this report on his work resulted from: previous field work which he completed; a formal walk-through of stands as part of this contract; helicopter reconnaissance of stands as part of this contract; Drone video footage of stands as part of this contract; and in-depth review of new Lidar coverage of the forest. Andrew noted that the new Lidar and drone options would not have been available in the past. Previous inventory work was completed on a much broader scale and with aerial photography only.
- c) Using these methods Andrew was able to look at forest stands or vegetation types down to one hectare or less. This provides is a much higher level of information and precision than any inventory work completed previously.
- d) The work revealed of that within the approximately 2100 hectares of timber stands deemed to be old forest, there are some good opportunities remaining for timber harvesting, however, there will also be a significant reduction in the area and volume of old forest stands of timber in the community forest currently contributing to the long term allowable annual harvest level due to the fact they cannot be physically logged or they just have no value because of low growing site and poor quality timber. Andrew noted that many harvestable stands of old forest were small remnants and not economically available for timber harvesting until the second growth timber adjacent to these forest types is economical to be harvested. The allowable annual cut will be reduced based on this data. The amount of the reduction cannot be predicted until Erik does some work with the timber analysis later this fall.
- e) Andrew was also able to show by way of the GIS mapping layers, how the draft reserve area network plans we have had developed will impact the smaller area of remaining old forest deemed suitable for harvest. This data will be key to allow the professional advisors to work with the Board on any adjustments that might be possible to the reserve network to improve the plan going forward and before we move from a draft strategy to an approved conservation strategy for inclusion into Management Plan #2.
- f) Andrew was also asked about the inventory of second growth areas and what issues there are with second growth logging. Andrew noted that there were a number of issues to look at here including: different growth rates and harvest ages for Cedar compared



with Hemlock, Balsam and Fir, different growth rates on different sites , additional areas which would not be protected by reserves for riparian areas , and considerations for the length of rotation and age of harvest on areas logged by helicopter .

- g) Andrew noted that since the objective of the proposed reserve network is to protect representative areas for environmental and cultural values including existing old forest, considering the results of this review and a second growth review might provide an improved balance in the strategy and a more economical land base on which future forest management can be practiced.

Motion by Geoff, seconded by Gary that Erik continues with the work on the strategic old forest /riparian strategy with this new information and if possible, add Andrew to the group resource professionals including Sally and Dave Clough . Erik and Andrew should come up with a plan to review second growth (non-old forest) in a fashion similar to the old forest review to allow the Board to fully understand the current state of the total forest and impacts of changes to the contributing and base and reserve network on the long-term harvest levels on the forest.

Carried

5) Presentation by Tom Brown , West Coast Forestry Society , on the proposed Toquaht River Watershed Management Plan

Tom began with some general remarks on the history of the West Coast Forestry Society , its purpose , its organization, and options for working with the BCFC on the community forest . He also gave an indication of other clients in the local area that the Society has completed work for.

Tom further explained the funds generated by the Society from contracts pays for organizational costs and returns any extra funds back into the projects that the related to the Societies objectives. Profits are not retained by the Society.

Tom explained that the Society was contacted by Marina Rayner , then with Toquaht Nation, and now an independent contractor, to work with Toquaht Nation on a watershed plans for all watersheds in Toquaht Traditional Territory which includes the Maggie Watershed and over 80% of the Barkley community forest area. Tom indicated that the scope and full intention of the plans were not yet fully developed but would be over this fall . Tom will engage with Marina to return with a presentation to the Board when plans are firmed up.

Board members encouraged Tom to work with Erik and the community forest Board. The BCFC has already had much work completed by competent and local experienced professional fisheries biologists and ecologists as part of past work and the initial work on the Barkley CF old forest and riparian strategy.

- 6) Forestry Update . Erik Holbek RPF, General Manager** Erik noted that it has been a busy month getting information and getting background on the community forest program. He did prioritize the Draw Lake timber sale as directed by the Board. Key points are:



- a) Draw lake timber sale discussion is noted in Point 3 of these minutes.
- b) Mosaic/San timber sale. This work is active. Erik is monitoring work. Falling and logging occurring in Block Oz4 and falling starting in the SB blocks. All going well to date in the field. Oz 4 is a priority to finish due to the concern over road access in the wet season. (See note also in financials)
- c) Forest Stewardship Plan . Erik has checked with Ministry of MoFLNRORD officials. They have the plan. Everything is submitted. No public comments noted. They are busy and no responses have been received to date.
- d) Recreation site trail application to MoFLNRORD (Mountain Bike trails). Erik has checked. They have the application, and it is just a matter that these applications are low priority at this time .
- e) Management Plan and Timber Supply Analysis . No work at this time .

7) Financial Update. Terry and Erik written report from Mike Williams

- a) Terry circulated a written report from Mike late on Sept 7. Not a lot of activity since the August meeting.

Board reminded Erik of the August discussion and direction for he and Mike to create an annual plan budget and report format(template) for 2022. Julian noted it would be best to have a draft of this for discussion and comment at the October Board meeting for finalization in November. Erik will discuss with Mike.

It was noted that the BCFC has not received the installment on the Mosaic /San timber sale due Sept 4. Terry and Erik will work on this. It is likely just due to late summer holidays.

- b) **Change in Signatories CCCU Account .** Geoff noted that a clear motion was needed on this to allow the CCCU to complete the process of approving signing authorities.

Motion by Geoff , seconded by Gary, that at his request, Director Dario Corlazzoli be removed as a signing authority for the BCFC with the CCCU and Geoff Lyons be added as signing authority and added to the other existing signatures which will remain in effect as signing authorities for the BCFC for this year. Carried.

8) Sub Committee Progress

Access to Microsoft 365 and One Drive seems to be working well . Julian asked users to refer back to the original email with instruction and if further problems to give him a call.

9) Old Growth and Stream Management Block DC3

Ken re-iterated that these initiatives and the previous approvals will go forward as Erik gets the time to review the files and take over the project lead

10) Initiatives

- a) Heli Tour of Forest by Directors



Perhaps later in the fall or early winter.

b) Intensive Silviculture

No real options with FFT Funding . Staff will still attempt to get data and schedule a formal discussion with the Board and experts late this fall.

c) Lance Blackwell video . Being finalized. Terry asked Erik to contact Lance to do an interview for inclusion in the program.

11) Ongoing Business

a) Map and Fact Brochure

Existing brochure is not adequate and not what was wanted. Terry to re-establish a sub-committee and get back to original intentions.

12) Correspondence

None noted

13) Other Business

a) Jacket or Vests for new members

Motion by Ken, seconded by Gary, that Ken ask Geoff, Julian , Erik and Mike if they would like a jacket or vest similar to those purchased by BCFC in 2019. Ken will then explore whether we can get similar products from the original supplier and if so proceed with ordering and delivering the products. Julian noted would not ask for either a jacket or vest .

b) Christmas tree collaboration by a local resident.

Board determined that this was not something they wanted to proceed with. The interested party will be contacted and informed of the decision.

14) Items brought out of In-Camera Meeting September 8, 2021

None

15) Date of Next Regular Meeting

Meetings changed to second Wednesday of the month . Next meeting October 13, 2021.

16) Meeting Adjourned by Chair at 2:10 pm

Approved: Terry Smith, Chair

Ken Matthews, Secretary