

# Cache Creek LRUP Summary

## January 27, 2003

### Wander Inn

The meeting was quite quiet. There was only an open house since we did not have anyone show up after 6:00 PM.

## Agenda

Introductions  
Old Business  
Participant Concerns  
Licensee Presentations  
Forest Service Presentations

## Old Business

Follow up

### 1. **Damage to Grazing Lease at Dairy Lake**

The damage did not seem to be as bad this year. There is still significant use in the area.

## Participant concerns

### 1) **Will the open roads created by harvesting near Gisborne Lake be closed before next hunting season? The Moose will not have a chance if they do not close some of the roads.**

The intent is to have the loop roads closed and the blockages reestablished before fall this year. After plantation establishment a number of roads will be rehabilitated and closed permanently.

### 2) **Ecosystem Restoration Burn at Medicine Creek – is it going ahead?**

We are harvesting the burn area with the Bonaparte Indian Band to reduce some slash loading and remove some of the merchantable material.

## Licensee Presentations

### 1) **Weyerhaeuser – Jason Ladyman**

#### **Activities Completed in 2002**

Pest Management: Generally, Weyerhaeuser is experiencing epidemic Mountain Pine Beetle populations in the following areas; Deadman, Gisborne, Watching Creek, TFL 35(Jamieson, Venn Creek, Rushton, Stuart Lake, Whitewood, Skull) and Hyas Lake. Bonaparte Logan Lake and Greenstone area have endemic beetle populations and Weyerhaeuser continues to monitor areas. Approximately 80%+ of our 2002 cut was managing salvage volume.

Two other areas were developed in 2002; Bonaparte Lake (south shore) and Cannine/No Name Lakes.

Forest Development plans approved; last remaining item is to provide public with agency/other road blockage requests(green squares on map)

### Activities Planned for 2003

Development and harvesting of epidemic Mountain Pine Beetle in the chronic areas from the past few years. Our expectation is that volume of salvage will remain at or higher than 2002 levels. Initiating layout on Watching Creek and Hyas shortly for summer harvest. FDP major amendments including advertising and referral with stakeholders will be completed within the next few months.

### Communication

Weyerhaeuser will respond to all comments and questions generated from FDP amendments. It is imperative that public, stakeholders, First Nation and agencies provide comments and concerns early in the planning process.

## 2) West Fraser

Most activities have been in the Battle Creek area working on a windthrow project and in Hat Creek, McLean Lake, Tunkwa Lake and Criss Creek working on beetle harvest. We are finding more beetle in the Deadman area and are currently working on identifying that infestation. The majority of our cut has been in salvage for the past year. We do not see an end to this trend.

## 3) BC Timber Sales

**Small Business Forest Enterprise Program** will officially be changed to **British Columbia Timber Sales** with the passing of the Forest and Range Practices Act in the spring

- Originally one SBFEP department in each District office, now only **12 Business Units (Timber Sales units)** throughout the province of BC
  - One of those main units is in Kamloops
  - Kamloops B.U. covers five original Forest Districts - Kamloops, Clearwater, Merritt, Lillooet and 100 Mile House
  - Main **Timber Sales office** in Kamloops
  - Four **Field Units** are in Kamloops, Clearwater, Merritt and 100 Mile House
  - Still located under the Ministry of Forests umbrella; however, "separated" to make us more like a licensee
  - Our objective is still to provide opportunities to access wood volume to those registered in the program and gain the best monetary value from the timber for the Province of BC - this will lead to less social direction (ie. training and job creation)
  - With downsizing there will be fewer staff to run the program - will need to become more efficient with larger timber sales being offered for sale and less salvage opportunities
  - 'Small scale salvage' will now be run through Field Services (main MoF office)
  - Cache Creek LRUP harvest
- |                    | 2002     |   | 2003     |
|--------------------|----------|---|----------|
| - Robertson Creek: | 3,650 m3 | , | 3,000 m3 |
| - Finney/Chipuin:  | none     | , | 5,000 m3 |
| - Highland Valley: | 3,900 m3 | , | 3,000 m3 |

#### 4) **Range**

##### **RANGE ACTIVITIES 2002**

###### **Range Use Plans:**

Issued new plans for Highland Valley, Scottie Creek, and Bonaparte Tenure area at Cache Creek. Range did the field work for Marble Canyon and Ashcroft Ranch. Ranchers use this Forest Service supplied information to prepare their submissions.

###### **Improvements:**

No funding for Improvements currently

Harry Lake smooth wire fence was done over the winter

Worked on some layout for projects at Scottie Creek, McLean Lake.

###### **Weeds:**

- Some Spotted knapweed spraying was done in Hat Creek, Brand 88, McLean Lake, Nesbitt Lake and Highland Valley areas, containment only. Also one patch of HT on Ambusten Road
- HVCC had a crew do HT pulling and they did a good job on about 13 sites, mostly east of Logan Lake.
- Numerous bio-agents also released. Good potential for Toadflax and Houndstongue control.

###### **Ecosystem Restoration:**

Burn plans for the Dewdrop and Hat Creek areas were put on hold with the late spring.

##### **RANGE ACTIVITIES 2003**

###### **Range Use Plans:**

Ranchers have submitted plans for Marble Canyon and Ashcroft Ranch. After this the regulations were changed extending all current plans to the end of 2004. Range will be working with the ranchers to ensure that Range Use plans are in place for 2005, which will mean issuing over 200 over the next 2 years.

We are also taking over responsibility for McBride, which adds over 40 tenures to the workload. Now have 4 staff covering Kamloops and the new Headwaters District.

###### **Improvements:**

- The Grazing Enhancement Fund (GEF), which supplied most of the funding for the range improvements in this area over the last five years has been terminated. Future project funding is not known.

**Weeds:**

- Government has said it will continue with biological control.
- Funding for spray/pulling program will be limited to new invasive weeds and isolated patches of Spotted knapweed. Program will be handled out of the new SIR.
- Keep watching for newer weeds, including Field scabious, Perennial pepperweed and Rush skeletonweed.

**Ecosystem Restoration:**

Hope to carry out burn in Hat Creek and Dewdrop Burns in late March/early April .  
Future funding is questionable. Logging is going on at the Harry Lake site to space area prior to the burn.

## **Forest Service Presentations**

**Recreation**

The Forest Service is not going to change direction at this point. Recreation sites and trails will not be managed by Forest Service staff. The request for proposal to manage sites and trails in Kamloops District generated 4 responses. Only the TNRD proposal was comprehensive. The other proposals were for small groups of sites. All proposals were being reviewed in Victoria when a decision was reached to purchase liability insurance and remove that component from the Request for Proposal. The new Request for Proposal will be sent out soon with a goal of awarding contracts in April or early May for Recreation Site management.

**Mountain Pine Beetle**

We are on the cusp of a serious outbreak. The licensees have been working diligently on this problem but the weather is cooperating with the beetle not us. There is still a slight chance the weather will assist us in our management. If the warm weather continues and we see another dry summer the beetle may outstrip our ability to manage under our current Annual Allowable Cut.

Provincially we are in much worse shape. There is no short term hope for the districts in the north-central part of the province. They are working on strategies that will try to reduce spread but there is so much salvage material that is not being harvested the province is losing significant value every year. Attached is a summary of slides used at the meetings.

[Link to MPB slide show](#)

**Forest and Range Practices Act**

Government is bringing in new legislation that will reflect priorities of the new government. These changes are happening very quickly and we want to present a very short overview so you are aware of some of the more significant changes coming.

- There will be a phase in period for the new legislation to allow for growing pains during the transition.
- The goal is to maintain the strengths of the Forest Practices Code while removing some of the complexity and impediments to innovative management.
- The new act will allow industry to respond to market conditions while still meeting their public obligations.
- The new act will not sacrifice environmental standards.
- The standards set in the act will be enforceable.
- Staff will be employed to enforce conditions of the act. The penalties are under review and will be made available as soon as possible.

Link to FRP slide show

### **Summary**

We expect to return next year and hope to discuss forest management with everyone.