

Kamloops Greenstone LRUP Summary

January 22, 2003

Days Inn

The meeting was quite quiet due to snow.

Agenda

Introductions
Old Business
Participant Concerns
Licensee Presentations
Forest Service Presentations

Old Business

Follow up

1. **Damage to Grazing Lease in Barnhartvale**
The area of concern is not a Grazing Lease. It is a Gravel reserve and some adjacent lands under Grazing License. There is a growing use of the area and potential for conflicts. The local motorcycle club is working to encourage responsible use, a member of the club wanted to stress they were not guilty of practices that degraded the local area.
2. **Concern about trail use approvals and Section 102 and 105**
Sections 102 and 105 appear to remain in the new Forest and Range Practices Act but the complete act and regulations are not finalized. We are not acting on these sections until we have certainty that the legislation will be in place.
3. **Concern about the ability to use SUP's and permits**
Same answer as above.
4. **Concern about access through Grazing Leases to the crown land beyond.**
The management of Grazing Leases appears to be changing. The leaseholder has the rights of any normal lease holder in that they can restrict access to the property. This does not include roads that have been removed from the lease area. If there are specific issues with access through Grazing Leases please send a letter to Land and Water BC outlining your concerns and they will consider your input when the lease is renewed.

Participant concerns

- 1) **Who maintains the cattleguard at the Chuwels Motorcycle trails parking area on Lac le Juene Road?**
The cattleguard is filling up with gravel and one of the leaseholders in the area is unsure whether it is a highway, FS or tenure holder responsibility. Mike is going to look in to this and find out. His initial feeling is that the tenure holder is responsible.
- 2) **A motorcycle Hare Scramble event was hosted in the same area and had impacts on the cattle in the pasture. The rancher needs more notice of these events.**
Ken McClelland, president of GKMA noted that this group was from Vancouver and

the Kamloops event earlier in the summer was run with proper notification. He will attempt to ensure out of district groups respect local commitments.

- 3) **Participants felt the meetings are useful forums for communication and improve the stewardship of resources in the area.**

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 combined windthrow-Mountain Pine Beetle project. We are finding more beetle in the Tunkwa Lake area and are currently working on identifying the current infestation.

The majority of our cut has been in salvage for the past couple of years. 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)
- Kamloops/Greenstone harvest

	2002		2003
- Lac Le Jeune North	4,000 m3	,	4,000 m3
- Lac Le Jeune South:	1,600 m3	,	10,000 m3

Then, I discussed the Mountain Pine Beetle and its effects on our operations:

- 85 - 90 % of our harvesting over the past four and a half years has been MPB harvested
- 10 % greenwood due to our obligations to our mill / value added registrants
- cannot sell MPB wood to mills due to longer term of sales and the need to remove the wood prior to flight
- remove all pine and leave all other species except where there are operational or safety constraints
- almost all of our sales have been harvested before beetle flight in July/August
- any that weren't have been baited and held until the fall
- also have had fall and burn contracts in our Operating Areas for single tree disposal where we couldn't salvage the timber
- all sales (where applicable) are site prepped and planted based on available stock
- utilizing First Nations bands to help with fall and burn and salvage opportunities
- maintained contact (referrals) with all affected stake holders where impacted by our salvage operations

Finished off with requesting input from people present wherever concerns arose throughout the year and stating that BCTS is always open to discuss our developments and proposals at any time. Offered to view our maps and ask any questions after the meeting.

4) Range

RANGE ACTIVITIES 2002

Range Use Plans:

Issued new plans for Guichon, Cherry Creek, and Lodgepole Lake areas. Range did the field work for the Durand Unit. Ranchers use this Forest Service supplied information to prepare their submissions.

Improvements:

No funding for Improvements currently

Laid out some potential SB fencing in the Chuwhels Lake area.

Weeds:

- Some Spotted knapweed spraying was done in the Paska Lake, Highland Valley areas, containment only.
- HVCC had a crew do HT pulling and they did a good job on about 13 sites.
- 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 Morrison's pastures in Peterson Creek/Stake Lake and the Durand Creek Unit. 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. We 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 South Interior Region office.
- Toadflax bugs are also suitable for Common toadflax (Butter and eggs)
- 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.

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.