

# CORTES FORESTRY GENERAL PARTNERSHIP



## Cortes Forestry General Partnership Board Meeting Minutes – November 7, 2017

#### Present: Bill Barnes

**Kathy Francis** 

Georgina Silby

**Kevin Peacey** 

Corry Dow

**Bruce Ellingsen** 

Mark Lombard

Matt Cuscianna

Ione Brown

Guests: Noba Anderson – Regional Director, Karin Albert – Regional District Planning

### Agenda:

- Regional District parks areas & trails
- Operations Manager's Update
- 5-year Plan
- Miscellaneous possible communications contract, Children's Forest, Green Mountain tour date, website contact fix

### **Discussion:**

- Regional District Matters
  - Crown Lands unallocated by the OCP adjacent to Whaletown Commons and at the tip of Reef Point are being considered by the Regional District to lease for a Regional District Park. The Regional District is currently consulting stakeholders to assess support for the project. After discussion the CFGP has no desire to make any claim on these lands to be added to the Community Forest.
  - Cortes Island trails discussed as regards connecting trails crossing CF land. The CFGP is open to continuing dialogue with the Regional District regarding trails. Key issues/concerns: creating remote access potentially increases wildfire risk,

development of trails along old logging roads may result in trail closures during forestry operations, regional district funds to develop trails in CF areas may be better spent in areas already excluded from harvestable areas, CFGP liability for trail use.

- Operations Manager's Update
  - Ione has be authorized with the Regional Forest District as signing authority for the CFGP on documentation requiring an RPF.
  - The initial cut control period ends Dec. 31, 2017. Correspondence and discussion with Forestry Tenure Officer indicate that low harvest levels now may need explanation. No specific harvest level required within the CFA but there is a proviso for "performance". CFGP has so far harvested 13% of AAC for the 5 year cut control period. Should the ministry deem performance inadequate unused harvest volumes may be allocated elsewhere along with the tenure for the corresponding area of forest.
  - The CFGP's application for a One CP (one cutting permit for 4 years applied over the tenure) has been positively received pending end of current cut control period results.
  - Silviculture survey contractor to assess current standing timber and seedling browse for harvests areas in Larsen's Meadow and Squirrel Cove. (1 day's work) Results will help manager determine best course for upcoming silviculture treatments.
  - Ione working on BCEID for on-line results reporting.
- 5-year planning
  - Board feedback on current draft available. Condense data in to tables for easier reading. Expand on how areas have been decided upon and all factors considered in approach to each area.

### **Action Items:**

- 1. Mark to draft letter to Regional District outlining CFGP position on proposed park areas.
- 2. Corry to draft response to Noba re: ongoing trails discussions
- 3. Mark & Ione to draft letter to our Tenure Officer and District Manager outlining rationale for current harvest volume. Georgina and Kathy will work on an invitation for them to visit Cortes for site tour.
- 4. Matt to complete necessary work for Ministry of Transport Application for Carrington Area roadworks permit.
- 5. Mark, Matt and Ione to work on 5-year Plan and submit next draft for board review on Nov. 24.

- 6. Mark to invite Chris Blackwell to tour CF and discuss wildfire risk mitigation strategies ad possible funding opportunities.
- 7. Mark to post date for upcoming tour of Green Mountain operation area: Dec. 2.
- 8. Mark to have Adam double check contact form routing for CFGP co-chairs. Other contact link?
- 9. Georgina to invite Chris Dragseth from Children's Forest to the next CFGP meeting.

Next meeting: Dec. 11 – 10 AM (pending confirmation from C. Blackwell)