



## SITE PLAN BACKGROUNDER & SUPPORTING INFORMATION

### Block WS062

<b>SITE PLAN PURPOSE</b>
The Site Plan identifies the approximate location of roads and/or block boundaries for cutblocks. It is consistent with the Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) for Sechelt Community Projects Inc. (approved December, 2006) and identifies how the intended <i>Results and/or Strategies</i> outlined in the FSP apply to the site. As well, this document serves to provide rationales for identified values and serves to support the Site Plan for the noted block.
<b>SUPPORTING INFORMATION</b>
<b>1. TERRAIN/SOILS (FPPR Sections 34(1), 35 &amp; 36)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Terrain Field Assessment is required if in-block slopes are greater than 60% or if unstable terrain is observed in the block.</b></li> </ul>
No Terrain Stability Field Assessment is required as in-block slopes are less than 60% or no area of unstable ground were observed.
<b>2. WILDLIFE (FPPR Section 7(2))</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Wildlife Assessments are required when impact from proposed operations is anticipated with identified FSP wildlife value. A search of the Conservation Database Centre is required. As well, note any other wildlife concerns and prescribe management actions.</b></li> </ul>
<b>TAILED FROG (<i>Ascaphus truei</i>)</b> <b>Not applicable.</b> An area of Tailed Frog habitat has been identified within the Chapman Landscape Unit which fulfills the requirements of the notice for Tailed Frog. This area is outside of the CFA FDU. This block is not in vicinity to any of these areas or has creeks that exhibit favourable stream conditions for habitation (S5 stream class and permanent flow characteristics).
<b>QUEEN CHARLOTTE (NORTHERN) GOSHAWK (<i>Accipiter gentilis laingi</i>)</b> <b>Not applicable.</b> Sufficient suitable Queen Charlotte (Northern) Goshawk habitat has been identified within the SCFD to fulfill the requirements of the notice for Queen Charlotte (Northern) Goshawk. This area is outside of the CFA FDU. This block is not in vicinity to any known Goshawk habitat or nest sites.
<b>MARBLED MURRELET (<i>Brachyramphus marmoratus</i>)</b> <b>Not applicable.</b> (1) To meet the requirements of Section 1 of the notice, SCPI will identify and conserve an amount of MAMU habitat of class 1, 2 or 3 equal to the amount of class 1,2, or 3 habitat in the NC landbase. (2) SCPI will not carry out or authorize timber harvesting or road construction in a manner that is inconsistent with retaining the amount of habitat specified in the MAMU notice. (3) Sufficient suitable Marbled Murrelet (MAMU) nesting habitat has been identified within the SCFD to fulfill the requirements of section 1 of the notice for MAMU. This area is outside of the CFA FDU. This block is not in vicinity to any of these Marbled Murrelet Habitat Areas.
<b>COMMENTS</b>
<p>A search through the Conservation Data Center was identified near WS043/WS062 which protects a known feature and it's specific location is remains confidential. A representative of MOE was contacted to assess any impacts of SCPI operations and confirmation from MOE was received that harvesting will not conflict with this protected feature. No other sensitive areas were identified in CDC or within the block. Element Occurrence ID#8024 also occurred near the block which plant species <i>Cuscuta pentagona</i> (Field Dodder) is known to occur. This plant is on the BC Provincial Invasive Plant List and invasive plant infestations caused by Licencee forest practices will be destroyed and measures to minimize invasive plant spread will be implemented. These measures are outlined in Section 1.6 of the Forest Stewardship Plan.</p> <p>Recent elk trail activities (no bedding observed) were observed within the block by elk traveling from the plateau to the lakeshore. The plateau contains small ponds, and other features (slope, topography, forest type) consistent with overwintering use. The block is not within the core area of use and harvesting activities will not impede movement of the elk to move north or east from WS062. The small Cw left within the block will act as antler rub trees; and as harvesting will increase foliar browse potential, ensure that protection of seedlings are employed along elk trails post-harvest.</p>

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### 3. WATER AND FISH (FPPR Sections 12(3), 12.1(2), 47-51, 52(2) & 53)

- **Fish Presence/Absence surveys are to be conducted by a Qualified Professional as part of the Riparian Assessment. Procedures will follow the Fish Stream Identification Guidebook as required for identifying fish stream reaches. At minimum, if the stream gradient is less than 20%, then the stream is assumed to be fish unless a) the stream is simultaneously dry (i.e. ephemeral) , b) is not connected by known fish lakes or fish streams upstream AND c) cannot have recruitment from downstream resources.**

See the "Water and Fish" section in the Site Plan for the intended results for the Wetlands and Wormy Lake. The Logging Plan map further outlines operational procedures for each waterbody.

A Riparian Assessment was completed by FSCI Biological Consultants. Red legged frogs were found within the wetland. Mitigative measures for Wetland #1 as suggested by the report will be employed as follows:

- Preparation of the running grade should result in as little introduction of new road materials as possible;
- Preparation of the existing road grade must not encroach on the wetland and all materials removed should be end-hauled or side-cast outside the Riparian Reserve Zone for Wetland #1;
- There will be a number of drainage crossings along this section of road. Care should be taken to ensure no sediment inputs occur from harvest activities upslope of the wetland;
- All NCD crossing should be constructed in such a way that there is no possibility of upstream colonization by any fish inhabiting Wetland #1 during high water events;
- No removal of "large" standing conifer and deciduous trees should occur along the road unless they pose a safety risk. Smaller trees along the RRZ should also be protected unless they also pose a safety risk.

No other actions are prescribed within the block.

### 4. WATERSHEDS

- **Applicable only within Community Watersheds or within 100m of a known licensed waterworks intake.**

This block is not within a community watershed.

### 5. RECREATION

- **Note recreation inventory management for designated polygon**

Area is infrequently used by hikers, canoeists, and fisherman. A rustic campsite is located near the boat launch. Coordinated efforts with the licensee to upgrade current infrastructure are being considered.

### 6. VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

- **Visual Impact Assessments are required if block is within a Known Scenic Area.**

A Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) has been completed by Chartwell Consultants Ltd. (Warren Hansen, RPF, dated August 17,2006). The block meets the Visual Quality Objective (VQO) Modification (M) for VLU #13016. The VIA is included in the Site Plan file.

## 7. CULTURAL HERITAGE

- **Site Plan addresses possible impacts to Aboriginal Resources that is identified during the Forest Stewardship Plan review, or as directed by the District Manager or through other information sharing sessions provided by the affected First Nation. Pre-1846 resources are protected by the BC Heritage Act and Post 1846 resources are protected in agreement with the Licence, affected First Nations group and the Ministry of Forests.**

The Forest Practices and Planning Regulation defines cultural heritage resources as those resources that are the focus of a traditional use, by an aboriginal people, and that are of continuing importance to that people. Cultural heritage resources do not include archaeological sites, which are managed under the *Heritage Conservation Act*. This Act provides for the protection and conservation of British Columbia's archaeological resources.

Examples of cultural heritage resource may include such things as non-timber forest products, such as medicinal plants, and post-1846 culturally modified trees (culturally modified trees older than 1846 will be considered under the *Heritage Conservation Act*).

Cultural heritage resources may also include "traditional use sites". These are defined as any geographically defined site that has been traditionally used by one or more group of people for some type of activity. These sites will often lack the physical evidence of human-made artifacts or structures, but will retain cultural significance to a living group of people. Examples include such things as ritual bathing pools and resource gathering sites.

Cultural heritage resources will be specific to each First Nation and, therefore, may differ between First Nations.

Government's objective for cultural heritage resources is to conserve or, if necessary, protect cultural heritage resources that are:

- the focus of a traditional use by an aboriginal people,
- of continuing importance to that people, and
- not regulated under the *Heritage Conservation Act*.

The following factors should be taken into consideration when proposing results and strategies to conserve and/or protect cultural heritage resources:

- value or importance to traditional use to an aboriginal person,
- relative abundance or scarcity of the resource,
- historical extent of the resource,
- impact on timber harvesting rights, and
- options available for mitigating impact of forest practice on the resource

An Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) has been completed by Archeologist Peter Merchant. Present First Nation use is low. No bark-stripped Cw were observed in and adjacent to the block. No archaeological sites or artifacts were identified during field work or during site data collection. Cw retention for cultural proposes is provided in the form of retaining Cw Vets and small merch trees within the WTP and retention patches. As well, Cw seedlings will be planted for reforestation purposes that can assist to provide for future cultural purposes. No further archaeological work is required.

Should unanticipated cultural materials or features (including archaeological materials, culturally modified trees, or human remains) be encountered during timber harvesting and related activities, all work in the immediate area will cease and the appropriate First Nations groups, the Archaeology Branch and a qualified archaeologist will be contacted.

## 8. RANGE

- **Required where cattle grazing is being managed for.**

There is no range use in the vicinity of this block.

## 9. RETENTION TARGETS

- **Forest Influence Calculation (Silv System, patch arrangement, Targets), leave tree specifications**

Three internal aggregate retention patches have been identified and individual dispersed trees will be retained. The retention is intended to assist in meeting the definition of the Retention Silviculture System. Two WTP's have been established external, but immediately adjacent, to the opening boundary in order to contribute to stand and landscape level biological diversity. Both the aggregate retention patches and the WTP's are representative of the adjacent stand in terms of species composition and ecological classification. If the an "in-block" marked leave tree must be must felled for safety reasons, then a replacement tree of similar size, and species must be left in the same area. Unmarked dispersed trees will also include small merchantable western red cedar in the 10-30cm DBH range up to 10% of these trees to be acceptably retained; and based on biological considerations, a tree is not acceptable as a residual crop tree if it meets or exceeds the following levels of damage of Damage Type C of the Tree Wounding and Decay Guidebook for long-term retention:

- The tree has a wound that girdles more than a third of the stem circumference.
- The tree has one wound exceeding 400 cm<sup>2</sup> on the stem.
- The tree has a wound on a supporting root within 1 m of the stem.
- The tree has a gouge in the stem.

## 10. OTHER RESOURCES

- **Mineral Tenures**
- **Guider/Outfitter**
- **Minimum Harvest Ages**
- **Higher Level Plans**

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Mineral Tenure – Block overlaps with Mineral Tenure Id#384347 and its associated roads. The tenure is held by GLOBAL INDUSTRIAL SERVICES CANADA INC (Pan-Pacific Aggregates). The Licencee has been notified of road building activities through FSP meetings and raised no issues.

Guider/Outfitter – Trout Tales – Scott Elliott – W. Hansen and Scott Elliott walked concerned areas of WS062. Block was engineered to reflect that block is not visible from the lake. W. Hansen produced visual renders to indicate that the block was not visually evident, however may be partially obscured through the Lakeside buffer of standing trees. Due to concerns about viewing too much harvesting when using the road system, W Hansen added more retention along the Wormy Lake Main to help screen the block.

Minimum Harvest Ages – Sampled block ages in WS062=125.8 yrs (avg) – Min Harvestable age for F (medium) sites is 60 years. Blocks meets TSR policy target. Stand is economically harvestable and no rationale required.

Higher Level Plans – As identified in the FSP. The block resides in the Sechelt Landscape Plan. Block is consistent with the objectives of the plan.

#### **10. FOREST HEALTH MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES**

All engineering works within this block has taken windthrow into consideration. See "Windthrow Assessment" located in the Site Plan file.