

Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board  
Box 577  
Smithers, BC, V0J 2N0

December 17, 2007

Bill Golding, R.P.F.  
Wetzin'kwa Community Forest Corporation  
c/o Silvicon Services Inc.  
P.O. Box 490  
Smithers, BC, V0J 2N0

**Re: Review of Proposed FSP for Wetzin'kwa Community Forest License K2P.**

Dear Sir,

The Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board (BVCRB) has reviewed the proposed Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) submitted by the Wetzin'kwa Community Forest Corporation for Community Forest License K2P. We offer the following comments:

- 1) The FSP submitted by the Wetzin'kwa Community Forest appears to be consistent with the legally recognized Results and Strategies outlined in the Bulkley LRMP (specifically HLP 2006 version).
- 2) With regards to the two versions of the FSP; one limited to a smaller Pine leading FDU and the other for the entire license area, we understand the need to expedite the plan in order to effectively harvest Mountain Pine Beetle infested stands this winter. We support the approval of the FSP with the limited FDU area for beetle management. Given the yet to be resolved recreational issues within the larger FDU (license area), we encourage further consultation with stakeholders prior to approval of the FSP for the entire License FDU.
- 3) The BVCRB recognizes that the K2P License area has a long history of non-timber resource uses, such as recreation, mining, hunting, fishing and others. The plan does not provide any indication or detail on how these resources will be managed, beyond the broad terms in the High Level Plan documents. Of specific concern is the lack of indication of how the License will be managed around the BV Cross Country Ski Club lodge and infrastructure (i.e trails, lights, etc.), given that these are a significant recreational resource to the community

The BVCRB recognizes that the required content of a Forest Stewardship Plan consists primarily of how the licensee intends to operate within the results and strategies approved under a higher level plan. (i.e. those contained in the Bulkley LRMP) This being said, given the long history of other resource uses in the area the BVCRB believes there should be more detail regarding how these resources will be accommodated under the plan. If there is a concern, on the part of the licensee, about putting this level of detail in the FSP document then it could be submitted supplementary to the plan, as observed in other FSP documents submitted to the Ministry of Forests for approval.

It was noted that Wetzin'kwa has committed, within the Management Plan submitted as part of the License application, to form a "Resource User's Group" to guide activities of the License. The BVCRB believes this will be key to managing an area with so many diverse user groups and we look forward to the establishment of this group in the near future.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Wetzin'kwa Community Forest, Forest Stewardship Plan. Should you have questions regarding these comments, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Adrian de Groot  
Chair, Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board