



File: 18750-20/ZFSP

September 15, 2005

Kevin Somerville, R.P.F.
Regional Engineer, Nootka Region
Western Forest Products Inc.
Post Office Box 220
Gold River, British Columbia
V0P 1G0

Dear Kevin Somerville:

The Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) for your Zeballos Operations dated January 13, 2005, and revised May 18, 2005, July 22, 2005, and September 12, 2005, has now been fully reviewed.

Determination:

I am satisfied that the proposed plan has met the requirements of the *Forest and Range Practices Act* (the Act) and associated regulations.

Accordingly, as the delegated decision-maker, I hereby approve your Forest Stewardship Plan under Section 16(1) of the Act.

I have also determined that it is desirable to attach a condition to this approval as provided for under Section 112 of the Act, as follows:



Condition:

Each licensee who holds this FSP must refer the location of a proposed cut block or road to every First Nation whose traditional territory includes that location, in accordance with the commitment made by the proponents of this FSP on page 10 of 11 of the document entitled "First Nations Consultation Process for Zeballos FSP- Consultation Post Plan Approval" (the "Zeballos FSP Consultation Process") at tab 3.4 submitted in support of the FSP.

In addition to the four situations that will trigger a referral that were identified in the Zeballos FSP Consultation Process, namely, where the general location of a cut block or road is:

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- (1) proposed within an area as indicated on the Archaeological Overview Potential Map (Arcas Consulting 1998),
- (2) in or adjacent to areas with high archaeological potential,
- (3) in or adjacent to areas with moderate-high CMT potential (labelled as CMT potential on the cultural use map), or,
- (4) located within the vicinity of a "known" archaeological or traditional use site,

a referral must also be made with respect to a location where a First Nation whose traditional territory includes that location has requested, in writing, a referral from the holder of this FSP.

The above-mentioned referral must be made no later than 30 days before the holder of this FSP submits the road permit or cutting permit application for that location to the Ministry of Forests.

The Zeballos FSP Consultation Process contemplates referral much earlier in the layout and planning stage than the condition, above, requires. I fully support and encourage earlier referral.

The term of the plan is five years from the date of approval.

Further development taking place by the proponents on the licences specified within the plan text and within the Zeballos operating area must be carried out in accordance with the approved FSP.

Yours truly,



Rory Annett, R.P.F.
District Manager

pc: Acting Chief Natalie Jack and Council
Ka:'yu:k't'h'/Che:k:tlles7et'h' First Nation
General Delivery, Kyuquot, British Columbia, V0P 1J0

Chief Walter Michael and Council
Nuchatlaht Tribe, PO Box 40, Zeballos, British Columbia, V0P 2A0

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Ehattesaht Tribe, PO Box 59, Zeballos, British Columbia, V0P 2A0