



**Forest  
Practices  
Board**

## **Logging Near Habitat for Mountain Goats and Spotted Owl in the Chilliwack Valley**

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*Complaint Investigation #121009*

**FPB/IRC/188**

July 2013

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## Board Commentary

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This report is about a complaint from three residents of the Chilliwack River Valley who were concerned about logging near their subdivision close to Post Creek. One concern was about potential impacts of logging to the sensitive wildlife values in the area.

The area around Post Creek presents challenges for timber harvesting for several reasons: it is adjacent to a rural/residential community, it is close to a provincial park, it is down-slope from designated mountain goat winter range and it is within a designated habitat area for one of Canada's most endangered species, the spotted owl. The licensee was aware of these challenges and knew the logging would cause public concerns.

Forest licensees in BC are not legally required to consult with the public for every cutblock they plan to harvest, but there are legal requirements for public consultation, which the Board considers to be a minimum. In this case, those legal minimums were actually exceeded; however, the Board has previously expressed the view that licensees should exercise judgment and provide meaningful public involvement tailored to local needs to maintain and build confidence in the management of BC's forest resources. In the Board's opinion, Post Creek was a situation that warranted more communication than was provided.

This investigation found that both the licensee and the Ministry of Forests Lands and Natural Resource Operations (MFLNRO) missed three early opportunities to communicate with local residents, which would have been beneficial for greater understanding:

- First, both the licensee and MFLNRO were party to the negotiations to harvest timber at Post Creek, but the complainants were not. At the time of cutblock layout in the field, it is often too late for consultation to be meaningful. Both should have proactively contacted the residents and explained that they were considering harvesting in this area.
- Second, both the licensee and the forests ministry knew a spotted owl had been detected near Post Creek in September 2011. Upon finding an owl, they should have contacted the complainants, revealed the discovery and explained their plans for dealing with it, rather than leaving it to the complainants to discover on their own.
- Finally, the licensee failed to provide a full and transparent rationale for changing a previous commitment to protect goats by not logging in the winter.

Without such explanations, planning changes could be construed by residents as creating unwarranted risk to sensitive wildlife habitats.

The harvesting conducted near Post Creek provides a learning experience for both the licensee and the MFLNRO, which is that in the future, where a number of values come together with such high potential sensitivities, public concern should be anticipated and addressed prior to development.

The Board accepts that licensees need to make financially sound decisions, but is concerned that when communication is not effective, the public will make their own assumptions about how decisions are made. If forest licensees want to maintain the flexibility to make such operational decisions on public land, they need to demonstrate that they also adequately consider other forest values and be transparent in their decisions. Otherwise, the public will lose confidence in FRPA and the forest industry.

# Introduction

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## The Complaint

In [February 2012](#), three residents of the Post Creek subdivision in the Chilliwack River Valley submitted a complaint to the Board about logging near their community. Tamihi Logging Co. Ltd. (the licensee) is the licensee carrying out the harvesting in question. The licensee has a cutting permit (CP65) under Forest Licence A20542.

The complainants identified two concerns: 1) the licensee did not honour its commitment to only log between May 1 and October 31 to accommodate mountain goats in their winter range; and 2) the licensee planned to log within a spotted owl wildlife habitat area (WHA) while aware that a spotted owl had recently been seen near the WHA.

This is the second complaint to the Board about CP65 at Post Creek and the concerns raised are related to issues discussed in the [closing letter](#)<sup>1</sup> the Board published concluding the first investigation, which addressed a complaint submitted by the Post Creek Ratepayers Association (Ratepayers).

In this case, the complainant wanted all logging to stop until the complaint was addressed. The Board has no authority to stop logging, but it must investigate the complaint. This report provides the results of the investigation.

## History and Background

Planning for timber harvesting in the Post Creek area goes back a number of years. The following discussion reviews the history and background of this complaint.

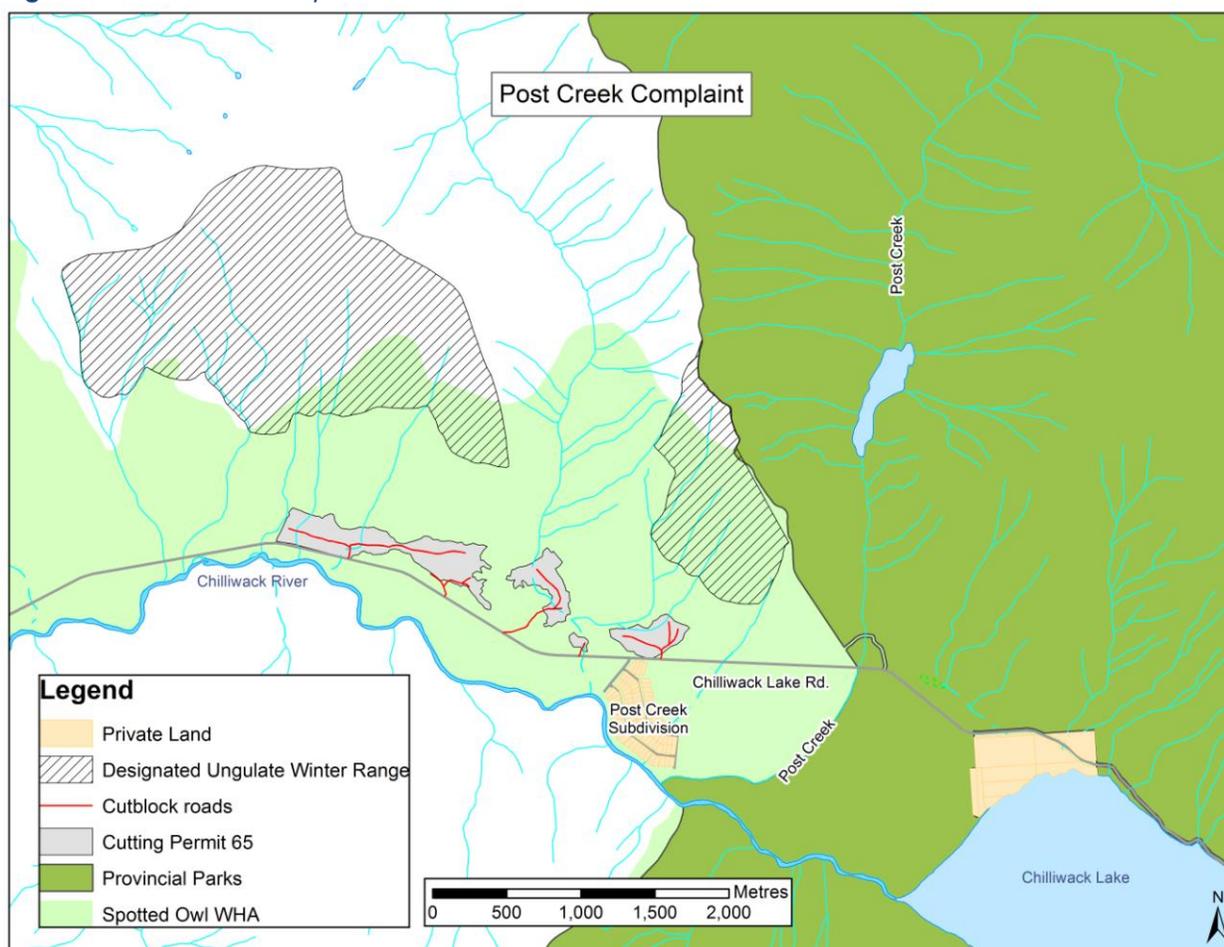
Post Creek is at the west end of Chilliwack Lake Provincial Park and it flows south into the Chilliwack River (see figure 1.) Near the confluence, Post Creek forms the western boundary of Chilliwack Lake Provincial Park. The Post Creek subdivision is just west of Post Creek and the community consists of 85 properties with both permanent and non-permanent residences.

Residents told the Board they take satisfaction in living so close to nature and they treasure the area for its forest values. They love to hike and have built trails to observe nature. For example, they have a tradition of watching resident goats that winter above the subdivision.

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<sup>1</sup> Closing Letter: Post Creek, dated August 16, 2011, [here](#).

Figure 1. Area of the complaint.



## Spotted Owl Management

Chilliwack District is of vital importance to BC's plan for spotted owl recovery due to its connectivity to the spotted owl population in the United States. The BC Conservation Data Centre reports that the spotted owl is designated globally as a species vulnerable to extirpation or extinction; federally as an endangered species under the *Species at Risk Act*; and provincially as a red-listed species because it is deemed to be critically imperiled.

In [1997](#), the provincial government approved a Spotted Owl Management Plan for BC, (SOMP) and in 2006 the province protected nine areas where spotted owls were known to live. The plan was revised in [2008](#). It is now known as SOMP 2.

During the development of SOMP 2 the government policy of 'no net loss' to both owl habitat and timber opportunities required staff of the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (MFLNRO) to find ways to compensate licensees for loss of access to timber in the designated spotted owl habitat areas.

MFLNRO staff negotiated an agreement with licensees to exchange timber rights lost in prime spotted owl habitat (about 300 hectares) for timber rights in less optimal areas. However, MFLNRO could not meet the goal of no net loss to timber supply without permitting some

harvesting in habitat designated as long-term owl habitat, including the timber stands near Post Creek. The areas selected for harvest in long-term owl habitat were those considered less suitable owl habitat. Also, as part of the agreement, logging was to be done in a way that would recruit future suitable spotted owl habitat.

### **Goat Winter Range Management**

In [April 2008](#), government approved a general wildlife measure (GWM) specific to timing of timber harvesting near designated ungulate winter range, which effectively replaced the long-standing regional *Mountain Goat Winter Range Timing Restriction Policy*. The mountain goat policy had restricted logging of any kind within 500 metres of goat winter range between October 31 and May 1 each year, while the new GWM only restricted helicopter logging, not ground-based logging, during winter within 500 metres of the designated ungulate winter range.

The timing restriction became a legal requirement in 2008, under the *Government Actions Regulation* (GAR). One of the main requirements of the GAR is that the minister be satisfied that creating the measure is necessary. To address this, during development of the timing restriction for the GWM, the decision maker consulted biologists to provide scientific support. The biologists did a literature review, which provided sufficient evidence to support a helicopter timing restriction adjacent to designated ungulate winter range (UWR) during winter, but there was not enough available research to give sufficient evidence to support a timing restriction for ground-based harvesting adjacent to UWR. The literature did not explicitly show *no risk* to goats from ground-based winter harvesting, but rather, that there is not enough scientific evidence in the literature to satisfy the minister that there is *a risk*.

### **Timber Harvesting at Post Creek – Up to the Time of the First Board Investigation**

In [January 2011](#), a resident contacted the Board with a concern about the appearance of flagging tape in the forest around Post Creek. The resident said this was the first indication local residents had that logging may occur near their community. Concerned because of what they saw as poor harvest practices all along the Chilliwack River Valley, they did not want to see similar logging take place near them. The Ratepayers contacted the Board and two environmental organizations regarding the significance of the area for spotted owl and mountain goats. Subsequently, the Ratepayers submitted the first complaint on [February 13, 2011](#).

In [March 2011](#), government established a wildlife habitat area for spotted owls (WHA 2-495 Chilliwack Lake/ Depot Creek). This 2981 hectare WHA surrounds the community of Post Creek; is in the provincial forest; and also abuts Chilliwack Lake Provincial Park, in effect creating a much larger protected area for the spotted owl. (See figure 1.)

The WHAs for spotted owl contain two habitat designations: 1) long term owl habitat area (LTOHA); and 2) managed future habitat area (MFHA). Each designation has restrictions on what kind of timber harvesting can occur. LTOHA is much more restrictive (can only create or enhance owl habitat) than MFHA (retain structure for future). WHA 2-495 was designated as LTOHA.

As described earlier, during development of SOMP 2, there were short-term timber impacts to some licensees that required compensation in order to meet the goal of 'no net loss' to timber supply opportunities. Part of the agreement for this licensee was to harvest some timber in LTOHA designated areas that provided less suitable owl habitat. More specifically, the licensee was allowed to harvest 13 cutblocks totaling 142.4 hectares under the less-restrictive MFHA rules in WHA 2-495, even though it is LTOHA. After harvesting, the blocks would be managed as LTOHA along with the rest of the much larger WHA. Harvesting was approved in a forest stewardship plan in June 2011.

On [May 14, 2011](#), the licensee held a public meeting to explain its plan for harvesting at Post Creek. During the meeting, the licensee presented two slides that explained why the licensee could log in the WHA as well as MFHA rules the licensee needed to follow.

For goats, one of the slides stated the following: *"All work on these cutblocks has to be done within the timelines for Goat Winter Range. Operations can be carried out between May 1<sup>st</sup> and October 31<sup>st</sup>."* This was to address the resident's concerns about mountain goat habitat. After discussion, the meeting participants left with the understanding that harvesting would not occur near designated ungulate winter range during the winter.

The Board documented that commitment in the closing letter for the first complaint investigation, which was published in [August 2011](#). The wording in the closing letter was reviewed by the licensee for accuracy before it was published. It said, "Harvest must be done between May 1<sup>st</sup> and October 31<sup>st</sup> as the blocks are adjacent to goat winter range. Some road building will probably happen this year, but the harvest will most likely take place in 2012."

### **Timber Harvesting at Post Creek – Since the Time of the First Board Investigation**

On a routine survey in [September 2011](#), MFLNRO staff detected a spotted owl within three kilometers of the cutting permit area. The site is a well known area where spotted owl have been detected and monitored before. However, no owls had been detected there for three years, so MFLNRO staff had considered the area vacant. They discussed the issue with the MFLNRO District Manager and the licensee.

MFLNRO staff caught the owl and fixed a radio transmitter on it to monitor its movements. Then they assessed the risk of logging operations to the owl by examining the habitat between the detection site and the cutting permit and by reviewing previous monitoring data. They found that owls had not previously been detected near the cutting permit area and that it was unlikely this owl would move towards the cutting permit, as forest attributes were better for spotted owl in the opposite direction.

They discussed the owl with the licensee, who said that if the owl moved into the area of the cutblock, they would stop logging.

Over the [fall and winter of 2011](#), the proposed logging at Post Creek received media attention. MFLNRO developed a fact sheet (see Appendix 1) explaining the history of the Spotted Owl Recovery Plan and its plan to monitor this owl. On [January 20, 2012](#), it put the fact sheet on its website so it could refer people to it if they inquired about logging in the WHA.

On [January 16, 2012](#), the licensee sent an e-mail to the complainant explaining:

*“At the meetings that we had with the Post Creek Rate Payers a statement was made that we were unable to work on those blocks in the winter because of the Goat Winter Range (GWR). This statement was wrong, we are able to work on these blocks outside the GWR restriction because they aren't within the GWR but adjacent to it. The restriction only applies to operations within the GWR or helicopter operations within 500 meters of the GWR. Since we are neither inside the GWR or using a helicopter the restriction doesn't apply.”*

The licensee's FSP, submitted in [January 2011](#) and approved in June 2011 said, “As of March 10th, 2008 the Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Environment has approved Ungulate winter Range in the Chilliwack Forest District.” This order approved the designated ungulate winter range and the GWM. However, during this current investigation, the licensee told Board staff that, at the time of the May 14, 2011 public meeting, it was unaware that a GWM, specific to harvest timing near designated ungulate winter range, had already been approved.

The licensee called the complainants shortly after sending the e-mail to explain its mistake and arrange a field trip to discuss other issues. The complainants objected to the change in timing. In their view, the licensee had made a commitment at the May 2011 meeting to resolve their concerns about goats—the plan to log between May 1 and October 31 was to protect the goats that they knew used the area. The licensee gave no explanation about how the complainant's concern about goats would be addressed with what now seemed to be less protection.

The district manager approved a road permit on [January 20, 2012](#). The licensee let the complainant know the permit was approved on [January 25](#) and in the late afternoon of [January 27](#), the licensee told the president of the Ratepayers that road building would start the next day. The licensee started clearing trees for the roads on [January 28](#).

Up until this time, the residents had observed goats in the designated ungulate winter range, but when falling trees to build the roads started, they could no longer see the goats.

On [January 30](#), 2012, the licensee met with some of residents of Post Creek to outline its final plan to deal with their concerns on other matters such as location of a trail and re-establishment of water lines.

On [February 1](#), Global TV and the Wilderness Committee (WC, formerly Western Canada Wilderness Committee) filmed a segment about logging in the Spotted Owl WHA.

On [February 2](#), a WC wildlife biologist e-mailed the district manager asking if he could confirm the logging start date of May 1. In a return e-mail, the district manager explained that road building had begun and referred the biologist to the Chilliwack district website saying, “Information for the road permit as it relates to spotted owl management can be found on the District of Chilliwack Website.”

The district manager asked the WC to contact the licensee directly for information about their operating plans. Although the complainant cannot recall how, they found out about the spotted owl being located near the WHA that day.

On [February 3](#), the district manager sent an e-mail to the WC biologist and copied other interested parties including the complainants. He again explained that information is posted on the district website and said that MFLNRO does not know when logging will start and that they needed to contact the licensee to find out that information.

[On February 15](#), the licensee called the complainants to let them know that they would start logging any time. The complainants submitted their complaint to the Board the same day. The complainants e-mailed the district manager asking for 24-hours notice before logging would start. The district manager forwarded that request to the licensee.

The cutting permit was approved on [February 20](#) and on [February 21](#) the licensee gave the complainants notice that logging would start on [February 23](#), which it did.

Also on [February 23](#), the Board sent a letter (see appendix 2) to the licensee explaining that a departure from the plan for logging near designated ungulate winter range, communicated by the licensee to the local residents without adequate consultation or explanation, would discourage public confidence in the licensee and would reflect poorly on the forest industry in general.

Meanwhile, MFLNRO staff regularly monitored the location of the owl during the period harvest operations were active. Between [September 18, 2011](#), when the owl was first spotted, and June 7, 2012, when logging activity stopped, they carried out 21 road and 6 aerial surveys. They found that the owl either stayed in the area it had been found or moved away from the cutblocks. There was no need to suspend operations for the owl. Since harvest was not yet completed, MFLNRO committed to monitoring the owl when harvesting resumed.

Once logging operations were suspended, the goats were again observed in the designated ungulate winter range by the Post Creek residents.

Logging of the cutting permit was partially completed as of December 2012. In [January 2013](#), logging operations resumed.

## Discussion

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The licensee had a legal right to harvest in the WHA and to do ground-based harvesting at any time of year. However, the Board looks at more than just compliance with legislated requirements. One of the fundamental purposes of the Board is to encourage sound forest practices that warrant public confidence.

Under the *Forest and Range Practices Act* (FRPA) regulatory regime, licensees have the authority to make decisions about operational matters, such as this licensee's decision to change the timing of harvest. Requirements for public consultation under FRPA are minimal and on their own do not, or cannot, address many of the principles of effective consultation. The Board's views, as published in a [bulletin](#)<sup>2</sup> on its website, are that, "effective consultation allows British Columbians to find out what is happening in their forests, express their views and have them seriously considered by decision-makers," and, "providing for meaningful public involvement is essential for maintaining and building local and international confidence in the management of BC's forest resource."

The bulletin is the Board's standard for effective consultation and it outlines principles that the Board considers important for consultation to be effective. Some principles to consider are that the consultation should be early, meaningful and continuous.

### Spotted Owl located near the cutting permit area

It is understandable that the complainant thought that logging should stop—it is well known that the spotted owl is an endangered species in British Columbia. The government has been making efforts for over 15 years to help the spotted owl population recover.

When the residents first discovered logging was going to occur, they were not aware they lived in the middle of a WHA for spotted owl so they contacted environmental organizations who explained that there is a recovery strategy for spotted owl. In the May 2011 public meeting, the licensee explained that part of that recovery plan included the decision to trade timber in more suitable habitat for timber in less suitable habitat as compensation for the revised SOMP. The cutblocks at Post Creek were part of the trade. The licensee explained the plan to trade timber harvesting opportunities in the public meeting in May 2011, but neither the licensee nor MFLNRO explained why this particular area was chosen over other areas.

When MFLNRO detected the spotted owl in September 2011, they notified the licensee and came up with a strategy to protect that particular bird, while maintaining the long term SOMP strategy. The licensee committed to stop logging if the owl moved towards the cutting permit area.

Given the previous decision to allow the licensee to log in the WHA, the strategy to deal with this individual bird was a reasonable approach for MFLNRO and the licensee to take.

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<sup>2</sup> [Opportunity for Public Consultation under the \*Forest and Range Practices Act\*](#), Board Bulletin, Volume 3, page 1

In January 2012, four months after the first sighting of the owl, MFLNRO placed a fact sheet about the spotted owl on its website, outlining the steps it had taken and the licensee's commitment to stop logging if the owl moved towards the cutting permit. That led residents to discover in February that a spotted owl had been found in the area.

In the Board's view, a more fulsome and forthcoming communication with residents by the licensee and MFLNRO about the decision to harvest at Post Creek, the discovery of the spotted owl, and the strategy to deal with the individual bird may have helped to reduce residents' anxiety.

### **Timing of logging near designated ungulate winter range**

During the investigation of the initial 2011 complaint to the Board, the licensee made considerable efforts to create a plan to deal with residents' concerns. In an open public meeting the licensee explained that the plan included a specific commitment to restrict logging to the period from May 1 to October 31 to accommodate community concerns about the ability of the designated ungulate winter range to provide for the winter survival of goats. Although mistaken in the belief it was a requirement of the GAR order, the licensee promised the residents more protection for the goats than legally required. Those commitments and the open meeting helped many of the residents gain confidence in the way the licensee was planning to manage the area and were documented in the Board's first complaint report.

When the licensee decided to change the plan and log in the winter, it said that it had made a mistake and actually had the right to cut at any time of year. In the complainant's view, the licensee should have done more than merely say it could change the plan because it had a legal right. The complainants had been watching the goats for years, were concerned about their well-being and thought the licensee's commitment not to log in the winter would protect them. They did not understand the regulations or how the new general wildlife measure would protect the goats. The goats were present before the road building started, but once it started they disappeared. As the licensee gave no explanation of how its change to the timing of logging would still protect the goats or what the reason for the change in timing was, it appeared to the complainant that the ground-based harvesting put some of the goat population at risk by discouraging the goats from using the habitat.

The licensee's rationale, given to the Board during the investigation, was that markets changed, so it changed its plan. The licensee also said it had done more consultation than was legally required.

Given the past complaint and the level of concern the residents had for the goats, it would have been prudent for the licensee to provide a more meaningful explanation about why it changed its previous commitment.

## Conclusions

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For the spotted owl concerns, given the government's decision to allow logging in these cutblocks, it is the Board's view that the strategy to monitor the owl and suspend harvesting activity if the owl moved toward the cutblocks was a reasonable approach for the government and the licensee to take. Although it would have been better if the licensee had delivered an earlier and more fulsome rationale, the strategy and the protective measures were eventually clearly communicated to the residents by the MFLNRO.

However, for the concern about goats, the licensee's efforts to consult the public were not effective. Effective consultation allows British Columbians to find out what is happening in their forests, express their views and have them seriously considered by decision makers.<sup>3</sup>

The licensee knew the complainants had concerns about the goats and was well-aware of the high level of public interest in logging the area. It had set up the expectation that summer logging would protect the goats, so when it changed the plan, the licensee should have explained, in a meaningful way, how the goats would be protected and what the reasons for the change in timing were. It is the Board's view that the licensee changed its plan without adequate explanation, and that for the complainants and other members of the public aware of this complaint, confidence in the licensee's management of BC's forest resources has been diminished.

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<sup>3</sup> [Opportunity for Public Consultation Under the Forest and Range Practices Act](#), Board Bulletin, Volume 3

# Appendix 1

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## FACTSHEET

Jan. 20, 2012

Ministry of Forests Lands and  
Natural Resource Operations

### LOGGING PERMIT NEAR SPOTTED OWL HABITAT

- In 1997, the provincial government approved a Spotted Owl Management Plan (SOMP1) that managed habitat for spotted owls within protected and provincial Crown forests.
- In 2006, the province announced a five-year Spotted Owl Recovery Action Plan, including a captive breeding program, a revised habitat management plan and the immediate protection of nine areas where Spotted Owls were located in 2005.
- In 2008, a revised spotted owl management plan (SOMP 2) was drafted to protect additional habitat for spotted owls in B.C.
- In some cases, this required the province to negotiate “mitigation agreements” with licence holders whose harvesting rights were affected by the change in SOMP2, including Tamihi Logging.
- In March 2011, the province established a series of Wildlife Habitat Areas that protect and manage 97,500 hectares of Crown forest, bringing the amount of protected spotted owl habitat in the Chilliwack district to more than 226,000 hectares.
- In an effort to protect prime owl habitat elsewhere in the district, the agreement with Tamihi Logging allows a limited amount of logging near Ford Mountain and Post Creek.
- This is a onetime opportunity requiring the licensee to retain certain types and amounts of trees for future spotted owl habitat. Any logging in the area must conform to strict requirements.
- While previous monitoring in the Post Creek area suggested the area was no longer occupied by spotted owls, survey work in September 2011 identified a new spotted owl about three kilometres away from the nearest planned harvest area.
- Ministry staff will monitor the owl’s movements during harvesting operations. Work will be suspended if the owl moves into the harvest area.
- This new owl, along with others recently found, demonstrates the benefits of the government’s improved Spotted Owl Recovery Plan.

Contact: Brennan Clarke  
Public Affairs Officer  
250 356-5261

## Appendix 2

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File: 97250-20/110980

February 23, 2012

Via e-mail

Len Blackstock  
Tamihi Logging Co. Ltd.  
7650 Arnold Road  
Chilliwack, BC V2R 4H8

Dear Len Blackstock:

**Re: Planned harvesting in the Post Creek area**

In February 2011, the Post Creek Ratepayers complained to the Forest Practices Board about planned harvesting in the Post Creek Area.

Tamihi Logging Co. Ltd. (Tamihi) subsequently made a substantial effort to address the ratepayers' concerns, and I decided that further investigation of the complaint was not necessary. On August 16, 2011, I summarized the steps Tamihi proposed to address the concerns in a letter to the ratepayers, and I provided Tamihi with a copy.

To address the ratepayers' concerns about the effect of harvesting on goats, Tamihi proposed that harvesting would be done between May 1 and October 31. I understand that Tamihi recently told the ratepayers that it intended to start logging as early as February 21, 2012. Logging before May 1<sup>st</sup> appears to be contrary to the company's earlier commitment.

One of the fundamental purposes of the Board is to encourage sound forest practices that warrant public confidence. In my view, a departure from the plan that Tamihi communicated to the Board and the ratepayers without adequate consultation or explanation will discourage public confidence in Tamihi and will reflect poorly on the forest industry in general.

If you have any other information that you think we should consider or questions, please feel free to contact Glen Pilling, at 250 836 3279.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R.A. Gorley".

R.A. (Al) Gorley, RPF  
Chair

cc: District Manager, Chilliwack Forest District  
Post Creek Ratepayers Association



T 250.213.4700 | F 250.213.4725 | 1.800.994.5899 | [www.fpb.gov.bc.ca](http://www.fpb.gov.bc.ca) | PO Box 9905, Stn Prov Gov't, Victoria BC, Canada V8W 9R1

## Appendix 3

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### Chronology of Key Events

- 1997        [Spotted Owl Management Plan \(SOMP1\) approved](#)
- 2008        [Goat UWR designated and General wildlife measure\( GWM\) approved.](#)  
[SOMP1 re-drafted to SOMP2 and MFLNRO directed to compensate licensees.](#)
- 2011
- Jan        [Licensee submits FSP documenting goat UWR was approved in 2008.](#)  
Jan        [Board contacted by Post Creek resident about proposed logging.](#)  
Feb        [Post Creek Ratepayers Association submits first complaint.](#)  
Mar        [WHA 2-495 established that includes provision for Post Creek cutblocks.](#)  
May        [Licensee holds public meeting to explain its plans for harvest.](#)  
Aug        [Board publishes first complaint report documenting licensee commitments.](#)  
Sept       [Spotted owl detected by MFLNRO 3-5 kilometers from proposed cutblocks.](#)  
Sept       [MFLNRO starts to monitor spotted owl movements.](#)  
Fall        [Media attention about logging in Spotted Owl WHA starts.](#)
- 2012
- Jan 16    [Licensee sends e-mail to complainant explaining that legally it can log in winter.](#)  
Jan 20    [Road permit is approved by MFLNRO.](#)  
Jan 20    [MFLNRO puts a fact sheet about logging near spotted owl on its website.](#)  
Jan 25    [Licensee informs complainant that the road permit is approved.](#)  
Jan 27    [Licensee informs the complainant that road clearing would start the next day.](#)  
Jan 28    [Road building starts.](#)  
Jan 30    [Licensee meets with residents to discuss logistics such as removal of waterlines.](#)
- Feb 1     [Global TV filmed segment on logging in Spotted Owl habitat.](#)  
Feb 2     [MFLNRO e-mails Wilderness Committee- Spotted Owl info on website.](#)  
Feb 3     [FLNR e-mails WC and copies complainants and refers them to the website.](#)  
Feb 15    [Second complaint is submitted by 3 residents of Post Creek.](#)  
Feb 20    [Cutting Permit approved by MFLNRO.](#)  
Feb 21    [Licensee informs complainant logging would start Feb 23.](#)  
Feb 23    [Logging starts.](#)  
Feb 23    [Board Chair e-mails licensee cautioning about adequate communication.](#)
- 2013
- Jan        [Harvesting operations resumed.](#)



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