

Barbon, Tyler FIN:EX

From: Warren Hansen <WHansen@chartwell-consultants.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2013 10:23 AM
To: Cosgrove, Brenda S FLNR:EX
Cc: Medeiros, Manuel FLNR:EX; Nunn, Chris FLNR:EX; Turner, Ryan
Subject: RE: A90213 - Block EM203 Retention Modification
Attachments: Removal of Retention D - Map.pdf

Hi Brenda,

I've reviewed the Chris's map and concur with most of the edits suggested by Chris to Retention A/B. I am concerned however, with the full removal of Retention D. The VQO in this area is Retention being that the district is managing for a higher level of visual diligence around the Hope Slide. The definition of the Retention objective are openings to be difficult to see, small in scale, and natural in appearance. The layout of the block reflects the definition standards i.e. the block is limited in size, has a high level of retention and irregular boundaries. We are pushing the limits of the viewability of the block to facilitate the operational constraints of cable logging and block feasibility therefore I wrote a small rationale around the "Difficult to see" part of definition. Difficult to See parameters of typical Retention blocks would look like small slits in the canopy to most viewers. As such, Retention D was specifically put into place by me to break up the visual lines along top portion of the boundary therefore I am concerned that removing Retention D may increase the viewable area of a spikey bit along the top boundary and make the block easier to see. If I were to re-evaluate the given changes to the block, I would say that:

- given the large natural rock features such as the Hope Slide and adjacent scree slopes, we felt the block to be natural in appearance;
- the block is small in scale at around 0.75% (educated guess);
- the block is within the foreground of the viewpoint albeit to the side of the main viewpoint's focal point of the Hope Slide and in our opinion, makes the block easy to see therefore having Partial Retention features.

Of course, I am using simulation tools and computer renders as a basis for my opinion and I may conclude another opinion if there was a recent photo from the viewpoint towards the block.

Please note: As BCTS or the Licencee have not solicited remuneration for an amendment to the report, my above comments represents an opinion and not a professional statement to guide any decisions that BCTS or the Licencee may make in order to conclude a course of action or direction that may or may not compromise the integrity of the original visual impact assessment signed off by Warren Hansen on Sept 25, 2012.

Let me know how you wish to proceed.

Warren Hansen, RPF
Operations Forester
Area Manager - Sunshine Coast

CHARTWELL Consultants Ltd.

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From: Cosgrove, Brenda S FLNR:EX [mailto:Brenda.Cosgrove@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: October-10-13 7:37 AM
To: Nunn, Chris FLNR:EX; Ryan Turner; Warren Hansen
Cc: Medeiros, Manuel FLNR:EX
Subject: RE: A90213 - Block EM203 Retention Modification

Hi Guys, Hope everything is going well. We promised the licensee that we would have some kind of answer this morning for him. Yarding crew was to start now. Could you please let me know if you are in agreement with Chris's notes below. We can't hold these guys up...a very short term on this licence...every day we delay cost them money.

BRENDA COSGROVE RFT

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From: Nunn, Chris FLNR:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 8, 2013 11:04 AM
To: Turner, Ryan; 'Warren Hansen'
Cc: Medeiros, Manuel FLNR:EX; Cosgrove, Brenda S FLNR:EX
Subject: RE: A90213 - Block EM203 Retention Modification

Here is a map that I marked up with the retention patches.

From: Nunn, Chris FLNR:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 8, 2013 10:59 AM
To: Turner, Ryan; 'Warren Hansen'
Cc: Medeiros, Manuel FLNR:EX; Cosgrove, Brenda S FLNR:EX
Subject: A90213 - Block EM203 Retention Modification

HI

I visited EM203 at the request of the contractor as he had concerns about the safety and operational constraints around three retention patches in this block. He did the correct steps in contacting us before making changes on his own.

On Branch EM3900, they built a landing approximately where it should be as noted on the map. However the ground rolls and the boundary line appears to be slightly off in relationship to the landing location (maybe it was built 5 + metres out of optimum). As a result, they feel they will brush up against the edges of Retention Patches A and B. They

would like to remove a few trees on the edges to avoid the brushup. It should not impact the integrity of the retention patches significantly.

Further along, they have a real concern about Retention Patch D. Again they have the yarder location approximately where indicated on the map. However the retention patch is right in the middle of the yarding path. They cannot move the yarder NW along the road as the ground rises quickly into a knob. Moving the yarder to the SE will only make it worse. They would like to remove the entire retention patch.

Tamihi has cited safety concerns about rubbing up against these retention patches and although they can work around some areas, these circumstances are unavoidable.

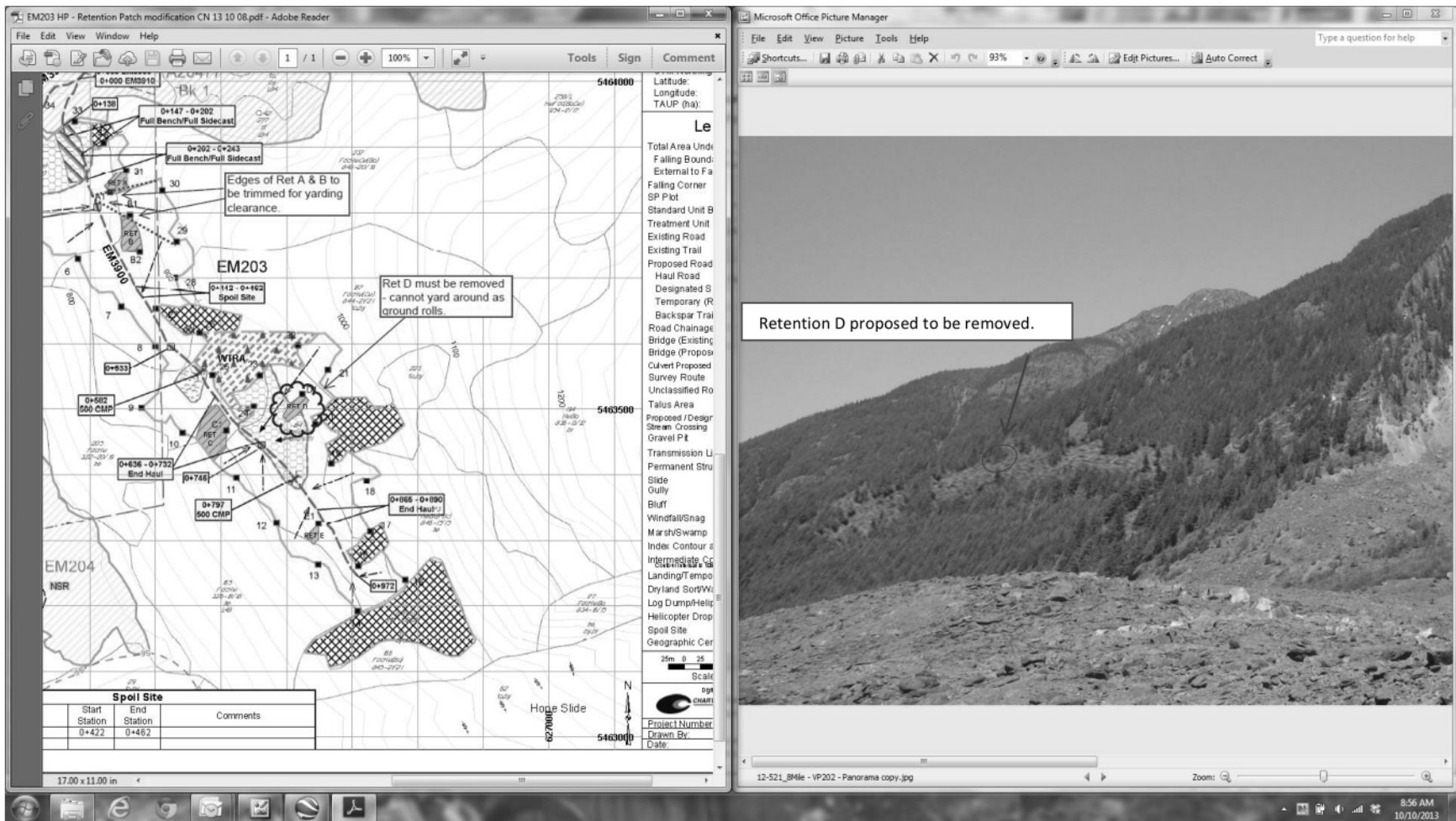
The VIA completed by Warren last year indicated that the layout as prescribed met the VQO. Ryan stated in the SP that "Five Internal Retention patches A, B, C, D, and E will be retained that are integral to the Visual Quality Objective for this block and must not be altered until visual green up is achieved and an updated analysis is completed." Warren mentions that the visible parts of the block are similar in size and shape to the natural forest openings and the alteration is only 0.5%. Also the northern part of the block lies within DL1894 which is a Crown lease for the gravel pit (SU 2 in the SP). This suggests that Retention Patches A and B are not even required as the VQO does not apply to the mineral tenure. I talked with a Landscape Specialist in Nanaimo. He indicated that the gravel pit is authorized under a different ministry and they do have not to abide by MoF objectives.

If these retention patches were altered, how much will the visual analysis be changed?

The contractor would like to start yarding on Thursday so he would like an answer quickly. Please call me to discuss. I will be in the Squamish office for the rest of the week.

Thanks
Chris

Chris Nunn, RPF
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From: Warren Hansen <WHansen@chartwell-consultants.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2013 4:09 PM
To: Nunn, Chris FLNR:EX; Cosgrove, Brenda S FLNR:EX
Cc: Medeiros, Manuel FLNR:EX; Turner, Ryan
Subject: RE: A90213 - Block EM203 Retention Modification

Thanks Chris! Good luck with the yarding and hopefully they will keep it upright. If it were any other spot then I wouldn't be concerned. Since we are getting decent weather this week, it would be good to take a picture of the logging and visuals from the Hope Slide Viewpoint.

Cheers!

WARREN HANSEN, RPF
OPERATIONS FORESTER
AREA MANAGER - SUNSHINE COAST

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From: Nunn, Chris FLNR:EX [mailto:Chris.Nunn@gov.bc.ca]
Sent: October-15-13 4:01 PM
To: Warren Hansen; Cosgrove, Brenda S FLNR:EX
Cc: Medeiros, Manuel FLNR:EX; Ryan Turner
Subject: RE: A90213 - Block EM203 Retention Modification

HI Warren

Thanks for your note. I can appreciate where your design has tried to address and incorporate all the landscape features to minimize the visual impact of the block. However we are still left with downed timber and a contractor who has some safety concerns for his crew.

I have talked to the contractor and they have a yarder on site, waiting to work. Since another analysis will not tell us much more at this point, I have asked the contractor to try to yard around Retention Patch D as best as they can. Once they are done, we can take another look and decide if we need another VIA done. Since the block has been felled, allowing them to proceed with caution is our only viable option. They may be able to retain most of it which is the best case scenario. If they have to remove it, then at least we can say we tried. If we had you re-analyze the block without the retention now and they ended up retaining part of it, we may have to run the analysis again.

We will monitor the logging in this block and evaluate after harvest. I will probably ask you to re-run your analysis post harvest.

Thanks
Chris

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