

**ON MARCH 24, 2007 – BC TAP WATER ALLIANCE
PRESENTATION IN PORT ALBERNI TO SOVA
(SAVE OUR VALLEY ALLIANCE)
COMPLAINTS ABOUT TIMBERWEST LOGGING AND
DRINKING WATER
- Compilation of Photos (by Will Koop) on March 25, 2007**

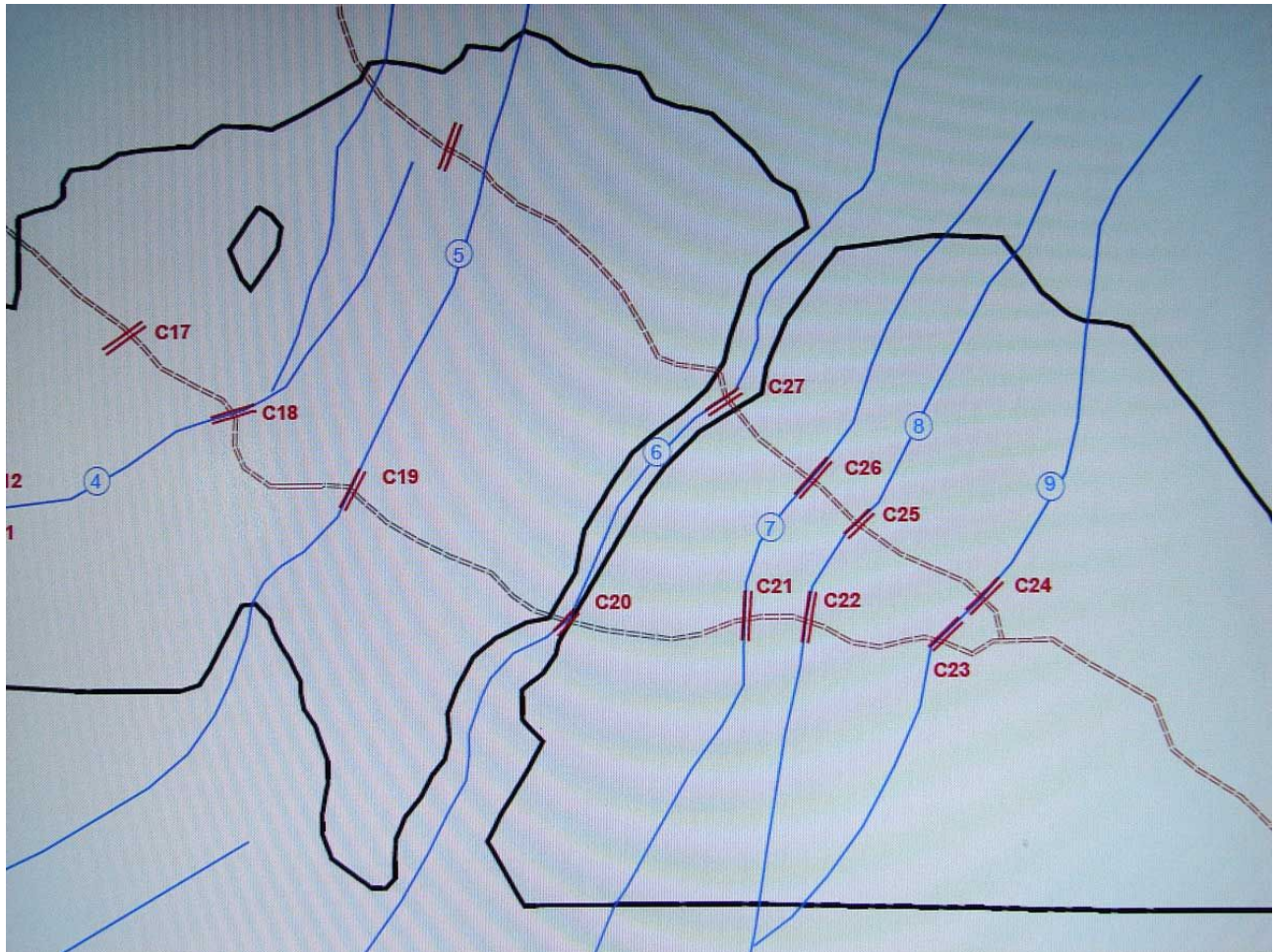


Photo 1. Cut-Block T-141. Recent clearcut logging by TimberWest above Wayne Crowley's property, water well, fish habitat and Beaver Creek Improvement District. The photo shows the extent of former logging of old growth to the upper reaches, or higher elevation, of the mountain slope. The existing old growth is shown as the darker shade of green at the top of the mountain, which is about to be targeted for logging. The second growth on this slope is under 60 years old. Concerns from community members in Port Alberni, as elsewhere on Vancouver Island, are not only the accelerated rate of logging of primarily very young, adolescent, second growth forest, but that raw logs are being exported out of British Columbia to the United States and other destinations. Wayne Crowley, and other residents, were successful in limiting TimberWest's logging plans that would have clearcut even more of the forest in this photo (primarily to left area). Many stories were published, repeatedly, in the Port Alberni Times newspaper. This, and the following photos, were taken on March 25, 2007.



Photo 2. Close-up of northern half of block 141. Debris torrents, blocked and washed out culverts occurred throughout. To the middle right of the photo is where a large debris torrent occurred (culverts numbers 20 and 27 on company timber plan map, identified as “stream number 6”). Many of the trees left on this very thin wedge-shaped buffer left on this stream collapsed from wind storms, adding to the problems to this area. Other streams weren’t so lucky – no buffers whatsoever.

Since the BC Liberal provincial government administration relaxed, deregulated, or removed private forest land timber management regulation in 2004, TimberWest has been on an all-out blitzkrieg program throughout Vancouver Island to remove and sell off its forest lands. According to conversations from loggers, the new TimberWest owners have taken a radically different and aggressive philosophical approach from the previous owners, and no longer consult with, advise, or somewhat respect drinking water users over logging of affected timber lands. Some also believe local Comox MLA Stan Hagen had a role in helping this deregulation for private timber land owners when Minister of newly created Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management.



Layout of Block T-141, showing location and numbered identification of culverts. This map information is taken from page 42 of Madrone Environmental Services Ltd. February 6, 2007 report to the Private Managed Forest Land Council, *Assessment of Storm-Related Stream Erosion and Sedimentation, Block T141, Beaufort Range*. According to the map, this layout was provided to Madrone by TimberWest.

Note, in particular, the black boundary line for the cutblock layout, showing a “wide” buffer alongside stream number 6, which, of course, was never left during the logging, as clearly shown in the photos below. Was this map a final “formal” map that loggers or foresters later did not abide with, or was the map later simply changed??? No buffers are there for the other streams in the layout, though some thin, and haphazard forms, of buffers were left during the logging. The blue, circled numbers are those identifying streams in the cutblock.



Photos 3 and 4: The community and Improvement District of Beaver Creek lies directly below the steep, westerly facing mountain slopes of the Beaufort Range.





Photo 5: Looking down half way up Block 141 to Wayne Crowley's farm property.

Photo 6. Below: Photo of plugged and washed out culvert below Cutblock 141. The culvert is located on the Thompson Woodlot road between block 141 and Lot 129. Until the company was stopped, TimberWest used this road, paid by public taxdollars, to haul out its logs.



Photos 7 and 8 (below). Looking immediately above and below photo 6. Shows the amount of debris that came cascading down cutblock 141 into the second growth forest stream area, and onward onto Wayne Crowley's property.





Photo 9: As far as the road goes in Block 141. Debris torrent remains some ten feet in height overtop logging road.

Photo 10: Below. Stream number 6 blow-out. What was once a “normal” looking narrow protected stream is now a scene of devastation.





Photo 11. Close-up of blown-out creek number 6.



Photo 12. Another view of stream number 6.



Photo 12. Stream number 7, just upslope on the road from photos above of stream number 6. When so many streams run parallel next to each other, and in close proximity, it is not wise to clearcut the forest.



Photo 13. Looking up at stream number 8. The culvert (number 25) is just visible in middle right of photo.



Photo 14 (above). Looking up and across at stream number 9 area (middle of photo). On the original logging plan, there was to be a buffer on this stream.



Photo 15 (left). Looking from culvert on stream number 8 up towards stream number 9.



Photo 16. Dysfunctional culvert (number 23) on road along now dry bed of stream number 9.



Photo 17. Plugged culvert (number 24) directly above culvert number 23 on stream number 9.



Photo 18. Looking up the road from culvert number 23 to switchback entrance (middle of photo) and ditch erosion on logging road.



Photo 19. Extent of erosion in ditch as a result of diversion of stream number 9 above and around corner to left of photo.



Photo 20. Diversion from stream number 9 as a result of blocked culvert (number 24), down onto the road, around corner, and over blocked culvert number 23.



Photo 21 (above). Beginning of switchback toward upper part of stream number 6. Erosion debris of stumps, small logs, rocks and soil across road deposited from debris torrent on stream number 9 at culvert number 24. Debris height is about 8 feet or so above top level of road.

Photo 22 (left). Another view of photo 21 area, looking uphill.



Photo 23. Erosion and widening of banks on denuded stream number 9.



Photo 24. Just above culvert 27 on stream number 6. The extremely narrow buffer (shown in photo two) was blown down, causing uprooting on the edge of the stream, upheaving materials and boulders into the stream, which then plugged the culvert below causing a small dam to form.



Photo 25 (above). Stream number 6 at culvert number 27. Location just below photo 24, where a dam formed, and then burst, causing a debris torrent to rush downward. Culvert was completely blown out and torn apart with the torrent.

Photo 26 (right). Looking slightly the right and downslope of photo 25. Note the old culvert to the middle right of photo (shown below in photo 27). This culvert was removed before after a similar incident the previous year.





Photo 27. Former valley loggers and critics, Wayne Crowley (left) and Jack Klock (right), posing by former crumpled culvert number 27 removed by TimberWest in 2006 after a blow out. Port Alberni politicians were flown to this sight by TimberWest when the road was first built (before the blow-outs), and were shown a beautiful pool of water immediately above the newly placed culvert. Note all the logging debris (pecker pole waste) left in the distance.



Photo 28. Looking at the blowout area on stream number 6 at former culvert number 27. Note the size perspective by two people at middle right.



Photo 29. Looking downstream from former culvert number 27, along debris torrent path. Note no buffer, the widening of the creek bed.



Photo 30. Same photo as photo 28, with more vertical profile.



Photo 31. Showing profile of road area blowout on stream number 6, by former culvert number 27. Note the two people for scale. The road used to come across even with the person near the middle of the photo, who is standing on the road.



Photo 32 (left). Profile of depth of road height material remaining after the blow out on north side of road.

Photo 33 (below). Profile of depth of road height material remaining after the blow out on south side of road. Note the naked stump roots remaining.





Photo 34. Looking immediately downstream from former culvert number 27. Note the extreme scouring of the former small stream channel down to top of boulders from the debris torrent event. No tree buffer for quite some distance.



Photo 35. Immediate beyond and up the road from former culvert 27. No comments.



Photos 35 and 36. The way things were just over a year ago. A young, adolescent forest, which is just recovering, hydrologically, from former logging by MacMillan Bloedel.

