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INTERFOR
Forestry and Land Use Division
#311-1180 Ironwood Road
Campbell River, BC
V9W 5P7
Attn: Warren Warttig, RPBio

July 19, 2005

Dear Warren,

Please find enclosed the official comment sheets as well as some additional comments from students who attended your presentation on May 11, 2005 in Stewardson Inlet during our field course on community-based research. Everyone greatly appreciated your time and effort (and that of your colleagues) to inform us of Interfor's activities in the region. Some of the students had more to say than would fit in the comments space so one of the students decided to collate this feedback on behalf of his classmates and write a summary for you.





It was unfortunate that we didn't have a more comfortable location for the presentations or any time afterwards for the students to engage in discussion with you and your colleagues, as the latter would have enriched our mutual learning opportunity and perhaps addressed some of the more critical comments submitted.

On behalf of the class, thanks again for your time and willingness to be a part of our course.

Sincerely,

Kelly Bannister, M.Sc, Ph.D.

Copies of Official Comment Sheets:

ISO-EMS Program 5 /SFI Attendance Record
Record of Attendance

Date: May 11, 2005 Camp: _____
Location: _____ Facilitator: _____





NAME OF ATTENDEE (Please Print)	COMMENTS (Please Print)
Rachael Gulka	excellent completion and utilization of F&S and their role
Julia Buck	excellent that INTERFOR is operating in only one area
Megan Thom	see email comments ✓
Ryan Karkhairan	see attached ✓
Ariel Hunt-Bandwin	see attached ✓
Jedwa EN	" "
Allyson Nielsen	Talk was informative; however, it ignored the views of many of the community members
Heidi Postnikoff	see attached ✓
Alison Garnett	info packet was not clear. It might be helpful to state the purpose of your presentation so listeners can get a better grasp on what you are talking about.

Topics Discussed: _____

Length of presentation: ~2 Days or Hours

Select (X) 1 or more of the SFI Categories for Tracking

<input type="checkbox"/> Staff Continuing Education	
<input type="checkbox"/> Union/Hourly Crew Training	
<input type="checkbox"/> Participation in Land Use Planning	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Forestry Education	
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Viewing of Plans and Permits	

ISO-EMS Program 5 /SFI Attendance Record
Record of Attendance

Date: May 11, 2005 Camp: _____
Location: _____ Facilitator: _____

NAME OF ATTENDEE (Please Print)	COMMENTS (Please Print)
Jonna Winger	see attached ✓
Marm Ripsum	info packet was very unclear, as there were no sub-headings, titles, dates, etc... It was also very one-sided and seemed to cater. Overall I found the packet was not useful and extremely vague. see attached x
Jessica Sattery	Not much context to info packet and no addressing the article attached. Confusing.
Naomi Devine	see attached x
Rae St Arnault	Not much context to info packet and no addressing the article attached. Confusing.
Neaghan Nead	explanations and figure titles on handout would be helpful. A little more background info would be helpful.
Barb Reasley	see attached ✓

Topics Discussed: _____

Length of presentation: ~2 Days or Hours

Select (X) 1 or more of the SFI Categories for Tracking

<input type="checkbox"/> Staff Continuing Education	
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Forestry Education	
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Viewing of Plans and Permits	

Additional student comments, collated and summarized by Ryan Karkhairan. are included on the following pages.

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the University of Victoria students who attended the public relations talk given by Warren Warttig and Branko Samoukovic on May 11, 2005, I thank Interfor and the representatives who took the time to talk to us. It is very much appreciated that your company would make an effort to share with us information on some of the projects that you are presently working on. It was a highly valuable learning opportunity for us as students to be able to hear first-hand from some of your employees. I would like to extend a special thank you to Warren Warttig, who accompanied our class on the boat trip from Tofino to Stewardson Inlet. Mr. Warttig was kind enough to answer any questions the students had and imparted much knowledge of the region and of Interfors restoration projects and logging practices.

Beyond the talk itself, we would like to thank Interfor for allowing us the use of their logging roads. This provided us with an opportunity to access areas of the Clayoquot Sound region that would otherwise have been impossible for a group such as ours to reach. My hope is that Interfor will continue with its public outreach campaign and that it will also help others, as you have done for us, to access some of the areas of British Columbia that would otherwise be inaccessible. It is of great importance that members of our society be equipped to learn first hand what the forests of B.C. have to offer.

In the hopes that we can aid in helping Interfor improve its public relations programs, we have compiled constructive feedback on the presentations. Most of the responses are included on the comment sheets that were provided to us, but some people had more to say than could fit in the space allotted. Therefore, I have collected the feedback from those students and submitted it along with the provided comment sheets. Perhaps in the future more space can be provided for feedback as many of us felt that we would very much like to respond to the presentations and offer constructive comments. A practical suggestion is to find a reasonably comfortable setting for talks such as this so that full attention can be given to the speaker. Unfortunately, we were standing on a logging road and were not comfortable enough to engage fully in the presentation as time went on. It has also been brought up by a number of the students that the handouts given to us could have been of a more environmentally conscientious form. For example, double-sided instead of single-sided printing would minimize impacts on our forests. It would also be beneficial for more background and explanation to be given on the information contained within the handouts as they were elaborate but largely unclear.

As you will see as you read the feedback provided by our group, a number of other concerns have been raised as well as the ones that I have just mentioned. We hope that you will take these observations and suggestions seriously and that you will utilize them in as useful a manner as you see possible. Once again, on behalf of the students of ES 481A (Community-based Research in Clayoquot Sound) at the University of Victoria thank you for all that your company has done for us.

Sincerely,

Ryan Karkhairan
ES 481A Student

NAME OF ATTENDEE	COMMENTS
Jonna Winger	<p>I first off want to thank you for sending one of your employees to come and talk with us. The talk that Warren gave was informative about the role Interfor was playing in the region. I was able to understand more fully the relationship that Interfor had with the Hesquiaht First Nation and the role Interfor was playing in their community. However in future talks given by Interfor representatives to students like myself it would be helpful to have a little more comfortable location to have a quality chat with your representatives. While talking to Warren, we just stopped on the side of the road. At first I was confused about what was actually going on and that was the only contact that he was going to have with us. It would have been nice to have table to sit at and maybe have a nice lunchtime chat with him. Another thing that would of also of been helpful was a little more interpretation of the handout that Warren gave out to everyone. I am not a student of environmental studies therefore do not have the map interpretation skills, but I do have keen interest in issues surrounding the forest and the forest industry. The best way I feel is to understand the industry is to understand fully how it works. The handout would have been very helpful in furthering my understanding of Interfor's activity in the Clayoquot region, but it was too technical for my interpretation and was not explained thoroughly. So in conclusion, I would like to thank Interfor again for their time and the information provided to the students, but in the future it would have been helpful for the students to have a little more quality time with your representative.</p>
Barb Beasley	<p>Unfortunately, the roadside stop at Kanim Lake did not provide an opportunity to view restoration activities. I understand that the best examples of restoration are on the Kennedy Flats (and this was shared through handouts & discussion). But I was hoping we could learn more about what is being done to restore landslides and downstream effects specifically around Hesquiaht Harbour. That is the place where our class was primarily focused and, certainly, it seems that much more restoration effort needs to happen there.</p> <p>It was interesting to hear about the motives of the Hesquiaht First Nations for forming a partnership with Interfor. Richard and Cecil clearly explained the importance of gaining safe access and economic opportunities for their community at Hotsprings Cove. I hope that any future logging in the region is done to provide benefits for the Hesquiaht people rather than provide profit for Interfor's shareholders. I also hope that Hesquiaht's forestry department truly understands and proceeds under the precautionary principle. It would be wonderful if the Hesquiaht could extract very small quantities of old growth annually and develop high quality, high value products (such as the yellow cedar tables created by Peter Buckland). Old growth coastal rainforest is far more valuable as a standing forest than as stacks & stacks of 2 by 4s.</p>
Megan Thom	<p>I can't really blame the presenters for being one-sided because that's their job. I guess it's my job to find the other side, and they were very happy to answer my questions, although in a PR, politician kind of way. I would've liked a much clearer picture of exactly what Interfor is doing in Clayoquot Sound, not just building roads and doing restoration, but the actual facts about annual cuts, methods, and where Interfor stands in the 15-85% margin of variable retention. I also found the handouts to be unintelligible and a waste of paper and ink.</p>
Heidi Postnikoff	<p>Acting as stewards of the land, the Nuuchah-nulth of Clayoquot Sound have carefully managed the forests for several thousand years. Having the opportunity and the privilege to partake on the experience of visiting the area with my Environmental Studies 481 class ultimately revealed to me this fundamental perspective. During my time in Hesquiaht Harbour, I was able to meet, hear, and speak with people who are living on these lands. Meeting with Interfor was especially interesting for me as I was curious to find out exactly how a logging company could possibly cut the forests and at the same time preserve some of the last remaining old growth in the world.</p> <p>Firstly, while I was grateful for your company's time spent with my class, I remain confused after the meeting. As we stood in an area of forested land, directly off of one of Interfor's logging</p>

Heidi Postnikoff (cont.)	<p>roads, the class was introduced to various speakers who both represented and worked for Interfor. During this time we were somewhat brought up to speed on the logging activity that is occurring by your company within this area. What remains a mystery however, is exactly how many logs have been felled by Interfor and at what rate this is occurring. Further, the question remains as to how Interfor upholds their commitment to sustaining the forest. In regards to the construction of the road leading out of Hot Springs, I am curious as to how the economics of equality were addressed regarding costs that the community will have to contribute for this road, which will ultimately benefit your company in the end.</p> <p>The relevance of the handout that was given to each individual, “2002-2012 Forest Development Plan” (un-necessarily printed on single-sided, coloured paper...although perhaps considered minor in some circles but of profound implications from an environmental perspective) remains unclear to me, as well as the importance of the attached article “Win-Win Illusions”. During the presentation, the few minutes that were devoted to explaining this information failed to clarify any of the graphs or brightly coloured pictures. Sadly, the questions I had about this as well as various other items could not be answered due to lack of time.</p> <p>While my thoughts here seem un-pleasant, they are not intended to be. Perhaps as a suggestion however I do hope that in the future, you would be able to find a comfortable resting space for a group of students to perhaps better explain the activities of your company, and time for questions could be granted. I have chosen to attach my thoughts because I do not feel that one line on a comment sheet could adequately express my feelings. I continue to remain perplexed of the benefits of your company to the forest, as well as the surrounding communities, and in my opinion while progress can be beneficial, it also must take into consideration how not to neglect to look after the planet on which all depends. With all this said, my main question is, are you keeping this in mind?</p>
JaeWoo In	<p>The most impressive thing I saw in your presentation was that Interfor is eagerly trying to consider sustainability as well as economical aspects in the process of making logging policy. You properly control the amount of logging and wisely manage the logging place according to the forestry knowledge! I hope you will pay more attention to the diverse voices from our society, because, in my opinion, the specific definition and meaning of sustainability in a certain place (like Clayoquot Sound) should be socially constructed and negotiated within the society it belongs to, rather than be dependent solely on scientific and technological considerations.</p>
Ariel Hunt-Brondwin	<p>On the whole I found being able to talk with and listen to representatives from Interfor such as Warren, Branko and Cecil very interesting. However while they all seemed very knowledgeable I couldn't help but feel that I wasn't getting the whole story. All of these representatives painted an overly rosy picture of the way Interfor conducts itself in regards to logging on the coast. I'm still skeptical and I found it very unprofessional that it was only afterwards that we were informed that this meeting was actually part of Interfor's public relations policy requirements. If that is the case - perhaps Interfor needs to provide more than one cm by five cm response boxes.</p>