

Scotts Road Forestry & Log Transport

Summary of Feedback from 2009 harvest season

End of season feedback

In June this year feedback was sought from Scotts Road residents on the transport operations over the previous summer harvest period. A feedback form was mailed out to residents on the road. A total of 3 responses were received. Two of these reported that they were generally happy with the transport operations and the performance of drivers, while identifying some possible improvements.

The following issues were raised:

- One landowner reported a near miss, on the upper road, with a logging crew vehicle commuting to the work site. They identified that this situation could have occurred between any private road users.

Response: A point will be made of re-communicating to logging contractor staff the need to travel carefully and courteously on the road when commuting to and from the site.

- Supply of 2 way radios to landowners on the upper road was good, but a radio was not provided immediately to one upper road landowner.

Response: Landowner contacts have been updated to ensure upper road landowners have radios at the start of operations.

- Trucks travelled on the road during the agreed no go time of 3:30pm – 4:30pm on a number of occasions. This was a concern in relation to the safety of children cycling home from the school bus drop off.

Response: This is a concern. The importance of avoiding the no go times will be re-stressed to transport contractors. It is possible that the instances raised may have related to a separate woodlot harvesting operation that also transported logs on the lower road last summer. A reminder notice for drivers about the no go times will be provided in the forest.

If residents identify a concern about a truck operating within the no-go times of 7:30 – 8:30am or 3:30 – 4:30pm they can phone 0800logtruck and give the truck number. This is a national service and will record the issue and relay it directly to the transport contractor.

Other feedback

- Disturbance from trucks stopping on the road, at the end of the unsealed section, to check and tighten chains securing their load was raised as an issue by one resident during the 2008-09 harvest season.

Response: Checking chains is an important safety step. Drivers stop after the end of the low speed section of road to re-tighten chains securing the load after any slight settling has occurred. This is a final safety check before the load heads to its final destination at port or mill. It is best that it occurs at the start of the straight section of road, before truck speeds increase above slow cornering.

The potential to expand the unsealed road berm at some point to allow trucks to pull over and check chains is being investigated. There are limited suitable locations with a level berm without need for drainage. It is hoped that this can be resolved early in the coming harvest season.

If you would like further clarification on any of these points or wish to discuss how we could improve our communication around this project, please contact:

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