

Appendix 6 – Visuals Management Agreement and Examples

Visual Management Agreement

Chair Report: Major Forestry/Tourism bilateral negotiations

CCLRMP Area Specific Direction proposal

Background and Purpose:

In July 2003, the Visuals subcommittee requested that the major forestry sector and the Tourism sector proceed with bilateral discussion to attempt to develop a break through proposal to address visual management within the Central Coast Plan Area. These two sectors requested the facilitation assistance of the Process Chair.

Since that time seven meetings have been held between the two groups with occasional invited participation of the Recreation Sector. The purpose of the discussions has been to develop a visual management proposal for coastal viewscape considered most important for the tourism and recreation resource. The collaborative approach used has been based on the development of a business to business relationship that minimizes impact to operations, quantifies benefits and increases certainty for both sectors.

Approach:

Both groups agreed to develop a zoning approach to the coastal visual management area that moved away from polygon specific VQO's. Instead of relying on the standard visual management system of setting visual quality objectives viewscape by viewscape, the new strategy identifies four types of zones that fit with the experience of travelling through the area.

Zoning systems and maps developed by both sectors were reviewed and compared, and areas of agreement identified. Remaining areas of disagreement were reviewed in light of overlap with THLB to further inform value tradeoffs. Areas located outside of the coastal visual zone were not considered and within the coastal visual zone, areas of prime importance were focussed on for visual management. CPA's and existing Parks were accepted as undisturbed; zoning of these areas was not considered to be required.

Tourism identified major travel (cruise ship, pocket cruise and highway) corridors, lodges and marine approaches to protected areas as being of primary importance. Important operational areas for forestry were identified and accommodated in terms of visual management by the Tourism sector.

Zoning descriptions were developed that technically referenced the intent of each zone through illustrations, descriptions and range of perspective disturbance in each zone. The goal of these zones is to determine the timber-harvesting regime that can ensure the short and long term integrity of important visual areas in a fashion that is compatible with the short and long-term viability of the forest industry.

Tourism/Major Forestry Proposal recommended to Completion Table

1) Zoning:

The zoning system goal is to maintain the overall desired visual quality experience in a relative sense for the zone as a whole. Four visual management zone descriptions and prescriptions have been identified.

Three zones are managed from the perspective that viewers are moving through the area:

- Wild Zone
- Natural Variability Zone
- Landscape Forestry Zone

The fourth zone addresses the need to incorporate the 'static' viewing experience from lodges or other high use non-moving locations:

- Special Viewscape Zone

In the Special Viewscape Zone, a specific visual objective is established individually for the prominent viewscape as seen from a currently existing facility.

The definition and management of the zones is based on word descriptions and alteration limits as noted in Table 1.

The attached image examples further defines the 'look' of the different zones by showing the same landscapes with different levels of acceptable alterations.

In addition to the management strategies outlined above, the following site specific clarifications are agreed:

- **Broughton Wild Zone** – no operating windows are imposed on Interfor's Scott Cove and Viner sound logging operations. Existing 'category A' blocks in Weyerhaeuser's operations can proceed according to plan. Wild zone standards will be applied to new planning. A temporary joint working group will be formed to review any issues related to the planned developments on west Harbledown Island.
- **Rippon Island:** This island is within the Wild Zone designation, however, current harvesting plans will proceed in accordance with the Forest Development Plan. Tourism operators will work with the Oweekeno Nation to define the long term visual management approach for this area.

2) Visual Zone Mapping:

- The attached maps (Map 13, Appendix 1) are intended to geographically reference the recommended visual management zones and are recommended as area specific direction within the EBM Operating Zone of the Central Coast plan area.
- Protection Areas are an integral component of the zoning strategy and are considered to be undisturbed.

3) Proposed additional activities:

Both sectors view the successful collaboration regarding visual zoning within the plan area as an important step in building a long term relationship between the two industries. A bilateral agreement is proposed which will confirm the visual zoning proposal and clarify the support that the Tourism sector is prepared to

offer the Forestry sector in terms of public relations and communications to the benefit of both sectors.

In addition, a joint committee is proposed that would ensure the successful implementation of both the visual management regime and the joint marketing support to customers of both sectors.

4) **Summary**

Proposed Motions for CCLRMP Table Consideration:

Motion: Visual Management Direction within EBM operating area

The CCLRMP Completion Table adopts the visual management recommendations as developed by the Tourism and Major Forestry Sector including:

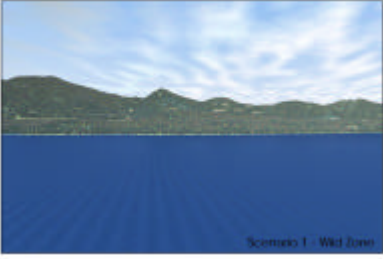
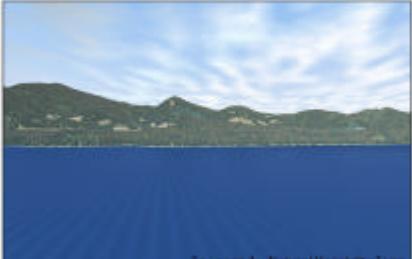
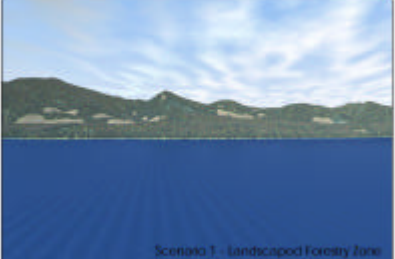
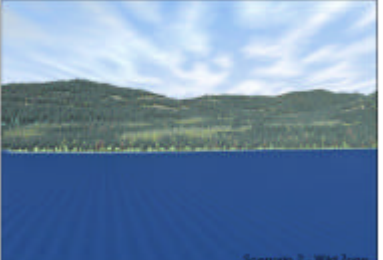
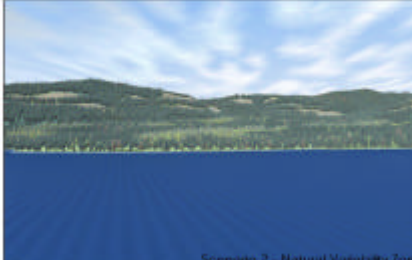
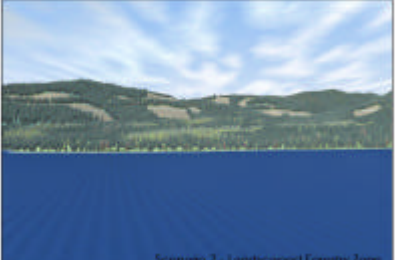
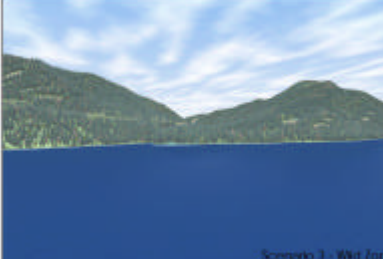
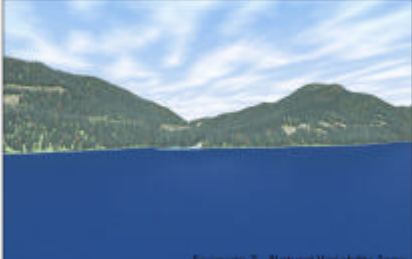
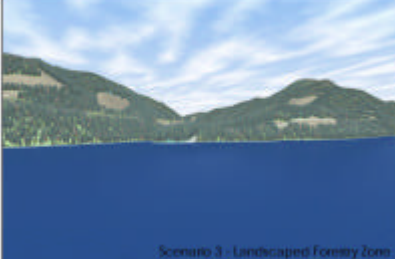
- *The Visual Management Zone descriptions and prescriptions:*
 - *Wild*
 - *Natural Variability*
 - *Landscape Forestry*
 - *Special*
- *The accompanying visual zone maps dated November 25, 2003*
- *Recommending that the visual zonation system replace the formal VQC system within the Central Coast plan area.*

The CCLRMP Completion Table supports the Tourism and Major Forestry Sectors' efforts in establishing a long term relationship through the development of agreements and protocols

Table 6-1: Visual Management Zone Descriptions and Prescriptions

Visual Zone	General Objective	Alteration Guideline	Max Alteration	Management Standards
Wild Zone	The intention of this zone is to ensure the perception of wildness. This means that a wild scenic experience is sought whereby visually unaltered landscapes predominate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Very high proportion of landscape continuum in a wild appearance condition. * Low proportion of landscape continuum in very carefully altered visual state. * Innovative, visually sensitive harvesting techniques are encouraged. 	2%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual design assessment using digital terrain modeling to be completed for developments proposed in visible areas. • Maintain continuous and effective shoreline buffer (while still permitting careful installation of shoreline facilities and access infrastructure like log dumps that are designed to minimize visual impacts). Low impact, not visually apparent selection hand logging permitted along shoreline. • Intention is to maintain the visual experience over time. To ensure this, visually effective green-up periods will be implemented and monitored to achieve the General Objective of the zone. <p>Agreement between the forestry and tourism operators will be established for logging operations between June 15 – September 15.</p>
Natural Variability Zone	Visual alterations in keeping with natural visual experience where activities blend with landscape and do not readily alter visual experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * High proportion of landscape continuum in naturally appearing condition. * Low proportion of landscape continuum in carefully altered visual state. 	5%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual design assessment to be completed for developments proposed in visible areas. • Continuous shoreline buffer with minor gaps maintained. Low impact selection hand logging and limited, water based highlead logging permitted along shoreline. • Practical timing windows for active logging operations may be established in consultation with tourism operators.
Landscaped Forestry Zone	Aesthetically pleasing scenic experience where activities are evident but subordinate. Design of alterations to create impression of careful and respectful land use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Majority of landscape continuum in naturally appearing condition. * Low proportion of landscape continuum in readily visible but carefully altered visual state. * Development evident throughout zone but subordinate. 	8%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual design assessments to be completed for developments proposed in visible areas. • Continuous shoreline buffer with minor gaps maintained. Low impact selection hand logging and limited, water based highlead logging permitted along shoreline.
Special Viewscape	Manage specified facility based viewscape to maintain or improve visual quality.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Maintain or improve visual quality through time. * Establishment of specific activities within viewscape to be done collaboratively with the agreement of operators. 	By agreement based on existing level of disturbance of the forest in the facility's viewscape.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual design assessment using digital terrain modelling to be completed for developments proposed in visible areas. • Involve the interested stakeholder in the development of the visual design prescription. • Agreement between the forestry and tourism operators will be established for logging operations between June 15 -September 15.

Visuals Management Agreement Examples

Wild Zone	Natural Variability Zone	Landscape Forestry Zone
 <p>Scenario 1 - Wild Zone</p>	 <p>Scenario 1 - Natural Variability Zone</p>	 <p>Scenario 1 - Landscaped Forestry Zone</p>
 <p>Scenario 2 - Wild Zone</p>	 <p>Scenario 2 - Natural Variability Zone</p>	 <p>Scenario 2 - Landscaped Forestry Zone</p>
 <p>Scenario 3 - Wild Zone</p>	 <p>Scenario 3 - Natural Variability Zone</p>	 <p>Scenario 3 - Landscaped Forestry Zone</p>