

Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board (BVCRB) Minutes

Date: March 19, 2018. Meeting convened at 7:00 pm

Location: Smithers Town Office

Board members in attendance: Eric Becker, Ron Vanderstar, John Fisher, Ted Vanderwart, Matt Sear

Absent: Debra Flemming, Christoph Dietzfelbinger, Cor van der Meulen, Bob Mitchell

Guests: Len Vanderstar, Sean Sharpe, Kasia Kistowska

Recording: Laura Guillon (BVRC)

Send out new address

Item	Discussion
Introduction /Agenda Review	Agenda accepted with revisions – add RAMP agenda for April meeting
Past Minutes	February 2018 minutes accepted with the minor revisions
Presentation/ Discussion	<p>Bulkley Mountain Goat UWR – Len Vanderstar</p> <p>Mapping of the mountain goat winter polygons has been refined since the Bulkley LRMP was written. More polygons have been added and areas are smaller. Twenty-seven polygons have been identified, but some additions are still needed. Once amendments have been made, the CRB will be informed. Some overlap with the Telkwa Caribou protection area. Regulations do not apply to parks protected areas although there are habitats there, FLNRO&RD does not have jurisdiction.</p> <p>Started government regulation in 2000-2001. The Bulkley has the lowest risk in the region due to our LRMP and are the last on the list for formal action (as opposed to areas such as Kitimat which were high risk). FLNRO&RD wants the Bulkley to be consistent with the region.</p> <p>PIR is reviewing the strategies and a few identified UWR which will impact the ability to winter log areas that can only be accessed in winter.</p> <p>A package should be ready in the summer for review and signing by invested parties such as the CRB.</p> <p>A monitoring protocol is in place for success of winter range determination and compliance. Helicopters need to stay 500m away vertically and 1500m away horizontally.</p> <p>Questions from the board:</p> <p>Many UWR fall in mineral areas, what percentage is on stakable land? Answer: All are on stakable land, but most exploration takes place in summer. The regulations guide exploration rather than stopping it.</p> <p>How will the goat winter range network address climate change? Answer: As ecosystems shift, ranges will move. Movement will be monitored. Young</p>

	<p>billies are the only ones that move ranges thus are the most vulnerable. Nannies, young and older billies stay in one place. Many goats will not be in the protected area, but boundaries are put where they are most needed.</p> <p>Mountain goats are very sensitive to noise in winter. To conserve energy and fat reserves they only move ~30m/hour (caribou move ~300m/day). Any stress can result in less young as females can reabsorb fetuses for energy leading to future impact from present stress.</p> <p>Action: Matt and Ted will update the board on the process. FLNRO&RD will send a track changes document.</p>
Ongoing Business	<p>Update on the WHMA plan – Len Vanderstar</p> <p>Conservation Lands Program: acquired new conservation lands through repurchasing from private owners. Received 30K/year with 5K for the Bulkley. As of last year, no eligible funding is available. Under the wildlife act, will receive conservation funds.</p> <p>Clarification – the primary statute for issuance of a permit would not change. There will be no additional administration burden and no change to the forest stewardship plan. FLNRO&RD will have the authority to deny permits, but will mostly be adding guidance. The current situation is not effectively managing the intent of the LRMP.</p> <p>Action: Ron will wait to hear of updates from Matt (1 week) then send out letter draft for approval.</p> <p>Telkwa Coal Suggested Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thermal vs. metallurgic coal – could the focus change after starting? Price of metallurgical is higher. • In a landscape riparian area with grizzly habitat, what is the risk/benefit for values? • Selenium – not likely an issue, very low • Dust control • ARD – If acid potential rock is excavated to get at the coal this is a concern. • The suggested production rate falls just under regulation for a large scale mine and their website states a goal to up production. Would this trigger an EA? If there is enough public pressure can trigger an EA even if under threshold. <p>The CRB presentation has changed to May (remember second Monday of May) or September. Public presentations will occur in April.</p>

	<p>Action: Board members should go to the April presentation and refine questions.</p> <p>Action: Ted will contact Telkwa Coal about the date change and collect questions from board</p>
New Business	<p>Timber Appurtenancy</p> <p>The NDP wants to re-establish timber appurtenancy in areas that are sore spots. This means that timber from the areas must go to local mills. When the LRMP was written this was in place, but it was removed fifteen years ago.</p> <p>What impact will this have if re-established?</p> <p>Action: Wait for more information and Bob to speak on the topic</p> <p>RAMP agenda for April</p> <p>Brandy Hughes will attend and report on what is still outstanding in the summer RAMP, the resources needed and timelines.</p> <p>\$2300 is currently in the RAMP fund</p> <p>Action: Review the RAMP on the website in advance</p>

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm. Next meeting 7:00 pm, April 16

Actions

Task	Due	Responsibility
Update the board on the UWR process. FLNRO&RD will send a track changes document.		Matt, Ted
WHMA letter of support: Get updates from Matt (1 week) then send out letter draft for approval.	1 week	Ron, Matt
Go to the April public presentation from Telkwa Coal and refine questions	Next meeting	All
Contact Telkwa Coal about the presentation date change and collect questions from the board	Next meeting	Ted
Wait for more information on timber appurtenancy and Bob to speak on the topic		
Review the RAMP on the website in advance	Next meeting	All