

**Bulkley Valley
Community Resources Board
Box 985
Smithers BC V0J 2N0**

September 23, 2010

Tammy Anderson
Land Officer
Integrated Land Management Bureau
Bag 5000, 3726 Alfred Avenue
Smithers BC V0J 2N0

Dear Ms. Anderson:

Re: McKnight Application for a Road R/W in the vicinity of Seymour Lake, File 6408302

The Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board (BVCRB) is composed of local residents who represent the range of value perspectives of the community and help to guide local land use decisions. We are charged with monitoring the implementation of the Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) and the Sustainable Resource Management Plan (SRMP) for crown lands within the Bulkley Timber Supply Area. Our purpose is to advise government regarding responsible management of all resources to guarantee long-term resource sustainability and enable communities to maintain their quality of life without compromising the needs of future generations.

The above proposed road right-of-way is located within a Core Ecosystem along the western shore of Seymour Lake and within the Smithers Settlement Zone as established by the Bulkley LRMP.

The LRMP Ecosystem Network consists of Core Ecosystems and Landscape Corridors where the emphasis is on protecting and enhancing biodiversity and wildlife habitat within the network. Core Ecosystems are an integral part of the management strategy within the LRMP and the BVCRB is particularly interested in reviewing any proposed development within a Core Ecosystem. The BVCRB encourages both government agencies and the proponents to take steps to protect the integrity of these important areas, as per the management guidelines laid out in the LRMP.

With regard to biodiversity, the BVCRB noted that there were no known blue or red list species in the application area.

The BVCRB has also considered that the area is within the Smithers Settlement Zone. Here the Bulkley Valley SRMP provides guidance for development. The objective in this Zone is to allow future residential, commercial and industrial development on Crown land, while minimizing the impacts on wildlife habitat and water supply.

The BVCRB would like to receive more information on how this development will address the above LRMP and SRMP zoning issues.

Given the large number of referrals received by the BVCRB and the often short turnaround time for response, we request in future, that referrals from your agency include an LRMP/SRMP project review similar to our review above. Additionally, we request that the referral agency red-flag any potential plan-related issues that you wish to bring to BVCRB attention for comment. This would facilitate an expedited response and assist in ensuring that development within the Bulkley Valley is consistent with approved land use plans.

Should you require information or clarification regarding management directions for the LRMP and SRMP, please visit our website, www.bvcrb.ca, or contact us at info@bvcrb.ca.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the abovementioned application.

Yours truly,
Dave Stevens,
Acting Chair
Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board