

Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board (BVCRB) Minutes

Meeting Date: May 14, 2013. Meeting convened at 7:30 PM, Boston Pizza meeting room, Smithers, B. C.

Board Members in Attendance: Jeff Anderson (Chair), Dave Stevens (Treasurer), Tim Penninga, Rob Maurer, Trish Oosterhoff, Jill Dunbar (Executive Assistant) **Absent or excused:** Barry Smith, Tara Strauss, Harold Kerr, Bob Henderson, Tlell Glover, Ben Heemsker, Jack Hagen

Guests: Jevan Hanchard, Skeena-Stikine District Manager; Glen Buhr, Skeena-Stikine Stewardship Officer; Terry Sullivan, Skeena-Stikine Resource Manager; Shawna Young, Skeena-Stikine Stewardship Forester; Len Vanderstar; Jay Gilden

Item	Discussion	Action
Agenda review		Board members accept agenda.
Minutes of April 9, 2013	No quorum.	
Quick Core Ecosystem	<p>Glen Buhr: Presentation of District response to the PIR proposal to log in the Quick Core Ecosystem: Objective for the Quick Core: Any logging must be for purposes of protecting integrity and function of the CE. Size of area: 712 ha Values: Mature and old pine-leading seral stands in the SBSdk; wetland complex; cultural trail; high value wildlife habitat. Issues: Significant % of mature pine has been killed by mountain pine beetle; patchy regen; brush may prevent ability to regain “interior” forest condition; risk of blowdown and fire; risk to commercial timber values. Options: Leave to natural processes OR permit harvesting, establish 10% balance. DDM considerations: Public safety, implications of beetle kill to core integrity, potential of options to compromise objective of core, and the draft DDM principles. Decision: second option, i.e. permit harvest to address public safety. Options to reestablish the 10% balance: 1) Replace with immediately adjacent area 2) Create new CE area in the Landscape Unit 3) Allow increased QCE harvest to contribute to offsetting. Option 1 selected. Replacement area is interim until the original area recovers. Len Vanderstar: Caribou require mature older stands but not stands that are falling apart and won’t provide lichens. Replacement area provides more of the CE values than the current area with respect to caribou and lichens. Action: PIR submitted amendment #5. This required a 10-day review period. Comments received from public: More time and effort was needed for public input; this should not set a precedent for harvesting other CEs; intent of the ecosystem network must be upheld; natural processes should run their course; and there should be</p>	

Item	Discussion	Action
	<p>no harvesting in a CE unless it benefits the EN.</p> <p>Jevan Hanshard: As a result, the DDM committed to a 60 day review and comment period for future submissions, and broader discussion with the CRB.</p> <p>Dave Stevens: 60 days is a good idea. There should be a review of harvesting results once it has been done.</p> <p>Tim Penninga: 10 days is rare for any kind of public review. There is a need to react quickly but with gray attack it is not so urgent.</p> <p>Jeff Anderson: Public education would have disarmed some of the naysayers.</p> <p>Jevan Hanshard: This was a learning process for government and the 10 days wasn't ideal, however there were many discussions ahead of this. Normally a variance would not require public review but the DDM decided an amendment with public review was required.</p> <p>Jay Gilden: The community needs to get connected – perhaps the CRB should have an email distribution list to get the word out. People put a lot of effort into the LRMP and should get a chance to comment.</p> <p>Len Vanderstar: The CRB is seen as a closed group and needs to reach out.</p> <p>Jeff Anderson: The RAMP set up a list serve. Both RAMP and the Quick Core generated awareness.</p> <p>Jevan: The District office also wants to engage better with the public. It speaks well that the community responded so much.</p> <p>Terry Sullivan: All should be proud of the outcome. What should CRB involvement be in future?</p> <p>Tim: We can't walk away from the difficult decisions and areas. They are often the ones with high values environmentally or economically.</p> <p>Glen: What is the capacity of the CRB to get involved in future?</p> <p>Jeff: We are moving away from subcommittees and more toward strategic projects. That and list serve would allow CRB to work on this.</p> <p>Terry: Would like to explore this more – how to include public in reviews in light of low CRB capacity.</p> <p>Jay: Meeting May 30 will include CRB.</p> <p>Terry: Also – field tour on May 30 to look at MPB in some key ENs is being organized – 1 or 2 CRB members could attend.</p> <p>Tim: Some areas with alternate silviculture systems in Nichyeskwa area will be looked at.</p>	

Item	Discussion	Action
FREP 2011 Field season results	<p>Shawna Young: Purpose of the program is to evaluate effectiveness of practices in achieving FRPA values. FREP assists decision makers and forest professionals. In Skeena-Stikine, 198 total samples have been taken. Values being assessed include biodiversity, riparian, water quality, cultural heritage resources, visual quality, and stand density monitoring. Information is used for certification among other things.</p> <p>Jeff: An annual presentation would help the CRB consider if LRMP values are being met.</p> <p>Jevan: Some questions around stand density are interesting – what is happening to our stands.</p> <p>Glen: Summary reports are being developed. Trends are starting to show up. This is intended to be an integral part of resource monitoring.</p>	Dave Stevens will request slides from tonight’s presenters and send out to Board members.
Other business	<p>Attendance: Rob: The Board needs to adopt minutes of the last few minutes by June so good turnout is needed at that meeting.</p> <p>Membership: Jeff and Dave will recruit.</p> <p>RAMP peer review: Dave Hatler will carry out. Letter to Table members and press release are ready.</p> <p>Thompson Creek minerals: Rob: The company needs to put the closure plan to work. Concerns are safety of access road, which creates access up the mountain; water moving through waste dumps. Jeff: They have a contract and are responsible. However, residents may be looking for a way to improve pre-existing conditions.</p> <p>Dave: Will write a letter, working with Rob, about how the draft reclamation plan impacts LRMP values and public input.</p>	Dave Stevens will prepare a draft response by June 9, 2013
Finances	Dave: The RAMP holdback has been dealt with. Peer review and newspaper ad need to be covered. Will be about \$120 overspent at end of June.	
Meeting adjourned 9:30 PM. NEXT MEETING: June 11, 2013, 7:00 PM Boston Pizza. Annual dinner meeting.		