

Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board (BVCRB) Minutes

Meeting Date: March 8, 2011. Meeting convened at 7:00 PM, Boston Pizza meeting room, Smithers, B. C.

Attendance: Board Members: Dave Stevens (Chair), Don Goalder, Ben Heemskerk, Taylor Bachrach, Trish Oosterhoff, Dustin Harvey, Rob Maurer, Bob Henderson, Jack Hagen, Jill Dunbar (Executive Assistant).

Guests/Presenters: Rick Keim, Gary Quanstrom

Regrets/absent: Barry Smith, Emily McGiffen

Item	Discussion	Action	By Whom	By When
Telkwa Caribou WHA Order	<p>Rick Keim, Ecosystem Biologist, Natural Resource Operations Development of the Telkwa Caribou Wildlife Habitat Area has been a 3 ½ year process to date. There are International, Federal, and Provincial policies that apply to the process and requirements have been changing. The Telkwa caribou herd is facing high pressures and there is not much leeway to protect the habitat and yet lessen impact on other users. Government goal is to keep the herd going despite these pressures.</p> <p>Questions/comments for Rick: Jack: How long-lived are the mature lichen-hosting trees? Rick: Younger trees will fill in and become lichen hosts after about 80 years of age.</p> <p>Bob: How effective is transplanting caribou from one area to another? Rick: It is hoped that the caribou will be able to adapt to new areas.</p> <p>Ben: What do you see as the trade-offs to balance the area reserved from harvest? Rick: Forests and Environment need to work together on this. A detailed account of the current state of the 10% budget is needed. Then the players can take it from there. The Bulkley LRMP is useful because the cores and corridors are spatially determined and there are biodiversity objectives by landscape unit. Some of the corridors could be removed and the amount of reserve needed would be maintained due to the areas reserved from harvest.</p>			

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	<p>Taylor: Increasingly drastic measures will be needed to protect species, with climate change happening. There will be greater impact on industrial activity and it will be hard to maintain the balance.</p> <p>Ben: If we are helping caribou are we helping other species? Rick: Probably helping grizzlies, as well as almost anything else.</p> <p>Gary Quanstrom: There are two papers that would provide additional background information: One is by James Cuell, on changing ecosystem network boundaries; the other is a summary of the values that each ecosystem network was designed to protect.</p> <p>Taylor: The Board has a gravel pit referral to consider, at the end of Skillhorn Road. Caribou have been seen there. Will Environment be reviewing this referral? Rick: Not sure about this specific area. Government is looking into establishing “no staking” areas in the WHA, since there could be no development. Current holdings in the WHA wouldn’t be revoked but there would be no development.</p> <p>Dave: RAMP process is coming up, as is the Revisiting the Balance workshop. Would these projects be affected if the WHA is approved? Rick: For RAMP, some analysis is needed. Two seasons of motorized/non-motorized summer/winter activity need to be studied for effect on caribou.</p>	<p>Forward two background papers on the LRMP to Ben Heemskerk.</p>	<p>Gary Quanstrom</p>	
<p>Agenda review</p>	<p>Agenda for this meeting was accepted.</p>	<p>Accept agenda as presented.</p>	<p>Board Members</p>	<p>This meeting</p>
<p>Minutes of February 8, 2011</p>	<p>Minutes discussed. Minutes approved as presented.</p>	<p>Approve minutes of Feb 8, 2011.</p>	<p>Board Members</p>	<p>This meeting</p>
<p>Subcommittee Reports/Issues/ Correspondence</p>	<p>1. Recreation RAMP Funding: Ben Heemskerk: \$15,000 in funding for the project from Recreation Sites and Trails surplus is approved to go to the BV Research Centre. MOU with BV Research Centre is ready for final signatures. MEC grant application will be submitted soon. Result of</p>			

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	<p>application with the Real Estate Foundation will be known by early April. Work on RAMP is scheduled to start in April. Subcommittee will need to work with Environment to find out what recreation activities would not be allowed in the WHA.</p> <p>2. Mining and Energy Development Rob Maurer: Rock Talk conference on February 24 went well. Finlay Resources, owned by John Boraco, is working in the Equity area – will keep an eye on this. The Blue Pearl EA time limit is up on Dec.8, 2011. There hasn't been any word on this so far. Options are that the project could just fall off the plate, the company could try to go ahead with the EA as is, or they could ask to submit additional information for consideration in the process. Dave: There is a Public Liaison Committee meeting proposed for April. Dave will advise Jack Hagen of final date and details.</p> <p>3. Forestry, Range and Agriculture Revisiting the Balance workshop: The Monitoring and Land Use Planning Committee met with Glen Buhr, Stewardship Officer, Skeena-Stikine, MNRO, and discussed workshop objectives. Taylor circulated an e-mail summarizing the discussions. It was felt that two separate events are needed. One meeting would try to obtain clarity on respective roles and responsibilities of the BVCRB and government agencies with regard to the LRMP. Public participation would not be needed. The second event would be a facilitated meeting involving stakeholders, with the objective of understanding current and emerging land-use issues in the Bulkley TSA. Gary Runka has been contacted regarding facilitating this event and his response was positive. The Committee also felt that the most pressing emerging issue is the Telkwa</p>	<p>Notify Jack Hagen or alternate of details of Blue Pearl PLC meeting.</p> <p>Contact Gary Runka regarding his availability.</p> <p>Investigate funding support for the workshop.</p>	<p>Dave Stevens</p> <p>Bob Henderson</p> <p>Bob Henderson</p>	

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	<p>Caribou WHA and its impact on the 10% budget. The Committee would be the logical group to work with Glen to flesh out a set of draft principles for dealing with this. Decision: The Board agrees that the committee should proceed with developing the draft principles, and then bring them to the entire Board for discussion and eventual endorsement.</p> <p>Dave: An open house marking the BVCRB 20th anniversary could be held in conjunction with the workshop. Jack: This would fulfill is one of the obligations of the BVCRB to engage the public.</p> <p>4. LWBC Referrals and Land Tenures Range application: McConnell grazing application: Draft response letter prepared by Barry Smith has been circulated, reviewed by Board members, finalized, and approved by the Board for sending.</p> <p>Nu Source gravel quarry application: Referral 6408343: Discussion: Taylor: There are habitat values in this area, as previously discussed. It is close to residential areas and there are recreational values as well. The Village of Telkwa prefers to have gravel quarries located inside village boundaries. Bob: The BVCRB did not receive this referral – unsure why. The Board should send a response regardless.</p> <p>5. Water and Fish: No update.</p> <p>6. Monitoring and Land Use Plans: See “Revisiting the Balance”.</p>	<p>Work with Glen Buhr to develop draft principles for implementing the WHA while maintaining the 10% budget.</p> <p>Sign and send out the McConnell referral response.</p> <p>Prepare a draft response to the gravel quarry application, and circulate the Village of Telkwa response.</p>	<p>Monitoring and Land Use Planning Committee</p> <p>Dave Stevens</p> <p>Taylor Bachrach</p>	

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Administration	<p>Memorandum of Understanding with the BV Research Centre: The MOU with BV Research Centre was signed at this meeting by Board executive members.</p> <p>Agenda for future meetings: Taylor is now putting the draft agenda for each meeting on the website; these are drafts for discussion purposes and all Board members are asked to add suggestions for revisions or additions.</p> <p>Letter to Ruth Edwards: No response to date. Ben: It is apparently being worked on.</p> <p>Membership: Dave: We are short one member. We can't select our own members – a selection committee must do this. We could invite Harold Kerr to attend Board meetings and observe until a selection committee is reconvened. We need to know whose terms expire this June.</p>	Prepare list of expiry dates of Board members terms.	Jill Dunbar	
Meeting adjourned 9:45 PM	Next meeting: April 12, 2011, 7:00 PM, Boston Pizza Meeting Room.			