

Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board  
Box 577  
Smithers, BC V0J 2N0

May 14, 2008

Liz Williamson  
Senior Land Officer  
Crown Land Adjudication  
Integrated Land Management Bureau  
Bag 5000  
Smithers, BC V0J 2N0

**Re: Referral 6407923, by John Bernard de Coteau for a grant of a parcel of crown land for the purpose of extensive agriculture.**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this application. As stewards of the Bulkley Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) the Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board (BVCRB) assesses such applications as this for compliance with the LRMP and in this case with the Bulkley Landscape Unit's Sustainable Resource Management Plan (SRMP), a more detailed plan.

We note that the subject parcel is in the Agriculture Land Reserve. The parcel is zoned Integrated Resource Management (IRM) in the LRMP. This designation neither especially encourages nor discourages agriculture. More specific direction, to quote from page 16 of the SRMP, says, "...will recognize and manage sensitively, all other resource values: urban, agriculture, wildlife, fisheries, water, and the urban/rural interface."

The parcel is designated moose and deer winter range in the Smithers-Telkwa Official Community Plan, Schedule "C" – Ecological and Wildlife Values Map. An adjacent area is a Sensitive Ecosystem (a Southwest-Facing Slope Complex.) It is not clear from the information supplied with this referral how these values will be preserved in the event that the grant is made. The BVCRB recommends that ILMB work with the Ministry of Environment to evaluate whether measures can be taken to protect moose and deer winter range in the area if this application is approved. Attention should also be directed to cumulative impacts given the other developments that are under way and/or proposed in this area.

More detail on the compliance of this proposed grant to the LRMP and SRMP would be welcome, especially details about how the values noted will be preserved.

Sincerely

Adrian de Groot, Chair  
Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board