

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

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October 27, 2008

Eamon O'Donoghue  
Chair, Skeena Regional Managers Committee  
Integrated Land Management Bureau  
Bag 5000, 3726 Alfred Avenue  
Smithers BC V0J 2N0

Re: Future monitoring of the Bulkley Valley Land and Resource Management Plan

Dear Eamon:

As you are aware, the Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board (BVCRB) monitors and advises the BC government on crown land development issues, particularly in relation to the Bulkley Valley Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP).

The LRMP is now 10 years old. Since its ratification, the land use pressures and the context within which land-use decisions are made has changed, in some cases considerably. These realities have made LRMP monitoring a key concern of BVCRB members.

The LRMP notes the importance of plan monitoring for successful land use management in the Bulkley Valley. The 1998 LRMP document (p.5) states:

“The effectiveness of this plan hinges on monitoring. Monitoring allows for the ongoing improvement and fine tuning during the life of the LRMP and provides direction for the next LRMP update.

Following implementation, the IAMC will be responsible for ensuring that relevant government agencies produce annual monitoring reports on the status of implementation of LRMP objectives for the Board, and the Board will coordinate the presentation of this report at an annual public meeting. The Board and government agencies will work closely together to develop procedures and structures that make the monitoring process efficient, effective, and accountable to the public.”

In a recent letter to the BVCRB from then-Minister of Agriculture and Lands Pat Bell, the Minister indicated that the Integrated Land Management Bureau was redirecting its activities away from land-use planning and increasing its focus on dialogue with First Nations. Given this shift in government focus, the BVCRB has the following questions:

- What does ILMB's reallocation of resources mean for the ongoing monitoring of the LRMP?
- Apart from the implementation report produced in 2006, the annual monitoring reports referenced in the LRMP document have not been forthcoming. Can the BVCRB expect LRMP monitoring reports in the future?

We firmly believe that the LRMP continues to be an important document that articulates our community's shared vision for future land use in the Bulkley Valley. We feel that a commitment to monitoring is essential for the plan to be relevant into the future, and for the BVCRB to continue to effectively fulfill its mandate.

We look forward to your response to our questions.

Yours truly,

Greg Storie  
Chair, Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board

cc: Bill Warner, Chair, Interagency Management Committee  
Barry Smith, District Manager, Skeena Stikine Forest District