Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board (BVCRB) Minutes

Meeting Date: February 9, 2010. Meeting convened at 7:00 PM, Alpenhorn meeting room, Smithers, B. C.

Board Members Present: .Greg Storie (Chair), Anne Harfenist, Ben Heemskerk, Taylor Bachrach, Rob Boyce, Mike Murray, Jack Hagen, Don

Goalder, Jill Dunbar (Executive Assistant)

Regrets/absent: Jeff Anderson, Dave Stevens

Visitors/presenters: Karen Price, Richard Overstall, Babine Watershed Monitoring Trust

Item	Discussion	Action	By Whom	By When
Babine Watershed	Karen Price: This presentation is a follow-up to the			
Monitoring Trust	presentation at the November 10, 2009 BVCRB meeting,			
	where the BWMT monitoring cycle and framework were			
	described. There are monitoring projects which will be of			
	interest to the BVCRB. The summary list of projects and 2-			
	page project summaries are pending approval by the trustees			
	and will be made available to the Board as soon as possible.			
	Projects that BVCRB may wish to look at include:			
	1. Grizzly bear risk project. High road density is a risk			
	factor to grizzly bears and the Bulkley has no strategies for			
	road density. Perhaps the BVCRB would want to consult			
	with experts in this field to work towards setting strategies.			
	2. Stand Structure. Maintaining a stand structure that is			
	natural (vs. managed) is an important way to maintain			
	biodiversity. The current target of keeping $1-7$ % of the			
	area of a stand in natural patches will not be enough to			
	maintain biodiversity. The BVCRB might want to look at			
	this target and the tradeoffs that would be involved with			
	changing it.			
	3. Mountain Goat project: Bulkley goat populations may be			
	at risk over time as harvesting and road development occur.			
	There are options to protect them which the Board may want			
	to consider.			
	4. Natural landscape pattern: This strategy in the LRMP is			
	intended to help maintain biodiversity. However, this may			
	not be the best indicator and patch size distribution may be			
	preferable to natural landscape pattern.			

5. Amount of old forest, by ecosystem variant: The target level is to maintain 11% old forest while a natural forest would have 30% or more; with this target biodiversity is at high risk. BVCRB should examine options and consequences of managing under high-risk strategies. 6. Bull Trout: 20% of critical habitat is well protected, 60% is somewhat protected. Higher Level Plans and Landscape Unit Plans do not consider fish objectives at all. The Board should decide if fish objectives are important in the LRMP and if so, what strategies would be appropriate. Richard Overstall: Extending the Monitoring Trust concept into the Bulkley beyond the Babine Watershed would be possible but funding would be the problem. Agenda review Agenda reviewed. Agenda reviewed. Agenda reviewed. Agenda reviewed. Agenda reviewed. Accept minutes. Board Members meeting Next Members 1. Recreation RAMP completion: The project does not fit Regional District criteria but they will call Anne back with more ideas for funding. There is still an option to have UNBC participate in facilitation. RAMP Terms of Reference: Smithers Snowmobile Association agrees with the TOR. It may be timely to send a letter to the Office of the Wet's uwer'en to invite their participation. The next step is to obtain funding. Hudson Bay Mountain Rezoning: BVCRB letter was sent but was too late to be considered. Board agreed that there is no need to pursue this issue further. 2. Mining and Energy Development Rob: No news to report. 3. Forestry, Range and Agriculture Green: No hydrogen and Agriculture Green: No hydrogen and proved.	Item	Discussion	Action	By Whom	By When
Agenda review Review of minutes Jan 12, 2010. Subcommittee Reports/Issues/Corresponde nce 1. Recreation RAMP completion: The project does not fit Regional District criteria but they will call Anne back with more ideas for funding. There is still an option to have UNBC participate in facilitation. RAMP Terms of Reference: Smithers Snowmobile Association agrees with the TOR. It may be timely to send a letter to the Office of the Wet'suwet'en to invite their participation. The next step is to obtain funding. Hudson Bay Mountain Rezoning: BVCRB letter was sent but was too late to be considered. Board agreed that there is no need to pursue this issue further. 2. Mining and Energy Development Rob: No news to report. 3. Forestry, Range and Agriculture		level is to maintain 11% old forest while a natural forest would have 30% or more; with this target biodiversity is at high risk. BVCRB should examine options and consequences of managing under high-risk strategies. 6. Bull Trout: 20% of critical habitat is well protected, 60% is somewhat protected. Higher Level Plans and Landscape Unit Plans do not consider fish objectives at all. The Board should decide if fish objectives are important in the LRMP and if so, what strategies would be appropriate. Richard Overstall: Extending the Monitoring Trust concept into the Bulkley beyond the Babine Watershed would be			
Subcommittee Reports/Issues/Corresponde nce 1. Recreation RAMP completion: The project does not fit Regional District criteria but they will call Anne back with more ideas for funding. There is still an option to have UNBC participate in facilitation. RAMP Terms of Reference: Smithers Snowmobile Association agrees with the TOR. It may be timely to send a letter to the Office of the Wet'suwet'en to invite their participation. The next step is to obtain funding. Hudson Bay Mountain Rezoning: BVCRB letter was sent but was too late to be considered. Board agreed that there is no need to pursue this issue further. 2. Mining and Energy Development Rob: No news to report. 3. Forestry, Range and Agriculture	Agenda review		Accept agenda.		
RAMP completion: The project does not fit Regional District criteria but they will call Anne back with more ideas for funding. There is still an option to have UNBC participate in facilitation. RAMP Terms of Reference: Smithers Snowmobile Association agrees with the TOR. It may be timely to send a letter to the Office of the Wet'suwet'en to invite their participation. The next step is to obtain funding. Hudson Bay Mountain Rezoning: BVCRB letter was sent but was too late to be considered. Board agreed that there is no need to pursue this issue further. 2. Mining and Energy Development Rob: No news to report. 3. Forestry, Range and Agriculture	*	Minutes discussed and approved.	Accept minutes.		
District criteria but they will call Anne back with more ideas for funding. There is still an option to have UNBC participate in facilitation. RAMP Terms of Reference: Smithers Snowmobile Association agrees with the TOR. It may be timely to send a letter to the Office of the Wet'suwet'en to invite their participation. The next step is to obtain funding. Hudson Bay Mountain Rezoning: BVCRB letter was sent but was too late to be considered. Board agreed that there is no need to pursue this issue further. 2. Mining and Energy Development Rob: No news to report. 3. Forestry, Range and Agriculture	Subcommittee	1. Recreation			
for funding. There is still an option to have UNBC participate in facilitation. RAMP Terms of Reference: Smithers Snowmobile Association agrees with the TOR. It may be timely to send a letter to the Office of the Wet'suwet'en to invite their participation. The next step is to obtain funding. Hudson Bay Mountain Rezoning: BVCRB letter was sent but was too late to be considered. Board agreed that there is no need to pursue this issue further. 2. Mining and Energy Development Rob: No news to report. 3. Forestry, Range and Agriculture	Reports/Issues/Corresponde	RAMP completion: The project does not fit Regional			
	nce	for funding. There is still an option to have UNBC participate in facilitation. RAMP Terms of Reference: Smithers Snowmobile Association agrees with the TOR. It may be timely to send a letter to the Office of the Wet'suwet'en to invite their participation. The next step is to obtain funding. Hudson Bay Mountain Rezoning: BVCRB letter was sent but was too late to be considered. Board agreed that there is no need to pursue this issue further. 2. Mining and Energy Development Rob: No news to report.			
		Greg: No business to report.			

Item	Discussion	Action	By Whom	By When
	4. LWBC Referrals and Land Tenures Call Lake rezoning proposal: BVCRB letter was sent past the deadline for input. But there were no major objections. Perhaps Board should receive all rezoning applications. Peturrson referral: BVCRB concerns arising from original referral are still in place even with this revised application. The planned road still goes through a Core Ecosystem so the new application cannot be supported. E-mail was sent to Liz Williamson. Cybernet Tower: This project has been readvertised for public comment. Discussion: The Board needs to comment on the process, which was flawed, and could also comment on the actual location of the tower. The LRMP needs to be looked at in terms of zoning for that area.	Prepare response letter.	Greg	When
	 5. Water and Fish MoE will attend the April BVCRB meeting. There may be questions resulting from tonight's presentation that they should address at that time. 6. Monitoring and Land Use Plans Discussion of Babine Watershed Monitoring Trust's presentation: This presentation gives the Board a place to start with LRMP amendments. A solid issue should be chosen as the first one to test the amendment process. Issues of concern in addition to the 6 described above include the mountain pine beetle situation. There may be an impact on biodiversity and stand level diversity due to increased harvest with MPB. The new PEM may show that there is opportunity to increase the AAC or gain other advantages. The caribou strategy needs to be reorganized. Board members agreed to begin researching issues as follows: Anne will look at grizzly bears. Ben will look at stand structure, landscape pattern and amount of old forest. 	Board members begin to investigate issues and report back at next meeting.	Anne: Grizzlies Ben: Forestry issues Jeff: Bull Trout (?)	

Item	Discussion	Action	By Whom	By
				When
	• Perhaps Jeff could investigate the Bull Trout issue.			
Administration	Updating LRMP: Documents have been obtained but work hasn't begun.	Update LRMP.	Jill	
	Website: New website has been set up by Taylor, and documents are being loaded onto it.	Continue to update website.	Jill and Taylor	
Other business	BVCRB Vacancies: Members in their third year of service must be nominated again and sit in front of the selection committee. Newspaper article: Taylor will submit the article to the newspaper, along with photo taken at this meeting.	Submit article to newspaper.	Taylor	
Meeting adjourned 9:30 PM Next Meeting: March 9, 2010				