

**Bulkley Valley Community Resources Board (BVCRB) Minutes**

**Meeting Date: March 10, 2009. Meeting convened at 7:00 PM, Alpenhorn meeting room, Smithers, BC**

**Board Members Present:** Greg Storie (Chair), Don Goalder, Jeff Anderson, Anne Harfenist, Rob Boyce, Peter Tweedie, Ben Heemskerk, Max Starr, Taylor Bachrach, Jill Dunbar (Executive Assistant)

**Regrets/absent:** Jack Hagen, Dave Stevens

**Presenters:** Rick Keim, Ecosystem Biologist, Ministry of Environment; Jane Lloyd-Smith, Acting District Manager, Skeena-Stikine Forest District

**Visitors:** Karen Diemert, Ecosystems Sectionhead, Ministry of Environment; Glen Buhr, Stewardship Forester, Skeena-Stikine Forest District; Eugene Wittwer, prospective Board member.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>By Whom</b>	<b>By When</b>
<b>Agenda review</b>	Agenda reviewed.	<b>Accept agenda.</b>	<b>Board Members</b>	<b>This meeting</b>
<b>Wildlife Habitat Management Areas: Rick Keim</b>	<p>The Telkwa caribou herd has been the subject of recovery efforts for 13 years. At this time there are 4 management options (from least restrictive land use to most): 1) do nothing, 2) establish a Wildlife Habitat Area (WHA), 3) implement a recovery plan and 4) place an Ecological Reserve on the area.</p> <p>A WHA proposal has been prepared (option 2). The proposal considered provisions of the LRMP and HLP (Higher Level Plan). Implementation of the WHA would have a negative impact on timber supply. To balance this, the MOF would likely reduce the Ecosystem Network, unless the CRB says otherwise. A recovery plan approach (option 3) would likely propose heavier harvesting restrictions. This approach may not be needed here, since we have the LRMP in place, and the caribou herd is in an isolated location. Timber supply is the focus – WHA’s don’t normally address recreation.</p> <p><i>Questions and comments:</i>            Jeff: Mining is also an issue.            Karen: MOE is working with Mines to ensure that they are aware of impact of a WHA.            Eugene: How is the 10% budget (Bulkley SRMP, p.1) measured?</p>			

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	<p>Glen: Timber supply over the long term.  Taylor: CRB should revisit the plan if, for example, the 10% isn't enough to maintain biodiversity.  Max: Will this really make a difference?  Rick: Has based the proposal on historic natural disturbance levels. It is hard to come up with a balanced proposal. Caribou is now an endangered species and government is legally obliged to manage for it.  Greg: Board needs to discuss our level of involvement.  <i>Next steps:</i> MOF needs to calculate timber impacts and suggested offsets, and present to the Board to review.</p>	<p><b>Discuss WHA proposal further with regard to Board level of involvement; review timber impact offset recommendations when available.</b></p>	<p><b>Board Members</b></p>	<p><b>As required</b></p>
<p><b>LRMP Monitoring: Jane Lloyd-Smith</b></p>	<p>Monitoring closes the loop of the plan. The 2004 State of the Forest Report looked at every value, and the ultimate result was that there was no risk to values, therefore, no need to report every year. It is designed to be done whenever a Timber Supply Review is carried out (every 5 years, next one 2009). Karen Price and Dave Daust are putting more science to this with their Babine Watershed Monitoring Trust Framework.  <i>Questions and comments:</i>  Ben: There hasn't been much communication to Board members about this, which is why it seems like not much is happening.  Greg: How do we get other agencies to report on values they are managing for?  Eugene: If all agencies had a Framework that would be helpful.  Jane: The Babine Framework covers a small area and is helpful but would not be simple to expand to the whole area.  Jeff: We are not getting technical on-the-ground detail about water resources. How do we know that all is OK if monitoring or reporting is not being done at that level?  Jane: There is a group that is trying to coordinate all groups that are monitoring water quality.</p>			

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	Greg: We have asked for reports from all agencies via recent letters. The Board needs to discuss this in more detail.	<b>Continue discussions of LRMP monitoring efforts.</b>	<b>Board Members</b>	<b>On-going</b>
<b>Review of minutes of Feb 10, 2009</b>	Minutes discussed.	<b>Minutes accepted as presented.</b>	<b>Board Members</b>	<b>This meeting</b>
<b>Subcommittee Reports/Issues/Correspondence</b>	<p><b>1. Mining and Energy Development</b> Rob: Some work at Dome Mountain is planned – diamond drilling, underground rehabilitation.</p> <p><b>2. Recreation</b> <b>Kitsequecla backcountry proposal:</b> Greg: Just a heads up that a referral is in the works for ski trails and a hut in the Kitsequecla valley.</p> <p><b>3. Forestry, Range and Agriculture</b> <b>Visual Quality overlay:</b> Ben: Information for all of the province has been compiled. The LRMP has been consulted. There are no major changes except around Babine Lake area, which is being looked into.</p> <p><b>4. LWBC Referrals and Land Tenures</b> No new referrals.</p> <p><b>5. Water and Fish:</b> No new business.</p> <p><b>6. Monitoring and Land Use Plans</b> Letters to MOE and MOF have been sent. Anne: This should go to other agencies as well. Greg: We should wait until we get responses from MOE and MOF.</p> <p>The letter requesting that all referrals in the Controlled Recreation Area be sent to the BVCRB has gone out to Terry Pratt.</p>			

Item	Discussion	Action	By Whom	By When
<b>Administration</b>	<p><b>Funding:</b> Funds have been received from ILMB.</p> <p><b>Website:</b> Hosting is being changed to Smithers Community Server from BCCNA.</p>			
<b>Other business</b>	<p><b>Membership:</b> Max and Peter will approach a few potential new members. Greg will ask Adrian de Groot to form a selection committee.</p> <p><b>Flyer:</b> Needs to show 4 values perspectives.</p> <p><b>Kelly Giesbrecht's thesis on the BVCRB:</b> Taylor has sent out the summary. Board members to read and decide if a presentation is warranted.</p>	<p><b>Ask potential new Board members if they are interested.</b></p> <p><b>Ask Adrian to form a selection committee</b></p> <p><b>Finalize flyer</b></p> <p><b>Review thesis summary, decide on having a presentation.</b></p>	<p><b>Max, Peter</b></p> <p><b>Greg</b></p> <p><b>Taylor</b></p> <p><b>Board members</b></p>	
<b>Meeting adjourned 9:30 PM Next Meeting</b>	April 14, 2009 7:00 PM, Alpenhorn Meeting Room.			