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Bulkley Valley Community Resource Board
P.O. Box 985
Smithers, B.C., V0J 2N2

January 07, 2012

Attn: **The Board of Directors** of the Bulkley Valley Community Resource Board.

Re.: **Update on the Kathlyn Creek Community Watershed designation application.**

I would like to make the Bulkley Valley Community Resource Board aware that in October 2005 water license holders in the Kathlyn Creek Watershed applied to the government for a ***Community Watershed*** designation under the Forest and Range Practices Act.

Due to major government reorganizations this application was on hold until 2007. In November 2007 (18) water license holders finally submitted their application to the Ministry of Environment, Water Stewardship department and it is now well on its way to approval. At this time the application has entered the public consultation stage of the designation process and is being reviewed by the Office of the Wet'suwet'en.

The area from and including Biggs Creek (Nielsen Road) to Glacier Gulch Road comprises the proposed Kathlyn Creek Community Watershed. (see attached map)

Activities such as industrial development, trail/road clearing/logging, reforestation and motorized recreational activities have the potential for negative impacts on our water supply – as noticed in the past – and need to be carefully managed with regards to land use planning and decision making.

Since 2007 we have established contact with many organizations, corporations and agencies etc. to raise awareness to our efforts to preserve our drinking water catchment area. The proposed Community Watershed is now incorporated in

- the development plans off the Wet'zink'wa Community Forest,
- the (draft) plan for Fire Prevention Access Trails,
- the Thompson Creek Metals Davidson Project development plans,
- the Bulkley Valley Stewardship's 'Map Chat' mapping records.

- The protection of water quality for human consumption in watersheds is now also addressed in the Forest and Range Practices Act and the preamble of the new Land Resource Management Plan objectives.
- Many provincial government agencies, regional and municipal governments are informed and regularly updated on our efforts and the status of the Community Watershed designation.

It is our hope, that the 'Future Community Watershed' will protect and maintain the 'Historical Watershed' as it has been for all water users for more than 30 years.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at 250 847 3086. For further information regarding the Community Watershed designation please contact **Chelton van Geloven**, R.P.F., Source Water Protection Hydrologist, Dam Safety Officer, Resource Management, Northern Area, Ministry of Natural Resource Operations, 3rd Floor, 1011 4th Ave. Prince George, B.C. V2L 3H9
e-mail: Chelton.VanGeloven@gov.bc.ca Phone (250) 565-4462 Fax (250) 565-6629

With regards

Attach:
Map of proposed Kathlyn Creek Community Watershed

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Attn: Ben Heemskerk, Chair of the Recreation sub-committee of the Bulkley Valley Community Resource Board.

Re.: Questions regarding the Recreational Access Management Plan

Dear Mr. Heemskerk,

Water license holders in the Kathlyn Creek Watershed applied in 2007 to the BC government for a **Community Watershed** designation under the Forest and Range Practices Act. At this time the application has entered the public consultation stage of the designation process and is being reviewed by the Office of the Wet'suwet'en. For more information regarding our application please read the attached letter.

The area from (and including) Biggs Creek (Nielsen Road) to Glacier Gulch Road comprises the proposed Kathlyn Creek Community Watershed. (see attached map)

Activities such as industrial development, trail/road clearing/logging, reforestation and motorized recreational activities have the potential for negative impacts on our water supply – as noticed in the past – and need to be carefully managed.

I have only recently become aware of the Community Resource Board's work on the Recreational Access Management Plan (RAMP). After reading the information posted on the CRB website I have the following questions:

- 1) Is 'water for domestic use', considered, incorporated or protected in the Recreational Access Management Plan?
- 2) When recreational access, such as trails (motorized or non motorized) traverse drinking water creeks, how will that be addressed?
- 3) What protection from motorized access through drinking water catchment areas is available to the water users?

At this time recreational activities that could have negative impacts on our watershed take place on private land or Hydro right-of -way. Would you please inform if plans for recreational trail in our watershed are being considered, as we would like to be involved in the planning from the beginning.

Thank you, with regards

Attach:

letter: **Update on the Kathlyn Creek Community Watershed designation application.**

Map: proposed Kathlyn Creek Community Watershed