

BV Community Resource Board – Final Minutes

Feb 21, 23

Present: John, Eric, Jeff, Christoph, Bob, Sue, Matt
Guests: Scott McMillan and Luc Anderson, Cam Bently and Tara Dunphy
Regrets: Ted, Ron
Chair: Jeff
Recording: Sue

Next Meeting: Mar 20, 23
Meeting convened at 7:05pm

Organizational

Review of minutes.

A **motion** to approve the January minutes was made: All in favour.

For a full list of acronyms please check the link:

https://bvcrb.ca/images/uploads/documents/bvcrb_acro.pdf

1. Guests:

Luc Anderson, Investment Officer, BC Parks
Scott McMillan, Senior Parks Ranger for Parks

Summary

BC Parks has decided to pursue a re-route of the Cronin Trail off the 312 Road on the Upper Fulton Forest Service Road (FSR). There were no real concerns from the Board. The Board expressed appreciation for the presentation.

Details

- This is a more confident reroute based on discussion with Ministry of Forests engineers. It considers cost effectiveness, the amount of movement with the stream bed and slope stability.
- This is not a mapped CORE ecosystem. The Bulkley Valley Summer Ramps Index Map B: shows a WHMA layer under a BC Recreation site. Also there is an area that shows as a WHMA on the BV Agricultural and Wildlife Designation map of Jan, 2008.
- BC Parks is proposing construction of new trail this summer to allow connectivity to the Cronin Trail and Hyland Pass. This would not be designed for motorized use. It would be a single track trail less than 4 ft wide.
- Staging or parking would be near the junction of the 312 Rd. There would be limited construction on this road to maintain mines access but not increase it.
- Winter recreational access permits 3 snowmobile days per winter.
- This area is part of the THLB but there are no short term plans to harvest by West Fraser.
- Cronin Moricetown Trail access is not on the table.

- Higgins Creek - decommission - is this public?
- Orange on the map is a Section 16 designation border.
- Designations of the linear features will be done through Recreation Sites and Trails with the longer desire to designate the Trail as a Section 16. The rest of the maintenance and build will be the responsibility of BC Parks.

2. Treasurer Report

Matt gave a review of our situation, no big changes from January.

3. Guests

Cam Bentley, District Manager
Regional Operations - Skeena Stikine Natural Resource District
Tara Dunphy, Director of Strategic Initiatives

Cam suggested changing topics slightly, everyone agreed. The Board appreciated the presentation. The slide show is posted online.

Summary

TAP - Technical advisory panel - this panel defined which polygons would be part of the deferral process.
BMA - Biodiversity Management Area
CSFN - Carrier Sekani First Nation
BMO - Bulkey Morice Entity - still theoretical
WRR - Wildfire Reduction and Resiliency
SSAF - Skeena Sustainability Assessment Forum

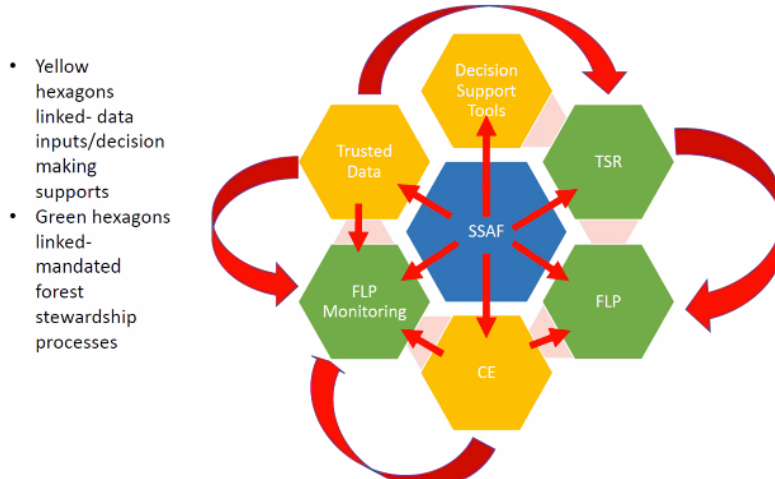
1. An introduction to planning regimes like the Forest Landscape Planning Pilot in Burns Lk
2. BC's Announcement of the 8 Point Plan, 8 new forest landscape planning strategies, <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2023FOR0009-000191>
3. The Bulkey and Morice TSA's
 - Skeena Sustainability Assessment Forum (SSAF) - First Nations and the Province came together to get agreement on baseline data before talking transactions of Timber Sales
 - They are creating trusted data platforms. This baseline is the underpinning of the Morice and Bulkley.
 - Environmental stewardship initiatives (ESI) derived from the pipeline development projects.

Discussion:

1. How will the cancellations of Section 16 and 17's play into the FSLP? Knowledge of this designation is not required but it can be part of the discussion.

- Slide - potential planning table structure, one feedback loop with a stakeholder review and input group would allow for more industries and groups like the BVCRB to contribute. This is the slide:

Integration Points/Sharing Resources



- The Forest & Range Practices Act (FRPA) demands we report out on monitoring. The SSAF has an inherent monitoring process. According to Cam it's good and there may be Ministry pressure to tighten up monitoring in other areas of FSLP. No specifics were discussed. This process is purely for Forestry.
- Do existing land use plans still apply? The FLP will layer other things on top of existing land use plans, FLP's are subservient to higher level plans like the land resource management plan (LRMP), unless legal objectives change.
- How will monitoring improve? It has to be measurable to get into the legal order.

Wildfire Risk Reduction

- Deception Lake near the end of Woodmere Rd. - is an example of a small scale salvage operation to meet WRR guidelines. We were later advised that it was in an Old Growth Deferral area. The owner had to make a significant reduction in standing timber, ascertained by the BC Wildfire Service. It's not a TAP polygon and not a deferral polygon. It's now essentially parkified, as in what you would see in a city. It's got private land access. A Board field trip was suggested. Questions arose as to the necessity to log in the first place, what considerations were there for it's surrounding and other ecosystem management strategies.

2. There is Quite a spectrum of WRR treatment allowances.

3. What is the Ministries definition of old growth? Over 140 years old. An ecologist should be rating an old growth TAP polygon for remaining old growth after logging. Also what about polygons surrounded by meadow, why wouldn't they need unique WRR treatment?

Action Items***

How would we want to be included or engaged in the 8 point plan?
Perhaps we should put some dialogue together in a letter.

Guests - invite Kiera Hoffman or Gleeson - BVRC - ** Jeff to discuss, can they monitor any baseline data on some of our WHMA or AWZ's? Also would the research centre be interested in creation of a demo forest?

4. Events

Glyphosphate - a Zoom presentation by the BVRC, Wed. Feb 22, 23, noon.

FYI: Glyphosate was not used in the Bulkley because of a successful appeal of the use of pesticides under the ___ Act. The appeal process was removed from the legislation shortly after the Government of BC lost that appeal. In the Kispiox the District Manager of Forests declared a moratorium on pesticide use.

Meeting adjourned at 9:11 pm.

Next Meeting Date: March 20, 2023