



WHISTLER

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF FOREST & WILDLAND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2013, STARTING AT 3:00 P.M.

In the Flute Room

4325 Blackcomb Way, Whistler, BC V0N 1B4

PRESENT:

Meetings to Date: 10

John Hammons	8
Kurt Mueller	7
Rob Davis	6
WORCA, Ken Melamed	7
Chair, Gordon McKeever	9
AWARE, Bryce Leigh	9
Bob Brett	6
Candace Rose-Taylor (May)	4
Councilor Jayson Faulkner	6

Recording Secretary, Heather Beresford 10

REGRETS:

CCF, Peter Ackhurst	6
Johnny Mikes	6

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by

Seconded by

That the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee adopt the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee agenda of November 13, 2013.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by

Seconded by

That the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee adopt the Regular the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee minutes of October 9, 2013.

CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

3. Updates

Council: FWAC encouraged to read Economic Partnership Initiative recommendations.

http://www.whistler.ca/sites/default/files/related/epi_summary_of_key_findings

[oct_15.pdf](#)

AWARE: Sproatt snowmobile trail fee-for-service sign and booth under construction.

WORCA: WORCA working with landholder to resolve issues regarding mountain bike trails (Piece of Cake/a la Mode) built on private land.

RMOW:

- B.A. Blackwell and Associates hired to complete a wildfire model for the CCF. Will be used to direct harvesting related to wildfire management.
- CCF Old Forest Focus Project workshop scheduled for December 5, from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Whistler library. Goal is to review Blackwell maps and get final public input before submission to province.

Cheakamus Community Forest:

- Jeff Fisher elected as new Chair.
- Carbon audit underway
- Board meeting coming up in early December to review draft 2014 harvesting plans.

A presentation by Bob Brett, Snowline Ecological Research, was given regarding the tree coring project and a discussion was held.

4. Tree Coring Project

Snowline has been coring trees in the Callaghan, Brew, Brandywine and Wedge areas with various funding sources for 10 years. Purpose is to compare provincial age class data accuracy against field sampling results. Also helps us understand natural disturbance patterns, a key to proper EBM. Goal is to use data to make better informed harvesting decisions, and ideally to add new age class ranges to the provincial system.

Snowline working with Blackwell & Associates to have the data included in the CCF's old forest focus project. Some difficulties but meeting soon to resolve.

Key findings:

- All Callaghan stands older than 600 years. Oldest tree is between 1100 – 1200 years. Wedge trees are 335+ years while listed by province as age class 5. Bob's Re-bob trees are 310+ years. Many areas are much older than the maximum 250 years identified by province.
- Why not use existing data? It was created with different goals in mind (logging), methods and age cut off is 250 years.
- Province is generally good at dating sites with single age stands, but very off with high elevation or dry area because the rings are small and require preparation and a microscope to observe accurately.
- Age is one indicator of habitat value. Unlogged areas provide more habitat value because more fungal connections, sloughing bark, etc.
- Current age class distribution is skewed. Much more is young forest

under 90 years due to past logging. Valley bottoms younger than higher elevations.

5. Field Trip Notes

A presentation by Heather Beresford was given regarding the October 30 field trip and a discussion was held.

Draft notes had been circulated previously by email. Further comments received at meeting and added to notes.

6. FWAC CCF Annual Report

A presentation by Gordon McKeever was given regarding the annual report and a discussion was held.

FWAC developed the draft report at previous meetings, and took this opportunity to provide final comments.

Remove section on page one starting with "The observers...." to end of page.

Field Observation Objectives: move #3 to #1.

Last page – add recommendation to strengthen EBM plan.

7. Other Business

Upcoming Agenda Items:

- CCF Draft 2014 harvesting plans - February
- Coast to Cascades Grizzly Bear Project – Jan/Feb.
- Brandywine Parking Lot winter access – January (John H.)

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by

That the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee adjourn the November 13, 2013 meeting at 5:00 p.m.

CARRIED

CHAIR: Gordon McKeever