



WHISTLER

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF FOREST & WILDLAND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, July 8, 2015, STARTING AT 3:00 P.M.

In the Flute Room

4325 Blackcomb Way, Whistler, BC V0N 1B4

File: 8221.03

Name	Meetings to Date: 7
Present:	
Gordon McKeever, Chair	6
John Hammons	7
Candace Rose-Taylor	5
Arthur DeJong (joined in April)	3
Rob Davis	5
Peter Ackhurst	4
Johnny Mikes	5
Craig Mackenzie, WORCA (joined in March)	3
Steve Anderson, Councillor	4
Derek Bonin (joined in July)	1
Regrets:	
Bryce Leigh (AWARE)	4
Recording Secretary	
Heather Beresford, RMOW	7

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Peter Ackhurst
Seconded by Rob Davis

That the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee adopt the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee agenda of July 8, 2015.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by Candace Rose-Taylor
Seconded by John Hammons

That the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee adopt the Regular Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee minutes of June 10, 2015.

CARRIED

Welcome to Derek Bonin, RFP, as our newest FWAC member. Derek was previously on FWAC and brings his expertise back to the table.

VERBAL REPORTS

3. Updates

Council:

Council received presentation from Wildfire Management Branch re: Elaho and Boulder Creek fires. Fire Rescue Service has two paid staff monitoring known bonfire locations in the valley. Councillor Anderson suggested alpine/forest trails be closed. Province makes that decision.

AWARE:

N/A

WORCA:

"Bike Smart" program signs using RESPECT acronym installed on WIF trails. Descent trail recently had 24 volunteers spend weekend working on it.

RMOW:

Wildfire Management: Millar's Pond fuel thinning progressing well. Preparing to wrap up for the season due to extreme fire risk.

FWAC Terms of Reference – revised TOR will be taken to Council soon for approval.

Alpine Club of Canada, Whistler Chapter received funds from WB to further upgrade the Ancient Cedars trail.

Cheakamus Community Forest:

Carbon project – complete

Landscape Level Fuel Breaks – FWAC discussed and expressed concern over length of time required to complete at current rate of RMOW funding.

Recommendation to Council: FWAC recommends that Council take the necessary steps to accelerate progress of the interface Firesmart program and the landscape level fuel breaks project.

Moved by Peter Ackhurst

Seconded by Craig Mackenzie

Discussion re: **potential RMOW Forester position** based on request from a FWAC member to suggest that RMOW hire a forester to represent RMOW interests in Cheakamus Community Forest harvesting decisions. A follow up to June discussion. Concern that FWAC doesn't have the time or expertise to thoroughly review CCF plans the way that Don MacLaurin did. Would need to have expertise and provide comment on more than just forestry.

Core concern is that CCF has not responded to FWAC's recommendations and may need more oversight from RMOW.

Conclusion: FWAC will include recommendation for CCF to provide more operational supervision to ensure adherence to plans and silviculture strategy, and to provide direct feedback to FWAC when it provides recommendations to CCF. Include these points in the annual report.

4. Access Management Planning

Discussion by all.

- Reviewed comments from all plus R. Davis' summary of Co-ordinated Access Management Plan. Noted points that are useful for the principles that FWAC wants to prepare (e.g. page 6), including goals and decision tables (Tables 3 & 5).

Need to be clear on end document and who will use it. Start with guiding principles for FWAC and CCF to make road/access decisions.

ACTION: Subcommittee of J. Mikes, D. Bonin and C. Mackenzie plus T. Cole to prepare access management planning principles draft document for September meeting.

5. FWAC Annual Report

Discussion and Comments:

- Executive summary should contain main points/issues. Refer reader to notes for details.
- Include recommendation for formal feedback mechanism to FWAC.
- October site visit to B01 and B03 not included in current draft.
- A01 is 19 hectares but has not been toured. Organize site visit and finalize annual report for September meeting.

ACTION: FWAC to take field trip to A01 in August.

- Create a matrix containing each block and give a rating for performance against the five questions report aims to answer. Include in executive summary.
- Comments on B02 road deactivation: could have saved money by only deactivating start of road, rest would have regenerated naturally.
- Appendices – replace 2015 minutes with 2014 minutes about CCF harvesting plans. Reference appendices in executive summary and body text.
- Create another appendix with a checklist on actions from previous year's report
- Operational issues – include same list as 2013/2014 plan. All still valid.

OTHER BUSINESS

September agenda:

- August field trip comments – 20 minutes
- FWAC CCF Report
- Access Management Planning subcommittee draft

- CCF Integrated Resource Mapping project review from subcommittee (J. Hammons, J. Mikes and R. Davis as per May minutes). CCF to provide draft in August of work done to date.

There was concern expressed that the 2014 annual report for the CCF was not available by July this year. It is important to document the issues, accomplishments and financial position of the CCF in a timely fashion. FWAC recommends CCF complete its 2014 annual report.

Future Agenda Items:

- September - CCF Integrated Resource Mapping project (FWAC subcommittee report & discussion); Access Management Plan subcommittee report; August field trip review
- October - CCF Integrated Resource Mapping project & multi-year plan (CCF representative)
- Spearhead Traverse Project Update
- MOF Visual Quality Objectives (confirm timelines with MoFLNRO)
- MOF Fire Management Plan (confirm timelines with MoFLNRO)

ADJOURNMENT

That the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee adjourn the July 8, 2015 meeting at 4:59 p.m.

CARRIED

CHAIR: Gordon McKeever