



# WHISTLER

## MINUTES

### REGULAR MEETING OF FOREST & WILDLAND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 12, 2014, STARTING AT 3:00 P.M.

In the Flute Room

4325 Blackcomb Way, Whistler, BC V0N 1B4

#### PRESENT:

Meetings to Date: 2

Bryce Leigh, AWARE	2
Peter Ackhurst, CCF	1
Rob Davis	1
Candace Rose-Taylor	1
Chair, Gordon McKeever	1

#### Guests:

Tom Cole, Richmond Plywood;

Jeff Fisher, CCF Chair;

Duane Jackson, CCF Board Member

#### REGRETS:

Bob Brett	0
Councilor Jayson Faulkner	0
John Hammons	1
Kurt Mueller	1
Ken Melamed, WORCA	1
Johnny Mikes	

Recording Secretary, Heather Beresford	2
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#### ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by BL

Seconded by RD

**That** the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee adopt the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee agenda of February 8, 2014.

**CARRIED**

#### ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by C R-T

Seconded by BL

**That** the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee adopt the Regular the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee minutes of January 8, 2013.

**CARRIED**

## PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

### 3. Updates

#### Council:

- N/A

#### AWARE:

- Nothing to report.

#### WORCA:

- N/A

#### RMOW:

- RMOW hired Cascade Environmental Resource Group to complete the Integrated Resource Mapping project for CCF
- Proposed meeting schedule approved (second Wednesday of the month except August and December)

#### Cheakamus Community Forest:

- Peter is retiring. Will complete 2013 annual plan and carbon plan.
- Carbon project validation by Stantech complete, verification by Rainforest Alliance in March. Still negotiating profit-sharing split with province.

### 4. 2014 Proposed CCF Harvesting Plans

A discussion was led by Tom Cole, Richmond Plywood, on the proposed 2014 CCF harvesting plans.

A summary spreadsheet was distributed beforehand, and maps displayed on the AV system screen. Maps will be added to CCF website once Board approves.

Rainbow04: Trying to get enough volume to cover costs. No Firesmart, openings A & B only. Considering as a pilot project for fuel management.

Brew02: High side of low retention.

Brew01: Some areas previously harvested in 2012. This will extend the road further. Blocks H & I below the RV park. To be done in early spring using moderate retention. Will be soft along the road to lessen visual impacts to recreational users.

CMA01: Blackcomb Snowmobile has a lower route through P07 & P05 to the dog sled base. A01F is about where the road will end. Permanent retention areas with high retention in riparian areas. Road extended in early spring. Cultural cedar patch identified in A01F. CMA plan can detail what could happen there. Permanently retained areas are identified.

RichPly needs 5000m<sup>3</sup> per kilometer of road to meet costs.

Discussion: Issues with access that will be opened up to motorized users in the non-motorized area. Section 58 doesn't necessarily apply to commercial recreation operators according to S. Shaw-Mclaren. Main concern is building a bridge over Edna Creek. RichPly's approach is to build loops that can be used for recreation after harvesting. AWARE rep requested that Edna Creek bridge not be built.

Concern was expressed that the logging roads will facilitate snowmobilers accessing the Section 58 non-motorized zone to the north of Edna Creek. Bridging Edna Creek is of particular concern as it would provide an additional connection to the very large snowmobiler's parking lot near the transfer station. Concern was also expressed that the suggestion of placing signs along the non-motorized boundary adjacent to the new logging roads to prevent snowmobilers accessing the non-motorized area was unrealistic in light of the ongoing 5 year effort to gain compliance in the Rainbow Lake Twentyone Mile creek non-motorized area by similar signage. The importance of keeping this area non-motorized cannot be over emphasized as there is a unique wetland in this region that is not suitable for motorized use in summer or winter. Further concern was expressed that the logging operations appear to be favouring the motorized sector of the community at the expense of the environment. It should also be noted that expanding snowmobiling in the front country is contrary to the current policy of Recreation Sites and Trails B.C. which is to encourage the front country to be non-motorized and to encourage motorized users to access the backcountry areas further from the trailheads.

A01G: RichPly considering logging a series of 4 vertical strips, 50m wide, 300m in length off Foresters' Main. The existing lower access road to this area is also non-motorized and is the main access route for backcountry skiers accessing the popular north side of Metal Dome. At a minimum this access road needs to be clearly signed as non-motorized to preserve the integrity of the area for non-motorized users. This existing road also leads to the unique wetland that is not suitable for motorized use in summer or winter.

A01 Openings L – P: 9 hectares of a 15 hectare area. Five openings of low retention. Will create another loop. Winter accessible. Two wetland complexes will likely be placed under reserve. Currently identified with no plans to harvest. Opportunity to build hiking trail system. Concern was express over the potential for motorized users to access these areas in the summer and winter as the potential for environmental degradation is high from inappropriate uses.

Discussion: will opening an area to hiking help self-regulate rogue motorized use. There needs to be public education, critical mass of legitimate users, and alternative areas for motorized users.

Wedge02: Coordinated projects for log recovery. IPP agreement.

Wedge08: Cultural site – no logging or new roads allowed. Use existing

roads only. Wedge trail being re-routed by IPP proponent. CCF upgraded the road. Wood from penstock marketed by CCF. Trail parking lot may need to be relocated.

Discussion: OGMA and EBM reserve planning process. 19% OGMA's placed over Whistler Landscape Unit, and additional EBM reserves added to meet the EBM plan 30-40% target. Need to be careful not to create conflicts.

Discussion: CCF Road Policy and decision-making matrix. CERG mapping project will provide additional information to the road atlas. Discussion on process and things to consider, e.g. recreation, rehabilitation. It is CCF responsibility, FWAC may provide input.

ACTION: CCF to discuss course of action at Board meeting.

## 5. Other Business

### **New/Other Business & Upcoming Agenda Items:**

- Brandywine03 – needs further discussion (John H.)
- Discussion/critique of proposed harvesting plans (March)

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by C R-T

**That** the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee adjourn the February 12, 2014 meeting at 4:54 p.m.

**CARRIED**

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CHAIR: Gordon McKeever