



WHISTLER

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF FOREST & WILDLAND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2014, STARTING AT 3:00 P.M.

In the Flute Room

4325 Blackcomb Way, Whistler, BC V0N 1B4

PRESENT: Meetings to Date: 4

Rob Davis, M-A-L	3
Candace Rose-Taylor, M-A-L	3
Gordon McKeever, Chair	3
Councillor Jayson Faulkner	2
John Hammons, M-A-L	3
Peter Ackhurst, M-A-L	3
Ken Melamed, WORCA	3

REGRETS:

Bob Brett, M-A-L	0
Johnny Mikes, M-A-L	0
Bryce Leigh, AWARE	2
Kurt Mueller, M-A-L	2

Recording Secretary, Heather Beresford	4
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ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Peter Ackhurst
Seconded by Candace Rose-Taylor

That the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee adopt the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee agenda of April 9, 2014.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Discussion regarding addition of emailed comments to the March 12, 2014 minutes that were not discussed at the meeting and not reflective of the entire FWAC.

Councillor Faulkner arrived at 3:15 p.m.

MOTION: Delete General Comments section from March 12 draft minutes and add to New Business/Future Agenda Topics for discussion at future meeting.

Moved by Peter Ackhurst
Seconded by John Hammons

That the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee adopt the Regular Forest &

Wildland Advisory Committee minutes of February 8, 2013 as amended.

CARRIED

VERBAL REPORTS

3. Updates

Council:

- Nothing to report.

AWARE:

- 25th anniversary event in April.
- Cascades to Coast Grizzly talk sold out (April 8, 2014).
- B. Leigh emailed comments regarding road network in Callaghan/Powder07. To be discussed at future meeting.

Rob Davis arrived at 3:30 p.m.

WORCA:

- Swap meet April 26.
- WORCA received \$30,000 from Community Enrichment Program.
- K. Melamed spoke with Joe Foy, Western Canada Wilderness Committee, re: old growth logging. Foy feels south coast has been over logged, and province should ban further OG logging. Community forest is best opportunity to protect OG but need province to mandate. Until then, CCF needs to meet obligations under current law.

RMOW:

- OGMA maps in final draft form. Project team meeting April 17 to review. EBM reserve identification phase to follow.
- Wildfire Management:
 - Horstman Thinning – contract awarded, work to start early May.
 - Preparing prescription application for Brio/Taluswood/Millars Pond locations. Submit to UBCM by April 25.
 - UBCM program funding is in question. Not taking any applications after April intake until further notice.
 - Blackwell preparing prescription for fuel break along old Callaghan FSR. Work scheduled for fall 2014.
- Letters recommended from January 8 minutes –RSTBC letter sent re: referring RMOW on recreation projects; BC Parks letter pending re: opening Brandywine Parking lot for winter.
- CCF Open House – April 30 at library

Cheakamus Community Forest:

- Peter is retired from the CCF except for completion of carbon project.
- Agreement has been reached with the province on carbon sharing percentages. Legal agreement and Treasury Board approval are next steps.
- CCF asked MOF to increase the percentage of OGMA's allowed but

was denied.

4. Coarse Woody Debris

Resources:

CCF Silviculture Strategy, April 2011.

Chief Forester's Guidance on Coarse Woody Debris Management, May 2010.

Bunnell, F. and Houde, I. *Down Wood and Biodiversity – Implications to Forest Practices*. Published on the NRC Research Press website at er.nrc.ca on 9 November 2010. Environ Rev. 18:397:421 (2010).

Discussion

CCF Silviculture Strategy (SS) was reviewed against the Chief Forester's Guidance on CWD and the Bunnell/Houde paper.

CCF SS uses provincial default of 4 pieces/hectare, each being a minimum of 5 m in length and 30 cm in diameter at one end.

Chief Forester recommends 23 pieces/hectare in CWHds-mm-ms, each being a minimum of 20 cm in diameter and 10 m in length. FWAC supports the Chief Forester's recommendation.

CWD can be wildfire fuel but can be managed. Generally, the fuel smaller than coarse woody debris (tops and limbs) is the most immediate wildfire concern. Leaving CWD dispersed rather than piling at roadside supports habitat biodiversity and soil replenishing over the long term. A short term cost vs long term gain. Any changes need to be balanced against province's regs around removal of merchantable timber, and mandate for revenue. Increasing to Chief Forester's recommendation means additional cost for logger including monitoring.

Updating the SS will result in an update to the EBM.

FWAC reviewed the seven Bunnell Management Implications and support all for inclusion in a revised CCF Silviculture Strategy.

1. Sustain 50% of the naturally occurring amounts of down wood at the landscape level.
2. Managed stands may be insufficient.
3. Sustain a range of size and decay classes of down wood.
4. Ensure that some large pieces are retained.
5. Provide both aggregated and dispersed down wood.
6. Retention of wood – first, as trees, then as logs – is critical for many species.
7. Don't do the same thing everywhere.

In addition, all CWD management must take fuel management into account. FWAC recommends that CWD needs to be monitored by CCF. Any changes to SS need to be added to CCF Standard Operating Procedures.

MOTION: H. Beresford will draft a revised CWD section for the CCF silviculture strategy.

Moved by Peter Ackhurst
Seconded by Ken Melamed

5. Edna Creek Bridge

Tom Cole participated by telephone.

FWAC opposed Edna Creek Bridge construction at a previous meeting. Concern expressed that FWAC did not have full information at that time and may want to reconsider.

FWAC requested Tom Cole explain rationale.

- Logical woodflow is out on Dority Main
- Connector Trail would be difficult and expensive to upgrade; upgrading it will create a circuit loop which will encourage more use. Blackcomb Snowmobiles could use it as a higher access route for dogsled tours, and would have to police use.
- Suggests Dority Main and Connector Trail (E10) could become northern boundary of non-motorized area. Non-motorized designation only applied to winter use.
- CCF BOD didn't support upgrading the Connector Trail which means Edna Creek bridge becomes the access.

Tom Cole signed off at 4:42 p.m.

Discussion: CCF BOD approved 2014 harvesting plan with the Edna Creek Bridge. Building Edna Creek crossing won't change winter access, but will aid summer access. If bridge doesn't go in, CCF will have to upgrade Connector Trail and access will be provided to same area, so end result is the same.

MOTION: FWAC has received further information on proposed Edna Creek Bridge and takes no position on it.

Moved by Ken Melamed
Seconded by Rob Davis

OTHER BUSINESS

New/Other Business & Future Agenda Items:

- Discussion: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) recently released statement that since GHG reduction targets will not be met, Plan B may be to harvest trees sustainably, burn them for fuel, capture the emissions, and bury the carbon.
- Field Trip: Send out Doodle poll to determine date for field trip in late May/early June.
- WB and BC Parks Updates (June)
- CCF Discussion re: comments on harvest volumes, accommodating commercial recreation interests, alignment with LRMP, and road network planning (May)

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Candace Rose-Taylor
Seconded by Peter Ackhurst

That the Forest & Wildland Advisory Committee adjourn the April 9, 2014 meeting at 4:55 p.m.

CARRIED

CHAIR: Gordon McKeever