



WHISTLER

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF FOREST AND WILDLAND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

September 12, 2018, STARTING AT 3:00 – 5:00 P.M.

In the Flute Room

4325 Blackcomb Way, Whistler, BC V0N 1B4

PRESENT:

Name	Meetings to Date: 8
Present:	
Council, Cathy Jewett	6
AWARE, Claire Ruddy, Co-Chair	7
Member at Large, Arthur DeJong	7
WORCA, Todd Hellinga	6
Member at Large, Mac Lowry	4
Member at Large, Kathi Bridge	4
Recording Secretary, Heather Beresford	8
Regrets:	
Member at Large, Derek Bonin, Chair	7
Member at Large, Colin Rankin	5
Member at Large, Candace Rose-Taylor	3
Member at Large, Johnny Mikes	5
Member at Large, Trevor Burton	3

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by T. Hellinga

Seconded by A. DeJong

That the Forest and Wildland Advisory Committee adopt the Forest and Wildland Advisory Committee Agenda of September 12, 2018 as amended.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by A. DeJong

Seconded by C. Jewett

That the Forest and Wildland Advisory Committee adopt the Forest and Wildland Advisory Committee Minutes of July 11, 2018.

CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

E-Bikes Policy

A presentation by M. Pardoe, Parks Planning Manager, was given regarding e-bikes policy development and a discussion was held.

- The provincial Motor Vehicle Act defines electric bikes as motor vehicles unless they are pedal assisted.
- RMOW supports e-bikes with pedals and without throttles.

K. Bridge arrived 3:10 p.m.

- E-bikes without pedals and/or with a throttle are not permitted on the Valley Trail or off-road recreational trails.
- Recreation Sites & Trails BC e-bike policy withdrawn and being brought into alignment with Motor Vehicle Act
- Policy Development Process
 - Phase 1 Project Planning (Sept/Oct)
 - Phase 2 Community Engagement (Nov/Dec)
 - Stakeholders
 - Trail managers, commercial operators, e-bike industry
 - Public
 - Locals, guests
 - Council Committees
 - RLAC, FWAC, TAG
 - Other jurisdictions
 - Phase 3 Development of Draft Regulatory Mechanisms (Jan/Feb)
 - Community Engagement
 - Phase 4 Implementation (March)
 - Communicating and implementing policy
 - Monitor effectiveness, adjust as necessary
- Find more information at whistler.ca, search “ebikes”

Discussion re: FWAC's process for forming an opinion and providing advice to Council. FWAC focuses on mid- and back-country areas, and will frame response around its Terms of Reference including climate change and access principles.

Discussion re: trails appropriate for e-bike use. E-bikes will cause additional maintenance and scheduling adjustments, and likely increase maintenance costs. May be an increased demand for longer, e-bike suitable trails. Difficult for volunteer group to maintain trails with increased use and costs. There is a risk that inappropriate e-bike use will decrease public acceptance of mountain bikes in general. RMOW should look to other resorts for examples of successful management approaches.

ACTION: Add E-Bike Policy Development to October FWAC agenda.

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CCF Forest Stewardship Plan

A presentation by Tom Cole, Cheakamus Community Forest Manager, was given regarding its Forest Stewardship Plan update and a discussion was held.

- Original Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) was issued in 2010. Typically FSPs have a 5 year life span. CCF's FSP currently extended to April 2019.
- Forest & Range Practices Act mandates FSPs and contains 11 default objectives to be addressed or option to develop individualized objectives. Opportunity for innovation depending on particular circumstances. CCF FSP shows innovation with the inclusion of both provincial legal obligations and voluntary measures (commitment to public engagement, recreation features treatment, old growth areas set aside in EBM Reserves).
- Items that won't change from original FSP:
 - General format; map format; forest development units and names; single entry dispersed stocking standards; majority of existing default objectives
- Items proposed to change:
 - Include EBM Reserve network areas; add WORCA trails that are not yet legally established; update the wildfire treatment areas; include Road-based Access Management Plan principles, restocking standards changed to address climate change; etc.
- Timeline: CCF Board will review; advertise in November; request a formal review from FWAC by January 31, 2019; submit final plan to FLNRO by February 2019.

2017 CCF Annual Report

A presentation by H. Beresford, Environmental Stewardship Manager was given regarding the 2017 CCF Annual Plan and a discussion was held.

- Some sections still need input from FWAC to complete the report.
- Some edits made; noted that waste and residue surveys will provide information on waste amounts; fuel management contributes some volume to the annual allowable cut but much of the vegetation removed is not merchantable due to its small size.

ACTION: Resend to FWAC members for final comments. Provide to CCF Board for its December meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by M. Lowry

Seconded by K. Bridge

That the Forest and Wildland Advisory Committee adopt the Forest and Wildland Advisory Committee Minutes of January 10, 2018 as amended.

CARRIED

- FWAC October field trip – send doodle poll to determine date
- October – review membership. Todd Hellinga is stepping down from WORCA and FWAC.
- Future Agendas:

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- October: review membership; RMOW E-Bike policy development input; wildfire program plans
- November: 2019 CCF Harvesting Plans
- December: Review Forest Stewardship Plan
- January: consolidate FSP comments and provide to T. Cole.; confirm chair/co-chair

MOTION TO TERMINATE

Moved by M. Lowry

Seconded by C. Ruddy

That the Forest and Wildland Advisory Committee Meeting of September 12, 2018 be terminated at 4:51 p.m.

CARRIED

Chair, Claire Ruddy

Recording Secretary, Heather Beresford