



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN

NOTES of a meeting of the Shuswap River Watershed Sustainability Plan INTERAGENCY RELATIONS, ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES WORKING GROUP held in the Board Room at the Regional District Office on April 11, 2012, 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm.

Members: Eryca Willinger
Henry Bremer
Herman Halvorson
Kelly Wozniak
Laura Jameson
Pricilla Judd
Ray Nadaeu
~~Robert Krause~~
Sandy Thon
~~Shirley Fowler~~
Melanie Staker
~~Rick Fairbairn~~

Observers: Bob Fleming
Mike Macnabb
Susan Ghattas

Staff: Anna Page Sustainability Coordinator
Laura Frank Sustainability Coordinator and Planning

PART 1 – CALL MEETING TO ORDER

1.1 Welcome by RDNO staff, Anna Page and Laura Frank

PART 2 – APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

PART 3 – INTRODUCTIONS

3.1 Brief introduction by all participants.

Anna Page and Laura Frank introduced themselves and welcomed all attendees to the first meeting of the Interagency Relations, Roles and Responsibilities Working Group. A round table introduction followed.

PART 4 – ADOPTION OF MINUTES

PART 5 – BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

PART 6 – NEW & UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6.2 Review of the Working Groups Terms of Reference

Anna Page went over some of the key components of the Working Group Terms of Reference including the purpose of the working groups, participant conduct, decision making process and media interaction.

6.3 Overview of Shuswap River Watershed Sustainability Plan Development Process

Laura Frank went over the purpose of the SRWSP process, the draft vision statement, guiding principles, planning framework and communication flow diagram.

6.4 Technical Assessments

A brief overview was provided of the Technical Assessment of the Shuswap River and the Lower Shuswap and Mabel Lake Inventory, Mapping and Aquatic Habitat Index and specifically how they can be used as baselines for the planning process.

Staff indicated that a list of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) would be provided in the meeting minutes.

- The TAC members are as follows;

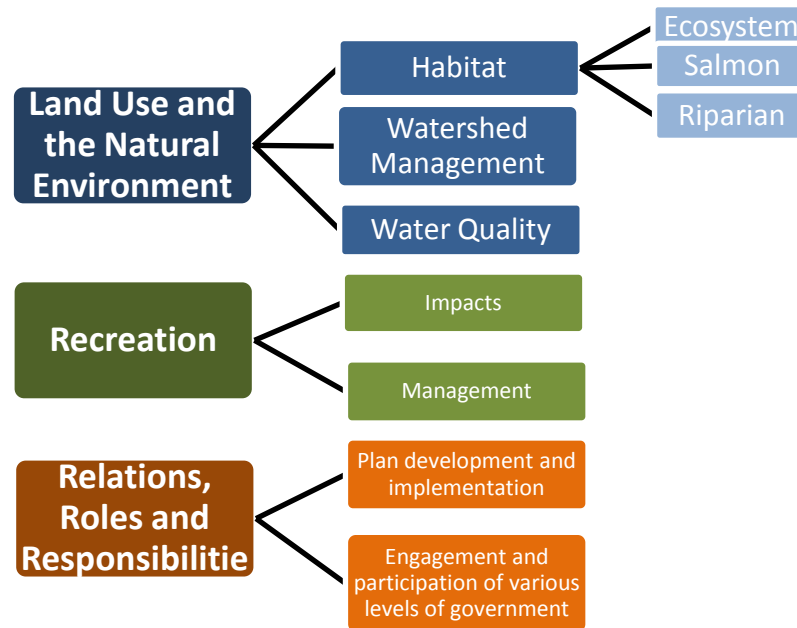
Conrad Pryce – FLNRO	Stuart Lee – Splatsin, or alternate
Neil Goeller – FLNRO	Rob Birtles - IHA
Mike Sokal – MOE	Roberta Dight – Transport Canada
Bob Harding – DFO	Greg Tegart - Ministry of Agriculture
Shayla Lawrence – ONAFD, or alternate	Tom Kadla - Village of Lumby
Pat Hickerson - City of Armstrong	Tate Bengtson - City of Enderby
Ed Forslund – Township of Spallumcheen	

Staff also noted that other Watershed Plan examples would be provided:

- Kiskatinaw River Watershed Management Plan
<http://www.dawsoncreek.ca/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/WatershedManagementPlan.pdf>
- Nicola Water Use Management Plan http://www.nwcr.org/wump_overview.htm
- Process - Coquitlam Watershed www.coquitlamriverwatershed.ca
- Shuswap Lake Integrated Planning Process
http://slippbc.com/images/pdf/SLIPP_Strategic_Plan_for_Shuswap_and_Mara_Lake_s.pdf
- Nisqually Watershed Stewardship Plan <http://nisquallyriver.org/who-we-are/the-nisqually-river-management-plan/>
- Rethinking Our Water Ways, Fraser Basin Council, www.rethinkingwater.ca of particular relevance Chapter 7: Integrating Water, Land and Watersheds.

6.5 Discussion of Phase I Issue Identification

An overview was provided of the comments received during the issue identification phase from the workshops and survey. The comments were organised into three themes as shown in the diagram below.



The comments received specific to Interagency Relations, Roles and Responsibilities contained the following sentiments:

- Lack of coordination between government agencies with regard to management of the Shuswap Watershed
- Lack of understanding of each other's roles.
- Absence of a lead agency or single authority with regard to management of the river
- SRWSP planning process appeared to be very bureaucratic and that there needed to be more involvement of the community at a grass roots level

6.6 Development of Recommendations for Interagency Relations, Roles, and Responsibilities Goals, Objectives and Strategies

In advance of developing goals, objective and strategies the group began working through the comments received during Phase I of the planning process to gain a common understanding of the issues raised and to identify if anything was missing. The discussion that came from this part of the meeting resulted in the following points:

- The term stakeholder can overlook the general citizen,
 - The term has economic / political connotations.
 - If it is continued to be used it should be defined.
- Look at language so that it is inclusive.
 - Use the term citizen (means more to the common community member).
 - The term community might be more appropriate (collective).
- Publish meeting minutes on web site (improve transparency).
- Ensure we are inclusive.
 - Record the process so we can demonstrate it was open to all.

- Discussion on whether working group meetings are open to the public.
 - Determined that yes people can observe but if they have specific concerns or issues they can bring those forward through the RDNO representatives.
- Staff to contact First Nations to possibly present to the Band, Chief & Council on the planning process.
 - Discuss the opportunities for band members to sit on working groups.
- Potential to link into other groups within the watershed to access additional community members (Museum Committee / Lions etc) especially when reporting on working group outputs.
 - Engaging “grass roots community groups’ further in planning process.
- Reach out through Social media:
 - YouTube
 - Show case the Shuswap
 - Has to be a short message
 - Framing of the message is essential
 - Go to the people (and existing events)
- Host general meetings for the public when ready with new information to present.
 - Go to the public at certain points in the process (benchmarks).
- Part of the Interagency Relations, Roles and Responsibilities may be to look at some of the issues identified by other working groups and establish how to get various agencies involved.
 - eg of a way to resolve overlapping jurisdictions- River watch- one person received reports and distributed to appropriate jurisdiction.
- Noted that a new coast guard patrol boat will be located in Sicamous- 30 volunteers are being trained – not sure if it will come into RDNO jurisdiction.
 - Potential for integrated enforcement/compliance.
- Concerns with agency ‘behaviour’ eg. DFO boats on Shuswap River – TAC to provide us with information on what they are doing and impacts of activities.
- Should obtain a list of resources from agencies (both Federal & Provincial) so we know what they have (Identify existing resources) e.g. boats for education, compliance and enforcement.
- Need for an education, compliance and enforcement group (the Interagency Relations, Roles and Responsibilities working group could make recommendations around conservation officers etc).
 - Should look at linking in with SLIPP compliance enforcement committee.

PART 7 – WORKING GROUP MATTERS

7.1 Membership/Appointments

- Interagency Relations, Roles and Responsibilities Member & Contact Listing – updated April 2012

7.2 Mileage Reimbursement

Working group members will be reimbursed for mileage to meetings at \$0.52 per km. A mileage record sheet will be circulated at each meeting and members will be paid at the end of the meeting period.

7.3 Future Meeting Dates and Locations

Next meeting will be May 9th, 2012, 6:30 – 9:30 pm at the RDNO offices.

PART 8 - ADJOURNMENT

Existing initiatives and programs in the Watershed

- Cherryville Water Stewards – water quality monitoring on Cherry Creek, Ferry Creek, Reiter Creek and the Shuswap main stem in the Cherryville area as well as riparian restoration projects on Cherry Creek
- Lower Shuswap Stewardship Society – Water quality monitoring on the Lower Shuswap from Mabel Lake to Mara Lake. Riparian restoration project on Blurton creek.
- Ministry for Environment water quality monitoring on Sugar and Mabel Lakes
- RDNO tests raw water for a limited suite of parameters at the water treatment facilities at both Grindrod and Mabel Lake.
- City of Enderby monitors Shuswap River water at the water treatment plant intake and they also monitor effluent quality.
- River Watch Program that spans the entire river from the Lower Shuswap to Sugar Lake. This initiative falls within the Safe Communities Program with the local RCMP. This program works on the basis that when citizens see a reckless boater they can copy down the vessels registration number and report the incident to the RCMP who will follow up on the complaint.
- Okanagan Conservation Collaboration Partnership – Mid Shuswap Sensitive Ecosystem Inventory – Sugar Lake to Wilsey Dam
- Modified sensitive habitat inventory and mapping has been completed on the Lower Shuswap and foreshore inventory and mapping has been carried out on Mabel Lake.
- River Ambassadors Program is run by the Enderby and District Chamber of Commerce on the Lower Shuswap River which entails educating recreational users on how to be respectful within the waterways.
- Environmental Farm Plans <http://www.agf.gov.bc.ca/resmgmt/EnviroFarmPlanning/index.htm>
- Whitevalley Community Resource Centre has undertaken a number of projects on tributaries of the Shuswap River as listed below.

Ireland Side Channel	1999
Ireland Side Channel 2	2000
Smolt Pond	2001
Ireland Channel Planting	2002
Procter Channel	2002
Huwer Groundwater Channel Feasibility Study	2004
Wilsey Dam Fishway Feasibility Study	2004
Creighton Creek Stream Flow Recovery	2004
Creighton Creek Stream Flow Recovery 2	2005
Huwer Groundwater Complex	2005
Smolt Count	2005
Middle Shuswap SHIM and Preliminary SEI	2006
Bessette/Shuswap Riparian Planting & Protection	2006
Huwer Bank Stabilization	2006
Ruechel Weir	2007

Creighton Creek Pool Creation	2009
Bessette Creek Pool Creation, Phase 1	2010
Bessette Creek Pool Creation, Phase 2	2011
Bessette Creek Pool Creation, Phase 3	2012

- Salmon Safe
- Wilsey Dam Fish Passage Committee
- Coho Enhancement Projects on the Lower Shuswap River – Forest Renewal BC program
- Shuswap River Water Use Plan - BC Hydro (2005)
- Water Survey of Canada sites - www.wateroffice.ec.gc.ca
- Shuswap River Salmon Hatchery
- School District 83 riparian planting program – collaborative project with SD 83, Kingfisher Interpretive Centre, DFO – collection and planting of trees/shrubs for riparian planting projects on private land. Funded through RBC Blue Water Project.