

**BURNS BOG ECOLOGICAL CONSERVANCY AREA  
SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY PANEL MEETING  
Tuesday, January 20, 2009 from 4:30 – 7:30 PM  
Park Centre – Pacific Spirit Regional Park  
4915 West 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Vancouver BC**

**Draft Meeting Notes**

**ATTENDEES:**

Dr. Richard Hebda, Scientific Advisory Panel  
Dr. Paul Whitfield, Scientific Advisory Panel  
Dr. Hamish Kimmins, Scientific Advisory Panel  
Dr. Geoff Scudder, Scientific Advisory Panel  
Dr. John Jeglum, Scientific Advisory Panel  
Allan Dakin, Scientific Advisory Panel  
Sarah Howie, The Corporation of Delta  
Angela Danyluk, The Corporation of Delta  
*Chair*, Mitch Sokalski, Metro Vancouver Regional Parks  
Greg Paris, Metro Vancouver Regional Parks  
Markus Merkens, Metro Vancouver Regional Parks  
Loger Aure, Metro Vancouver Regional Parks  
Wendy Warn, Metro Vancouver Regional Park  
Sue Mah, Metro Vancouver Regional Parks  
Heather Sinclair, Metro Vancouver Regional Parks

**REGRETS:**

Jennifer McGuire, BC Ministry of Environment  
Barry Smith, Environment Canada  
Mike Brotherston, The Corporation of Delta

**GUESTS:**

Dr. Ilja Tromp-van Meerveld, Simon Fraser University

**1.0 INTRODUCTIONS**

**2.0 REVIEW AGENDA & NOVEMBER 18 MEETING NOTES**

**3.0 ACTION ITEMS FROM LAST MEETING**

**3.1 Use of Berms**

**3.1.1** Follow-up with Gateway on placement of berms has yet to be completed. A hydrology work plan for the bog needs to be created to establish protection for the hydrology of the BBECA.

**3.2 Gateway Monitoring**

**3.2.1** Gateway has let three contracts for the first phase of the project in Delta. Gateway has identified two sites for stocking preload material. A manager has been hired for the Environmental Quality Management Program as per their commitment, with more details to follow.

**3.3 Election Signs Use for Ditch Blocking**

3.3.1 Chloroplast signs are suitable for use in ditch blocking because the material is inert. Signs should be cleaned of messages first, with care given to the process/product used to remove the print.

**3.4 December 4, 2008 Public Information Meeting**

3.4.1 The meeting was attended by approximately 55-60 people and the information given was generally well-received. The primary interests were Parcel 2 acquisition and the Gateway SFPR project.

**3.5 5224 – 88<sup>th</sup> Ave Parkwood Holdings Ltd. (a.k.a. Pineland Peat)**

3.5.1 There is a development proposal in the early stages for this parcel of land adjacent to the BBECA. An environmental assessment and environmental inventory will be necessary before approval; this land is not in the ALR. Should the project go ahead, management of the boundary with the BBECA will be extremely important; the north margin is especially critical to the water table.

**4.0 EFFECTS OF HEAVY SNOWFALL & MELT TO HYDROLOGY**

Due to the heavy snowfall of winter 2008/2009, were there any effects or impacts to the water balance in BBECA? There has not been much run off. Water tends to pool because of the natural landscape of the bog (depressions and flat surfaces). Sphagnum can withstand freezing conditions and snow cover.

**ACTION ITEM:** Sarah Howie and Paul Whitfield will analyze the October 2008 - January 2009 data and report back any findings at the next SAP meeting.

**5.0 RESEARCH PROGRAM AND STRATEGY**

MV would like to set up a request for proposal for the research program and strategy. This will help MV in budgeting. MV is requesting SAP to give advice and direction on how to shape the research program and strategy. SAP reinforced the need to move forward with it. Sarah Howie's thesis is already an approved research project. Gateway is providing support. SAP suggests that a long term strategy must have different tiers to make sure that data is not lost.

**ACTION ITEM:** Revisit the Draft Research and Monitoring Strategy document at next meeting and devise a table to list research priorities by year.

**5.1 Vegetation Monitoring**

Based on data analysis, study and data may be collected every year but will be analyzed every 3 -5 years. In the vegetation monitoring program, Thomas Munson collects the DBH and height data. Foliage should be sampled annually. There is no need to sample additional trees that have died in zones A and B. However, there is a need to record how many died.

**ACTION ITEM:** Loger to send out Methods Manual to members of the group. (Sent February 4, 2009)

**6.0 GRADUATE RESEARCH – SAP GRANT APPLICATION**

Implementation of a graduate program could yield tremendous results. If there is enough money, it can be used to get students together to work on research projects. There will be a need to set up a framework. That way there can be leverage where MV could pay for half the research project and the institution

could sponsor the other half to be considered as part of overall research strategy and program implementation considerations.

#### **7.0 HYDROLOGY WORKPLAN**

Gateway will be installing a series of berms that may not be effective for the bog overall. What is necessary for the bog is to protect, manage, and measure the water quantity that leaves the bog. SAP believes that a hydrology workplan for BBECA is required to define how the bog edge can be treated for overall bog protection. Need to come up with a strategy.

***ACTION ITEM:*** *MV and Delta to get together and ask Gateway to address the concerns. Need to understand what Gateway is proposing and why. MV and Delta will report back their findings at the next BBECA SAP Meeting.*

#### **8.0 OTHER BUSINESS**

***ACTION ITEM:*** *Sarah to report on information from the LIDAR survey.*

#### **9.0 ADJOURN**

Next Meeting March 17, 2009