

**BURNS BOG ECOLOGICAL CONSERVANCY AREA
SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY PANEL MEETING, NOTES
Tuesday, February 21, 2012 – 3:30 – 5:30pm
Arbutus Meeting Room, Parks West Area Office
130-1200 West 73rd Avenue Vancouver BC**

Attendees:

Mitch Sokalski (Chair), Metro Vancouver
Richard Hebda (*via conference call*), Scientific Advisory Panel
Paul Whitfield, Scientific Advisory Panel
John Jeglum, Scientific Advisory Panel
Markus Merkens (*via conference call from 3:30pm – 4:20pm*), Metro Vancouver
Greg Paris, Metro Vancouver
Sarah Howie, Corporation of Delta
Mike Brotherston, Corporation of Delta
Francis Buys, Metro Vancouver

Guest:

Yue-Ching Cheng, SFU Department of Geography

Regrets:

Loger Aure, Metro Vancouver
Ken Brock, Environment Canada
Alan Dakin, Scientific Advisory Panel
Wendy Warn, Metro Vancouver
Julia Berardinucci, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Ashley Page, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

Meeting started at 3:38 pm

1.0 Introductions

2.0 Water Balance Thesis Results – Yue-Ching Cheng, SFU Department of Geography

Presentation was titled 'The Ins and Outs of Burns Bog: a water balance study 2009-2010. Conclusions of the study were that the water balance of a forested bog is different from an open bog in several aspects and that spatial variability in rainfall exists across Burns Bog. Publication of master thesis document is underway.

3.0 Review Agenda

a. 3.1 Review October 25, 2011 Meeting Notes

4.0 Review Action Items From October 25, 2011 Meeting:

Item 5.0 – Associated Engineering Project (From June 20, 2011 meeting)

Corporation of Delta received more information from Gateway to integrate into the plan. The Burns Bog Drainage Management Plan (Report) completed by Associated Engineering has been sent out in the mail. Copies were handed out at the meeting. Key elements of the report:

1. Need to continue with internal ditch blocking
2. Want to put some ditch blockages in the East/West ditch to create lagg ponds
3. Cap the mineral fill north of the East/West ditch to stop the mineral runoff from coming into the east/west ditch
4. Suggested putting in a berm along the entire property boundary between the BBECA and the MK Delta Lands.

Action: SAP members to provide comments to Mike Brotherston

Item 6.0 – Discussion of Science Plan

Action: Markus to contact Paul to discuss

5.0 Vegetation Monitoring 2012 (Attachment 5.0A & 5.0B)

Data from 2011 vegetation monitoring indicate a decline in Sphagnum tenellum cover relative to the previous 5 years of surveys. Sphagnum papillosum in the last two years have increased in the wettest zone of the ecological gradient. Markus to continue with vegetation monitoring this year and would like to explore replacing the crank wire method with an alternative method measuring from a relative upper bar physically attached to the rebar. Continue monitoring of tree vigour.

6.0 Development of Hydrology Monitoring Database – Workshop

Burns Bog Hydrology Database – Draft Notes (Attachment 6.1)

Draft notes were put together by Markus and Sarah. Markus will assemble the structure of the database and add any additional elements to it after the scheduled workshop.

Workshop will be scheduled soon and will take place in Victoria.

Action: SAP members to review hydrology database elements and determine what may be missing

Action: Markus to follow up with SAP members for availability and scheduling for workshop

7.0 Next Phase of Water Balance Model Development (Research/Monitoring Projects)

The workshop is to be scheduled on the same day as the Hydrology Monitoring Database Workshop.

Action: Markus to follow up with SAP members for availability and scheduling for workshop

8.0 City of Vancouver Letter – Vancouver Landfill Surface Water Management Strategy (Attachment 8.0A & 8.0B)

Correspondence provided for information. Vancouver is in the process of developing an updated closure plan. Mike is meeting with City of Vancouver later this week. SAP will be updated as project planning advances.

9.0 Update SAP Succession Plan and Potential Candidates (Attachment 9.0A & 9.0B)

There are currently four SAP members that are active. Goal is to have a number of six science members participating in the SAP with at least 3 of the members present at any meeting. A list of suitable science candidates will be assembled. List of names is to be submitted to Mitch.

Action: Roster of names to be forwarded to Mitch Sokalski

10.0 2012 Meeting Schedule (Attachment 10.0)

10.0 Other Business

A Public Information Meeting will be held this spring. The meeting objectives include:

- Review and update on activities since past public information meeting
- Inform public of the BBCEA Northern Boundary Drainage Management Plan

11.0 Next Meeting Date - Tuesday, April 10, 2012, 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm
Arbutus Meeting Room, Parks West Area Office
130 – 1200 West 73rd Avenue, Vancouver