

**BURNS BOG ECOLOGICAL CONSERVANCY AREA
SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY PANEL MEETING, NOTES
Tuesday, October 30, 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 (left at 4:15pm)
John Jeglum, Scientific Advisory Panel
Markus Merkens, Metro Vancouver
Sarah Howie, Corporation of Delta
Wendy Warn, Metro Vancouver
Scott Barrett, (*via conference call*) Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Karen Golinski, (*via conference call*) Scientific Advisory Panel
Greg Paris, Metro Vancouver
Allan Dakin, Scientific Advisory Panel

Guest:

Sylvain Jutras

Regrets:

Richard Hebda, Scientific Advisory Panel
Loger Aure, Metro Vancouver
Paul Whitfield, Scientific Advisory Panel
Dan Moore, Scientific Advisory Panel
Ken Brock, Environment Canada
Mike Brotherston, Corporation of Delta

Meeting started at 3:30 pm

1.0 Introductions

Welcome Sylvain Jutras

2.0 Review September 18, 2012 Meeting Notes

3.0 Review Action Items from April 10, 2012 Meeting:

Item 4.0 – Princess Farms Lagg Restoration

Sarah is currently collecting water level and chemistry data. She is looking at doing a pilot restoration project in the future.

Review Action Items from September 18, 2012 Meeting:

Item 2.0 - Presentation by Angela Danyluk on Tree Removal and Effects on Water Level and Vegetation in Burns Bog Master Thesis Results (Attachment 2.0)

Angela Danyluk's data to be reanalyzed (multivariate analysis combined with power analysis) to determine if there is any statistically significant effect related to tree removal and to determine suitable replicate estimates for future work.

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Item 6.0 – MK Delta Lands OCP Amendment Application Update
Mike to provide Corporation of Delta link to the MK Delta planning documents when it is available. Public Information date was cancelled. New date is still to be determined.

4.0 Proposal For Research on Evapotranspiration Modelling

Dan Moore provided a brief proposal to utilize two flux towers to measure evapotranspiration in the Bog to meet some of the data requirements of the water balance model. Dan would like to get a student onboard by September 2013 using two borrowed flux towers. SAP supports the idea and supports the proposal, but agrees that more weather stations are needed.

5.0 Flow Monitoring – Results of Field Trip to BBECA (Attachment 5.0)

Summarized notes from field trip.

6.0 Knotweed Removal on 80th Street

Knotweed was chemically treated in late September. Water samples were collected before treatment. Water samples are being collected at two week intervals to check for any indication that the herbicide has been released into the water. To date there does not appear to be any herbicide in the water. Markus will continue to monitor for five sampling periods.

7.0 Northern Boundary Weir Project

Northern Boundary ditch weir installation will require a Section 9 Water Act Approval. Permit process is underway. Plan is to try constructing in the drier season in July/August subject to approval and DFO conditions.

8.0 RAMSAR Designation

RAMSAR site has now been officially acknowledged. Approximately two years ago a nomination form was submitted to the Ramsar Secretariat through Environment Canada indicating that the Canada, BC, Metro Vancouver, and the Corporation of Delta wanted to designate a significant portion of the Fraser River Delta as a RAMSAR site. The Fraser River Delta Ramsar Site includes Burns Bog Ecological Conservancy Area (BBECA) and boundary parcels, Sturgeon Bank Wildlife Management Area, South Arm Marshes Wildlife Management Area, Boundary Bay Wildlife Management Area, Serpentine Wildlife Management Area, and the Alaksen Ramsar Site, designated in 1982.

9.0 Other Business

Culverts crossing the SFPR alignment draining from the north side to the south side near the location where the first weir in the east west ditch is to be installed. Gateway had indicated that the design of the SFPR would ensure that all water from the road surface northward would be collected and sent to the north. A culvert was found during a site visit that clearly collects run-off from the vicinity of the Delta Shake and Shingle landfill and sends it under the SFPR alignment towards the south. Need to determine why the culvert is there and what the plan is for the future.

Action: Markus to contact Fraser Transportation group for update on where their plans are.

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Karen Golinski asked if there is an interest in taking a look at the tree rings from tree stumps that Don DeMill has been collecting and comparing the trees to other trees in the area. Markus will contact Lori Daniels or Dan Smith at a future date to find out how useful that analysis would be.

John Jeglum noted that SAP members unhappy to see all the invasive species and other weedy non-invasive species that were coming into the organic berm near the Animal Shelter. He would like to have someone discuss the success of the berm establishment with Gateway and establish what further work would be required.

Allan Dakin asked about the status of the water balance model concept. A number of studies have been completed with subsequent modelling exercises aimed at establishing a water balance model. Perhaps these models should be re-examined by bringing in a ground water modelling expert and Tony Sperling. SAP members to think about when is the right time to speak to people to have them come in for a spring workshop.

10.0 Next Meeting Date - Tuesday, December 11, 2012, 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm
Arbutus Meeting Room, MV Parks West Area Office
130 – 1200 West 73rd Avenue, Vancouver



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