

**BURNS BOG ECOLOGICAL CONSERVANCY AREA  
SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY PANEL MEETING, NOTES  
Tuesday, June 18, 2013 – 3:30 – 5:30pm  
Annacis Meeting Room, The Corporation of Delta  
4500 Clarence Taylor Crescent Delta BC**

**Attendees:**

Mitch Sokalski (Chair), Metro Vancouver (MS)  
John Jeglum, Scientific Advisory Panel (JJ)  
Markus Merkens, Metro Vancouver (MM)  
Sarah Howie, Corporation of Delta (SH)  
Mike Brotherston, Corporation of Delta (MB)  
Paul Whitfield, (*via conference call*) Scientific Advisory Panel (PW)  
Allan Dakin, Scientific Advisory Panel (AD)  
Richard Hebda, Scientific Advisory Panel (RH)  
Dan Moore, Scientific Advisory Panel (DM)  
Marcel LaBreche, Metro Vancouver (ML)  
Greg Paris, Metro Vancouver (GP)  
Talia Parr, Metro Vancouver (TP)

**Public:**

Don DeMill

**Regrets:**

Loger Aure, Metro Vancouver (LA)  
Ken Brock, Environment Canada (KB)  
Scott Barrett, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (SB)  
Karen Golinski, Scientific Advisory Panel (KG)

*Meeting started at 3:49 pm*

**1.0 Introductions**

**2.0 Review April 9, 2013 Meeting Notes**

**Old Business:**

**3.0 Review Action Items from February 19, 2013 Meeting:**

Item 4.1.2 – Flux Monitoring Stations Project (Attachment 4.1.2a)

One of the flux towers may not be available. DM will follow up with Environment Canada. DM to proceed with follow-up of colleague he would like get involved in this project and the Dean of Applied Science at UBC, a hydrologist, who might be also be interested. SAP members are encouraged to review initial draft proposal and identify more specifically from a SAP perspective what the key points would be.

**Action: MM to continue working with DM**



## **Review Action Items from April 9, 2013 Meeting:**

### **Item 4.1.2 – Bio Control of Birch**

MM visited with Zamir Punja, a plant pathologist at SFU. Zamir is interested in bringing on a Masters student to look at potential bio control methods for birch. MM discussed methodology and some of the questions that SAP had with respect to the use of the fungal pathogen. Conclusions were that it would be best to lab test efficacy of *Chondrostereum pupureum* in control of birch and examine host range among woody bog species in a greenhouse at SFU. MV will fund student once agreement has been made and SFU is looking at industry matched funding to support the student for at least one or two years.

### **Item 4.2.1 – SFPR Update**

MB provided an update on the construction schedule for the Burns Bog water control structures associated with the 80th street, Alexander Street, and 96th Street ditches. Design drawings provided by the Fraser Transportation Group were circulated. Construction was anticipated to start on July 15 for the control structure at 80th Street, July 31st for the control structure at Alexander Street and in early August for 96th Street control structure during the fish window. SAP members also discussed the recent tour that was provided by Ministry of Transportation representatives where various aspects relating to the location of the water control structures to be installed and mitigation berms currently under construction were observed.

## **New Business:**

### **4.0 Scientific Advisory Panel Topics**

#### **4.1 Research Strategies**

##### **4.1.1 Vegetation Monitoring 2013**

KG analyzed long-term monitoring vegetation data. She identified some anomalies in the database and had to lump species to generate patterns that made sense. MM and KG will review the database and clean-up possible errors before the next assessment.

**Action: JJ, KG and MM to meet for further discussion**

##### **4.1.2 Summer-Winter Surface Elevation Change**

Question they were trying to answer is part of the water balance issue on mire breathing; how much does the bog surface change between summer and winter. Already had LiDAR data from 2008 and purchased LiDAR data from February 2009 and had consultant compare the elevation between the wet and dry season. Although much of the analysis showed the expected pattern of increasing elevation in winter when the bog recharges and the peat swells, some of the results were anomalous indicating that significant areas of the bog receded during the winter months. Loss of deciduous vegetation cover may be a factor in this erroneous result. Findings suggest that it is not picking up the ground surface in the summer. MM and PW suggested ground truthing around features such as the highway to help resolve the inconsistencies.

#### **4.2 Management Plan**

##### **4.2.1 SFPR Tour**

SAP members provided feedback on SFPR tour. It was recommended that MV and Delta contact FTG and recommend providing comments on weir design to include flow monitoring. Richard Hebda mentioned that alignment of the SFPR has been moved and the exposure of the Bog to berms appears to be much more direct and apparent now than was in the original



plans. The parcels between the SFPR and the Bog are not developable and are more critical for protection of the Bog. Richard recommends that MV and Delta take on the role of looking at these parcels. Disks handed out of raw data reports for the past two years on Golder groundwater monitoring. MM and SH will share data reports with SAP members as they receive them.

**Action: SAP members to prepare a brief summary of tour observations for submission to MV/Delta**

#### **5.0 Operational Updates**

Delta is continuing with regular water level monitoring and chemistry. MV continues to work with Delta Fire and Delta on wildfire maps and wildfire plans. They are still working on licensing agreement for Animal Shelter with Delta. Seasonal hire for Bog hired for summer.

*Meeting adjourned at 5:17 pm*

#### **6.0 Other Business**

- 7.0 Next Meeting Date** - Tuesday, September 17, 2013, 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm  
Arbutus Meeting Room, MV, Parks West Area Office  
130 – 1200 West 73<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Vancouver



