

**BURNS BOG ECOLOGICAL CONSERVANCY AREA
SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY PANEL MEETING, NOTES
Monday, April 7, 2014 – 3:30 – 5:30pm
Arbutus Meeting Room, Parks West Area Office
130 – 1200 West 73rd Avenue, Vancouver, BC**

Attendees:

Markus Merkens (Chair), Metro Vancouver (MM)
Allan Dakin, Scientific Advisory Panel (AD)
John Jeglum, Scientific Advisory Panel (JJ)
Dan Moore, Scientific Advisory Panel (DM)
Tom McComb, Metro Vancouver (TM)
Marcel LaBreche, Metro Vancouver (ML)
Greg Paris, Metro Vancouver (GP)
Mike Brotherston, Corporation of Delta (MB)
Sarah Howie, Corporation of Delta (SH)
Ken Brock, Environment Canada (KB)
Richard Hebda, (via conference call) Scientific Advisory Panel (RH)
Karen Golinski, (via conference call) Scientific Advisory Panel (KG)
Carina Mangibin, Metro Vancouver (CM)

Regrets:

Mitch Sokalski, Metro Vancouver (MS)
Loger Aure, Metro Vancouver (LA)
Paul Whitfield, Scientific Advisory Panel (PW)
Scott Barrett, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (SB)

Meeting started at 3:40 pm

1.0 Introductions

2.0 Review December 10, 2013 Meeting Notes

Old Business:

3.0 Review Action Items from September 17, 2013 Meeting:

Item 4.1.7 – SFPR Post Construction Monitoring

Meeting with Gateway/SFPR was attended by Mitch Sokalski, Greg Paris, Markus Merkens, Sarah Howie and Richard Sims and discussed post construction monitoring specific to flow monitoring update.

Action: Schedule regular meetings with MV, Delta, Gateway and Golder to ensure that the group is updated on the status of the project.

New Business:

4.0 Scientific Advisory Panel Topics

4.1 Research Strategies

4.1.1 Vegetation Monitoring 2013

Thomas Munson has been retained again to do the year-10 survey on the long-term vegetation plot to collect data at the Bog and the fire zone. TM's monitoring will be for two

metrovancouver

SERVICES AND SOLUTIONS FOR A LIVABLE REGION



weeks starting on May 20th. KG will likewise visit the bog sometime in June to look at the peat production model. Laura Dilley to be invited to attend the next meeting to present the results of her study. RH suggested a long-term comprehensive study of peat accumulation that would include assessments throughout the calendar year to identify the growing season for *Sphagnum* mosses.

4.1.2 Database Progress Workshop

MM suggested conducting a SAP workshop to specifically address the hydrological part of the database. He is currently completing a framework that would re-format the data to attain a uniform standard.

Action: MM to schedule workshop with SAP members at the end of June (with Paul Whitfield in attendance) in Victoria; MM to send the framework to all SAP members; DM to contact LTER staff for some sample formats.

4.1.3 Post Construction SFPR Monitoring Programs

- Outfall Flow Monitoring

The good news is that some infrastructure has been installed. The big metal structure in the #96 outflow is actually the receptacle for the weir. The weir is outside of the culvert. It has been recommended to install the weir blocks and two compound weirs set at different elevations to give more measurement accuracy than one wide weir.

Action: SH and MM to look at compound weir geometry and discuss the possibility of Delta installing the custom weir top with funds coming from FTG.

- Monitoring Studies

Hemmera has applied to re-start the bird survey at northern side of the BBCEA; No application from Levelton re dustfall monitoring studies as of yet. Golder has reduced the number of wells being monitored for the water level. Water quality is also being monitored at the ditches at the outflows.

4.1.4 Water Balance Model Development

- Flow Monitoring - Lateral and Ditch

Plans to re-work the weir at the NW part of the landfill will be done by Delta this year. However, the SFPR outflow is their priority at the moment. MM to meet with Johannes, DM's student who will help sort out the lateral flow of the Bog. **Sheet-piling** is a good means of capturing lateral flow although the difficulty is to maintain the outflow at an elevation equivalent to the water table of the bog itself.

- East-West Ditch Weir Development

SH and MM has installed water level devices in the weir. A water elevation difference was noted on either side of the weir. MM presented a 3-week period water level chart.

- Flux Tower Monitoring Station Update

Early June installation date of the tower. Andreas Christen's technician will provide the construction design i.e. list of materials, etc. It is a two-scaffolding section high with all



devices attached to it. MV will fund additional work on the restoration aspect with Andy Black and AC. RH suggested a portable chamber that can be moved within the Bog to do some segment studies in each area.

4.1.5 Current Research at BBECA

- Long-term water monitoring by Don DeMill
- Vegetation study
- SFPR studies except for the Dust Fall monitoring which will re-start in June.

4.2 Management Plan

4.2.1 Princess Farms Fill Placement Update

4.2.2 MK Delta Land Development Update

An application made last year was withdrawn and re-submitted to Delta for review. The application was amended to include both commercial and residential units i.e. about 1,000 housing units; 130,000 sq. ft. for retail/commercial. Within that parcel near East of Hwy91 is a 14 ha open space/mature forest area to be retained. A proposal has also been made to donate 78 ha parcel located west of Hwy 91. Next step is to forward to Delta Council for review. After which will then be referred to a public hearing following the first and second readings.

4.2.3 Hwy 91/72d Avenue Interchange Discussion

John Jeglum presented the new proposal for a new interchange along Hwy 91 and 72nd Avenue. The area will be modified with enlarged overpass for a smoother traffic flow. Impact on hydrology is one of the concerns where the most critical would be the 26 culverts running from the east to the west side of the Bog. An assessment was done by Don DeMill a long time ago which showed different flow patterns. A new report was done by MoTI in February illustrating the condition of each culvert – giving a good snapshot of the area.

5.0 Operational Updates

- Fire season - fire restrictions will start based on the fire weather reports from the Delta Fire Dept.
- Animal Shelter Project – working on a new agreement with Delta with regards to funding.
- Volunteers Process – working to get feedback and guidance from Don DeMill on the requirements in managing volunteers with regards to safety. DD involved the public (volunteers) by using students from UBC to do ditch blocking.
- Greater Vancouver TV video of the Burns Bog area – the video will highlight Burns Bog operations. It will be posted both on the MV and Corporation of Delta websites. The video will show some activities such as water level monitoring, operational meetings, interview with the Fire Chief, fire training exercise, air flight capturing the whole area among others.

Meeting adjourned at 5:35 pm

6.0 Next Meeting Date - end of June 2014

