



## Meeting Minutes

**Date:** December 14th, 2005      **1:15 p.m.**  
**Location:** Fraser Valley Regional District 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Boardroom

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**Facilitator:** Graham Daneluz, Fraser Valley Regional District

**Present:** David Barnes, Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
Tom Cadieux, Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
Krista Englund, Fraser Valley Regional District/Fraser Valley Regional Watersheds Coalition  
Sylvia Letay, Ministry of Environment  
David Lamson, Chilliwack River Action Committee  
Brad Whittaker, UCFV/Fraser Valley Regional Watersheds Coalition  
Nelson Kahama, Soowahlie First Nation  
Mark Johnson, Fisheries and Oceans Canada

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The meeting commenced at 1:20

### 1.0 Introduction and Acceptance of Agenda

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The order of several items was adjusted and the agenda was accepted as modified.

### 2.0 Review of Outstanding Action Items

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**Action Item 1:** Krista to contact Brian Clark or someone at the Ministry to discuss how we can control access to the sensitive maps.

Sylvia Letay has been in touch with Brian at the Ministry of Environment regarding public access to the deer and goat winter range map. This matter is being discussed at the head office in Victoria. Clarification will be provided once available.

**Action Item 1:** Sylvia to follow up with head office in Victoria/Brian about public access to this mapping and report back at the next meeting.

**Action Item 2:** Krista to make a PDF copy of the Litke document and circulate.

A pdf copy was circulated to individuals involved in the Ryder Creek mapping project. Due to the large size of the document, it was not circulated more widely, but it will be available from the bibliography on the website soon.

## **3.0 Business Agenda**

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### **3.1 Watershed Forum Debrief**

A discussion about the Watershed Forum occurred with the following key points:

#### **WHO:**

- Project team members were generally happy with the attendance at the event, especially considering the weather and the time of year.

#### **WHEN:**

- The timing (e.g. start time, length, etc) worked well for this forum.
- It may be possible to hold a slightly longer forum during the summer when it is light longer.
- It would be desirable to get people to come a bit early for more informal discussion / map viewing etc. before the forum itself.

#### **WHERE:**

- The location worked well and all project team members agreed it was a good choice.

#### **WHAT:**

- Comments from attendees were that the event was very well organized – that helped build credibility.
- The public and project team members were very happy with how the meeting was handled and facilitated.
- Several project team members were told that attendees appreciated have their issues and thoughts recorded.
- The challenge with facilitating such ‘discussions’ is knowing how much to ‘lead’ the audience to broaden their thinking – it may be desirable to do more of this digging in the future.
- It may also be desirable to attempt to encourage individuals who do not easily participate to speak up sooner and prevent vocal individuals from dominating too much – but note that such efforts were undertaken at this Forum and the survey was designed to gather the thoughts of less vocal individuals.
- If individuals could come early in the future, we could encourage them to walk by maps and have people there to point things out and answer questions.
- The format wasn’t right for some of the more sensitive issues, which may need to be investigated another way.
- It would be worth considering having smaller break out groups in future forums, although the benefit of this format was that everyone could hear the other issues that were raised.

### **GENERAL:**

- Some project team members expected to hear more issues related to logging and water quality.
- There is a tendency for the public to focus on the valley bottom when thinking about issues in the watershed.
- The forum went over better than expected – there was no chaos and neither DFO nor the FVRD were the subject of targeted comments or complaints.
- To build more credibility, we need to go back to the public and let them know what we are doing with the information they gave to us.
- Similar issues to those raised at the forum are issues on the Soowahlie Reserve (e.g. garbage, lack of enforcement) – Soowahlie is developing bylaws to address some of these issues.

### **3.2 Next Steps**

A discussion about the next steps for the process yielded the following points:

- A draft of the notes from the Watershed Forum will be circulated shortly. These notes will be approved at the next CRWS meeting.
- A summary of the issues raised at the watershed forum will be prepared and circulated before being distributed to the public. It is important that we represent these issues in such a way that people recognize them as the same issues they raised at the Forum.
- It is important that the Coalition remains up to date on our progress because of their important role in education.
- An understanding of important values in the CRV and principles would help make decision-making easier.
- We need to determine priorities from the issues raised.
- Information from government may be displayed in maps.
- It was suggested that an individual(s) from the project team conduct some outreach with specific individuals from the community (e.g. Len Ames, Don Buxton, First Nation elders) to draw out their issues, get more of the history of the watershed, and enhance our information.
- Now is the time to engage other agencies that have not been active on the project team recently and this will likely happen naturally as we begin to discuss issues in more depth.
- Kimberley Brown did a study on Sockeye with Soowahlie Elders up to Sweltzer Creek – this study might contain some valuable information for our group (e.g. process and content).

**Action Item 2:** Communication sub-committee to meet and discuss the process for conducting individual interviews and identify who should be contacted

**Action Item 3:** Communications sub-committee to begin planning the “First Nations Forum” and the “Government Forum”

### **3.3 Leadership of the Project Team**

A discussion about leadership of the project team arose in response to concerns about the profile of different groups in this process. The following questions were posed to the team:

- Are project team members still satisfied with the original ‘organic’ organizational structure of the project team (e.g. with no official leader or chair)?
- If project team members feel one day that we require a leader, can we agree to go through a process to select a representative?

There was consensus around the following points:

- Each project team member is considered equal and this is desirable.
- It is important that we are all perceived as equals.
- ‘Spokes of a wheel’ = a good analogy for the role of project team members (e.g. all team members are equal and necessary).
- It would be very difficult for one person to represent each agency on the project team.
- If, in the future, a ‘leader’ is desired, the role will be formally defined and a leader will be identified through democratic process.

### **3.4 Progress with Ch-ihl-kway-uhk Tribe Society**

- Marion has been in contact with Roy Mussell about the project.
- Marion also spoke with Terry Raymond who has agreed to do informal relationship building with the Ch-ihl-kway-uhks (e.g. meet for lunch).
- Krista dropped off letters for Roy Mussel and Chief Joseph Hall, and attempted to meet with them in person. She was told to contact Joseph Hall after December 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Krista also dropped by to speak with Frank Malloway, who was not home. In conjunction with other upcoming activities, Krista will continue to make personal contact with Frank Malloway, Joseph Hall, and other First Nations.
- The Sto:lo Tribal Council was planning to meet after the December project team meeting and Nelson agreed to update the council on our work.
- It was suggested that the project team host a dinner for Sto:lo elders and perhaps organize a small, informal van tour of the CRV – Nelson and other project team members agreed this would be a good idea.

**Action Item 4:** Tom to investigate the potential for obtaining funding to assist put on a dinner for the elders (e.g. rent the hall on Chilliwack River Road) and coordinate with Communication sub-committee to plan the event.

### **3.5 Watershed Coordinator Position**

Krista delivered a presentation to the Electoral Area Services Committee (EASC) on December 13 to highlight the demands for watershed work in the Regional District and the benefits of the watershed coordinator position. Brad and Tom spoke after Krista’s presentation to emphasize again the benefits of the position to the FVRD. In comparison to Brad and Tom’s first EASC meeting, this meeting went much better. EASC agreed to put FVRD funding for the watershed

coordinator position into the 2006 planning budget. While this move is positive, it does not guarantee that the position will be fully funded in 2006; rather, the position will be considered along with other items in the budget (i.e. as an integrated component) rather than separately.

### **3.6 CRWS Logo**

Comments received via email regarding the logo are attached in Appendix B. The key points are that the majority of individuals prefer to have fish in the logo and that the lack of human presence in the logo may make it more difficult for First Nations and other stakeholders to identify with the project (which very much incorporates humans). Other important considerations are budgetary constraints and the goal to keep the logo as simple as possible.

Dave Schaepe provided a simple suggestion on how to incorporate human presence into the logo while not making the logo more complex. This could be done by adding human characteristics into a new mountain ridge (Mt McGuire). Tom also suggested changing the style of the fish. Project team members generally agreed with these changes.

**Action Item 5:** Tom to email the logo to David Schaepe and David to give Tom suggestions for changes and interpretive comments.

## **4.0 Consent Agenda**

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### **4.1 New Projects**

#### ***4.1.1. Ryder Creek***

This project will demonstrate how this type of mapping can be done through a partnership between DFO, Community Mapping Network, UCFV and the FVRD. The project will provide more accurate mapping, identify hot spots, future problems, and future projects in the Ryder Creek area. The project will start in January and run through to March. Several students will likely be working on the project as well as a consultant. A project planning meeting with all partners was held on December 15.

#### ***4.1.2. Wilson Road Orphan Dike***

There is an orphan dike at Wilson Road in the Chilliwack River Valley (meaning that no agency is currently responsible for maintaining the dike). During an intense rain event in 2003, the dike was significantly eroded. As an emergency response, rock was placed to stop the erosion. However, this event raised awareness about this structure and the need for immediate improvements and long term maintenance (long term management would be the responsibility of the FVRD).

The Province is willing to pay for a study to determine what is required to bring the dike up to an acceptable standard. The terms of reference for this study are being drafted. If the study leads to improvements, the project team may be able to provide input. A site visit with several project team members (e.g. DFO, Soowahlie, and MOE) might be a valuable

way to gain a preliminary understanding of some of the ecological and cultural issues in the area.

## **4.2 Ongoing Projects**

### ***4.2.1. Lovely Pond/Thompson Park***

1700 coho fry were observed in the new ponds at Thompson Park.

### ***4.2.2. Slesse Creek/Nonie Creek***

The application to Pacific Salmon Foundation for off-channel ponds has been approved.

### ***4.1.6. Pierce/Wingfield/Deer Creeks***

These projects are complete except for the signage, which will be complete in January.

## **5.0 Other**

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The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 pm. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup> @ 1:15 (potentially at the Great Blue Heron Nature Reserve).

## **6.0 Appendices**

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- A. Summary of Action Items
- B. Summary of Comments on the CRWS logo

## **Appendix A. Summary of Action Items**

**Action Item 1:** Sylvia to follow up with head office in Victoria/Brian about public access to this mapping and report back at the next meeting.

**Action Item 2:** Communication sub-committee to meet and discuss the process for conducting individual interviews and identify who should be contacted

**Action Item 3:** Communications sub-committee to begin planning the “First Nations Forum” and the “Government Forum”

**Action Item 4:** Tom to investigate the potential for obtaining funding to assist put on a dinner for the elders (e.g. rent the hall on Chilliwack River Road) and coordinate with Communication sub-committee to plan the event.

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## **Appendix B. Comments Regarding the CRWS Logo as of November 22, 2005**

### **Species Choice & Representation**

Why a dipper? What was the rationale behind the selection of this particular bird? Other animals with significance to the Chilliwack Watershed are (aside from salmon): Black Bear with a white spot in its chest (the ancestor for the Chilliwack People - probably the most culturally significant of animals to this particular watershed), Wren (who lived on Mt. McGuire), Mountain Goat (although this animal is more culturally linked with Popkum and Cheam folks).

I think the dipper is a little too large.

I like the backdrop but it looks as if we may be a birding group since the bird is large and front and centre. Or is this the canary in the coal mine approach?

The dipper is very prominent. What is the message here? Is it about little things, delicate and unnoticed or is it about the birds as indicator species? Artistically the heavy bird balances the heavy mountain so there is this yin yang feeling to the logo. If we had a 4th fish leaping against the background of the green hill, it would bring the artistic balance into a desired three some. Just like flower arranging - better in odd numbers. The fourth fish would also suggest the sacred number of 4.

### **Mountains**

Also, I take it that the mountain is Slesse? Makes sense, if so. Should be as realistic a portrayal as possible of the mountain-scape.

The rounded hills need to show the silhouettes of trees so it doesn't look like a golf course.

The mountains in the background are also now recognizable.

### **The Human Element**

One issue that I think will be fielded from the image is that it appears to represent a 'wilderness' concept devoid of people and human use. This concept does not fit with the strategic plan, which is all about balancing human uses with all kinds of resources. I suggest adding a human element to the image in some neutral form (not necessarily with a cultural identity).

### **Fish or No Fish**

I think it is essential that the salmon are represented in the image.

1 salmon would be enough.

I would prefer the Dipper with the fish. Otherwise without the fish the river could be mistaken for a road.

I am not too fond of the blue fish but it does indicate that it is a river where without them, one could interpret the river as the Chilliwack lake road.

It looks better with the fish, plus smooth green hills. The logo without the fish kind of looks like it could be a road versus river.

I like the dipper with the fish.

Please count me in with those who prefer the fish.

I prefer the dipper alone; no fish.

Either one really. No fish looks better, but most people outside of our group will interpret the river as a road, I think. Fish looks a little cluttered, but identifies the road as a river. I wonder if the edges of the river could be 'roughed up'(or something) to more specifically communicate that it is a river. That said, I am happy with either one in the present form.

### **Shape**

I liked the diamond shape but I heard Tom and I were in the minority.  
Thanks for making it round.

### **Colors**

I like the colours.

### **General**

Great Logo !! When do I get a HAT ???

Is there a unique, distinctive and/or well known item that may define the Chilliwack watershed - natural or man-made (e.g. Tamihi rapids, Tamihi bridge, or other special feature), that could be used to characterize the watershed?

It's nice, but it personally I like stronger logo's. A fish or a combination of Fish and wildlife. It's nice though.