

CRWS Project Team Meeting Notes DRAFT



Chilliwack River
Watershed Strategy

Date: Dec 7, 2007
Time: 9:00 am – 1:30 pm
Location: FVRD 2nd Floor, Room 224

Present: Lance Lilley, Fraser Valley Regional District / FVR Watersheds Coalition
Jessica Morrison, Sto:lo Research and Resource Management Centre
Mark Johnson, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Tom Cadieux, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Bob Stanton, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
David Lamson, Area E Director/Chilliwack River Action Committee
Marion Robinson, Fraser Basin Council (facilitator)
Doug Wilson, FVRD Parks
Graham Daneluz, FVRD
Brad Mason, Fisheries and Oceans Canada / Community Mapping Network
Kevin Walker, BC Integrated Land Management Bureau

The meeting commenced at 9:00 am.

1.0 Acceptance of Agenda

The Agenda for the meeting was reviewed and amended to include a presentation by Doug about FVRD Parks.

2.0 Review of Oct 31 meeting notes and ACTION ITEMS

The minutes from the Oct 31, 2007 CRWS meeting were accepted as written. Action Items identified from the Oct 31 meeting included:

- **ACTION ITEM 1:** Lance to update/edit River Hazard Issues and Alternative Report to reflect the comments expressed about dyking in the Chilliwack River Watershed (in progress).
- **ACTION ITEM 2:** Lance to email Coalition members about CRWS website and available Issues and Alternative Reports (will do as soon as website has the current glitches from the transition to the FVRD server eliminated).
- **ACTION ITEM 3:** Dave Lamson to forward the consultant report and the associated literature review to Lance for inclusion on the CRWS bibliography (done).
- **ACTION ITEM 4:** Graham to incorporate the issue of private ownership, erosion, and riparian rights into the existing Development section (in progress).

3.0 Business Agenda

3.1 Issues & Alt: Sto:lo Cultural Heritage Resource Management

- Jessica led a discussion about this section and current archaeological/cultural policies.
 - It was agreed by the group that the issue about protecting sites is best dealt with through education and understanding so that these sites can be shared and appreciated.
 - CRWS should refer to the Sto:lo Policy Manual so that specific sites are not perceived by the community as barriers within the watershed but enhancements.
 - A general archaeological inventory was done in the Chilliwack Valley in the 1990s and identified a number of sites, but this was only done for a few areas and was not comprehensive.
- The process for ensuring First Nations culture or rights are not negatively impacted by development was discussed. Jessica mentioned that people should be contacting her department for information on getting an archaeological overview assessment done for a particular area. (rather than an independent contractor).
 - If the proposed development is expected to impact a site, mitigation or avoidance are possible solutions.
 - Working directly with First Nations organizations from early stages in the process helps to build trust
- Related concepts about building relationships and understanding how people communicate across cultures and groups are subjects that will be addressed in CRWS within a preamble or introductory chapter.

3.2 Issues & Alt: Recreation

- Doug provided a presentation on FVRD Parks that he had prepared for a joint FVRD-Metro Vancouver Parks meeting held earlier in the month. The scope of issues and the lack of funding faced by FVRD Parks was apparently an eye-opener to Metro Vancouver folks (e.g., FVRD Parks annual budget = \$500,000; Metro Vancouver = \$24M)
 - Issues such as garbage, guns, illegal camping, drinking, habitat impacts, etc., were shown with dramatic footage.
 - It was suggested that CRWS include some of these images and data (e.g., graphs on visitor data to CRW) on their website to help advertise the problem and raise public awareness.
- Recommendations from the drafted Issues and Alternatives report were discussed, with the following comments or proposed edits:
 - Recommendation #1:
 - Change reference to Nuisance Mitigation Committee to reflect that this committee may not be permanent, and that the recommendation applies to whatever entity or governance model is in place in the future.
 - Recommendation #2:
 - Include First Nations and DFO
 - Recommendation #3:
 - Change “should” to “could” or “may”
 - Recommendation #4:
 - Change “should” to “could” or “may”

- One suggestion was to have the future Nuisance Mitigation body report to a future CRWS Management Body
- Recommendation #5:
 - ‘Should’ statements are tough because they don’t assign responsibility
 - Reads more like a goal than a recommendation
 - Include user groups or recreation groups (with representation) within the recommendation – can for a sub-committee
- Add recommendation on research, education, and marketing (more strategic approach)
 - Perhaps have a one-day workshop with stakeholders to hear Doug’s presentation and discuss options and strategies.
- Recommendation #6:
 - Avoid use of the word “gatehouse”, but recommend a review of methods and actions regarding access management to CRW
- Recommendation #7:
 - All agreed that including questions on a survey being done by BC Parks at Cultus and Chilliwack Lake could provide useful information that could help to obtain information and provide information to visitors.
 - Examples of potentially useful questions included:
 - What attracted them to the CRW?
 - What other places to they visit?
 - What are your impressions of the watershed health in CRW?
 - Have you noticed increasing evidence of watershed impacts?
 - Do you have any suggestions for how to prevent illegal camping or illegal dumping within the CRW?
- Brad commented on the value of obtaining a biophysical inventory of recreation sites within the CRW, including access points, recreation spots, fishing spots, etc.

3.3 Issues & Alt: Biodiversity

- topic postponed until next meeting when Sylvia is available

3.4 Issues & Alt: Overview

- topic postponed until next meeting due to time

3.5 CRWS Next Steps

- topic postponed until next meeting due to time

4.0 Announcements and Loose Ends

4.1 Announcements:

- Wilson Road Dyke (Tareq Islam, FVRD Engineering)
 - Tareq provided new information on the chosen Wilson Road dyke route (see attached).
 - The chosen option, Option 1F, is expected to cost \$2.2M and result in almost 30,000 m² of required fish habitat compensation within the Chilliwack Valley.

- March 31, 2008 was noted as the deadline for dyke financing and selecting appropriate habitat compensation projects.
- FVRWC AGM
 - Nov 28th was the AGM for the Fraser Valley Regional Watersheds Coalition.
 - The new Board that were voted in at this meeting were:
 - Chair: Bruce Fatkin
 - Vice-Chair: Michael Pearson, Pearson Ecological
 - Secretary-Treasurer: Dick Bunbury, Central Valley Naturalists
 - Director-At-Large: Brad Whittaker, University College of the Fraser Valley
 - Director-At-Large: Tom Cadieux, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
 - Director-At-Large: David Urban, Fraser Valley Regional District
 - Director-At-Large: Bob Thomas, Mission Chamber of Commerce
 - Tom mentioned the importance of increasing the Coalition's presence on CRWS in the new year. This will be brought up a the next FVRWC Directors meeting.
- Cultus Lake Aquatic Stewardship Strategy (Marion)
 - CLASS is looking for some mapping data on Cultus Lake. Brad mentioned that maps on temperature and milfoil distribution in Cultus Lake already exist and are available on the CMN website.
 - Marion discussed the lack of representation by the Coalition on CLASS. Tom suggested CLASS send them an invitation letter and agreed they should have a presence at that table. This will be brought up a the next FVRWC Directors meeting.
- Chilliwack-Vedder River Fish-Hazard Management Strategy (David Urban, FVRD Planning)
 - A successful grant application from Krista resulted in FSWP funding of \$75,000 for the first year of a proposed 3-year fish and hazard management strategy of the Chilliwack and Vedder River system.
 - Current issues include obtaining additional funding to help with Lidar mapping costs and the formation of a Steering Committee.
 - Dave Lamson noted his concern about focusing too much on mapping and not on identifying practical mitigation policies and methods.
 - Suggestions for possible funding partners included:
 - City of Abbotsford (gravel movement downstream)
 - EASC
 - Real Estate Foundation (perhaps talk to Janis Olsen at RSBC)
 - Refer to Canadian Subsidy Directory (<http://www.mgpublishing.net/grants-and-loans.htm>) for potential grant partners
 - Suggestions for possible Steering Committee representation:
 - Working Group from River Hazards CRWS report
 - Aggregate industry (Lafarge)
 - Soowahlie First Nation

- City of Chilliwack
- City of Abbotsford
- Steelhead Society
- Ministry of Energy and Mines
- BCIT

4.2 Next Meeting:

- Specific date and time for the next meeting was not determined at this point.
 - Tentative Agenda:
 - Overview Presentation of all Issues & Alternatives Reports
 - Structure/content of Final Strategy
 - Next steps (including public open house, implementation, etc.)

4.3 Action Items:

- **ACTION ITEM:** All DRAFT Issues and Alternatives Reports will be completed by the next Project Team meeting.

4.4 Adjournment:

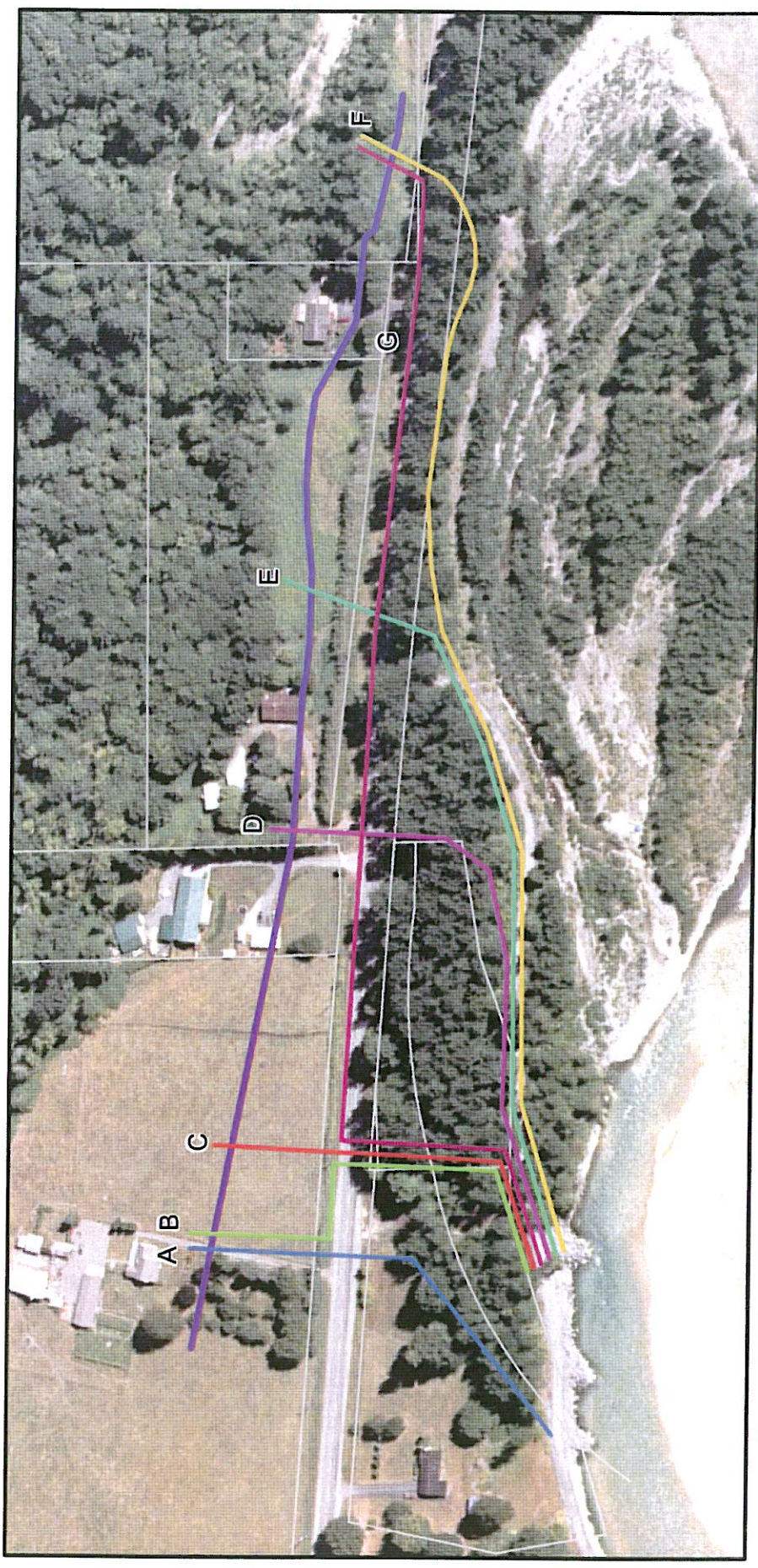
- The meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm.

--- Thanks you, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Years 2008 ---

SUMMARY OF PROS AND CONS OF OPTIONS CONSIDERED FOR WILSON ROAD DYKE

Item	Option G: Sheet Pile Wall	Option G: Riprap	Option 1 (F)
Cost	\$4.0 M*	\$3.4 M*	\$2.2 M
Riparian Impact m2	3,482.27	6,787.1	7,613.1
Total Fisheries Impact m2	6,170.7	9,546.8	9,916.8
Project Staging	Difficult. Uncertain const. Longer to const. More inconvenience to public	Largest excav. Longer to const. More inconvenience to public	Simple const. Shortest const. time. Less inconvenience to public
Property Impact	Requires land purchase and likely road easements	Requires land purchase and likely road easements	Mostly Crown land. Minor easement required
Driveway Impacts	Four	Four	One
Utility Impact	Major	Major	Minor
Road Template	Changes ambient conditions significantly and requires: Separate sidewalk barrier/handrail.	Minor improvement to ambient conditions	Maintains ambient conditions
Road/Dyke Maintenance	Combines maintenance and requires lane closure if dyke maintenance is required.	Combines maintenance and requires lane closure if dyke maintenance is required.	Separate road and dyke maintenance.
Road Drainage	Forces road drainage to north side ditches. Not preferable to MoT.	Forces road drainage to north side ditches. Not preferable to MoT.	Maintains ambient drainage conditions.

*Cost estimate does not include land purchase cost or utility relocation costs.



WILSON ROAD FLOOD PROTECTION WORKS

**PRELIMINARY
DYKE ALIGNMENT OPTIONS**

PROJECTION	UTM Zone 10	DATUM	NAD83
Scale:	1:2,500		
	40 20 0		40
	Meters		
FILE NO.	4810144.Figure001.mxd		
PROJECT NO.	4810144	DRAWN	CG
OFFICE	EBA-VANC	DATE	November 2, 2007
		REV	0
		BGP	CG

Figure 1

- LEGEND**
- Proposed Dyke Alignments
 - A
 - B
 - C
 - D
 - E (Previous Option 2A)
 - F (Previous Option 1)
 - G
 - Proposed by DFO
 - Approximate location of the suggested 200-year floodplain limit
 - Legal Lots

NOTES
Base data source:
Orthophotography