

Gardom Lake Planning Committee – meeting notes

April 16, 2015

Welcome

The meeting started at 8:30 AM at Gardom Lake Park for a field tour.

Attendance

Rikk Kieft – Gardom Lake Bible Camp
Elizabeth Winter – Friends of Gardom Lake
Dyann Johnson – Friends of Gardom Lake (alternate)
Susan Abbott – Columbia Shuswap Regional District
Ryan Nitchie – Columbia Shuswap Regional District (alternate)
Jack Butula – Kalamalka Lake Fly Fishing Association
Doug Hearn – Gardom Lake Community Park Society
Fred McAllister – Gardom Lake Community Park Society (alternate)
Kerry Orchard – Rancho Deep Creek Community Association (alternate)
Joy de Vos – Agriculture sector
Marge Sidney – BC Ministry of Environment; BC Lakes Stewardship Society
Glen Hill – North Okanagan Holding Society; Legion
Lee Hesketh – rancher, riparian/creek restoration expert (guest)
Rene Talbot – Columbia Shuswap Regional District Director (guest)
Gene Dodd – resident (guest)
Tracy Thomas – Fraser Basin Council (facilitator)
Erin Vieira - Fraser Basin Council (facilitator)

Purpose

The objectives of the meeting were to:

- Participate in a field tour to see and learn about Gardom Lake Park, and Mallory Creek and possible restoration activities for the creek
- Discuss lake access
- Finalize the 'people' section of the DRAFT Gardom Lake Management Plan

Field Tour with guest Lee Hesketh

The tour included the Mouth of Mallory Creek, the Musgrave Road lake access, private property adjacent to Musgrave Road, several stops along Mallory Road, and wrapped up at Gardom Lake Park. At each of the stops, the group discussed possible scenarios and options for restoration/mitigation projects that may help to improve biodiversity and water quality. There is interest from community members and in some cases property owners, to learn more about restoration and mitigation of parts of the creek and to take part in restoration planning. The morning tour was concluded with lunch and afternoon meeting at the Gardom Lake Bible Camp.

Review the “people” section of the DRAFT plan

Goal 6 (“Educate Gardom Lake area residents about...”) and its objectives and actions were reviewed; minor modifications were made to Objective 6B and Objective 6C. Please refer to the DRAFT Gardom Lake Management Plan v.4 for the updates.

Goal 7 (“Collect baseline recreation data...”) and its objectives and actions were reviewed, discussed and endorsed.

Access: Where we are at

The GLPC re-visited the issue of trailered boat access at Gardom Lake, with the purpose of developing a goal to include in the draft Plan. Consensus was not reached with regard to lake access at the March 30th meeting.

Tracy presented a draft goal, and a roundtable discussion took place. The following points were raised:

- The GLPC should not pursue recommending a boat launch be developed until the impacts of the new motorized restriction is understood
- The GLPC should immediately recommend a boat launch be developed
 - People have been waiting 15 years for a proper boat launch
 - Electric motor technology is improving (i.e., becoming more powerful)
 - There needs to be a safe access for trailers
 - Gardom Lake is a provincial lake, there should be safe trailered boat access
- The development of a boat launch would be contingent on an environmental assessment and feasibility study being done for three sites: Teal Road, Musgrave Road, and Gardom Lake Community Park

Planning

Consensus was not reached on the development/need for lake access. The public will be asked to provide input at the May 14th public meeting as described in the Gardom Lake Planning Committee Terms of Reference. Input will also be collected online for those people that are unable to attend the meeting.

Per the discussion at Musgrave Road during the field tour earlier in the day, the GLPC discussed how the observed turtle-nesting habitat at Musgrave Road could be better protected without completely impeding vehicle access to the hand launch. The GLPC

agreed that the boulders could be moved to encompass more of the nesting site, thereby protecting the area from compaction and disturbance. The placement of the boulders would leave room for a single vehicle to drive to the lake trail thereby accommodating people with limited mobility. Boulders will not be moved so that they impede the turn-around space. Version 4 of the DRAFT Gardom Lake Management Plan will be posted www.gardomlakeplan.ca when revisions are complete.

The GLPC briefly discussed the inclusion of a restoration plan for Mallory Creek in the draft Plan. Due to limited time in the meeting, the committee agreed that Tracy would draft a goal and related objectives and action items with the proviso that details of a restoration plan would not be included. Version 4 of the DRAFT Gardom Lake Management Plan will be posted www.gardomlakeplan.ca when revisions are complete.

Next steps

There will be a public meeting to present the draft Gardom Lake Management Plan:
Ranchero – Deep Creek Fire Hall
5:30 – 8:30 PM, May 14th 2015

The purpose of the public meeting is to present the draft Plan, answer questions, and collect feedback. Per the GLPC Terms of Reference, the public will be asked for their input on specific items. Tracy explained that the draft Plan and a comment form will be made available online for those who cannot attend the public meeting in person on May 14th.

Tracy explained the format of the public meeting:

- A drop-in open house session will take place in the first part of the meeting, with FBC staff and committee members present to discuss and answer questions face-to-face. Poster boards and other print materials will be on display.
- A presentation with Q&A will take place in the second part of the meeting.

Tracy asked the GLPC members to consider how they would like to be involved in the meeting – such as during the open house to answer questions, or to participate in a presentation.

The meeting closed at 3:15 PM