

Nicola Lake Working Group – Meeting Notes

Meeting Information

Topic: Water Chemistry & Fisheries

Date & Time: February 4th, 2013 from 12 to 4 PM

Attendance: Allison Guichon, Kim Poupard, Stewart Murray, Michael McDonald, Tracy Wimbush, Matt Williams, Chief Joyce Sam, Randy Murray, Kim DeRose, Jo-Ann Fox, Lorna and Vern Latremouille, Christine Saddleman, Tracy Thomas, Mike Simpson

1. **Welcome & Introductions**

Mike Simpson and Tracy Thomas welcomed everyone to the meeting

2. **Presentation: Brian Heise – Water Chemistry & Fisheries**

Unfortunately Brian was unable to attend the meeting. He will present to the NLWG on March 11th.

- **ACTION:** Tracy Wimbush to contact Brian Heise regarding local fisheries

3. **Review of Terms of Reference**

The Nicola Lake Working Group Terms of Reference were reviewed, for the benefit of new members and as a reminder of the purpose, function and deliverables.

4. **Feedback on Nicola Lake Plan**

It was raised that consultation and accommodation are not mentioned in the Nicola Lake Working Group Terms of Reference or in the draft Nicola Lake plan. Consultation is not included is because the Plan is being developed with First Nations through an inclusive process; all First Nations have been invited to participate from the beginning. Accommodation will be addressed if as needed depending on the projects proposed by the Working Group.

There was discussion around the development of an interpretive centre. There is already a “bricks and mortar” centre, the *Laurie Guichon Memorial Grasslands Interpretive Site*. Possible solutions included increasing the use of the current site and the development of a virtual interpretive site.

There was discussion around the prospect protecting/preserving a piece of land around Nicola Lake. Issues raised included concern around having land removed from grazing leases on Crown land and possible lack of development opportunity if private land were preserved.

- **ACTION:** Kim DeRose will bring a Nicola Lake foreshore inventory map (FIM) to the next NLWG meeting
- **ACTION:** Jo-Ann Fox to contact a BC Parks representative regarding protected areas around Nicola Lake

The piece around fire protection around the lake was removed from the plan due to the logistics and high cost.

5. **Revise Nicola Lake Plan**

The Nicola Lake Plan was updated under the direction of the group; the latest version will be emailed to Working Group members and will be posted on the Nicola Lake Plan website at www.nicolaplan.ca

6. Fraser Basin Council Update

Funding

The TNRD did not receive the \$500,000 funding. Randy Murray would like to develop a funding formula based on the direction of the NL Plan.

The Lake Stewardship funding was pulled by the Provincial Government and was then reinstated by Terry Lake. The total funding for one year for the whole province is \$75,000. There are currently no future plans for this funding source.

There may be opportunities within the Group for funding including partnerships with First Nations, the Southern Interior Weed Management Committee, Southern Interior Development Initiative Trust, Thompson Nicola Film Commission and others. There were also ideas raised around applying for youth and arts funding.

- **ACTION:** Group members will share funding sources that they find

NLWG Membership

There are three new NLWG members:

- i. Chief Joyce Sam (lead) - Nooaitch Band
- ii. Olivia Buck (alternate) – Nooaitch Band
- iii. Christine Saddleman (lead) – Upper Nicola Band

WUMP Update

The Provincial update of the WUMP recommendations has been received by the FBC along with the update from the TNRD (permission granted by NWCRT to share the letter). The update from the CoM has not been received and the amalgamation is not yet complete.

- **ACTION:** Tracy will send out the Provincial WUMP recommendation update letter to the Working Group

7. Speakers for Upcoming Meetings

Cultural Heritage

This meeting/event will be held as part of the larger public meeting in the spring.

- **ACTION:** Christine Saddleman is going to ask members of the Upper Nicola about participating in a cultural story telling event

Development

There were several suggestions for speakers on development. Suggestions included having a representative/speaker from the following:

- Ducks Unlimited – King Campbell or Ken Johnson (**ACTION:** Tracy to contact)
- TNRD – Planner (**ACTION:** Randy to contact)
- BC Appraisers – Jeff Burges (**ACTION:** Tracy to contact)
- Recreation/tourism - Peak Planning Associates Sydney Johnsen (**ACTION:** Mike to contact)
- MFLNRO – Jim Fox (**ACTION:** Jo-Ann to contact)

8. Upcoming Events:

- Workshop - February 15th, 2013 – Water Quality & Eurasian Watermilfoil
- Meeting -February 26th, 2013, 12-4PM – Water Quality & Eurasian Watermilfoil
- Meeting - March 11th, 2013, 12-4PM – Water & Fisheries – with Brian Heise
- Public Meeting – Saturday June 8th, 2013 – either in Merritt, or Quilchena Golf course?

4:00 PM Meeting Adjourned