

DRAFT Nicola Lake Working Group - Meeting Notes

Meeting Information

Date & Time: Wednesday, November 14th, 2012 from 12 to 4 PM

Location: Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations Building
3840 Airport Road, Merritt, BC - Main Conference Room

Meeting Objectives

- Review and discuss the draft Nicola Lake Plan outline, including vision and goals
- Review the Nicola Lake Working Group draft terms of reference
- Develop an action plan for the Working Group between now and spring

Attendance: Ian Gordon, Lorna Latremouille, Vern Latremouille, Matt Williams, Kim DeRose, Allison Guichon, Susan Roline, Patrick Farmer, Jo-Ann Fox, Kim Poupard, Michael McDonald, Guy Rose, Stewart Murray, Barb Jackson, Randy Murray, Trevor Owen, George Seitz, John Liu, Herb Graham, Mike Simpson, Tracy Thomas

Regrets: Frank Rizzardo, Peter Schmid, Neil Todd

1. Welcome & Introductions

2. Fraser Basin Council (FBC) Role

- Mike reiterated the impartial role of the FBC using a very similar presentation to the one he delivered during the September 19th public meeting
- The FBC is facilitating this planning process not taking part in decision making, Mike and Tracy are “worker bees” following the direction of the Working Group
- *Collaborative Watershed Governance Accord* – the Working Group reviewed the Accord and agreed that the principles in the Accord would be upheld by the Group; the Group agreed to revisit the Accord every 2 or 3 meetings

3. Public Meeting Debrief:

- Review public meeting highlights – Mike asked the Group what stood out for them during the public meeting, the responses are as follows:
 - i. The high number of interests present and broad range of interests
 - ii. Putting faces to the people that are around the lake
 - iii. Everybody seemed to want something tangible to happen, ie. milfoil control
 - iv. It was a calm meeting despite competing interests
 - v. There were frustrations regarding the Nicola Watershed Water Use Management Plan (WUMP) process
 - vi. People were nervous when they heard the presentation about docks, trespass/non-compliance “scary government regulations”

- vii. Action – need some information /education piece on government regulations as they apply to waterfront property owners
 - viii. Diversity of issues and the balance required between them all
 - ix. This process needs to be inclusive
 - x. Thanks to Randy for bringing forward funding to move on these issues
 - xi. Some concerns around the foreshore development regulations, removal of developments (docks etc. on the Shuswap)
 - xii. We need to remember not to limit our freedom and enjoyment on the lake – let's make this work for everyone
 - **Working Group development** – The Working Group is made up of people that volunteered at the September 19th public meeting along with people that we approached so that all perspectives would be present at the table. We approached several home owners to represent their neighbourhoods. We will continue to make sure that representatives from all perspectives are included in this Group.
4. **TASK - Feedback on Nicola Lake Plan outline including vision and goals** – The vision and goals for Nicola Lake were developed from the collection of the September 19th meeting feedback forms, collected at the meeting, received in the mail and online. The Working Group reviewed and made revisions to the draft Nicola Lake Plan outline that was presented. All revisions were noted directly into the document.
5. **TASK – Review Nicola Lake Working Group Draft Terms of Reference** – The Working Group reviewed the draft Terms of Reference and made minor revisions. Once the revisions were made, the Nicola Lake Terms of Reference was approved. The Group agreed that they would like to share Working Group contact information across the Group but that contact information not be posted online.
6. **What the Fraser Basin Council has been doing:**
- **Following up with representatives for the Working Group** – The Working Group has representation from most perspectives around Nicola Lake. The Group is still in need of representation from the Upper Nicola Band, Harmon Estates, and the Nooaitch Band.
 - **Meeting with Provincial Government and TNRD regarding WUMP recommendations** – Tracy and Mike met with Provincial Government reps from MFLNRO and BC Parks to discuss WUMP. MFLNRO has committed to reviewing the WUMP recommendations that were originally accepted by Government, and providing an update to the Nicola Lake Watershed Round Table. The Provincial Government will not move forward with WUMP recommendations that they previously reviewed and declined in their official response to the Nicola Watershed Community Round Table.

Tracy met with several TNRD directors and updated with them on the Nicola Lake planning process and asked that the City of Merritt along with the TNRD also provide an update on the WUMP recommendations that were made to each of the agencies; both have committed to providing an update.

- **Developing a Eurasian watermilfoil workshop for February** – Tracy has been working with Marion Robinson (FBC Fraser Valley) to develop a Eurasian watermilfoil workshop for the Cultus Lake and Nicola Lake working groups. This workshop will provide leading information regarding Eurasian watermilfoil and the effects it has, water quality, and several management strategies.

3:50 PM Meeting Adjourned

Action Items

Item	Completion Date	Current Status
Tracy - “clean up” the draft Nicola Lake Plan based on the changes made during the meeting and send out the revised version to the Working Group	November 23 rd	complete
Tracy - send out a copy of the revised and approved NWLG ToR to the Group	November 23 rd	complete
Tracy - set up water quality presentation/speaker	December 7 th	underway
Tracy – set up foreshore development presentation/speaker	January 15 th	Not started
Tracy – set up Eurasian watermilfoil workshop	February 15 th	underway
Tracy – send out doodle poll for next meeting date to Group	November 23 rd	underway
Jo-Ann Fox – send out “herbicide in water use” information to Group	November 23 rd	underway
Tracy – compile current status of WUMP recommendations from Provincial and Regional Governments and send out to Group	December 15 th	underway
Tracy – conduct literature review of WUMP studies, fisheries data etc. relating to the Nicola Plan	January 15 th	Not Started
Randy Murray & Susan Roline - provide an update on the status of WUMP recommendations made to the TNRD and City of Merritt respectively	December 15 th	underway
Tracy and Mike – set up spring public meeting	April 15 th	Not started