



WHISTLER

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF FOREST & WILDLAND ADVISORY COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2020, STARTING AT 3:00 P.M.
Zoom Meeting Format
4325 Blackcomb Way, Whistler, BC V8E 0X5

Name	Meetings to Date: 6
Present:	
Member at Large, Melanie Tardif, Chair	6
Member at Large, Rhonda Millikin	6
Member at Large, Dan Raymond	5
Councilor, Arthur DeJong	5
Member at Large, Trevor Burton	2
Member at Large, John Hammons	4
Recording Secretary, Heather Beresford	6
Regrets:	
Member at Large, Derek Bonin, Co-Chair	3
AWARE, Claire Ruddy	3
Member at Large, Colin Rankin	3
WORCA, Seb Kemp/Matt Cooper	1

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by A. DeJong
Seconded by T. Burton

That the Forest and Wildland Advisory Committee adopt the Forest and Wildland Advisory Committee Agenda of October 14, 2020.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by A. DeJong
Seconded by D. Raymond

That the Forest and Wildland Advisory Committee adopt the Forest and Wildland Advisory Committee Minutes of September 9, 2020.

CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

Updates

Council:

- Extending temporary patio licenses for winter

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- New contract for solid waste landfill location
- Two employee housing buildings underway
- RMOW applying to Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program for the [geopark](#) proposal
- Wildfire fuel thinning project underway on Blackcomb Mountain

AWARE:

- Preparing grant application for Climate Action grant
- Strategic planning session scheduled
- Fungus Among Us this weekend online

WORCA:

- Chipmunk Rebellion open, Flashback will be completed in spring '21
- Trail nights complete

RMOW:

- Climate Action Big Moves strategy online [survey](#)
- Wildfire monitoring program - budget request for 2021. Lil'wat Nation has environmental monitoring staff.
- Nesters Hill and Lost Lake/Spruce Grove wildfire thinning complete for 2020

Trail Planning Working Group:

- Next meeting in October 2020

Cheakamus Community Forest:

- Cheakamus Lake Road (C02) wildfire fuel thinning project scheduled for November 2020 to spring
- Basalt valley road connection continues to be discussed

CCF Field Trip

A discussion by FWAC regarding the October 8 CCF Cheakamus Lake Road (C04) wildfire treatment area tour.

FWAC Discussion:

- Tour was held on October 8 and led by Simon Murray, CCF Forest Manager accompanied by Klay Tindall and Jordan Gabriel, Lil'wat Forestry Ventures.
- Wildfire prescriptions
 - Prescriptions follow the provincial format
 - The wildfire behavior goal of the prescription was to "Reduce fine surface fuel loading and increase crown base height to limit critical surface fire intensity to between 1,000 - 2,500 kW/m
 - Suggest separating fire thinning objectives from wildlife protection, e.g., spotted owl, deer
 - FWAC could provide input to prescription development
 - Targets set for wildfire objectives, and monitoring should determine if targets met regarding fire intensity
- Role and opportunity of planting/retaining deciduous vegetation
 - Research available discussing value/efficacy of green fire breaks

- ACTION: add discussion of using green fuel breaks at December meeting
- [Wildfire Development Area Permit](#) included in Whistler Official Community Plan

Discussion:

- FWAC to prepare annual report to CCF regarding previous year's harvesting.
- Fall 2019 field trip not included in 2018 report.
- Organize FWAC field trip for early October to review Cheakamus Lake road wildfire management area C04 completed in August 2020.

Annual Report to CCF A discussion by FWAC regarding the 2019 Annual Report to the CCF.

- Noted that not many recommendations made in 2018 annual report had been acted upon and were still relevant.
- Point 3 in annual report – add reference to investigating other options for reducing costs of wildfire fuel treatment
- BC Forest Practices Board produced a report in 2015 providing an update on Fuel Management in the Wildland Urban Interface and one of the key recommendations was to reduce the cost per hectare to allow more area to be treated
- Recommend Ecosystem-based Management Plan be updated to include wildfire, carbon project and climate change.
- Request S. Murray provide feedback on FWAC's annual report recommendations
- Point 4 – broaden to include monitoring more than adherence to prescription criteria. Include impacts on wildlife, soil, recreation, etc.

ACTION: share final reports on wildfire projects with FWAC

R. Millikin left at 4:02 p.m.

- Recommend CCF replant large openings and skid roads with deciduous to reduce wildfire potential and block access with boulders to prevent camping. It was suggested that red alder would be a good candidate for the treated area as it grows well in the area, has a short life span so it could be harvested when and if the rest of the treated area is harvested and has a much higher value than other hardwoods such as cottonwood.
- Craterview Loop – information signs regarding various silviculture approaches; opportunity to improve access with some spot application of surface gravel and interp signs to benefit public education.
- Suggest CCF provide information on replanting efforts since it started in 2009; are the replanted areas growing adequately and achieving "free to grow" status?
- FWAC subgroup recommends CCF review and update its various planning documents (EBM Plan, silviculture, Forest Stewardship Plan, etc.)
- Add these comments to the 2019 Annual Report on CCF activities

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**FWAC Members'
Terms**

A discussion by FWAC regarding FWAC members' terms.

- Christine Bilodeau stepped down in August 2020
- Derek Bonin – extend term to July 2021 which will be maximum term length
- Trevor Burton, Colin Rankin – extend term one year to December 2021
- All other members continue

OTHER BUSINESS

N/A.

UPCOMING AGENDAS

- November: CCF Harvesting and wildfire treatment plans (invite CCF GIS tech to share maps online during meeting); Annual report to CCF
- December: green fuel breaks
- 2021: Craterview Loop tour

MOTION TO TERMINATE

Moved by A. DeJong


Seconded by T. Burton

That the Forest and Wildland Advisory Committee Meeting of October 14, 2020 be terminated at 4:30 p.m.

CARRIED



Chair, M. Tardif



Recording Secretary, H. Beresford