

# Nanaimo River Watershed Roundtable

City of Nanaimo Public Works Building, 2020 Labieux Road.

January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014 – 1:00 pm

## MEETING NOTES

### Participants in Attendance:

Gail Adrienne (NALT), Scott Akenhead (VICCS, formerly MISSI), Larry Bell (Recreational Paddlers), David Bramley (Harmac), Rick Bryan (RCABC), Paul Chapman (NALT), Dave Clough (DR Clough Consulting), Don Cohen (VIU), Bob Colclough (LSA), Molly Hudson (TimberWest), Rob Lawrance (CoN), Joe Materi (Ursus), David O'Brien (DFO), Louise Shuker (Landowner), Bill Sims (CoN), Marjorie Stewart (Meeting Facilitator), Catherine Watson (NALT), Nicolette Watson (DFO), Fraser Wilson (NALT), Dorothy Woodhouse (VICCS).

**1) Approval of Agenda** – Approved by Consensus

**2) Introductions**

New Participant – Rick Bryan – Recreational Canoeing Association of B.C. (RCABC) and Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club.

New Representative – Dorothy Woodhouse – Vancouver Island and Coast Conservation Society (VICCS)

**3) Review of Notes from Last Meeting, Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013** – Approved by Consensus

**4) Business Arising from Notes**

### **Committee Updates:**

- Communications Committee – Scott Akenhead

- The Coquitlam River Watershed website template could be used as for NRWR.
- The template could be produced and hosted for a cost of \$1,000 - \$2,000.
- Content would be added by Roundtable participants and the Education and Awareness Committee.
- Someone would have to dedicate 5 to 8 hrs/week as webmaster. It was suggested that webmaster duties could rotate between participants (monthly?).
- David Bramley volunteered to help with website implementation.
- Concerns were raised about consent of the Coquitlam group - the need to communicate intentions with them is important.

- Education and Awareness Committee – Don Cohen

- Don Cohen asked for approval of NRWR draft brochure.
- By consensus it was agreed that the brochure should be emailed to participants for review and input.
- Any feedback should be emailed to Paul Chapman and cc'd to Deryck Cowling by February 14<sup>th</sup>.

- Budget Committee – Gail Adrienne

- The Budget Committee – Gail Adrienne, Paul Chapman, Molly Hudson and Domenico Iannidinaro met on January 7<sup>th</sup>.

- The Committee generated three draft budgets, representing from minimal to full funding of the Roundtable. Brought forward for consideration. Addressed later in the meeting, after Dave Clough's presentation and recommendations.

#### **NALT Acquisitions Committee – Fraser Wilson**

- NALT has drafted a proposal to the RDN to request that they partner on the purchase of one or several Couverdon properties along the Nanaimo River for parkland. Currently awaiting a response from the RDN.
- NALT will pursue other possible partnerships that could collaborate in an acquisition.
- As parkland, the properties could support recreational access, environmental and educational values.

### **5) New Business**

- **Fish and Fish Habitat Assessment Update – Dave Clough**

- On behalf of NALT and with funding from PSF, DR Clough Consulting conducted a review of the 2002 Fish and Fish Habitat Assessment Report (Gaboury) to update and prioritize restoration options in the Nanaimo River watershed.

- The original report by Gaboury and the updated research conducted by D.R. Clough lists viable enhancement projects by site, and identifies data gaps needing further research.

- The prioritized list includes:

- completion of the original design to add spawning gravel at Second Lake,
- investigate side-channel sites,
- undertake listed LWD enhancement, and
- a follow-up field inspection of Deadwood Creek.

- With community partners including the Nanaimo Fish & Game Protective Association and the Nanaimo Airport, Dave Clough is applying for PSF funding to install LWD at Airport property/Haslam Creek site. He asked for a Letter of Support from the Roundtable.

**By Consensus it was agreed that Dave O'Brien would draft a LoS indicating that those Roundtable participants present at this meeting encourage the Fish & Game Association in their efforts to improve fish habitat in Haslam Creek.**

**It was suggested that the draft LoS be circulated to RDN and Island Timberlands representatives to the Roundtable to see if they too would like to be named in support of this project.**

- NALT will discuss with Dave Clough next steps toward adding spawning gravel at Second Lake.

- **Draft Budgets – Gail Adrienne**

- Three budgets representing NRWR operations as they currently exist (Low Estimate), with a modest increase in funding (Mid Estimate) and more generous funding (High Estimate).

- Along with NALT and NALT-sourced and other funding, TimberWest has dedicated \$2,000 towards the Roundtable Budget for 2014

- With current funding available, even the Low Estimate is projected to have a \$1,155 deficit.

- Participants were asked to consider contributing towards Roundtable operations as feasible and appropriate.

- **Communication Committee – Website Implementation**

- Scott Akenhead will get firm numbers for the cost of implementing the website and create a template. \$1,000 is the suggested budget.

## **6) Next Meeting**

- The next meeting of the Roundtable will be on March 26<sup>th</sup> at Harmac. Details will be circulated.

## **7) Adjournment at 3 pm.**