

Fraser Valley Regional Watersheds Coalition
General Meeting
March 12, 2008, 7:00-9:45 pm
UCFV Abbotsford
Room A233



General Meeting Minutes (DRAFT)

Attendees:

Lance Lilley (FVRWC/FVRD)	Tom Cadieux (FVRWC)
Dick Bunbury (FVRWC)	Bob Thomas (FVRWC)
Margaret Bunbury (Central Valley Naturalists)	Dan Sneep (DFO)
Rene Roddick (BC Hydro)	Karen Calla (DFO)
Michaela Burke (GAL)	Andrew Walter (BC Hydro)
Tom Cadieux (FVRWC/DFO)	Mike Pearson (FVRWC, Pearson Ecological)
David Urban (FVRWC/FVRD)	Lucy Pearson (Fraser-Harrison Smart Growth)
Kelly Urban	Detmar Schwichtenberg (Fraser-Harrison Smart Growth)
Ella Urban	

Presentation: "Species-at-Risk, Critical Habitat, and Private Land"

By: **Mike Pearson** (Pearson Ecological) - biology and ecology of Nooksack Dace and Salish Sucker; Critical Habitat designation from Recovery Team;
Karen Calla & Dan Sneep (DFO) - DFO, SARA, and Critical Habitat in Abbotsford and Langley;
Detmar Schwichtenberg (Fraser-Harrison Smart Growth) - riparian planting with species that can generate revenue

Book Draw and Break:

- Total of 22 tickets were sold
 - Winner of Draw: Lucy Pearson
 - Selected Prize: 'Beginners Guide to Dragonflies' by Nikula et al.
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1.0 Adoption of Agenda

- Agenda approved, except to carry-over the AGM topic for the next meeting.

2.0 Society Business

2.1 Membership Reminder

- Attendees were reminded of membership renewal required for the new fiscal (beginning April 1, 2008). Membership is required for voting in the AGM, with dues helping to cover meeting and administration costs of the Coalition. Membership fees are \$10/year.
- Membership fees were collected from Mike and Lucy Pearson, Bob Thomas, and Detmar (\$40.00 total).

2.2 Future Project Direction

- Lance and Tom provided a synopsis of what was discussed during the recent Watershed Planning Joint Management Committee (FVRD, DFO, FVRWC) on Feb 21, 2008. It was noted during this meeting that current projects are largely decided opportunistically, but in the future a more strategic approach would be preferred. Ideally, some “shelf-ready” projects and ideas that can be quickly mobilized if time or funding opportunities arise can be compiled. Another suggestion was to spend more effort on each project to ensure that we get the most “bang for the buck” from these projects. For example there might be opportunities to include more Coalition members on certain projects (e.g., to educate or involve the community), and additional opportunities for synergy between projects and Coalition meetings.
- ACTION: Bob volunteered to review and revise the 2000 FVRWC Vision document and will send it around for comment.

2.3 Next Meeting

- Meeting Dates: As the current meeting schedule conflicts with the Central Valley Naturalists, it was proposed to move meetings to the 3rd Thursday of the month (beginning May 15 2008). This was agreed following approval by Bruce.
 - Tentative meeting dates:
 - May 15, 2008 (Chilliwack)
 - July 17, 2008 (Abbotsford)
 - Sept 18, 2008 (Chilliwack)
 - Nov 20, 2008 (Abbotsford) (AGM unless held earlier)
- Next Meeting Topic: The group discussed that gravel removal from the Fraser River would be a worthwhile and interesting topic for the next (or subsequent) general meeting. The intent would be to discuss the science behind gravel removal, without getting involved in the politics or appearing to advocate for one side or the other. Ideally, we can invite someone from academia and someone from the aggregate industry.
 - ACTION: Mike to contact Dr. Mike Church about possibly presenting.
- Communications: It was suggested that meeting minutes and presentations (pdfs) be made available to the public on the Coalition website (www.fvrwc.org).
 - ACTION: Lance to look into possibility.

3.0 Announcements

- March 20 – Mike Pearson planning a community planting on Miami River (HHS)
- March 29 – Planting at Blue Heron Reserve
- March 29 – Open House for South Coast Conservation Program at Evergreen Hall (Chwk). Mike Pearson (local species-at-risk) and Lance (Chilliwack River Watershed Strategy) are both presenting.
- March 29 – Open House in Cultus Lake for Cultus Lake Aquatic Stewardship Strategy (CLASS) for residents to share stories and photos about Cultus Lake.

4.0 Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm