

SOUTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting #9 Minutes

January 23, 2007 – 6:30 PM

Seniors Hall, Sparwood, BC

In Attendance:

Bill Adair – ILMB, Chair
Sangita Sudan - ILMB
Karen Kendal - ILMB, minutes
Pat Gilmar – Public Non-motorized
winter recreation
McBeath – Public Summer Non-
motorized Recreation
Casey Brennan – Ecosystems
Kent Petovello – Recreational Hunting
Bill Hanlon – Wildlands
Dave Beranek – Guide Outfitter
Jim Lant – Heritage
Mike Sosnowski – Motorized
Backcountry Tourism

Douglas Dean – Public Motorized
Winter Recreation
Ross Stanfield – Mineral
Exploration/Mining
Gordon Galloway – Public Motorized
summer recreation
Ken Streloff – Tembec
Paul Freeze - Tembec
Gayle Travis – District of Sparwood
Craig Robinson – District of Elkford
Dave Hillary – Nature Conservancy of
Canada
Peter Cunningham – EK Residents
Land Use Coalition
Steve Kuijt – Front Country Tourism

Observers

Maarten Hart
David Eider – Flathead Outfitter
Harry Luenberger – Flathead Outfitter

1. Welcomes and Introductions

- The Chair introduced Dave McBeath from the Fernie Mountain Bike Club who will now be representing Public Non Motorized Summer Recreation and replacing Bernie Palmer. Dave will be working with Maarten Hart to best represent this sector.

2. Approval of meeting Minutes June 20, 2006

- The Chair asked for changes to the minutes. None were expressed. Mike S made the motion to approve. Dave Hillary seconds. All are in favour.

3. Business arising out of June 7th meeting

- Chair recapped what occurred at the last meeting.
- Gordon Gormely of Cline Mining had an open house in the valley. Someone asked for the name of the biologist from EBA.
- Irene Teske discussed the Wigwam AMA and the location of the Trapper Cabin

- Fred Thiesen was here to discuss the use of FRPA for legalizing implementation of non-motorized areas in the Boivin, Brule and Norboe Creek areas.
- Mike asked if Bighorn helicopters were sent a letter, and the Chair confirmed it had been sent.

4. New Business

- Upper Flathead: TEMBEC road development
 - The Chair reviewed and summarized the issues expressed by the sectors represented on the Recreation Working group.
 - All Agree:
 - Maintain traditional use in the area, McEvoy road thru Barnes Ranch, existing roads remain open
 - Winter opening of area for snowmobiles
 - Closed in Spring
 - Closed during hunting Season
 - General Agreement not obtained
 - Motorized use in Summer
 - The Group has asked the Chair to make the decision. The Chair asks for comments on management from July to August,
 - No comments
 - Chair suggested that they could take a field trip there this summer to look at the area.

a) East Flathead: AMA legalized closures

- Chair pulled out maps for East Flathead to inform table of MOE proposal regarding the SRMACs recommendation for placing an AMA over the entire pink area.
- MOE will take direction from SRMAC in regards to applying AMA closures under the *Wildlife Act* for the East Flathead.
- Kent pointed out problems with map. The Kishinena road is shown.
- Map errors that need correction
 - The pink area should go to the height of land in Pollock Creek.
 - Summer has grey spots in pink
 - Tombstone Mountain- should be black line on Café Creek to 2.5 km at the first creek crossing (is shown on the brochure map)
 - Middle Pass (new AMA) closed during snowfree open in snowbound
 - Road to Proctor lake not shown on brochure map during snowbound period
- Doug Dean said map needs to be revised to show UWR on winter map or add note to winter map directing people to the website. Moving the boundary to the road will be better for enforcement.

- Dave B said get Bob Jamison's notes from meeting held with the Conservation Officers regarding road. Meeting notes should be reflected on the map since these were agreed to. Should use the West Flathead road as a boundary.
- Chair read the reference from Bob's meeting that had agreement to extend area to road.
- Kent said they agreed to summer closure on Kishinena to oil city. This is past the intersection of bridge 1 to 2 km. It is in MOE notes and this area is a historical site. Winter map doesn't show Kish road open in winter, this is a mistake and should show it as open
- Jim Lant spoke to the historical significance of Oil City
- Ken Streloff mentioned a couple of washouts that make it difficult for larger vehicles to access this road.
- Dave Eider (observer) wants access to bring horse back in at the end of summer. The horses pasture in the area in the summer. The horses come to the sound of the truck and it makes retrieval easier.
- Kent replied that Dave could obtain a permit from MOE for this.
- Summary of East Flathead closure recommendations:
 - Boundaries for winter = road, summer = river
 - Height of Land at Pollock Creek
 - Kish road open to Oil city in summer, closed in hunting season 95/96 km (VAHC), open to Oil City in winter.
- Gordon, mention on Corbin Creek there is a big sign to join the Corbin Creek Country Club. This group is a non-profit society from Alberta. Members of the snowmobile federation dealt with Neil Shuttleworth on the signs. This sign is not recognized by government.
- Peter asked if may be a BC registered group.

ACTION: Chair to check into this.

- Casey suggested it would have been good for this group to talk to the recreation committee.
- Kent pointed out that the sign looked homemade.
- Bill suggested they should be contacted. They may have the ability to pass on maps of the SRMMP to their members.

b) Norboe/Brule/Boivin: FRPA legalized closures

- Chair informed there is a gate at Boivin Creek put there by TEMBEC at the nose of the cut block. At south Boivin Road. The ski hill also has a gate.
- Peter C informed Cross country trail not gated some access for snowmobile and in summer by quads.

- Bill Hanlon informed summer use is increasing in there. Boundary is okay. GPS the boundary for accuracy.
- Chair suggested putting the FRPA closure in the area by Order and advertising.
- Bill H suggested putting an AMA over Wiegert with FRPA on the area is redundant. Just cover the area with FRPA closure.
- Doug D pointed out the roads in Brule Creek, next to the highway, are not the same as in the summer as in the winter. This needs to be looked at to confirm accuracy with original plan.
- Bill H pointed out Crossing creek area east of the road is motorized. Also Brule creek and Crossing Creek need to be added. The gate put there by TEMBEC can be used as the boundary for the closure. The AMA designation of the road can be replaced with a FRPA closure over the Wiegert creek area (with same constraints as current AMA). Also pointed out the short non-motorized recreation trail shown on map at Norboe Creek. Bill asked how long will this process take?
- The table agreed with the Brule Creek gate location as proposed by TEMBEC.
- Chair responded about 3 months.
- Ken S asked who is going to manage gates at the closures for long term maintenance.
- Chair informed will have to check with MTSA and get back to them.

ACTION: Chair to check on who is going to manage the gates at the closure on Crossing Creek and Brule Creek.

- Chair – need to work with TEMBEC and City of Elkford to find solution for managing the gate.
 - Douglas D – would like some of the original roads added and not on the brochure map, if ungulate winter range is removed on West side of road north of Elkford.
 - Discussion about this area being in a private woodlot and what happens when the road is ploughed in the winter time.
 - Summary of changes for Boivin-Weigert-Brule-Norboe Creeks access management.
 - Combine these areas into a single amendment for the SRMMP
 - Remove the non-motorized from the west side of the main haul road in the crossing creek area
 - Also add roads to the winter map to reflect the summer map for this area
 - Use TEMBEC gate in Boivin Creek as the boundary for FRPA closure
 - Look at removing AMA from Weigert Creek and replacing it with FRPA closure, for consistency
 - Look at Brule Creek, add to the winter map the roads that are on the summer map

- Norboe Creek- the road marked on the summer map is not a road, but a non-motorized recreation trail

c) *New Direction in Planning*

- The Chair updated table on new direction and generally on planning through out the province. Government is looking at various aspects of planning as well as the new relationship with First Nations. Chair informed that he is part of a task team that is examining Public Implementation and Monitoring Committees. Looking at what their role is and how to gain some efficiencies. Government wants to figure out how to maintain the Land and Resource plans that have been developed throughout the province. Any new Land Use Plans will require a business case, why, how and for what reason is this plan being initiated. Questions are being asked what we are doing with our other plans such as the Kootenay-Boundary Higher Level Plan. On the Coast there has been a lot spent developing the LRMPs and figuring out how to implement them.
- Casey asked about section 2.2. SRMP part of phase 3. The KTC have a LUP. Is government planning on incorporating their values into the SRMMP?
- Chair informed that the First Nations are in treaty process. Not sure if their information will be added to plans. This will evolve with the New relationship that results from the treaty process. It will have to be determined how much of their information may be brought into the SRMMP.
- Peter C asked about Public Implementation and Monitoring Committee, direction (PIMC)
- Chair informed that they are discussing options regarding the make up and role of current and future committees. The subcommittees give local input on evolving things. How will we resource this? The goal is to meet needs of the public and make sure resources are available. If moving to different mode there needs to be a transition.

d) *Signage*

- There is funding available for 6 kiosks with roofs. They will be 4'x8' boards with the map of the SRMMP and direction on access management strategy for the area they are located in.
- Gordon asked where these kiosks be posted?
- Chair listed key areas such as Corbin Road, the Alberta access areas, etc.
- Bill asked should we put this out to tender in order to get several quotes rather than going with the one?
- Kent wanted to pinpoint key areas and suggested maybe having a working group look into this.

e) *Field Trip*

- The Chair suggested going on a field trip in the last half of August. Dave Eider offered at his cabin in the Kishinena as a possible stop.
- Casey informed that Bob Cutts place is also open.

5. Feedback and Issues from Sectors

- Dave B asked about the time schedule for comments on Cline Mine development.
- Chair informed that they have a 60 day time frame to take in public comments.
- Casey B said that they did not give specific details on when they will have their Terms of Reference. If the Canadian Environmental assessment (CEA) opened then the time line of 60 days may change. The CEA is a federal trigger specifically for the tailings waste dump.
- It was also mentioned that navigable waters on Lodgepole and Flathead would be a trigger and if another province or a State in the US can make a request under section 57. Montana may request this.
- Kent - 29 mile Creek interim area hasn't been decided yet, need to put on the agenda for Recreation Working group
- Discussion around the Corbin snowmobile trails and the group from Alberta that is grooming the trails.

6. Next Meeting

- The next SRMAC meeting may possibly be in June.