



**Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
Natural Resources Committee
(Committee of the Whole)
Agenda**

Thursday, May 4, 2023

PAGE NO.

ACTION

Agenda – May 4, 2023

Approve

Supplementary Agenda

Receive

MINUTES

2-4

Natural Resources Committee Meeting Minutes
- September 8, 2022

Approve

DELEGATIONS

MINISTRY OF FORESTS

Steffy Howard-Stratton, Section Head, Strategic Initiatives and Forest Landscape Planning and
Beth Eagles, District Manager, Nadina Natural Resources District

RE: Lakes Resiliency Project Current Condition Report

5

(Attached: April 20, 2023 Board Memo – Lakes Resiliency Project)

FOREST ENHANCEMENT SOCIETY OF BC

Gord Pratt, Senior Manager and
Peter Tweedie, General Manager, Babine Lake Community Forest and Tyhee Forestry Consultants

RE: Granisle Wildfire Risk Reduction Project and 2023 Funding Programs

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO**NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING****Thursday, September 8, 2022**

PRESENT: Chair Shane Brienen

Directors Gladys Atrill
Mark Fisher
Dolores Funk
Tom Greenaway
Clint Lambert
Linda McGuire
Bob Motion
Chris Newell
Mark Parker
Jerry Petersen
Michael Riis-Christianson
Gerry Thiessen

Directors Annette Morgan, Village of Telkwa
Absent Sarrah Storey, Village of Fraser Lake

Staff Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer
Cheryl Anderson, Director of Corporate Services
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer
Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning
Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of Corporate Services

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Brienen called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

AGENDAMoved by Director Newell
Seconded by Director Greenaway**NRC.2022-4-1**

"That the Natural Resources Committee Agenda for September 8, 2022 be approved."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MINUTES

Natural Resources Committee Meeting Minutes - June 16, 2022 Moved by Director McGuire
 Seconded by Director Atrill

NRC.2022-4-2 "That the Natural Resources Committee Meeting Minutes of June 16, 2022 be approved."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORT

Possible Approaches to Regional Forestry and Natural Resource Challenges

Chair Brienen provided a brief overview of meeting with Al Gorley, Triangle Resources Inc. on August 16, 2022.

The following was discussed:

- Bringing forward comments and information for the newly elected Board
- Village of Burns Lake expressed similar concerns as the RDBN to Mr. Gorley
 - o Hoping to continue further discussions
 - o Village of Burns Lake may be interested in working together with the RDBN to move forest challenges forward
- Omineca Beetle Action Coalition (OBAC)
 - o Dissolved due to the lack of funding in May 2017
 - o Formed to address the Mountain Pine Beetle epidemic
 - o Worked to bring communities together in advocating to the Province
- Cariboo-Chilcotin Beetle Action Coalition (CCBAC)
- Southern Interior Beetle Action Coalition (SIBAC)
- The potential formation of another coalition similar to OBAC
- The possibility of continuing discussions with Mr. Gorley and other consultants
- Forestry and the larger picture of natural resources
- Continued advocacy for northern forestry challenges.

NEW BUSINESS

Mining Projects in the Region Discussion took place regarding the following:

- o Huckleberry Mine
- o Blackwater Project – Artemis Gold Inc.
 - September 8, 2022 – News Release - Artemis Prices Final EPC Contract for the Process Plant with Sedgman at \$318 Million
- o Telkwa Coal.

Forest Enhancement BC Highlights Village of Granisle Wildfire Mitigation Works Director McGuire commented that Forest Enhancement BC has highlighted the Village of Granisle wildfire mitigation works in its 2022 Accomplishments Report.

NEW BUSINESS (CONT'D)

BC Wildfire Services Base
 -Vanderhoof

Director Thiessen mentioned that BC Wildfire Service purchased a hangar and completed converting it to a regional firebase at the Vanderhoof Airport. He spoke of the benefits of having the Base in Vanderhoof to support the north.

Smithers Drax Pellet
 Plant

Director Atrill brought forward concerns regarding communication with Drax Pellet Plant in Smithers and bringing forward information regarding operations to the Natural Resources Committee.

The following was discussed:

- Concerns regarding the potential use of green wood to supply fibre for the Pellet Plant
- Need to retrieve and use wood waste
- Village of Granisle, when conducting its wildfire mitigation utilized as much fibre as possible – very minimal piles remained
- Impacts of the reduction of the Allowable Annual Cut (AAC) to fibre supply to operations such bioenergy and pellet plants
- West Fraser co-generation plant in Fraser Lake is also experiencing fibre challenges with the recent curtailment of West Fraser Sawmill.

Natural Resources

Director Atrill spoke of the broader natural resources in the region as well as mining in northwest BC. There are large scale projects that are in close vicinity to Smithers but located outside the Regional District boundaries. Chair Brienens noted that mines outside the region provide employment and revenue in regional communities.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Newell
 Seconded by Director Lambert

NRC.2022-4-3

“That the meeting be adjourned at 1:37 p.m.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Shane Brienens, Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Deputy Director of
 Corporate Services



Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board Meeting

To: Chair and Board
From: John Illes, Chief Financial Officer
Date: April 20, 2023
Subject: Lakes Resiliency Project

RECOMMENDATION: (all/directors/majority)

Receipt

BACKGROUND

Discussion

The province has completed a draft of the Current Condition Report for the Lakes Resiliency Project. The report outlines the current condition of the forested ecosystem in the Lakes Timber Supply Area that includes the Village of Burns Lake, Electoral Area "B" and Electoral Area "E".

The province is seeking public feedback on this updated inventory and condition report. Once the condition report is complete, the information the report contains will drive the creation of a forest landscape plan. It is the Forest Landscape Plan that will impact natural resource management in the Lakes Timber Supply Area.

Public feedback on the draft report will be collected by the province until May 22, 2023. Staff will bring back this report at the May committee meeting for discussion in order to collect information from the Directors to provide the Board's feedback to the province before the May 22, 2023 deadline.

Attachments:

[Draft Current Condition Assessment for the Lakes Resiliency Project *via link*](#)