

Central Interior ERA Communications Outreach

June 12th to June 14th 2007

Purpose: Engage all levels of community in NCC's work to ensure that the community at large understands NCC as an organization and understands the ERA process. Key points included awareness of where assistance is needed (identify available data and potential expert reviewers), and that the purpose of the project is to provide information to the community, not revisit or critique planning processes completed or underway.

Attendees: Ranged from provincial government staff, regional and municipal planners and politicians, industry, First Nations, and local naturalists.

NCC Presenters: Dave Nicolson and Umeeda Switlo.

Key materials: Materials were the same as prepare for June 5-7 2007 workshops.

- Power point presentation (variable content depending upon audience - ranging from 15 min to 1 hour and 30 min).
- Handout - map of BC showing the ecoregions, highlighting the Central Interior.
- Handout - NCC Backgrounder.
- Poster Boards highlighting the Central Interior, ERA Funders, the ERA Process (2), and NCC's science approach.
- Library copies of Okanagan, North Cascades and Pacific NW Coast ERAs.
- CDs of above projects to give to interested people.
- NCC Mugs, hats, and water bottles for giveaways.

Tuesday June 12 – Cariboo-Chilcotin Beetle Action Coalition (C-CBAC)

Pre-amble:

- 15 minute presentation during lunch (12:30-1 pm), followed by brief Q&A.
- Attended by political and economic leaders of Cariboo (including mayors or 100 Mile House and Quesnel) - 14 people present (5 of 8 directors plus guests).
- Main points made about NCC in addition to the presentation:
 - 1) We have read the CCLUP and recognize the work the community has done.
 - 2) We work with collaborators and, in order for this project to be successful, we will use the information gathered from your work to enhance our scientific analysis.
 - 3) The Central Interior Ecoregion is larger than the Cariboo/ Chilcotin boundaries and is almost 25 million hectares.
 - 4) The ERA is an assessment of Biodiversity and not a planning process as is the CCLUP. NCC does however use results from the ERA to plan its own objectives, as we have done across Canada.
 - 5) NCC is interested in landscape scale conservation with attention to connectivity for species. This is achieved through our science underpinning.
 - 6) We work in partnerships and we are non confrontational and not advocacy oriented.
 - 7) We create employment within a community and respect its values.

- 8) We work on private lands (fee simple) in our acquisitions and partnerships.
- 9) We have achieved expertise in our science and inclusive approach and therefore have received recognition for our work and funding for projects such as the CI ERA.

We can now assist in data assembly that can be used by communities as they wish. Our intention is to produce a product that is useful to this community.

Attending:

Name	Position Position outside of board	Contact
Donna Barnett	Chair CCBAC Mayor, District of 100 Mile House	Not for general distribution, NCC maintains a master contact list. Please contact us for more information.
Dave Neads	Vice-chair President, Cariboo Chilcotin Conservation Society	
Ken Falloon	Director Director, Electoral Area B (Quesnel West, Bouchie Lake) Cariboo Regional District	
Guenter Weckerle	Director Woods Manager, West Fraser Mills Ltd	
Nate Bello	Director Mayor, City of Quesnel	
Keith Dufresne	Manager, C-CBAC President, Inland Timber Management	
Bill McIntyre	Communications contractor for C-CBAC fair force	
MJ (Mari-Jane) Cousins	Tourism Sector contractor for C-CBAC M-J Cousins Consulting	
Dave Zirnhelt	Forest Worker Sector Strategy– presenter at C-CBAC	
Nancy Gale	Social Development Working Group representative – presenter at C-CBAC	
Kurt Pedersen	Social Development Working Group representative – presenter at C-CBAC	
Gord Borgstrom	Director, Economic Development MOFR MPB Response Team	
Ray Schulz	Assistant Deputy Minister MOFR MPB Response Team	
Plus attendees who did not sign in – guests to C-CBAC meeting		

Directors Absent:

- Chief Fred Robbins (Esktemec First Nations – representing Shuswap Language Group)
- Chief Ervin Charleyboy (Tsi Del Del Band (Redstone) – representing the 5 bands of the Tsilhqotin National Government)
- Scott Nelson – Mayor of City of Williams Lake

Discussion:

- C-CBAC will be presenting its own conservation strategy that will be available once approved by the board. This work is being directed by Dave Neads.
- Question (Falloon): why was NCC asked to do this work – why not provincial staff, who are paid to do the work.
 - Response was: the province has contributed to, but not fully funded, this project. They would like a non-partisan group, recognized as and working with scientists, planners and local knowledge experts, who can work efficiently, especially with First Nations groups, to provide the community

with important information required to make decisions relating to their conservation efforts. Provincial staff are working with us, and some outcomes will be useful to provincial government, but other outcomes useful to other organizations. Plus, administratively, the CI study area transcends provincial government regions for MoE, MoFR etc. The study incorporates ecological boundaries which are larger than the C-CBAC area of interest.

- Mayor of 100 Mile House wants us to look at deer and Canada geese as being threats to indigenous species.
- Weckerle - wanted to know if he missed the NCC meeting with industry
 - Response: we have not met with industry yet – wanted to present to C-CBAC first. We have had some preliminary discussions with CanFor (John Deal) and we will be contacting industry.

Action:

- Meet with forest industry.
- Keep C-CBAC advised as to progress.
- Present to C-CBAC when work near completion / report prepared.

Tuesday June 12 – Cariboo Regional District and Williams Lake Planning Staff

Name	Affiliation	Contact
Francesca Sanna	Cariboo Regional District (CRD) Planning Officer	Not for general distribution, NCC maintains a master contact list. Please contact us for more information.
Liliana Dragauskd	City of Williams Lake Planner	
Bert Groenenburg	South Carrier (Chilcotin) Tribal Council - Community Planning and Economic Development	

Held after CCBAC meeting at 2:30 pm at Williams Lake Municipal Hall

Discussion:

- CRD planning staff very interested in how NCC can help them – they are experiencing a record level of permit applications and do not have resources (staff, funds) to develop conservation data over their large area; the ERA results will be helpful.
- Williams Lake is interested in how municipalities can use NCC support to manage, plan and restore for micro-ecosystems. Campbell River Estuary was provided as an example of a partnership between NCC and a municipality.
- Brown Trout are an excellent indicator species in the region.
- Endangered wolf in North (Nisga’a Valley) – Red Columbia?.

Action:

- Circulate contact info on experts and data sets.
- Send example of Campbell River restoration project to Liliana
- Review *Develop With Care* report created by MOE staff in 2007
 - info on targets etc

Tuesday June 12 – Williams Lake Public Meeting

Name	Affiliation	Contact
Bette McLennan		Not for general distribution, NCC maintains a master contact list. Please contact us for more information.
Fred McKekran	Williams Lake Field Naturalists Society	
Chris Blake	Quesnel River Watershed Alliance (QRWA)	
Ray Coupe	Ministry of Forests and Range, Research Plant Ecologist	
Rod Mariner	Quesnel River Watershed Alliance	
Charles and Ruth Traverse		
Beverly Butcher		
LeRae Haynes	Cariboo Advisor	
Sue Hemphill	Scout Island Nature Centre Environmental Educator	

Held at Scout Island Nature House – 7:30 pm

Attended by about 15-20 conservation oriented individuals (Sign in sheet lost)

Notice of meeting placed in community notes in the papers, on the radio and sent out to following listserves: Cariboo Chilcotin Conservation Society list, Williams Lake Field Naturalists, Friends of Scout Island (thank you Sue Hemphill!)

Discussion:

- Concern about mineral rights claims affecting our lands
- Concern about crown land and the very small % of private land
- Concern about NCC being too closely aligned to big business and government
- Concern about Fir Beetle and Spruce Budworm
- Concern about government staff availability to contribute to project (allocated time and management priorities)
- MPB and climate change
 - Alter wind patterns – seed dispersal
 - Warm/cold climate impact on vegetation – global impact on local level - beyond precipitation
- Co-generation plant – will change micro-climate in area
- Small lakes logged to south shore will lose fish as fish require that vegetated habitat

Action:

- Respond to Fred McKekran's questions- *done June 19*
- Respond to question posed R. Mariner and send Central Coast ERA
- Respond to climate change in the local community question posed by Bette McLennan

- Chris Blake and Rod Mariner (QRWA) would like to speak with Sara Howard about data relating to water in the Quesnel lake systems
- Work with MoFR contacts to ensure local managers understand importance of the project to the Ministry, and the fiscal commitment the Ministry has made to the project. Ensure key local staff identified as resources by the project team have time allocated in their workplan to contribute to the project.

Wednesday June 13 – Quesnel Planning Staff and others

Name	Affiliation	Contact
Lori Carifelle	Program Director, Baker Street Enhancement Society	Not for general distribution, NCC maintains a master contact list. Please contact us for more information.
Carolee Oaks	Councilor, City of Quesnel and Manager, Quesnel & District Chamber of Commerce	
Tanya Turner	City Planner, City of Quesnel	
Robert Moutray	Manager of Sandman Inn - Quesnel	
Thomas Drasdauskis	Freelance photographer – Bowron Recreation	

Held at Quesnel & District Chamber of Commerce, 2 pm

Discussion:

- Carolee Oaks will present a summary of our talk to Quesnel Mayor and Council
- Lori willing to be on expert panel
- Important properties off of highway south of Williams Lake – dead lakes, small ponds, rolling hills. Important for duck migration.
- Talk to guide-outfitters for information
- Priority threats or values: Mtn Pine Beetle; Pacific Salmon; Wetlands-stream restoration
- Industrial groups (public advisory) formed for CSA certification have done lots of work in reports (e.g. values). Talk to woodland managers
 - Weldwood (work complete – firm since taken over by West Fraser)
 - Canfor (going through process now - (woodland manager - Kevin?)
 - Tolko

Action:

- Keep in touch with community
- Follow-up with Lori serving on expert panel
- Contact Bo Mills (Quesnel River Environmental) and Pat Teti (Hydrologist MoFR Williams Lake)
- Look into Weldwood Public Advisory working group reports (also Canfor and Tolko)

Thursday June 14 – 100 Mile House Staff and public

Name	Affiliation	Contact
Tom Godin	Wild Bird Trust	Not for general distribution, NCC maintains a master contact list. Please contact us for more information.
Roy Tomlinson	Deka Basin Watershed Comm.	
Dan Walling		
Gordon & Eleanor Hoglund	Lower Bridge Creek Watershed Stewardship Society	
Derrian Pettman	Lower Bridge Creek Watershed Stewardship Society	
Bonnie Winter	Lower Bridge Creek Watershed Stewardship Society 108 Mile Ranch Greenbelt Committee	
Bernadette Mertens-McAllister and Peter McAllister		
Al Paterson	100 Mile Free Press	
Graham Allison	108 Greenbelt Committee	
Joanne Doddridge	Planner, District of 100 Mile House	
Donna Barnet	Mayor, District of 100 Mile House	
	President, 100 Mile Development Corporation	

Held at 100 Mile House City Hall 9am

Discussion:

- Dan Walling from Thompson RD Planner knew Daphne Olgivie
- Tom Godin offered audio for birds – males will be singing for next 2 weeks. Interested in Olgivie Property

Action:

- Keep in touch with community
- Follow-up with attendees for expert review group
- Invite attendees to Olgivie Property
- Graham Allison would like information on fence designs - *done*
- Peter McAllister would like a copy of the birding report for Tatlayoko