

Summary of meeting Horsefly River Roundtable Draft as at 19 February 2007

Date: 15 February 2007

Time: 7:00 to 9:00pm

Location: Horsefly Community Hall

An initial meeting of the Horsefly River Roundtable was convened as a result of an advertisement in the Horsefly Buzz in fall 2006. Linda Bartsch of the Horsefly Board of Trade kept track of people's interest, and coordinated this initial meeting to explore the purpose of starting a roundtable in the community. Mike Simpson of the Fraser Basin Council agreed to facilitate this initial meeting.

Mike Simpson described that the Fraser Basin Council is a non-profit organization with a sustainability mandate of balancing economic, environmental and social interests. The council helps manage multiparty processes as long as all interest groups are included and no political positions are taken. He asked the participants **why they were here tonight, and what their concerns were**. The responses, in the order they were raised:

- Community voice for economic, environmental and social issues
- Fish, fishing for sustenance, and spawning habitat
- Logging and proximity to properties and the Horsefly River
- Logging trucks
- Tributary streams, siltation and spawning
- Hydrology of the entire watershed
- Ecosystem health
- Horsefly River and erosion
- Placer mine reserve on the Horsefly River, and access to mining opportunities
- Road access in the watershed
- Interested in what's happening – community involvement, community development, tourism
- Recreational tubing on the river – pollution, safety
- Stewardship
- Viewscape and aesthetics
- Natural history/education – knowledge and appreciation of
- Communication with agencies, organizations and industry
- Cariboo Chilcotin Land Use Plan and Sustainable Resource Management Plan
- Funding opportunities and remediation

Sean Bennett of Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) in Kamloops spoke about his involvement with numerous roundtables in the Southern Interior. They include roundtables for the Nicola River, Merritt, and Little Fort area which were driven by ranching concerns, as well as ones in Lumby and Salmon Arm that started with more diverse interests. From his perspective, the formation of a roundtable has been a positive experience in those communities. Roundtables allow organizations like DFO to communicate with community interests more effectively than talking to people one at a time. Roundtables allow communities to voice their concerns as a common voice. Roundtables also allow efficient distribution of funds for projects in a watershed. Art

Doer of the Bonaparte River Roundtable also provided his experience with the local roundtable, saying that it has been positive in the Cache Creek area.

Mike emphasized that roundtables are described as round, as all interests sit around the table and have an equal voice. They are **inclusive** of all interests and operate by **consensus**. This means that issues are not voted on, as voting leads to winners and losers – consensus was defined as not necessarily getting everything that you want, but being able to live with an outcome that all other interests are satisfied with.

Participants identified the following organizations, interests and perspectives that were **missing at this initial meeting tonight**, and that they should be made aware of the next meeting:

- Mining
- Ministry of Forests and Range (MOFR)
- Youth
- Trappers
- Guides
- First Nations
- Cariboo Regional District
- Integrated Land Management Bureau (ILMB)
- Ministry of Agriculture and Lands (MAL)
- BC Timber Sales

Logistics

- The group prefers to meeting weekday evenings, for a maximum of 2 hours
- Meetings should have a presentation, as well as a working session
- A roundtable should be a combination of planning, education and communication initiatives, but should also have on-the-ground activities that occur
- The Horsefly Board of Trade is a registered body that can receive and administer funds on behalf of the roundtable, if necessary

Next Steps

- Participants agreed that a roundtable would be a good idea for Horsefly, and that there should be a subsequent meeting
- Marla Williams, Brian Englund and Maureen LeBourdais will work with Mike Simpson to contact the missing participants to attend the next meeting
- Marla Williams and Brian Englund agreed to have their name placed in the Buzz for people to contact about what happened at this meeting
- Sean Bennett of DFO will contact Mike Wallace of the Salmon River Watershed Roundtable to give a maximum 30 minute presentation on how their group formed
- Participants from this meeting are to talk to their neighbours and community members about the roundtable

Next meeting: 7-9pm, Thursday 15 March 2007, Horsefly Community Hall

- Mike Wallace – guest speaker
- Set a vision/mandate/mission for the roundtable
- Outline and start defining the terms of reference

Meeting participants

Name	Organization	Phone	Email
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