

Horsefly River Roundtable
 Box 354
 Horsefly BC
 V0L 1L0



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Horsefly River Roundtable (HRR) Regular Meeting Minutes
 February 19, 2026, 7:00 pm
 Horsefly Library, Horsefly BC or by Zoom

Present		Regrets	
Bill Lloyd	zoom	Ray Englund	Kirsten Saunders
Elaine Armagost	Zoom	Rick Walters	Steven Beigh
Helen Englund		Beat Oshwald	Willem Faasse
Brian Englund		Arts On The Fly	Jane Fitschen
Fawny Michel	zoom	Nancy Beigh	Esther Oshwald
Claudio Rothenbacker		Suzanne Englund	Tanya Tervit
Sue Hemphill	Zoom	Ali Waterhouse	Paul Hearsey
Susan Woermke	zoom	Analise Shaftsma	Sandy McNie
Paul Brammer	zoom	Bill Ayers	Rose Christianson
		Ricky Seelhoff	Lyle Williams
Regrets		Chad Seelhoff	Faye Knox
Leonard Halwas		Alan Crosby	Monika Schlaepfer
Lori Walters		Phil Hartman	Cait Gentle Riverside Society BC
Ardine Joss		Pauline Priadka	Blaine Bowie
Tina Rezanoff		Craig AbHDBoT	Chad Gosling
Lisa Gosling		Richard Hogan	Rainer Krumsiek
Lee Shaftsma		Annie Murphy	Marlyne Osinchuk

Chair Englund called the meeting to order at 7:02

Treasurer Englund moved to adopt the agenda with the addition of Upper Fraser Salmon Recovery Open House and Elect Dr. Alila for the Real Estate Foundation of BC 2026 Land Awards, Member Woermke seconded
 Carried

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Treasurer Englund moved to adopt the minutes of January 15, 2026 Vice Chair Lloyd seconded
 Carried

Financial Report

FEBRUARY

MEETING FINANCIALS

HORSEFLY RIVER ROUNDTABLE			
BALANCE SHEET - 2026			
CATEGORY	Jan 15, 2026	Feb 19, 2026	COMMENTS
GENERAL	\$2829.17	\$2829.17	No Change
DFO/CIP	\$4420.84	\$3619.67	Park Maintenance - 2.9% Office Supplies - Elaine \$124.67, School Bus - \$423.60 AGM damage deposit - \$250 - Cheq # 581
BOARDWALK	\$16,634.14	\$16,634.14	No Change
BIO SOLIDS	\$335.49	\$335.49	No Change
SALMON FESTIVAL	\$1392.44	\$1392.44	No change
STREAMFLOWERS PSF	\$1977.38	\$1977.38	No change
TOTAL	\$27569.45	\$26768.28	agrees with the January 31, 2026, statement

Treasurer Englund presented the financial report. The only change is department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) as depicted above
 Secretary Armagost moved moved to adopt the financial report, Chair Englund seconded
 Carried

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DIRECTOR/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Directors Resolution to amend the Fisheries Sensitive Watershed Order
Carried Forward

Forest Practices Board Investigation

Today's email from Greg Jorganson

- January:
 - **Continued analysis of primary forest activities** in the watershed, including population confirmation from West Fraser and Tolko; BCTS has very limited operations
 - Worked on **additional information requests** to ask specific questions and request specific evidence that will/will not satisfy compliance tests
 - Compliance tests relate to results and strategies that address FSW objectives (in licensee's FSPs)
 - Some information we requested was not fully provided and is itemized
 - **Drafting of investigation questions** to be posed to licensees in interview format, following assessment and analysis of *new* materials submitted
 - **New or additional information complemented by interview responses** should allow us to begin developing findings if any, relating to:
 - Appropriate use of Qualified Professionals where required
 - Appropriate adherence to recommendations when conducting primary forest activities
 - Appropriate monitoring of fine sediment at fish crossings (fish-bearing and tributaries to fish)
 - Other compliance with objectives under the order, as included in the FSPs results and strategies
 - **RECALL: We completed recces of McKinley, Woodjam, Deerhorn, Moffat Lakes and Upper Moffat Creek to look at:**
 - Stream crossings over fish-bearing streams and tributaries to fish-bearing streams relating to road activities,
 - Harvest populations in the basins or sub-basins, including wildfire salvage in McKinley,
 - General observations of condition of the basins or sub-basins, including cattle management in riparian areas,
 - Known or anticipated areas with active fluvial units (AFUs); unstable terrain; snow sensitive zones (SSZs), etc.,
 - Lower reaches of Woodjam Creek.
 - This phase of field work was completed October 14 to 17, 2025
- February:

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- Completed final **additional information requests** early February, and submitted to licensees with deadline/timing expectations
- **Further development of investigative questions** to be asked in March interviews, to test compliance and corroborate field observations
- March projections:
 - **Deadline for additional information** requested March 6, at the latest
 - **Interviews will be conducted** with licensees, mid to late March, primarily to:
 - ensure the evidence submitted thus far is complete and accurate
 - ensure a strong understanding of how evidence (or lack thereof) will support compliance findings
 - provide room for clarification, omitted information, etc
 - **Fact checking process** to ensure accuracy of the information and transparency to licensees
 - **Develop preliminary findings**
 - **Review progress** with Director of Investigations and provide briefing to the Chair

Declaration on Rights of Nature for the Horsefly River

Member Hemphill facilitated a presentation to the Williams Lake Naturalists, who operate Scout Island on February 10, 2026 at 7:00 pm by Zoom. Ten Directors were in attendance in person and by Zoom. Agriculture use of water was a concern, we shared out challenge Biosolids/Nutrifor. Questions were around what authority the Declaration was formed under and the answer is that it is a global movement with little case law, but trumps provincial and federal laws in the case of detrimental effect to the Horsefly River. We explained everything we've been working on and asked the Williams Lake Naturalists to join us as managers, make a motion to support the Declaration or individually support the Declaration through our website.

Member Woermke and Secretary Armagost presented the Rights of Nature powerpoint to the Horsefly District Board of Trade (HDBoT) On February 12 at 7:00 pm at the Horsefly Fire Hall. There were eight people in attendance, two from Cattleman's and one from HVFD. The HDBoT were very clear that they do not support granting Rights of Nature to the Horsefly River, there was discussion around the Forest Practices Board Complaint and the Horsefly Fisheries Sensitive Watershed Audit. We thanked them for inviting us and ensured them that we heard their concerns, that we will investigate and continue the information sharing process.

The Cariboo Regional District has asked for further information we have nothing formal from them at this point.

We have a follow up meeting with the Senior Activity and Wellness Society on March 3, 2026. We continue working with our MLA and First Nations Groups.

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Romero Documentary Opportunity

Discussion was what is the purpose? The answer was: To stop the degradation in the watershed, need to come up with a format. Member Hemphill discussed the emotional support for the river and rights of nature side and shared that there is a Bev Sellers movie on the Fraser River released last year. This task should be addressed by the Outreach/Education/Marketing Committee.

Treasurer Englund Replace Boardwalk on River Trail Work Plan

Dismantled the boardwalk and burned it, when it warms up will go rake up ash and use a magnet to get nails and screws. Chair Englund is getting tree removal lined up and discuss with Bedrock Gravel to make a plan to dump the gravel. Vice Chair Lloyd and Member Woermke have magnets they can bring on raking day.

Letter Writing Campaign

Carried Forward

Charitable Status

Secretary Armagost will arrange a time to help Treasurer Englund with this next step.

Secretary Armagost Horsefly River Fisheries Sensitive Watershed Working Group

A report was released to the group at the January 20th meeting and a follow up session was held on February 10, 2026, which Chair Englund, Secretary Armagost and Member Woermke Attended in person and via TEAMS. Our comments have been submitted, the final version will be released the end of March. The next HRFSWWG meeting is March 2nd at 1:00 pm in the Borland Room at 540 Borland, Secretary Armagost cannot attend but will contact Director Walters

Watershed Keepers

Polley Mine has confirmed donation of scientific equipment, we are working to acquire this and will examine it with Norm Zirnhelt at the March 9th and 10 streamkeepers, lakekeepers, guardians training. We will spend the remainder of the Pacific Salmon Foundation Grant on repairs or upgrades and purchase what is needed for the kits. The Training will be held at SAWS on March 9th and 10th from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm, rental will be covered by Norm. Class size is limited to 12 and is full. Discussion was changing this group to title them Watershed Keepers and reflect this in the Rights of Nature Declaration. The group agreed it should be "Watershed Keepers"

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Biosolids

The presentation by Metro Vancouver at our January meeting is being uploaded to our website. The Biosolids team has reviewed data that Metro Vancouver and Sylvis has provided and has prepared a position paper.

The Biosolids team will work on the document and send to directors and make an email motion to accept and distribute the Horsefly River Roundtable Discussion Paper on Biosolids and follow the procedures explained in the document which involves being a delegation to the Cariboo Regional District

Member Woermke Forestry Team/Silviculture Working Group update
Not the group for the Rights of Nature discussion. Harvesting issues are the focus

Williams Lake Community Forest

The group was working on funding at the last meeting, Member Woermke did not attend due to ethical reasons. November Field trip was good, they are done on Ford Road.

Education/Outreach/Marketing Team

Website/Clean-Drain-Dry and Vessel Operation Restriction Regulation (VORR) Education

Treasurer Englund has acquired funds through the Cariboo Regional District for Salmon Festival and website updating.

Clean drain dry signage is done, she is working on quotes for printing the VORR signage.

Website is up and we are looking for any corrections

Mail out is ready to go to the post office

We will hold a session shortly to discuss upcoming tasks

Vice Chair Lloyd Interior Watershed Task Force

Missed the last meeting as there isn't much notice and minutes are not shared out, the group is not functioning well, we decided to change our focus to support the Boundary Forest Watershed Stewardship Society , <https://boundaryforest.org/> and share their YouTube page on our website. https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtMPFA484_1J52650HAZZT as their content is pertinent to what we are trying to accomplish. Vice Chair Lloyd will keep in touch with the Interior Watershed Task Force and keep us apprised of any developments.

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Q3 Mount Polley Public Liaison Commission

Noting new to report the next meeting will likely be in about month, they have agreed to provide us with technical instruments they used during the breach. We are working on getting instruments from Gabe, Member Michel will help, she knows the mine site very well. Treasurer Englund said Gabe was going to gather the instruments up this week and we will work to have them in Horsefly by the 6th of March for the Watershed Keepers training.

OLD BUSINESS

Remove Tilting Pump House By Rick Twin Rivers

Working on it

Prospect Ridge Resources near Lemon Lake

Member Halwas is watching for permit applications, nothing new to report

DFO Spawning Channel should be used for sockeye spawners

Treasurer Englund has a draft letter for Chair Englund to review and sign

Review and Adopt the Draft Terms of Reference

Discussion was that the document looks really good, but some tweaks were required will review and adopt on March 7th regular meeting.

March 7, 2026 AGM

Feb Buzz had an article

Posters are made and going up in Horsefly

Horsefly Community Hall

Need help with morning coffee

What time will hall be open at 9:00?

Need projector screen Chair Englund will bring

10:30-11:30 AGM followed by regular meeting

11:30-11:45 photograph the Directors for the website

introduce our committees

introduce the silent auction items

11:45 to 12:15 Rights of Nature Presentation and QnA

Followed by

Light lunch mix, mingle bid and sign up

Resume regular meeting

Need help with clean up

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Member Saunders will checkin, collect dues and welcome at the door others are welcome to join her

Member Brammer is IT

Member Noble will orchestrate the Silent Auction please email neptunejin@outlook.com with your donations and estimated value ASAP

This year the Chair, Secretary and Director Walters retire their positions. The Secretary position will need a new member who will be responsible for the following tasks:

Prepares, circulates and saves copies of Regular and AGM Agenda and Minutes

Prepare and submit Annual Report to BC Societies

Books Venues

Sits on Funding Committee

Prepares, sends and tracks correspondence

Uses "hrrsecretary@horseflyriver.ca":email

Maintains email distribution list and member spreadsheet

Manages Zoom

Use and Maintain the HRR Brother B/W printer

Use and Maintain the HRR Laptop

Message from Secretary Armagost: As a member I will continue to support Treasurer Englund and Vice Chair Lloyd with their letter writing campaigns and am grateful for Member Nobles proofing. I am committed to the Rights of Nature Team and will stay on the Funding Committee until Charitable Status is acquired, I will continue with the Forest Keepers and the Biosolids Team and support the Marketing/Outreach Team until current tasks are those outlined in the ToR are achieved.

I will also mentor the new secretary, in order to facilitate this, consider lightning the load to seven meetings per year. We can quickly do pressing business at a regular meeting at May Field Dat, at the Salmon Egg Float Race/BBQ/Birthday and at Christmas and skip the August and September meetings to focus on Salmon Festival we will ease the workload as we improve and harness the power of the website. It has been a pleasure seeing this organization grow to 50 members strong and make such great strides to protect the Horsefly River watershed by raising alarm bells, increasing social media presence and continuing education and outreach! Congratulations Horsefly River Roundtable, you have achieved much in your 18 years.

NEW BUSINESS

Department of Fisheries and Oceans Licence Work Plan for River Park Due April 30

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Discussion was around a Disc Golf course at the River Park, we are reminded that the Horsefly District Board of Trade. (HDBoT) Disc Golf Plan was submitted to us in July 2024 and was accepted in principle but DFO did not approve. Together we can promote local business and tourism interests, we will pitch the idea and try for approval in our annual work plan submitted to DFO the end of April. There was agreement to create an educational perspective to HDBoT's 2024 course design.

Cariboo Chilcotin Coast Invasive species Council planning meeting
10:00 am Feb 23 at the Williams Lake Curling Center

Secretary Armagost will attend, Chair Englund and Vice Chair Lloyd may also join

Upper Fraser Salmon Recovery Open House March 5 10:00-6:00 at
Courtyard Marriott Hotel, 900 Brunswick St. Prince George

If anyone is in Prince George on March 5th, please attend

Elect Dr. Alila for the 2026 Land Awards

Dr. Alila has been instrumental in helping us protect the watershed and wishes to be nominated for a Land Award. See more here: <https://refbc.ca/landawards/>

Vice Chair Lloyd make a motion to nominate Dr. Alila for the Real Estate Foundation Land Award,
Chair Englund seconded
Carried

Correspondence

Seelhof Referral Letter to Application for Investigative Licence Reply dated February 2, 2026 with a CC to the Seelhofs.

Dear Mr. Englund,

Thank you for your letter regarding Pathfinder Canada's referral for investigative activities for the Big Timothy Wind Project, and for outlining the Horsefly River Roundtable's concerns and questions. We recognize the importance of the Horsefly watershed to fish, wildlife, and the local community, and we appreciate the opportunity to respond.

At this stage, the application is for the investigation phase only. Activities are limited to desktop studies, site reconnaissance, and potentially the installation of a small number of temporary wind-measurement devices (LiDAR or a meteorological mast). No wind turbines, transmission lines, or permanent infrastructure are proposed at this time, and any temporary equipment would be removed once monitoring is complete.

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In response to your questions:

- **Monitoring sites:** The number and locations of monitoring sites have not yet been finalized. Current planning anticipates one 60–80 m meteorological mast and one LiDAR wind-monitoring unit on a trailer. Site selection would aim to avoid sensitive areas and would be informed by environmental values, access constraints, and information shared through engagement.
- **Monitoring period:** Monitoring typically occurs over a minimum of one year. Should a feasibility assessment be completed, we would be open to discussing how information could be shared at an appropriate time.
- **Number of turbines and layout:** No turbine locations, footprints, or access routes have been defined. These would only be considered if investigations indicate the area is suitable and able to be developed responsibly.
- **Power output and transmission:** Project size, power output, and transmission routing have not been determined. These elements depend on the results of wind monitoring and future technical, transmission, and environmental studies.
- **Transmission footprint:** As no transmission route has been identified, no corridor width or clearing requirements can be described at this stage.
- **Visual impacts:** Visual impacts have not been assessed, as no turbine layout has been proposed. The current application is solely for investigation.
- **Wildlife and birds:** No field studies have yet been conducted. If the project were to advance beyond investigation, wildlife and bird use would be assessed as part of environmental studies.

We are aware of the Fisheries Sensitive Watershed designation for the Horsefly River and the community's interest in Rights of Nature. At the investigative stage, Pathfinder's approach is to prioritize avoidance of sensitive areas and to limit activities to the smallest practical footprint. If investigations were to proceed further, watershed values and regulatory designations would be considered in project planning and environmental assessments.

Pathfinder is focused on identifying sites that can be developed responsibly. If it becomes clear through engagement and investigation that this area would result in unacceptable impacts to important watershed values, fisheries, or community interests, we would consider alternative areas rather than advance a project that cannot be responsibly developed.

We recognize the Roundtable's role in watershed stewardship and would welcome the opportunity to exchange further information or review mapping digitally to better understand your concerns and answer questions as the investigation phase progresses.

Thank you for your letter and for sharing your perspective. Your correspondence will form part of the project record as the BC Energy Regulator reviews the application.

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Sincerely,

Mark Green
Pathfinder Canada (0887581 B.C. Ltd.)
mgreen@pathfindercanada.com
604-849-4679



You Are Invited:

Upper Fraser Salmon Recovery Open House

The Upper Fraser Chinook Recovery Project and the *Tuzist'ol T'ah* Early Stuart Sockeye Recovery Process will share progress on salmon recovery planning efforts.

Hosted by:



Date
Thursday March 5, 2026

Drop in times
10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Location
Courtyard Marriott Hotel, 900
Brunswick St, Prince George

Refreshments will be provided. RSVPs are not required. Contacts:

- Jane Healey: jhealey@psf.ca
- Teri Ridley: teri.ridley@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

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Next meeting and AGM March 7, 2026 at 10:30 at the Horsefly Community Hall or by Zoom

Vice Chair Lloyd moved to adjourn the meeting, Chair Englund seconded.

Carried

Meeting was adjourned at 8:14

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