

SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT

AREA F – WEST HOWE SOUND ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION

September 26, 2023

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE WEST HOWE SOUND (AREA F) ADVISORY PLANNING
COMMISSION MEETING HELD ELECTRONICALLY VIA ZOOM

PRESENT:	Chair	Susan Fitchell
	Members	Kevin Healy Ryan Matthews Jonathan McMorran Miyuki Shinkai Katie Thomas
ALSO PRESENT:	Recording Secretary	Diane Corbett
REGRETS:	Director, Electoral Area F	Kate-Louise Stamford
	Member	Tom Fitzgerald

CALL TO ORDER 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA The agenda was adopted as presented.

MINUTES

West Howe Sound (Area F) Minutes

The West Howe Sound APC minutes of July 25, 2023 were approved as circulated.

Chair Fitchell announced she was present at the last meeting via her phone, but could not speak. Chair Fitchell clarified for APC members that, if they wished to comment on agenda referral items but were unable to attend the meeting, comments could be sent directly to the Planning Office Assistant.

Minutes

The following minutes were received for information:

- Egmont/Pender Harbour (Area A) APC Minutes of July 26, 2023
- Halfmoon Bay (Area B) APC Minutes of July 25, 2023
- Roberts Creek (Area D) APC Minutes of July 17, 2023
- Elphinstone (Area E) APC Minutes of July 26, 2023

REPORTS

Forestry Referrals: BC Timber Sales Operating Plan (CRN00155) 2023-2027

The APC discussed the staff report and the online mapping regarding BC Timber Sales Operating Plan (CRN00155) 2023-2027.

The following points were noted:

- Importance of riparian areas.
- “Incredible” numbers of salmon observed this summer.
- A key factor to consider, found on page 4 of the staff report:
 - “The Hillside-Port Mellon OCP includes the following objective related to land use:
 - 2.1. To protect development from hazardous conditions in the form of land slip, erosion, flooding and debris torrents.
 - 2.2 To protect valuable fish and wildlife habitat areas associated with McNair and Dakota Creeks, Mohawk Creek, the Rainy River and the ocean foreshore.
 - 2.3 To satisfy the requirements of the provincial Fish Protection Act, in particular the Riparian Areas [Protection] Regulation, with respect to protecting fish habitat.”
- Concerns regarding where Block MCNR002 is situated between McNair and McNab slopes. Would like to see some extra care taken. Concerns regarding logging practices on steep hillsides in that area. McNair and Dakota are known as having flash floods.
- Happy that we get a chance to make comment on the BC Timber Sales Operating Plan.

Recommendation No. 1 *Block McNR0005*

The Area F APC recommended that the draft recommendation on Block McNR0005 presented in the staff report be supported as follows:

The SCRD does not support the logging of McNR0005 due to it being located within a Community Watershed, as well as the potential impact to downstream SCRD assets of the Dakota Creek berm and Hillside Industrial Park.

Recommendation No. 2 *Blocks ELPH010 and ELPH008*

The Area F APC recommended that the draft recommendation on Blocks ELPH010 and ELPH008 presented in the staff report be supported as follows:

SCRD recommends that in advance of proposing/engineering cutblocks on Mount Elphinstone near Roberts Creek, that a review of the cumulative impact to ground water resources of Aquifer 555 by qualified experts selected by Local Government water service providers be completed. Historical and any proposed forestry activities for the next 5 years, and climate change considerations should be considered as part of such assessment.

SCRD is concerned about the cumulative impacts of resource activity, including deforesting, that is proposed on or near Aquifer 555, which supports private wells who are not within the SCRD Regional Water Service Area and thus do not have access to other sources of water.

SCRD understands that BCTS is undertaking a Watershed Assessment for the Roberts Creek area and recommends the implementation of findings prior to the auctioning of these lots.

Recommendation No. 3 *Blocks GRAN011 and MCNA002*

The Area F APC recommended that the comment on Blocks GRAN011 and MCNA002 presented in the staff report be supported as follows:

The SCR D does not have any services or assets that would be impacted by this proposed cutblock.

Block MCNR002: Before the Area F APC can make a recommendation regarding Block MCNR002, the Area F APC would like clarification regarding whether the location is a mapping error and whether the cutblock was in an earlier Operating Plan.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

There was no Director's Report.

The Area F APC would like to receive the Director's report on an update regarding the Hopkins Landing wharf.

NEXT MEETING Tuesday, October 24, 2023

ADJOURNMENT 8:15 p.m.