

Spray Lake Sawmills  
 Crowsnest Pass Public Advisory Committee  
 MINUTES  
 February 17, 2010

**Attendees & Affiliation:**

Gord Lehn – SLS	Glen French – Motorized Recreation
Errol Kutcher – SLS	Ron Davis – MD of Ranchlands
Martin Wilson – SLS	Dave Welsh – Public at Large
Brian Gallant – Non-motorized Recreation	John Kinnear – Crowsnest Conservation Society
Wade Aebli – Hillcrest Fish & Game Club	Bill Kinnear – Crowsnest Forest Stewardship Society
Tim Juhlin – SRD	Larry Mitchell – Crowsnest Municipal Council

**Absentees & Affiliation:**

Tom Lynch-Staunton – Northfork Grazing Allotment  
 Robert Boyce – Devon Canada

Item	Discussion	Who
Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gord Welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming.</li> <li>• Everyone had an opportunity to introduce themselves and who they are affiliated with.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gord</li> <li>• All</li> </ul>
SLS Handout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gord handed out a package for each member consisting of :               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agenda for this meeting</li> <li>• PAC Terms of Reference (TOR)</li> <li>• SLS Consent Form to allow SLS to use members name and affiliation in SLS website</li> <li>• Detailed package outlining SLS History, Planning Overview, Public Involvement Process, Detailed Forest Management Plan (DFMP), Planning for Multiple Use, Planning Considerations, Timber Harvest Systems, Reforestation Process, Safety, Forest Care, Insects &amp; Disease.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gord</li> </ul>
SLS Consent Form	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gord explained to the group that the Consent Form is to allow SLS to use the member's name and affiliation in their website which includes our Public Involvement Process. Information, TOR, names of committee members and approved minutes from each PAC meeting are posted here.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gord</li> </ul>
Terms of Reference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gord went through entire TOR with group. See SLS website for an outline of the C5 PAC Terms of Reference.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gord</li> </ul>
Comments arising from TOR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minutes from PAC meetings will be approved by group prior to putting them onto the SLS website and making them publicly available.</li> <li>• SLS prefers not to have alternates unless member is to be absent for an extended amount of time. Alternates will slow progress by having to spend time explaining to them about information that was provided in the previous meetings. SLS prefers that absentees review detailed minutes provided to stay informed on current issues.</li> <li>• If members know in advance that they will be absent for upcoming meetings they can visit staff at the Blairmore office and/or email issues or questions you want brought up at the next meeting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All</li> </ul>

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Comments arising from TOR (Con't)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was asked by members if they are here representing themselves or their affiliation. Gord verified that members are here representing themselves and not their affiliation. Members can relay information from the PAC meeting to their respective affiliations but it is not mandatory. Members were selected from certain groups in order to obtain a well represented cross section of user groups amongst the community and surrounding area.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All</li> </ul>
SLS Overview Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gord gave group a Power Point Presentation of SLS. SLS will try to make presentation available on SLS website as the presentation was too large of a file to distribute via. email.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gord</li> </ul>
Comments arising from the SLS Power Point Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SLS converted from roadside to stumpside processing about 10 years ago to intentionally leave more slash in the blocks. Slash distributed throughout the block provides moisture retention, less soil compaction, provides nutrients to the site and protects seedlings from extreme weather and animal damage. All these factors aid in seedling productivity and survival which ultimately improves reforestation.</li> <li>Leaving slash in the cutblocks has been viewed by the general public as a way to cut cost but SLS pays the harvesting contractor more due to the type of equipment needed to stumpside harvest.</li> <li>SLS follows a Spatial Harvest Sequence (SHS) Map which identifies available timber for SLS to harvest over the next 20yrs. This SHS map was developed and approved by SRD. The timber is broken into two sequences – first decade timber and second decade timber. Timber identified as first decade means SLS must harvest the stands in the first 10 years (0-10yrs). Timber identified as second decade means SLS must harvest the stands in the second 10 years (11-20yrs). This plan was implemented in 2006 so SLS is halfway through the first decade.</li> <li>Talked about how SHS maps show that we have an unnatural high component of old age class pine as a result of successful fire suppression. Harvesting is only one tool to manage these old age class pine stands. Other management options should be explored on ground that is not harvestable (ie. Steep slopes, rocky terrain, riparian areas, unmerchantable timber).</li> <li>Discussed alternatives like “biomass energy” from undersize wood to aid in the reduction of old age class pine stands. The difficulty in these alternatives is making it economically feasible.</li> <li>Discussed the presence of the Mountain Pine Beetle (MPB) and the possibility of a “surge cut” to gain on the MPB infested and susceptible stands. From a social perspective, SLS would rather sustain a steady annual cut with no highs or lows.</li> <li>It was suggested that it would be to our benefit if SLS communicate with various people/user groups on an on-going basis. The ground rules provide some direction on this (ie. Grazing Timber Agreements with ranchers, trapper referrals, etc.) but does not cover all bases or the public-at-large. We are looking to the PAC to help provide feedback in this regard.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All</li> </ul>

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Comments arising from the SLS Power Point Presentation (Con't)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An Access Management Plan (AMP) was discussed. Group felt SLS would gain community support by pushing for an AMP. Gord discussed what SLS has done to date to influence government to implement an AMP. There was some concern within the group that even if the government developed an AMP for this area it would be highly unlikely that they would have the funding and resources to actually implement and enforce the plan.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All</li> </ul>
Current PAC member list	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SLS asked group what they thought of the current group list and if they had any suggestions for adding more members or if the current group was sufficient. Also, is there adequate representation for areas to the south of highway #3.</li> <li>• The general consensus was to get the PAC up and running with its current membership and add additional members once logging plans get closer to moving south of highway #3.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All</li> </ul>
SLS Consent Form	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the end of the meeting, SLS asked all members to sign the consent form and check the applicable box to verify if SLS has or doesn't have consent to use the members name and affiliation on our website regarding our Public Involvement Process. All consent forms were signed and all members gave SLS consent to use their name and affiliation at the conclusion of the first PAC meeting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All</li> </ul>
Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• March 15, 2010</li> <li>• 7:00pm – 9:00pm</li> <li>• Meeting to be located at same location.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Best Canadian Motor Inn (BCMI)</li> <li>• Upstairs – Rm 201</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All</li> </ul>