

**ACTION ITEMS from Meeting of the  
Kootenay RAWC - Regional Agriculture Wildlife Committee**

**DATE: Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> October 2010**  
**TIME: 10:00 am to 3:30 pm (Cranbrook time)**

*Ponderosa Room at MFR – 1902 Theatre Road, Cranbrook, BC*

**Participants**

Jeff Morgan – MOE – PAZWP A/Manager	<a href="mailto:Jeff.Morgan@gov.bc.ca">Jeff.Morgan@gov.bc.ca</a>
Brian Baehr – ARDCorp (linked in by telephone)	<a href="mailto:brian@ardcorp.ca">brian@ardcorp.ca</a>
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Joe Caravetta - MOE COS	<a href="mailto:Joe.Caravetta@gov.bc.ca">Joe.Caravetta@gov.bc.ca</a>
Aaron Canuel - MOE COS	<a href="mailto:Aaron.Canuel@gov.bc.ca">Aaron.Canuel@gov.bc.ca</a>
Gerry Bond – Creston Valley R&G, WKO Region 4 West	<a href="mailto:ottervalley@shaw.ca">ottervalley@shaw.ca</a>
Faye Street – KLA	<a href="mailto:fstreet@kootenaylivestock.ca">fstreet@kootenaylivestock.ca</a>
Ernie Oliver – EK Wildlife Association Region 4 East	<a href="mailto:ekoliver@telus.net">ekoliver@telus.net</a>
Andy McDonald – Waldo Stockbreeders Assoc, Grasmere & Roosville	<a href="mailto:cam.mcdonald@telus.net">cam.mcdonald@telus.net</a>
Jordy Thibeault – KLA President	<a href="mailto:thibeault_ranch@yahoo.ca">thibeault_ranch@yahoo.ca</a>
Darrell Smith - MAL Resource Agriologist	<a href="mailto:Darrell.Smith@gov.bc.ca">Darrell.Smith@gov.bc.ca</a>
Mannie Roberts – BCTA local representative	<a href="mailto:mannieroberts@hotmail.com">mannieroberts@hotmail.com</a>
Donna Thornton - MOE-PAZWP Ag/Wildlife Specialist	<a href="mailto:Donna.Thornton@gov.bc.ca">Donna.Thornton@gov.bc.ca</a>
Wayne Stetski – EKCP (joined us briefly in afternoon)	<a href="mailto:ekcp@cyberlink.bc.ca">ekcp@cyberlink.bc.ca</a>

**Agenda**

10:00 – 10:30 - Coffee and introductions for new attendees - review of action items from prior meeting  
10:30 – 11:00 - Summary report on the 2010 C&E Strategy for Zone X of 4-03 GOS  
11:00 – 11:15 - Summary report on the 2010 KLA/4H landowner sign distribution project  
11:15 – 12:00 - Discuss longer term mitigation plans and ag/wildlife conflict prevention planning  
**LUNCH BREAK**  
12:30 – 13:00 - Summary report on the East Kootenay Landowner Enfranchisement Project  
13:00 – 13:30 - Update on EG&S pilot project (MOE-Sylvia sick, cancelled presentation by Dave Zhender)  
13:30 – 14:00 - Update on aerial elk inventory surveys & elk population modelling project  
14:00 – 14:30 - Update on ARDCorp application for funding of proposed GIS project  
**HEALTH BREAK**  
14:30 – 15:00 - Update on CBT CIP funding applications for money to cover volunteers travel to meetings  
15:00 – 15:30 - Wrap up and determine date of next RAWC meeting

**NEXT MEETING?** Early Spring in Creston, tentatively Tuesday March 1, 2011  
Please R.S.V.P. to Donna if unable to attend, thanks! (250-354-6353 or [donna.thornton@gov.bc.ca](mailto:donna.thornton@gov.bc.ca))

***Brought Forward Actions*** (from previous meetings)

**Old Item #1 Donna**

Application for travel funding for participants who have to travel to RAWC meetings. *Donna found out that the Columbia Basin Trust has a Community Initiatives Program that local groups (from areas affected by the dams) can apply to, in order to get a lump sum of annual funding for their volunteers to attend relevant meetings. The purpose of the volunteers travel must be to bring beneficial information back to their respective groups and communities. If successful, the groups receive and disburse this money as per their application (eg: some groups may wish to pay mileage and/or gas, some may offer an honorarium per meeting?). Check out the funding page on the CBT website at: <http://www.cbt.org/Funding/?Programs> (Good luck with your applications!)*

**Old Item #2 Jeff**

Jeff to check the **5 and out** 'guideline' from ICBC for ungulate MVA's. *Jeff Morgan reported that this policy was not confirmed by ICBC but possibly the local managers can initiate specific policy?*

**Item #2 Donna**

Work at Wildlife Act/Regulation amendment to use shotguns and slugs for elk. *Donna has spoken with Joe McBride, legal counsel for Wildlife Branch; he recommends a two phase approach. First, to restrict application of the shotguns & slugs rule to the 'special hunt zones'. Second, to allow municipalities to enact local bylaws as they see fit (eg: closure areas, bows only, etc)*

**Old Item #4 Jeff/Greg**

To check on membership and responsibilities of RAWC members, speak to MFR and to the KBMC? *Must wait on the government reorganization to see who to talk to, if any more responsibilities are identified, must add these to the RAWC Terms Of Reference.*

Also to the FNCCT on how to relate/communicate to local First Nations communities, check with Dave Dunbar on any response from his first attempts. *The TOR was sent to the Ktunaxa, no response so far from the FN.*

**Item #4 Brian Huscroft?**

To check with the Creston Agricultural Society if they want a representative from the vine or orchard fruit or crop sectors on the RAWC. *Donna to follow up with the Creston Agr'l Society.*

**Old Item #6 Donna**

Hunting coordination by phone – *Jeff will present the KLEP pilot summary as a separate item. The July 2010 celebration was postponed, the 'thank you' luncheon now being held tomorrow in Grasmere for participating landowners. BCWF's 'BC Outdoors Passport' to come out this fall.*

**Meeting Notes and Action Items**

*(the order of the original agenda was changed as some topics reduced to announcements)*

1. Coffee, treats and introductions around the table, as have a new guest, local BCTA member, Mannie Roberts. Jeff Morgan acted as moderator for meeting.
2. Information was presented to non-government folks on government transformation: the month old Ministry of Environment's initial reorganization, which has now been revised by the recent entire Provincial government's reorganization. Have dramatic new reporting structures and ministries being created (eg: Ministry of Natural Resource Operations).
3. Review of action items from prior meetings (see follow up actions in Bring Forward section above).
4. Copies of Compliance and Enforcement Strategy draft summary report presented for the antlerless elk GOS in Zone X of 4-03; all participants were thanked for their efforts in making the first season a success! COS gave the check stop statistics: ~4.7% non-compliance rate compared to usual average of ~10%, and remarked on these 'incredible results', attributing them to the media attention and communications surrounding the season. **Action Item** -Joe Caravetta to thank the RCMP and Department of Transportation for their participation in the check stops; Jeff Morgan to thank the KLA members who donated their time to assist at the stops. **Action Item** – Donna to add a summary of the communications around the C&E Strategy and the media attention to the draft summary report before distributing; post a brief review onto PAZWP website in the RAWC minutes section as well.  
Discussion on if the Ranchers saw any benefits from the GOS – yes, for those who allowed hunters access to their properties.
5. KLA and 4H signage distribution project for GOS had been revised, as those landowners interested in participating just picked up signage packages from the KLA office on their own (instead of having 4H personally approaching individuals). KLA gave update on the hunt coordination through their office for the GOS and again had many more hunters than landowners. Faye had encouraged their membership to participate and was able to 'fill' the participating farms that called in, so the hunting pressure was maintained in certain areas.
6. Discussion on longer term mitigation plans – Government is now in a two year Hunting & Trapping synopsis cycle, this winter we will be conducting aerial inventory surveys to assess elk

numbers to see if the targets of the Elk Management Plan are being met. Ideas for 2012 regulation changes include a proposed LEH for the North Trench in the East Kootenays (WMU's 4-25 & 26, 4-34 & 35) due to increasing numbers of elk, complaints and %'s of Ministry of Agriculture & Lands AWP compensation money paid out every year. Hunter survey results and new elk population model will help ascertain elk population trends. For problem elk, the option of translocating them is very costly to do, and once in their new homes, herds must be monitored for health (stress/disease) to ensure success. Attempt to coordinate hunting seasons with the USA to prevent the hunted elk from just running across the border. Suggested to expand Zone X of 4-03 in the southwest and introduce a region wide black bear hunt in late summer or fall. **Action Item** - Donna to work at conducting the aerial elk surveys this winter, analyzing the data and developing proposals for hunting regulation changes. Propose these to Head Quarters and submit them for 2012 consultations with groups and the public. **Action Item** - Donna to work at researching and coordinating hunting seasons with the USA.

7. New Item – Disabled hunters apply for 'disabled access permits' to use their vehicles in closure areas, idea to give their own season before bow season/or at the end of all the seasons? Suggested to allow the creation of special wheelchair accessible blinds on selected farms/ranches; a more structured approach may prevent abuse of these access permits? **Action Item** - Donna to check with the Human Rights Commission to see if Regional Managers or Section Heads *must* give disabled hunters access permits when requested (feters the decision maker to not have a choice?).
8. Jeff reviewed the KLEP pilot program, copy of summary provided. Tomorrow is the Grasmere landowner 'thank you' celebration and wrap up meeting (cancelled from July). **Action Item** - Donna to work at getting the 2009 stats to update Jeff's KLEP report for RAWC.
9. Jeff advised that Sylvia von Schuckmann (PAZWP outreach program) unable to attend today but is working with Dave Zhender on an Ecological Goods and Services (EG&S) pilot project at his farm that increases the quality and/or quantity of Valued Ecosystem Components (VEC's).
10. Update on the KLA/PAZWP application for ARDCorp funding for the GIS project; requested \$13,000. Four letters of support for application also submitted: MFR ER, Trench ER Operations Committee, MAL, EKWA. Thanks to all who wrote on our behalf!
11. New Item – Jeff wants goals for PAZWP quantified so he has some measure of success. Recent ARDCorp GIS project will help to tie MAL AWP problem locations/payments to elk collar telemetry data. With the present aerial elk survey data, it is difficult to separate out the 'resident' elk population from the total (migratory and resident) elk numbers in a Wildlife Management Unit. Behaviour of animals may or may not change depending on the weather, animal's health, etc. They may also exhibit the non-migratory behaviour in certain years only, or where there are certain crops? The use of 'Hunter Opportunity and Crop Damage Mitigation Plans' was discussed and supported by the RAWC. The annual plans would present regional objectives, track activities and report on success. **Action Item** - Donna to work at generating strategies to bring to RAWC once GIS project completed and have some data.
12. AEWF Announcement – Brian Baehr advised that ARDCorp funding has gone into the development of the 'BC Outdoors Passport'. Training module is being created for BCWF members that will be similar in delivery to that of the CORE, website to be launched mid – November 2010. Discussion about a province wide web based hunter-landowner 'dating service' and development of a separate pilot project for the East Kootenay. **Action Item** - See what BCWF comes up with for their Passport site (as may not include a tool for scheduling hunts?); then Jeff/Darrell/Brian to work at generating a pilot 'dating service' project to bring to the next Kootenay RAWC.
13. Wrap up and determine date for next meeting, Tuesday March 1, 2011.

#### **Handouts & Attachments:**

KLEP Summary Report 2006-2008 - Jeff Morgan Oct. 25/10

