

BCI Mid-Fraser/Thompson/Okanagan Habitat Management Section
Program Review– Jan. 2007

A. Overview of Staff Changes in 3 years (not including Administration)

Classification	2003/2004	January 2007	Comments
Bi-4	Michael Crowe	Michael Crowe	
Bi-3	Darryl Hussey	Darryl Hussey	
	Heather Stalberg		On Assignment to WSP
	Roger Wysocki		Transferred to Ottawa
	Dave Smith		Retired
	Bruce Runciman		On Assignment to Science to May
	Dean Watts	Dean Watts	Will be on 1 yr leave in July
Bi-2	Jeff Guerin	Jeff Guerin	Will Start RRU Assignment in July
	Holly Smith		On Assignment to North Coast
EG-5	Bob Harding	Bob Harding	
	Tim Panko	Tim Panko	
	Steve Zachary		Long Term Disability
	Adrian Wall		Transferred to SEP (sort of)
	Cindy Harlow		On Assignment to Ottawa to April
Eg-4	Tina Chestnut		Transferred to SEP
	Dave Pehl		Laid Off
	Rob Heibein		Laid Off
	Fred Lockwood	Fred Lockwood	
	Sheldon Romain		Parental Leave until August
	Kelly Austin		On Assignment to RRU until July
		Tola Cooper	On Assignment until April
	20 FTE's	8 FTE's	

B. Overview of Individual Staff Workloads

The following information was developed as part of a workload management exercise by FTO staff. It is not a comprehensive list of all activities undertaken by Section Staff, but represents a relatively accurate portrayal of the primary activities undertaken on a day-to-day basis as of Jan. 2007. As an example of a comprehensive workload, Bob Harding has provided a full list of all activities he is presently undertaking. Bob's intended Work plan as developed in June, 2006 is provided for comparison.

Additionally, the following list pertains primarily to ongoing active files, but for the most part does not include projects that are on hold or ones that have been completed and closed. Some attempts have been made to identify pending projects, but very little effort went into this as it was not a portion of the original exercise.

This exercise focuses almost entirely on the regulatory responsibilities of staff and only touches on some stewardship, outreach, monitoring and planning activities.

Dean Watts

Anadromous Okanagan

- Regulatory –
 - Authorizations
 - Planning
 - Okanagan River Restoration Initiative
 - McIntyre Dam – Fishway Gate + Riffle (BPA negotiation)
 - OK R. Ditch Screen (Directive) Town of Oliver (BPA negotiation)
 - Enloe Dam Re-Licensing – w/ Res.Mgmt.
 - Canadian Okanagan Basin Technical Working Group
 - Fish/Water Management Tools – MOU / Advise

BCI Water Use Planning

Priority Work based on (1) Fish (2) Hydrograph

- Dams – Rule Care – Release (e.g. Bonaparte, Nicola, Snohoosh)
- Fortune Cr. (PSF) Surface/G.W. Study – Armstrong
- Clapperton Cr. WUP – Nicola. R. – Warning Letter follow-up.
- Nicola WUMP - Plan, MSB, Public presentations.
 - Fish Periodicity + Old Data Review
 - a) I/F Study (PSC, FBC) w/ MOE – Data Analysis
 - b) Geo Connections – NWMT – Task design phase
 - c) Temp Data and w/ Res. Mgmt. (Nic.R)
- Upcoming WUP workshop w/ MOE-DFO. BCI or Regional
- Mackin Creek
- Advise to Area and Regional staff

Investigations

- Trinity

Work Groups

- National Instream Flow Group
- Information Management – GIS Mapster 2
- Occupational Health and Safety

Darryl Hussey

Regulatory

- Biological support for North Thompson/Thompson/Mid-Fraser and Nicola
- Biological Support for Shuswap/Sicamous Narrows/Mara while Bruce Runciman is on assignment
- Bridge/ Seton Hydro
 - SHFCWG
 - WUP
 - Operations
 - Floodgate upgrade and test.
 - Infrastructure upgrade project
 - Entrainment issue and study
 - Tail-race delay issue and study
 - Walden North operations
- City of Kamloops
 - Uni-Directional Flushing Project (flushing of every water line in city – major deleterious issues)
 - Airport Expansion
 - Stormwater Mgmt plan
 - Rayleigh water system upgrade
 - Dyking
- Railways
 - CPR Malakwa Auth Amend
 - CP/CN Lytton Rail Recovery
- Highways
 - OK floating bridge
- Shuswap Foreshore
 - Samols
 - Crystal Sands
 - Sicamous Narrows Dredge
 - Twin Anchors @ Old Town Bay
 - Three Buoys redevelopment (associated with investigation)

IPP's

- 3-5 in Mid Fraser/Bridge/Seton

Enforcement

- Kamloops Indian Band extensive riparian destruction/burning

Jeff Guerin

Regulatory

- Ellis Creek FA Authorisation
- Shadow Ridge Authorisation - Kelowna
- Marshall feedlot Authorisation -Mill Creek
- Strand Resort-Vernon
- 3 Agriculture Canada CDA water expansion projects
- 12 Subdivisions,
- Forestry planning – sub-regional/regional/local
- West Bank FN, Letter of Agreement for FA reviews
- Anthem Development – West Bank FN
- Kicking Horse River - Major Highway Project
 - Authorisation monitoring
- CPR – Savona - Monitoring Plan
- City of Kamloops
 - North Thompson stabilisation
 - Stewardship
- Juliet – Ski Resort
- 6 Mile Resort – Harmonised EA with EAO
- Tranquille Resort
- Merritt Mountain Music Festival – major entertainment development
- Quilchena Resort development
- Nicola WUMP – Technical Advisory Group + low flow work
- LNIB – Guichon ditches (ongoing)
- 3 Okanagan CEAA reviews

Enforcement

- Kicking Horse River MoT
- Ebert
- Young Lk

Water Use

- Bonaparte I.D. Agreement

Other

- Front Counter BC – Area Co-ordinator on development and implementation
- Old monitoring of auths/comp., etc.
- Dyke vegetation management agreement with MoE
- Sand removal by City

Stewardship

- Nicola weir and fish passage
- West Bank First Nation
- Nicola River cleanup

Bob Harding

See attachment for comprehensive list of Bob Harding's work activities and work plan.

Regulatory

- Poirer Barrds Mill, Brash Crk Channel excavation Fan works
 - Inglis,Dolman Creighton creek channel excavation berming
 - 9 stream bank protection projects
 - MOT bridge replacement/construction Onyx creek, Salmon R, Canoe creek, Adams R obstruction ok/Shuswap planning, Canoe monitoring auth
 - Village lumby bridge replacement Duteau
 - Little Shuswap Band open cut on Chum creek
 - Shuswap Lake large marina/ Geo thermal loop
 - BC hydro Wilsey Dam G2 dredging
 - BC Hydro EMF study
 - MOE BC Parks Fill/ dock system replacement, removal Beetle kill trees Scotch creek riparian
- *CSRD OCP interviews/review
- CPR mile 16 Fish passage obstruction, and crazy creek bridge repair
 - Gray Danzel Flooding mitigation

Enforcement - Other

- Trinity creek
- Falkland Ranch
- Schapp Danzel low flow recovery Falls creek, Blue Springs creek



BH files Jan 11,
2007.doc



30-08-2006 -BH Wrk
Pln & Obj 06-07 .doc

Cindy Harlow

Regulatory

- CEEA
- Okanagan - 3 large docks
- Osoyoos - 2 large developments
- Oliver - Water intake on Okanagan River
- Moorage - 2 Osoyoos
- Lunby - Sewage line relocation

- CSRD - Rezoning and Development – many RAR questions
- NORD - Park development and Variances
- Seymour Arm Dock - Rebuild
- Stream Bank erosion- 6 projects
- Argo- Malakwa- (off channel rearing.) =Ditch Maint.
- Authorizations and Amendments
 - Lakeside casino
 - Trout Creek Dam Rebuild
 - Final inspections - Vaseux Cr - Fortis
- Sicamous Narrows - Envir Ass.

- Okanagan Lake - review Summerland development & SARA issues (Western Ridge mussel)
- Okanagan River Intake
- Forest Development Plan Amendments -(SOP's)
- Federated Coop - Sea wall-(on hold)
- CPR - Culvert Clean out

Enforcement

- Complaint of fill - Malakwa

Tim Panko

Combined for this exercise due to overlapping geographical areas and Kelly's assignment to RRU resulting in many of her files being transferred to Tim.

Regulatory

Kamloops/Thompson River Area

- Planning Referral Meetings – One window approach with MoE for WA approvals and notifications
- Kumsheen Rafting Ramp
- Voght St Bridge
- CN – Siding Thompson R
- Tree Removal BMPs
- Intake Removal BMPs
- CN – Ashcroft Bridge
- Wayco Water intake

Clearwater

- Clemina IPP.
- TMX (Inter-regional Major Project) – Auth
- Castle Cr Bridge
- Bone Cr – IPP
- Serpentine – IPP

Pending or various stages of development

- Other IPP's in var. planning stages 5+
- TMX II – Auth. – early stages
- Lemieux Cr. Water use plan
- CN – Barriere – Auth – Monitor / Comp. works
- CN – Blackpool – Compensation works
- Raft River – Bank stabilization works
- Adams Boat Launch
- Little Fort – Subdivision
- Fraser R. – Boat Launch
- Lemieux Cr. – Bank Stabilisation
- Lemieux Cr. – Bank Stabilisation
- Forest Stewardship Plans – 2
- Adams R Bridge.

Fred Lockwood

Regulatory

- Subdivision, Rezoning, DPs - 16
- Water Licences / Installations - 12
- Docks - 9
- Bank Protection - 3

Other

- Development and delivery of a series of Joint DFO/MoE Contractors workshops for works in and about streams and lake foreshores
- Monitoring of lake and stream water intakes
- Compliance monitoring of riparian fencing projects and agreements
- Development and delivery of Adams River stewardship curriculum

C. Overview of Major Program Changes over the past year

- Virtually no Forestry or Agriculture issues are being addressed.
- Bridge/Seton Hydro receives virtually no attention.
- Our turn around times are the primary cause of Water Act referral delays – response times to MoE are unacceptable to them and they will likely cut us out of the referral process.
- Stewardship initiatives have been almost entirely dropped just to stay on top of regulatory and enforcement priorities.
- The limited Section monitoring we were undertaking has been significantly curtailed.
- Field study programs to increase knowledge and scientific understanding within the Area has been halted in the Shuswap.
- Review and comment time on medium risk referrals has doubled in the past 8 months – In the Salmon Arm field area, it is now 3 months for medium risk referrals.
- Review and approval time on Authorisations has tripled; the time to start reviews has extended from 1 to 2 weeks to 2 months and staff do not have the time to chase proponents and consultants to acquire missing information. This has resulted in an extension of anywhere between 4 months and 1 year before Authorisations are completed.
- New regulations have caused project splitting that has increased the complexity, confusion for regulators and proponents and increased response times. Some developments are looked at as a CEEA referral, a Water Act referral and as a RAR assessment.
- Staff are constantly approached by proponents, QEP's, contractors and local governments to explain RAR and its complexities. Even with the Interim Protocols, there is no work load savings from the regulation and likely an increase due to frequent explanations and enforcement issues around compliance concerns.
- We no longer comment on OCP's anywhere and do not comment on subdivisions other than by the EG-4 is Salmon Arm.
- We no longer participate in local government foreshore planning initiatives; e.g CSRD, Chase, Kamloops and Sicamous.
- We no longer provide support to FM to develop FN capacity.
- We no longer undertake Net Gain initiatives such as fishways and fencing projects
- MoE provides almost no assistance to DFO in the management of HADD's in resident water. There are even examples of MoE causing delays by trying to keep them engaged to provide advice.
- We undertake very few stewardship projects anymore. This has resulted in a backsliding in public awareness, knowledge, and voluntary protection.
- We are no longer considered a “partner” with ENGO's – we have reverted to our historic regulator role.

- A considerably reduced field role has resulted in a much lower profile for the department, resulting in more infractions. Staff report that other gov't agency employees no longer refer likely habitat violations to HM.
- We no longer attend District or Regional Forestry meetings.
- We are spending almost no time on Beetle kill related riparian issues.
- We used to lead Drought planning and management strategies. We hardly even participate anymore.
- Our flood management capability is now primarily reactive.
- Thompson River Advisory Panel has been dropped.
- Thompson Rivers University – Mapping Partnership has been dropped.
- Okanagan Water Board initiatives such as the Stewardship Council and Water Availability/Water Demand Study have been dropped.
- Mission Creek WUP has been dropped.
- City of Kamloops Environmental Task Force has been dropped.

D. Overview of Major Program Challenges

The Riparian Area Regulation is causing extensive problems for program staff and resulting in habitat loss. Examples of problems include:

- Project splitting – Same project will come to DFO as a RAR referral, Water Act Referral and CEAA referral
- Proponent confusion – Uncertain when a project or portion of a project should fall under a particular regulation
- Loss of enforcement ability – RAR indemnifies proponent even when there is a HADD if signed off by the QEP; RAR has virtually no penalty system
- QEP professional credibility reduction – We have a number of examples of QEP's making highly questionable decisions about HADD's, setbacks and danger tree removal justifications
- We have a number of examples where local governments are making highly questionable undue hardship determinations
- RAR not implemented by all required LG's – CSRD covers a large area of very important fish habitat and has an aggressive development community
- Lack of reasonable streamlined variance ability – Justified variances are difficult to manage

Provincial refusal to advise on HADD determinations in non-anadromous waters has resulted in considerably more work, and delayed response times and increasingly complicated regulatory processes.

Lack of proper modern water management system in BC is resulting in increased water demand and provincial licensing – including no groundwater regulation. This is continuing to erode base flows and ability to protect integral habitat unit. All development projections determine it will get much worse if next 2 decades.

Very hot development situation resulting in a large number of development activities including:

- Large marinas
- Large resort and condominium developments
- Many recreational and residential foreshore developments
- Extensive major infrastructure developments – e.g. Kicking Horse Canyon, Kelowna Floating Bridge, TMX pipeline looping.
- Agricultural crop conversion to high water demand plants – e.g. grapes

Rate of development and program downsizing and lack of proper streamlining tools to address these activity types is causing reductions in file review and response times.

We are facing likely major work load increases from Mountain Pine Beetle and Invasive Species landscape level management issues.