

LRISS 2019 AGM Meeting Minutes



Where: Lillooet Rec Centre, Mezzanine

When: May 8, 2019

Time: 10am – 3:00pm

Members Present:

See attached participants list

AGENDA:

1. Welcome, Introductions, Agenda Review
2. Speaker: Bob Butcher, Conservation Officer Service
3. Speaker: Jennifer Davidson, District of Lillooet By-Law Officer: Feral Cats
4. Lunch
5. LRISS 2018 Activities – Jacquie Rasmussen
6. AGM Business
7. Round Table Partner Updates
8. Wrap-up.

1. Welcome & Introductions: Bill Spencer & Jacquie Rasmussen

Go around the table to introduce participants and whom they represent.

Review Agenda:

Changes to Agenda? None – Motion passed to adopt agenda.

Speaker

2. Bob Butcher, Conservation Officer Service

Domestic sheep have a high chance to transport diseases to big horn sheep. The domestic are vaccinated and can carry micoplasma ovipneumoniae (lung) and other diseases. This transmission has occurred in our area and results in serious loss of the sheep and young especially. Takes years 8-10 years for this disease to get rid of this disease.

There is one BC Government staff person that is in charge of this disease alone. There are programs that offer compensation and support farmers to build fences to keep the domestic & native sheep apart. Double fencing is one method so that the sheep can't touch noses. They offer testing to get rid of those that carry.

COS offers education. They also notify the Government biologist if there are new domestic sheep herds locally. Seton Lake herd of native sheep has been a protected herd in the past and the biologists felt that this herd could be used as a backup if other herds were decimated to transplant. Now, more recently, there is domestic sheep showing up even in Seton. Tests out of Chasm because there was a huge loss there and they can't figure out why.

Sheep cough and this is a symptom. This needs to be reported right away. The domestic sheep can still carry the disease even though they have been vaccinated and can transmit the disease.

Jacque explained that the LRISS Board has never contemplated the use of domestic goats for invasive removal because of the off chance that they transmit the same kind of diseases. Goats can also transmit it to our native goats too.

Bill Spencer: how is our population of native sheep?

Bob isn't quite certain but Diamond S looks good but it took 10 years to recover. Fraser corridor Big Bar down to Lillooet seems to be alleviated of the disease. Another indicated that the disease has infiltrated a herd is that there will be 14 ewes and only 2 lambs....the sick ones can't run away. There should be 14 ewes and 13 or so lambs.

Keeping an eye on Seton Lake bunch because of Cayoosh domestic sheep.

Bridge River area should be ok. Mandi Rogers double fences her sheep at her ranch near Carol Lake (Mud FSR) as well as another sheep farmer out near Tyax.

Jeremy Aot is the designated tester. Mandi knows him.

Action: Get information and give to MoFLNRORD, (Reid) Mandi, LAFS, Sarah to share on social media to help spread the word.

What are the hunting regulations? Guides get an allotment. There are requirements based on species and their maturity indicated by their horn curls. Rocky Mountain bridge of the nose. California Sheep horn curl requirements to hunt. Sept 10 – Oct 20. The regulations have not changed for 18 years.

- Lone Cabin and French Bar populations has had some concern so the hunting seasons have been changed.
- 9 Mile closed to guiding. Vehicle closures also in the entire region above 1700m – subalpine. Can only be on existing roads. 1900m complete vehicle closure in Shulaps.

Household & Feral Cats: Bob says he sees a relationship between domestic cats and predators. Tend to a problem where a cougar is causing an issue and Bob will see house cat prints everywhere. He sees an increase of predators coming into town because the cats are attracting predators in town. The predators then cause other issues like dogs and livestock. The increase of predators can then lead to human-wildlife problems as well.

Invasive Mussels: There is a special division in the COS for the invasive mussels. The staff are not CO's but the management and supervisory. Inspections are mandatory for all watercraft to stop where there is an inspection station. They have had to do some decontaminations. If mussels were to establish in BC's freshwater bodies, the impacts would be devastating especially to Hydro infrastructure. Mussel sniffing dogs are now used in BC to detect invasive mussels on boats.

Eurasian Collared Doves: What about hunting invasive doves? Schedule C – doves are not currently on this schedule that indicated wildlife that can be hunted. Mandi has them at her ranch now and they are a problem because they get into the seed. Bob says they are not on the radar for the Biologists because they don't think that they are affecting other native species. There are people that feel otherwise. They can be a problem for ranchers.

Deer: Bob says White tails are moving in and increasing in some areas: Hat Creek, Lytton & Texas Creek. Why are there more deer in the town of Lillooet? Bob says they seem to get comfortable around people and town provides them a refuge from predators. He also observed that there is a large population out the West Pavilion and the population bubble could be flowing into to town. The deer learn to stay on ranches as well

because there is a consistent source of food and lack of predators.

Are there deterrents for the deer that are recommended? Bob says that you can fence. Bob had 12 in his yard. Other things you can buy: motion detector sprinklers, cougar urine could work. Ranchers out the West Pavilion, the Hancock's, did fence their hay field. The deer moved south to another ranch, the Albietz property. Blue Ridge ranch also has an issue. Compensation programs have apparently been reduced. There is now some elk now on the range in the Bridge River. They came off of the Hurley. Bob says they were seen on LaRoche. There also has been 2 bulls 3 cows on north end of Diamond S north of Pavilion. Bob says they like open and grassland and are transient. There are no populations that seem to be staying in one area for long and they move a long ways. For example, Quesnel elk went to Princeton herd and stayed. It's likely a survival technique so that there is genetic diversity in the herds.

Sharon French comments: There has been a strong presence of cougars this winter. Why is this? Bob: Cougars are always there. Over the years, there is are feast and famine years. After the 2-month cold snap this winter, there was a rash of cougar calls. After 8 years, there was 6-7 calls in Kelly Lake area alone. Environmental factors do cause them to act differently. Cougars are opportunistic. Bob tries to keep the cougar alive if there is only one sheep kill. He tries to work with the producer to keep them inside and use tools to

Regulations for wolves? There is a hunting season. There are actually very few wolf-human interactions. Bob says that currently there are very liberal hunting seasons for wolf because moose population are down. There is a year-round wolf season.

Cougars: no specific regulations. Bob explained that no one is going to be held accountable if there is a threat of human livelihood or life. He explained that each incident is reviewed independently. Everyone is obligated to report any accidental death.

3. Speaker: Jennifer Davidson, District of Lillooet By-Law Officer: Feral Cat populations in Lillooet

The housing shortage situation has caused issues with abandoned pets especially cats.

People who move out of a rental, Jennifer has had 10 calls at least to pick up abandoned cats. The District of Lillooet does not have a pound for cats.

Cat hoarders are also an issue and do also move around.

There are about 100 cats that have been saved, trapped and rescued in our area.

There are about 5-6 colonies that have variable numbers but about 20-25 cats per colony.

Jennifer is helping to organize trapping them and taking them one by one to the vet to be fixed and immunized.

There are also so many logistics to deal with the feral cats.

The animal by-law is being updated but Lillooet Council does not want to have cats included. The reason is that the By-law officer is only part time and they don't want Jennifer to spend more time on this. Dogs are more visible. Dogs can be controlled more easily than cats.

How do you know what ones have been caught? Ear notching.

PowerPoint presentation provided by Jennifer. A copy will be placed on our website.

4. LUNCH Provided.

5. Jacquie Rasmussen, P.Ag, LRISS Coordinator

Jacquie gave a presentation that summarized the activities of LRISS in 2018. This is based on the report that was produced outlining these activities in more detail.

The 2018-19 report will be placed on our website www.lriiss.ca

Eurasian Collared Dove population spread overview. PowerPoint provided and information provided by Ian Routley and EBird.

6 AGM Business

Actions from previous year: NONE

Motion to accept the minutes from 2018 - Passed

Election of the Board of Directors: Run by Bill Spencer and Jacquie Rasmussen

Positions that are current:

Mandi Rogers, Matt Manuel

Positions to be filled this year:

Bill Spencer, Sue Senger, Gerald Michel

All of these people accepted to continue ahead of this meeting: Bill Spencer, Gerald Michel, Sue Senger
Ken Wright and Cheryl Blair have resigned from the Board

Nominations from the Floor:

Travis Peters, Bill Spencer, Gerald, Sue Senger

All were accepted and passed by the membership.

Review of financials: Bill Spencer.

**All financial documents are found at the end of these minutes.*

Balance Statement was reviewed including what "deferred" funding means.

Income statement was reviewed.

In kind contributions: Approximately \$8748 about 230 hours plus meeting space.

Questions

None.

Motion Passed to adopt the financial report as stated above.

7. Partner Updates

Coleen Hougan: TNRD Update read by Jacquie Rasmussen

Written update.

Clare Greenberg: Sea to Sky Invasive Species Council

PowerPoint provided by Clare and presented by Jacquie

Bill Spencer: Yalakom Ecological Society, LRISS Treasurer

Bill has been living in the Yalakom for 30 years and around Lillooet for 45. The Yalakom community has a good awareness of invasive plants. People in the Yalakom try to do organic production and prefer alternative methods. They do not generally support the use of herbicides. They have organized work parties have gone out to do knapweed pulls. Bill continues to educate and share information with his community. A large seed bank means that knapweed continues to emerge. Toadflax has been under biocontrol and it has been successful. Parasitic dodder is now spreading and going from the road to the fields. People are concerned about it because of how easy it is to spread it around so they are very supportive of removing it.

The Yalakom community has supported the moratorium of the use of herbicides by the St'át'imc communities. Bill has communicated with Yalakom community about the pilot use of herbicides because there is recognition that there are some instances to use a small amount of herbicides as long as values are protected.

Has raised concerns about glyphosate and the reports out of the US including successful lawsuits where people have settled with Bayer for large amounts of money.

Jeff Clancy: Conservation Officer Service

Goat and Sheep – keeping an eye on new property owners and people getting sheep or goats. The CO's go out to the properties and talk to the owner explaining the risks of disease transmission

Mandi thinks that more sheep and goat will be raised because of new demand. Cheaper to raise than beef.

Get disease information to hand out to new animal owners and new property owners, Sarah Petznick from the Lillooet Agriculture and Food Society would like to connect to real estate agents with this type of information.

Jeff urged people to use RAPP line to report wildlife issues and new domestic sheep or goat herds.

Jeff explained that the Aquatic Invasive Species inspection stations were open. They have been set up where there is more of a risk of invasive mussels moving from the US or Alberta.

Darrell: Splitrock & Sekw'el'was Lands Program.

Left before update

Vivian Birch-Jones: Lillooet Naturalist Society, Squamish Lillooet Regional District Area B Director

LNS has been a huge support of LRISS since the beginning. The Directors are very keen because it helps protect habitat. LNS did clear the Lion's trail of Burdock. Information about invasives is reported at the AGM.

SLRD Area B: Vivian is pleased about the Service that supplies consistent funding to LRISS now.

St'át'imc Gathering: To be held at the Sekw'el'was Cayoosh Campground. LNS and LRISS will be there. The tables will be next to each other.

May 26: Michael Proctor is coming to Lillooet to speak about Grizzly Bears. This is and LNS event.

Matt Manuel: Lillooet Tribal Council, LRISS Director

LTC trying to raise awareness. LTC is losing a community in their Council so this affects LTC and they don't know how this will affect operations because it will affect their budget. LTC is informing partners about this change. They are looking at digital data collection options. Matt reported that they are training crews on

Lightship program to collect data for this year.

Matt explained that LTC is concerned about issues around the Wildfire Act. There are challenges with collecting data on areas affected by Fire. Now he knows about invasives and the challenge of collecting information about invasives as well. In his opinion, Wildfire Service is by-passing activities that should be required under their "due diligence". There is a desire to do controlled burns but liability continues to be a concern. The St'át'imc Government Service is trying to build a guardianship program. It fits with partnership with industry. LTC continues to build a Land use plan using the pilot projects like Buck Creek Project. LTC is likely use the pilot project as a model for the Bridge River Valley Trails project.

Travis Peters, Susan: Ts'kw'aylaxw

Travis Peters explained that he owns his own company and worked for one year for LRISS. He now works with Ts'kw'aylaxw. He is upset that that the forest companies are not at this meeting. He looks forward to being part of the Board. He has been working in the 100 Mile and Kamloops District not so much Lillooet side. He is working on the Elephant Hill Working group because of concerns of the impacts from mushroom pickers. There are concerns about recreational users as well because the fire area is a sensitive with no vegetation on it. He would like to do what the Xáxli'p community forest has done and create a crew for Ts'kw'aylaxw.

Update on Horses: The community is trying to fence out Keatly Creek to protect this immensely important heritage site.

Goats in Canoe Creek. He will connect with CO's and the threat.

Training Youth: summer student programs.

Mandi Rogers: Lillooet Livestock Association

Speaking specifically about her home range and many of the local ranchers' issues: Burdock is the main invasive that causes problems for her operations. Cattle, horses and bears are the main spreaders. Cattle can become devalued because of burrs in the eye that can cause blindness and infections. They do 2 cuts a year along the Marshall and side roads to remove burdock. The seedbed is so persistent and grows every year. It takes a lot of time. So much logging is happening in her range area and it spreads weeds.

Mandi asked about fall burning. For example, in an area like the Jones Creek Gravel pit. Then the old stands could be removed because they persist through the winter and burs continue to stick to wildlife and cattle well after the death of the plant. We might be able to try this in the fall if we can get to them before the snow fall and the old seeds fall to the ground. Horses and cows will go into the old stands in the spring where new Burdock growth and grass is coming up. 5 Mile Ridge is a very huge Burdock infestation and a problem because of recreational use causing it to spread.

Seeding after logging activities definitely helps to stop the growth of invasives. Jacquie on behalf of LRISS attends TSA meetings to keep in touch with Forest Companies and their activities. Mandi and Jacquie created a one pager for forest companies outlining the issues and recommendations to prevent the establishment and spread of invasive plants.

Derek Saul: Xaxli'p Community Forest Technician

This is the 4th year of removing burdock along Fountain Valley. Horses are still spreading the burdock in the valley. XCFC is also an LRISS contractor. This is a successful story of training a crew and now they are doing work for LRISS.

LRISS collaborated with Xáxli'p to create a postcard to give out at the Fountain Rec Site. It has a pretty picture of Fountain Lake on the front and the back has Play,Clean,Go key messages.

Sarah Petznick: Lillooet Agriculture & Food Society

LAFS has been hosting workshops; New projects include planting Firesmart species and organizing the 2019 Harvest Festival.

Sal Demare: Bridge River Valley Community Association, Trails Committee

The Trails committee has been involved with many collaborative projects with LRISS. Sal suggested it would be good to do a summary of our partnership with BRVCA. Sal will help to find the missing boot brush sign that went missing from Tyax Lodge. The trails committee is collaborating with LTC on collecting data on 6 trails. This inventory will include invasives. Sal said that that they would like to make sure that their crews have training and photos of the common invasives and EDRR species. Invasives will be removed when completing trail maintenance too.

Geoff Playfair: Geoff is part of the BRVCA Trails committee and the Lillooet Off Road Cycling Association LRISS & LORCA: Decals were produced and given out at the Bike Rodeo. Geoff shares LRISS posts on social media. He'll share our posts on their sites to help with outreach.

Lydia Koot: Hope Mountain Centre, Bear Aware Program

Lydia used to live in Lillooet and now lives in Hope. She does education and outreach about bear aware. She is interested in helping to hand out information about invasives too. Would love to connect and work together. She will come to events here in Lillooet and also does work in the school. Sal says that Lydia's presentation is very good. Lydia is happy to share the pamphlet design and other organizations or DOL can add their logo to brand them as their own.

Jacque mentioned collaborating with Lydia, Jennifer and Darren Oike to get home owner kits to the DOL constituents in 2020.

Ried McTavish: MoFLNRORD, Range Agrologist, Cascades District

Ried is the Range Agrologist for the Lillooet area. He travels lots of the back roads. He can identify and report weeds. There are opportunities to talk to ranchers, & assist with LRISS inventory.

Jonah Timms: First Nations Advisor for Cascades MoFLNRORD. He is doing the position that Christine Galliazzo previously held. He worked internationally and has experience with invasive species.

Martin Ponsioen: First Nations Advisor Cascades MoFLNRORD: Jennifer Reid is the new District Manager

8. Wrap-up

Motion to adjourn at 3:26 was passed.

Adjourned at 3:26

LRISS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Lillooet Regional Invasive Species Society Balance Sheet As at 31/03/2019

ASSET

Current Assets

Gaming Equity Shares	6.00	
Gaming Bank Account	8,991.54	
Chequing Equity Shares	6.19	
Chequing Bank Account	<u>54,611.24</u>	
TOTAL CASH		63,614.97
Accounts Receivable	<u>2,913.68</u>	
TOTAL RECEIVABLES		<u>2,913.68</u>
Total Current Assets		<u>66,528.65</u>
TOTAL ASSET		<u>66,528.65</u>

LIABILITY

Current Liabilities

Deferred Revenue	55,028.28	
Accounts Payable	4,717.03	
WCB Payable	<u>5.70</u>	
Total Current Liabilities		<u>59,751.01</u>
TOTAL LIABILITY		<u>59,751.01</u>

EQUITY

Retained Earnings

Retained Earnings - Previous Year	6,771.37	
Current Earnings	<u>6.27</u>	
Total Retained Earnings		<u>6,777.64</u>
TOTAL EQUITY		<u>6,777.64</u>

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		<u>66,528.65</u>
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**Lillooet Regional Invasive Species Society
Income Statement 01/04/2018 to 31/03/2019**

REVENUE

Revenue from Funding

ADMIN 10%	8,784.83
Habitat Conservation Trust Fund	9,542.75
Lillooet Community Foundation	1,000.00
Contract Revenue	1,206.41
MOFLNRO - COORDINATION	14,963.55
MOFLNRO - OPERATIONS	23,267.78
MOTI	16,387.63
BC Hydro	4,077.90
SLRD Area B	9,323.01
SLRD Service	20,775.18
BC Gaming Grant	7,800.75
Lillooet Naturalists Society	1,302.87
Net Funding Revenue	<u>118,432.66</u>

Other Revenue

Bank Interest Revenue	46.27
Total Other Revenue	<u>46.27</u>

TOTAL REVENUE 118,478.93

EXPENSE

Operating Expenses

EI Expense	430.60
CPP Expense	724.47
WCB Expense	24.21
Vac Expense	713.20
Accomodation	581.06
Advertising	3,504.00
Equipment	5,422.04
Fees, Licenses, Permits	2,795.29
Meals	293.16
Meeting Expenses	1,466.74
Mileage - kms	6,413.24
Office and Outreach	3,233.14
Transportation	149.37
Contract - Mileage	2,092.08
Subtotal	<u>25,950.12</u>
Total Operating Expenses	<u>27,842.60</u>

Contract Wages	
Communication	3,441.46
Coordination - Meeting	8,223.07
Coordination - Planning	11,045.74
Education & Awareness	14,763.87
Inventory	8,806.69
Treatment	1,877.06
Monitor	3,994.27
Data Entry	352.50
Funding - Coordination	3,057.52
Funding - Grants	1,420.14
Reporting	2,187.35
Survey	1,442.06
Training	788.74
Data Management	929.41
Contract - Planning	1,709.78
Contract - Survey	7,215.78
Contract - Treatment	18,091.03
Contract - Data	1,283.59
Wages - Subtotal	<u>90,630.06</u>
Total Contract Wages	<u>90,630.06</u>
TOTAL EXPENSE	<u>118,472.66</u>
NET INCOME	<u><u>6.27</u></u>

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Participant List

Name	Organization
1. Sal Demare	Bridge River Valley Community Association, Trails Committee
2. Bill Spencer	LRISS Treasurer, Yalakom Ecological Association
3. Daryn Scotchman	Splitrock Environmental
4. Travis Peters	Ts'kw'aylaxw Natural Resources
5. Judy Higgenbottom	Ts'kw'aylaxw
6. Bob Butcher	Conservation Officer
7. Jeff Clancy	Conservation Officer
8. Robin Strong	Xáxli'p Community Forest Corporation
9. Derek Saul	Xáxli'p Community Forest Corporation
10. Austin Dan	Xáxli'p Community Forest Corporation
11. Patrick John	Xáxli'p Community Forest Corporation
12. Matt Manual	LRISS Director, Lillooet Tribal Council
13. Robbie Bobb	Xaxli'p Community Forest Corporation
14. Ed Mountain	Xáxli'p Community Forest Corporation
15. Victor John Sheep	Xáxli'p Community Forest Corporation
16. Sarah Petznick	Lillooet Agriculture & Food Society
17. Lydia Koot	Hope Mountain Centre
18. Lisa Hagemann	Wilderness Foundation, Bridge River
19. Vivian Birch-Jones	Lillooet Naturalist Society, Squamish Lillooet Regional District Area Director
20. Sharon French	LRISS Member
21. Mandi Rogers	LRISS Director, Lillooet Livestock Association, Rex Peak Ranch
22. Ried McTavish	Range Agrologist, MoFLNRORD, Cascades Natural Resource Office
23. Ruth Meyer	Interested Public Member
24. Geoff Playfair	Lillooet Off Road Cycling Association, BRVCA – Trails Committee
25. Jacquie Rasmussen	LRISS Executive Director
26. Jennifer Davidson	District of Lillooet, By-Law Officer
27. Martin Ponsioen	MoFLNRORD – Cascades Natural Resource Office
28. Jonah Timms	FN Liaison, MoFLNRORD – Cascades Natural Resource Office
29. Jen Leach	District of Lillooet Councillor
30. Dennis Stranack	Bridge River Lillooet News Editor