

LRISS 2022 AGM & Partner Planning Meeting Minutes



Where: Virtual on Zoom

When: May 4, 2022

Time: 1:30-4:30pm

Participants

Name	Title	Organization
Sue Senger	President, Chair	LRISS
Bill Spencer	Treasurer	LRISS, Yalakom Ecological Society
Mandi Rogers	Vice-Chair, President	LRISS, Lillooet Livestock Association
Emily Jones	Executive Director	Lillooet Agriculture & Food Society
Geoff Playfair	President, Directors	Lillooet Naturalist Society, Bridge River Valley Community Assoc-Trails Committee, Lillooet Off Road Cycling Association
Coleen Hougan	Invasive Plant Management Coordinator	Thompson Nicola Regional District – Thompson Nicola Invasive Plant Management Committee
Clare Greenberg	Executive Director	Sea to Sky Invasive Species Council
Jacque Rasmussen	Executive Director	LRISS
Johannes Bodendorfer	Executive Director	Lillooet Chamber of Commerce
Matt Manuel	Executive Director	LRISS, NRC, Lillooet Tribal Council
Stephanie Russel	Conservation Specialist – Thompson Section	BC Parks, Kamloops
Ellen Reyes	Environment Manager	St’át’imc Government Services
Graham Gielens	Environmental Roadside Manager	Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
Simon Warhurst	Consultant	Transition Forestry, Lillooet Naturalists Society
Vivian Birch-Jones	Area B Director	Squamish Lillooet Regional District
Kathryn Young	Staff	LRISS
Stefan Zeidler	Wildfire Assistant, Chair	BC Wildfire – Lillooet Zone, Tourism Lillooet
Marc Coderre	Consultant	GeoSpatialInfo Solutions – presenter.

AGENDA:

1. Welcome, Introductions, Agenda Review
2. LRISS 2021 Activities – Jacquie Rasmussen
3. AGM Business – Financial Update & Elections
4. New Priority Ranking Tool: Presentation by Marc Coderre
5. Break
6. A review of LRISS Operational Activities & Discussion
7. Round Table Partner Updates
8. Wrap-up.

1. Welcome & Introductions: Sue Senger & Jacquie Rasmussen

Acknowledgement of the St’át’imc Territory by Sue Senger, LRISS Chair.

Review Agenda:

Changes to Agenda? None – Motion passed to adopt agenda. Bill motions to accept. Matt 2nd. No objections.

2. LRISS 2021 Activities – Jacquie Rasmussen

Jacquie gave a presentation that summarized the activities of LRISS in 2021. This is based on the report that was produced outlining these activities in more detail. Showed video on priority places, the audience was in awe.

The 2020-21 report is on our website www.lriss.ca

Q&A – no questions

3. AGM Business – Financial Update & Elections**2021 Minutes**

Actions from previous year: NONE

Motion to accept the minutes from 2021 – Passed

Bill motioned to accept the minutes passed.

Review of financials: Bill Spencer.

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

Balance Sheet and Income Statement presented by Bill Spencer.

In kind contributions: Approximately \$7400 about 757 hours.

Questions

None.

Motion Passed to adopt the financial report as stated above.

Election of the Board of Directors: Run by Sue Senger and Jacquie Rasmussen

Positions that are current:

Bill Spencer, Sue Senger, Gerald Michel

Positions to be renewed this year:

Mandi Rogers & Matt Manuel for 2-year position

New nominations ahead of the meeting for a one-year position: Ellen Reyes – St'át'imc Government Services

Emily Jones, Executive Director – Lillooet Agriculture & Food Society

Nominations from the Floor:

None. Request for nominations made three times by Sue. No further nominations made.

All were accepted and passed by the membership.

4. New Priority Ranking Tool: Presentation by Marc Coderre

Jacquie introduced the priority ranking tool & introduced Marc, GIS specialist that created the tool.

Marc gave a presentation regarding the new Priority Ranking Tool.

Q&A

- No questions but lots of enthusiasm expressed for the new tool

Break – 3:05pm – 3:15pm**5. A review of LRISS Operational Activities & Discussion**

Jacquie opens discussion up to the floor: Are there values or areas of concern for 2022 treatment?

- Mandi Rogers asked how does range factor into values?

Jacquie explained that spring range was given the priority in the Priority Ranking tool and incorporated into the overall ranking of sites.

- Vivian Birch-Jones: What is an example of a highly scored area?

Marc Coderre shows on priority ranking tool McKay Creek wildfire area has lots of invasive plant sites ranked 7, 8, & 9 (9 is highest). Red dots indicate 9.

- Bill Spencer asked if any ground truthing of the Priority Ranking Tool will be done this field season.

Jacque explained that the values included in the PRT make it very accurate. A review of the high priority species sites has been done and they are coming out high.

Marc said that it is a possibility to add flood data into data set.

Jacque explained that the PRT will be reviewed annual to ensure that the most current data is included and review the ranking as well. There may be a desire to create more detailed ranking on some values.

- Simon Warhurst asked about the seeding on the Cayoosh / Seton River Bridge construction site.

Jacque explained that she was in touch with the site supervisor for this site and he explained that hydro seeding is supposed to happen on site. Splitrock Environmental is in charge of this work. Jacque communicated to the supervisor that invasive plants would need to be removed prior to seeding because large tumble-weed type invasives have been allowed to grow there because seeding did not happen quick enough to prevent them.

Grahame Gielens offered to connect with the project lead and give them the same messages.

Other information from Graham: He is working on putting together a list of upcoming projects to help us be aware of where disturbance is going to be, where soils will be move around, and perhaps we can focus on pre-treatment before work even begins. He notes that the larger projects receive a lot of attention but is concerned about smaller projects that go under the radar & may lack dedicated funding. Grahame told the group that he is consistently encouraging all projects to seed in a timely manner to prevent invasive species growth.

Vivian Birch-Jones also noted that the wetland near this project was supposed to have some restoration work completed on it as well.

Review of the species to change the category: Tree of Heaven, garden variety category (slides provided).

Change of status of Tree of Heaven to No Action to Eradicate

- LRISS doesn't necessarily have capacity to start to treat this species. The goal of changing its status is to recognize the priority of this species and that it is the preferred habitat for Spotted Lanternfly (an invasive insect that could have devastating effects on berries especially grapes).
- LRISS will be prioritizing *inventory* for this species. Removal of such a large tree presents challenges
- Graham – agrees this is a great idea and to start with inventory is awesome. We expect the tree is more wide-spread and we don't have the data to prove this. Admits full grown trees will be difficult to manage. Last year he worked on Siberian Elm & it was expensive & labour intensive. It's not something they can consider right now with current budget & capacity to treat Tree of Heaven. These trees also sucker so mechanical treatment will be difficult even with small, new growths.
- Sue – let's get the inventory done to prove that it is here.
- Clare – agree that ToH should be a higher priority.
- Bill – it's definitely present, we just don't know how far & wide it has spread.
- Vivian – inventory is a good idea if it's a threat to agriculture.
- Grahame – let's put it in eradicate now. If we don't find anything we can drop it down to prevent.
- Bill –vote is for eradicate.

It was decided to change this species to Eradicate category.

Garden Species: add a new category and change certain species from No Action to this new category.

- Change from "no action" to "targeted outreach" for species that people like to grow in their gardens which are definitely invasive.
- Clare – tricky with some species. Offers to work with JR to come up with a definition that makes sense. Possibility to survey others for their opinions.
- Grahame – a category where treatment isn't expected but outreach is reasonable. Archangel – got bumped down because it's in locations that are not accessible or too abundant. Still a high priority though. Still need to keep an eye out to make sure it's not spreading out of gardens.

6. Partner Updates

Grahame Gielens – MOTI received \$200,000 extra this year above the 2.4 million they usually receive. This funding is for targeted inventory in areas that were affected by flooding and landslides. There are areas in the LRISS region identified by MOTI that fall under one or more of these categories. The funding was primarily for flooding but can also be put towards McKay Creek inventory and possibly treatment because the West Pavilion Road and Highway 40 were affected by the McKay Cree Wildfire.

Clare Greenberg – Executive Director, Sea to Sky Invasive Species Council– have started work on Scotch broom & European green crab. Lots of volunteers working. She provided 2 links for their operational plan and priority species. <https://ssisc.ca/invasives/invasive-plants/> & <https://ssisc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/SSISC-Program-Plan-for-2022-DRAFT-external.pdf> & <https://ssisc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/SSISC-2021-Annual-Report-FINAL.pdf>

Coleen Hougen – Elephant Hill fire budget is complete. She works with LRISS on priority species along our borders as well as joint education & outreach. We are also working together on a puncturevine site on private land beside Highway 12 between Lillooet & Lytton.

Geoff Playfair –In his capacity with a variety of groups (see above participant list) Geoff assists LRISS by sharing our outreach information/articles etc and posts them to various social media channels. Geoff announced the upcoming Bioblitz: JUNE 3, 4, 5 organized by the Lillooet Naturalist Society and lead by Kathryn Young. The use of iNaturalist could also increase the reporting of invasives too.

Vivian Birch-Jones – Congratulations to the new directors. It is wonderful that the Lillooet Agriculture & Food Society will be represented on the LRISS board now (Emily Jones, thank you). She raised the issue of illegal dumping and shared a project being completed by the SLRD through a consultant. Please report any areas of illegal dumping to Vivian.

Ellen Reyes – No update but she is looking forward to working as an LRISS director.

Simon Warhurst - Nothing to report for Interwest this past year. As the year before, we concentrated activities in the Fraser Valley (areas south of Boston Bar). Are now starting on operations in the Lillooet area (Goldbridge). Haven't had to purchase grass seed (grizzly bear friendly mix) for a couple of years, but have been informed by grass seed suppliers that due to poor growing conditions in Oregon/Washington, inventories of grass seed may be somewhat limited and more costly

Emily Jones – Reported that she is excited to be joining LRISS board. LAFS will be sharing the HUB space with LRISS. LAFS AGM is May 17. <https://www.lillooetagricultureandfood.org/blog/>

Mandi Rogers –Reported that there was a Lillooet Livestock Association spring meeting on April 22nd. Seeding on the McKay Creek Fire was discussed. It was decided to send a letter to the Cascades Forest District urging the District Manager to support seeding on the fire for cattle and wildlife forage as well as the prevention of invasive species.

Sue Senger –Reported that she started a new website and movement called Food Abundance Revolution <https://www.foodabundance.ca> . You can take a 30 day grow your own garden course. Upcoming Food Abundance Revolution Summit. Invasive species will be topic on this summit. Jacquie Rasmussen and Lisa Scott, the Executive Director of the Okanagan and Similkameen Invasive Species Society will be guest speakers.

Stefan Zeidler – In his capacity at the Lillooet Fire Zone, he'd like to build the knowledge of his crews to report invasive plants when out in the field doing projects. In his role with Tourism Lillooet, he thanked LRISS for distributing the best practices – tourism info hand out last summer. He reported that Tourism Lillooet is exploring support for the visitor centre.

Bill Spencer – As part of Bill's involvement in the Yalakom Ecological Society, he and others have been reviewing a proposal for a windfarm in the Yalakom. He is also staying informed about other industrial activities. He is concerned

about Dodder because there seemed to be an increase of it in 2021. Bill is also involved in giving feedback to the Horseshoe Bend project. This site does have invasive plants.

7. Wrap-up

Sue Senger, LRISS Chair: Thanks to everyone that were able to attend today.

If you have any questions moving forward, contact Jacquie or look at the website.

Please consider signing up to become a member and get our free monthly newsletter.

Motion to adjourn at 4:35 pm was passed.

Adjourned at: 4:35pm

LRISS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Lillooet Regional Invasive Species Society Balance Sheet As at 2022-03-31

ASSET

Current Assets

Gaming Equity Shares	6.59
Gaming Bank Account	10,225.24
Chequing Equity Shares	6.80
Plan 24 Savings Account	30,000.51
Chequing Bank Account	<u>18,044.12</u>
TOTAL CASH	<u>58,283.26</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>58,283.26</u>

TOTAL ASSET 58,283.26

LIABILITY

Current Liabilities

EI Payable	-4.70
CPP Payable	-12.95
WCB Payable	6.10
GST Receivable	<u>-2,172.20</u>
GST Owing (Refund)	<u>-2,172.20</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>-2,183.75</u>

TOTAL LIABILITY -2,183.75

EQUITY

Retained Earnings

Retained Earnings	4,057.39
Current Earnings	<u>56,409.62</u>
Total Retained Earnings	<u>60,467.01</u>

TOTAL EQUITY 60,467.01

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY 58,283.26

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**Lillooet Regional Invasive Species Society
Income Statement 2021-04-01 to 2022-03-31**

REVENUE

Revenue from Funding

Habitat Conservation Trust Fund	5,310.39
MOFLNRO - COORDINATION	14,000.00
MOFLNRO - OPERATIONS	28,700.00
MOTI	31,022.31
BC Hydro	6,999.24
SLRD Area B	30,000.00
SLRD Service	42,142.50
Feds - MOE	22,500.00
BC Gaming Grant	22,024.57
Canada Summer Jobs	29,885.00
GST Rebate	1,679.76
Lillooet Naturalists Society	1,467.81
Net Funding Revenue	<u>235,731.58</u>

Other Revenue

Bank Interest Revenue	1.11
Miscellaneous Revenue	1,197.65
Total Other Revenue	<u>1,198.76</u>

TOTAL REVENUE 236,930.34

EXPENSE

Operating Expenses

EI Expense	1,411.22
CPP Expense	2,564.71
WCB Expense	102.98
Vac Expense	2,458.29
Rent-Office	910.00
Advertising	3,761.75
Equipment	12,345.10
Fees, Licenses, Permits	3,074.41
Meals	50.80
Meeting Expenses	507.11
Mileage - kms	6,054.37
Office and Outreach	6,002.12
Transportation	96.78
Contract - Equipment	890.89
Subtotal	<u>32,783.33</u>
Total Operating Expenses	<u>40,230.53</u>

Wage categories

Coordination-Communication	5,577.22	
Coordination - Meeting	6,874.69	
Coordination - Planning	15,157.34	
Education & Awareness	39,347.96	
Inventory	6,341.23	
Treatment	13,408.19	
Monitor	672.00	
Data Entry	499.26	
Funding - Coordination	9,353.58	
Funding - Grants	1,281.47	
Reporting	2,830.56	
Survey	10,398.00	
Training	4,496.59	
Data Management	1,614.38	
Contract - Treatment	14,430.00	
Contract - Data	7,843.72	
Contract -Outreach	164.00	
Wages - Subtotal		<u>140,290.19</u>
Total Contract Wages		<u>140,290.19</u>
TOTAL EXPENSE		<u>180,520.72</u>
NET INCOME		<u><u>56,409.62</u></u>

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Lillooet Regional Invasive Species Society: 2021-22 In-Kind Contributions

Volunteer or Organization	Activity or Resource	Estimated number of hours	Rate (if applicable)	Estimated Value
BRVCA Volunteers - 16 kiosk dates (5 hours per date, 2 volunteers)	Tourism Kiosks - survey & resource hand outs	160	\$20	\$3,200.00
Tourism Kiosk planning BRVCA Staff & Volunteers	Meetings before, after and during for planning	25	\$20	\$1,500.00
Ts'kw'aylaxw, Sekw'el'was, T'it'q'et, Tsal'alh, St'át'imc Government Services, Lillooet Tribal Council, Bridge River Valley Community Association, Lillooet Livestock Association, Lillooet Agriculture & Food Society, Lillooet Naturalists, Lillooet Volunteer Connect	Organizations posting monthly newsletters	42	\$20	\$840.00
SWIMS	Event planning - 4 events	8	\$20	\$160.00
District of Lillooet - Information Hand out	Prepare information for LRISS staff to hand out & Printing	4	\$20	\$80.00
District of Lillooet - Information Hand out	Printing costs 500 copies	500	\$0.05	\$25.00
Lillooet Library	Organize youth event	4	\$20	\$80.00
T'it'q'et Youth	Organize youth event	1	\$20	\$20.00
BC Science Teacher Professional Day	Event Organization	4	\$20	\$80.00
Lillooet Off Road Cycling Association AGM	Event Organization	4	\$20	\$80.00
Timber Supply Area Partner Meeting	Meeting Organization	4	\$20	\$80.00
Marshall Lake Association Presentation	Event Organization	1	\$20	\$20.00
Plankton Tow nets	Plankton Tow nets	0	\$0	\$1,200.00
TOTALS		757		\$7,365.00