

**Fraser Valley Regional Watersheds Coalition**  
**General Meeting**  
May 20, 2009, 7:00-9:00 pm  
UFV Chilliwack  
Room A201



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## General Meeting Minutes (DRAFT)

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### Attendees:

- Mike Pearson, FVRWC/Pearson Ecological
- Lance Lilley, FVRD/FVRWC
- David Urban, FVRD/FVRWC
- Tom Cadieux, DFO/FVRWC
- Dick Bunbury, Abbotsford Soil Conservation Association/FVRWC
- Margaret Bunbury, Central Valley Naturalists
- Rachel Drennan, FVRWC
- Mark Johnson, DFO
- Monica Pearson, Balance Ecological
- Jim Taylor, Stave Valley Salmonid Enhancement Society
- Terry Taylor, SVSES
- Janne Perrin, Chilliwack Field Naturalists
- Ann Crump, CFN
- Andrea Gielens, Turyia Ecological
- Sharon Francis, Great Blue Heron Nature Reserve
- Sidney Douglas, Cheam First Nation
- Steve Clegg, resident
- Marion Robinson, Fraser Basin Council
- David Lamson, Chilliwack River Action Committee
- Detmar Schwichtenberg, FVRWC/ Fraser-Harrison SmartGrowth

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### Presentation/Dialogue:

**Title:** Oregon Spotted Frog Recovery in the Fraser Valley

**By:** Monica Pearson, Balance Ecological

**Synopsis:** Oregon spotted frogs are one of the most endangered amphibian species in Canada. From presently known populations, it appears there are only about three hundred left in BC, all in the Fraser Valley. Their numbers have dropped as much as 90 percent from past populations due to habitat destruction and the introduction of non-native species. Monica will provide an introduction to OSF and discuss ongoing and planned recovery efforts in the Fraser Valley.

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### Book Draw:

- Winner of Draw: Dick Bunbury (World of Freshwater). Congratulations, Dick!

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### Society Business:

#### 1.0 Adoption of Agenda and Minutes

- Approved (Mike 1<sup>st</sup>, Dick 2<sup>nd</sup>)

## 2.0 Society Business:

### 2.1 Introduction to new Outreach Coordinator

- Rachel introduced herself as the new FVRWC Community Outreach Coordinator.
- Tasks and role will include getting the newsletter up and running again, providing admin support as required, and general community outreach for projects (particularly Hope/Camp Slough to start).
- Email address: [fvrwc@live.ca](mailto:fvrwc@live.ca). Address is c/o University of the Fraser Valley, 45635 Yale Road, Chilliwack, BC. V2P 6T4

### 2.2 Updates on Projects and Initiatives

- Hope/Camp Slough Project (Rachel):
  - Potential projects include water quality monitoring, riparian plantings, removal of invasives, landowner contact and education, booklet on history of slough, etc.
  - Additional suggestions included:
    - Re-engaging residents who approached Coalition last year about projects
    - Working with Chilliwack Field Naturalists, who have been maintaining a site along Camp Slough since 1993 (Camp River Wildlife Area)
    - Cheam First Nation did substantial work on slough habitat a few years ago. Chief Douglas identified sediment accumulation, loss of shade plants, and loss of tributaries as major factors affecting the current health of the slough. He remembers swimming in the slough as a child and it used to be clean and cold water then.
    - Ernie Victor organizes an annual clean-up event for First Nation youth along the slough.
- Youth Engagement Project (Amy Greenwood, Fraser Basin Council)
  - FBC recently received funding for hands-on training and capacity building for youth (16-24 years old) from Sept – Dec, 2009. They are currently identifying community partners, and wanted to approach the Coalition with this opportunity. The Coalition was potentially interested (needs further discussion), and also helped to identify some further community partners.
- Invasive Plant Partnership (Marion)
  - A new Fraser Valley Invasive Plant Partnership has been formed, with the Fraser Valley Conservancy hiring a coordinator shortly to help the process. The group will meet the first Monday of every month.
  - Suggestions for the group included inviting Brian Minter to the process early on, and to provide a priority focus on transportation corridors.
- Abby News Insert on Fraser Valley NGOs (Margaret)
  - Kathy Wilkinson is putting together profiles of various environmental groups in the Fraser Valley, to be included in a special environmental section of the Abby News on May 30<sup>th</sup>.
  - The Coalition has contributed an article for this insert, and would like to thank Kathy for her efforts.

- Eagle Eye (Mark)
  - A new DVD has recently been produced as part of a multi-media resource targeted at high schools, post secondary schools and community groups (and possible elementary schools) to introduce concepts of sustainability and ecosystems.
- Silverdale (Jim)
  - The wetlands are looking great. Monica Pearson recently visited the site and helped to enhance its frog habitat values. Coho are currently in the off-channel. A fish release will be held on June 6<sup>th</sup> by Rotary.

### **2.3 Other Issues/Items?**

- The Directors voted before the meeting to invite two more Directors into the Coalition: Jim Taylor and Marion Robinson. Both gratefully accepted, and both will be a huge asset to the Coalition. Welcome aboard!

### **3.0 Next Meeting, Events, Announcements**

- Upcoming Dates:
  - May 27<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 – 11:30 am: CLASS meeting (Cultus Lake)
  - May 27<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 – 2:00 pm: CRWS Project Team meeting (Cultus Lake)
  - May 28<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 – 9:00 pm: Mike, Detmar, Monica presenting (Agassiz Hall).
  - June 6<sup>th</sup>: Rotary group coming in for salmon release (Silverdale)
  - June 18<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 – 9:00 pm: Next Coalition meeting (Abbotsford)
  - June 20<sup>th</sup>: Pikeminnow Derby (Cultus Lake)

### **4.0 Adjournment**

- Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.
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