



**NOTICE OF
PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Wednesday
July 14, 2010
Regional District Board Room
175 Ingram Street, Duncan, BC**

3:00 p.m.

A G E N D A

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2.	<u>ADOPTION OF MINUTES</u>	
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3.	<u>BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES</u>	
4.	<u>DELEGATIONS</u>	
5.	<u>STAFF REPORTS</u>	
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INFORMATION

- IN1 Citizen News Article (May 21, 2010) "Park for ATV use to go to Regional District" 23

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

8. **PUBLIC/PRESS QUESTIONS**

9. **CLOSED SESSION**

Motion that the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with the *Community Charter* Part 4, Division 3, Section 90(1), Subsections as noted in accordance with each agenda item.

- CSM1 Minutes of Closed Session Parks Committee meeting of May 12, 2010 24 – 25
- CSSR1 Staff report, Section 90(1)(e) (verbal) —
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10. **NEXT MEETING**

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

NOTE: A copy of the full agenda package is available at the CVRD website www.cvrld.bc.ca

Director M. Dorey, Chair
Director I. Morrison, Vice Chair
Director L. Duncan
Director B. Harrison

Director G. Giles
Director K. Kuhn
Director K. Cossey

Director D. Haywood
Director P. Kent
Director L. Iannidinardo,

Minutes of the Parks Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, May 12, 2010,
at 3:30 p.m. in the Regional District Board Room, 175 Ingram Street, Duncan,
BC

PRESENT

Director Mel Dorey, Chair
Director Ian Morrison, Vice-Chair
Director Ken Cossey (3:45 p.m.)
Director Loren Duncan
Director Gerry Giles
Director Brian Harrison (5:00 p.m.)
Director Lori Iannidinardo
Director Klaus Kuhn
Director Dave Haywood (3:50 p.m.)
Director Phil Kent

CVRD STAFF

Ron Austen, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture Department
Brian Farquhar, Manager, Parks and Trails Division
Warren Jones, Administrator
Mary Anne McAdam, Recording Secretary

**APPROVAL OF
AGENDA**

The Chair noted changes to the agenda, which includes one item of New
Business and one closed session item of New Business.

It was Moved and Seconded
That the agenda, as amended, be accepted.

MOTION CARRIED

M1 - MINUTES

It was Moved and Seconded
That the Minutes of the Parks Committee Meeting of March 10, 2010, be
amended as directed by the Chair, and further, that the amended Minutes be
accepted.

MOTION CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING

There was no business arising.

DELEGATIONS

**D1 – Frank Ullmann –
Recreation Officer,
Ministry of Tourism,
Culture and the Arts –
Recreation, Sites and
Trails BC**

Recreation Officer Frank Ullman provided an overview of the BC Marine
Trails Network Association's proposal to the Ministry of Tourism, Culture
and the Arts regarding the BC Marine Trails Network for the Gulf Islands
Marine Trails (Sidney to Nanaimo).

This preliminary proposal comprises marine trail routes that require varying
degrees of open water experience through the Gulf Islands and includes
existing and proposed strategic kayak/canoe landing and camping locations
along its route. Many of these sites are pre-established and trail access points
are numerous.

It was Moved and Seconded:
That this be received for information purposes.

MOTION CARRIED

STAFF REPORTS

**SR1 – Vancouver
Island Spine – 2009
Report**

Staff Report from Brian Farquhar, Parks and Trails Manager, regarding Vancouver Island Spine Relay event.

It was Moved and Seconded
That the Vancouver Island Spine Relay in June 2010 be endorsed, inclusive of the use of the Cowichan Valley Trail June 24th and 25th, for hikers/runners and equestrians involved with the length of Vancouver Island promotional event.

MOTION CARRIED

**SR2 – 2010 Regional
Parks Major and Minor
Capital Projects**

Staff Report from Dan Brown, Parks Trails Technician, regarding 2010 Regional Parks Major and Minor Capital Projects list.

It was Moved and Seconded
That the Committee approve the 2010 Regional Major and Minor Capital Work Program revised Schedule for Regional Parks as the order and priority list for undertaking completion of capital project work approved in the 2010 budget.

MOTION CARRIED

**SR3 – Cowichan Valley
Competitive Trail Ride
Request**

Staff Report from Brian Farquhar, Parks and Trails Manager, regarding Cowichan Valley Competitive Trail Ride request – Cowichan Valley Trail.

It was Moved and Seconded
That approval be given for the use of sections of the Cowichan Valley Trail between the Waters Road area in Glenora and the trail section south of Mountain Road to the BC Competitive Trail Ride Association for an organized equestrian competitive ride event the weekend of July 3rd and 4th, 2010.

MOTION CARRIED

**SR4 – Cowichan Valley
Trail Completion
Initiative**

Staff Report from Dan Brown, Parks and Trails Technician, regarding Cowichan Valley Trail Completion Initiative –Spring 2010 Update.

It was Moved and Seconded
That this report be received and filed.

MOTION CARRIED

**SR5 – Off-road
Recreation Proposal –
Cowichan Valley ATV
Club**

Staff Report from Brian Farquhar, Parks and Trails Manager, regarding off-road recreation proposal as presented by the Cowichan Valley ATV Club.

It was Moved and Seconded
That the CVRD continue with the existing Parks Bylaw Policies, which do 4

not permit the use of motorized vehicles on Regional District trails.

MOTION CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

**C1 – Parkland
Acquisition Levy**

Two items of correspondence regarding Parkland Acquisition Fund Levy.

It was Moved and Seconded

That these items of correspondence be received and filed.

MOTION CARRIED

**C2 – Motorized
Vehicles on the Trans
Canada Trail**

Six items of correspondence regarding motorized vehicles on the Trans Canada Trail.

It was Moved and Seconded

That these items of correspondence be received and filed.

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

**NB1 – Cowichan Valley
Trail Completion
Initiative – WED Grant
Funding Deadline**

Staff report prepared by Ryan Dias, Parks Operations Superintendent, regarding 2011 Regional Parks Funding

It was Moved and Seconded

That, if necessary, up to a maximum of \$155,000 in short term borrowing for the construction of sections of the Cowichan Valley Trail – Northern Completion, be approved, in order to fully match grant funding contributions awarded to the project; and that the loan be paid back over five years under the Liability Under Agreement Section of 175 of the *Community Charter*; and that the adopted 2010 budget be amended to reflect the Cowichan Valley Trail – Northern Completion funding changes.

MOTION CARRIED

**NB2 – Regional Parks
Committee Meeting**

It was Moved and Seconded

That the Regional Parks Committee meetings be re-scheduled to start at 3:00 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

No questions from the public.

CLOSED SESSION

It was Moved and Seconded

That the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with the *Community Charter* Part 4, Division 3, Section 90(1), Subsections as noted in accordance with each agenda item.

MOTION CARRIED

The Committee moved into closed session at 5:00 p.m.

RISE

The Committee rose without report.

NEXT MEETING

To be held Wednesday, July 14, 2010, at 3:00 p.m.

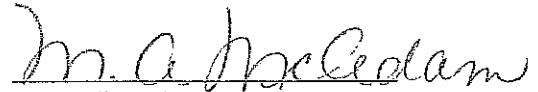
ADJOURNMENT

It was Moved and Seconded
That the meeting be adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Chair


Recording Secretary



STAFF REPORT

PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING OF JULY 14, 2010

DATE: July 7, 2010

FILE NO:

FROM: Brian Farquhar, Parks and Trails Manager

BYLAW NO:

SUBJECT: Shawnigan-Kinsol Half Event – Cowichan Valley Trail

Recommendation:

That the application from the Ceevacs RoadRunners to use an approximately 4.0 kilometre section of the Cowichan Valley Trail for Shawnigan-Kinsol Half Marathon running event on Sunday October 31, 2010, be approved subject to the following conditions:

1. Proof of a minimum \$2.0 million liability insurance coverage be provided by the organizers, which covers the event and which also includes the CVRD as an additional insured;
2. A route plan is submitted to the CVRD for review and approval detailing the section(s) of the Cowichan Valley Trail proposed for use as part of the half marathon course;
3. A Course Marshall Plan is submitted prior to the event for CVRD review and approval;
4. Confirmation that there will be appropriate flag persons at all road crossings along sections of the Cowichan Valley Trail corridor used for the event.
5. Confirmation that there will be notices of the event posted along the trail in advance of, and during the day of, the event that will advise other trail users of the race, with such notice wording and locations pre-approved by the Regional District.

Purpose:

To consider a request from the Ceevacs RoadRunners to host a half marathon event on portions of the Cowichan Valley Trail on October 31, 2010.

Financial Implications:

Any costs to prepare the sections of the Cowichan Valley Trail for the event and possible clean-up costs not undertaken by event organizers would need to be expensed to the Regional Parks budget. At this time no work is identified in 2010 for improvements or remedial work on the trail in the area proposed for the half marathon event.

Interdepartmental/Agency Implications:

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI) owns the former CNR railway corridor upon which the Regional District has constructed and maintains the Cowichan Valley Trail under a permit issued by MoTI in 1997.

Background:

The Ceevacs Roadrunners have hosted a Half Marathon running event in Shawnigan Lake for over 30 years and as in 2009, the organizers are again interested in a race route which lessens the length of the overall course on local busy roads. Similar to last year, the Ceevacs are requesting the Committee and Board's approval again in 2010 for the use of the Cowichan Valley Trail between Renfrew Road and the historic Kinsol Trestle (see attachment). Both the proposed Half Marathon event and a shorter 12 kilometre run event taking place at the same time would incorporate the trail route. The organizers have indicated that both certified traffic officials and course marshalls will be stationed along the route for safety at intersections as well as aid/water stations. A post-course sweep to pick-up any litter would also be done by the organizers. In addition to approval by the Regional District, the Ceevacs will also be obtaining the necessary approvals from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure for use of local public roads for the event.

Unfortunately for the 2010 race event date, trail access from the Cowichan Valley Trail parking lot on Glen Eagles Road north to the Kinsol Trestle will be closed to public use due to trestle rehabilitation work underway. The half marathon organizers have verbally acknowledged, however, their interest to use portions of the Cowichan Valley Trail despite not being able to use the section to the Kinsol Trestle.

Submitted by,



Brian Farquhar
Manager, Parks and Trails Division
Parks, Recreation and Culture Department

BTF/mca
Attachment

CeeVACs Roadrunners
c/o Kelly Schellenberg
10881 Stuart Road
Ladysmith, BC V9G 1Z9

June 23, 2010

CVRD Parks and Recreation Committee
c/o Brian Farquhar
175 Ingram Street
Duncan, BC V9L 1N8 *sent via email*

Dear Committee Members:

Re: Shawnigan-Kinsol Half Marathon – October 31, 2010

CeeVACs Roadrunners is requesting permission to use the Trans Canada Trail for our upcoming Shawnigan-Kinsol Half Marathon scheduled for Sunday October 31, 2010.

For over thirty years the local running club, CeeVACs Roadrunners, have hosted a Half Marathon running event around Shawnigan Lake. As the roads surrounding Shawnigan Lake have grown increasingly busy, we created a new route incorporating the use of the Trans Canada Trail and views of the Kinsol Trestle. This event was held on Sunday November 1, 2009 and was extremely successful.

The route starts at Shawnigan Lake School, exiting the school at the front onto Renfrew Road. We will have certified traffic marshals in place to coordinate this in the safest way for traffic and participants. Runners will proceed along Renfrew Road, turn left onto West Shawnigan Road, continue along West Shawnigan Road approximately 4 kilometres, then cut over from West Shawnigan Lake Road to the Trans Canada Trail. Runners will then run north along the trail as far as the Kinsol Trestle, where they will turn around, and come back to Renfrew Road, then run east along Renfrew Rd until Ceylon Road, where they will cut into the Shawnigan Beach Estates (Ravenhill, McIntosh, Meadowview, Hurley) and finally, enter the western (trail) entrance of Shawnigan Lk School to the finish. This route will be mapped out and certified this summer pending approval of our event. In the meantime the tentative route is located at: <http://www.gmap-pedometer.com/?r=2697051>

Insurance for runners would be in place through the Vancouver Island Running Association. As mentioned, certified traffic officials will be in place at strategic locations, course marshals will be stationed on route for safety at intersections as

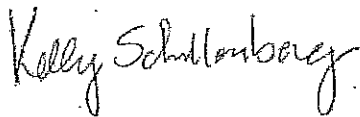
well as at aid/water stations. We will ensure that a sweep of the course is done to pick up any litter.

We are of the understanding that works on the Kinsol Trestle may be underway in the fall and that the use of the section of Trans Canada Trail in that vicinity may not be feasible. Should that be the case, we are prepared to remove that section from our course for this year in hopes of returning to the original route for 2011.

We look forward to hearing from you with regard to permission to use the Trans Canada Trail for our half marathon on October 31, 2010. We will communicate with you on the progress of works on the Kinsol Trestle to allow us adequate time to relocate the route if required.

Please let us know if there is any further information you need.

Yours sincerely,



Kelly Schellenberg, Race Director
For CeeVACs Roadrunners
Ph: 250.245.4886

Pc Sandra Whiting



STAFF REPORT

PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING OF JULY 14, 2010

DATE: July 8, 2010 **FILE NO:**

FROM: Brian Farquhar, Manager Parks and Trails **BYLAW NO:**

SUBJECT: Request to Consider Establishment of an Outdoor Recreation Park for All-terrain Vehicles

Recommendation:

That the Committee provide direction on the matter.

Purpose:

To inform the Committee of a request from the Municipality of North Cowichan that the Regional District consider developing an outdoor recreation park for all-terrain vehicles.

Financial Implications:

The costs and source of funds for the planning, acquisition, development and operation of an outdoor recreation park for all-terrain vehicles would need to be determined.

Interdepartmental/Agency Implications:

Unknown at this time.

Background:

The District of North Cowichan Council, at its meeting of May 19, 2010, passed a resolution requesting that the Cowichan Valley Regional District consider developing an outdoor recreation park for all-terrain vehicles in consultation with user groups (see attachment). The motorized recreation topic has been a longstanding issue within the Cowichan Region, inclusive of a detailed outdoor recreation park feasibility study completed for the Regional District in 2002 and more recently through a presentation at the March 10, 2010, Parks Committee meeting by members of the Cowichan Valley ATV Club. The Regional Parks and Trails Master Plan, adopted by the Board in 2007, also acknowledges the desire for motorized outdoor recreation; however the regional parks program priorities of the adopted plan are not inclusive of an outdoor motorized recreation park. In 2004 the Regional Board passed a resolution to postpone indefinitely any consideration by the Regional District to functionally establish an outdoor recreation park, and furthermore endorsed supporting the development of a proposal for an outdoor recreation park by the private/not-for-profit sector.

.../2

To undertake an initiative to pursue acquisition and development of an outdoor recreation park for all-terrain vehicles would require similar resources and level of effort as was applied to the outdoor recreation park feasibility study in 2001/2002. The scope of work would be inclusive of consultation activities with user groups and the public, determination of land use requirements, partnership/joint-use opportunities and assessment of land area options and costs for land acquisition and establishment of site amenities and riding trails. It is estimated the scope of work (exclusive of potential land acquisition) through a consulting contract would be in the order of \$40,000. The 2010 Regional Parks budget does not include available funding nor are existing staff resources available to undertake the above scope of work without reducing or deferring previously approved Regional Parks program work for this year.

The Parks Committee may also wish to consider the current efforts of the Cowichan Valley ATV Club to secure ongoing land use arrangements with local private forest landowners for authorized use of private lands for ATV activities as previously presented by the Club to the Committee, and pending Provincial legislation governing off-road vehicle registration and licensing, helmet use, youth safety and environmental measures (see attachment).

Options that could be considered by the Parks Committee include:

- a. Reaffirm the Board's prior resolution endorsing support for development of a proposal for an outdoor recreation park by the private/not-for-profit sector;
- b. Recommend to the Board that the Regional District assume an active role in considering establishment of an outdoor recreation park for all terrain vehicles, and furthermore that the funds to undertake a study, inclusive of consultation activities with user groups, stakeholders, the public and potential partners, to determine the requirements, opportunities, costs and site location options for consideration be included in the 2011 Regional Parks budget as a priority project for the program.
- c. Defer consideration pending implementation of Provincial legislation governing off-road vehicle legislation in order to fully assess the implications with respect to opportunities and constraints for all-terrain vehicle recreation within the Cowichan Region.

Submitted by,



Brian Farquhar
Manager, Parks and Trails Division
Parks, Recreation and Culture Department

BTF/mca
Attachments

Municipality of NORTH COWICHAN

RECEIVED
MAY 21 2010



7030 Trans Canada Highway, Box 278
Duncan, BC V9L 3X4

Tel 250 746 3100 Fax 250 746 3133
www.northcowichan.bc.ca

File No: 0470-30 CVRD,
6150-01

May 20, 2010

Warren Jones, Administrator
Cowichan Valley Regional District
175 Ingram Street
DUNCAN, B.C. V9L 1N8

Dear Mr. Jones

Re: All-Terrain Vehicles - Outdoor Recreation Park

This is to advise that the North Cowichan Municipal Council passed the following resolution at its May 19, 2010 Regular Council meeting:

"that Council direct the Mayor to write to the Cowichan Valley Regional District requesting that, in consultation with user groups, it consider developing an outdoor recreation park for all-terrain vehicles."

We look forward to discussing this matter with you in the near future. If you have any questions please contact Ernie Mansueti, Parks and Recreation Director by phone at, 250-746-3110 or by email at mansueti@northcowichan.bc.ca

Sincerely

Tom Walker, Mayor

TW/sc

pc: Ernie Mansueti, Parks and Recreation Director
John MacKay, Director of Engineering and Operations
Chris Hall, Director of Planning
Rob Clark, Bylaw Enforcement Officer
Scott McIvor, Resident

Original: <i>file</i>	Copies to: <i>KA</i>
Board: <i>WJ</i>	
Committee(s): <i>BZ</i>	
Directed by: <i>[Signature]</i>	Date: <i>May 20/10</i>
File #	

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
2009TCA0012-000602
November 10, 2009

Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts

B.C. MANAGES OFF-ROAD VEHICLES

KAMLOOPS – Rules for off-road vehicle registration and licensing, helmet use, youth safety and environmental measures will be implemented over the next two years under a new off-road vehicle (ORV) management framework, announced Tourism, Culture and the Arts Minister Kevin Krueger today.

“We’ve heard much from ORV groups, the public, and other stakeholders, including the chief coroner and the Union of BC Municipalities on this topic,” said Krueger. “There is a broad consensus that it is time for ORV regulations; we have a common vision and a solid blueprint for action.”

Under the new framework, all ORV riders using Crown land will require one-time registration with a licence plate for their machines, in addition to wearing helmets and using lights at night. Age-appropriate safety measures and adult supervision will be required for young riders.

All ORVs will require registration and licensing at time of sale and re-sale. New standards for mufflers will minimize the noise impact on wildlife and spark arrestors will reduce the risk of forest fires. Additional measures to connect communities and trail networks will mean licensed ORV riders will be able to cross public roads more conveniently with an annual vehicle licence and basic insurance.

“This initiative, in part, is about allowing law enforcement officials to track stolen ORV's, something almost impossible today. It is absolutely not about taking away anyone's safe, responsible fun,” said Minister of Community and Rural Development Bill Bennett. “I own a quad, and I know this is the right thing to do. Recreationists have lots of fun riding their ORVs in Ontario and Quebec with a similar system and it will work well here in B.C. too.”

“The requirement to display a licence plate on ORVs will make it possible for conservation officers, park rangers and law enforcement agencies to identify those who are damaging sensitive habitat or harassing wildlife, so they can be held accountable,” said Environment Minister Barry Penner. “It will also give members of the public a way to help us by calling our toll-free 1-877-952-RAPP (7277) line to report licence plate numbers of irresponsible operators.”

-more-

“For over 30 years, we’ve known that B.C. has lagged behind when it comes to ORV regulations, to the detriment of personal safety, environmental responsibility, tourism potential and enhancement of ORV sport,” said Bruno Delesalle, co-chair of the ORV Coalition, also the executive director for the Grasslands Conservation Council. “The coalition is pleased that the provincial government, after receiving 47 recommendations from coalition stakeholders, is taking action with the implementation of expanded regulations for all ORVs.”

“We expect that these regulations will improve safety, environmental impacts and trail development for ORV use, as well as make those who are currently causing property and environmental damage accountable,” said Bev Felske, co-chair of the ORV Coalition, and member of the Quad Riders Association of B.C. “This is an incredible province to explore and work on the land; the majority of riders do so responsibly, and those that do not will now be identifiable and liable for their actions.”

The proposed framework is the result of extensive consultations over a number of years with a wide variety of interested organizations. The regulations define ORVs as including dirt bikes, all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles, and will not apply to private lands.

-30-

A backgrounder follows.

Contact: Victoria Klassen
Senior Public Affairs Officer
250 812-9193

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-more-

BACKGROUNDER

November 10, 2009

Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts

ORV MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

There are several key elements contained in the ORV Management Framework:

Registration and licensing:

- Mandatory vehicle registration of all ORVs at sale and resale.
- A clearly visible licence plate or decal to better assist compliance and enforcement efforts in identifying irresponsible ORV riders and help track stolen ORVs.
- An expanded definition of ORVs to include all-terrain vehicles and dirt bikes. This allows local government to enact bylaws for the range of ORVs.

Public Road Crossings:

- All ORV riders who choose the option of an annual vehicle licence and basic insurance will be able to legally cross public roads/highways or portions of the right-of-way at designated locations

Safety:

- All ORV riders will be required to wear a helmet and use lights for low-visibility conditions on Crown land, including road rights of way. Seatbelts must also be worn where installed by the manufacturer.
- Additional measures to better protect youth under 16 years of age include: adult supervision, appropriate size machine for age/weight and reduced speed limits.

Environment:

- Improved muffler standards for ORVs will reduce noise disturbance to wildlife and recreationists. Spark arrestors will reduce the risk of forest fires.
- B.C. supports the federal government's proposed emission standards for ORVs under the Marine Spark-Ignition Engine and Off-Road Recreational Vehicle Emission Regulations; once approved, these standards will apply to B.C.
- The Forest and Range Act has already been amended to add penalties for mud bogging, which damages sensitive habitat. This management framework will help with compliance and enforcement.

-more-

Compliance and Enforcement:

- A provincial ORV compliance and enforcement strategy will be developed and will include an education component to help achieve voluntary compliance.

Implementation:

- A committee of legislators who will oversee implementation has been formed, including Ministers Kevin Krueger, Pat Bell, Bill Bennett, Shirley Bond, Rich Coleman, Blair Lekstrom and Barry Penner.

Registration and licensing costs will be based on a user-pay approach and comparable to other small vehicles. For more information, please visit the website at www.tca.gov.bc.ca/tourism/ORV.

-30-

Contact: Victoria Klassen
Senior Public Affairs Officer
250 812-9193

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SR3

STAFF REPORT
PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING
OF JULY 12, 2010

DATE: July 8, 2010 **FILE NO:**
FROM: Ryan Dias, Parks Operations Superintendent **BYLAW NO:**
SUBJECT: Sandy Pool Regional Park – Proposed Drift Boat Launch Relocation

Recommendation:

That the relocation of the Sandy Pool Regional Park drift boat launch to a new site 30 metres downstream be approved, under the Regional Parks Minor Capital, and furthermore that rehabilitation of the river embankment at the existing launch site be undertaken this fall or in 2011 with grant funding received and/or contributions from the British Columbia Drift Boat Fisherman's Association.

Purpose:

To advise on the requirement to close the existing drift boat launch site at Sandy Pool Regional Park due to safety and embankment erosion issues, and a request received to relocate launch area 30 metres downstream.

Financial Implications:

Launch relocation work is estimated at \$5,000, which would need to be funded under the current Regional Parks Operating Budget. Rehabilitation of the eroded embankment at the current launch site is eligible for potential grant funding through the Pacific Salmon Foundation and other environment grant funding sources.

Background:

The Sandy Pool Regional Park drift boat launch on the Cowichan River has been in place for use by drift boats, kayaks and small non-motorized watercraft since the park was acquired and developed by the CVRD in the early 1990s. This launch is primarily used during the high water months on the river, between October and April. Access to the launch is restricted by a gate, and users must obtain a key from the Regional District to access the launch. There are presently over 60 keys issued at this time, with high use during the winter fishing season.

In recent years the launch site has been subject to significant erosion from high water flows of the Cowichan River. As a result, the launch area is now subject to strong current and back-eddy conditions that have made it impossible to safely launch a boat.

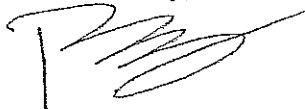
Parks staff recently visited the site with a representative of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) to assess the need for bank erosion mitigation works directly above the current boat launch and to formally address the safety and environmental concerns of this launch site. Environmental recommendations from DFO are to close the existing launch and rehabilitate the river embankment in this location with willows and native plantings. A further effort to rip-rap the upper bank with logs from the site also formed part of the DFO recommendation. In response to the concerns and public safety hazards noted by DFO, the launch site has been closed to further use.

The onsite assessment by DFO also noted an alternate location to re-establish the drift boat launch within the park without any negative environmental impact on fish or fish habitat, or exposure to future erosion caused during high water flow. This alternate location, located 30 metres downstream from the current launch site, is protected by a natural river bank and is also the location of a small sandy beach area which is popular for park visitors in the spring and summer as a river access and swimming location. Due to the popularity of this location, the use as a drift boat launch would need to be limited to the months of October to April to ensure user conflicts are minimized. Monitoring of the condition of the new launch location through use would also be enacted to ensure the site does not deteriorate through use.

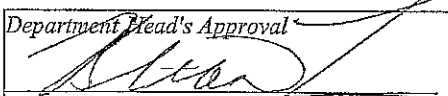
The British Columbia Drift Boat Fisherman's Association (BCDF) has come forward with an offer to help re-locate the launch area to the proposed new location. The proposed area downstream would require no disturbance to the beach area, but requires minor access works above the high water mark in order to relocate the launch, including removal of one tree, addition of two loads of gravel, and gate and signage installation to control seasonal use of the launch. In addition, the BCDF has offered to support the project by donating certain materials or machine time required to complete the necessary upgrades, and provide volunteers to re-plant willows and participate in the bank erosion mitigation works above the current launch location that could take place in late 2010 or during the fisheries window of 2011.

The Pacific Salmon Foundation will also be accepting proposals for restoration/stabilization projects that have been impacted by erosion. The CVRD, with the support of DFO, could submit a grant application proposal for works to proceed within the 2011 fisheries work window.

Submitted by,



Ryan Dias
Parks Operations Superintendent
Parks, Recreation and Culture Department

Department Head's Approval

Signature

RD/mca



STAFF REPORT

PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING OF WEDNESDAY JULY 14, 2010

DATE: July 8, 2010

FROM: Tanya Soroka, Parks and Trails Planner, Parks, Recreation and Culture Department

SUBJECT: Grant Funding approval by the Ministry of Forests and Range for the Operational Fuel Management Project and the Fuel Management Prescription to take place in 3 Regional Parks in the Regional District

Recommendation:

That this report be received for information.

Purpose:

To inform the Parks Committee that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities, along with the Ministry of Forests and Range, approved the two Grant applications for the Fuel Management Prescription in the amount of \$19,680 (100% of the actual eligible costs of the project) and the Operational Fuel Management Grant application in the amount of \$193, 605 (75% of the actual eligible costs of the project) inclusive of 3 Regional Park Sites.

Financial Implications:

Matching funds of 25% will include in-kind contributions from the Job Opportunities Program (JOP), staff and volunteers as well as funds from the Regional Parks budget as previously approved.

Interdepartmental/Agency Implications:

N/A

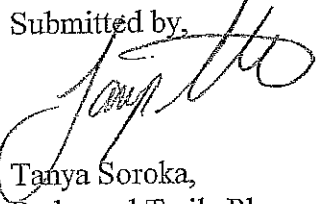
Background:

On February 10, 2010, the Regional Board approved the submission of 2 Grant Funding applications to the Ministry of Forests and Range and UBCM for \$19,680 for Fuel Management Prescriptions in 3 Regional Parks and for \$121,015 in project costs for the subsequent Operational Fuel Treatment Program in these parks. The parks are: Cobble Hill Mountain Regional Recreation Area, Sections of the Cowichan Valley Trail and Sandy Pool Regional Park.

The purpose of the Fuel Management Prescription program is to assist communities in the development of prescriptions intended for the treatment of fuels that pose a wildfire risk to the wildland urban interface (WUI) which were identified in the planning process. The intent of fuel management is not to eliminate the risk of wildfire but to alter the fuel composition and structure in order to reduce the potential behavior of a fire. The objective is to ensure communities have the information they need when developing applications for larger scale operational fuel management projects and that fuel management treatments are appropriate for the area.

The Community Operational Fuel Treatment Program is to undertake the fuel treatments that were identified in the Fuel Management Prescriptions.

Submitted by,


Tanya Soroka,
Parks and Trails Planner
Parks and Trails Division
Parks, Recreation and Culture Department

Department Head's Approval

Signature

TS/mca

From: Warren Chapman [mailto:planetaryaction@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, May 23, 2010 2:55 PM
To: Postmaster
Cc: North Cowichan Council
Subject: atv park

Dear Council:

As the North Cowichan council has written you requesting that you develop a park for all-terrain vehicles, I am writing asking that you not.

Apparently for the majority of the North Cowichan council, getting hit over the head with all the evidence of climate change plus the environmental disaster of the Gulf of Mexico oil leak (on top of all the spills past, present and future that don't make the news) is not enough to make them see the folly of promoting fossil fuel use.

I hope the majority of you have more sense!

Yours truly,

Warren Chapman,
 931 McDonald St.,
 Duncan, B.C.

Win a \$10,000 shopping spree from Hotmail! Enter now [Enter now](#)

Original: <i>Parks</i>	Copies to:
Board: <i>Info Package</i>	<i>T.A.</i>
Committee(s)	<i>B.F.</i>
Directed by: <i>A/A</i>	Date: <i>06/04/10</i>
File #	

News

FRIDAY MAY 21 2010

Park for ATV use to go to Regional District

BY SARAH SIMPSON
CITIZEN STAFF

They're fast, they're messy and they're a whole lot of fun.

All-terrain vehicles are increasing in popularity and the Municipality of North Cowichan wants riders to have a place to play.

They just don't want to be the ones to provide it.

On Wednesday, May 19, North Cowichan council voted to send a letter to the Cowichan Valley Regional District requesting that, in consultation with user groups, it consider developing an outdoor recreation park for all-terrain vehicles.

Coun. Garrett Elliott said North Cowichan's bylaw enforcement officer has reported that it's almost impossible to catch ATV riders in the act as they use North Cowichan trail systems.

"They're using them at night and on the weekend and we just don't have the financial tools to enforce it," Elliott said.

ATVs are not permitted on North Cowichan trails, nor are they permitted on CVRD trails, something the Regional District reaffirmed at a recent board meeting, Mayor Tom Walker confirmed.



Coun. Garrett Elliott

"The use is not going down over the years," Walker said. "In fact, I understand anecdotally the use is going up."

But ATV users have no real alternative, he noted.

"The ownership and use of these various forms of recreation are increasing and yet they have no home," said Walker. "I think they should have a home somewhere in the Valley."

Coun. George Seymour said the issue has been going on for years.

"Former Director Joe Allan was the architect of it. I don't know how many times the issue came forward," Seymour said. "I don't know whether they're going to welcome a resolution or not...it's certainly worth putting forward again."



Coun. George Seymour

Coun. Al Siebring said the scope of Allan's "outdoor noise park" was much bigger than what North Cowichan is suggesting.

"This recommendation basically deals with ATVs and giving those people a place to have some fun," he said. "If we can keep the scope of this to what the resolution says I think you're going to run into less opposition."

Walker agreed.

"In my mind an outdoor rec park accommodates a lot of users. Everything from bows and arrows to model airplanes to you name it," said Walker.

He said the support is out there for a park.

"It's not going to be an easy topic but somewhere in the region I think we should be looking at it," he said.