



THOMPSON-NICOLA

REGIONAL DISTRICT

The Region of BC's Best

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Notes of Teleconference Call re: Stump Lake

Friday, September 25, 2020 at 1:30 pm

PRESENT: KWL Consultant Dwayne Meredith
MLA Tegart Office's Lori Pilon
TNRD Directors David Laird/Herb Graham
EMBC Andrew Morrison
MoTI Brad Bushill
Guichon Ranch Judy Guichon, Frolek Ranch Ray Frolek
Stump Ranch Todd Snodgrass
Stump Lake Residents Mike Kidd Doug West/Lorraine Peters/Randy Borne/Spencer Bass
TNRD Staff Kevin Skrepnek/Ron Storie

ABSENT: FLNR
DFO
Coldwater and Upper Nicola Indian Bands
Indigenous Services Canada
City of Merritt

Note: Due to the ongoing provincial election, many provincial representatives were not able to attend due to the rules around the interregnum period.

1. Finalization of KWL Water Balance Study / Short-Term Solution

- KWL consultant:
 - The Water Balance Study is just about ready, going through review right now. Long term solution seems to be feasible from a technical perspective, additional Environmental report will be a separate Technical Memo delivered to TNRD shortly after the Study.
 - We can hold lake at an elevation of 743.4m by releasing water through majority of year.
 - The structure would be a pipeline, made of material (such as HDPE) of 900mm diameter from the lake to the downstream outlet area, bypassing the current channel.
 - There are unknowns around bedrock and rock outcropping in the area, not well known at this point.
 - Environmental considerations around alkalinity and loss of littoral zones and certain species of concern (Kokanee, etc).
- Resident: What is the approximate cost of the control structure?
- KWL consultant: On the order of \$2,500,000, not including downstream damages.
- Guichon Ranch: Cost to infrastructure downstream could be the same or greater than cost of control structure due to soil erosion, etc.
- TNRD Staff: TNRD committed an additional \$15,000 to complete the Environmental memo, partially brought on by questions from DFO / FLNR.
- Stump Ranch: Stump Lake Ranch would want to ensure downstream concerns are satisfied before taking any action – particularly dams on Guichon property. Based on conversations he doesn't believe costs to mitigate would be very high.
 - KWL Consultant: The scope of this report was primarily around the technical feasibility of the structure, more work will need to be done going forward.

MUNICIPALITIES: Ashcroft | Barriere | Cache Creek | Chase | Clearwater | Clinton
Kamloops | Logan Lake | Lytton | Merritt | Sun Peaks

ELECTORAL AREAS: "A" "B" "E" "I" "J" "L" "M" "N" "O" "P"

- EA M Director: How do we navigate approval from the province?
 - KWL Consultant: Province will weigh options and consult with stakeholders downstream and make decision, which is appealable. It would then come back to the proponent (KWL) to clarify / address.
 - Guichon Ranch: If we want to have measures in place by next spring, we need to start looking at solutions now. Prefer to see water in spring, as their cattle are present in the winter and flooding damage cattle feed and put them in danger.
 - EA M Director: We need to determine plan for downstream mitigation to understand the next steps.
 - Guichon Ranch: Need a more direct way to move water through area so it isn't affecting their fields – perhaps a flume along the highway. Water has a long way to go before it hits dams, already doing huge damage on northern fields.
 - Stump Ranch: Jeremy Cooke (WMI Engineer) would be a good resource on this to assist.
2. **Letter to Stump Lake Residents from TNRD**
- EA M Director: The TNRD has already spent significant money (\$45,000) to date, this has been done operationally (not through approval of the board). It would be difficult for us to provide more money at this point, and the letter sent in September to residents articulated this.
3. **Long-Term Application and Solution**
- KWL Consultant: It's unclear who would be submitting the application package to FLNR at this point.
 - EA M Director: Residents have conveyed to me that they are not interested in being part of the water license / dam operation due to liability and risk involved. The short-term solution might become the long-term solution.
 - TNRD Staff: Based on these comments to David by the residents, we need to talk to EMBC and FLNR about the path forward, as previous conversations were under the assumption that the end goal was a control structure as the long-term solution.
 - Resident: If we don't get a short-term fix in place it could wipe out additional homes and reduce interest in pursuing a long-term solution. Downstream stakeholders would also benefit from a control structure.
 - KWL Consultant: There will be downstream impacts for either solution, even if we don't pursue a control structure.
 - Resident: We have been talking to elected officials about support for a long term solution, but everyone wants to see the final KWL report before committing further.