

DEWDNEY AREA IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

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TRUSTEE BOARD MEETING

October 26th, 2016 – 7 PM

Hatzic Prairie Community Hall, 10845 Farms Road, Hatzic Prairie

Minutes

In Attendance:

Doug McNeil (Chairman)
Deb McKay
Brett Vander Wyk
David Scott
Roy Chaplin
Paul Anderson
Rod Shead
Steve Anderson

Absent:

Jim Loewen

Gwen Zayonce (Administrator/Finance Officer)
Bruce Edwards (Project/Hydro Management)

Call to Order:

7:04 PM

Motion:

To adopt October 26, 2016, meeting agenda
Brett Vander Wyk/Deb McKay
Favor: 7 Opposed: None Abstentions: None Motion: Adopted

Motion:

To adopt September 21st, 2016 Trustee meeting minutes.
Rod Shead/Deb McKay
Favor: 7 Opposed: None Abstentions: None Motion: Adopted
Signed: Doug McNeil - Chair

Motion:

To adopt a resolution to hold an in-camera meeting immediately following this public meeting to discuss staff matters.
David Scott/Steve Anderson
Favor: 7 Opposed: None Abstentions: None Motion: Adopted
Signed: Resolution 37- Doug McNeill - Chair

Flowering Rush Project:

Chairman Doug McNeill introduced DAID guest Becky Brown an Invasive Plant Specialist with Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations. Ms. Brown began by referring back to her visit in 2014 when the risk assessment for invasive plant began. She reviewed the processes that have taken place from surveys in 2014 to a containment strategy implementation in 2015. She advised of options used elsewhere for containment like vertical curtains and that with the fluctuation of Hatzic lake levels these methods would be problematic. It was stated that in May of 2016 a meeting of Senior Ministers occurred to discuss invasive plants, options and develop a 2-year plan. Becky also explained the long and difficult process required to receive permits to begin the dredging suction trials of removal now being done. She further explained the process of dredging suction removal and detailed the difficulty in this plant removal as it is delicate and small particles can reproduce very quickly. The trial period is for 10 days and Becky stated that costs to date for trials are \$86,000.00 paid by the Ministry. She advised that once complete her next step will be to compose all the data as to the effectiveness and cost using the suction dredging process. This information will be presented to the decision makers for a plan on how to proceed.

Chairman Doug McNeill introduced Simon Gibson MLA for the area who was also in attendance. Mr. Gibson advised on the process it took from permits to Ministry involvement including lake tours and studies to get to the current suction dredging project.

Ratepayer questioned the ability to eradicate the problem with herbicides, and clearly showed strong agreement for eradication over containment.

On herbicide use, Mr. Gibson stated in his opinion, it would be the best solution and he committed to assist in this avenue if ratepayers request. He explained that there are many provincial issues for the Ministry to address and that the process will likely take years and ratepayer support to proceed. It was also stated that spreading can occur many ways like boat use or float planes further supporting eradication.

Bio-Control options were also suggested and discussed. Becky advised that there was some positive information, however there are still some questions as to the effectiveness and that approval for this type of control could be up to 10 years away. She will provide information from her Bio Control department when requested.

Additional concerns were expressed on the current increased growth rate and spreading into the Fraser River. Ms. Brown advised that the warmer weather has increased growth rate in last few years and further explained the cycle of growth of the species. Becky also stated that spreading has not been detected in the Fraser due to flowing water and depth, however it is expected to see spreading eventually if not controlled.

Becky advised ratepayers that she has had made two removal systems for individuals to use if they wish to assist in removal. She urged landowners to use these donuts like systems as a safer way of removal to reduce any spreading.

Ms. Brown left information (*See appendix 1*) on flowering rush, and took ratepayers contact email to provide updates and information as they request.

REPORTS:

Dike Manager Report:

See Appendix (2)

Questions raised by trustee's and ratepayers were responded to by Ron Beck (Dike Manager).

Administrator/Finance Officers Report:

See Appendix (3)

Questions raised by trustee's and ratepayers were responded to by Gwen Zayonce (Administrator/Finance Officer)

Project Manager Report: Hydro Report:

See Appendix (4)

Questions raised by trustee's and ratepayers were responded to by Bruce Edwards (Project & Hydro Management)

OLD BUSINESS:

Motion:

For the board to review Bylaw 60 in regards to the voting of a yearly vice-Chairman position and any other meeting polices within that may need further evaluation.

Deb McKay/Jim Loewen

Favor: 7 Opposed: None Abstentions: None Motion: Adopted

Trustee McKay motioned for a committee to review bylaw 60 as there was no Second the motion failed.

Motion:

To table motion for the board to review Bylaw 60 in regards to the voting of a Yearly vice-chairman position and any other meeting polices within that may need further evaluation.

Dave Scott/Rod Shead

Favor: 7 Opposed: None Abstentions: None Motion: Adopted

Motion:

To hold a Special Meeting in February 2017 to present voting/representation options and seek guidance from the ratepayer via survey. Send meeting notification to all ratepayers via mail."

Deb McKay/ David Scott

Favor: 4 Opposed: 1 Abstention: 1 Motion adopted: Majority

Gwen Zayonce Administration/Finance Officer reported that a date for this meeting has been set for Feb 22, 2017 at the Clark Theater. Ratepayers will be advised via a mailout early 2017.

Motion:

To have trustee Deb McKay obtain 3 quotes to get software written to replace DAID database and tax invoicing software.

Jim Loewen/ Brett Vander Wyk

Favor: 7 Opposed: None Abstentions: None Motion: Adopted

Trustee McKay reported has had the data base reviewed by 2 programmers for the data base replacement and should have information within a week. She will advise all Trustees by email.

Non-Discloser Statements:

Trustees were provided sample copies of non-discloser statements for review. It was agreed that all trustees are to review for future implementation for trustees and staff.

Motion:

To table the review and implementation of a non-discloser statement for trustees and staff.

Roy Chaplin/Steve Anderson

Favor: 7 Opposed: None Abstentions: None Motion: Adopted

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion:

To have Bruce Edwards proceed with the application for grant funding with Provincial-Territorial Infrastructure Components-Small Communities Fund (PTIC-SCF)

Deb McKay/Brett Wander Wyk

Favor: 7 Opposed: None Abstentions: None Motion: Adopted

Motion:

For Bruce Edwards to assess the pump wells and obtain pricing on repair, reporting back to the board.

Dave Scott/Roy Chaplin

Favor: 7 Opposed: None Abstentions: None Motion: Adopted

Chilqua Culvert:

To ratify trustees email decision to replace the culvert at 37323 Hawkins Pickle Road. Voted on by email and approved September 26, 2016.

Motion:

To replace the culvert at 37323 Hawkins Pickle Rd. as agreed in email vote.

Deb McKay/Brett Vander Wyk

Favor: 7 Opposed: None Abstentions: None Motion: Adopted

Motion:

mail

To replace the culvert at 37323 Hawkins Pickle Road:

Under Letters Patent objective (3) The object of the improvement district shall be the dyking and drainage of the land and the construction, acquisition, maintenance and operation of works for those purposes and all things incidental thereto.

Jim Loewen/Deb McKay

Favor: 5 Opposed: None Abstentions: 4 Motion: Adopted

**Bathymetric Survey
Of Hatzic Lake:**

Bruce Edwards suggests motion to proceed with Trustee Scott to complete.

Motion:

For Trustee Scott to proceed with a Bathymetric Survey of Hatzic Lake with a cost not to exceed \$1000.00

Dave Scott/ Rod Shead

Favor: 7 Opposed: None Abstentions: None Motion: Adopted

Motion:

Email and phone complaints about hunters on the dyke.

To install 2 NO TRESPASSING signs at locations deemed necessary by DAID operation.

Deb McKay/ Brett Vander Wyk

Favor: 7 Opposed: None Abstentions: None Motion: Adopted

Appreciation Dinner:

Gwen Zayonce is to review options for this staff dinner in December and Email suggestions to trustees.

Public Questions

Questions presented by ratepayers were answered by DAID trustee's and staff.

Ratepayers advised that the removal of the booms in the lake from the accident are delayed due to permit requirements to close highway for the removal.

**Date for next
Trustee Board
Meeting:**

November 23rd, 2016 Hatzic Prairie Hall at 7 PM

Meeting Adjourned:

9:39 pm

J. Douglas McNeil
Nov 23/2016

APPENDIX (1)

FLOWERING RUSH (*BUTOMUS UMBELLATUS*) BC PROHIBITED SPECIES ALERT



REPORT PROHIBITED WEEDS



Report-A-Weed: www.reportaweedbc.ca

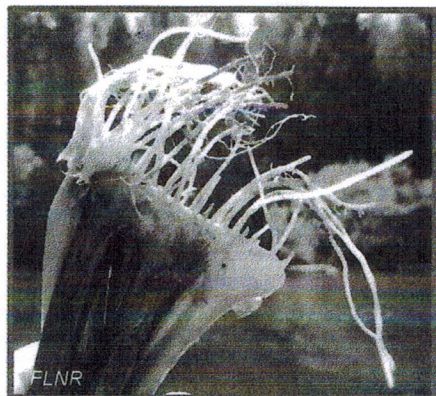
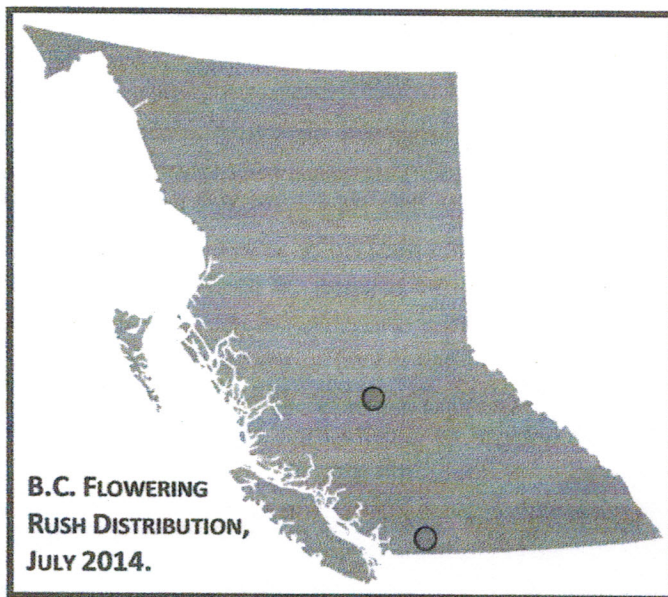


1-888-WEEDSBC

HABITAT: Prefers slow-moving, fresh water ecosystems such as, irrigation channels, streams, lake margins, riparian corridors, wetlands and storm water retention ponds. Establishes readily in areas with fluctuating water levels, typically unfavorable to native species.

DISTRIBUTION:

Confirmed sites in BC are limited to two water bodies in the regions of the Fraser Valley and Cariboo.

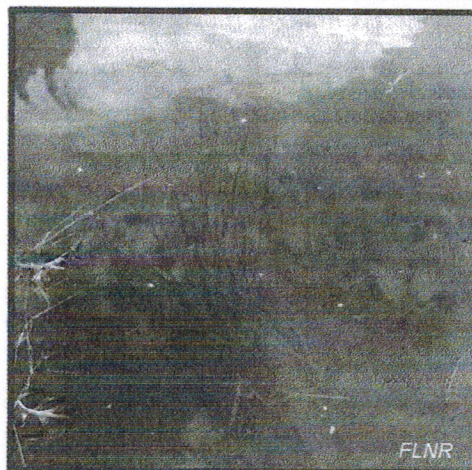


RHIZOMES THICK WITH
BULBOUS NODES (LEFT)

SUBMERGED, NON-FLOWERING
RUSH (RIGHT)

PREVENTATIVE MEASURES:

- REPORT sightings
- SELECT non-invasive plants for your water garden



FLOWER (BELOW)



LOOK-ALIKES: Bur-reed (*Sparganium* spp.), native sedges, bulrushes, and true rushes (when not in flower).

** Flowering rush is the only species in the Butomaceae family. Two key identification features are the distinct triangular cross-section of the leaves and rhizomes that are thick with bulbous nodes.**

Report-A-Weed: www.reportaweedbc.ca or call 1-888-WEEDSBC
For more info: www.for.gov.bc.ca/hra/invasive-species/prohibited.htm

Revised July 2014

B.C. Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations

FLOWERING RUSH (*BUTOMUS UMBELLATUS*)

BC PROHIBITED SPECIES ALERT



PRIMARY THREAT: *Impedes use of recreational, irrigation, and industrial shallow waters.*

NATIVE RANGE: Temperate and subtropical Eurasia; northern Africa.

DESCRIPTION: Perennial, aquatic macrophyte with emerged and fully submerged forms growing up to 150 cm in height. The fleshy, winter-hardy rhizome is attached to the substrate. **Leaves are distinctly triangular in cross-section**, all basal, linear and sword-shaped (0.5-1.0 cm wide); sheathing at the base and twisting at the tip. The less obvious (more common) submerged form has limp, narrow leaves and does not flower. The more obvious emergent form has erect, leaves and solitary, cylindrical stems crowned with pink, umbrella-like clusters (umbels) of 20 to 50 flowers. Each flower consists of 3 petal-like sepals that appear from June to August. The senesced leaves on the emergent form collapse to the water bottom in the fall, unlike cattail and bulrush which remain erect through the winter.

IMPACT: Dense stands interfere with irrigation, reduce water quality and availability, interfere with boat propellers and water recreations, alter valuable fish and wildlife habitat and displace native aquatic and riparian species. Treatment methods are extremely limited, once established, populations increase and persist indefinitely.

BIOLOGY AND SPREAD: Reproduces both asexually by rhizomes and bulblets (triploid form) and sexually through seed production (diploid form). Moving water is the primary mechanism for local dispersal. Nursery sale is the main pathway

for long distance spread. In addition to rhizomes, bulblets detach from the rhizome and the base of the flower stalk and produce new plants by quickly germinating on the soil or water surface.

UMBELS OF 20-50 FLOWERS
(LEFT)



EMERGENT RUSH (ABOVE)

TRIANGULAR LEAF CROSS-SECTION (BELOW)



Report-A-Weed: www.reportaweedbc.ca or call 1-888-WEEDSBC
For more info: www.for.gov.bc.ca/hra/invasive-species/prohibited.htm

Revised July 2014

B.C. Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations

INVASIVE SPECIES ALERT!

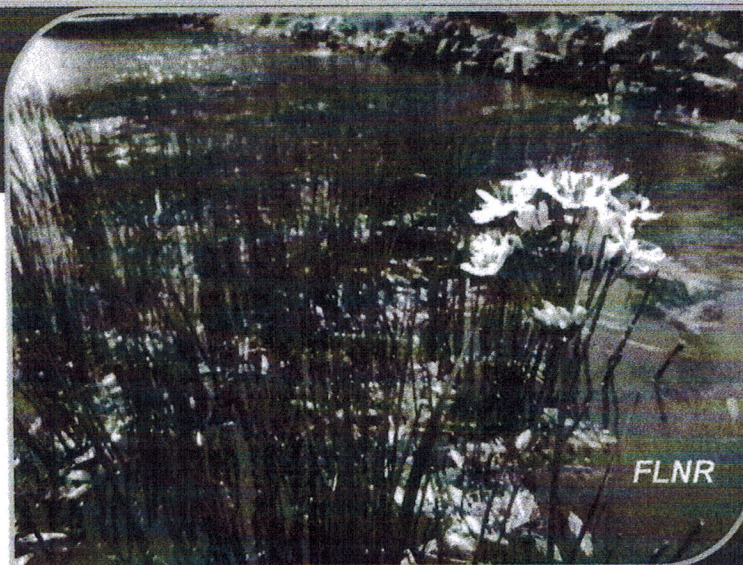
FLOWERING RUSH

(*Butomus umbellatus*)

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS PLANT?

DESCRIPTION

- Native to temperate Eurasia
- Perennial, aquatic macrophyte.
- Two plant forms: emerged and fully submerged. Submerged leaves limp and floating. Emerged form erect with solitary stem.
- May or may not produce flowers. Flowers grow in pink umbrella-like clusters of 20 to 50 flowers. Bloom from June to August.
- Leaf cross-section distinctly triangular.
- Typically grow in shallow waters but can survive in water as deep as 6 metres. Plant grows up to 1.5 metres tall.
- Reproduces mainly by rhizome and root bulblets, but also by seed.
- Local dispersal mainly by water, human recreation and improper garden waste disposal. Nursery sale is the main pathway for long distance spread.



REPORT PROHIBITED SPECIES

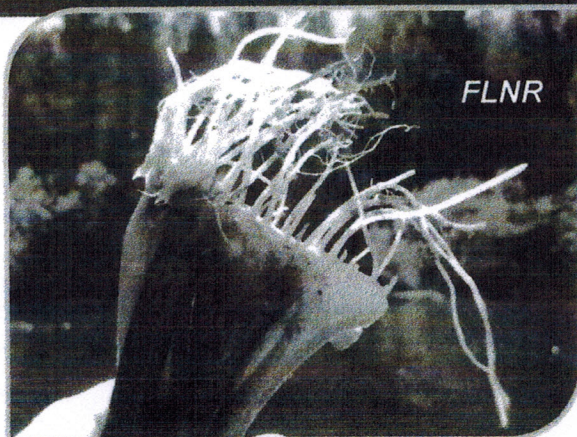
www.reportaweedbc.ca

1-888-WEEDSBC

PRIMARY THREAT: Impedes use of recreation, irrigation & industrial shallow waters.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- REPORT sightings.
- SELECT non-invasive plants for your water garden.



DISTRIBUTION

Confirmed in only two water bodies in B.C. in the Cariboo and Fraser Valley regions.



For more information: www.for.gov.bc.ca/hra/Plants/prohibited.htm

Dyke Managers Report

October 2016

Appendix (2)

- Diking mowing for fall was done between Sept 22-Oct 7, 2016, and included blackberry spraying.
- Trees down along dike located oct 16, 2016 an will be removed at a future date.
- Oct 20th Wayne installed cables on winch's.
- Concerns reported as to vibration on Pump 1

Administration and Finance Report

October 2016

Appendix (3)

With our tax deadline as September 30th the month of October has been filled with completion of the incoming payments and data base updates.

Our billed taxes for 2016 were 358K and remaining is 97K of unpaid taxes 73 % have ben paid. Penalties and past due interest has not been calculated in this figure as data base status is still in question and updates have been put on hold at this time. I will be working with trustee Mckay on the data base to update penalties and resume collections of these balance.

Upcoming meeting dates have been set for the Clark Theater

Special meeting for tax review- Feb 22, 2017

2017 AGM will be April 24 2017

Dewdney Area Improvement District

Operations & Project Management: Report highlights

2016 October 26

APPENDIX (4)

PROJECTS

A. New Federal/Provincial Disaster Mitigation funding

New Building Canada Fund

- Provincial-Territorial Infrastructure Component-Small Communities Fund (PTIC-SCF)

After meeting with Jati Sidhu MP last April, and liaising with Federal Minister of Infrastructure staff, Bruce Edwards learned today by telephone that DAID qualifies. It was suggested that Simon Gibson, our MLA, could facilitate the provincial component by approaching Todd Stone MLA, Minister of Transportation & Infrastructure (MoTI).

DAID should only be required to provide 17% in matching funding. Infrastructure projects have been held off to see if this funding is available, thereby leaving more Tier 3 funding available for work on Hatzic Lake & tributaries.

Mr Edwards suggests that the Board pass a **motion** ASAP authorizing me to apply for the grant before other agencies get it, as there is only \$1 billion budgeted federally.

The new infrastructure grant program, which will also cover disaster mitigation, is expected to be announced within a month.

B. Intake 2010 Tier 3 completion

1. Chilqua Slough vegetation choking drainage;
 - a. DFO cleaned out the vegetation all the way from downstream of Sylvester Road bridge to the Steiger property to allow Chilqua to drain properly; Paid by DFO
 - b. A new 2 x 9 m culvert was installed at the monastery causeway to eliminate that as a chokepoint. To defray the \$6,392 cost (which should be charged to Tier 3), Ken Vandeburgt committed \$2,000 and FV Watershed Coalition committed ~\$900 for shipping so the cost to DAID will be ~ \$1,100
 - c. Installing gauge stations to evaluate Chilqua drainage performance and guide future Chilqua work.
2. Hatzic Lake: Mr Edwards met with DFO on site to confirm DFO support for:

1. Phase 1: Create a large sand trap at the outlet of Lagace Slough to prevent further sand aggradation in the lake,
 2. Phase 2: Trench a deep connection between Hatzic Lake East and West (Water level recording station was built, to be installed at Ernie Loewen's dock, to confirm that west lake water levels won't be impacted adversely), and
 3. Phase 3: Trench on east side south from the sand trap to deep water south of the sandbar.
3. Pumping station upgrade **NB: Future work may be paid from the new Federal Infrastructure grant program, to increase the funds available for dredging Hatzic Lake. Other work is on hold until we determine if more funds are available.**
4. Sand Removal Stations (SRS)
- a. FLNRO's suction dredging trial of flowering rush removal is being investigated to determine feasibility for SRS sand clearing.
5. DFO site visit to discuss impact on fish of vegetation removal from Hatzic Valley waterways so boating and farming can coexist without flooding
- C. **Suction dredging trial** of Flowering Rush & Eurasian Milfoil in Lower Hatzic Slough; Facilitated by DAID funded by FLNRO
- D. **Long range plan being developed with MoTI** for Road ditching; MoTI to pay
1. Brad Grunberg retired, so will meet with new mgr
- E. **Long range plan with DFO** to identify and enhance spawning streams within DAID boundaries - DAID to benefit through reduced waterway obstruction; DFO to pay. Mr Edwards met with DFO on site.

OPERATIONS

- F. **Hydro bill overcharging**; The last bill for \$1564 overcharged by about \$300 IMO. It would have cost more than that to fight it, with no certainty of success so I recommended that it be paid. Previous billing errors, costing tens of thousands of dollars, have been caught and reversed.
- G. **Countering exorbitant BC Hydro rate increases**; Running all 5 pumps even for a few hours in an emergency would cost DAID $\$12K + 11 \times \$6K = \$78,000$ + energy cost
1. Mr Edwards:
 1. Attended two full-day hearings to present DAID's case for fairness and proposed an equitable Rate Schedule for flood-control pumping
 2. Formed an alliance with Commercial Energy Consumers Association
 3. Formed BC Flood Pumping Coalition so municipalities and IDs can present a united front with CEC before BCUC

4. Analysed demand and energy of the MGS & LGS pumping stations in the lower mainland and submitted to BCUC as evidence
5. Analysed and proposed a pilot non-firm interruptible Rate Schedule trial
6. Specified and estimated the costs and benefits of diesel and Natural Gas back up and/or primary gensets for above
2. BCH implied, during the recent oral hearings, that
 1. It's reluctant to introduce a Rate Schedule for flood pumping,
 2. It doesn't have time for the proposed flood pumping pilot project this year, so it's delaying until 2017 autumn, and
 3. It wants to keep the current punitive rate schedule
3. The above meant that gov't pressure on BCH was needed. Simon Gibson MLA effectively pressured BCH to reconsider. I want to eliminate the Monthly Minimum Charge and provide incentives for avoiding pumping during sub-zero winter peak and super-peak times to cut BCH & DAID costs.
4. As a result of Dr Gibson's intervention, BCH phoned Mr Edwards on November 26 to set up a meeting to begin direct negotiations early next month as ordered by BCUC. BCH informally agreed to using DAID as a small-scale pre-pilot project beginning this autumn. This could save DAID \$100,000, but will require very careful calculation and management of pumping to avoid penalties.
5. The Process will continue into "Module 2" and will unfortunately last at least until the end of 2018.

H. **Winter pumping:** El Nino has ended, and la Nina conditions are strengthening. This portends a cold winter with lots of precipitation. Careful calculation of pump operation will be required to minimize Hydro costs. For example, runoff from the recent storms raised Hatzic Lake from 0.65 to 2.04 mASL from Oct 11 to 17. It jumped from 0.78 to 1.62 mASL from Oct 12 to 14 - almost 3 feet in two days because heavy rainfall in the watershed downstream of Hope raised the Fraser, thereby reducing Hatzic Lake outflow. Rainfall in the interior contributed only about 10% to the Fraser rise. Calculations predicted that pumping would not be required, thereby saving DAID exorbitant Hydro charges.

I. **Power line outages**

1. September 22 the fault at the metering pole was cleared, a burned insulator replaced & improved insulation installed.
2. Fault causes:
 1. Bird bits found twice under wires in mid-span
 2. Bird bits found twice at PT/CT mounting bracket B
 3. Twice, no bird bits were found. This doesn't rule out birds.

J. **Pump 2 intermittent trip** - isolated to starter; Working with Siemens to complete during winter and/or freshet pumping to save Hydro demand charges (~\$10,000).

K. **Hatzic Lake slide gates** for water level control: Improved self-regulation designed. Will seek federal infrastructure funding for upgrade.

L. 2014 Pumping station

1. Prepare for Confined Space Entry
2. Replace trash racks with stop logs
3. Drain pump bays when Hatzic Lake is below 0.6 mASL
4. Inspect concrete (dividing wall porosity)
5. Bring deficient flow dividers to specification; Westport is almost defunct and is unable to pay. This was included in the Federal infrastructure program funding request.

- L. Drainage workshop** for FVRD municipalities to present a common front to FLNRO; The consensus was that the greatest impediment to proper drainage is delays in obtaining permits from FLNRO.

- M. Landowner's issues:** Met with two landowners to discuss resolving their issues

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Wiens
Project Manager

Bruce Edwards
Engineering Consultant & Operations Manager

FLNRO TASKS TO BE COMPLETED

A. WATER ACT PERMITS

1. Slide gates

Long-term slide-gate operating permit to prevent Hatzic Lake East from draining dry after the freshet ends (Best to include it in 4., below)

2. Vegetation

Long-term permit for clearing vegetation from the waterways, which is required to prevent flooding of Hatzic Prairie while keeping Hatzic Lake high enough for boating, thereby reducing the cause of contention between farmers and boaters.

3. Sand Removal Stations

Short-term Water Act permit for SRS operation trying a much less expensive method than Letts Environmental required last year, then a long-term permit.

4. Unified long-term permit

A single long-term permit covering all DAID operations so that we don't have to go through this every year. Remko Rosenboom made this excellent suggestion ca 2014 but there has been no further progress.

B. FLNRO ACTION REQUIRED

1. Lagace Dike repair

Ca 2014 December a section of the Lagace Creek dike, constructed by the Province, overtopped and was washed away. EMBC allotted ~\$8,000 via Task ENV154195 to repair it. Machine time cost roughly \$3,000 but EMBC insisted on an unnecessary formal engineering report which cost \$5,000, leaving insufficient funds for revegetation to prevent another blow-out. DAID even offered to pay for it, but this was refused apparently so FLNRO could somehow claim that the dike is not a dike, thereby evading responsibility. Repairs should be completed to prevent further flood damage and embarrassment to the Province.

2. Chilqua Slough

The unauthorized structure that was erected by the land owner to restrict access to Chilqua creek diverted the water course into undersized culverts that will not handle the volume of water needed to prevent flooding upstream. The structure was built without engineering or permits. FLNRO Water Branch, MoTI, FVRD & ALC were notified of this structure and Ron McCloud from ALC placed a stop work order on the construction. Remko Rosenboom contacted Larry Wiens to ask for DAID assistance to remove the structure, but then failed to follow-up. A few months later the landowners property was flooding. Ron McCloud obtained a permit to clean out the vegetation at DAID's expense, but this did not happen. This structure is now overgrown with Canary Grass and will cause major problems in a future heavy rain event.

3. Dewdney Dike at Lower Hatzic Slough

There is a real public safety issue in that the part of the dike primarily owned by the Crown should be faced with impervious silty material and the relief wells should be serviced to prevent catastrophic failure during a high freshet. This is a Provincial responsibility. DAID informed FLNRO ca 2014, but apparently no action has been taken.