

FORRS – MAY 20, 2010 PUBLIC WORKSHOP COMMENTS – COMMUNITY WATERSHEDS

Concerns:

- Abuse
- Garbage
- Human waste and garbage (x6)
- Animal waste
- Inadequate toilets
- Tree cutting
- Fires
- Environmental degradation
- Bacteria related to sewage in the woods as use increases. The area is too large to control any concerns about bacteria.
- Potential for contaminants in water.
- Special concern if motorized use is allowed.
- Motorized (oil and gas) pollution (x3)
- Pollution and sedimentation
- Trails sloughing into streams, banks
- Erosion from trails and construction (x2)

Non-motorized use probably presents minimal risk.

Impossible to [fully] resolve issues. Users must take responsibility for their own actions.

Resolutions:

- Proper outhouses at cabins (x4)
- Set outhouse standards, or comply with existing standards.
- Designated composting outhouse in high use areas
- Keep motorized recreation out of watersheds. (x3)
- Regulate types of recreation in watersheds, e.g. motorized
- Keep trails away from streams and banks – proper bridging over streams for bikes, hikers and skiers.
- Proper trail construction
- Don't have trails or popular routes near sensitive riparian areas.
- Education and communication: Constantly emphasize importance of watershed, let people know they are in the watershed. (x2)
- Signs
- Post the rules
- Post use guidelines in specified areas
- Education re waste (x5)
- Signage, noting pack-out policy (x5)
- Provide bags

- Restrict access and timing if necessary
- No golf courses
- No overnight use (2)
- Optimal tree spacing for water retention
- Plan forestry to reduce fire risk
- No huts in community watersheds
- Carry-out bags for human and animal waste (x2)

[Need for] baseline monitoring and identifying point at which watersheds are affected (x3)

Monitor water quality to identify problems

Identify indicators

Use results from current contaminant monitoring to direct efforts in regulating users.

Monitor flow volumes as recreation increases; glading and cutting changes the landscape.

Determine high impact areas and plan the appropriate toilet/facility with respect to the watershed.

Consult City of Rossland and Atco re activities in community watersheds

Avoid recreational activities that could negatively affect water quality.

Note the Bugaboos experience – helicoptering out waste - \$\$\$\$.