



## Wapiti Corridor Planning Society

### Stakeholder Meeting for Recreational Leaseholders

May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at 7:00pm

Dunes Golf and Winter Club

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#### In Attendance:

15 People Attended, including 6 Board Members and 2 members of PACTeam, Canada

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Those in attendance were informed that the Wapiti Corridor Planning Society's goal is to create, through an open, transparent, and inclusive process, a multiuse vision, plan, and recommendations for the Wapiti River Valley from Pipestone Creek to the Smoky River that accommodates, protects, and balances both the current and future needs of the area and its people.

Stakeholders were also informed that the Wapiti Corridor Planning Society will ensure that the visions, plans and recommendations developed will:

- Be founded on dialogue between Government, Industry, Land Owners and the General Public;
- Be compatible with the Alberta Land-use Framework;
- Be respectful of private property rights;
- Consider the importance of the traditional uses of the land;
- Maintain the environmental and ecological integrity of the lands;
- Consider tourism and recreational opportunities for the land;
- Recognize and take into account current and future industrial dispositions;
- Recommend areas to best facilitate each use;
- Support continued reclamation efforts;
- Promote environmental sustainability; and,
- Contain an environmental education component

After some discussion within the group, the common issues identified by Stakeholders were identified:

- Garbage dumping in the Dunes area
- Fire concerns; the number one source of wildfire is moss on an ATV muffler
- New trail creation as a result of Pine Beetle infestation
- More signage needed
- Signage is ignored
- More self-policing is needed
- Access cannot be restricted therefore trespassing becomes an issue

- Lack of enforcement
- People at the Dunes Golf and Winter Club course are hit with pellets

Stakeholders were asked what they would like to see a plan do for them. The following answers were obtained:

- Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) users need designated areas away from residential areas and the like
- A fence around Evergreen Park (including PARDS) is needed to keep other uses out
- Forming an OHV club is crucial to bring order to the area
- Controlled staging areas are important to consider
- Educate people about the implications that garbage dumping has
- Provide controlled locations for people to dump garbage
- More controlled/fenced boat launches are needed
- A pedestrian bridge across the Wapiti River is needed
- Designation of land uses that align with natural boundaries
- Set aside an area the size of a football field for target shooting
- Trails for non-motorized use
- Trails for motorized use
- Trail connections between municipalities

After some discussion, stakeholders provided a number of proactive approaches to deal with land use conflict in the Wapiti Corridor area. These included:

- A notation could be placed on crown land to allow for fences to be put up
- Create an area for PARDS and for walkers at Evergreen Park
- People being required to become a member of an ATV club where members would receive a sticker indicating that they were educated on the following:
  - how to use the trails responsibly;
  - fire safety;
  - environmental sensitivity of the land; and the like
  - Enforcement would know to ticket those without stickers. Retailers could also promote this.
- PARDS could establish a staging area
- Camp Wapiti is putting up signs that say “This is an Environmentally Sensitive Area; Please No ATV’s”; they are looking to partner with other groups to provide education to the public
- Educate students at school or online
- Promote self policing; this has proven effective at Nite Hawk
- Assigning land use zones to regulate use; this also gives municipalities power to enforce areas, put in trails, etc.,

Stakeholders had the opportunity to comment on any plans they have for expansion. The Dunes Golf and Winter Club is looking to expand holes 4 and 6.

Overall, the main issues that need to be addressed in a land use plan include:

- Signage
- Education
- Respect for the land
- Enforcement

Meeting adjourned: 9:00pm