

Freshwater–Alexander Bays Ecosystem Corporation

Date: May 27th, 2009
Meeting: Regular Monthly
Place: R. E. Stroud Building
Time: 7:30 PM

Present	Kevin Stroud	Gord Stewart	Boyd Harris
	John Baird	Scott Pritchett	John Taite

Moved by John Taite. Seconded by Scott Pritchett.
To adopt the agenda. Carried

Moved by Gord Stewart. Seconded by John Taite.
To adopt the minutes of April 29 AGM. Carried

Discussion

1. Fishway Operations and River Monitors

DFO has awarded FABEC the contract to operate counting fishways on Terra Nova River, Middle Brook, and Salmon Brook. In addition, FABEC's application to hire students to work on the fishways has been approved by Service Canada. FABEC will employ 3 adults and 3 students for the fishway operations.

2. Cabin Development on Rodney Pond

Rodney Pond is particularly vulnerable to overfishing because of its unique trout population. A special bag limit was enacted several years ago and Crown Lands put a freeze on new cabin lots in the area. In 2008 the Crown Lands St. John's office approved a cabin lot without the knowledge of the Gander office. Scott Pritchett brought this to the attention of the Honourable Clyde Jackman, Acting Minister of Environment and Conservation, who has agreed to check into the circumstances of the approval. Scott is presently preparing an information package for the Minister on the issue.

3. Green Team Application

A response has not been received on FABEC's application to Walmart to sponsor a Green Team project. As it is too late this year to start a Conservation Corps project, if funds are approved FABEC will request that they be held over for next year.

4. River Monitors

Service Canada has approved FABEC's application to employ two summer students as river monitors on the Terra Nova River.

5. Workers Compensation

The 2009 workers compensation bill has been paid. More funds may have to be paid because additional employees have been hired.

6. Terra Nova River 2008 Salmon Count

The Terra Nova River recorded 3,575 salmon returns in 2008, including 637 large salmon. This exceeded all previous counts by a significant margin. The previous high was in 1993 when 3,183 salmon were counted through the Lower Fishway.

7. George's Pond Forest Access Road

DNR's 2007-2011 Forest Management Plan for District 4 (page 124), includes a commitment to decommission the George's Pond access road after harvesting and silviculture are complete. It has come to FABEC's attention that some recreational users are lobbying government to keep the road open.

Moved by: John Baird. Seconded by: Gord Stewart.

To write the Minister of Natural Resources to ask that the Department's commitment to decommission George's Pond Road be honoured.

Carried.

8. Proposed Subdivision near Terra Nova River

A new residential street is proposed for development between Angle Brook Road and the Terra Nova River in Glovertown. John Baird will check the regulations regarding required shoreline setback buffers.

9. Terra Nova River Classification

Terra Nova River is classified for an allowable catch of two salmon per angler. Because of healthy returns in recent years, FABEC has discussed approaching DFO to increase the limit to three salmon. DFO has not been approached on this yet.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, June 24th, 2009 at the R.E. Stroud Bldg. starting 7:30PM.