

**Larch Hills Summer Use Planning Meeting  
November 14, 2019  
Shuswap Trails Alliance Office**

**Attendance:** Adrian Bostock (STA), Sue Hunt (LHNS, BCHBC), George Zorn (LHNS, SO!), Craig McBride (LHNS), Linda Buchanan (BCHBC – Shuswap Chapter and Provincial Trails), Clint Smith (LHNS), Brad Vickerson (Moto-Users), Shirley Bates (STA, CSRD), Danielle Dornik (RSTBC).

**Regrets:** Keith Cox (SO!, LHNS)

**Call to Order:** 10:05 AM

**Agenda Items:**

- 1) **Introductions:** Each member of the group introduced themselves and indicated their trail use affiliations.
  
- 2) **Formation of Advisory Committee:** The group discussed the possibility of a partnership agreement with RSTBC for summer use. The points made were:
  - At the March meeting it was noted that the LHNS has the partnership agreement for winter use and it also allows the club to maintain the trails during the summer, specifically for their winter use.
  - A partnership agreement would be necessary to be able to get Section 57 designation for summer use trails. The only LHNS trails that currently have Section 57 designation are the track-set trails.
  - The STA could be the signing partner for the summer use partnership agreement, but would require the formation of an Advisory Committee to guide planning for the trails.
  - The group agreed that they were willing to form the Advisory Committee.
  - The STA and LHNS executive need to be informed of these issues.

**Action: Adrian will talk to Phil regarding the Advisory Committee and partnership agreement.**

**Craig will inform the LHNS executive at the next board meeting and seek agreement from the executive for the Sec 57 on the non -Trackset Trails. In addition, he will confirm who the LHNS representatives for the Advisory committee will be.**

- 3) **Discussion of Proposed Trail Routes:** Adrian presented 5 Routes for discussion (South Route, East Route, West Route, Snowshoe Trails, Rosemond Lake FSR). These are areas of the trails that are currently seeing a lot of use and would benefit from being formally managed with a Section 57. These are all existing trails and no new trail development is

suggested. Some parts of some of the Routes utilise Forest Service Roads (FSRs), Danielle explained to the group that FSRs have no trail designation and cannot be included in the Section 57. She will provide maps showing the FSRs for this area. Known FSRs are Larch Hills Road, Metford Road, Moon Shot (part of 110), Sky Trail, Summit Shortcut and possibly Mara Connector. These Routes were also presented at the last Roundtable Working Group meeting for information and feedback. Most of the feedback was regarding Rosemond Lake FSR (see below).

**Action: Danielle will supply Maps that show FSRs.**

South Route – Multi-use (including Moto) route from South Canoe to Tom’s Shelter, then looping back by the Chalet and down Metford road. The group agreed on the usage. Problems with the existing route:

- The Route uses Woodlot Ramble to loop back up to Metford Road. This part of Woodlot Ramble crosses private land and will not be open to summer users. Sentinel is an alternative to get back to Metford road, but it was pointed out that part of Sentinel actually travels for a short distance on the private land. The Land owner will need to be contacted to determine if this will be a problem or not.
- There are wet areas on Lidstone that will need to be dealt with.

**Action: Sue will take the information regarding Sentinel and overlap on private land to the contact person for the land owner.**

East Route – Includes Larch Hills Road and Sky Trail and all the trails in between them from the South Hub to Cec’s Cabin and the North Hub. The FSRs are multi use, but many of the trails between them are being overused by motorised users, resulting in trail widening and erosion problems. The group agreed the trails should be multi-use non-motorized. Catamount Canyon has some wet spots and some badly eroded steep sections that may require restricted usage.

West Route – Hike/Bike only link from South Canoe to Rubberhead. Many of the trails used (Lynx Trot, Mushroom Fantasy, Deer Bog etc.) will require stiling and fixes for wet spots.

Snowshoe Trails – Hiking only. Some trails will need to be closed (bog trails), others will need some upgrading (Interpretive Trail).

Rosemond Lake FSR – The feedback from the Roundtable was as follows:

- the trail does attach to the rail trail,
- the Rosemond Lake Rec Site is still designated as a Rec Site
- there are archeological things like pit houses and an old mine site in the area that need to be preserved

- access at the bottom needs to be managed to protect the foreshore of the lake and to maintain only non-motorized access to the rail trail.

Because it is an FSR, it cannot be designated in a Sec 57. In addition, Mara Connector, which links it to the Larch Hills area is probably an FSR as well. Nothing should be done about advertising this Route (e.g. on Trail Forks) until First Nations have been contacted for input on the Rec Site, the site needs to be managed. The group agreed this Route would not be included in the Section 57.

**Action: Phil/Adrian will contact Splatsin regarding Rosemond Lake Rec Site.**

- 4) Other Items:** Danielle reminded the group that the Forestry Licensees need to be contacted and informed about these plans. Also, in the Section 57 it is possible to designate a trail as seasonal use with open/close dates.

Brad reminded the group about signage and speed limits for motorized users. There was some discussion on whether a suggested route for motorized users should be developed.

**5) Next Steps:**

- i. Each of the Routes needs to be examined in detail and specific trails identified as parts of the Route. Known trouble spots also need to be identified on the trails.
- ii. The reworked Routes need to be presented again at the next Roundtable Working Group meeting.

**Meeting adjourned: 11:50 AM**