



THE GREEN WATCH

The Green Lake Area Ratepayers' Association News Letter

Representing property owners and tenants within two kilometers of Watch and Green Lakes

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Dennis Tupman, Director	456.2302	Fred Kuyek, Water Testing	456.2230
Lorie Flemming, Secretary	456.7566	Joanne Macaluso, Director	456.7320
Murray Bymoan, Director	456.6001	Bruce Gilmour, Director	456.2140
Dave Schwarz, Director	456.2317	Lorrie Fleming, Secretary	456.7566
Jack Keough, Director	456.7725	Denis Read, Director	456.2338
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SPRING 2007

PRESIDENTS'S MESSAGE

From Alan Boyd

Don't give up yet, Spring will come, and with Spring will come new growth and lots of vim, vigour and vitality - we hope - along with tax relief, winning the lottery, and a GREEN FOREST. That's not too much to hope for but probably not realistic.

In the real world of the South Cariboo we have news as of this publication that everything seems to be a go for the 70 Mile, Watch and Green Lakes Official Community Plan. Both Regional Districts have funding in place to move forward, and today we are informed that the Ministry of Community Services has also put money in the pot. This is appropriate, as this is a first for two Regional Districts to enter into a joint planning function. There was also a public meeting held on March 6 at the Seventy Mile Access Centre. More in the next newsletter.

GLARA has established a new committee - South Green - to deal with taxation, grants-in-aid pertaining to the T.N.R.D. functions. More in the future.

Watch Lake North Green Lake Volunteer Fire Department is working to find a solution to the ongoing fire department issues and affect a positive outcome. Thus it has been, and will continue to be, a busy and challenging year. We need everyone's commitment and support to see these problems through to outcomes that will continue to benefit our Community.

Have a fun Spring and get ready to plant some Lodge pole Pine to replace the 'Redwoods'.

Bye for now, Alan.

THE PRICE OF NON-COMPLIANCE!

By Jack Wainwright

New for BC Boaters in 2005 was a change away from the enforcement of minor infractions always requiring a court appearance before a judge. The BC government now uses the options provided to them under the Federal Government's *Contraventions Act*. Simply stated, this means enforcement officers – Conservation and Fisheries along with RCMP - now have the option of issuing a ticket for non-compliance. These fines vary from a minimum \$100 for each infraction, such as failure to have required equipment on board in good working order, to \$200 for failure to have approved Personal Floatation Devices that fit each person on board, to \$250 for failure to produce a valid Pleasure Craft Operators Card (PCOC) or being an underage operator. Fines may be issued to the operator, the owner and/or any person authorizing the use of the vessel. These fines also apply to non-motorized watercraft such as rowboats, canoes, kayaks, paddleboats, etc. Major infractions such as operating a vessel while impaired will still be dealt with as indictable offenses under the Criminal Code of Canada. There are no new requirements. All that has changed is the system of enforcement. Most knowledgeable boaters are already in full compliance. Still, the prudent boater will want to check the requirements for his/her vessel as outlined in the free booklet *Safe Boating Guide* from Transport Canada. Call Transport Canada for answers to other questions. The PCOC is lifelong and is valid throughout Canada and the USA. See page 3 for upcoming local PCOC course information.

For further information contact Jack Wainwright at 604.434.3280 or jaceli@telus.net.

THE PENALTIES

\$250 - i) Vessel operator cannot show Pleasure Craft Operator Card* ii) Underage operator, including PWC operators under 16 years iii) Failure to have on board proof of age of operator iv) Failure of non-residents to have on board proof of residency

\$200 - i) Insufficient Personal Floating Device (PFD) or Lifejackets ii) Careless operation of a vessel iii) Insufficient fire extinguishers iv) Removal or tampering with hull ID or capacity plates

\$150 - i) Placing unauthorized sign restricting boating or mooring to buoys other than mooring buoys

\$100 - i) Operate in contravention of an authorized sign; speeding ii) Operate vessel without required equipment in working order iii) Operate vessel not meeting prescribed safety standards iv) Operate without prescribed equipment bearing official stamp or label v) No rigid international flag code 'A' on vessel when diving vi) All refueling infractions, inside or outside vessel vii) Failure to comply with a Peace Officer viii) Failure to produce license papers ix) No hull ID# x) No noise abatement device within 5 miles of shore xi) All towing of people infractions (spotter, seat, after dark) xii) Failure to exhibit proper lights at night or in limited visibility xiii) Failure to have on board as prescribed for your vessel 15m heaving line, manual propelling device, bailer, flares, watertight flashlight, sound signaling device, anchor & rope (this includes people powered canoes, rowboats, etc)

* A Personal Craft Operator Certificate (PCOC) is now needed for vessel operators born after April 1, 1983 and for all operators of all powered boats 4m and under including personal watercraft (PWC) and most dinghies. Operators of powered vessels over 4m have until 2009 to get the PCOC, including canoes over 4m that have small electric or gas motors.



PLEASE DON'T SPEED!

Speeding over 10 kilometres per hour within 30 metres of the shore in non-tidal waters in British Columbia is a \$100 fine. This speed limit is not posted. It came into effect two years ago and applies to all non-tidal water in BC. Exemptions apply only to some very narrow fast rivers. Water skiers may start near shore but the boat must go straight out at 90° from shore. The boat must not speed over 10 km per hr closer than 30 metres to any shore, including dropping a skier off near the shore. A 10 km speed limit is equivalent to 5 knots or 6 miles per hour. This speed limit is for all BC lakes and rivers unless there is a different speed limit posted. Remember, Watch Lake is an 8 km only speed limit posting.

WATER REPORT

By Fred Kuyek

Throughout the winter there is no water testing. However, as soon as the ice disappears we will be out there doing our thing. The two buoys on Green Lake, which indicate the rocky areas, will have new improved digitally printed decals installed when the lake is boat worthy. If you are looking for more information regarding depths in areas on both Watch and Green Lakes you can visit www.fishwizard.com.

The Ol' Yardley sign at the Sani-Station will be replaced this spring. It has lasted for over 14 years! The new sign will be made of a 6-millimeter alumicore material. It will not require any painting and should last at least 20 years.

As was indicated in our last newsletter sterilized bottles are available for those residents who want to have their well water tested. Sampling instructions can be obtained from **Eco-Tech Laboratories Ltd.**, 10041 Dallas Drive, Kamloops BC, V2C 6T4 or 250-573-5700. The sterilized bottles for this test can be obtained from Fred Kuyek at 456-2230 after May 1, 2007.

Water Quality Protection

Water quality in our lakes is an issue that should concern all of us, especially those of us who live and play along the shoreline. It is crucial that we maintain the highest water quality for many reasons including health, environment, recreation, and natural beauty. Be water aware and water conscious. Protect our lakes.

PLEASURE CRAFT OPERATOR COURSE

Jack Wainwright will be holding **Boat Pro** classes so you can obtain your *Pleasure Craft Operator Card* (PCOC). The course will be available Saturday, July 14 and Saturday, August 11. It is an eight-hour, all day course. Participants can pick-up the *Canadian Coast Guard Boating Safety Guide* at Service BC, the government agency office in 100 Mile House. It should be studied prior to taking the course. The Canadian Coast Guard accredited test is fifty multiple-choice questions. A grade of 75% is required to pass. The test is generally written for a grade six reading level.

The cost is \$65 per person. For groups of eight or more the cost is \$45 per person. To pre-register call Alan Boyd at 456.7651

Signs

Ol'Yardley has some important things to say to people to ensure we take good care of Green Lake! Mention our GLARA signs to visitors, friends, and family! Since 2006 new signs are at the junction of 83 Mile Road and North Green Lake Road, and at the junction of Watch Lake Road on Pioneer Lane at Banks Road. Look for another new sign this Spring at the Green Lake information rest stop on North Bonaparte Road!



THE GREEN BELT REPORT

By David Schwarz, R.P.F.

In the last newsletter I discussed the Mountain Pine Beetle (MPB) and what you can do about it. The MPB has not only affected the private property in our area but has also impacted the crown land around our lakes in a big way. I know you know that. We can see the red trees and now some gray trees as well. For a period of time these 'dead' trees have value and the only way to capture that value is to harvest or log them. So we will see some timber harvesting being done, by West Fraser Mills, most likely this summer in the vicinity of Green Lake. West Fraser has provided GLARA with their development plan for our area. The harvesting that is planned is west of Green Lake along the pipeline and the surrounding area.

Do we have any input you ask? While we do have the opportunity to provide input into the West Fraser plans, we also have another method - through the Cariboo Chilcotin Land Use Plan (CCLUP). It was developed a number of years ago. GLARA had members attending the process and providing input into that plan. Our lakes are part of the CCLUP, which gives our lakes protection and lake classification designations under this plan. The plan and lake classification is deemed to be a higher-level plan by government. That means it has teeth, it is more than a paper plan. There are targets and objectives that are to be met in the CCLUP as it relates to resource management on the landscape and in the GLARA area.

The Land Use plan did not contemplate a large-scale catastrophic event like the Mountain Pine Beetle infestation. The targets and objectives in the CCLUP are priorities to meet, but it is unclear at this time what will happen going forward, given this huge event. We just need to understand that. Any changes to the CCLUP will require a public process of some sort.

For the current time, harvesting is being concentrated away from our lakes and the current planning processes are in place to ensure the CCLUP targets are met, which is a good form of input for GLARA members.

The harvesting will be of benefit in that value from the timber is being recovered and at the same time some level of beetle control is employed, as there are still a few green beetle attacked trees being harvested. Within a very short period of time the vegetation and animals that prefer cut blocks will be present and the block will be on its way to being regenerated with new young trees.

For more information www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/mountain_pine_beetle/

INFORMATION DIRECTORY

CRD 1.800.665.1636
www.cariboord.bc.ca

TNRD 1.877.377.8673.
www.tnrd.bc.ca

Ministry of Environment
www.env.gov.bc.ca

Water Stewardship
www.env.gov.bc.ca/wsd

www.livingbywater.ca

Environment stewardship
www.env.gov.bc.ca/esd

Environment Protection
www.env.gov.bc.ca/epdiv

Ministry of Forests & Range
www.for.gov.bc.ca

At this sight there are direct links to *Fire Smart* and the *Mountain Pine Beetle*

Grasslands Conservation
www.bcgrasslands.org

BC Lake Stewardship
www.bclss.org

StreamLine Watershed Management Bulletin
www.forrex.org/streamline

Green & Watch Lake Maps
www.fishwizard.com

Roughly 1/3 of all household waste can be recycled and another 1/3 composted!

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Re. Noxious Weeds

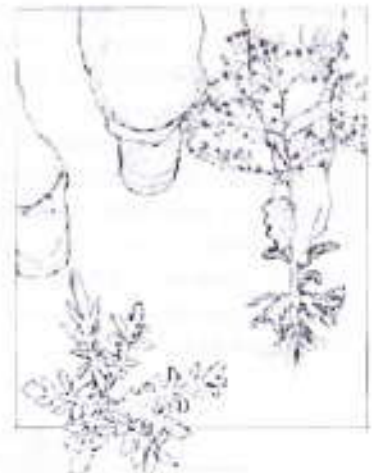
It is Spring and soon many kinds of wonderful vegetation will be appearing. Is it all good? Perhaps not. For sometime now the province of BC and the regions have been encouraging individuals to participate in the prevention of the spread of noxious weeds. While there are a number of noxious weeds introduced into our region, one of the most environmentally threatening and invasive is the knapweed. To prevent the spread, the public must become informed about the threat noxious weeds present to our environment and economy. Please take the time to read the articles presented in this newsletter and visit the website - then return to your garden and nurture the good vegetation!

Angela Wynton, Editor

OBNOXIOUS NOXIOUS WEEDS

Noxious weeds are non-native plants that are generally free of the natural predators that help to keep them in check in their native habitats. Without these natural controls, noxious weeds have a competitive advantage over native vegetation. The impacts from weed infestations are many - crop yields are reduced, range productivity for livestock is lowered, wildlife suffers from a reduction of their forage base and recreational land values are diminished.

Although there are many noxious weeds, many are quite pretty and often mistakenly planted in local rockeries and gardens. They include orange hawkweed, oxeye daisy, scentless chamomile, and toadflax. For more information on these and other noxious weeds visit www.cariboord.bc.ca



Hand pull knapweed and other noxious plants before they go to seed

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- learn to recognize both kinds of knapweed and other noxious weeds
- hand pull all noxious weeds especially knapweed plants before they go to seed
- when traveling through rangelands, stay on established roads, do not drive across grasslands, and carefully check and clean the underside of your vehicle before leaving an infested area
- do not purchase knapweed-infested hay
- overgrazing makes rangeland susceptible to knapweed invasion - promptly re-seed perennial forage on overgrazed land
- if involved in any activity, such as logging and road construction, which can disturb the topsoil layer, immediately reseed disturbed areas.

A SILENT INVASION

Info Courtesy of Cariboo Regional District

Knapweed was accidentally introduced to North America from Eurasia in the late 1800s. Since there were no natural enemies to keep the plant in check, it has rapidly spread to infest different regions of the continent, including BC. People are the major cause of its spread, as the plant is easily caught up and transported on the undercarriage of trains, cars, RVs, logging trucks and heavy machinery. It is also spread by the movement of hay from infested areas to non-infested areas, and by florists who use knapweed in dried floral arrangements.

Invasion of British Columbia's Southern Interior rangelands by spotted and diffuse knapweeds is causing considerable environmental deterioration and economic loss to the cattle industry. Over 60,000 hectares in BC are currently knapweed infested, but there is a potential for these weeds to infest 1 million hectares of grassland range and undetermined area of fringe forest. The map below shows the areas of knapweed infestation in the CRD. Note how the infestation tends to follow the transportation corridors.



Knapweed infestation in the Cariboo

There are two kinds of knapweed – diffuse knapweed and spotted knapweed. Diffuse knapweed is biennial and more prevalent than spotted knapweed. It will over-winter as seeds or low growing rosettes. (See photo) Seeds will germinate in both fall and spring whenever conditions are favourable. Spotted knapweed is a perennial over-wintering as a low growing rosette and bolting in May.

More knapweed information on page 7

Grasslands

- are more endangered than old growth forests
- are home to more endangered species than any other habitat
- occur in areas where the climate is hot and dry in summer and cold and dry in winter
- are home to plant and animal species that adapt to living in drought as well as dry winter cold
- cover less than one percent of BC



*Spotted knapweed (Above and right)
Diffuse knapweed (Below and right)*



Weed Prevention

Staying on trails and roads through grassland areas is important in preventing the spread of knapweed and other noxious weeds. ATV's and other motorized vehicles should not traverse grasslands and other protected areas. Be responsible and protect the environment.

HAPPY TRAILS

GLARA SOUTH SIDE SUB-COMMITTEE

GLARA represents residents in a large geographic area covering Green Lake and Watch Lake. Furthermore the residents are governed locally by two jurisdictions – the Cariboo Regional District and the Thompson Nicola Regional District. The boundary between regions runs down the middle of Green Lake.

Recently issues have surfaced that affect the Green Lake residents in the TNRD, specifically new taxation initiatives. As a result, GLARA has established a sub-committee to better respond in a prudent, effective, and expedient manner to issues affecting the Southside residents.

The objective is to address issues that are specific to South Green Lake residents and make recommendations to the GLARA Board. The sub-committee will assign or delegate responsibilities when issues require. It will accurately record and present records of meetings and findings to the GLARA Board.

Watch Lake Events 2007

- 20th Anniversary Fishing Derby June 2 & 3
- info www.cariboovacations.com/derby
 - Gymkhana Saturday July 14
 - Gymkhana Saturday August 11
- Volunteers needed - call Dimps 456.7741

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

From Marie Kuyek

As most members may know GLARA has been in existence for 14 years. Over this time the membership fee has always remained at \$10 per year. We are now finding every year our costs are going up including mailing, envelopes and printing costs. We suggest we increase the GLARA membership fee this year to keep up with the costs of mail-outs. With this fee increase you will also be receiving an additional newsletter. We will be sending you three GLARA newsletters each year, up from two per year.

The new fees for 2008 will be \$15 per year or \$40 for 3 years. We will be presenting the membership fee increase for a vote at the 2007 AGM.

Thank you for your support.

THE IMPACT OF KNAPWEED

Info Courtesy of Cariboo Regional District

Economic Loss

Invasion of rangelands by knapweed impacts the beef production industry by displacing the grasses that cattle forage on. Since knapweed is unpalatable to livestock, grassland lost to knapweed encroachment represents a substantial economic loss in equivalent hay production. It is estimated that the economic impact from lost hay production amounts to over \$400,000 annually, but could total over \$13 million if knapweed spreads to its ecological limits within BC. If allowed to infest the total susceptible grassland area in Western Canada, the potential economic loss could climb to over \$58 million, which would have devastating impacts on the cattle industry.

Environmental Loss

Displacement of native range vegetation by knapweed affects wildlife. Animals like bighorn sheep, deer and elk rely on grasses and herbs for much of their diet. Although difficult to quantify, it can reasonably be expected that rangeland forage lost to knapweed encroachment could result in a significant decline in their numbers, as well as changing their distribution patterns.

Knapweed encroachment can also impact the biodiversity of range environments by changing the habitat characteristics that native mammals, birds and insects rely upon for their nesting, breeding, dietary, and other needs.

EDITOR'S NOTES

From Angela Wynton

We welcome Spring and look forward to the changing state of the lakes and the opportunity to again walk the sandy shoreline. The shoreline is a riparian area - a narrow strip of land located along marine and freshwater shorelines. This area is a vital edge and a buffer zone where land and water meet to create a unique and productive ecosystem as well as provide lake and land protection. The shoreline is also where your waterfront property is most susceptible to erosive forces.

Erosion by water, ice and wind causes a gradual wearing away of land surfaces. We need to protect our shorelines by understanding the value of this buffer zone. Alterations to the natural shoreline through the removal of rocks, trees, and other live and fallen vegetation, puts the buffer zone at risk of becoming an erosion zone. Removing our beetle kills trees has had a great effect on the shoreline and replacement vegetation needs to be considered. Being aware of erosion risks and taking appropriate action will protect the lake, the ecology and your property.

Have a happy Spring and enjoy the lakeshore!

GREEN LAKE AREA RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

IMPORTANT! Before filling out this form, check your envelope! Your expiration date is on your label. If your label is flagged with pink this newsletter is a reminder that your membership has expired

As you have read in this newsletter we will be voting on a new Membership fee structure at the Summer 2007 AGM. Please only send \$10.00 for a 1 year membership. You may top up your membership 1 year if you are already a paid up member past the date of May 2007. Any donations gratefully accepted.

name of member applying

legal description of lot if known

fire # & street

full mailing address (one newsletter per paid membership)

home phone

lake phone

work phone

fax

e-mail address

cheque enclosed

Make cheques payable to G.L.A.R.A. & mail to: RR#1, Site Q Comp. 5, 70 Mile House, B.C., V0K 2K0