

THE GREEN WATCH
The Green Lake Area Ratepayers' Association Newsletter
Representing property owners and residents in the
Watch and Green Lake Area



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Dear GLARA Members

Welcome to the summer where, so far, we can enjoy the lake and its recreational benefits! On that note, fire vigilance by our residents and visitors isn't over and please keep reminding everyone how important it is.

At our AGM on August 18th this year, we would like to keep it brief. We invite discussion and ask for guidance from the membership on the following topics:

- Fuel Management – Forestry came by the Firehall and informed us of their planning. This would be a progress report.
- An update on Parks fuel management.
- Fire Smarting our properties.
- A brief update and Q&A on the South Green Firehall becoming a TNRD Department.
- Invasive species update.
- Water sampling update.
- Continuing with Phase 2 of the past Environmental Assessment Study.
- Open discussion by membership & recommendations.

We look forward to your attendance and please remember we invite you to participate with recommendations!

Sincerely yours,

Dunham Craig, Co-Chairman

GLARA
 Green Lake and Area Ratepayers' Association
AGM
 Annual General Meeting at South Green Lake Snowmobile Clubhouse
 South Green Lake Road Fire # 176
9:30 AM Saturday August 18, 2018
 For further information contact Marie Kuyek at 456-2230

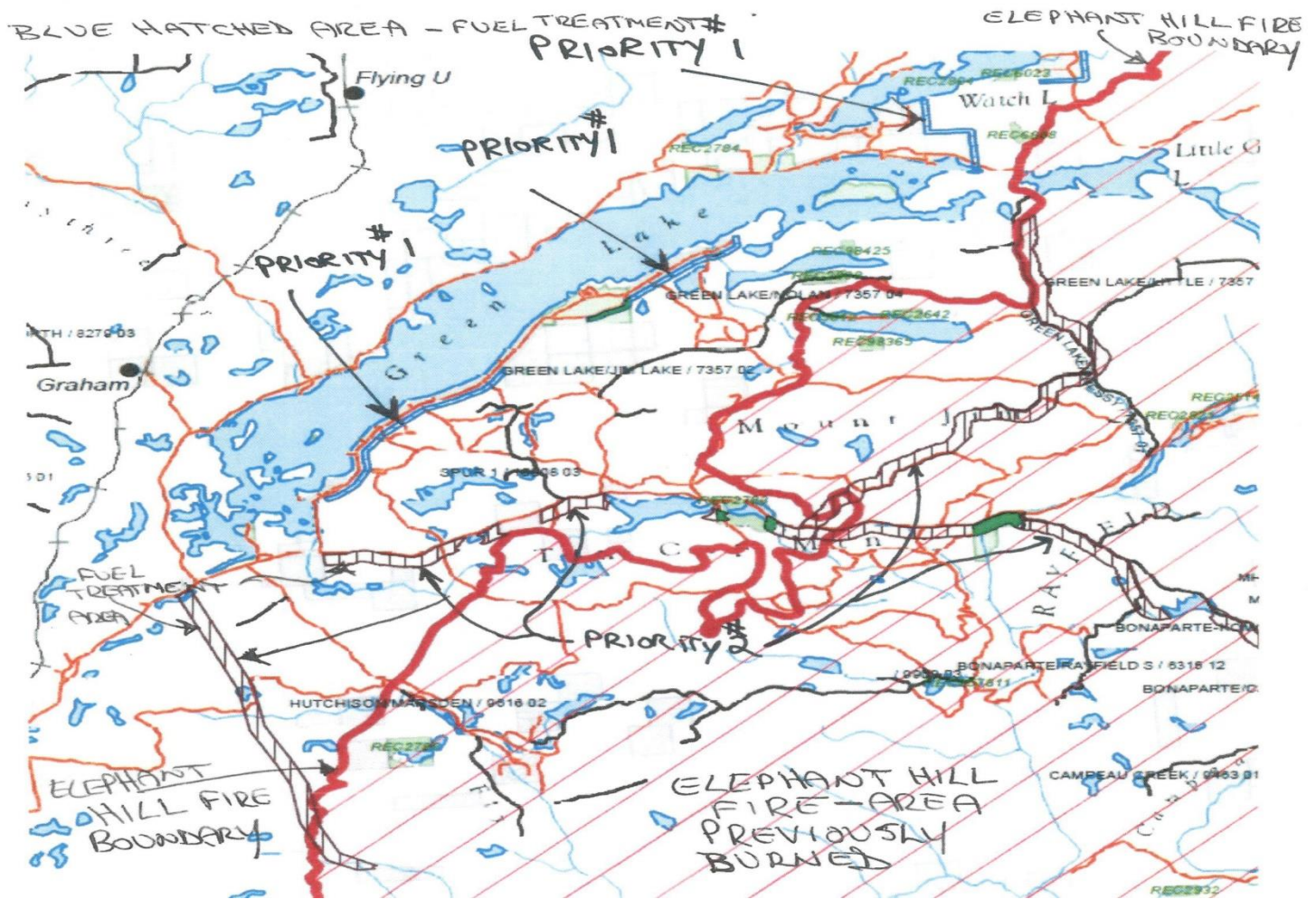
Wildfire Fuel Reduction Plan

Protecting communities from wildfires is a priority of the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD). As such, a three-year wildfire fuel reduction plan and strategy is in place for South Green, Watch and Sheridan Lakes. FLNRORD in partnership with Norbord will be implementing the plan commencing this fall.

The objective of the plan is to reduce forest fuel loading in some strategic locations to help mitigate the effects of wildfire and increase the opportunity for wildfire suppression.

The treatments will entail removing the dead and down timber, removal of smaller trees (ladder fuels) and pruning of branches while leaving behind the larger trees. Any reforestation of areas will use the fire mitigation stocking standards which is a combination of deciduous and conifers.

The map below shows the priority treatment areas.



Some upgrading of roads is also planned to provide for alternate travel routes in the event they are needed. We can do our part in protecting our community by employing wildfire prevention and FireSmart techniques to our properties.

David Schwarz, RPF
GLARA Director

WATCH LAKE NORTH GREEN LAKE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

www.wlmgfiredept.org

The eastern border of the WL-N.GL VFD is seven km from the closest water supply at Hall #1. The access to this area is via Little Green Lake Road, all gravel from Watch Lake Lodge to Tristan Road. This road has many blind curves, is rough at the best of times and is poorly maintained during the winter months. Although the fire department trucks carry a total of almost 6,000 gallons of water, in the event of a major fire in that area, this amount of water could be exhausted in a short period of time requiring the tenders make the fourteen km round trip to the closest water source at Hall #1 or the twenty-three km round trip to the Access 14 dry-hydrant.



For some time now, the department has planned to install a dry-hydrant in the pond at the Tristan Road Gravel Pit. This pond is a year-round source of water, but it too could be used-up quickly and the recovery rate is very slow. To compensate for this and to guarantee there is a reserve of water at that location, plans are under way to bury a 9,000-gallon tank next to the pond that will be constantly filled by the dry-hydrant.

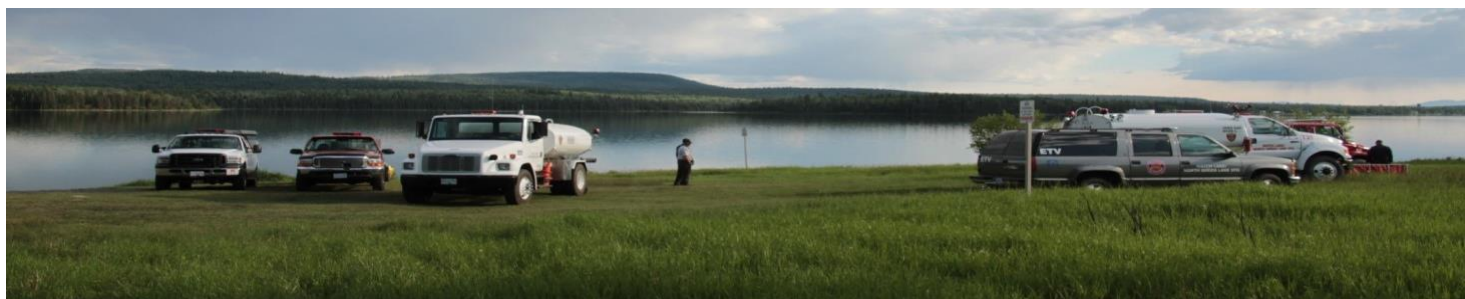
This tank was purchased from Savona Equipment and trucked by the Rona flat-deck to the Rona yard at Interlakes where the access port was installed. A couple of weeks ago the flat-deck delivered it to the site where it is now being coated with preservative tape prior to being buried in conjunction with the installation of the dry-hydrant.



During the first week of August an excavator will be brought in to bury the tank close to the pond and excess gravel from the excavation will be used to improve the parking area at Access 14.

The original intention at Access 14 was to encourage Highways

and Parks to participate with the Fire Department in enhancing the boat launch and lake access as a replacement for the closed off recreational area at the "y". To date Parks has shown no interest.



SUMMER REPORT FROM SOUTH GREEN LAKE VFD

It's been very busy this year for the South Green Lake VFD. With all the work required to move ahead with the referendum process, we thank all residents for your support in becoming a TNRD managed Fire Hall as of January 1, 2019. We have now started the process of transitioning with the TNRD.

Another major accomplishment is the purchase of a newer 2005 pumper. Pumper #3 officially went into service on July 14th and is our "first out" apparatus, with our 1998 Pumper #1 our second out. All of our apparatus has passed CVI and Pump Tests and are in very good condition. Our roster has grown to 30 firefighters, which is now capped for a while as we continue our training plans. Welcome to Warren Lowe and Derek Fairbrother, who are most recent recruits.



Our training plans are continuing with Officer Training, Pumps and Pumping, Driver's Training and Air Endorsement for our new members.

The major projects we are working on are:

- Two more dry hydrants.
- A Training House
- Painting the old Fire Hall and containers.

We have also been meeting with various Ministries on fuel mitigation for the Green Lake area. A meeting was recently held at the South Green Lake Fire Hall and Forestry showed us a few options and what planning is in place. Stay tuned for an "all residents" meeting this fall. One major point brought forward by Forestry is that, we as residents, need to do our part by fire smarting our own properties to compliment their fuel reduction plan. A Fire Smart Workshop will be scheduled for October 2018.

Another concern brought up at the meeting is the lack of a proper second egress (evacuation route) for South Green Lake residents. We've had preliminary meetings with Ministry of Lands and Resources and they are working on a few options. More information to follow.

Please everyone, have a safe summer and enjoy our beautiful Green Lake area.

Peter McKie
Fire Chief – South Green Lake VFD

Fire Ban

As all of you all know, the Cariboo Fire Centre implemented a fire ban on all fires & fireworks July 31. The recent cooler, wet weather we had earlier in July was beneficial to our region in discouraging wild fires. However, with the drying trend, it was necessary to implement the ban due to the forest floor loading conditions.

The Ministry will be releasing update information through the media and their website. <http://bcwildfire.ca>



NO CAMPFIRES

Ahoy! Boating on Green, Watch and other BC Lakes

GLARA works hand in hand with the BC Lake Stewardship Society (BCLSS) to advance education and tools sustaining fresh water lake ecology. Boat usage, regulations and issues are an aspect GLARA shares with the BCLSS mission and goals. We hope this article will provide useful information for those that enjoy boating on Green and Watch Lakes and other area lakes.

People who enjoy boating do so responsibly and would never knowingly harm the aquatic habitat for wildlife dependent on the health of this ecology. The following suggestions are commonly accepted guidelines contributing to the health of the lakes we all enjoy.

Choosing a boat motor? Keep in mind that two-stroke engines are inefficient, leaving up to 25% of the oil and gas unburned which exhausts into the water. Four-stroke engines are more efficient, consequently, less damaging to the water, fish, water fowl and wildlife. For low horsepower requirements, investigate the technological advancements in electric motors as an option.

Regular motor maintenance minimizes leaking seals, gaskets, and hoses. All waste oil and antifreeze should be collected and recycled or disposed of at an appropriate facility. Oil and fuel spills into freshwater systems, prevent water from absorbing oxygen, poison aquatic organisms, and will damage water fowl feathers and coats of wildlife. Top up fuel tanks on shore to prevent direct spills into water. Fuel vent line Anti-surge valves prevent fuel from leaking overboard. If topping up built in tanks, wrap an absorbent pad or cloth around the nozzle before inserting into the filling hole. Place another pad at the fuel tank vent.

When boating in British Columbia, an unposted speed limit of 10km/h (6 mph) within 30 m (100 ft) from shore must be observed. This limit applies on all waters within the province except where other limits are posted. These provisions do not apply on rivers less than 100 m (300 ft) in width, canals and buoyed channels, nor in the case of waterskiing (or similar activities), where the tow boat launches and drops off skiers by heading directly away from or into the shore. Waves created by boat wake can cause shoreline erosion which can decrease property value and degrade fish, water fowl and wildlife habitat. Suspended sediment results in turbidity (cloudy water), resulting in taste and odor issues. Avoid stirring up bottom sediments when navigating in shallow water by turning off the engine and have paddles at the ready!

Don't forget to Clean, Drain, Dry your boat! Aquatic invasive species are a threat to BC lakes. Follow the Invasive Species Council of BC best practices for boating.

As development pressures increase on many of BC's lakes, so do the recreational activities. On a case by case basis, as pressures and impacts increase, and monitoring identifies freshwater ecology requiring protection, residents may consider implementation of educational campaigns and/or seek changes to speed limits and motor types.

Sources:

**Kipp & Callaway. 2002. On the Living Edge – Your Handbook for Waterfront Living
DFO Canadian Coast Guard website: <http://inter-w02.ccg-gcc.gc.ca/eng/CCG/Home>
Green Boating Guide: http://www.lakeambassadors.ca/lwawp/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/LWA_BoatingGuide_PROOF_SPREADS-2.pdf
Transport Canada website: <http://www.tc.gc.ca/BoatingSafety/menu.htm>**

Submitted by Bruce Gilmour, GLARA Co-Chair

Fish stocking report



Green Lake

June 6/2018	19,773	sterile female	Rainbow Pennask	yearlings
June 6/ 2018	40,000	female	Rainbow Pennask	yearlings

Nolan Lake

May 25/2018	7,000	sterile female	Rainbow Blackwater	yearlings
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Watch Lake

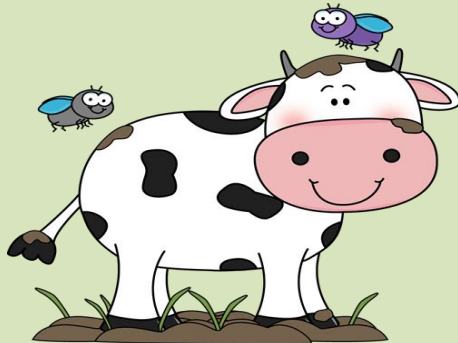
May 17/2018	40,000	reproductive	Rainbow Pennask	yearlings
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South Green Lake Cattle Fencing

The Spring Cattle Fencing in "Phase one section" on South Green Lake was repaired and cleared of debris and trees that had fallen over in the past fall and winter months. I would like to thank Gordon Labinsky, Laszlo Veto and Brian Wagner for their tireless efforts over the past few years for taking on this project that will keep the cattle out of our properties here on South Green Lake.

If anyone is out on these trails and sees a problem with the "Phase one" fence that they can't fix please contact Gordon Labinsky 250-456-2310. Phase one is from lake access road 7A to access road 14 on South Green Lake Road



I would also like to thank Dennis Nagy, Bob Bell, John Sullivan and Roger Graham for their continuing work on "Phase two section" of the South Green Lake Cattle fence. A special thank-you to Jim Smith for using his Kabota 1 Excavator to clean out one of the cattle guards on the fence line this Spring.

The "Phase two" fence contact is Dennis Nagy 250-456-6020. Phase two fence is from access 7A to the cattle guard near Point Road on South Green Lake Road.

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