

From: Sharie Conroy ***PERSONAL IDENTIFIERS REMOVED***

Sent: Sunday, February 20, 2011 10:12 AM

To: Living Water Smart ENV:EX

Subject: Input from the Hatzic Prairie, Durieu, McConnell Creek Ratepayers Association

Please accept our submission on the proposed policies which will form the basis for the legislation.
Please send a receipt that you have received this email.

Thank you,

Sharie Conroy, President,
Hatzic Prairie, Durieu, McConnell Creek Ratepayers Association

January 19, 2011.

The Hatzic Prairie, Durieu, McConnell Creek Ratepayers Association is submitting the following recommendations and suggestions for the Water Act input process.

- 1.) The water act would take priority over the Mines and Forestry Acts.
- 2.) Inventory of aquifers and creeks are needed. We need accurate naming and mapping of creeks and aquifers. We cannot manage aquifers if we do not have the information. We know very little about the aquifers in our Hatzic Valley. We do not know their sources, their volumes, their depths, their direction of travel, etc.
- 3.) Protect aquifer recharge areas and ground water. This is essential!
- 4.) Regulate all industrial and commercial activities that affect creeks and aquifers.
- 5.) Creeks disappear in plain view. Forestry and Mines activities drive and work through all small creeks that do not have fish. These small capillaries of water are destroyed and the next part of the system begins to erode and so on. All creeks and capillaries of water should be respected to keep the entire system healthy. There are many other life forms beside fish that need those creeks. Biodiversity suffers. It is a set a dominos that fall before our eyes.
- 6.) Provide adequate staff to ensure regulation and on site monitoring for all applications for compliance and enforcement. Need a hydrologist to look over all applications. Check with local citizens who have local knowledge of watersheds. Hold community meetings for water use applications.
- 7.) Communities should not be allowed to grow without checks and balances, especially when it comes to water. To allow a large community to grow unchecked and then allow that community to take water from other communities is short sighted and poor planning. i.e. Abbotsford Municipality does not pay FVRD for water that they are now getting and want to find a new source for anticipated growth. Each community has diverse life forms that depend on that water.

Yours truly,

Sharie Conroy, President

Hatzic Prairie, Durieu, McConnell Creek Ratepayers Association