



Research Planning Committee

Priority Issues for the BVC.

On the 22nd October 2003, the RPC made a start on its primary objective of “identifying the most prevalent and pressing issues suited to interdisciplinary, collaborative, and innovative research and management”.

We now need to build on this initial list, and in particular we now need input from those who could not attend, as the committee members were chosen to provide a breadth of backgrounds and research experience that would enable us to develop a balanced approach to the questions that the BVC should be taking on.

I would therefore ask you all to review the list (below) that was initiated at that meeting in October, and add topic areas and specific research questions that you see as appropriate for the BVC.

Due to the inability for the RPC to consistently get together at proposed meeting times, and the urgent need to develop the focal research areas that the BVC should be taking on, I hope you can all find time in the next few weeks to add your valuable ideas to the initial framework and list of research areas.

At the next RPC meeting (at which time it is hoped all can attend) we will endeavour to establish how will refine the specific questions within our focal topic areas to enable us to move onto Objective 2 and 3 of the committee.

2. To recommend to the Board applied research consistent with the priorities identified by the Board of Directors.
3. To advise the Board of Directors on matters of strategic direction and policy, and as requested, on the quality and context of research activities.

**Objectives and Initial Research Areas Identified by the RPC
on the 22nd October 2003.**

We identified four main Objectives (Not ranked)

- Quality of Life
- Ecological Integrity
- Economic Diversification
- Community (NW BC) Based,
but ideally applicable as template community issues elsewhere

In addition, LT suggested that the process of decision-making was important to communities and that it needs to be fair and based on a consideration of multiple values, rather than short term economics.

1. Research areas Identified

Social
Economic
Ecological

In addition, knowledge from within the group present was used to assign funding potential from known sources (are topics likely to attract funding). In the following list “F” denotes funding sources know. (Not Ranked)

Social

- First Nations Community Resilience F (FD)
- Retreat Centre F (KS)
- Response of Social Indicators to Change (LT, CV)
- Understanding and using better decision making processes (long term versus short term economics (LT)

Economic

- Resource Community Resilience F (MT, FD, HR)
- Tourism Research (not strategy) F (KS)
- Olympic Feasibility (KS)
- Resource Community in Transition

Ecological

- Mountain Pine Beetle/large scale disturbance F (CV, DR, DC, MT)
- Ecologically sustainable AAC on a community basis. (FD)
- Ecological integrity maintained by Reserves versus the Working Forest in NW BC "F" (MT, FD, KS, LT)
- Species and Research Inventory F (LT)
- Community/systems ecology and process versus single species approach (MT)

Social and Ecological

- Ecological Extensions and Education F (MT)
- Information management and decision making (better use of resources to make better decisions (LT)

Social, Ecological and Economic

- Global Warming potential impact on all three focal areas F (FD)