



Kaslo and Area Trail Management Plan

Prepared by the Kaslo Trail Alliance | October 2012

Acknowledgements

This Management Plan has been prepared on behalf of Kaslo and Area residents and visitors by the Kaslo Trail Alliance. This plan could not have been prepared without the assistance of community members, trail user groups, Village staff, RDCK staff, Provincial government staff, and others. Special Thanks to John Addison for GIS and mapping and to John Cathro for process design and facilitation.

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1. Executive Summary

This *Kaslo and Area Trail Management Plan* has been developed by the Kaslo Trail Alliance on behalf of residents and visitors including the hikers, bikers, riders, runners, ATVers, dog walkers, trail user groups, and others that use and enjoy the trails in around Kaslo.

The Kaslo Trail Alliance is a collaborative arrangement between trail user groups and Crown forest tenure holders. Additional information on the Kaslo Trail Alliance is included in Appendix 1. The Alliance is comprised of the following groups:

- Kaslo Trailblazers Society
- Kaslo Motorized Recreation group
- Kaslo Outdoor Recreation Society
- Kaslo Riding Club Society
- Kaslo to Sandon Rails to Trails Committee
- Kaslo and District Community Forest Society
- Woodlot 494

This plan is built on strong public support to ensure trails are safe and well maintained. This support is the outcome of meaningful and ongoing public consultation. Community Consultation is summarized in section 4. Additional consultation details are provided in Appendix 2 and 3.

This plan recognizes the many benefits of forest recreation and trail use, from improvements in health and increased general enjoyment to enhanced economic opportunities in tourism, training and retail.

This plan also recognizes that trail use can increase risks to sensitive values. Dogs or garbage can contaminate domestic water systems. Motorized vehicles or cigarettes can cause fires. Noise can diminish privacy. Incompatible uses can lead to trail damage, or worse, collisions and accidents. A summary of some of the most significant sensitive values is provided in section 7.

These sensitive values are taken seriously and trails are managed to reduce these risks. This is done partly through signage, described on section 8 and

trail maintenance, summarized in section 9. Trail designations are summarized in section 5. Detailed trail information including suggested trail use, sponsoring trail user group and legal status is summarized in section 6. Detailed trail maps are provided in Appendix 4. In addition, trail signage is described in section 9 and trail etiquette is summarized in section 10.

This plan takes a phased approach to implementation. This first phase is focused on creating a managed network of existing trails with strong public support, and agreeing to the best uses and designations for these trails. Most of these Phase 1 trails are, or will be, legally designated. Phase 2, to be completed in 3 to 5 years after approval of this plan, will include modifications to Phase 1 trail uses and designations, and explore new trails, as identified through ongoing public consultation. See Section 11 for more information on this phased approach.



2. Background

Need for the Kaslo Trail Alliance became apparent when a comprehensive Kaslo and area trail guide was proposed. A collaborative community based approach and the opportunity for collective thinking, dialogue, and problem solving provided the impetus to bring together the primary trail user groups around Kaslo who develop and build trails. Compliance with BC Provincial Regulations regarding trail development and involving community stakeholder groups lead the Alliance toward the development of this *Kaslo and Area Trail Management Plan*.

Individuals and clubs built the majority of existing trails on provincial Crown land over time, with a recent proliferation of mountain bike trails constructed over the past decade. The Province has not authorized most of these, which is a requirement under the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA). The Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (MFLNRO), Recreation Sites and Trails Branch, the public agency responsible for recreation on Crown land, is increasingly challenged with managing this network to meet the respective needs of a wide and diverse range of users. With local tourism growth and with competing interests amongst community stakeholders, careful consideration must be given to the future sustainability of a trail network. Responsible trail authorities are increasingly faced with balancing the demand for challenging trail experiences with the need to minimize exposure to liability.



This document provides strategic direction for the realization of this vision through a coordinated approach in which trail builders, recreation groups, tourism proponents, Crown land managers, communities and stakeholders all benefit from each other's experiences and challenges. This document outlines strategic directions for the realization of long-term goals for an authorized, sustainable

and environmentally sound trail network. It also offers management direction to support trail managers and stakeholders in addressing the most critical and immediate challenges of the network: why is the trail needed?

Strategic directions detailed in this document are provided for the management of trails on provincial Crown land and on Village of Kaslo land. Some of the Kaslo area trails are located on Crown land managed by woodlot 494 and the Kaslo And District Community Forest Society. As such, strategic direction for this trail network is provided and intended for multiple stakeholders in the Kaslo and Area including trail user groups, commercial enterprises and individuals.

This Management Plan considers all recreational trail use on Crown land and Village land, including motorized and non-motorized use. Walking, jogging, hiking, cycling and mountain biking, motorized dirt bike riding, ATV/off road vehicle use, equestrian riders, climbing route access and other uses are considered in the development of this plan. This Management Plan focuses on summer use and winter use of recreational trails. Annual maintenance of the trails will be entirely managed by users and local trail groups who make up the Kaslo Trail Alliance.



Figure 1. Overview Map of Kaslo and Area

3. Guiding Principles

Development of this plan has been guided by a set of guiding principles. Trail use in Kaslo is meant to:

- Build alliance of trail user groups committed to work together;
- Foster cooperation among trail users, governments and neighbours;
- Respect different trail uses and support diversity of uses;
- Demonstrate best practices for stewardship and maintenance;
- Help educate trail users about history, best practices and other values; and
- Respect private land ownership and other rights holders.

4. Public Consultation

All of these trails are on Village of Kaslo or Provincial Crown land. As a result, building strong public support for a managed trail network is a primary objective of this plan. Extensive community consultation has guided the development of this plan. The objectives for this community consultation are as follows:

- Provide information about the Kaslo Trail Alliance, including: members, guiding principles, workplan and timelines;
- Clarify the expected outcomes of community consultation: what will the Alliance do with the information that has been gathered?
- Provide a range of opportunities for community input including: trail walks, neighborhood meetings, kitchen table meetings, public meetings, on-line
- Seek specific community input from adjacent landowners and the general public, specifically: what trails should be publicized, what trails should be legally designated, what are the allowable uses for specific trails; what should trails be called?
- Neighborhood meetings with affected groups to better understand specific issues and preferred trail uses;
- The Consultation Draft Trails Management Plan put on-line seek community input;
- The *Consultation Draft Trails Management Plan* made available in hard copy format to seek community input;
- Public meeting in April 2012 to present the *Consultation Draft Trails Management Plan* and seek community input; and
- Public Meeting in June 2012 to present the *Final Draft Trail Management Plan* to review the proposed trail uses and designations as well as how community input has been incorporated.

Consultation Methods

The Kaslo Trail Alliance has used a number of means of consultation to determine community interests. These include:

- Trail walking with interested parties to discuss trail maintenance, signage, sensitive values and suggested trail uses

Consultation Activities

The following table summarizes the stages of community consultation in development of this plan:

Consultation Results

The following table is a summary of written feedback received through the different consultation activities listed above. This written feedback is in addition to the feedback received at the public meetings listed in Figure 2. Appendix 2 includes meeting notes and Appendix 3 is a summary of written comments received through the consultation process.

Figure 2. Summary of Consultation Activities

Date	Consultation Activity	Comments
September, 2011	Survey of Backroad residents	Conducted by WL 494
November 10, 2011	Meeting with Backroad residents at Senior's Hall	Meeting objective was to meet with residents and understand their interests and concerns
March 1, 2012	Meeting with Pineridge residents at Senior's Hall	Meeting objective was to meet with residents and understand their interests and concerns
April 19, 2012	Public Meeting at United Church Hall	Draft Management Plan presented for feedback
April 19, 2012	Trail Management Plan put on-line for consultation	www.kaslotrailblazers.org/Alliance
April 19, 2012	Hard copies of the Trail Management Plan made available to the community	Kaslo Village Office Kaslo Library Kootenay Mountain Sports
May 18, 2012	Public Consultation period ends	See section 4.3 for summary
June 18, 2012	Public Meeting to review revisions to the Management Plan based on public input	Revised Management Plan presented for feedback as well as summary of how feedback has been used to guide plan completion
November 2012	Final Plan presented to Kaslo mayor and Council for Endorsement	Village endorsement of this plan signifies importance of trails to Kaslo residents.

Figure 3. Summary of Consultation Results

Consultation Activity	Number of Written Responses	Comments
Backroad Survey, September 2011	10	Conducted by WL 494
Meeting with Backroad Residents, November 10, 2011	6	General consensus at the meeting was that managed, publicized trail use was not supported by residents adjacent to Crown land 25 + in attendance 3 hour meeting
Meeting with Pineridge Residents March 1, 2012	13	Written comments were received at the meeting and following the meeting Broad consensus at the meeting was that managed, publicized trail use was not supported by residents adjacent to Crown land 15 + in attendance 2 hour meeting
Public Meeting April 19, 2012	19	70 + people in attendance
Draft Management Plan Public Consultation Period	54	Consultation period was April 19 to May 18 24 written comments at the meeting, and 39 submitted after the meeting
Public Meeting June 18, 2012		
TOTAL RESPONSES	102	

5. Trail Designation and Use

Fundamental to building public support for trail use is clarifying specific trail designation and trail uses.

Trail Designation

This plan recognizes several types of trail designations as follows:

- Unmanaged trails on Crown land used by individuals have the fewest restrictions. Generally, trails on Crown land are open to the public within fairly broad legal requirements. In these areas trails are not publicized, designated, legally registered or typically used for commercial purposes. Trail signs are not used on trails in these areas. Through ongoing public consultation some of these areas may become legally registered over time.
- Managed trail Use comes with some specific rights and some restrictions. Trails need to be legally designated or registered if they are to be built, signed and maintained. Legal designation requires public consultation and provides a level of protection from non-designated uses. Not all existing trails are publicized or designated. Legal Designation would be under Section 56 and / or Section 57 of the *Forest and Range Practices Act*.
- Section 56 is legislative mechanism for designating a trail on the land base. It does not, by itself, confer a right to any group or individual to use, construct or to do work on a trail. Section 6 provides details on which trails are, or will be, registered under section 56.
- Section 57, on the other hand, requires anyone doing work on a trail (construction, rehabilitation and maintenance) to have authorization from the Minister (or delegate). Section 57 is not a type of trail designation. It establishes authority for an applicant or proponent and is specific to that applicant, not to the trail. It does not matter if the trail in question is established under section 56. So if a new group or individual wants to work on a trail for which authorization may have

been granted previously to a different group, additional authorization would be required.

- Commercial trail use occurs on both designated and, non-designated trails. Legal Designation would be under Section 56 and / or Section 57 of the *Forest and Range Practices Act*. Public consultation is required for commercial use of trails adjacent to communities.

Section 6 provides further detail on the managed trail network in Kaslo and Area.

Trail Uses

Trails within the managed network have specific suggested uses, as follows:

- Multi-use means that the trail is open for motorized and non-motorized uses;
- Non-motorized means that motorcycles, ATVs and snowmobiles are not permitted
- Specific uses can be limited to bikes only, just foot traffic, horses only, no bikes, etc.

Section 6 provides further detail on the managed trail network in Kaslo and Area. Section 10 summarizes trail etiquette for multi-use trails



6. The Kaslo and Area Trails Network

The trails summarized in this section have been developed through community consultation and show registered trails and trails that are in the process of being registered on Crown land. Agreements are in place for trails on Village land. These trails collectively form the managed trail network in Kaslo and area and are maintained, sign posted and legally designated. Draft maps of these trails are included in Appendix 4. Once final trail locations, suggested uses and related details are finalized, these maps will be used for trailhead signs. See section 9 for more information on trail signs.

There are many additional trails on Crown and Village land in Kaslo and area. These trails are open to the public but are not managed. Some of these trails are in sensitive areas such as adjacent to consumptive use water sources. These unmanaged trails cannot be legally sign posted or maintained. In time, through ongoing community consultation, some of these trails may become legally registered. See section 11 regarding on-going revisions to this plan. See Appendix XX for maps of these areas.

The following sections provide details for the managed trail network in Kaslo and area.

6.1 Trueblue Recreation Area

NOTE: Access to Trueblue trails and the River trails must not cross the Airstrip.

Figure 4. Trueblue Recreation Trail Uses

Trail Name	Suggested Uses	Comments	Managed by	Legal Status
Sleepy Hollow	All uses	Mainly on WL 494 Also known as the Kaslo Horse Trail	Kaslo Riding Club Society	Registered
Spanish Moss	All uses	Mainly on WL 494 Also known as the Kaslo Horse Trail	Kaslo Riding Club Society	Registered
Connector	All Uses	Located on WL 494	Kaslo Outdoor Recreation Society	In Process
Destiny Ridge	All Uses	Located on WL 494	Kaslo Outdoor Recreation Society	In Process
Sourdough	All Uses	Located on WL 494	Kaslo Outdoor Recreation Society	In Process
Double Trouble	All Uses	Located on WL 494	Kaslo Outdoor Recreation Society	In Process
Bjerkness Loop	All Uses	Located on WL 494	Kaslo Outdoor Recreation Society	In Process
Straight Face	All Uses	Located on Crown land	Kaslo Outdoor Recreation Society	In Process
Marsh Trail	All Uses	Located on WL 494	Kaslo Outdoor Recreation Society	In Process

6.2 Kaslo River Trail

Figure 5. Kaslo River Trail Uses

Trail Name	Suggested Uses	Comments	Managed by	Legal Status
Kaslo River North	Non motorized	Wheelchair accessible to the Bridge Located on Village land	Kaslo Trailblazers	Agreement with Village
Kaslo River South	Non motorized	Located on Village land	Kaslo Trailblazers	Agreement with Village
Kaslo River south extension	Non motorized	Located on Crown land	Kaslo Trailblazers	In process
Spruce	Non motorized	Located on Crown land	Kaslo Trailblazers	Agreement with Village
Birch	Non motorized	Located on Crown land	Kaslo Trailblazers	Agreement with Village
Hemlock	All Uses	Located on Crown land	Kaslo Trailblazers	Agreement with Village
Cedar	All uses	Located on Crown land	Kaslo Trailblazers	Agreement with Village
Yew	All uses	Located on Crown land	Kaslo Trailblazers	Agreement with Village

6.3 Wardner Street

Figure 6. Wardner Street Trail Uses

Trail Name	Suggested Uses	Comments	Managed by	Legal Status
Wardner Street Lookout	Foot traffic only	Well used trail connects to Buchanan Fire Access trail	Kaslo Outdoor Recreation Society	In Process
No Brakes	All uses	Trail includes significant infrastructure for Mt. bikes Be careful!	Kaslo Outdoor Recreation Society	In process
Connector 1	Foot Traffic only	Trail connects Wardner Street Lookout Trail to 'No Brakes' Mt. Bike Trail	Kaslo Outdoor Recreation Society	In process
Connector 2	Foot traffic only	Trail connects Wardner Street Lookout to the Buchanan Fire Access Trail	Kaslo Outdoor Recreation Society	In process
Buchanan Fire Access	All Uses		Kaslo Outdoor Recreation Society	Registered

6.4 Wagon Road

Figure 7. Wagon Road Trail Uses

Trail Name	Designated Uses	Comments	Managed by	Legal Status
Kaslo to Sandon Wagon Road	All uses	Recreation route using historic old highway and old K&S Railway. Begins at the top of Zwicky Road (km 0) to Fish Lake (km 28)	Kaslo to Sandon Rails to Trails Society	Registered

6.5 Mount Buchanan Wilderness Recreation Area

Figure 8. Mount Buchanan Wilderness Recreation Area Trail Uses

Trail Name	Suggested Uses	Comments	Managed by	Legal Status
To be determined	Mountain bike in summer. X-country ski in winter	In Kaslo and District Community Forest Society Chart Area	Kaslo Outdoor Recreation Society + Kaslo and District Community Forest Society	In process

6.6 Kaslo Bay and Water Street

Figure 9. Kaslo Bay and Water Street Trail Uses

Trail Name	Designated Uses	Comments	Managed by	Legal Status
Kaslo Bay	All non-motorized uses No equestrian	Located on Village land	Kaslo Trailblazers Society	Agreement with Village

7. Summary of Identified Pressures on Trails

These following issues have been raised through the consultation process. This section describes how these issues will be addressed through designation, signage and maintenance.

Protection of Water Quality

Many Kaslo and area residents depend on surface and sub-surface water for their domestic needs. These wells, reservoirs and intakes can be in the vicinity of trails. Pollution from dogs and human can severely impact these water sources. As a result, trail signage will ensure that trail users understand when trails are in watersheds or near domestic water sources. Trails have been located and designated specifically to avoid sensitive water systems.

Pollution

Trail use enjoyment can be severely limited by garbage, cigarette butts, litter, food wrappers and other types of pollution. In sensitive areas such as beside creeks and rivers and near domestic water sources, pollution may cause serious damage. As a result, trail signage will ensure that trail users understand when trails are in watersheds or near domestic water sources. Trails have been located and designated specifically to avoid sensitive ecosystems and water systems.

Trail Damage and Erosion

Bike tires, ATV tires and other human uses can cause trail damage and erosion. Specific user groups will be responsible for avoiding damage, identifying damage when it occurs and ensuring that the lead groups are made aware of damage. Trail signage will ensure that trail users understand trail sensitivities and best practices. Trails have been located and designated specifically to avoid erosion and trail damage.

Fire Hazard

Much of the managed trail network is located within the wildland urban interface – where the residences are adjacent to the forest. This interface area is particularly sensitive to fire that either starts on private land or spreads to the forest or forest fires threatening private homes and public building and utilities. The potential risk of fires initiating on trail and threatening adjacent homes is very serious. Trail signage will ensure that trail users understand the risks of fires. In addition, trails may be closed in the event of risk ratings of extreme fire danger by the appropriate government agency



8. Trail Maintenance and Monitoring

Success of this plan is contingent on the consistent, intentional, and supported management of the area based on the following:

- Trail Alliance member organization will take the lead on trail maintenance;
- Signage will encourage best practices, including no littering, no damage to infrastructure and reporting damage to lead organization;
- Trail damage from littering, bike tires, motorized use or similar causes may result in trail closures in order to fix the problem; and
- Trail users will do primary trail monitoring. Trail, sign and infrastructure damage should be reported to the appropriate Alliance member organization;



Herb Thompson

9. Trail Signage

Trail signs are an essential element of this managed trail network. Signs ensure that users have the information that they need to make decisions and to understand suggested trail uses and specific sensitivities.



These trails are in the Village of Kaslo and pass through sensitive areas, including riparian and wildlife habitat. In addition, these trails border our community and are adjacent to private land. Please respect these values:

- Stay on the trail.
- Respect trail use guidelines.
- Carry out all litter.
- Pick up after your dog.
- Curb your speed when encountering pedestrians.
- Be aware of your surroundings - this is a busy and congested area.

Please note that many of these trails are multi-use. This means that cyclists, hikers, horseback riders, and motorized trail users need to be aware of each other and act responsibly to avoid collisions.

Trailhead management and maintenance by the Village of Kaslo is a voluntary contribution of trail users groups and businesses. Kaslo Trailhead Management Group, Kaslo, British Columbia, is a non-profit organization dedicated to the development and maintenance of the Kaslo Trailhead. For more information, please contact the Kaslo Trailhead Management Group at <http://www.kaslotrailhead.com>.

Trail head signs

Signs will be installed at trailheads and include the following information:

- Trail names;
- Locations of trail heads, junctions and other network entrances;
- Trail difficulty rating and length;
- Suggested trail uses for each trail;
- Trail rules and etiquette;
- Environmental considerations and sensitivities; and
- Trail management contact information.

In partnership with the Village and the provincial Recreation Sites and Trails Branch, trailhead signs will be constructed and installed once this Management Plan is approved.

Trail directional signs will be installed as required at trail junctions.

10. Trail Etiquette

Many trails in this managed trail network are multi-use trails. This means that walkers, hikers, runners, bikers and ATVers all have to share the trail. As a result some basic trail etiquette applies:

- All trail users need to respect each other;
- Cyclists and motorized vehicle operators must ride / drive responsibly;
- Cyclists and motorized operators must be prepared to encounter other trail users, especially when vision is limited;
- Trails are in wildlife habitat Make your presence known. Bears and moose can be especially dangerous if they suspect their young are threatened or if they are surprised; and
- Wearing earphones can reduce your attention and could result in surprise encounters.

11. Ongoing Revisions to This Plan

This plan will be reviewed and revised as required (likely every 3 to 5 years) to ensure that trail designation and use is consistent with evolving public support. As a result, the following phased approach is proposed, see Figure 10:



Figure 10. Kaslo and Area Trail Management Plan Phases

Phase Number	Key Contents	Comments
1	Managed trail network includes existing built trails in Kaslo and area. All trails are managed by a designated group All trails are registered	Phase 1 commences at Plan approval and goes for 3 to 5 years Goal is to demonstrate stewardship and confirm designations Stewardship of Phase 1 trails could encourage registration of new trails
2	Modifications to Phase 1 trails, as required New trails as identified through public consultation New managed trail areas require groups or individuals willing to champion the use, designation and maintenance of these trails	One potential new trail may be the Mirror Lake to Kaslo foot trail identified by Pineridge residents as a priority An additional trail may be the Kaslo River extension to South Fork Phase 2 starts 3 to 5 years after plan approval, as required through public consultation

12. Appendices

12.1 Trail Alliance MoU

Kaslo and Area Trail Alliance Memorandum of Understanding

Background

The Kaslo Trail Alliance is a collaborative arrangement between trail user groups and Crown forest tenure holders. Kaslo and the surrounding area endowed with a trail network that provides enjoyment and exercise to locals and visitors alike. In order to maintain and protect these trails, to best serve the greatest good, and to protect other values, the Kaslo and Area Trails Alliance agrees to the following:

1. Guiding Principles

The Kaslo Trail Alliance is built on the following Guiding Principles:

- Build alliance of trail user groups committed to work together;
- Foster cooperation among trail users, governments and neighbours;
- Respect different trail uses and support diversity of uses;
- Demonstrate best practices for stewardship and maintenance;
- Help to educate trail users about history, best practices and other values; and
- Respect private land ownership and other rights holders.

2. Trail management plan

The parties will develop a *Kaslo and Area Trail Management Plan* to guide stewardship, outline roles and responsibilities, define permitted uses, summarize best practices, ensure maintenance and clarify broad public promotion of trails. This management plan will be developed through a public consultation process.

3. Meaningful public consultation

Strong public support is required to ensure trails are safe and well maintained. This support will be the outcome of meaningful and ongoing public consultation.

4. Provincial designation

The legal designation of trails may be an outcome of public consultations. Not all trails will be legally designated.

5. Recognition of added risks in the sensitive interface areas

Trail use can increase risks to sensitive values. Dogs or garbage can contaminate domestic water systems. Motorized vehicles or cigarettes can cause fires. Noise can

Signed: October 13, 2011

diminish privacy. These risks are taken seriously and trails are managed to reduce these risks.

6. Recognition of other rights holders


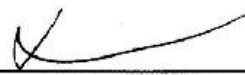

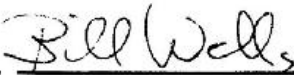


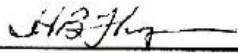
Domestic water users, trappers and forest licensees, among others, have legal rights adjacent to or on top of the trails network. These legal rights will be respected within the managed trail network and all efforts will be made to ensure that trail users understand and respect these rights.

5. Information sharing between parties

In the spirit of cooperation, in order to find efficiencies and to ensure consistency, the parties agree to share information on maintenance, education or training projects, commercial activities, legal designations and other issues that may affect the trails network.

7. Provisions to review and revise trail network status on regular basis

At any time a Kaslo Trail Alliance member may request that this MoU is reviewed or revised. Full consensus of the parties is required to revise this MoU.

 _____ Tom Duchastel Kaslo Trailblazers Society	 _____ Don Hunt Kaslo Motorized Recreation Group
 _____ Rick Hewat Kaslo Outdoor Recreation Society	 _____ Bill Wells Woodlot 494
 _____ Ian McKinnon Kaslo Riding Club Society	 _____ John Addison, Chairperson Kaslo and District Community Forest Society
 _____ Herb Thompson Kaslo to Sandon Rails to Trails Committee	

Record of Public Consultation

Kaslo Trail Alliance

Back Road Consultation Meeting

November 10, 2011, 7:00 to 10:00 pm. Kaslo Senior's Hall

Agenda

1. General Intro: Trail Alliance, Goals, Workplan
2. Alliance Members Introductions
3. Presentation: Allyn Steward
4. General Discussion: Process, etc
5. Detailed Trail Discussion: Worksheets

Notes

1. General Introduction

John provided some general background on the purpose of this meeting. While trails have been built and used in the Kaslo area for a very long time, the release of the Trails Guidebook in May 2010 raised concerns from some community members, especially residents of the Back Road and Pine Ridge. As a result, RDCK Director Shadrack asked John Cathro to engage in the process to see if the dispute could be resolved. After discussions with key players, the Trail Alliance was formed to bring together trail user groups and forest tenure holders to work cooperatively on developing a Kaslo Trails Management Plan based on strong public support.

2. Alliance Members Introductions

Rick Hewat, Kaslo Outdoor Recreation Society

Stu Heard, Kaslo Trailblazers

Don Hunt, Kaslo Motorized Recreation Group

Herb Thompson, Kaslo to Sandon Rails to Trails Society

John Addison, Kaslo and District Community Forest Society

3. Presentation

Allyn Steward presented photos and brief remarks about the trail building for mountain bikes on the 'No Brakes' trail (formally Mount Buchanan Connector). His concern is that this is a potentially dangerous trail built very close to town in

an area that had been used by hikers. There are no safeguards in place to avoid potential accidents. He is also concerned about the level of trail development in and around the Pine Ridge area, done without any consultation. Trails have been widened, linked together and the network expanded. This has upset many residents of the area, and these are people who built the smaller trails that were there originally.

4. General Discussion

John Cathro facilitated a general discussion.

- An issue is conflict of uses on trails, eg Skiers & Hikers
- Can the Community Forest (CF) designate bike areas: make money from permit and control use?
- CF is looking at “recreational tenure. Partnering with KORS. No immediate revenue opportunities, but applying for tenure in the Nordic Ski Area;
- We need to have recreational opportunities. This is good for community!
- An issue is location of trails with lots of use;
- Big groups need to be away from residents;
- An issue is Guidebooks being sold for money and inviting lots of folks;
- Models exist on how to make this work. We need to use them. For example, in Smithers in the “Onion” area;
- Issue is impact. Locals in small numbers have less impact;
- Impact can be on people and values such as water, nature, wildlife, sense of quiet.
- Noise and groups should be in areas that do not bother people.
- Legal designation can take months, years.
- Backyard link trails were built by locals and the new developed trails remove the original intent;
- On the Back Road parking is an issue and so is water
- Cumulative impact an issue;
- Water is an issue, this is a sensitive area;
- Many people do not want managed trails on the back road
- Issue is connection with interface project from 2 years ago. Promises were made at the time that these trails would not be developed, and now they are being developed by some of the same people involved with that project
- What is the link to the OCP? Is the Back Road area designated as on recreation use?

- The rate of change is too fast
- Guidebook cost was a barrier for many: \$12 is too much.
- Trail size is an issue. Small trails have lots of ferns & moss and are 16 inches wide. Large trails have side barriers and are 3-4 feet wide.
- Trails as vector for damage, vandalism, water problems
- Who has authorized the work to date? Who gave those folks that authority?
- Has decision of trails been made?
- Kaslo has extensive trails compared to other areas
- "I'm disappointed". Interface project in Backroad area was a problem and this seems to be just more of the same.
- ATVs and mountain bikes have biggest potential impact. We need to find alternate area for them – not adjacent to residences
- This is just the thin edge of the wedge. Soon trails are wider and used more
- Trails should not go through people's back yards
- Example of dog in water system.
- We should 'obliterate trails on map' – get rid of them;
- In Pineridge there have been about 800m of new trails without any consultation
- Who polices / monitors / maintains the trails?
- Who has authority, which government agency? Ministry of Sports, Tourism and the Arts
- Does Sufferfest need a permit? Yes
- Encourage use is similar to managed, publicized, designated use
- Signage and deactivation are potential problems
- Mud road needs to be deactivated
- This whole issue was opened by Sufferfest
- Is there a role for the Alliance as gatekeeper or clearing house for trail-related issues in Kaslo – where do people go with questions, suggestions, and proposals?
- Expand alliance to include BR water user Society? The Alliance needs to discuss this and meet with them
- Safe to say that a summary of the discussion so far is no to managed / developed trails in Back Road
- The Alliance comprised of groups with interest in trail development. What is lacking is other user groups such as water user groups
- How to make this planning process more inclusive?

- In Pineridge, vandalism has been happening as a result of trails;
- In Pineridge, one of the original developed trails crosses private land
- On "O" Avenue trails in Pineridge public use is OK but publicized use is not supported
- Remove trails from internet (Chamber of Commerce, Trailblazers) that are not supported
- Sufferfest and trailblazers maps are on the web;
- The Guidebook is the problem. It publicized trails with no public support
- Confirm that Alliance members present have no plans for trail development in the Pineridge and Back road areas
- Back Road residents do not want developed / managed trails in their watersheds
- Add 4th option to list of trail designations: discourage use, deactivation and signage saying "stay out";
- Alliance should consider developing planning criteria. Managed Trails will be: Away from private. Away from water. Away from residences;
- RDCK has no jurisdiction over crown land

5. Detailed Trails Discussion

Several people submitted comments on the worksheets provided, although many people felt that the consensus was that managed trails should not be in the Back Road and Pineridge areas, and that the detailed comments were therefore not required.

Adjourn the meeting at 10:00

Kaslo Trail Alliance

Pineridge Consultation Meeting

March 1, 2012, 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Kaslo Senior's Hall

Agenda

1. Review and approve agenda
2. Alliance members introductions
3. General introduction to process: Trail Alliance, Goals, Workplan
4. General discussion: Process, etc
5. Detailed trail discussion: Worksheets
6. Summary and Adjourn

Attendees

Dave McCormick, Bill Wells, Barry Crawford, Lina Crawford, Sam Pawluk, Gordon Portman, Karl Gfroerer, Allyn Steward, Shon Neufeld, John Addison, Hugh Kerr, Leslie Kerr, Peter Smed, Terri Jenkins, Phyllis White, Peter McAllister, John Cathro (Facilitator)

1. Review and approve agenda

The group reviewed and approved the agenda as presented.

2. Alliance Members Introductions

Shon Neufeld, Kaslo Outdoor Recreation Society

Tom Duchastel, Kaslo Trailblazers

John Addison, Kaslo and District Community Forest Society

Bill Wells, WL 494

3. General Introduction

John Cathro provided some general background on the purpose of this meeting. While trails have been built and used in the Kaslo area for a very long time, the release of the Trails Guidebook in May 2010 raised concerns from some community members, especially residents of the Back Road and Pine Ridge. As a result, RDCK Director Shadrack asked John Cathro to engage in the process to see if the dispute could be resolved. After discussions with key players, the Trail Alliance was formed to bring together trail user groups and forest tenure holders to work cooperatively on developing a Kaslo Trails Management Plan based on strong public support. The first step was meet with the neighborhoods most directly affected and better understand their interests and preferences for trails. The next step will be broad public consultation. The ultimate goal is to develop a management plan that demonstrates strong public support for a managed trail network in Kaslo and area.

4. General Discussion

John Cathro facilitated a general discussion.

- The issue of trail deactivation was raised: has the Alliance given thought to how to deactivate trails? This has not come up yet but would be considered if specific requests were made;
- The map as presented at the meeting had some inaccuracies and a revised version was presented (attached). Trailblazers built the green trails in May 2011. The red trails are existing trails that were not on the map. Trail #9 is actually 50 feet on private land. The stretch of trail between #4 and #5 does not exist.

5. Detailed Trails Discussion

The following specific comments were provided:

- Written comments were provided by people who could not attend the meeting Regina Thomas, P and K Raby, Doug Dixon and Shelly Ross, and Annette Embry. While there was some variation, the general sentiments expressed is: foot traffic only, so signage, no advertising of trails, no further development, no organized races;
- Generally suggested that the 'trail problem' started with the publication of the Guidebook;
- One issue is the potential for a commercial tenure to be applied for this Crown land. One defense against this is the completion of the management plan and, perhaps, the legal designation of trails;
- Sam Pawluk pointed out that one of the trails crosses his private property, and hikers have ended up in his yard. This is a game trail that has expanded with human use to look more like a hiking trail. After some discussion, it was suggested that the most direct way to fix this would be to make sure there are 'private property' signs posted;
- In response to a direct question, Tom stated that from the Trailblazers perspective there is no push to incorporate this area into some kind of master trail network;
- Question: In the vent of an accident or injury on designated or managed trails, who is libel? The Alliance needs to look into this and get an answer;
- Many Pineridge residents want to promote walking and would like to have a trail from Mirror Lake to the Village that does not go on the highway ad does not cross private land;
- In response to a direct question, Shon stated that from the perspective of KORS there is no intent to promote mountain bike use in this area because it is too small. It is best for running and hiking, although it would be a good place for kids to train;
- Process question: How are residents best included in decisions? A suggestion was made that each neighborhood should have a member on the Alliance. The Alliance will consider this suggestion;
- Question: Does the applicant for trail designation need to be a Society or other formal group? The Alliance will look into this;

- Suggestion that access on trails be limited or excluded during high hazard fire season;
- Process suggestion: how about create a list of trail use criteria and, by show of hands, gauge the level of support. Here is the result:

Trail Use Criteria	Number of votes
Walking Only	11
No Advertising of Trails	12
No Commercial Use	12
Non-motorized	12
Develop Trail from Mirror Lake to Kaslo	12
Legally designate the area / trails	6
Horse friendly	7
No organized events	11
No signs (other than 'private property')	12
Bicycle friendly	4

Total number of residents: 12

- Process Suggestion: After discussion the following process was agreed to for including other residents unable to attend:
 - Dave and Gordon will coordinate communication for Pineridge;
 - Allyn will coordinate communication for Silver Hills;
 - Residents will have two weeks (until March 16) to respond'
 - Specific feedback will be requested from residents
 - Meeting notes, trail map and Trails Backgrounder will be provided to residents

Adjourn the meeting at 9:00

Kaslo Trail Alliance

Back Road Consultation Meeting

April 19, 2012 7:00 to 10:00 pm. Kaslo United Church Hall

Agenda

Welcome and Introductions, Review Agenda

- 7:10 General background of the Kaslo Trail Alliance
- 7:20 Overview of the DRAFT Management Plan and completion process
- 7:40 Detailed review of DRAFT Management Plan trails and uses
- 8:30 Summary of input received and next steps
- 8:45 Questions and Answers
- 9:00 Adjourn

Notes

1. Welcome and Introduction

John gave background, introduced the background information on the yellow information sheet and the evening agenda. Key question is: How does a community make a decision on a joint resource? How do we as a community ultimately arrive at the best possible decision. That decision will be worked into a trails Management Plan.

The Kaslo Trail Alliance is a volunteer effort. Panel introductions

- Tom Duschastel: Kaslo Trailblazers Society
- Shon Neufield: Kaslo Outdoor Recreation Society
- Ian McKinnon: Kaslo Horse Riders Club
- Bill Wells: Woodlot 494
- Herb Thompson: Kaslo to Sandon Rails to Trails Society
- Henry Van Mill: Kaslo Motorized Recreation group
- John Cathro: Facilitator

2. Overview of the Consultation and Management Plan completion process

The Alliance MOU, meeting notes and all Draft material is on the website. A draft Management Plan has been developed to get the discussion started. It is only a draft to help the community

with understanding what options are being considered. No decisions have been made at this point in time. As of Friday hard copies will be available at the Village Office, the Kaslo Library and Kootenay Mountain Sports. Comments welcome until May 18, names must be included – no anonymous submissions. In June after reviewing comments and following Alliance discussion, a revised plan will be made available. Possibly additional comments will be required to reach broad agreement on the final Trail Management Plan.

Justin Dexter is the government representative with the Ministry of Forests Lands and Natural Resources Operations, Recreation Sites and Trails Division. The area he is responsible for is Big White to Cranbrook.

3. Questions and Answers

Q: What is the scope of the project?

A: Not a plan legal designation but a quasi-legal plan. The purpose is to guide local decisions and the use of trails. So people understand where they are, and the designated usage of trails.

Q: Is there a responsibility for any particular entity to maintain trails?

A: Currently only a few legally designated trails exist and these are formally managed. In the eyes of the Ministry, all other trails are illegal – until they are formally designated. The Trail Alliance is not going so far as to designate trails. This will be up to trail user groups and others based on the outcome of this planning process. Choosing not to manage is one of many options. Unmanaged is potentially what will happen.

Q: Are we not already overregulated?

A: Some community groups have had conflict when applying for funding for trails – CBT and local governments are increasingly reluctant to provide funding for controversial projects. This Management Plan will not be a legal document and is meant to guide local decisions. The alternative is increased trails conflict.

4. Instructions on Draft Management Plan review

Fill out the form. The nicer you are the more likely it will be that you are listened to. These people are volunteers.

If we had had a Management Plan supported by a Trail Alliance recommendation, it would have weight with the Ministry when someone applies for commercial use. TOM told story of Monster trail commercial tenure awarded without community consultation.

There is not a clear idea of final decision making. Referendum? The alliance has taken on the responsibility to consult. Comments go to them, and more community input in June. One option is for the Village of Kaslo to formally recognize the plan once the Alliance has finalized it. Comments will be accepted between now and of May 18. Names must be on them. People must take responsibility for their comments.

Comment: Concerned that there is no buffer zone around the private land. Concern for water protection. We are opening a corridor. We have elk, we know they are big. They will go into everyone's garden. Out of town folks camp anywhere, don't contribute to the economy of the town. Concerned about people getting close to their properties and potential for theft. Privacy is an issue – We don't live in town for a reason.

5. Break to go to individual map stations to review specific planning units
45 minute review specific planning units. 1 member of from the Trails Alliance attended to each station to answer questions and clarify draft maps. Approximately 45 comment forms were collected from these stations.

6. Station Masters' Summary

John (Back Road Rineridge):

- Great conversation with and among the people at this station.
- Some folks want to see as many trails as possible with buffers around private land
- Designate a smaller number of trails than were in the guidebook
- Residents of these areas should be on the Trail Alliance
- The area should remain unmanaged
- With history, emotionalism, tribalism, a question: who makes the decisions for the area?
- Heard that people want the trails managed, signed, publicized, plus the opposite – not managed, signed, publicized.
- Some said that they want to jump over logs, others that they do not want to jump over logs.
- As neighbourhoods some said they want a chance to revisit the discussion given new info. In other words, its clear that the Alliance is listening.
- Residents could be the ones to manage the trails
- Management Plan is good, and a guidebook would be better
- The local trapper does not want non-motorized use of any trails

Henry (Motorized Trail Use)

- Motorized trail users need their own area.

- Ken encouraged them to put their interests on a map. Henry resists.

Herb (Wagon Road):

- Little controversy.
- Well established recreation route, little argument with the route. Multi use works there.

Bill: (True Blue and Woodlot)

- Great to correct the draft map.
- Proposed trails to be for multi use? Guidebooks supported

Ian (True Blue and Woodlot)

- Any use is supported up there.
- I enjoy the trails as they are.
- Generally ok.
- Some wasn't to see a buffer around private property

Shon (Wardner and Mount Buchanan):

- Foot and bike conflict on No Brakes mainly.
- Everything else is fairly neutral.
- Hikers feel biker and hikers don't mix. What do bikers feel?
- No Brakes is the only local trail that is open right now. And close to town and dry. So it is congested. More people including bikers, hikers and even motorized from time to time use it

Tom (Kaslo River Trail):

- Increase the south extension to South Fork.
- Some want trails in that system for bikers for kids use – they are close.
- Some clarification on the map mud road is actually a water course going to Josanna's place. We need to clarify the history and site specific geography
- Some say that the rails between the Bridge and the airport should be open for horses.

7. Opportunity at the end of the meeting to speak generally

Gerald Garnett: Emotional response on Back Road and Pine Ridge. Change happened and there was no consultation. Many specific issues (dogs, water, etc.) are solvable. We can think of practical solutions. Locals mostly benefit from trails. But tourists are a benefit as well to the local economy.

Andy Lecuff: We have been skirting the issue of tourism. Glad that is on the table.

Don Scarlett: True Blue trails and airport cause access conflicts and traffic will increase. Encourages signage for public safety at the airport. This cannot be crossed. Suggest that the Village should put up a sign at the airport to alert people.

Adjourn at 9:00 pm

Summary of Public Comments on Draft Management Plan

Based on 102 responses

Alliance and Planning	Responses (#)
Great work Alliance	11
Management Plan a good / great idea	9
Guidebook is a good idea – helps people from getting lost	7
Guidebook should be put out and sold for money	6
Do not want to see trails managed	3
Alliance is not properly put together -- self appointed	2
Don't need government providing trails	1
Trail development results in higher land prices	1
Trails should be publicized	1

Crown / Private Land	Responses (#)
better signs to keep people off of private land	7
Protect sensitive areas like watersheds, fire interface, privacy	6
Private land buffer is extending private property on Crown land	5
Trails on Crown land should be open to all	3
Casual trails should not be publicised, only designated trails	3
Crown land has been used for over a hundred years	2
No restrictions should apply to Crown land	1
Guerilla trail building on Crown land is wrong	1
No motorized near private land	1
buffer for buffer sake not a good idea	1
Need to keep off of private property	1
Residents should cover their water wells	1
Buffers need to protect water and private land	1

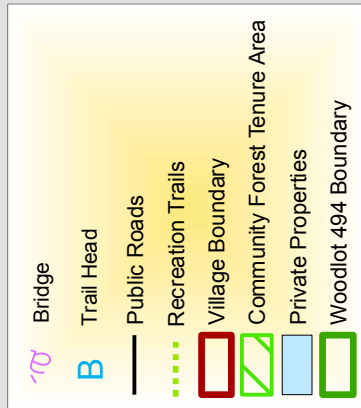
General Comments	Responses (#)
support clear signage	15
Suggest use but not designate uses	4
keep trails open to all	3
Casual trails should not be publicised – only designated trails should be	3
previous / historic usage should remain	2
Priority should be for foot use (not bikes or motorized)	2
More trails is not better – manage the ones we have	1
non-motorized trail network should be expanded	1
Trail network needs to be greatly expanded	1
Trapper wants all areas as motorized	1
Impossible to stop someone from publicizing any trails	1
Well used trails promote good trail usage	1
Designated trails should be in Wardner, Airport, Trueblue, Bucky	1

Backroad	Responses (#)
Backroad trails should not be mapped or designated	13
Only low impact Backroad trails should be used and have signs	9
4 wows should be kept open -- does not affect private land	9
K avenue needs to be re-opened	6
Some Backroad areas need to be designated as non-use to protect water	4
Mud road should be blockaded before it goes into watershed area	1

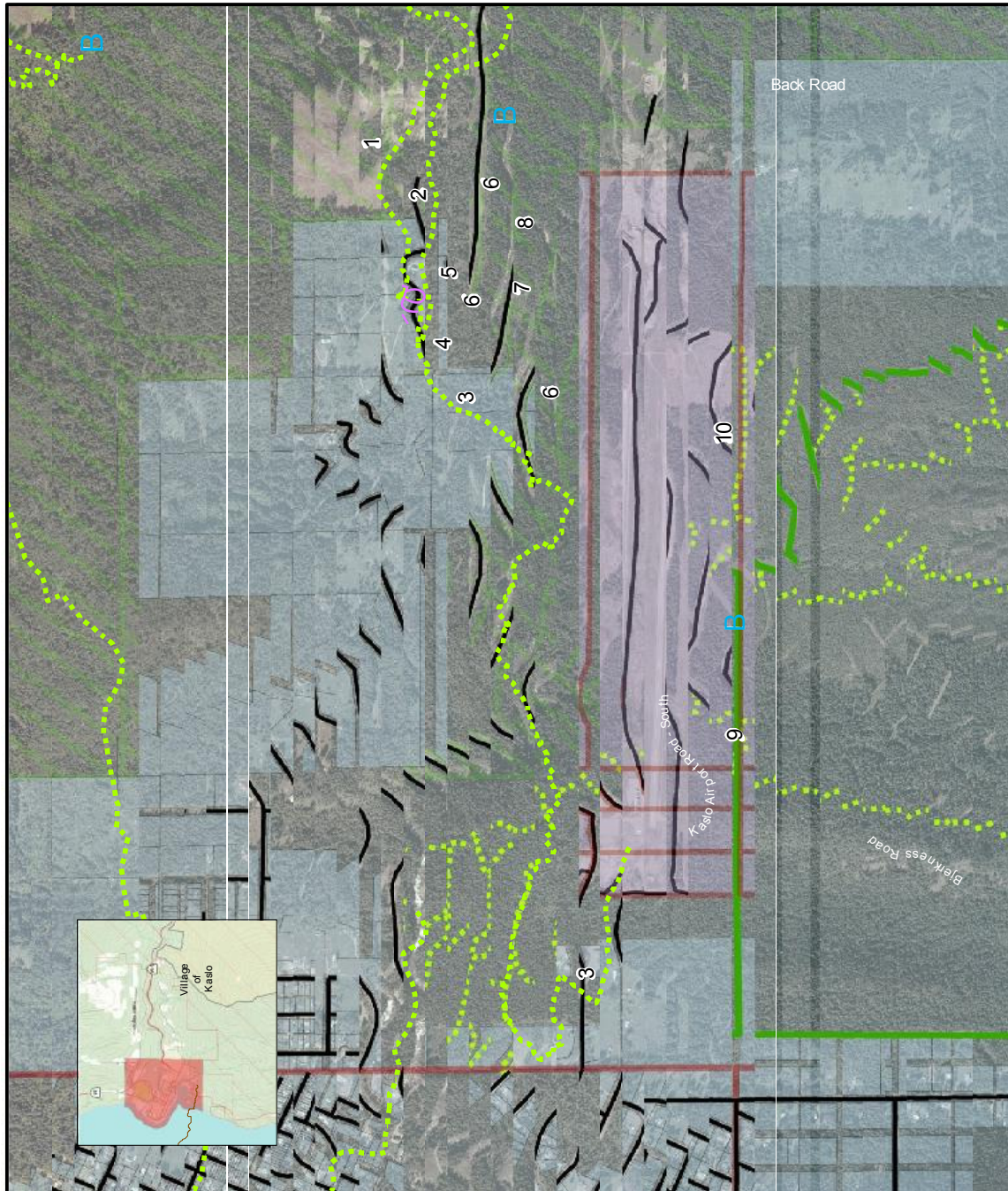
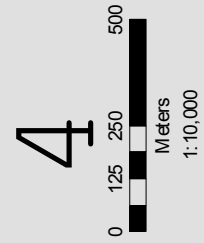
Pineridge	Responses (#)
Pineridge trails should not be mapped or designated	30
Pineridge trails should be managed and have signs to avoid trespassing	11
Pineridge main trail is an historic trail that should be open	2
Pineridge decommission the new trail from the info booth	1

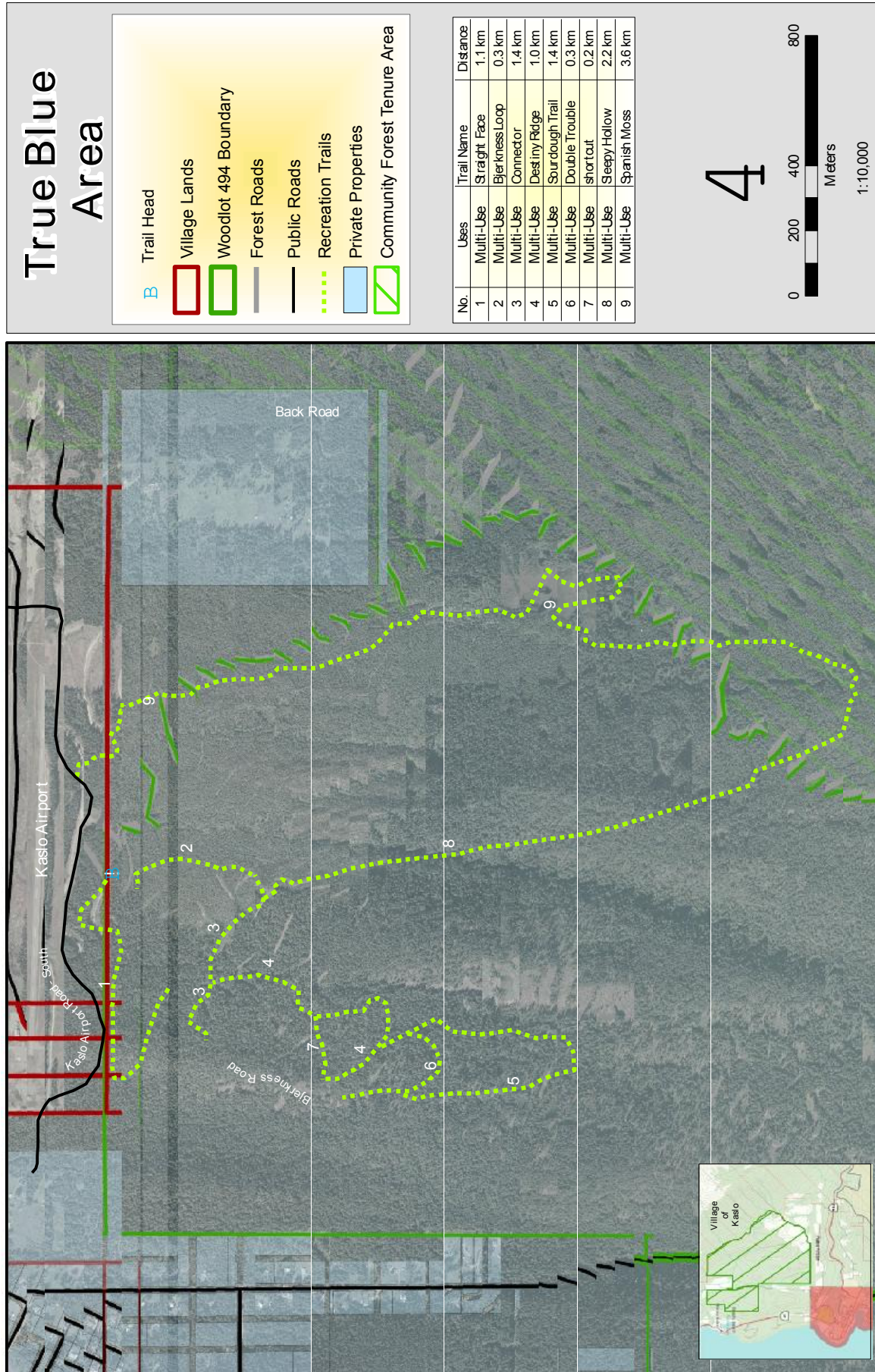
Other Areas	Responses (#)
New trail needed to south fork on south side of river	5
No Brakes should remain all uses	4
No Brakes good for bikes and kids	3
No to Bucky	2
Bucky has huge potential /is a good idea	2
River trail is great	2
No brakes and connector should be no bikes	2
View Trail for hikers	2
airport needs signage to keep people off runway	2
geological study needed before Bucky goes ahead	1
Mount Buchanan Access needs to be maintained	1
True Blue trails are great for mountain bike riding	1
True Blue trails should be managed by KORS and WL 494	1
WL 494 trails should not be restricted use	1
New trail needed to connect second bridge to trail network	1
rehabilitate damaged areas on trail to south fork	1
New trail needed from Mirror Lake to town through pineridge	1
airport interface trails are great for horses	1

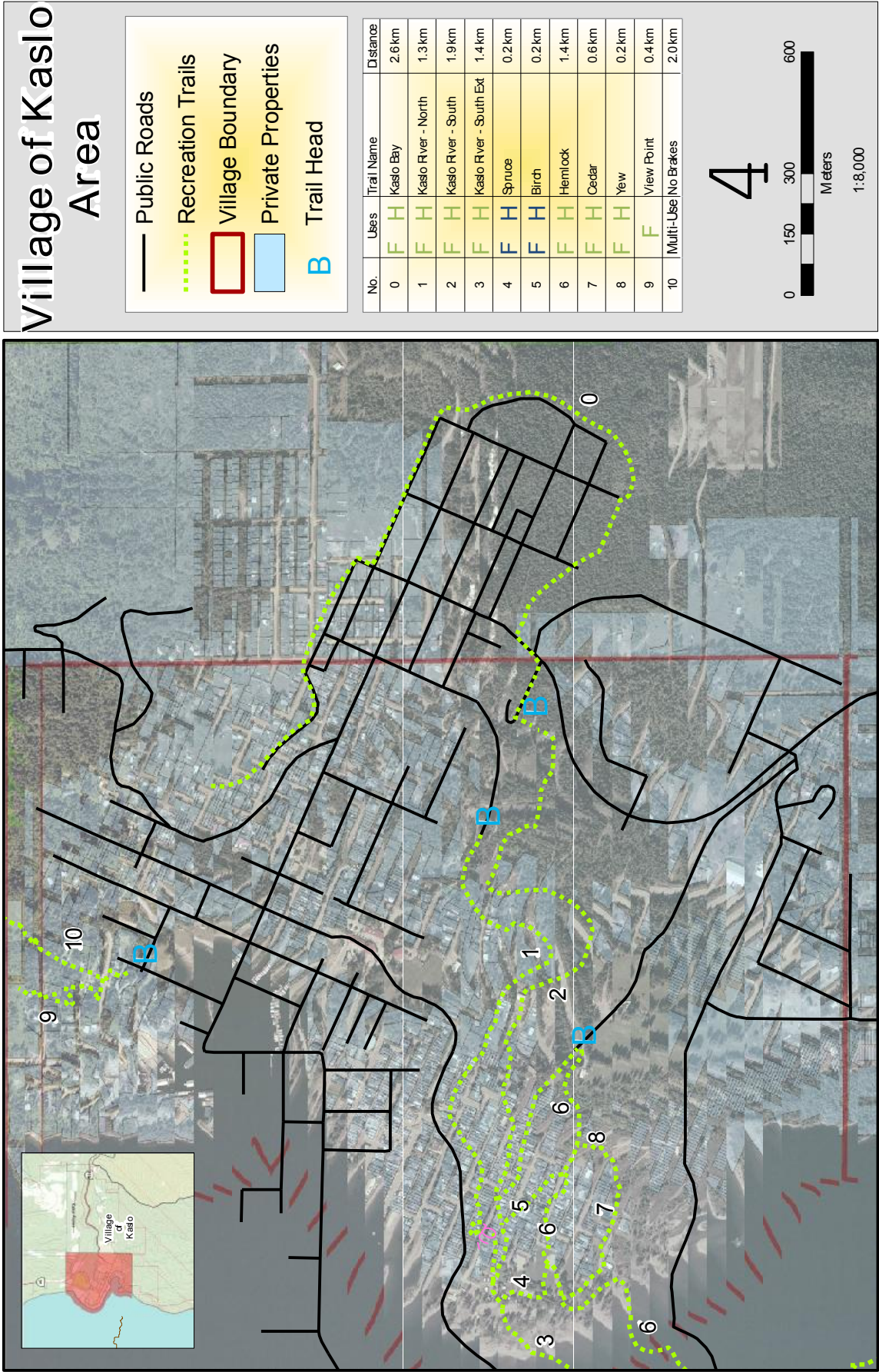
Airport Area



No.	Uses	Trail Name	Distance
1	F H	Kaslo River - North	1.3 km
2	F H	Kaslo River - South	1.9 km
3	F H	Kaslo River - South Ext	1.4 km
4	F H	Spruce	0.2 km
5	F H	Birch	0.2 km
6	F H	Hemlock	1.4 km
7	F H	Cedar	0.6 km
8	F H	Yew	0.2 km
9	Multi-Use	Straight Face	1.1 km
10	Multi-Use	Spanish Moss	3.6 km





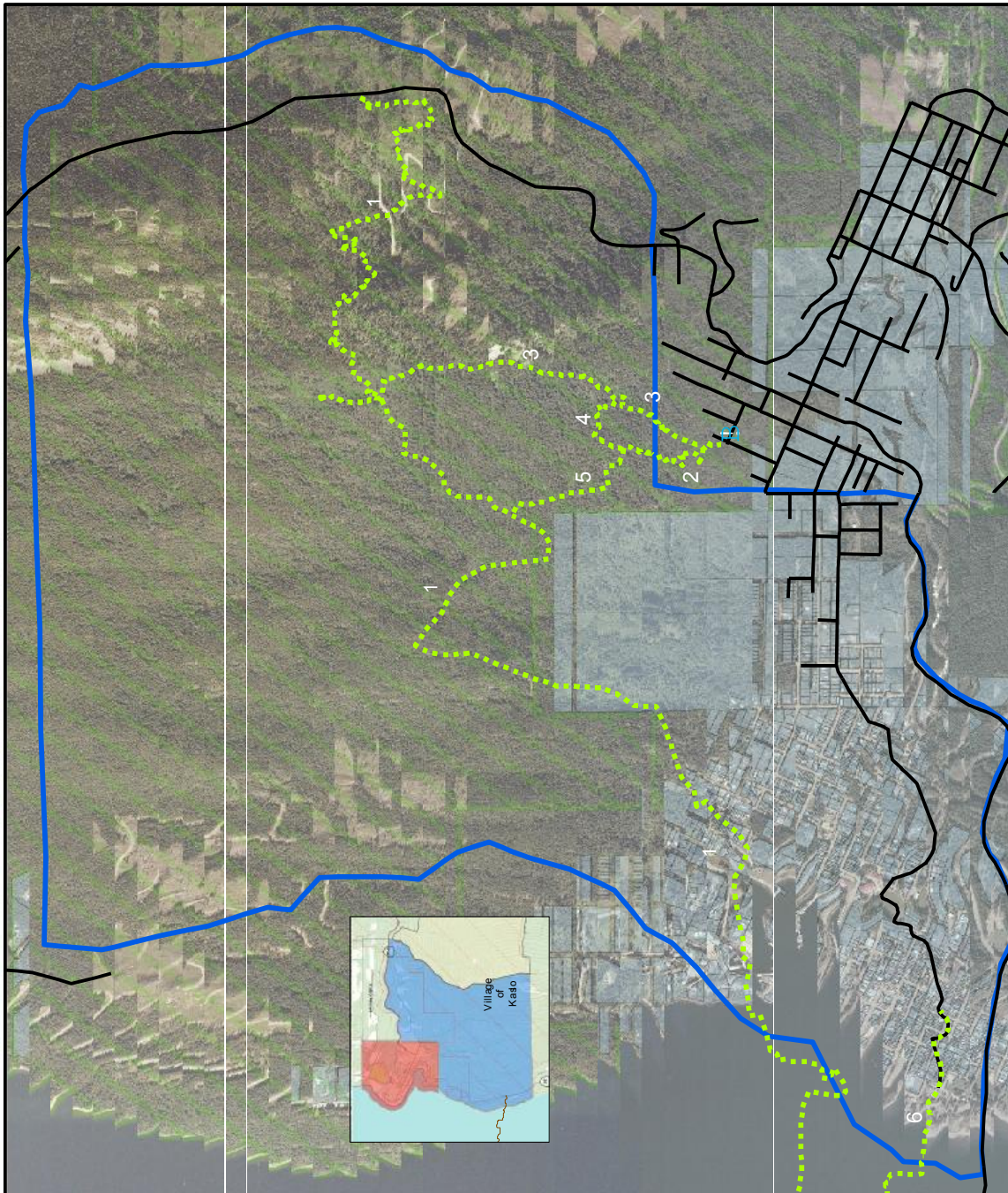
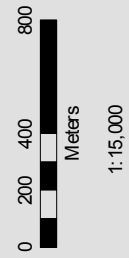


Buchanan Access Area

- Public Roads
- Recreation Trails
- Wardner/Buchanan Area
- Community Forest Tenure Area
- Private Properties

No.	Uses	Trail Name	Distance
1	Multi-Use	Buchanan Access	9.7 km
2	F	View Point	0.4 km
3	Multi-Use	No Brakes	2.0 km
4	F	Connector 1	0.5 km
5	F	Connector 2	0.6 km
6	Multi-Use	Wagon Road	28 km

4





Wardner Street Area

- Public Roads
- Village Boundary
- Recreation Trails
- Community Forest Tenure Area
- Private Properties
- Trail Head

No.	Uses	Trail Name	Distance
2	F	View Point	0.4 km
3	Multi-Use	No Brakes	2.0 km
4	F	Connector 1	0.5 km
5	F	Connector 2	0.6 km

4

