



Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC
Accessing the backcountry one step at a time

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May 16, 2015

By E-mail:

Honorable Steve Thomson
Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
steve.thomson.mla@leg.bc.ca

Re: Sea to Sky Land Resources Management Plan

Dear Sir,

The Federation of Mountain Clubs of British Columbia (FMCBC) is an umbrella organization of about 33 outdoor recreation clubs having a total membership of about 5000 individual members dispersed throughout the province. For over four decades we have represented the interests of self-propelled/non-motorized backcountry recreationists by maintaining and/or improving backcountry and wilderness experiences both in provincial parks and on other Crown land for our members and the public.

Under the April 7, 2009 Non-Commercial Winter Recreation Zones Sea-to-Sky Land and Resource Management Plan there is a large area in the vicinity of Cloudburst Mountain, Tricouni Mountain, Cypress Mountain, Seagram's Lake, and Brew Mountain that is designated as "Unresolved." Despite several initiatives by the stakeholders to resolve the zoning, the area remains "unresolved." We are very concerned that while the area is designated as "unresolved" the zoning of the area is in effect occurring on the basis of individual tenure and access management applications. In November 2012 a "Snowmobile Access Management Trail" was put in place along the Roe Creek Forest Service Road. This occurred in spite of overwhelming opposition from the non-motorized backcountry ski touring community. Currently Powder Mountain Catskiing has an application for a large increase in their tenure in this "unresolved" area.

It is imperative that the zoning of this "unresolved" area under the LRMP be resolved prior to any further tenure agreements, access management plans, or land use designations are approved.

Thank you for considering our concerns regarding this important matter. We look forward to your reply. I may be reached by email powderhounds@telus.net or by phone at 604 935-2551.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bryce Leigh', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Bryce Leigh
Recreation & Conservation Committee
Federation of Mountain Clubs of B.C.