

Logging Update for Glade Watershed from the Glade Watershed Protection Committee

Meeting with ATCO and Kalesnikoff Feb 17th 6-9pm at Glade Hall.

We need your help! Please plan to attend. Community involvement and solidarity is needed to support Independent Assessment of Risk to Community Drinking Water.

Kalesnikoff Lumber Company (KLC) and ATCO have put forward proposals to log in our watershed. ATCO could begin logging this spring! Historically, the Ministry of Forestry conducted risk assessments associated with logging. Since 2004, logging companies have been responsible for hiring their own professionals to assess risk. ATCO and KLC have completed a Glade Creek Hydrogeomorphic Assessment which is now available on the GID website (<http://gladewater.weebly.com/>) in the "news & notices" section. Any two professional hydrologists, studying the same area, may reach different conclusions regarding potential for damage from logging and associated road building. It is our position that the community of Glade needs to have the best advice possible from a professional who is independent from these logging companies and who has the community's best interest as their primary concern when looking at potential risk to our watershed.

It is our concern that logging in our watershed and above private water systems would greatly impact our watershed and result in negative impacts to water quantity &/or quality with a result in increased costs to providing potable water to the Glade community and make it even more difficult to meet IHA requirements to remove Boil Water Advisory.

Although there are many factors of concern in regards to this logging (like the presence of logging trucks on narrow Glade roads, hold-ups at the ferry, destruction of wildlife habitat, road building that will open up recreational areas to more motorized traffic, etc.), the only *legal* influence the community can have in regards to logging is via the *Drinking Water Protection Act (DWPA)*.

The *Drinking Water Protection Act (Section 29)* provides a mechanism to restrict logging and road building but requires evidence based Professional Independent Assessment of Risk to our drinking water quality, in conjunction with the support of our local Drinking Water Officer. Glade Irrigation District is in the process of applying for a Community Initiative Grant to help cover some of the cost for an independent study. We will also be seeking other sources of funding.

There is precedence in BC for this to be an effective way to limit logging in a community watershed:

<http://wcel.org/resources/environmental-law-alert/drinking-water-wins-jefferd-creek-logging-battle>

ATCO has submitted cut block plans to build roads and log in the Northeast corner of Glade Watershed. Andy Davidoff (RDCK) met with Glade community on January 24th and then drafted a letter of response to ATCO containing 6 points summarized as follows: 1. "do not commence activity that may....contaminate....water sources". 2. "...an Advisory Committee be constituted..." 3. "...provide Hydrogeomorphic...report and plans..." 4. "...provide any requested documentation to consultants to complete independent assessment..." 5. "...cost share assessments outlined in #4..." 6. "...drinking Water Officer be given access to any..documentation...". ATCO has since responded with a formal letter and a copy of the Hydrogeomorphic Report.

Complete copies of the correspondence and the hydrogeomorphic report are on the GID website:

<http://gladewater.weebly.com/> under "News & Notices".

Excellent opinion letter in Feb. 4, 2016 Nelson Star by Yvonne Neilson:

<http://www.nelsonstar.com/opinion/367591451.html>

If you would like to be included in future updates regarding the proposed logging, please send an email to:

Heathermc48@gmail.com with "glade logging" in the subject line.

