



Recreation Sites and Trails BC

File: 16660-25/Darling Lake Trail

Date: August 11th 2015

British Columbia Mountaineering Club

P.O. Box 20042

Vancouver, BC

V5Z 0C1

By Email: cludwig@islandnet.com

Mr. Ludwig,

RE: BCMC Section 57, Darling Lake Trail

I have reviewed your F.R.P.A. Section 57 Application for the Darling Lake Trail. During the preliminary vetting process a number of significant issues have been raised.

The proposed trail passes from Crown Land into Garibaldi Provincial Park. This trail development is not consistent with the Management Plan for Garibaldi Park. This area of the Park is not zoned for recreational development and trail construction is not permitted. The support of BC Parks for this trail is essential before it can be authorized. BC Parks has indicated that they cannot support this proposal.

The proposed trail also passes through Mountain Goat Ungulate Winter Range (UWR) 2-002. The General Wildlife Measures Order for this UWR does not allow for any recreational development. The trail traverses an area of rare and valuable habitat for Mountain Goats, which are easily disturbed and very sensitive to anthropogenic impacts. The proposed trail encroaches on a heavily used mineral lick which is a rare and valuable feature supporting a wide variety of species, including Mountain Goats. The FLNRO District Biologist has indicated that he cannot support this proposal.

The Squamish Nation has also indicated that they are not in support of this proposal.

I must also inform you that the works that have been completed on the Darling Lake Trail exceed those that do not require a Section 57 Authorization. In our conversations this spring I made it clear that any construction of structures, alterations to the ground, permanent trail marking, or trail construction activities must be authorized under Section 57. I also stated that any falling of trees must be permitted under a license to cut.

This trail construction and the removal of trees for trail and bridge construction are both violations of the Forest and Range Practices Act. Continued development of this trail could lead to charges under the Wildlife Act, FRPA and/or the Forest Recreation Regulations. Natural Resource Officers will be taking steps to deactivate the trail as has already been developed so as to protect the above noted wildlife and wilderness attributes.

**Ministry of Forests, Lands
and Natural Resource
Operations**

Recreation Sites and Trails Branch
Sea to Sky District

Mailing Address:
42000 Loggers Lane Ste. 101
Squamish, BC V8B
Tel: (604) 898-2125
Fax (604) 898-2191