

Message from Mayor Jackson & Delta Council

Burns Bog Update



The facts

- Burns Bog encompasses an area of 2,821 hectares (6,971 acres).
- In 2004, the Corporation of Delta played an integral role in the acquisition and protection of 2,042 hectares (5,046 acres) of Burns Bog – a collaborative effort involving Metro Vancouver, the Province of BC, and the Government of Canada.
- These lands are protected under a legal Conservation Covenant and managed in accordance with a management plan developed by scientific experts.
- Delta's Mayor Lois E. Jackson and Council continue to be involved in the long-term management of Burns Bog and are committed to extending the area of protected lands whenever possible.

What Delta is doing

- Delta is seeking to protect an additional 435 hectares (1,074 acres) of bog land that are currently owned by Delta and Metro Vancouver by adding these lands to the Conservation Covenant.
- Mayor Jackson, members of Delta Council and staff recently met with Federal officials in Ottawa to discuss the inclusion of the additional 435 hectares of Burns Bog lands in the Conservation Covenant.
- With the additional lands more than 87% of lands that are essential to the viability of the Burns Bog ecosystem will be owned and protected by four levels of government.

Bog Restoration: Ditch blocking – Controlling hydrology is a principle focus of bog restoration. A double row of plywood dams are constructed across the ditch in an effort to increase the retention of winter precipitation.

Ramsar designation

- The 1971 International Convention on Wetlands set out criteria for designating 'wetlands of international significance'.
- A Ramsar designation for Burns Bog is one of the goals of the Burns Bog Management Plan.
- Before an application can be submitted to Ramsar, there needs to be collaboration and agreement of all the partners – this process is underway.
- Delta's Chief Administrative Officer appeared before the Metro Vancouver Board of Directors, at their March 26, 2010 Regular Meeting, to request that the Ramsar application be submitted after the additional properties have been included in the Conservation Covenant.
- Delta Council is committed to ensuring Burns Bog obtains the highest possible protective designation and the addition of lands will make a Ramsar application even more compelling.
- Delta is confident that Burns Bog will be accorded Ramsar status, and that this international recognition will create new opportunities for funding and scientific research.

For more information, please visit our new Burns Bog website at www.burnsbog.ca

To learn more about the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, visit www.ramsar.org



We want to hear from you

Please forward any questions or comments to the Chief Administrative Officer, George V. Harvie at cao@corp.delta.bc.ca or by mail to:

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