



File: 97250-20/040594
Your File: 19620-20/A58223
23040-30/FPB

October 03, 2006

Jerry Kennah
BC Timber Sales
Chinook Business Area
46360 Airport Road
Chilliwack, BC V2P 1A5

Dear Jerry Kennah:

Response to Recommendations, Investigation 040594 – Columbia Valley Logging

Thank you for your letter dated September 20, 2006 about our earlier recommendation to monitor phantom orchid at your Vedder Mountain cutblock to determine the success of that particular prescription.

I am concerned that BCTS acted too late to establish an effective monitoring program this year. However, it is encouraging that valuable insights about phantom orchid and its habitat were ultimately gained. Your commitment to continue with an appropriately-timed multiple visit survey next year is much appreciated.

The Board's hope is that effective monitoring will continue until your plant expert can give a confident prediction about persistence of phantom orchid near the cutblock – either that suitable habitat condition was maintained, or that habitat condition is in decline. The Board's intent was for forest professionals to learn from the experience at Vedder Mountain and so allow future management decisions to evolve accordingly.

To that end, we also hope that you will make your findings available not only to the phantom orchid recover team, but also to other forest professionals and rare-plant specialists.

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To conclude, the Board accepts your recommendation response and will now close this complaint file.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce Fraser". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bruce Fraser, PhD
Chair

cc. Loretta Gretler, Complainant
Brian Clark, Ministry of Environment
Kerry Grozier, Ministry of Forests and Range