Cowichan Watershed Board Meeting	**DRAFT Agenda** **Mon. June 26 2017** **9:15-11:30 am** **Location:** CVRD Board Room	

Co-Chair: Jon Lefebure
Participants: Cowichan Watershed Board members and advisors
Guests: Technical Advisory and Working Group members; other guests. (Open to the public – all welcome.)

1) Welcome	9:15	Co-chair	Information	
2) Approval of Agenda	9:16	Board	Decision	
3) Approval of Minutes of April 24, 2017. Business arising from Minutes.	9:18	Board	Decision	
4) Correspondence and announcements*	9:20	Tom Rutherford	Information	
5) Watershed co-governance progress – grant from Tides Canada / BC Freshwater Initiative**	9:30	Co-Chairs, Tom (10)	Information	
6) Coastal Restoration Fund – opportunity and approach	9:40	Cheri Ayers, Craig Wightman (15)	Information	
7) Riparian Working Group and related updates a) Riparian working group update b) TimberWest forest practices /hydrology field trip c) Stoltz update (see report)	9:55	a) Heather Pritchard? (10) b) Heather (5) c) Tom/Craig (10)	Information	
8) Fish/Flows Working Group and Water Storage updates a) current lake levels/flows b) update on CVRD process to define long-term desired flow regime/levels	10:20	a) Brian Houle, Catalyst (5) b) Tom (5)	Information	
9) Building Knowledge –Bill Floyd, Research Hydrologist, BC Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations	10:30	See bio and info below***	Information	
10) Other	11:15			
Next meeting – July 31st CVRD Boardroom		Co-chair	Information	
Adjourn	11:30	Co-chair		

*Correspondence and Announcements

- Summer Student Outreach Team - Meet Hannah, Logan and Aini.
- Speakers Series: April 27 – "Well Aware" workshop with FLNRO's Ben Robinson and David Slade + sneak-peak at "The Cowichan Hosers"
- Low Flow Irrigation Workshops in partnership with Municipality of North Cowichan and CVRD : Featuring educator from Irrigation Industry Association. Tues July 11th (7-9) and Sunday July 23rd (1:30-3:30pm). Locations TBD
- River Clean–up – Lake and Upper River Aug 20 (CLRSS) / Lower River Aug 27 (CWB). All CWB Directors are urged to come out and lead a team on 27th. RSVP to Jill.
- Cowichan Green Community Award – Tom accepted on our behalf

** About Tides Canada / BC Freshwater Initiative

Tides Canada: Our mission is to help Canadians secure a healthy environment in ways that promote social equity and economic prosperity. To tackle the complex environmental and social problems that we face in Canada today, Tides Canada provides strategy, expertise, and tools to ensure changemakers can get from vision to impact. tidescanada.org/focus/healthy-watersheds/

The BC Freshwater Initiative: The purpose of the BC Freshwater Initiative, a project on Tides Canada's shared platform, is to advance freshwater sustainability in British Columbia by supporting innovative projects and strategic collaboration. The BC Freshwater Initiative's strategic goals include:
•Supporting collaboration between freshwater funders, and with other organizations in B.C.
•Catalyzing innovative place-based watershed governance initiatives
•Building the capacity of indigenous and non-indigenous communities and leaders in freshwater governance

***About the Speaker** (excerpt from agenda package of CWB's Cowichan Koksilah Forest Hydrology workshop, Nov. 21, 2016)
BILL FLOYD, PhD, RPF, is a Research Hydrologist and Adjunct Professor with the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Vancouver Island University. Dr. Floyd has over 20 years of experience working and studying in the field of Forest and Snow Hydrology, with a specific emphasis on roads and sediment, rain-on snow-processes, climate change and developing research focused high elevation weather station networks. He is currently on a partial secondment at Vancouver Island University to establish a Coastal Hydrology and Climate Change Research Lab, and to support the Hakai Insititute's Kwakshua Watersheds Program.

Flood generating processes in coastal BC and the effects of forest management
British Columbia's coastal watersheds receive some of the highest amounts of precipitation in North America with elevations ranging from sea level to over 4000 meters, resulting in watershed discharge driven by rain and/or snow and/or glacial melt. Many of the biggest floods occur during "rain-on-snow" events where a shallow early season snowpack melts in conjunction with fall storms driven by "pine-apple express" or "atmospheric river" events. It is expected that climate change will increase the frequency of extreme weather events, as well as change snow pack dynamics, potentially shifting snow dominated watersheds into ones driven primarily by rain. Forest cover can influence the severity of flood events, especially when snowmelt is a factor. It is important to manage harvest levels in watersheds to ensure that snow melt dynamics, specifically during rain-on-snow events, does not increase flood frequency. One way to do this is to monitor stand level hydrological recovery, and set limits on total area harvested, with specific focus on portions of watersheds where forest cover removal may have the biggest potential impact on streamflow. Methods to assess stand level recovery will be discussed and how these metrics can be scaled to the watershed to minimize the impacts on stream flow and downstream values.