

No post. FONVCA review.

----- Original Message -----

Subject:FMBC Non-Motorized Recreation Report 2014

Date:Tue, 14 Oct 2014 11:17:33 -0700

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Dear Mayor and Council (incumbents): **DNV needs to get its forest recreation priorities straight!**

This is a very interesting recreation report put out by the Federation of Mountain Clubs BC (and SFU), most recently (see attachment, or the "[research](#)" link following).

*"FMCBC is a non-profit group that advocates for governments and planners in Canada's most western province to protect the interests of people who participate in **non-motorized outdoor recreation**. Non-motorized outdoor recreation is politician-speak for anyone who likes to go exploring without the aid of gas, **gears** (but -- mtn. bikes have gears, etc!), or engines. FMCBC recently funded the exact [research](#) that has scared away governments and much larger interest groups across North America, a comprehensive look at participation rates in outdoor activities across the province." <http://www.snowshoemag.com/2014/10/13/the-price-of-adventure-measuring-outdoor-recreation-in-british-columbia-2/>*

I really dislike that weasel term, "non-motorized", forced on us by the "mechanized" mountain bikers to include them in "passive" activities, such as hiking. **In this report, there is also mention of "assisted" motorized (electric-powered?) mountain biking.**

"Assisted" can also mean the use of gondolas/lifts or other motorized (helicopters, etc.) means to take a downhill mountain biker higher and further to the tops of mountains or hills (ie Whistler/Squamish)....Sober statistics that DNV needs to take serious note of!

The extreme mountain biking crowd (downhill) makes up less than 2% of the general population. This is the miniscule demographic doing the most damage to our public rainforests! (riding and trail building and pit digging, off-trail, etc.) Four seasons a year, rain or shine... This number has been consistent for many years, and has not grown. **Of course, hiking still remains the most popular recreational activity,** and does far less damage than the 2% mtbers in our midst! *Mountain biking is really not as popular as the media, and others make it up to be! It is just the few "squeaky wheels" that make so much noise!*

This is more reason to strictly contain and enforce mountain bikers -
- or better still -- give them to Cypress, Grouse, and/or Mt. Seymour recreational resorts to properly manage and enforce!

****District citizens and taxpayers should not be expected to have to fund such a destructive and consumptive "freeride" minority group with more trails, amenities and parking lots, cut into the public forest (Mt. Fromme).** The District of North Vancouver is being insincere to other interest groups with its over-the-top support of the NSMBA and other minority mountain bikers. We need common sense and restraint! There are far too many MTB trails, etc., already -- beyond the tipping point of "sustainability"! We do not need a new parking lot or two for Fromme. There are plenty of other places for these few mountain bikers to ride, with parking lots and amenities already in place.

We need more protection of sensitive habitats, not a parking lot cut into the forest, and not to keep throwing it all under the knobby wheels of an over-entitled 1.5% selfish-interest off-road "freeride" mountain biking group to abuse.

Thank you!

--Monica Craver--

Friends of Mountain View Park Wetland and Upland-
<http://friendsofmountainviewpark.webs.com/>