

## Cadden, Don ENV:EX

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**From:** Cadden, Don ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, January 26, 2018 1:11 PM  
**To:** s.22  
**Subject:** RCMP use of the CFGA Gun Range

s.22 I met with Inspector Chris Bear of the North Cowichan/Duncan Detachment of the RCMP yesterday, to discuss their use of the Cowichan Fish and Game Association's gun range for their training. I have requested that Insp. Bear meet with the residents to discuss the RCMP use of the gun range and the resulting noise related to that use. The purpose of my request is to determine whether agreement can be reached between local residents and the RCMP on an acceptable level of use of the gun range for training purposes.

Insp. Bear has asked me to contact the group of residents that we have been corresponding with or meeting with, to find out if it is okay for me to provide the email addresses of residents so that Insp. Bear can set up that meeting. I'm not sure that I have a complete list of affected residents and their contact information so was hoping you could help me with that information. Ideally, a few individuals within the residents group could work with Insp. Bear to arrange a meeting for the group as a whole.

Please let me know if you can assist with these arrangements.

Thanks,

Don

## Cadden, Don ENV:EX

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**From:** Cadden, Don ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, January 26, 2018 1:25 PM  
**To:** s.22  
**Cc:** Lines, Jessica ENV:EX  
**Subject:** RCMP Use of the CFGA Gun Range

s.22 I understand that Jessica Lines let you know that we were going to meet with the RCMP to discuss their use of the CFGA gun range. As the land owner, I wanted BC Parks to meet with the RCMP before arranging a meeting of the larger group of local residents and CFGA Directors/members.

We had our meeting with Insp. Chris Bear yesterday. That meeting went very well and Insp. Bear has agreed to meet with the local residents to see if they can come to an agreement around the use of the gun range for the RCMP training. It is the local residents that are subject to the level of noise resulting from the training so it is important for the residents and the RCMP to see whether they can come to an understanding and an agreement.

I have asked s.22 if he can assist with the arrangements for that meeting. I'm not sure whether the residents will need or want anyone from CFGA at that meeting but will leave that up to them. In any event, CFGA will be informed about the outcome of that meeting and the RCMP will let you know if anything needs to change regarding the scheduling of their training.

Thanks,

Don

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**Don Cadden**

Regional Director  
BC Parks  
West Coast Region  
Ministry of Environment  
2080-Labieux Road, Nanaimo B.C. V9T 6J9  
Phone/voice mail 250-751-3211  
Fax 250-751-3208  
[don.cadden@gov.bc.ca](mailto:don.cadden@gov.bc.ca)



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**Cadden, Don ENV:EX**

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**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** Monday, February 5, 2018 7:30 PM  
**To:** Cadden, Don ENV:EX  
**Subject:** Re: RCMP use of the CFGA Gun Range

Don,

Thank you for your attention to this issue.

There hasn't been a Park Management planning meeting or proposal in ten years as required under the Park Management Association (CRNA) feels that not calling the planning process s.22 is a gross oversight that has never been acknowledged or brought forward even today.

The CRNA is keen to see the Park Management Plan(PMP) start soon. You stated that the PMP was to be completed and leave only two months remaining. We thank Inspector Bear for his interest but at this point the CRNA is not in a PMP rather than having meetings outside that process.

We respect the RCMP and realize that they must keep current with their firearm proficiency, training and police service protecting our communities.

Our concern is that the RCMP are training with military style weapons that have high capacity magazines s.22 subjected to extremely loud and militaristic shooting when the RCMP are training.

We still haven't been given the Range Inspection Officer Report requested under FOI after 2 years, not qualified or rated for RCMP Tactical Squad Training. Furthermore, the RCMP training does not take into account the noise and vibration. As we see it, B.C. Parks is the landlord and the CFGA sub-leases their facility to the RCMP to generate revenue. It is the responsibility of Parks as the landlord to solve this issue and recommend that the RCMP seek a more appropriate location. Please understand that the CRNA does not support a negotiation process with the RCMP to allow training close to private residences. Please let us know Don, that you value Parks and their enhancement and sustainability for all generations. s.22

Show us that you concur that large scale weapons use, with their accompanying disruptive and disturbance on site are incompatible with a major Class A River and that fishery values and peaceful recreation are compromised.

We suggest that the RCMP become involved in the Park Management Plan if they believe that the training is necessary.

Sincerely,  
s.22

On Fri, Jan 26, 2018 at 1:10 PM, Cadden, Don ENV:EX <[Don.Cadden@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Don.Cadden@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

s.22 I met with Inspector Chris Bear of the North Cowichan/Duncan Detachment of the RCMP yesterday, to discuss their use of the Cowichan Fish and Game Association's gun range for their training. I have requested that Insp. Bear meet with the residents to discuss the RCMP use of the gun range and the resulting noise related to that use. The purpose of my request is to determine whether agreement can be reached between local residents and the RCMP on an acceptable level of use of the gun range for training purposes.



Insp. Bear has asked me to contact the group of residents that we have been corresponding with or meeting with, to find out if it is okay for me to provide the email addresses of residents so that Insp. Bear can set up that meeting. I'm not sure that I have a complete list of affected residents and their contact information so was hoping you could help me with that information. Ideally, a few individuals within the residents group could work with Insp. Bear to arrange a meeting for the group as a whole.

Please let me know if you can assist with these arrangements.

Thanks,

Don

**Cadden, Don ENV:EX**

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**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 6, 2018 11:53 AM  
**To:** Cadden, Don ENV:EX  
**Cc:** Furstenau.MLA, Sonia LASS:EX; Alison  
**Subject:** COPY OF REPLY TO DON CADDEN

This is a copy of a letter emailed to Don Cadden on Feb. 5/18. Some recipients were not able to read the full body of the letter in the original reply.

Don,

Thank you for your attention to this issue.

There hasn't been a Park Management meeting or proposal in ten years as required under the Parks Act. The Cowichan Neighbourhood Association (CRNA) feels that not calling the planning process s.22 is a gross abuse of the Park management process and this has never been acknowledged or brought forward even today.

The CRNA is keen to see the Park Management Plan (PMP) start soon. You stated that the PMP was going to start in the 2017 fiscal year, which would leave only two months remaining. We thank Inspector Bear for his interest but at this point the CRNA proposes putting time and effort in preparing for the PMP rather than having meetings outside that process.

We respect the RCMP and realize that they must keep current with their firearm proficiency, training to be the best they can be; we all want a highly skilled police service protecting our communities. Our concern is that the RCMP are training with military style weapons that have high capacity magazines on a gun range not designed for that kind use, s.22 subjected to extremely loud and militaristic shooting when the RCMP are training.

We still haven't been given the Range Inspection Officer Report requested under FOI after two years, therefore we have to assume that the range is indeed not qualified or rated for RCMP Tactical Squad training. Furthermore the RCMP training does not fall under any Park Use Permit in the province. As we see it, B.C. Parks is the landlord and the CFGA sub-leases their facility to the RCMP to generate revenue for the club. We as a group believe it is the responsibility of Parks as the landlord to solve this issue and recommend that the RCMP seek a range outside a Park and more suited to their activities.

Please understand that the CRNA does not support a negotiation process with the RCMP to allow a use we strongly believe is not appropriate or safe s.22 or close to private residences. Please let us know Don that you value Parks and their use for everyone and for their natural intrinsic values, their enhancement and sustainability for all generations.

Show us that you concur that large scale weapons use, with their accompanying disruptive and disturbing noise as well as the accumulative lead deposits on site are incompatible with a major Class A River and that fishery values and peaceful recreation are important to you as well.

We suggest that the RCMP become involved in the Park Management Plan if they believe the Cowichan River Park is an appropriate venue for their training.

Sincerely,

**Cadden, Don ENV:EX**

to me



s.22 I met with Inspector Chris Bear of the North Cowichan/Duncan Detachment of the RCMP yesterday, to discuss their use of the Cowichan Fish and Game Association's gun range for their training. I have requested that Insp. Bear meet with the residents to discuss the RCMP use of the gun range and the resulting noise related to that use. The purpose of my request is to determine whether agreement can be reached between local residents and the RCMP on an acceptable level of use of the gun range for training purposes.

Insp. Bear has asked me to contact the group of residents that we have been corresponding with or meeting with, to find out if it is okay for me to provide the email addresses of residents so that Insp. Bear can set up that meeting. I'm not sure that I have a complete list of affected residents and their contact information so was hoping you could help me with that information. Ideally, a few individuals within the residents group could work with Insp. Bear to arrange a meeting for the group as a whole.

Please let me know if you can assist with these arrangements.

Thanks,



## Cadden, Don ENV:EX

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**From:** Cadden, Don ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, March 12, 2018 1:44 PM  
**To:** s.22  
**Subject:** RE: RCMP use of the CFGA Gun Range

Hi Jim, based on the response from residents, I met with Insp. Chris Bear and I informed him that the RCMP could no longer use the Cowichan Fish and Game Association gun range for their training. Insp. Bear has acknowledged that and has confirmed that they will not be using the range going forward. The Cowichan Fish and Game Association executive have also been made aware of that decision.

If you have any questions about this please let me know.

Thanks,

Don

**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** Monday, February 5, 2018 7:30 PM  
**To:** Cadden, Don ENV:EX  
**Subject:** Re: RCMP use of the CFGA Gun Range

Don,

Thank you for your attention to this issue.

There hasn't been a Park Management planning meeting or proposal in ten years as required under the Cowichan Fish and Game Association (CRNA) feels that not calling the planning process s.22 is a gross oversight that has never been acknowledged or brought forward even today.

The CRNA is keen to see the Park Management Plan(PMP) start soon. You stated that the PMP was in the final stages with only two months remaining. We thank Inspector Bear for his interest but at this point the CNF is not the PMP rather than having meetings outside that process.

We respect the RCMP and realize that they must keep current with their firearm proficiency, training and police service protecting our communities.

Our concern is that the RCMP are training with military style weapons that have high capacity magazines s.22 subjected to extremely loud and militaristic shooting when the RCMP are at the range.

We still haven't been given the Range Inspection Officer Report requested under FOI after 2 years, not qualified or rated for RCMP Tactical Squad Training. Furthermore, the RCMP training does not take into account the proximity of the range to private residences. As we see it, B.C. Parks is the landlord and the CFGA sub-leases their facility to the RCMP to generate revenue. It is the responsibility of Parks as the landlord to solve this issue and recommend that the RCMP seek a rare exception. Please understand that the CRNA does not support a negotiation process with the RCMP to allow a s.22 close to private residences. Please let us know Don, that you value Parks and their enhancement and sustainability for all generations.

Show us that you concur that large scale weapons use, with their accompanying disruptive and distant noise on site are incompatible with a major Class A River and that fishery values and peaceful recreation

We suggest that the RCMP become involved in the Park Management Plan if they believe that the training.

Sincerely,

s.22

On Fri, Jan 26, 2018 at 1:10 PM, Cadden, Don ENV:EX <[Don.Cadden@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Don.Cadden@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

s.22 I met with Inspector Chris Bear of the North Cowichan/Duncan Detachment of the RCMP yesterday, to discuss their use of the Cowichan Fish and Game Association's gun range for their training. I have requested that Insp. Bear meet with the residents to discuss the RCMP use of the gun range and the resulting noise related to that use. The purpose of my request is to determine whether agreement can be reached between local residents and the RCMP on an acceptable level of use of the gun range for training purposes.

Insp. Bear has asked me to contact the group of residents that we have been corresponding with or meeting with, to find out if it is okay for me to provide the email addresses of residents so that Insp. Bear can set up that meeting. I'm not sure that I have a complete list of affected residents and their contact information so was hoping you could help me with that information. Ideally, a few individuals within the residents group could work with Insp. Bear to arrange a meeting for the group as a whole.

Please let me know if you can assist with these arrangements.

Thanks,

Don



**Cadden, Don ENV:EX**

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**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** Monday, March 19, 2018 10:00 AM  
**To:** Cadden, Don ENV:EX  
**Cc:** Standen, Jim ENV:EX; Alison  
**Subject:** Re: RCPM use of the CFGA Gun Range

Hello Don,

Thank you for notifying us of your decision to no longer allow the RCMP to use the CFGA shooting range.

This is an encouraging

move towards strong limits on shooting in the Park. Please confirm that your ban includes all law enforcement agencies. We would also like to know if you were considering safety issues as well as the

noise in your decision.

We all understand that the Law Enforcement agencies must undergo proficiency training that requires practice and testing for qualification purposes. We trust that these agencies will be able to use a more appropriate location.

On March 14 and 17, we were reminded that stronger limits are still needed. Residents heard a lot of shooting, some of which was extremely loud. s.22

s.22

. This was despite sound abatement

installed by the CFGA. s.22

s.22

We have exhausted our effort to find an interim compromise with the CFGA to further reduce the days and hours of shooting going forward. To date the club has not responded to our last letter of August 8, 2017. We are therefore taking the reasonable conclusion that if the club won't respond, negotiations with the club to reduce hours have failed

and it would be more productive for us to work with you on the Park Plan

The Cowichan River Neighbourhood Association expected to be working with Parks to contribute to the Park strategic management planning process in very soon. You had stated on more than one occasion as far back as 2016 that the Management Plan would be underway the 2017/2018 fiscal year. Please advise us why the process hasn't yet been implemented.

Sincerely,

s.22

On behalf of the CRNA

On Mon, Mar 12, 2018 at 1:44 PM, Cadden, Don ENV:EX <[Don.Cadden@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Don.Cadden@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Hi Jim, based on the response from residents, I met with Insp. Chris Bear and I informed him that the RCMP could no longer use the Cowichan Fish and Game Association gun range for their training. Insp. Bear has acknowledged that and has confirmed that they will not be using the range going forward. The Cowichan Fish and Game Association executive have also been made aware of that decision.

If you have any questions about this please let me know.

Thanks,

Don

**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** Monday, February 5, 2018 7:30 PM  
**To:** Cadden, Don ENV:EX  
**Subject:** Re: RCMP use of the CFGA Gun Range

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The CRNA is keen to see the Park Management Plan(PMP) start soon. You stated that the PMP was due in February, leaving only two months remaining. We thank Inspector Bear for his interest but at this point the CNF is not the PMP rather than having meetings outside that process.

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Don