From: Tarwinska, Rena [mailto:rena.tarwinska@forestry.gsi.gov.uk]

Sent: 03 August 2006 13:16

To: niall

Subject: FCS Cycling Strat

Niall

Thanks for this. The latest I have is that the draft strategy will appear on the website late Sept - I understand the reply to the CVDG consultation input indicated this.

Good news on your monitoring - I'll be pleased to see the report thanks. The FCS figs for a vis survey including CV will be with us autumn. Andy may have told you the problem with our vehicle vis counter has now been traced to a dud battery after only 6mths figs. Very frustrating. We assumed it was heavy-traffic damage. Andy dealing with this, another one is on order I believe. Arguing for a discount..

I've given Jamie stone figures today - 1600t crushed is FCS contrib so far in 06/07 to CV rec.

For info, we've got a new Ranger in post here this week who comes from managing the mtb trails at Kielder FD. He's a keen mtber. Although he's not involved in Rec activities management for me, no doubt I'll tap into his expertise soon.

Thanks

Rena

From: niall [mailto:niallt@ Sent: 02 August 2006 10:14

Sent: 02 August 2006 10:14 **To:** Wall, Michael

Cc: Tarwinska, Rena

Subject: ctc response to FCS doc Towards a National Mountain Biking Strategy

Michael, Rena

Thought you might be interested in this:

http://www.ctc.org.uk/DesktopDefault.aspx?TabID=4507

CVDG have no connection / contacts within ctc however, they have a grip on what's happening at grassroots level and they do represent the views of a sport with many strands to it. Whilst I can't concur with every aspect of what they say (I don't, for instance, agree with the somewhat one dimensional rationale TRC used for arriving at some of their conclusions) I do think they have produced a comprehensive, reasoned and balance response. It's very interesting to note that many of their points echo those CVDG have been making over the past 24 months or so. Most importantly however, and as the ctc submission touches on: If the object of this exercise was to canvas as much public opinion on the TRC report as possible then it will be unsuccessful as the mtb public at large, were completely unaware

of the report's existence.

CVDG have also made a submission although I wasn't the author as I've been too busy at work and then on holiday for the past fortnight. I haven't made a personal submission because my views on this are already well known to those of you within FCS and there seems little point in repeating them in the context of this third party report. What both I and most others expected, and are most keen to comment upon, is FCS draft strategy and not the TRC report. Please can you confirm if the pending FCS draft strategy will be made available for consultation as previously indicated?

On Carron: The minor website re design has encouraged more people to use the feedback form and we are back up at receiving an average of a few per day. This doesn't sound much but given that we have a very small scale development I'm personally very encouraged. This is rapidly taking us into the hundreds of responses and Martin Steele has been working on a report which analyses: age/ sex, postcode, party size, means of transport, views etc. As soon as he's finished this I'll send it to together with updated counter info. There's also a surprising and encouraging amount of traffic in the website forum itself. Attending to the issue of the carpark counter would help complete the picture – is there any news on this?

Lastly, is there any news on what quarried material can be made available as time is marching on from a construction window point of view for 06.

Thanks and regards

Niall

Niall Thomson
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