

Correspondence 21 August 2016

Milne - crd et al.

**Andrew Peat**

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**From:** BRIAN MILNE <[REDACTED]> *Re: 551 Rod & Gun Club Trap Shoot*  
**Sent:** August-21-16 17:43  
**To:** directorssi@crd.bc.ca; crdchair@crd.bc.ca; CRDBoard@crd.bc.ca; rlapham@crd.bc.ca;  
klorette@crd.bc.ca; scarby@crd.bc.ca; Andrew Peat; Arjuna George  
**Cc:** Greg Harney; [REDACTED]; Jake Todd; [REDACTED]; Robert Hizsa;  
james Squier; Tim & Fay Fay  
**Subject:** SALT SPRING FIRE BAN.

Extreme dry weather conditions on Salt Spring has resulted in a fire ban that is announced on ferries as visitors arrive

Gun fire is a noted factor in the origin of wild fires.

An explanation as to why TRAP is being fired at this time when the fire department has members who are also gun club members is appropriate..

The conflict is obvious.

Brian Milne=

## Andrew Peat

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**From:** Arjuna George <ageorge@saltspringfire.com>  
**Sent:** August-22-16 12:17  
**To:** BRIAN MILNE  
**Subject:** RE: SALT SPRING FIRE BAN.

Good Day Mr. Milne, Thanks for your question. Trap shooting is not listed as a High Risk activity in our bylaw. Our bylaw #125 only covers open burning and High Risk activities (Schedule B of Bylaw 125)

Acting Fire Chief Arjuna George  
Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue  
105 Lower Ganges Road BC Canada V8K 2T1  
[www.saltspringfire.com](http://www.saltspringfire.com)  
Connected with me  
Follow SSIFR on FACEBOOK  
Stay Connected with SSIFR on Twitter  
: 250.537.2531 | : [ageorge@saltspringfire.com](mailto:ageorge@saltspringfire.com) |  
Fax: 250.537.2507

I am not here for ME, I am here for WE, and we are here for THEM.

The information contained in the e-mail message and/or any attachments hereto are confidential and privileged. You are hereby notified that disclosure, copying or distribution of this message is strictly prohibited.

P Please consider the environment before printing this email

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

**From:** BRIAN MILNE [r]  
**Sent:** August-21-16 5:43 PM  
**To:** [directorssi@crd.bc.ca](mailto:directorssi@crd.bc.ca); [crdchair@crd.bc.ca](mailto:crdchair@crd.bc.ca); [CRDBoard@crd.bc.ca](mailto:CRDBoard@crd.bc.ca); [rlapham@crd.bc.ca](mailto:rlapham@crd.bc.ca); [klorette@crd.bc.ca](mailto:klorette@crd.bc.ca); [scarby@crd.bc.ca](mailto:scarby@crd.bc.ca); Andrew Peat <[corpadmin@saltspringfire.com](mailto:corpadmin@saltspringfire.com)>; Arjuna George <[ageorge@saltspringfire.com](mailto:ageorge@saltspringfire.com)>  
**Cc:** Greg Harney · ; Robert Hizsa ; James Squier ; Jake Todd · ; Tim & Fay Fay

**Subject:** SALT SPRING FIRE BAN.

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Brian Milne

## Andrew Peat

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**From:** BRIAN MILNE <bjmilne@me.com>  
**Sent:** August-22-16 12:42  
**To:** Arjuna George; Andrew Peat  
**Cc:** trusteelee@saltspringfire.com; Greg Harney; Jake Todd  
**Subject:** Re: SALT SPRING FIRE BAN.

I believe common sense is part of the Fire Departments obligation.

Brian Milne

> On Aug 22, 2016, at 12:17 PM, Arjuna George <[ageorge@saltspringfire.com](mailto:ageorge@saltspringfire.com)> wrote:

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> From: BRIAN MILNE

> Sent: August-21-16 5:43 PM

> To: [directorssi@crd.bc.ca](mailto:directorssi@crd.bc.ca); [crdchair@crd.bc.ca](mailto:crdchair@crd.bc.ca); [CRDBoard@crd.bc.ca](mailto:CRDBoard@crd.bc.ca);

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> ; Arjuna George

> <[ageorge@saltspringfire.com](mailto:ageorge@saltspringfire.com)>

> Cc: Greg Harney <

Jake Todd <

Robert Hizsa <

; Tim & Fay Fay <[james Squier@hotmail.com](mailto:james Squier@hotmail.com)>

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## Andrew Peat

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**From:** Greg Harney ·  
**Sent:** August-22-16 14:53  
**To:** BRIAN MILNE; Arjuna George; Andrew Peat  
**Cc:** trusteelee@saltspringfire.com; Jarrett Plonka; Jake Todd  
**Subject:** RE: SALT SPRING FIRE BAN.

really, what a sad and ill informed response

i am up at shawnigan, stage 3 fire restrictions, saltspring same or worse, yet you ignore firearm discharge, not just trap shooting, while the participants smoke in the same area

brian, i suggest we add the fire department to the upcoming action against the crd, this is ridiculous

i would be happy to interrupt my fire free, hopefully, vacation to help to avoid other fire losses

seriously, stop protecting your own and do your job

greg harney

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**From:** BRIAN MILNE [bjmilne@me.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2016 12:41 PM  
**To:** Arjuna George; Andrew Peat  
**Cc:** [trusteelee@saltspringfire.com](mailto:trusteelee@saltspringfire.com); Greg Harney; Jarrett Plonka; Jake Todd  
**Subject:** Re: SALT SPRING FIRE BAN.

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> [rlapham@crd.bc.ca](mailto:rlapham@crd.bc.ca); [klorette@crd.bc.ca](mailto:klorette@crd.bc.ca); [scarby@crd.bc.ca](mailto:scarby@crd.bc.ca); Andrew Peat

> <[corpadmin@saltspringfire.com](mailto:corpadmin@saltspringfire.com)>; Arjuna George

> <[ageorge@saltspringfire.com](mailto:ageorge@saltspringfire.com)>

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## Andrew Peat

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**From:** Arjuna George <ageorge@saltspringfire.com>  
**Sent:** August-23-16 13:56  
**To:** Andrew Peat  
**Subject:** Re: Response from BC government

Andrew, any comments before I send??

Good Day Mr Callas. Our local SSIFPD Open Burning Bylaw 125 does not include discharging of firearms. I spoke with the Coastal Fire Centre as well confirming that shooting is not listed as one of their specified High Risk activities. As Donna MacPherson mentions if we had a bylaw that was over and above the BC prohibitions and restrictions then the local FD could bylaw could be used. In our case our bylaw doesn't include discharging firearms either.

Our Bylaw 125 Schedule B outlines the High Risk activities (Same as the Provincial Government has listed)

### High Risk Activities

#### Schedule B

The activities specified in the Wildfire Act, Wildfire Regulations (B.C. Reg.38/2005) are high risk activities for the purposes of this bylaw. Included are:

1. a) Mechanical brushing;
2. b) Disktrenching;
3. c) Preparation or use of explosives;
4. d) Using fire- or spark- producing tools, including cutting tools;
5. e) Using or preparing fireworks or pyrotechnics;
6. f) Grinding, including rail grinding;
7. g) Mechanical land clearing;
8. h) Clearing and maintaining rights of way, including grass mowing;
9. i) Any of the following activities carried out in a cutblock excluding a road landing,

roadside work area or log sort area in the cutblock:

- i. operating a power saw;
- ii. mechanical tree falling, woody debris piling or tree processing, including de-limbing;
- iii. welding;
- iv. portable wood chipping, milling, processing or manufacturing;
- v. skidding logs or log forwarding unless it is improbable that the skidding or forwarding will result in the equipment contacting rock;
- vi. yarding logs using cable systems.

## Andrew Peat

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**From:** John Callas <callasfamily@telus.net>  
**Sent:** August-23-16 12:24  
**To:** info@saltspringfire.com; corpadmin@saltspringfire.com  
**Cc:** Jean Barakett; vern; Fay Sims; Brook, Timothy; Drew Rokeby-Thomas; Robert Hizsa; James Squier; Larissa Sayer; Patrick Callas  
**Subject:** Response from BC government

I wrote to the appropriate branches of the government of British Columbia and unlike our local fire department, they responded immediately and were aware of our fire concerns on rural Saltspring. This is part of the long reply, I received from Donna MacPherson, Fire Information Officer to BC Wildfire Service:

It is possible that your local government has bylaws that are over and above our prohibitions and restrictions. You can check with them (whoever you pay your taxes to) to find out if they do. If so, they would be the ones enforcing their bylaw.

If you are concerned about the safety of discharging firearms where you are (not a fire risk - but a risk from the firearm itself) then I would suggest you contact the RCMP to find out if the discharge of firearms in that particular area is considered safe.

Recent article on fires in our province indeed indicate that gunfire is NOT safe during these seasonally dry conditions. We have a reason to be concerned, as should the local fire department. A fire at 223 Long Harbour Road would be a disaster for the immediate neighbourhood, due to the toxic smoke from the contaminants that have been determined by recent environmental testing and confirmed by the BC Ministry of the Environment.

John

## Andrew Peat

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**From:** John Callas <c  
**Sent:** August-23-16 13:23  
**To:** vern  
**Cc:** Jean Barakett; Fay Sims; Brook, Timothy; Drew Rokeby-Thomas; Robert Hizsa; James Squier; Larissa Sayer; Dr. Patrick Callas, ND; corpadmin@saltspringfire.com  
**Subject:** FYI

[Still pursuing fire department and sent following to MoE:](#)

Ms Skelly:

I gather that the updated test results on the Salt Spring Rod and Gun Club performed by Golder's have been submitted as required by your last deadline. Will the tests take long to study before some form of remediation is required?

An added concern in our area at this time is the possibility of a wildfire being caused by indiscriminate gunfire by members of the club. If this should occur at 223 Long Harbour Road, the smoke would be filled with deadly toxins and I suspect that some form of evacuation of the immediate area would be required for health reasons. To compound our concerns, it appears that officials from our local fire department are connected to the club and refuse to take even the most basic of precautions, in spite of the current fire hazard being declared at a critical level on our island at this time.

Sincerely yours,

John Callas  
Ganges, BC

PS Alan is away until September 6. Sound familiar from last year?