



File #17-11

Subject Member: Registered Professional Biologist

Complaint Submitted: October 7, 2017

Date of Decision: April 3, 2019

Complaint Summary:

A complaint was submitted from a member of the public (the complainant) against a Registered Professional Biologist (RPBio) alleging unethical conduct. In particular, the allegations indicated the subject member breached the following Principle of the Code of Ethics:

- Code of Ethics – Section 3: Ensure they meet a professional standard of care by practicing applied biology with attention, caution, prudence, and due diligence.

The complainant alleged the RPBio had not completed due diligence and did not follow an appropriate standard of care in the application of a novel technique to mitigate habitat impacts to specific wildlife species. As well, the complainant alleged the RPBio did not have proper legal authority to undertake activities and so had not followed due care in their professional obligations.

Decision:

The Discipline Committee completed a thorough review of the allegations that included information submitted by both the complainant and the RPBio. As well, the committee contracted a subject matter expert to review the specific allegations.

The novel technique to mitigate habitat impacts was determined to fit within the legal context of minimizing harm to a particular species. As well, the RPBio was determined to have the proper legal authorizations to conduct the work based on the information provided.

Upon review of the subject matter expert report, the Discipline Committee concluded the allegations were not substantiated by the evidence provided and the complaint was dismissed.

Complaint file 17-11 is closed.