Proposal for Regulation Change:
Guidelines for Information Requirements
Skeena Fisheries Advisory Committee

Date: January 31, 2017

To: Fisheries Section, Skeena Region
Office: 3726 Alfred Avenue, Smithers BC

From: Gene Allen

# of pages
Ministry 250-847-7728
Fax #
Ministry 250-847-7260
Phone # 250-842-6287
Fax #

Instructions for Proposal Submission:

- Members of the Skeena Fisheries Advisory Committee (SFAC) interested in submitting a proposal to introduce a new, or change an existing regulation for consideration are requested to follow the guidelines provided in this form to facilitate Ministry & SFAC evaluation.
- Deadline for submission of proposals for the 2017 SFAC meeting is February 5, 2017.
- Proposal submissions may be faxed, mailed or emailed to the Senior Biologist, Mark Beere, Fisheries Section, Fish & Wildlife Branch, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, Smithers.

Proponent Contact Information:

Name: Gene Allen
Mailing Address: 1974 Kispiox Valley Road
Affiliation: Upper Skeena Guides Association
Day-Time Phone: 604-629-9578 Email: ggrooster@gmail.com

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Skeena Region
Mailing Address:
Bag 5000
3726 Alfred Ave.
Smithers BC V0J 2N0

Location Address:
3726 Alfred Avenue
Smithers BC
Telephone: 250 847-7260
Facsimile: 250 847-7728
Location: Please provide specific details on the water body. In cases where only portions of water bodies are of interest, use known landmarks, tributary confluences or measured distances from landmarks as descriptors.
Skeena River and tributaries

Existing Regulation(s):

10 Chinook per year on a fresh water license
30 Chinook per year on a salt water license

Proposal: Include a concise & accurate description of the proposed regulation (e.g. increase daily possession limit for cutthroat trout from 2/day to 4/day on Skeena River downstream of Exchamsiks/Skeena rivers confluence).

2 Chinook per year on fresh water
5 Chinook per year on a salt water license

Rationale: Provide a descriptive statement for: 1) the objective(s) for the new regulation (e.g. conservation, increase opportunity, simplify regulations, public safety, other); 2) why the regulation is necessary; 3) why and/or how the regulation would be effective at reaching objective; 4) expected outcomes of the new regulation; 5) provide reference to biological studies or supporting literature where appropriate. Add an additional sheet if necessary.

Our Chinook are in dire straits. The sports fishing has a huge impact on our chinook, and the existing regulations entitle each license holder 40 Chinook. The Chinook come to fresh water to spawn and die, and we should let them do that. The sports fishermen, both salt and fresh water, are killing enough Chinook for a commercial fishery. We need to stop this before it's too late, as it is for the East coast cod. The Ecstall River is a great example of catch and release working.
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All Classified rivers in Skeena Region 6

**Existing Regulation(s):**

**Proposal:** Include a concise & accurate description of the proposed regulation (e.g. increase daily possession limit for cutthroat trout from 2/day to 4/day on Skeena River downstream of Exchamsiks/Skeena rivers confluence).

Classified license fees should be raised to $100/day for all non residents (Canadian or alien). People who are not B.C. residents do not pay enough to fish these special waters

**Rationale:** Provide a descriptive statement for: 1) the objective(s) for the new regulation (e.g. conservation, increase opportunity, simplify regulations, public safety, other); 2) why the regulation is necessary; 3) why and/or how the regulation would be effective at reaching objective; 4) expected outcomes of the new regulation; 5) provide reference to biological studies or supporting literature where appropriate. Add an additional sheet if necessary.

If the Classified licenses are raised to $100/day, that would mean 75% less anglers and the Province would make more money. These rivers were classified because they are special, and all non B.C. residents should pay more to angle here. The Province could then back off of trying to sell as many licenses as they can, which is currently creating the zoo we are seeing on all our classified rivers. If less anglers show up, then maybe we can attain a quality angling experience for all anglers, which the Quality Waters Strategy did not accomplish.

Signature: [Signature]

Date: Jan 30/2017
Proposal for Regulation Change:
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Skeena Fisheries Advisory Committee

Date: February 5, 2017

To: Fisheries Section, Skeena Region
Office: 3726 Alfred Avenue, Smithers BC

From: Troy Peters
Chair Northern Branch of SSBC

Instructions for Proposal Submission:
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<th>Name</th>
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Skeena watershed.

**Existing Regulation(s):**

Catch and release of wild steelhead. No limit.

**Proposal:** Include a concise & accurate description of the proposed regulation (e.g. increase daily possession limit for cutthroat trout from 2/day to 4/day on Skeena River downstream of Exchamsiks/Skeena rivers confluence).

“That the Northern Branch of the Steelhead Society of BC encourages the province to investigate the concept of a catch and release limit for steelhead in the Skeena watershed on the premise that there is no number attached to it, as part of best practises for steelhead conservation.”

**Rationale:** Provide a descriptive statement for: 1) the objective(s) for the new regulation (e.g. conservation, increase opportunity, simplify regulations, public safety, other); 2) why the regulation is necessary; 3) why and/or how the regulation would be effective at reaching objective; 4) expected outcomes of the new regulation; 5) provide reference to biological studies or supporting literature where appropriate. Add an additional sheet if necessary.

Rationale
1-Reducing numbers of fish caught multiple times.
2-Crowding and pressure is increasing.
3-Fish that are caught multiple times could be more prone to mortality.
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Skeena Region

**Existing Regulation(s):**

None..

**Proposal:** Include a concise & accurate description of the proposed regulation (e.g. increase daily possession limit for cutthroat trout from 2/day to 4/day on Skeena River downstream of Exchamsiks/Skeena rivers confluence).

The Northern Branch of the SSBC requests that during the summer and fall season that at least one Conservation from each office be dedicated solely to fisheries issues.

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Rationale
1- Provide more enforcement of existing regulations.
2- With cuts to Conservation Officer Service many times they do not have the time or resources to enforce existing rules and regulations as they have other duties as well not related to fisheries.
3- With an Officer dedicated out of each office to fisheries issues would provide much needed enforcement of regulations.
4- Less offences of regulations will take place.

Signature: Troy Peters

Date: February 5, 2017