

SKEENA FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Vers. 1.1 (Jan. 2007)

Background/Purpose

As directed by the Recreation Stewardship Panel and reconfirmed by Assistant Deputy Minister Nancy Wilkin, the Skeena Fisheries Advisory Committee (SFAC) has been created to provide a forum for various representatives within the Skeena Region with the goal to reach consensus on local issues related to recreational and commercial sport fishing. The SFAC promotes discussion and provides advice to the Director of Fisheries, Ministry of Environment, for consideration.

Responsibilities of SFAC

1. Any issues regarding fisheries can be addressed (placed on the agenda) by a member of the committee. However, the primary role of the committee is to review and provide advice on fishing regulation proposals. Consensus is preferred.
2. Committee members will be held to the highest standards of professional conduct and mutual respect; aggression, offensive comments or foul language will not be tolerated and those unable to adhere to these rules will be dismissed from the meeting.

SFAC Membership

The committee shall consist of representatives from:

- 1 member of the local chapter of the Steelhead Society of BC
- 1 member of the local chapter of the BC Wildlife Federation
- 1 member from the BC Federation of Drift Fishers
- 1 member from the BC Federation of Fly Fishers
- 1 member from the Skeena Angling Guides Association
- 1 member from "other" angling guides association
- 1 member from the North Coast Steelhead Alliance
- 1 member from regional tackle vendor community
- 5 separate rod and gun clubs*
- 4 non-affiliated independent anglers*

* Effort will be made to select a member from each of the geographically distinct areas of the Skeena Region. For example:

- 1 member from the Tweedsmuir Rod and Gun Club - upper Fraser area
- 1 member from the Bulkley Valley Rod and Gun Club - upper Skeena area
- 1 member from the Prince Rupert Rod and Gun Club - coastal mainland area
- 1 member from the Terrace and Kitimat area Rod & Gun Clubs - middle Skeena area
- 1 member from the Queen Charlotte Islands Rod & Gun Clubs

Code of Conduct Principles

1. Be hard on problems and soft on people.
2. Seek to gain a better understanding of perspectives of others.
3. Treat others with courtesy and respect.
4. Take initiative to improve work partnerships and processes.
5. State views as interest and values rather than positions and explain why they are important.
6. Come to meetings prepared and ready to engage in productive discussion.
7. Share information relative to the issues being discussed.
8. State concerns openly and directly.
9. Lead by example.
10. Wait for others to finish speaking and listen to what they are saying.
11. Seek creative solutions which accommodate all interests.

Meetings/Procedures

1. The committee will meet formally, once a year, with supporting teleconference calls as necessary.
2. Committee meetings will be held in Terrace.
3. The committee will strive to work in a constructive and co-operative manner to achieve a consensus recommendation of the members. For the purposes of this committee, consensus is general agreement such that each member of the committee works from an interest-based position and that they can support the outcome without sacrificing their principles.
4. If consensus can not be reached, all positions will be forwarded to the Regional Manager. Any or all members of the committee can have their views recorded in the meeting notes once the discussion has concluded and more than one option is available.
5. In order for a meeting of the advisory group to proceed, fifty percent of the committee must be in attendance, either in person or by telephone.
6. A member of the committee will be chosen by committee members to be chairperson for a period of one year.
7. A member of the committee will be chosen to produce minutes to be available for other committee members within the first two weeks following each meeting.
8. Each committee member will contact the chairperson at least ten days prior to an upcoming meeting to indicate their attendance and to identify any items for inclusion on the agenda. Members that cannot attend a meeting may submit their position in writing to the chairperson on any given item on the agenda.
9. The chairperson will finalize the agenda in consultation with the Ministry representative who will provide relevant background information on the issues referred to the advisory committee for consideration.
10. The committee meetings will be open to the public. Time will be scheduled at the end of every meeting for public input, comment and presentations.

11. The committee has no authority to call public meetings, commit funds, enter into contracts or represent the Ministry of Environment, Environmental Stewardship Division.

Any concerns or advice from the committee will be in the form of written recommendations to the Regional Manager.

Media Conduct

The chairperson will act as the sole committee representative for any discussions or contact with the media.

Remuneration

For the **First** gathering (March 2006), monies will be available to help cover costs incurred by participants travelling to the meeting who do not reside in Terrace. Budget status will be assessed prior to subsequent meetings to determine if assistance can be offered in the future.