

Phase II Consultation Report (October – November 2008)

Skeena Quality Waters Strategy

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Appendix A

Response Form: Phase II Consultation – Fall 2008

Members of the stakeholder Working Groups who helped develop the draft Angling Management Plan for steelhead angling in the Skeena River watershed need your input. We want to know what you like and don't like about the draft Angling Management Plan. We want to know how the plan should be changed to better address the issues that people in the community have raised:

- Overcrowding on certain waters at certain times
- Large numbers of non-guided, non-resident anglers contributing to overcrowding
- Importance of non-guided, non-resident anglers to the local economy
- Need for more resident opportunities to fish for steelhead

The feedback that you provide us in this form, at stakeholder and public meetings, via email and through other channels, will give the information the Working Groups need to help finalize the draft Angling Management Plan and present it to the Ministry of Environment.

Please take the time to fill out the Response Form below.
The deadline for completing this form is November 30, 2008.

[* = required question]

Question 1 of 68

* 1. Where do you live?

- Smithers
- Terrace
- Kitimat
- Hazelton
- Prince Rupert
- Houston
- Telkwa
- Other B.C.
- Other Canadian province
- U.S.
- Europe / U.K.
- Other, please specify

Question 2 of 68

*** 2. How would you describe your principal activity in relation to steelhead angling in the Skeena River Watershed?**

- Angler (with no commercial interests that relate to steelhead angling)
- Guide
- Local business (offering services to steelhead anglers – lodge, resort, campground, B&B, fishing supplies, angling licence issuer, etc.
- Other, please specify

Question 3 of 68

3. If you fished for steelhead in the last year, how often did you go?

- 8 days or less
- 8-14 days
- More than 14 days
- Did not fish

Question 4 of 68

*** 4. In order to comment on the recommended management alternatives in the draft Angling Management Plan, it is important that you have read some background information. Which statement below best describes what you have read?**

- I have read the whole draft plan and the executive summary
- I have read the executive summary and parts of the draft plan
- I have only read the executive summary
- I have only read parts of the draft plan and the executive summary
- I have not read the draft plan or the executive summary
- I am relying primarily on what others who I respect have told me

The following questions address the recommended management alternatives for each priority water in the Skeena River watershed.

Note: You only need to answer questions for the rivers that you are interested in.

Each river has a comments section where you can tell us the reasons for your answers and what you think should be done.

Kitseguecla and Kitwanga Rivers					
While crowding is only an occasional issue on these rivers, the need to give residents priority was recognized. Changes to regulations on nearby waters may bring more pressure on these two rivers in the future. There are no guided rod-days allocated on these rivers.					
Recommended management alternative	Strongly Disagree				Strongly Agree
5. Start with resident angler-only fishing on Saturdays and leave everything else as status quo	1	2	3	4	5
6. If angling pressure by non-guided, non-residents exceeds 342 angler-days for two years out of three on the Kitwanga or 228 angler-days for two years out of three on the Kitseguecla, that would trigger a move to an eight-day licence lottery with caps of two anglers per day on the Kitwanga and one angler per day on the Kitseguecla, spread evenly over the Classified Waters period from September 1 – October 31	1	2	3	4	5
7. Comments:					

Suskwa River					
The Suskwa River was considered separately from the Kitseguecla and Kitwanga because it has a larger proportion of non-resident anglers. The Suskwa was deemed a river where resident opportunities should be increased. Changes to regulations on nearby waters may bring more pressure on this river in the future. There are no guided rod-days allocated to guides on this river.					
Recommended management alternative	Strongly Disagree				Strongly Agree
8. Start with resident angler-only fishing on Saturdays and leave everything else as status quo	1	2	3	4	5
9. If non-guided, non-resident angling pressure exceeds 399 angler-days for two years out of three, it would trigger a move to an eight-day licence lottery with caps of two anglers per day, spread evenly over the Classified Waters period from September 1 – October 31	1	2	3	4	5
10. Comments:					

Skeena IV (upstream from the Kitwanga Bridge)

This part of the Skeena River has some localized areas of crowding but large sections of river that are quite underutilized by anglers. There are a large number of unused guided rod-days on this stretch of the Skeena.

Recommended management alternative	Strongly Disagree				Strongly Agree
Implement a limited-day licence lottery immediately for non-guided, non-resident anglers with a total of 180 eight-day licences spread evenly over the Classified Waters period (July 1 – October 31) in the following two zones (questions 11 and 12); rest of Skeena IV outside two zones is status quo: 11. From mouth of Salmon River to Four-Mile Bridge	1	2	3	4	5
12. From triangular markers below the mouth of the Bulkley River to the Kitwanga Bridge	1	2	3	4	5
13. Mandatory Steelhead Stamp from September 1 – October 31	1	2	3	4	5
14. Comments:					

Kispiox River

There are a large number of non-residents coming to the Kispiox River and contributing to crowding especially during late-September and early-October in the section from Resthaven to the confluence of the Kispiox with the Skeena River. The most important factor in weighing the different options was trying to manage non-resident anglers without seriously impacting local businesses that depend on those anglers. The only way to reduce those "peaks" of non-guided, non-resident activity that lead to crowding is to use an eight-day licence with a lottery system that "spreads" angler use evenly over the Classified Waters period.

Recommended management alternative	Strongly Disagree				Strongly Agree
15. Implement an eight-day licence lottery immediately for non-guided, non-resident anglers based on a target of 795 angler-days in the Classified Waters period, which equates to 99 eight-day licences spread evenly over the season (on entire river except status quo zone)	1	2	3	4	5
16. Status quo zone in an area of the river from 20.2 kilometres along Kispiox Valley Road to 29.5 kilometres along Kispiox Valley Road	1	2	3	4	5
17. Resident-only angling on Saturdays on entire river including status quo zone; hence no guided anglers on Saturdays during the Classified Waters period	1	2	3	4	5
18. Comments:					

Babine River

There are crowding problems in the upper five kilometres of the Babine River, caused by both non-guided and guided anglers. There is also a sense that a reduction in the overall number of guided rod-days is required.

Recommended management alternative	Strongly Disagree				Strongly Agree
Creation of three zones (questions 19, 20 and 21) on the Babine River during the Classified Waters period: 19. Resident and non-resident anglers permitted upstream of Nichyeskwa Creek to 80 metres below the smolt-counting fence under status quo regulations but no guiding will be permitted in that zone	1	2	3	4	5
20. Resident anglers only will be permitted to angle between Nichyeskwa Creek and Nilkitkwa River. No guiding will be permitted in that zone	1	2	3	4	5
21. Open to all licence classes and permitted guides downstream of the Nilkitkwa River confluence with the Babine	1	2	3	4	5
22. The ministry should review and rationalize guided rod-days on the Babine (used and unused) and seek to reduce the total allocation.	1	2	3	4	5
23. Comments:					

Bulkley River

There are crowding problems on the Bulkley, especially non-resident campers at access points. There are also concentrations of guided anglers during the peak season. The most important factor in weighing the different options was trying to manage non-resident anglers without seriously impacting local businesses that depend on those anglers. The only way to reduce those "peaks" of non-guided, non-resident activity that lead to crowding was to use a limited-day licence (the Working Group did not reach agreement on whether it should be an eight-day licence or not) with a lottery system that "spreads" angler use evenly over the Classified Waters period. That lottery would be established in the future if the number of non-resident anglers exceeds a target. The Working Group felt there was a need to provide more resident angler opportunities on the Bulkley River.

Recommended management alternative	Strongly Disagree				Strongly Agree
24. Zoning for resident-only weekends during the Classified Waters period for the following easily accessible waters, where they meet the Bulkley River: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chicken Creek • Toboggan Creek • Telkwa River 	1	2	3	4	5
25. Make Telkwa River a resident-only zone for the Classified Waters period	1	2	3	4	5
If a non-guided, non resident angler-day target is exceeded twice in three years, it would trigger a lottery with limited-day licences. The licences would be spread evenly over the Classified Waters period. There are two threshold target options being considered (questions 26 and 27): 26. Option 1 (high use) – The lottery would allocate 1,716 angler-days in limited-day licences to non-guided, non-resident anglers.	1	2	3	4	5
27. Option 2 (average use) – The lottery would allocate 814 angler-days in limited-day licences to non-guided, non-resident anglers.	1	2	3	4	5
28. Comments:					

Morice River

Crowding also occurs on the Morice River, particularly in the area around campgrounds at peak season. It was felt that the non-resident crowding may be a problem in the future but for the moment the status quo is adequate. It was felt that resident anglers need more opportunities on the Morice.

Recommended management alternative	Strongly Disagree				Strongly Agree
If a non-guided, non resident angler-day target is exceeded twice in three years, it would trigger a lottery with limited-day licences. There are two threshold target options (questions 29 and 30) that are being considered:	1	2	3	4	5
29. Option 1 (high use) – The lottery would allocate 617 angler-days in limited-day licences to non-guided, non-resident anglers.	1	2	3	4	5
30. Option 2 (average use) – The lottery would allocate 449 angler-days in limited-day licences to non-guided, non-resident anglers.	1	2	3	4	5
31. Request that Ministry of Environment conduct an Angling Guide Management Review to look at the number of rod-days allocated, used, and unused.	1	2	3	4	5
32. Comments:					

Zymoetz I River

The upper part of the Zymoetz River has experienced crowding due to increases in the number of non-guided, non-resident anglers. There are some concerns around the number of guides working in the area. Given the limited access of this area, the sensitivity of the habitat and the difficulties with enforcement, the best option was to go to guided-only for non-resident anglers. Guiding restrictions were considered primarily to "flatten out" use over the Classified Waters period and prevent peaks in activity that result in crowding.

Recommended management alternative	Strongly Disagree				Strongly Agree
33. Extend Classified Waters period to begin on August 1 and continue until the end of the steelhead season on December 31.	1	2	3	4	5
34. Mandatory Steelhead Stamp from August 1 – December 31	1	2	3	4	5
35. Limit three existing guides to the use of one boat per guide per day (condition of guiding licence)	1	2	3	4	5
36. Limit three existing guides to a maximum of three anglers per boat	1	2	3	4	5
37. All non-residents must be guided	1	2	3	4	5
38. Three existing guides hold 58 rod-days and their allocation will be increased by 10 rod-days each for a total of 30 additional rod-days to accommodate increased demand because non-residents must be guided	1	2	3	4	5
39. Comments:					

Zymoetz II River

Crowding and over-use by all types of anglers has been a problem on Zymoetz II, the lower section of this river. Anglers who camp out for long periods of time cause problems. The only way to reduce "peaks" of non-guided, non-resident activity that lead to crowding is to use a limited-day licence (the group did not reach agreement on how many licences would be available) with a lottery system that "spreads" angler use evenly over the Classified Waters period.

Recommended management alternative	Strongly Disagree				Strongly Agree
40. Extend Classified Waters period from August 1 to May 31 and retain Class II Classified Water status. This reflects the time that steelhead are in the river.	1	2	3	4	5
41. Mandatory Steelhead Stamp required for this longer classified period	1	2	3	4	5
42. Include Clore River with Zymoetz II Classified Waters	1	2	3	4	5
43. No guiding or non-resident angling on weekends; hence weekends resident-only	1	2	3	4	5
44. Maximum of three anglers per guide or assistant guide per day	1	2	3	4	5
45. Distribute guiding effort evenly throughout the season by changing the conditions of guide licences	1	2	3	4	5
46. Increase the current guide allocation of five guides and 117 rod-days to five guides and 267 rod-days (increase of 30 rod-days per guide) to accommodate the extension of the Classified Waters period	1	2	3	4	5
47. Implement a limited-day licence lottery immediately for non-guided, non-resident anglers with a target of 267 angler-days spread evenly over the Classified Waters period	1	2	3	4	5
48. Comments:					

Kitsumkalum River

Increased angler use and guided effort have produced crowding on the Kitsumkalum in September and October and also in April and May. There is lots of resident angler interest in this river but opportunities for residents have been declining.

Recommended management alternative	Strongly Disagree				Strongly Agree
49. All non-residents must be guided	1	2	3	4	5
50. Limit each licensed guide to one boat in the upper river and one boat in the lower river on any one day (condition of guiding licence)	1	2	3	4	5
51. Maximum four guided anglers per boat	1	2	3	4	5
52. No guiding on Sundays for entire river	1	2	3	4	5
53. No guiding from Glacier Creek to Kitsumkalum Lake on Saturdays	1	2	3	4	5
54. Reduction in the maximum number of guides allowed in the upper and lower river to 11 (regulation presently allows 13)	1	2	3	4	5
55. Resident anglers only on Sundays.	1	2	3	4	5
56. Comments:					

Lakelse River

The Lakelse River has no allocation of guided rod-days. There is a large fall salmon sport fishery that exacerbates any crowding due to steelhead anglers. There has been an increase in non-resident use on this river in recent years.

Recommended management alternative	Strongly Disagree				Strongly Agree
57. Class I Classified Water all year (change from Class II all year)	1	2	3	4	5
58. Steelhead Stamp required from September 1 – May 31 (extension from present December 1 – May 31, to reflect actual time steelhead are in the river)	1	2	3	4	5
59. Resident-only fishery March 1 – May 31 for entire river (for steelhead and trout fishery); Non-residents can access fishery from June 1 – February 28	1	2	3	4	5
60. If non-guided, non-resident anglers exceed 100 angler-days, two years out of three, a limited-day licence lottery would be implemented based on a target of 100 angler-days	1	2	3	4	5
61. Comments:					

Skeena IV (downstream from Kitwanga Bridge)

This part of the Skeena River has some pockets of crowding, notably at the mouth of the Kitwanga River and in Kitselas Canyon. Although restrictions on non-guided, non-resident anglers are not required right now, provision needs to be made for the future.

Recommended management alternative	Strongly Disagree				Strongly Agree
62. Class I Classified Water all year (change from Class II between July 31 and October 31).	1	2	3	4	5
63. Maintain the current Steelhead Stamp requirement, which is only required when fishing for steelhead. This reduces the licensing impact on salmon anglers.	1	2	3	4	5
64. Existing (pre-Angling Management Plan) Skeena IV guides can guide in either reach (downstream and upstream of the Kitwanga Bridge) of the new Skeena IV Classified Waters.	1	2	3	4	5
65. Four new guide opportunities of 20 rod-days each would be made available (total 80 new rod-days).	1	2	3	4	5
66. Existing Skeena IV guides from the Terrace area (four guides who presently hold a total of 85 rod-days) would be issued 30 additional rod-days.	1	2	3	4	5
67. If total non-guided, non-resident angler effort exceeds 1,000 angler-days, two years out of three, a limited-day licence lottery would be implemented with a target of 1,000 angler-days.	1	2	3	4	5
68. Comments:					

Survey Complete

Thank you for taking the time to complete this form.

If you would like to receive more information, please provide us with your contact information below:

First Name:

Last Name:

Phone Number:

*E-mail Address:

(Note: This information will be kept strictly confidential and will only be used to provide you with information and updates on the Quality Waters Strategy.)

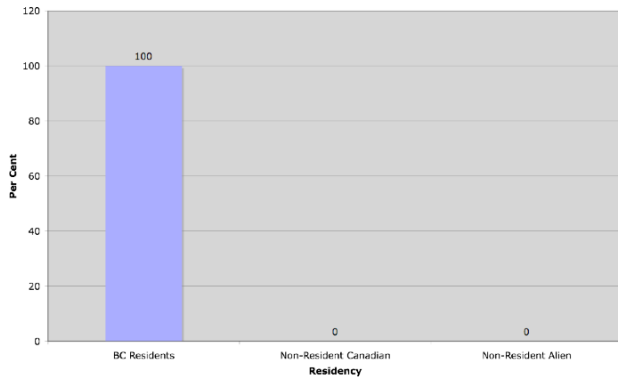
Please ensure your completed Response Form is submitted no later than November 30, 2008.

Alan Dolan
Facilitator
Skeena Quality Waters Strategy
250-478-8056

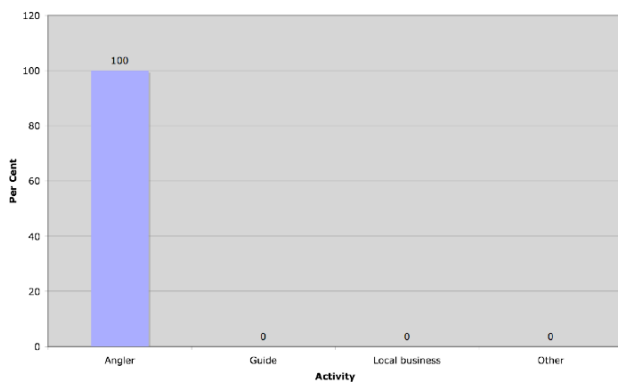
Appendix B Resident Anglers: Response Form closed question results

(See Appendix A for full text of questions)

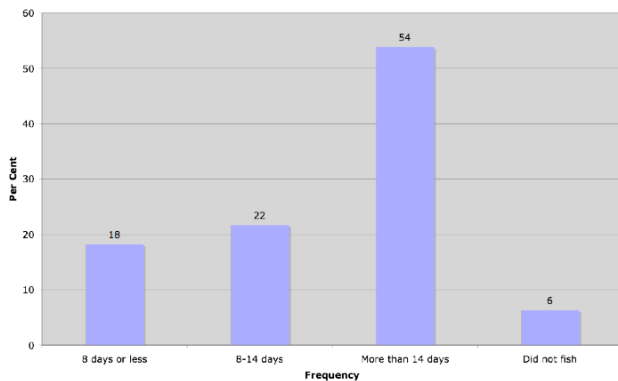
Q1: Place of Residence (Resident Anglers, N=145)



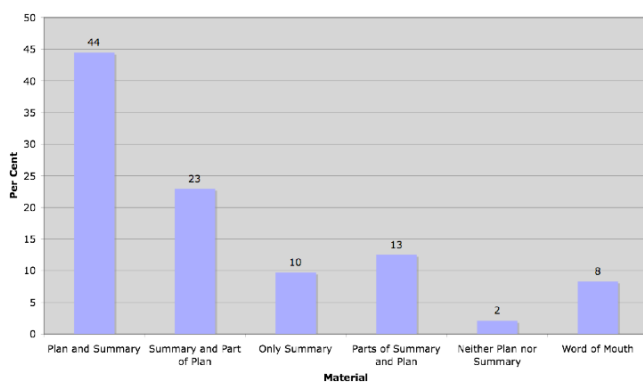
Q2 Principal Activity (Resident Anglers, N=145)



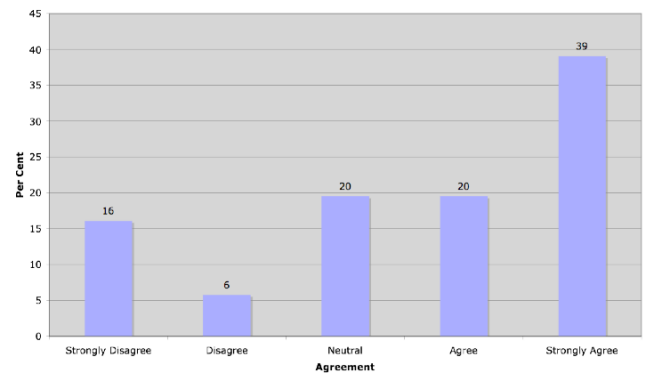
Q3 Angling Activity (Resident Anglers, N=145)



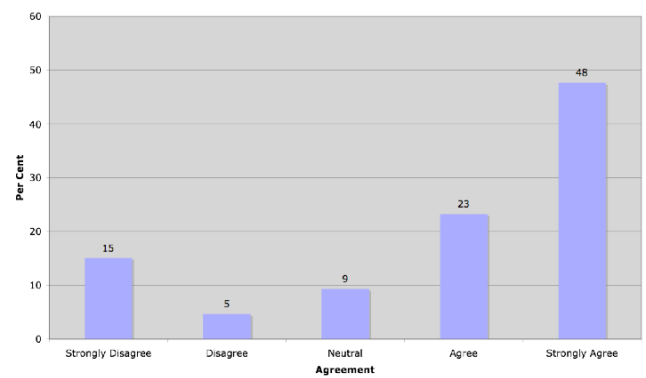
Q4 Background Information Read Before Completing Response Form (Resident Anglers, N=145)



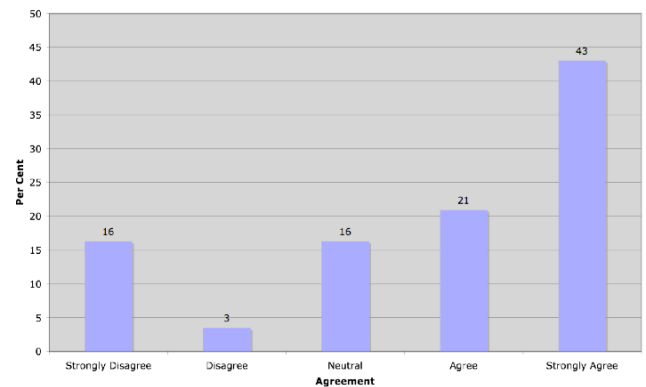
Q5 Kitseguella and Kitwanga: Resident-Only on Saturdays (Resident Anglers, N=145)



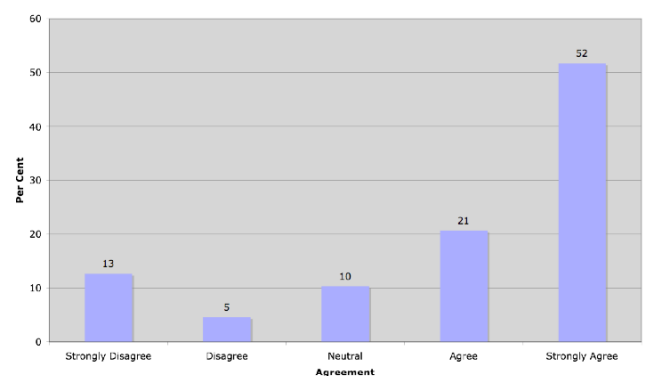
Q6 Kitseguella and Kitwanga: Trigger for Eight-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents (Resident Anglers, N=145)



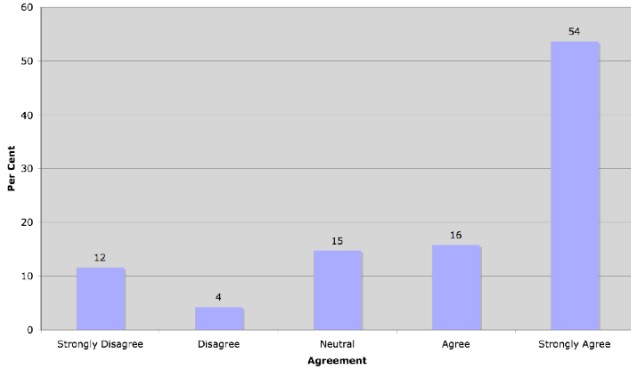
Q8 Suskwa: Resident-Only on Saturdays (Resident Anglers, N=145)



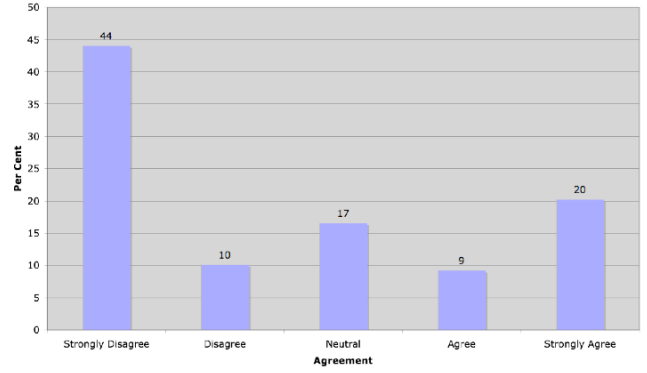
Q9 Suskwa: Trigger for Eight-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents (Resident Anglers, N=145)



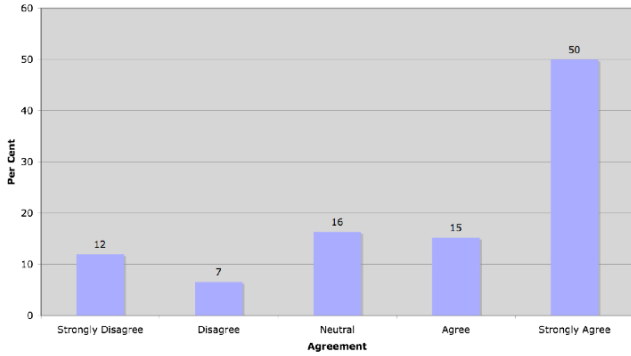
Q11 Skeena IV (Upstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Eight-Day Licence and Lottery from Salmon River to Four-Mile Bridge (Resident Anglers, N=145)



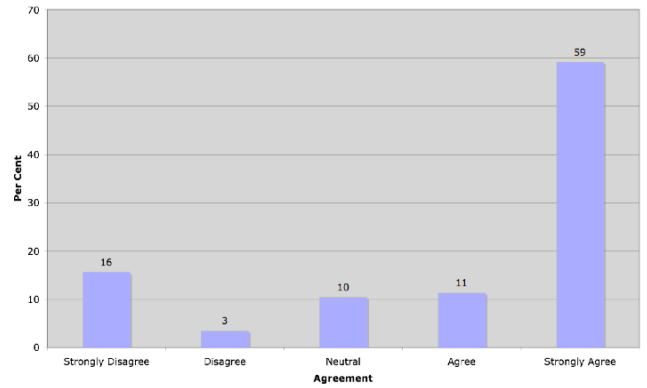
Q16 Kispiox: Status Quo Zone between 20.2 and 29.5 Kilometres on Kispiox Valley Road (Resident Anglers, N=145)



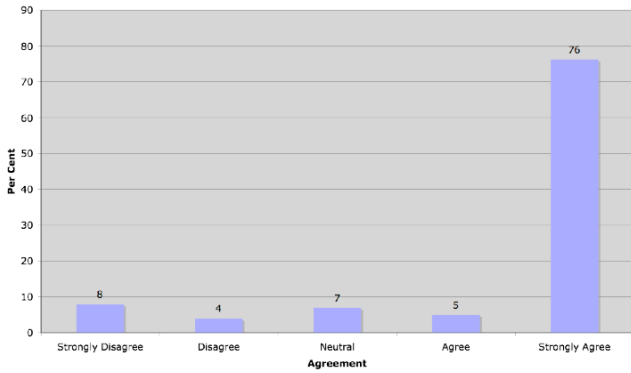
SQ12 Skeena IV (Upstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Eight-Day Licence and Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents from Mouth of Bulkley to Kitwanga Bridge (Resident Anglers, N=145)



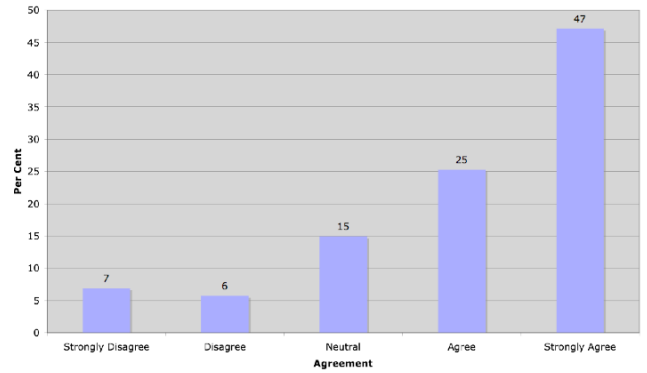
Q17 Kispiox: Resident-Only Angling on Saturdays (Resident Anglers, N=145)



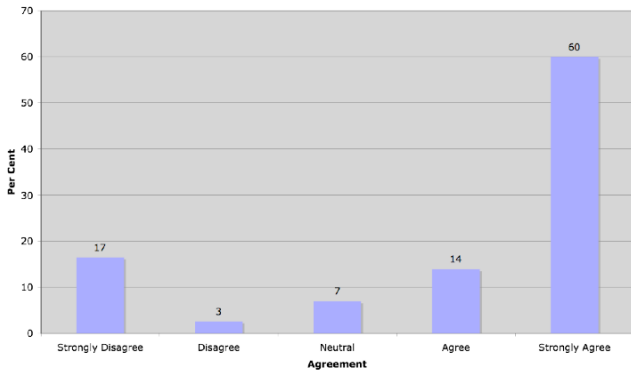
Q13 Skeena IV (upstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Mandatory Steelhead Stamp Sept 1 - Oct 31 (Resident Anglers, N=145)



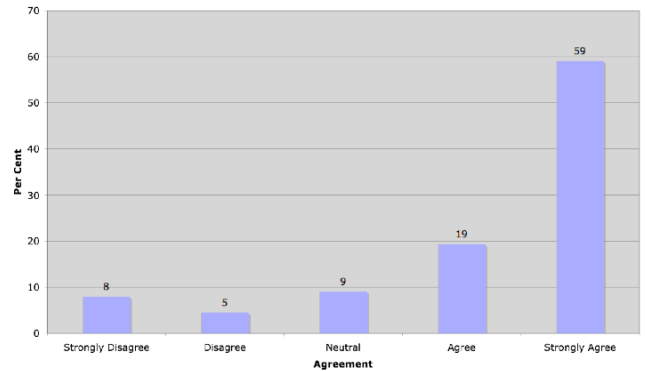
Q19 Babine: No Guiding Upstream from Nichyeskwa to 80 Metres Below Counting Fence (Resident Anglers, N=145)



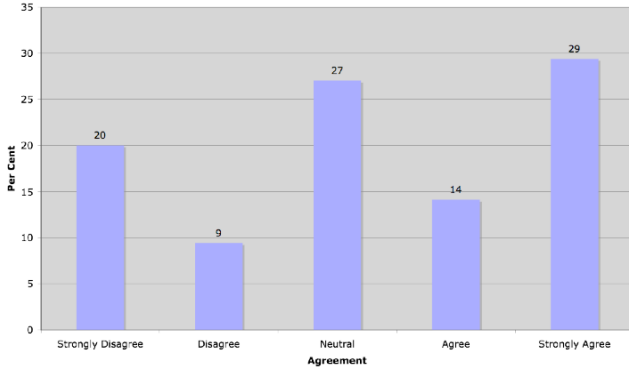
Q15 Kispiox: Eight-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents (Resident Anglers, N=145)



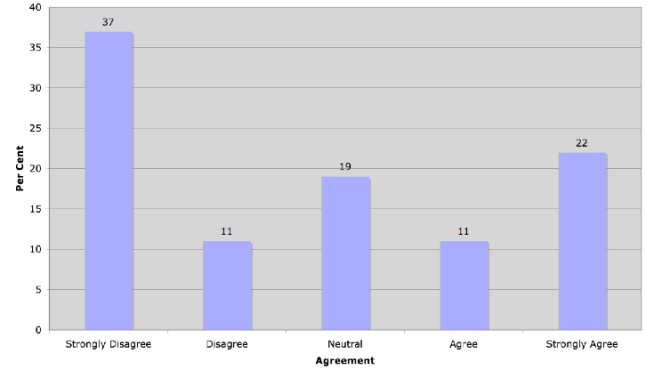
Q20 Babine: Resident-Only between Nichyeskwa and Nilkitkwa (Resident Anglers, N=145)



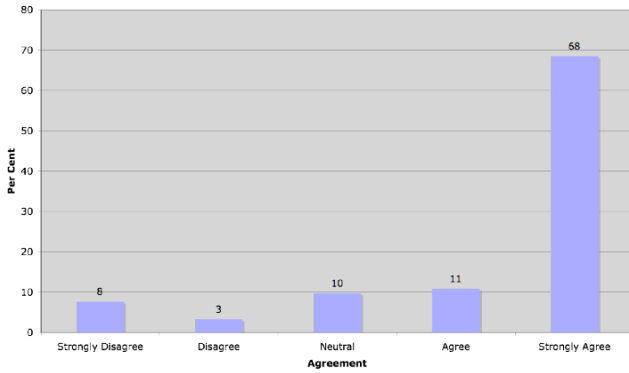
Q21 Babine: Open to All Anglers Downstream from Nilkitkwa (Resident Anglers, N=145)



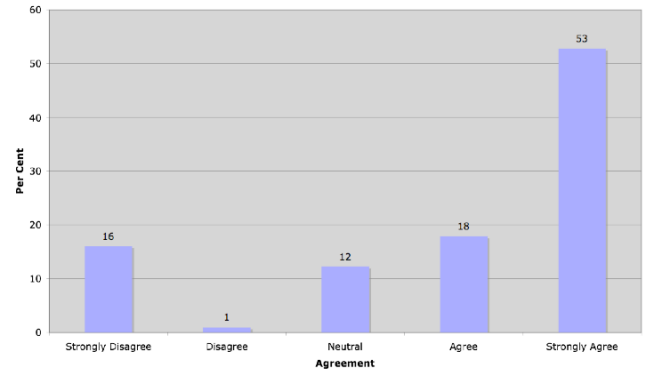
Q26 Bulkley: Trigger Eight-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents Option 1 (High Use) (Resident Anglers, N=145)



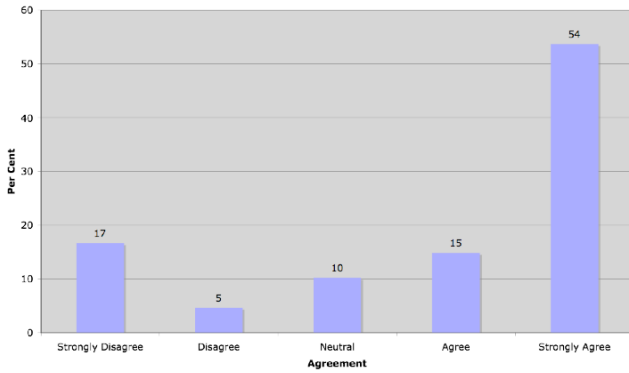
Q22 Babine: Ministry to Review and Rationalize Guided Rod-Days (Resident Anglers, N=145)



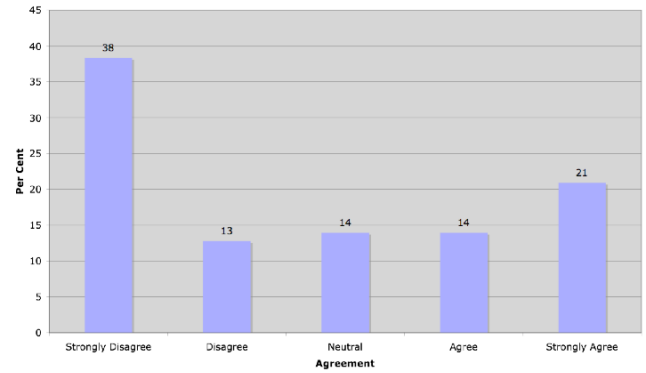
Q27 Bulkley: Trigger Limited-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents Option 2 (Average Use) (Resident Anglers, N=145)



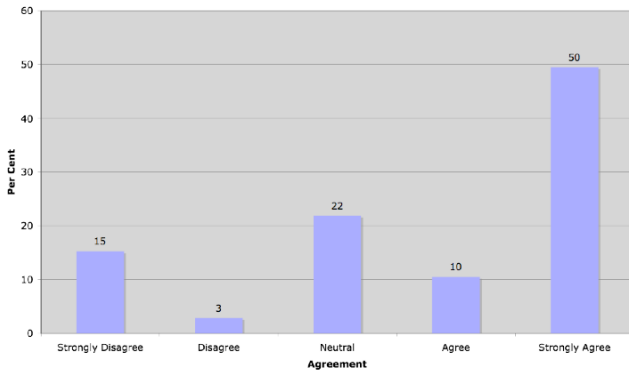
Q24 Bulkley: Resident-Only Weekends at Mouths of Chicken, Toboggan and Telkwa (Resident Anglers, N=145)



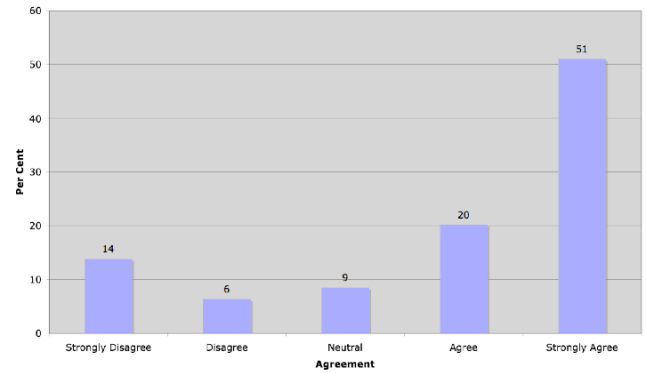
Q29 Morice: Trigger Limited-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents Option 1 (High Use) (Resident Anglers, N=145)



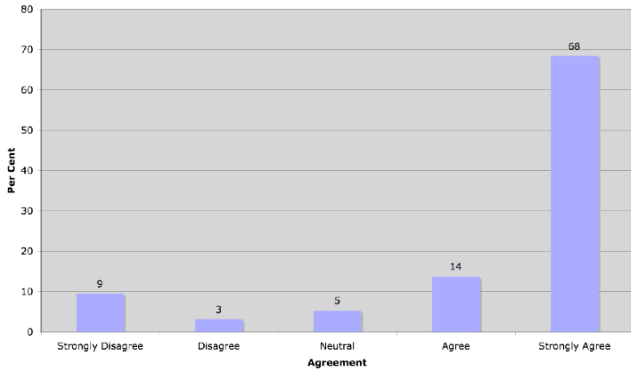
Q25 Bulkley: Resident-Only on Telkwa During Classified Period (Resident Anglers, N=145)



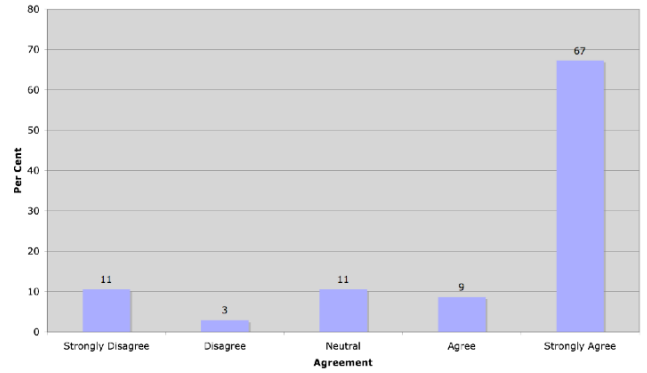
Q30 Morice: Trigger Eight-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents Option 2 (Average Use) (Resident Anglers, N=145)



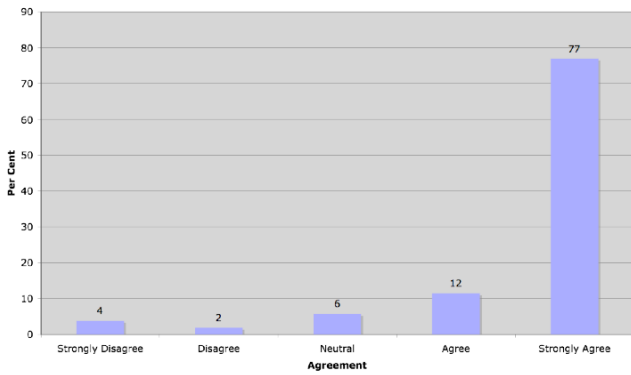
**Q31 Morice: Ministry Conduct Review of Guided Rod-Days
(Resident Anglers, N=145)**



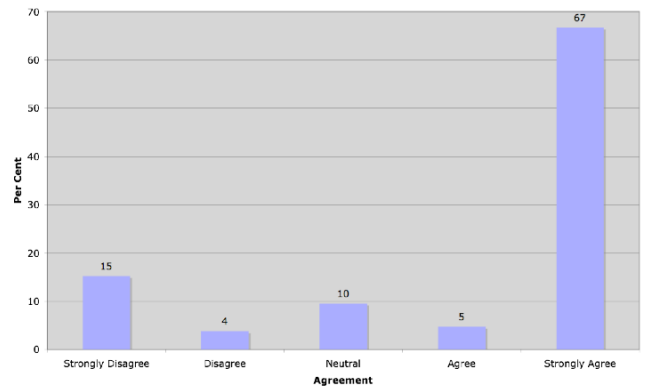
**Q36 Zymoetz I: Limit Guides to Maximum of Three Anglers per Boat
(Resident Anglers, N=145)**



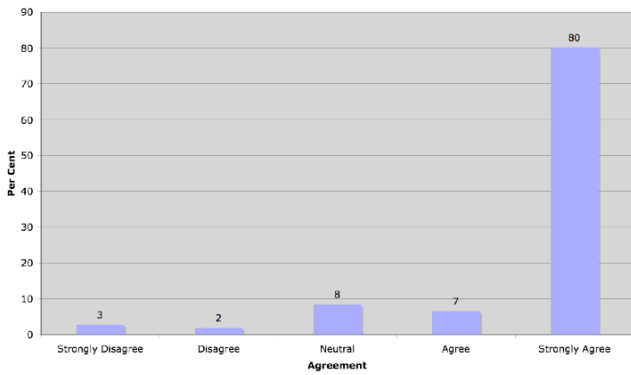
**Q33 Zymoetz I: Extend Classified Period from Aug 1 - Dec 31
(Resident Anglers, N=145)**



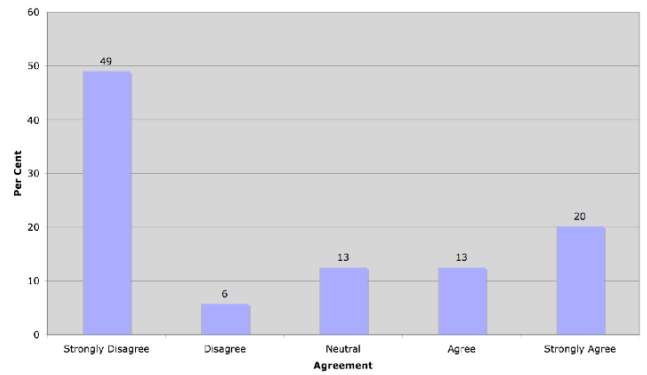
Q37 Zymoetz I: All Non-Residents Must be Guided (Resident Anglers, N=145)



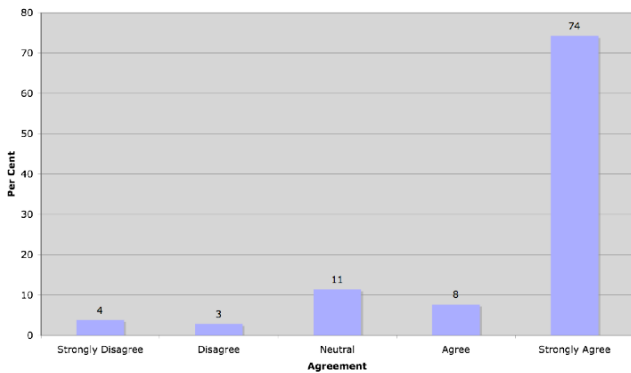
**Q34 Zymoetz I: Mandatory Steelhead Stamp Aug 1 - Dec 31
(Resident Anglers, N=145)**



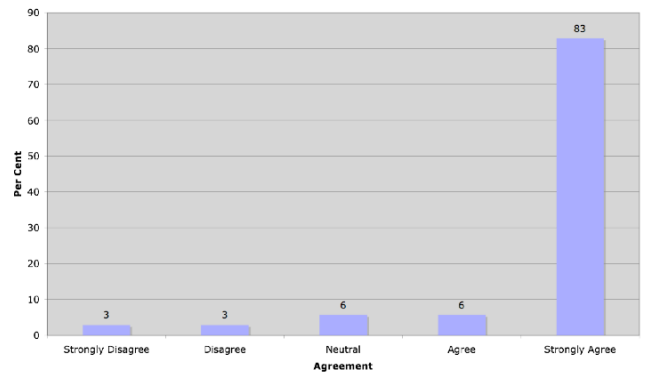
**Q38 Zymoetz I: Increase Allocation to Existing Guides by 10 Rod-Days Each
(Resident Anglers, N=145)**



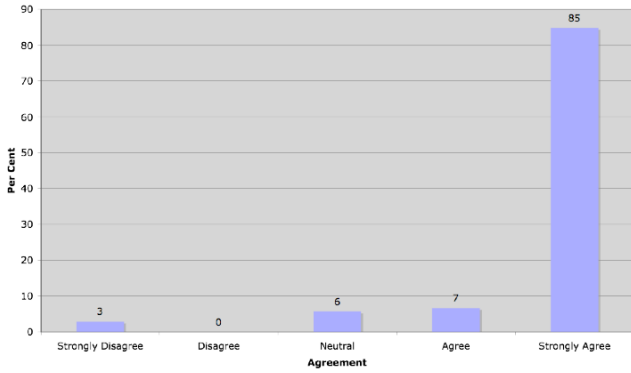
**Q35 Zymoetz I: Limit Guides to One Boat per Guide per Day
(Resident Anglers, N=145)**



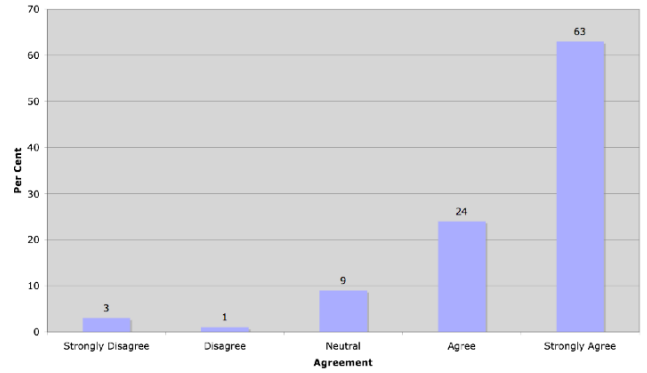
**Q40 Zymoetz II: Extend Classified Period to Aug 1 - May 31
(Resident Anglers, N=145)**



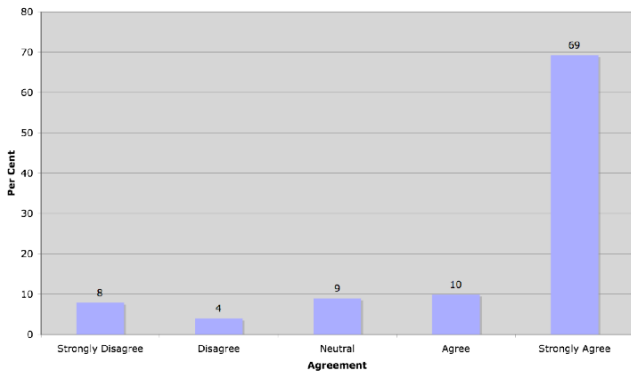
Q41 Zymoetz II: Mandatory Steelhead Stamp Aug 1 - May 31
(Resident Anglers, N=145)



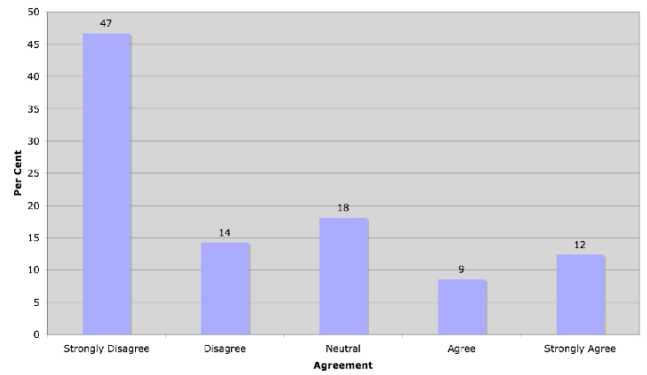
Q45 Zymoetz II: Distribute Guiding Effort Evenly Throughout Classified Period
(Resident Anglers, N=145)



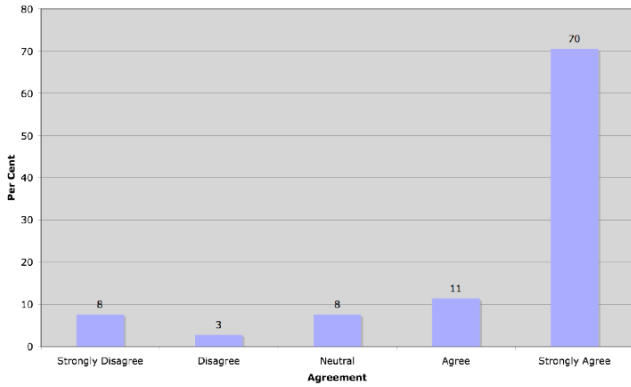
Q42 Zymoetz II: Include Clore River with Zymoetz II Classified Waters
(Resident Anglers, N=145)



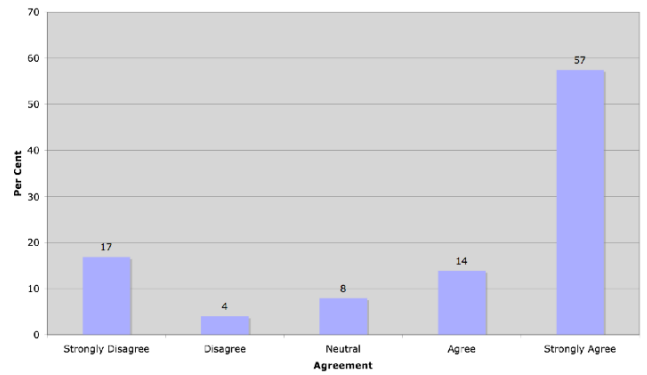
Q46 Zymoetz II: Increase Current Guide Allocation to 267 Rod-Days
(Resident Anglers, N=145)



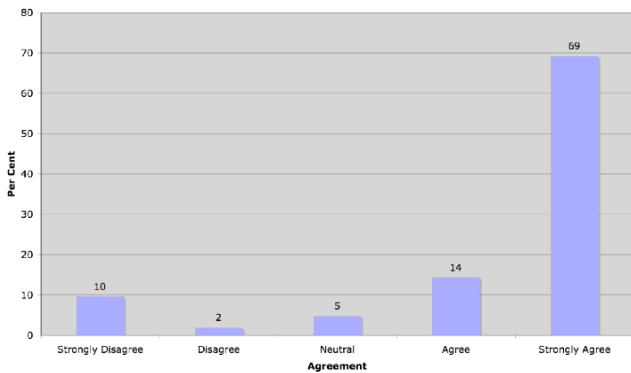
Q43 Zymoetz II: Resident-Only on Weekends (Resident Anglers, N=145)



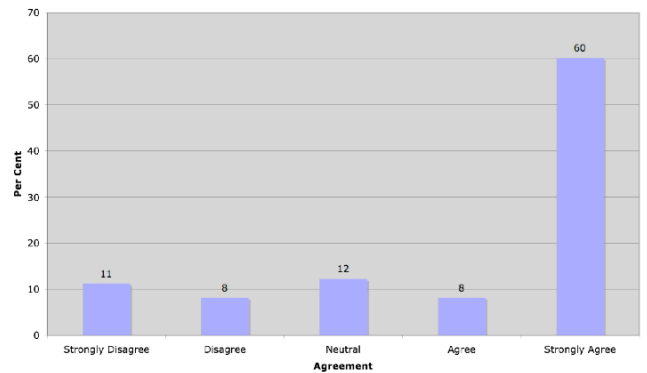
Q47 Zymoetz II: Limited-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents
(Resident Anglers, N=145)



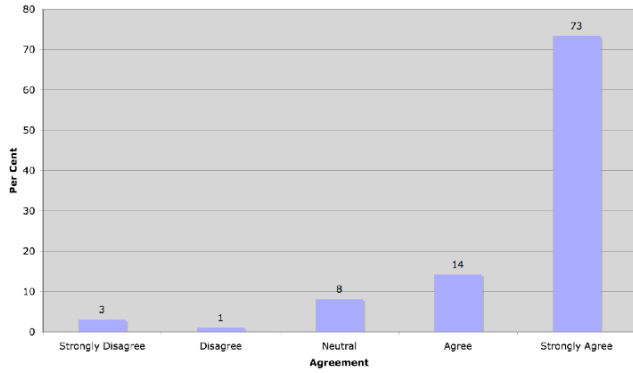
Q44 Zymoetz II: Maximum of Three Anglers per Guide or Assistant Guide per Day
(Resident Anglers, N=145)



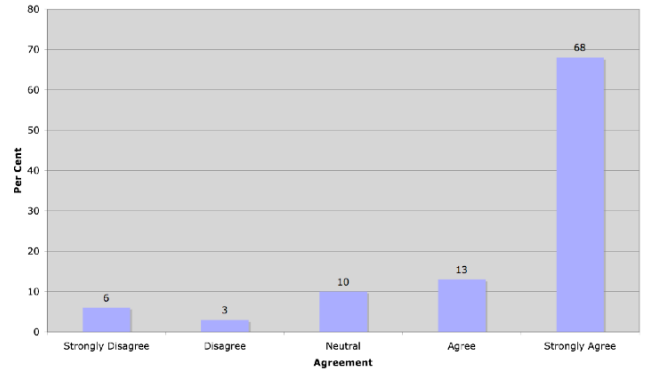
Q49 Kitsumkalum: All Non-Residents Must be Guided
(Resident Anglers, N=145)



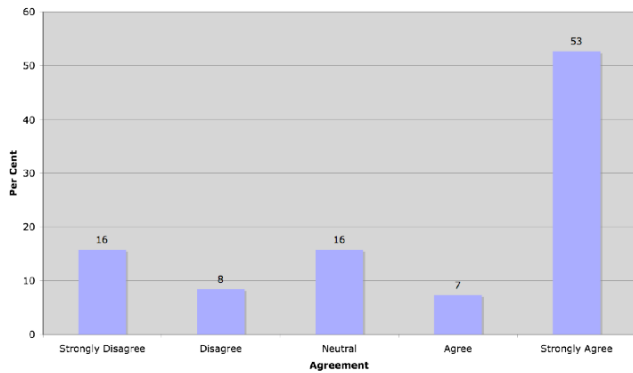
Q50 Kitsumkalum: Limit Each Guide to One Boat in Upper River and One Boat in Lower River (Resident Anglers, N=145)



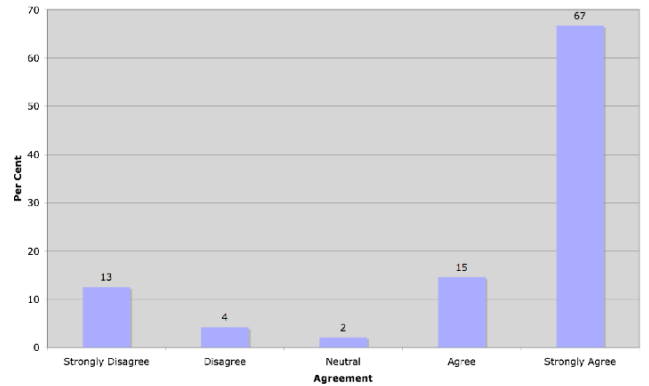
Q44 Kitsumkalum: Reduce Maximum Number of Guides to 11 (Resident Anglers, N=145)



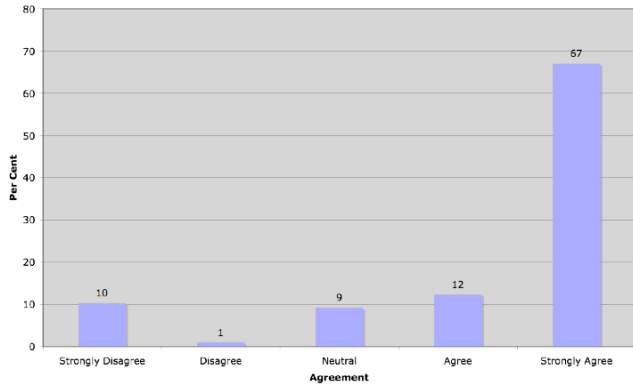
Q51 Kitsumkalum: Maximum Four Guided Anglers per Boat (Resident Anglers, N=145)



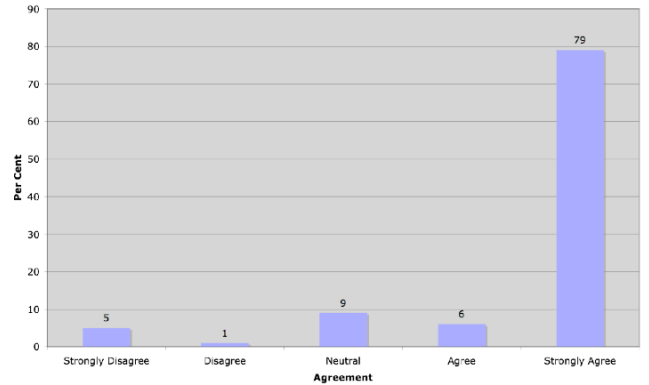
Q55 Kitsumkalum: Resident-Only on Sundays (Resident Anglers, N=145)



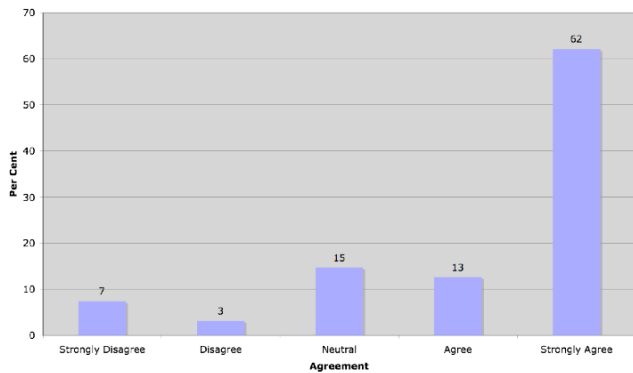
Q52 Kitsumkalum: No Guiding on Sundays (Resident Anglers, N=145)



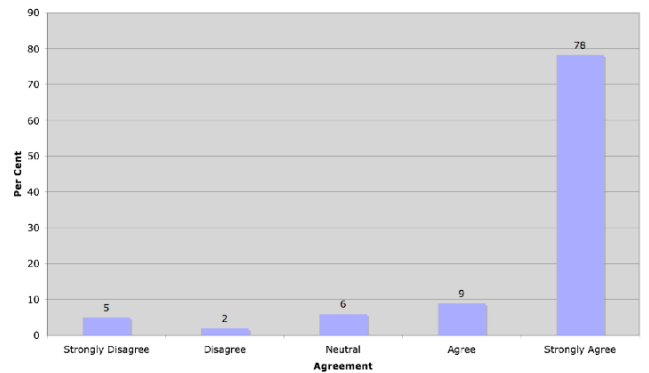
Q57 Lakelse: Class I Classified Water All Year (Resident Anglers, N=145)



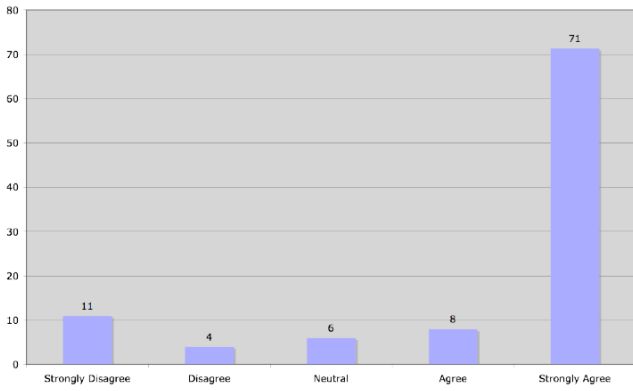
Q53 Kitsumkalum: No Guiding from Glacier Creek to Kitsumkalum Lake on Saturdays (Resident Anglers, N=145)



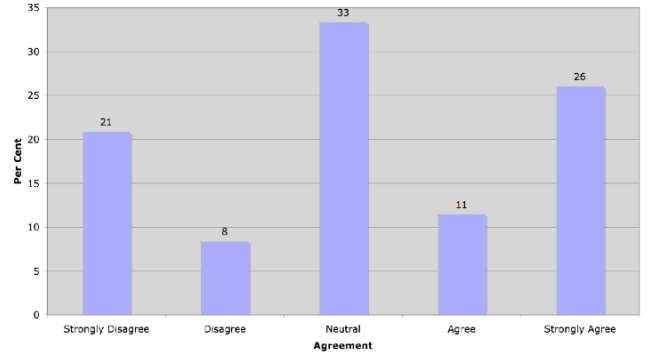
Q58 Lakelse: Mandatory Steelhead Stamp from Sept 1 - May 31 (Resident Anglers, N=145)



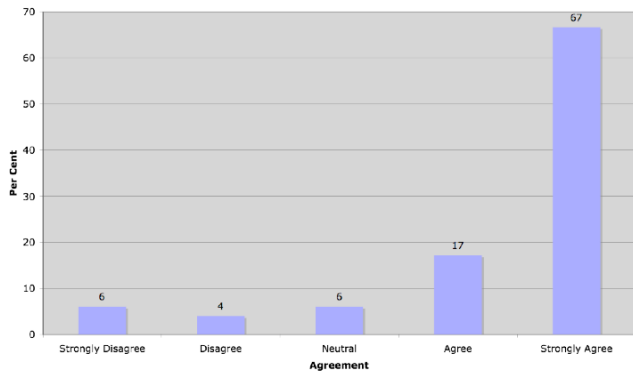
Q59 Lakelse: Resident-Only from March 1 - May 31 (Resident Anglers, N=145)



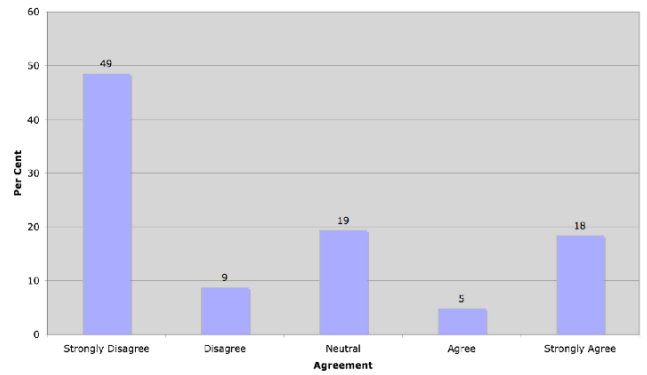
Q64 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Existing Guides Can Guide Downstream and Upstream of Kitwanga Bridge (Resident Anglers, N=145)



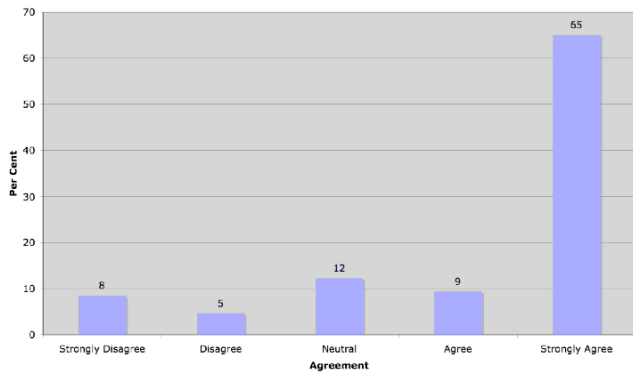
Q60 Lakelse: Trigger Limited-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents (Resident Anglers, N=145)



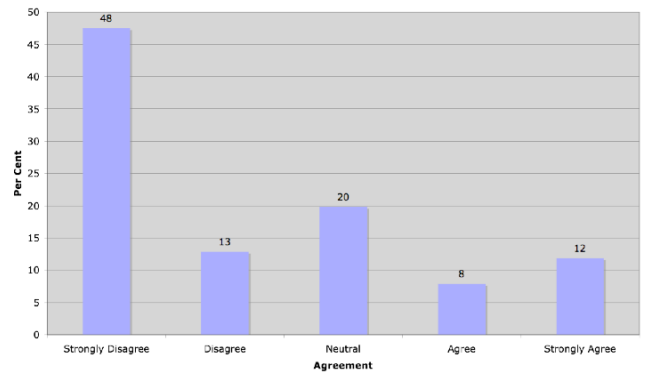
Q65 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Four New Guide Opportunities of 20 Rod-Days Each (Resident Anglers, N=145)



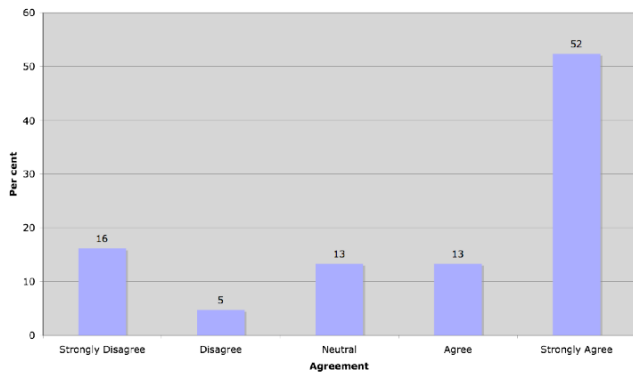
Q62 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Class I Classified Water All Year (Resident Anglers, N=145)



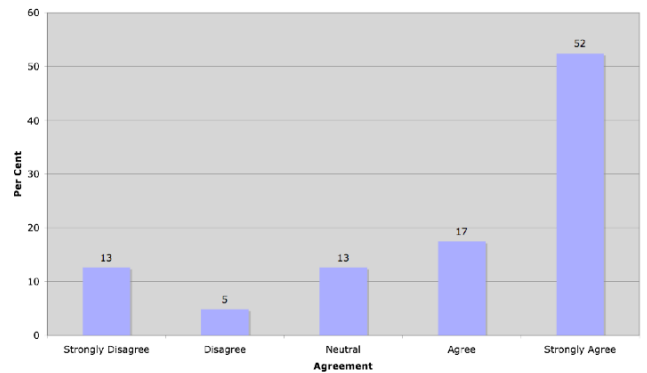
Q66 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Existing Guides from Terrace Area Issued 30 Additional Rod-Days Each (Resident Anglers, N=145)



Q63 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Maintain Current Steelhead Stamp (Only Required for Steelhead) (Resident Anglers, N=145)



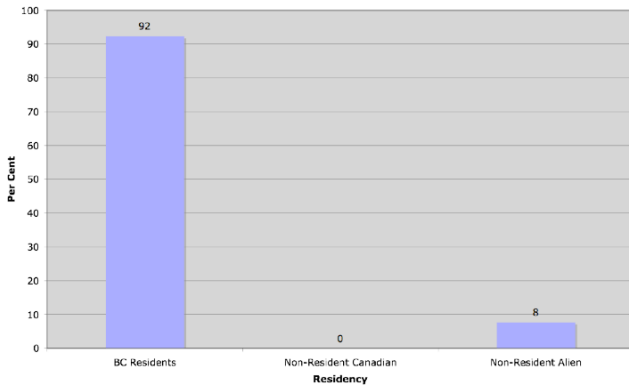
Q67 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Trigger Limited-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents (Resident Anglers, N=145)



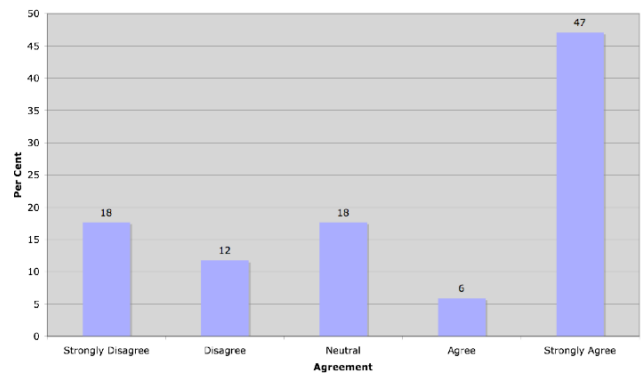
Appendix C Local business: Response Form closed question results

(See Appendix A for full text of questions)

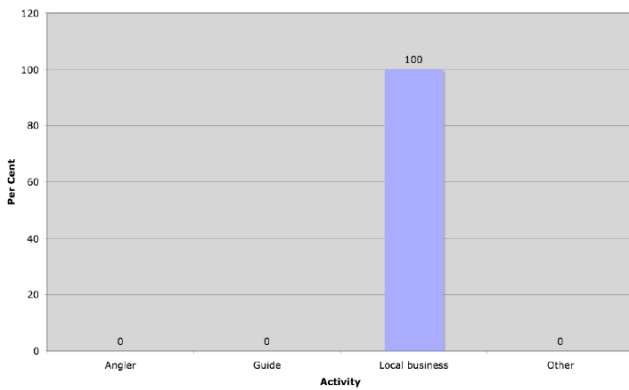
Q1 Place of Residence (Local Business, N=26)



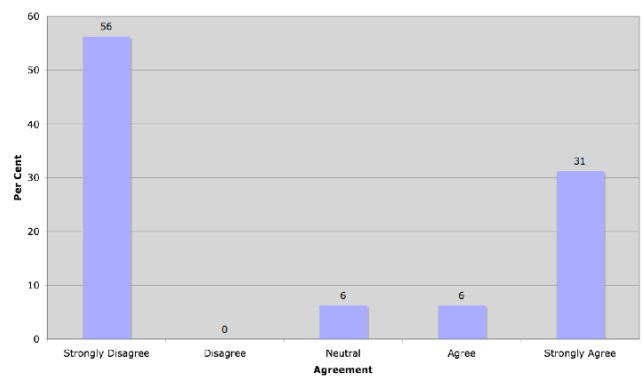
Q5 Kitsegucla and Kitwanga: Resident-Only on Saturdays (Local Business, N=26)



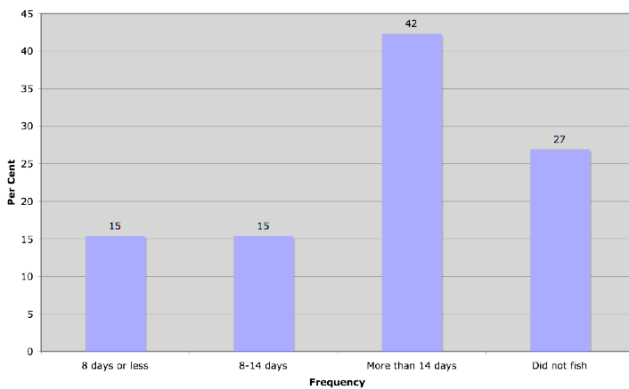
Q2 Principal Activity (Local Business, N=26)



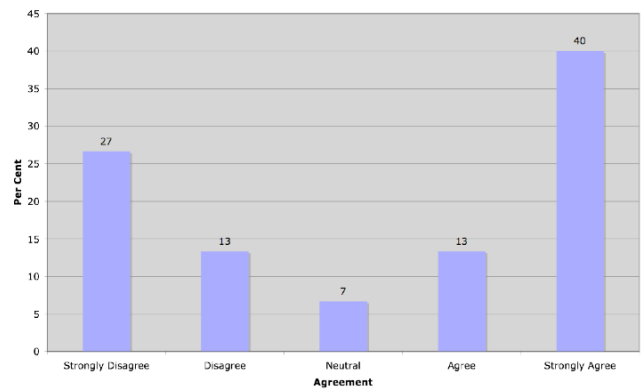
Q6 Kitsegucla and Kitwanga: Trigger for Eight-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents (Local Business, N=26)



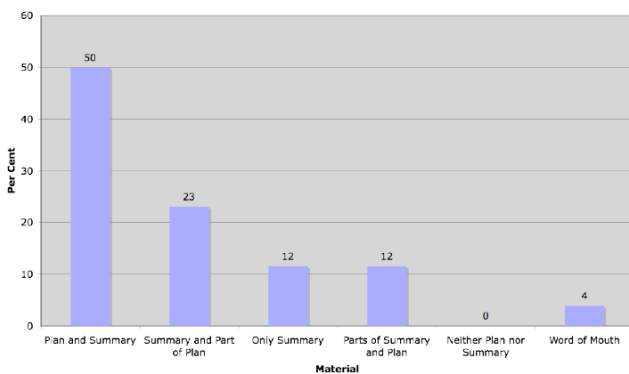
Q3 Angling Activity (Local Business, N=26)



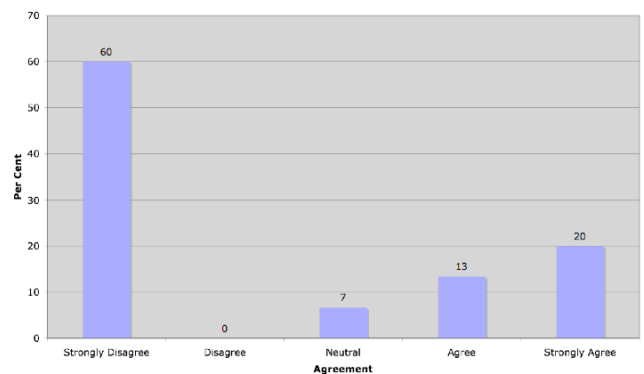
Q8 Suskwa: Resident-Only on Saturdays (Local Business, N=26)



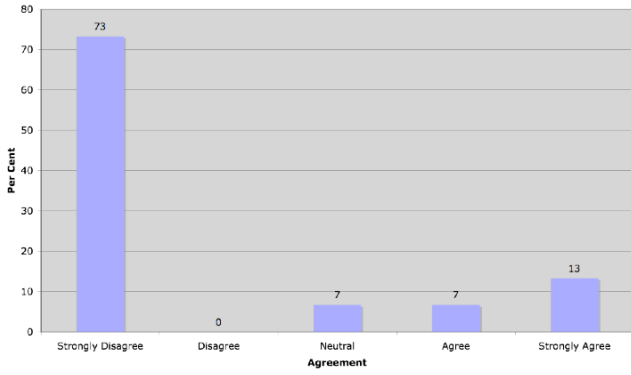
Q4 Background Information Read Before Completing Response Form (Local Business, N=26)



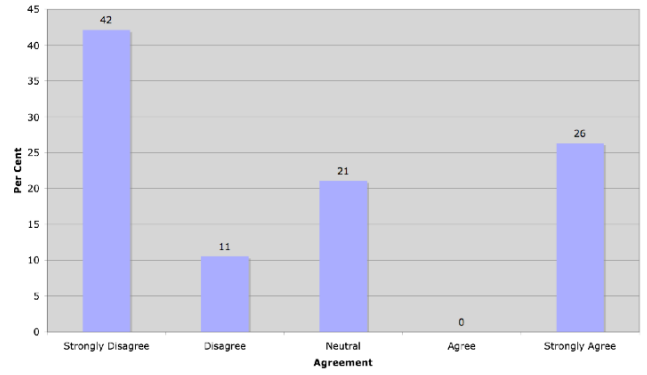
Q9 Suskwa: Trigger for Eight-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents (Local Business, N=26)



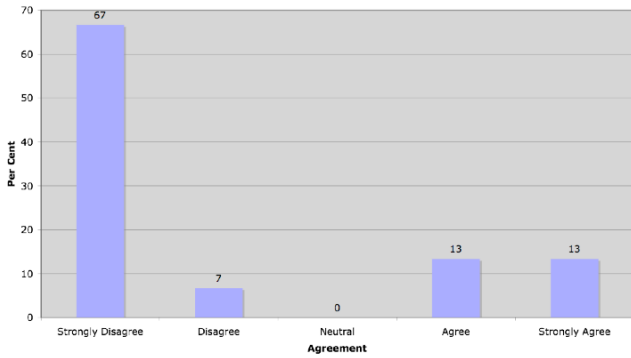
Q11 Skeena IV (Upstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Eight-Day Licence and Lottery from Salmon River to Four-Mile Bridge (Local Business, N=26)



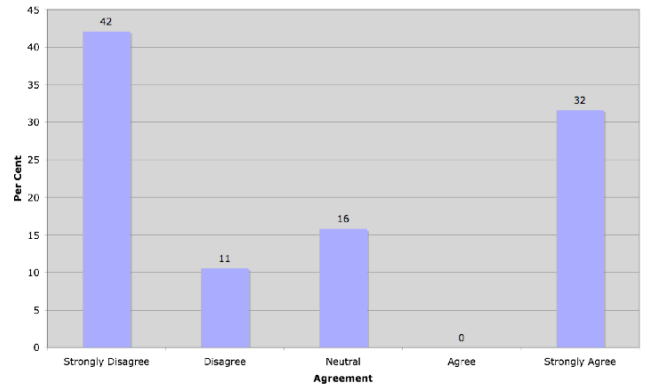
Q16 Kispiox: Status Quo Zone between 20.2 and 29.5 Kilometres on Kispiox Valley Road (Local Business, N=26)



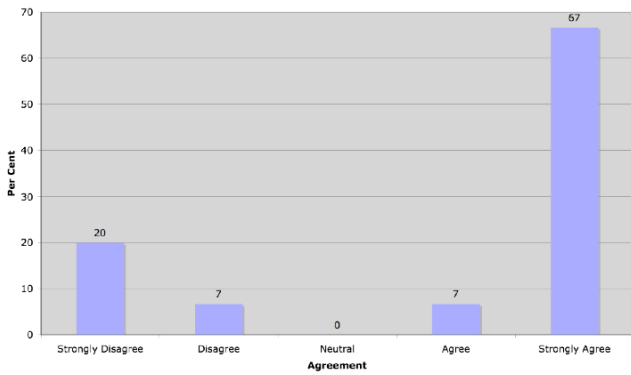
Q12 Skeena IV (Upstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Eight-Day Licence and Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents from Mouth of Bulkeley to Kitwanga Bridge (Local Business, N=26)



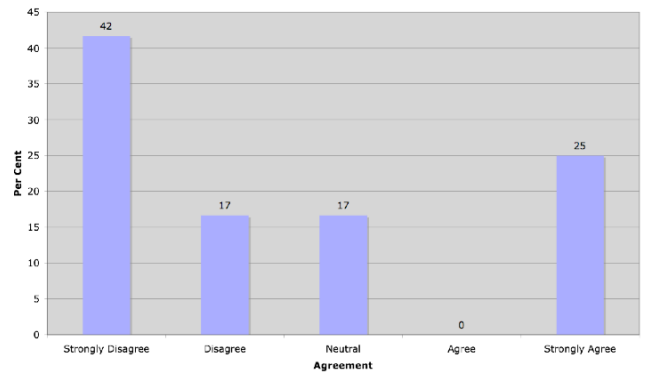
Q17 Kispiox: Resident-Only Angling on Saturdays (Local Business, N=26)



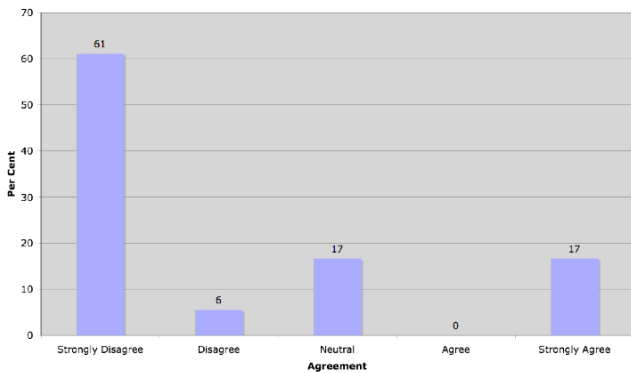
Q13 Skeena IV (upstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Mandatory Steelhead Stamp Sept 1 - Oct 31 (Local Business, N=26)



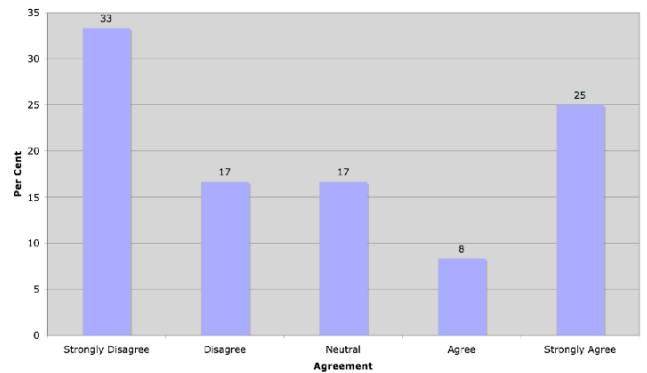
Q19 Babine: No Guiding Upstream from Nichyeskwa to 80 Metres Below Counting Fence (Local Business, N=26)



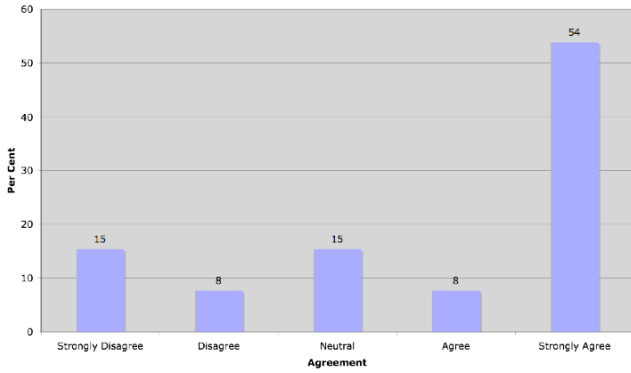
Q15 Kispiox: Eight-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents (Local Business, N=26)



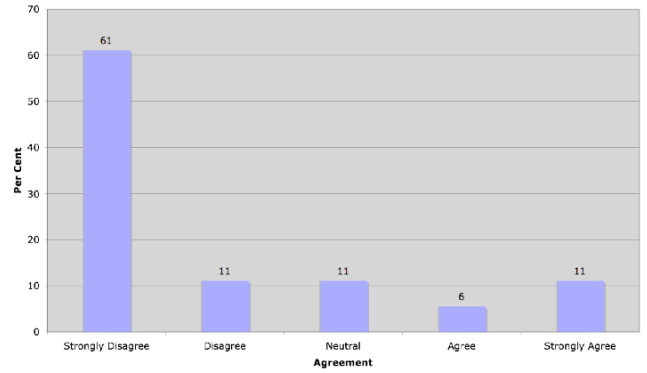
Q20 Babine: Resident-Only between Nichyeskwa and Nilkitkwa (Local Business, N=26)



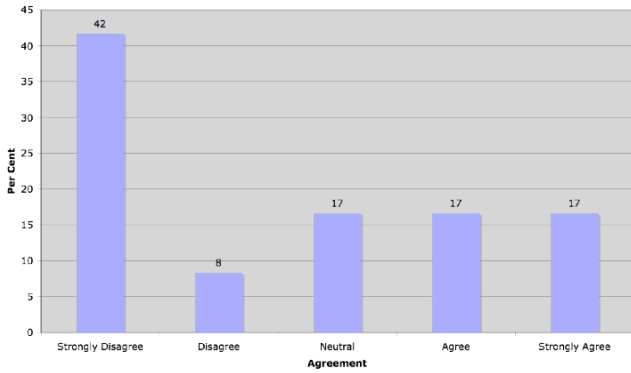
Q21 Babine: Open to All Anglers Downstream from Nilkitkwa (Local Business, N=26)



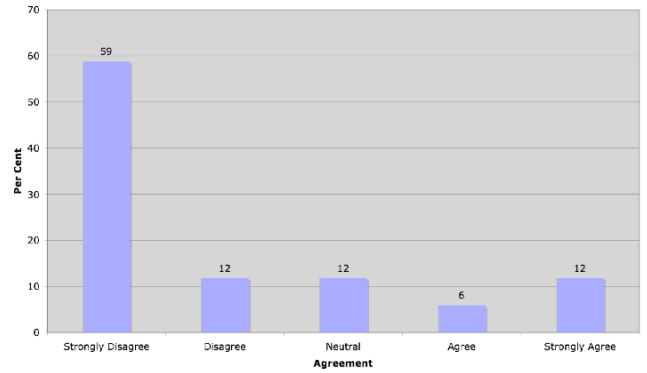
Q26 Bulkley: Trigger Eight-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents Option 1 (High Use) (Local Business, N=26)



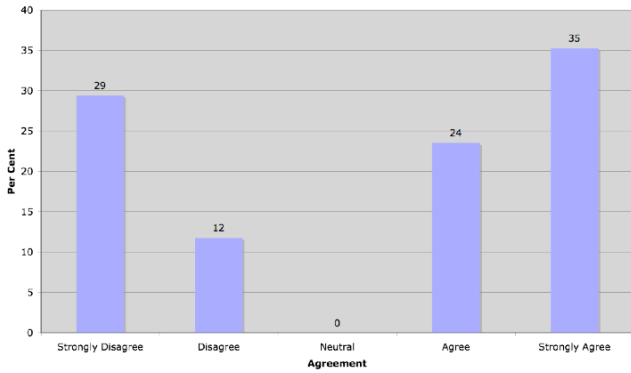
Q22 Babine: Ministry to Review and Rationalize Guided Rod-Days (Local Business, N=26)



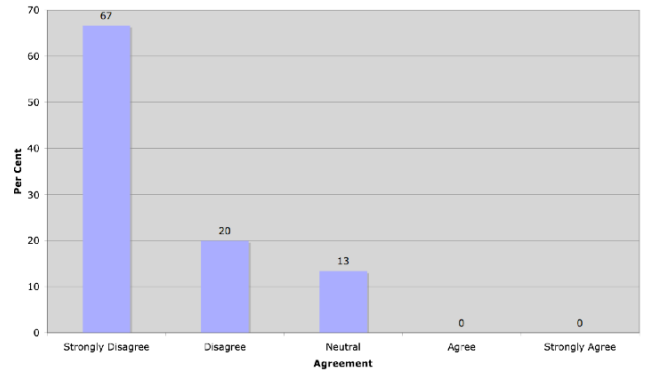
Q27 Bulkley: Trigger Limited-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents Option 2 (Average Use) (Local Business, N=26)



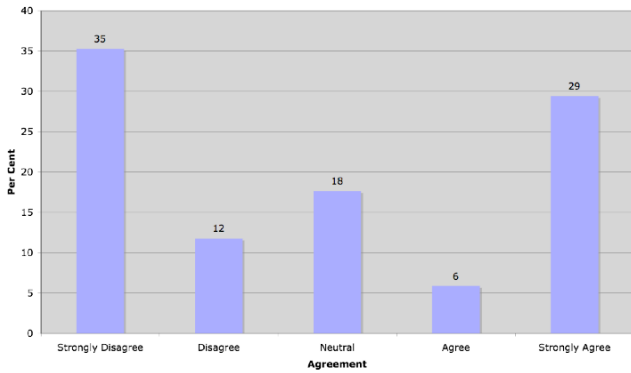
Q24 Bulkley: Resident-Only Weekends at Mouths of Chicken, Toboggan and Telkwa (Local Business, N=26)



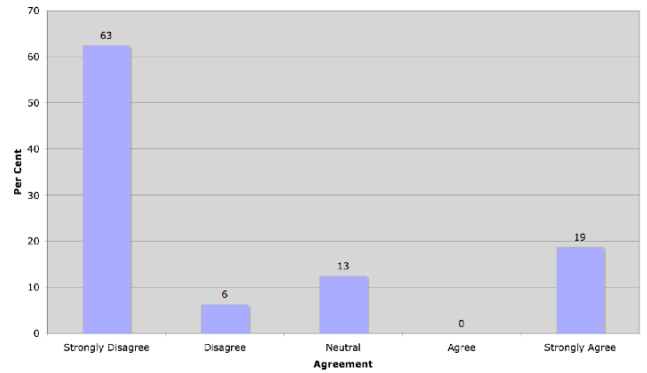
Q29 Morice: Trigger Limited-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents Option 1 (High Use) (Local Business, N=26)



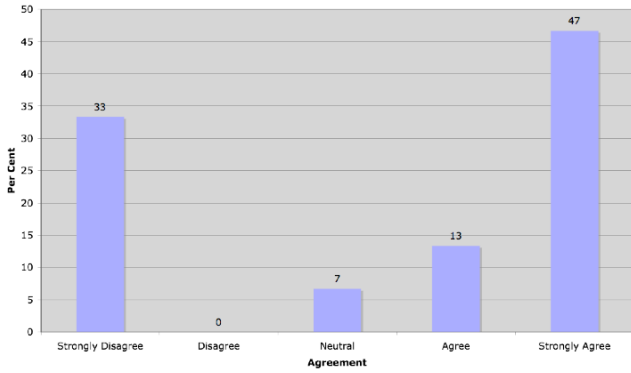
Q25 Bulkley: Resident-Only on Telkwa During Classified Period (Local Business, N=26)



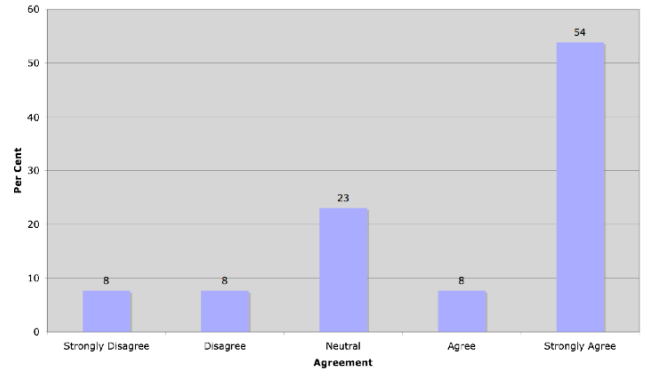
Q30 Morice: Trigger Eight-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents Option 2 (Average Use) (Local Business, N=26)



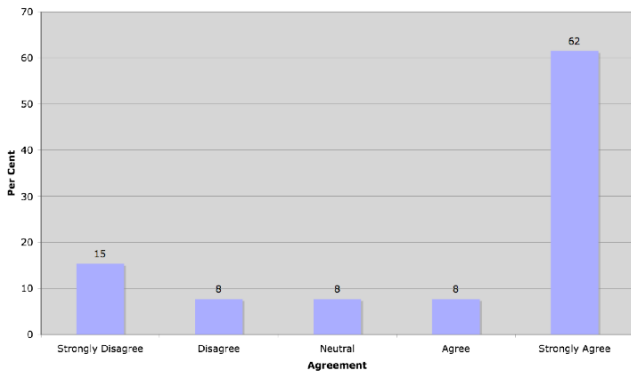
**Q31 Morice: Ministry Conduct Review of Guided Rod-Days
(Local Business, N=26)**



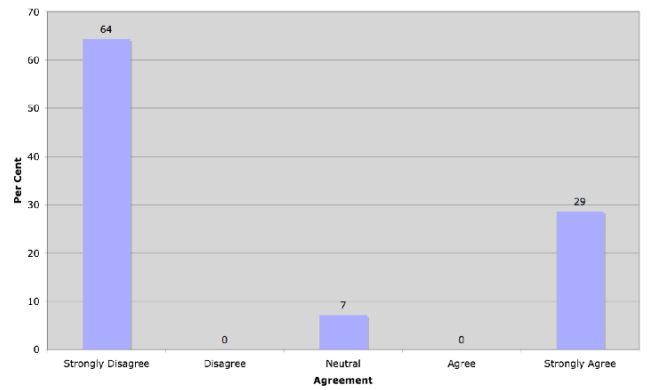
**Q36 Zymoetz I: Limit Guides to Maximum of Three Anglers per Boat
(Local Business, N=26)**



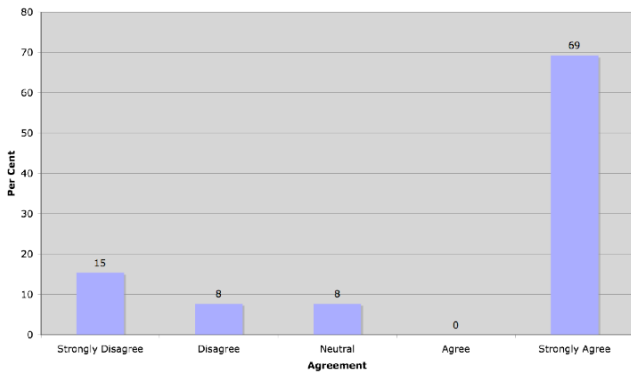
**Q33 Zymoetz I: Extend Classified Period from Aug 1 - Dec 31
(Local Business, N=26)**



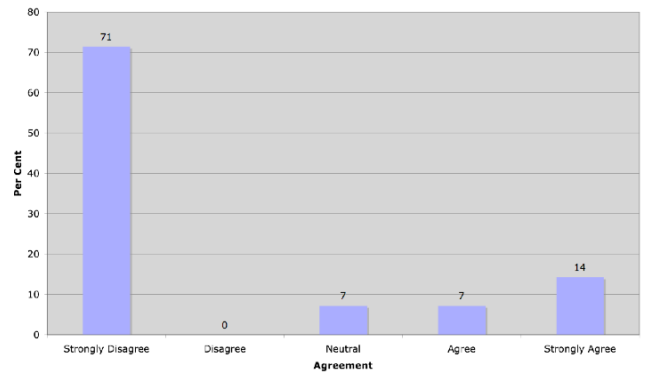
Q37 Zymoetz I: All Non-Residents Must be Guided (Local Business, N=26)



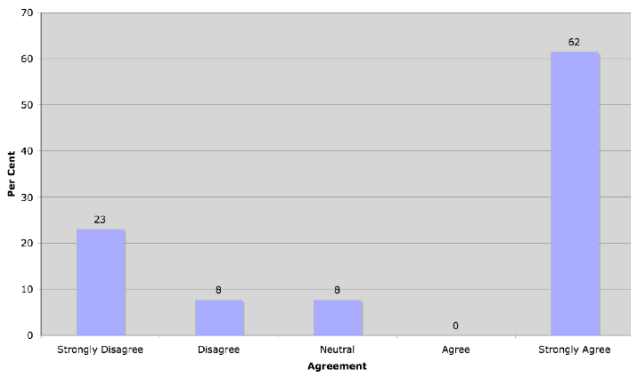
**Q34 Zymoetz I: Mandatory Steelhead Stamp Aug 1 - Dec 31
(Local Business, N=26)**



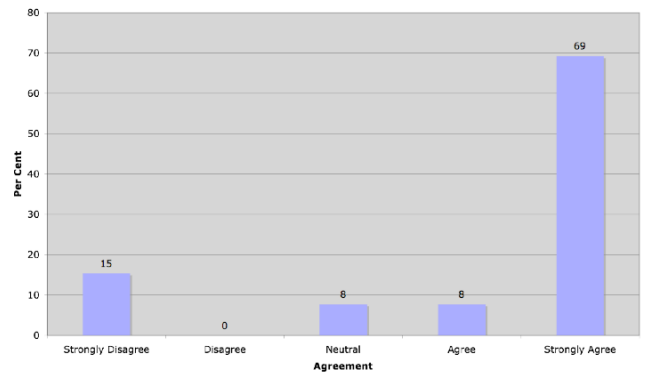
**Q38 Zymoetz I: Increase Allocation to Existing Guides by 10 Rod-Days Each
(Local Business, N=26)**



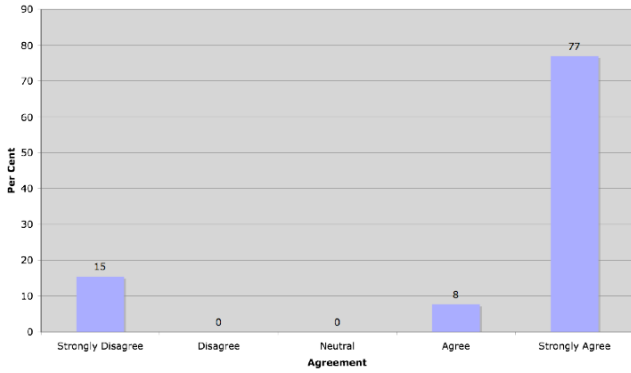
**Q35 Zymoetz I: Limit Guides to One Boat per Guide per Day
(Local Business, N=26)**



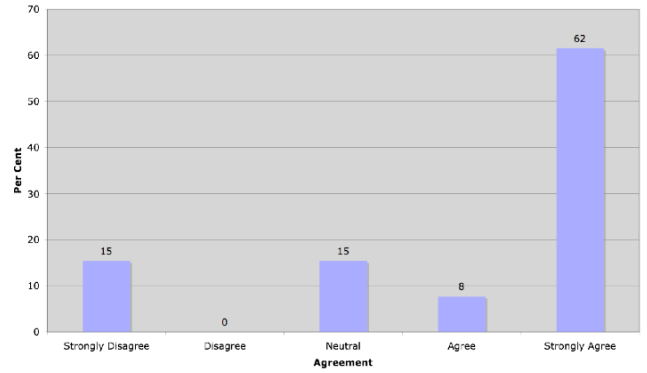
**Q40 Zymoetz II: Extend Classified Period to Aug 1 - May 31
(Local Business, N=26)**



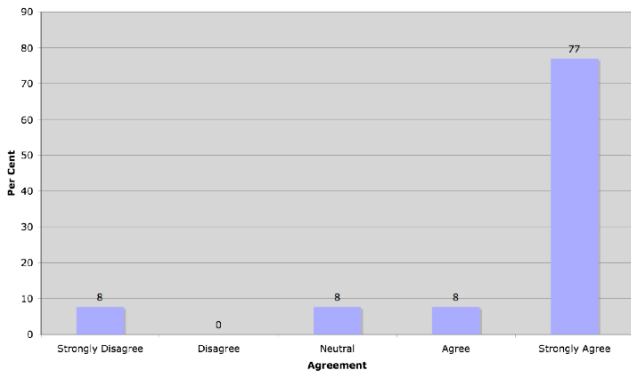
Q41 Zymoetz II: Mandatory Steelhead Stamp Aug 1 - May 31 (Local Business, N=26)



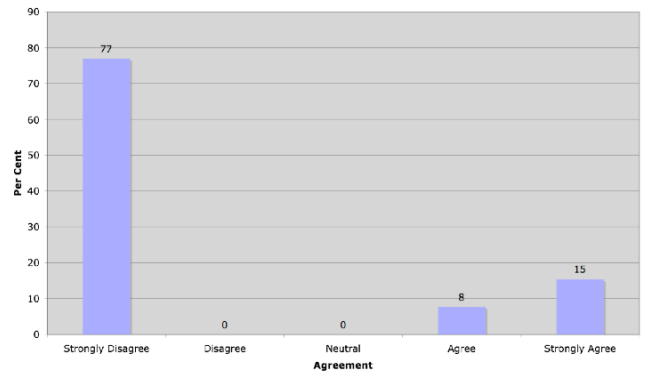
Q45 Zymoetz II: Distribute Guiding Effort Evenly Throughout Classified Period (Local Business, N=26)



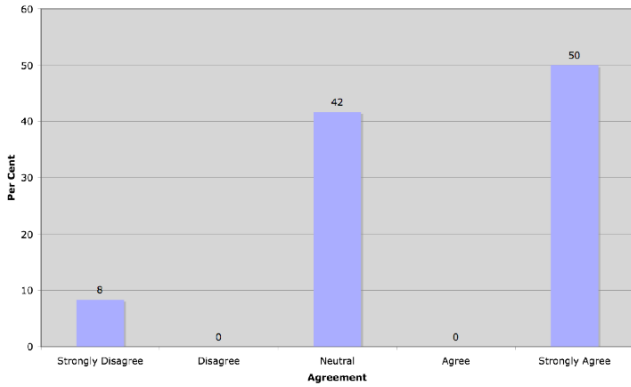
Q42 Zymoetz II: Include Clore River with Zymoetz II Classified Waters (Local Business, N=26)



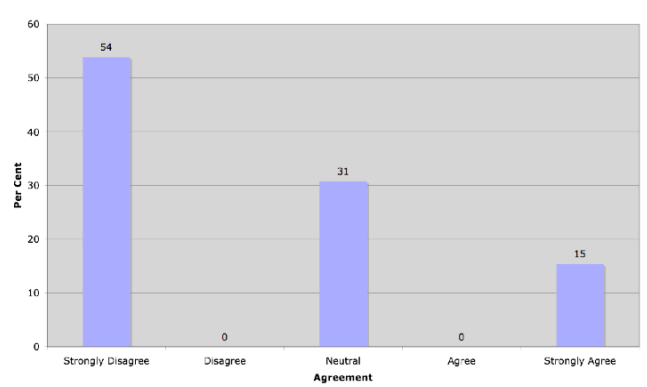
Q46 Zymoetz II: Increase Current Guide Allocation to 267 Rod-Days (Local Business, N=26)



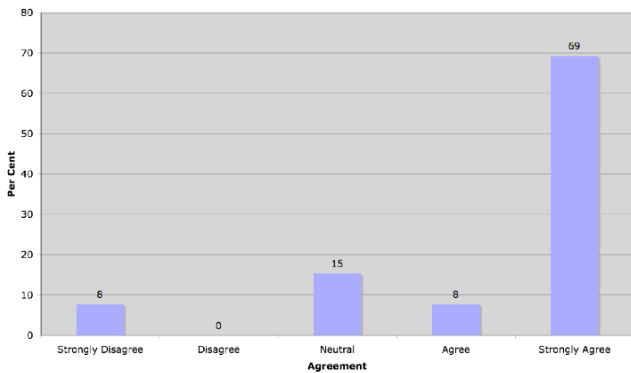
Q43 Zymoetz II: Resident-Only on Weekends (Local Business, N=26)



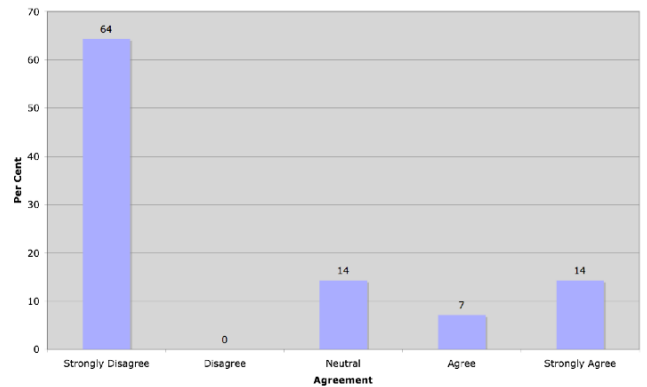
Q47 Zymoetz II: Limited-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents (Local Business, N=26)



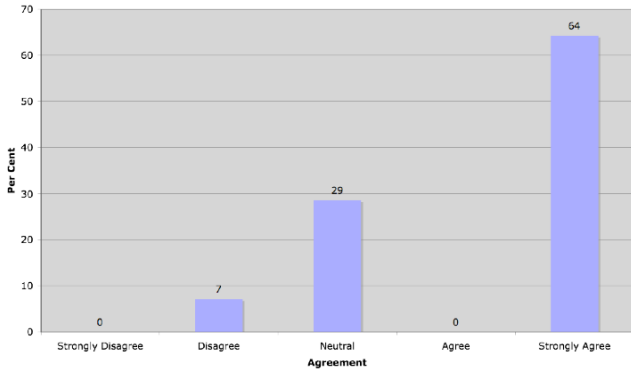
Q44 Zymoetz II: Maximum of Three Anglers per Guide or Assistant Guide per Day (Local Business, N=26)



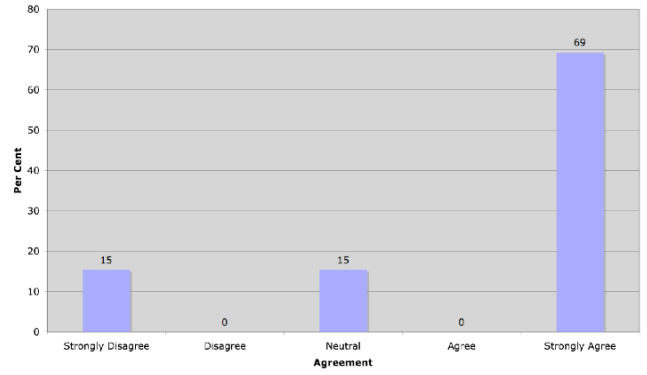
Q49 Kitsumkalum: All Non-Residents Must be Guided (Local Business, N=26)



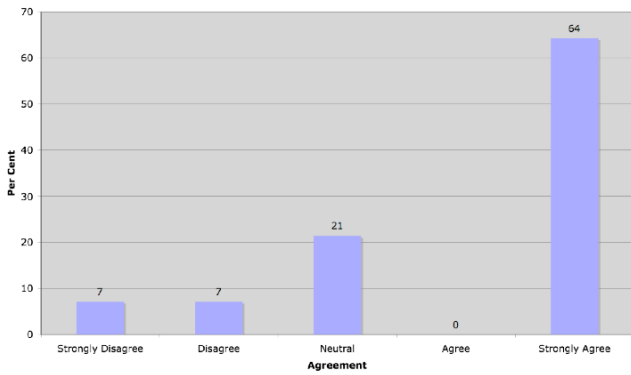
Q50 Kitsumkalum: Limit Each Guide to One Boat in Upper River and One Boat in Lower River (Local Business, N=26)



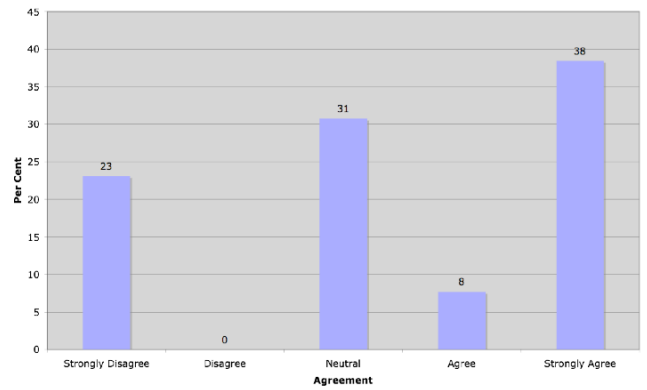
Q54 Kitsumkalum: Reduce Maximum Number of Guides to 11 (Local Business, N=26)



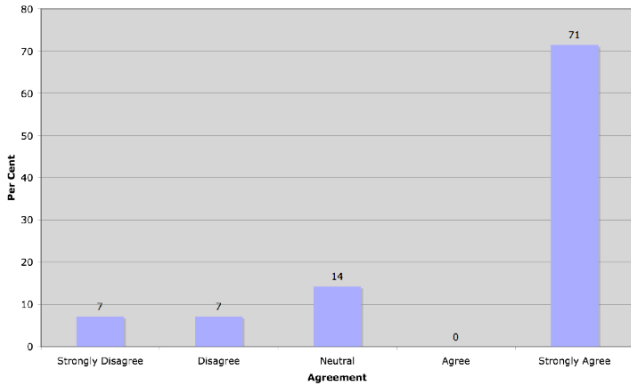
Q51 Kitsumkalum: Maximum Four Guided Anglers per Boat (Local Business, N=26)



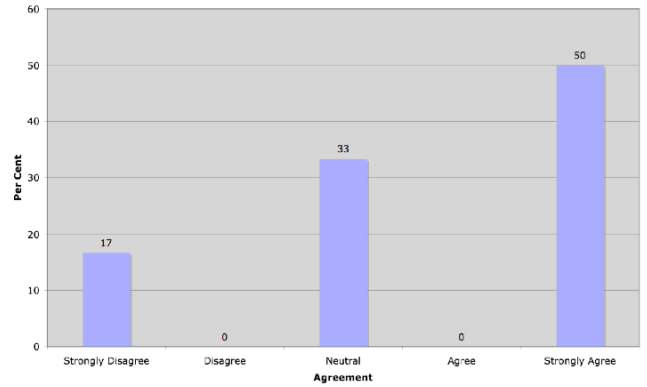
Q55 Kitsumkalum: Resident-Only on Sundays (Local Business, N=26)



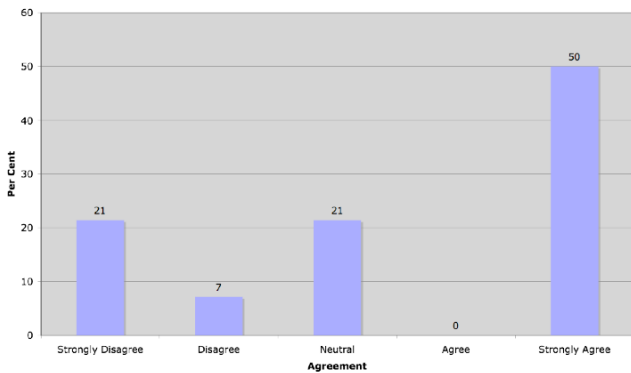
Q52 Kitsumkalum: No Guiding on Sundays (Local Business, N=26)



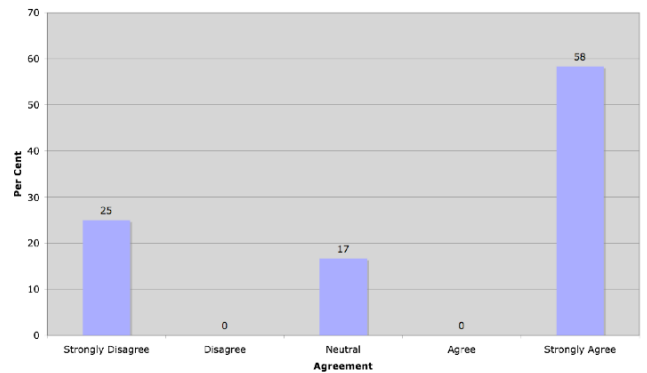
Q57 Lakelse: Class I Classified Water All Year (Local Business, N=26)



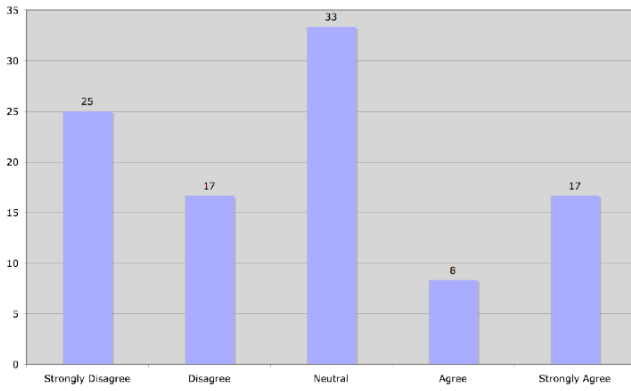
Q53 Kitsumkalum: No Guiding from Glacier Creek to Kitsumkalum Lake on Saturdays (Local Business, N=26)



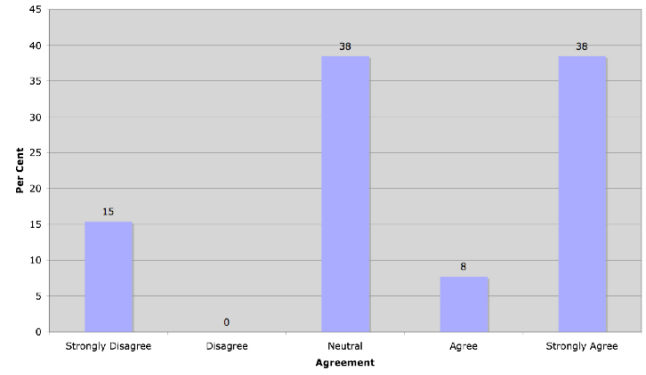
Q58 Lakelse: Mandatory Steelhead Stamp from Sept 1 - May 31 (Local Business, N=26)



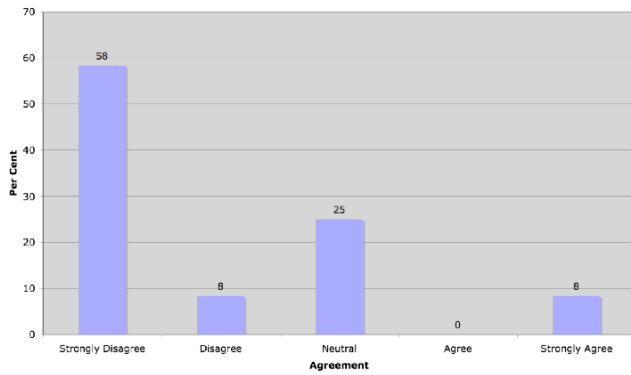
Q59 Lakelse: Resident-Only from March 1 - May 31 (Local Business, N=26)



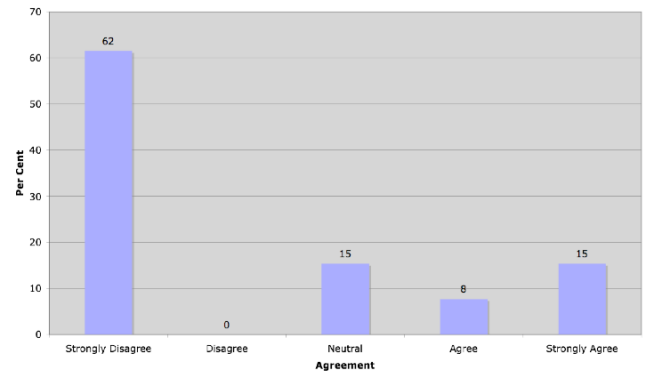
Q64 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Existing Guides Can Guide Downstream and Upstream of Kitwanga Bridge (Local Business, N=26)



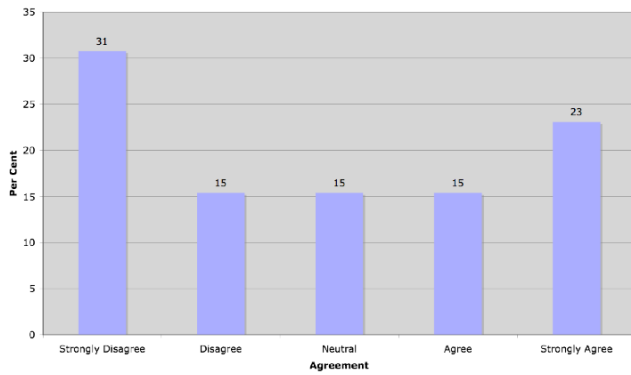
Q60 Lakelse: Trigger Limited-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents (Local Business, N=26)



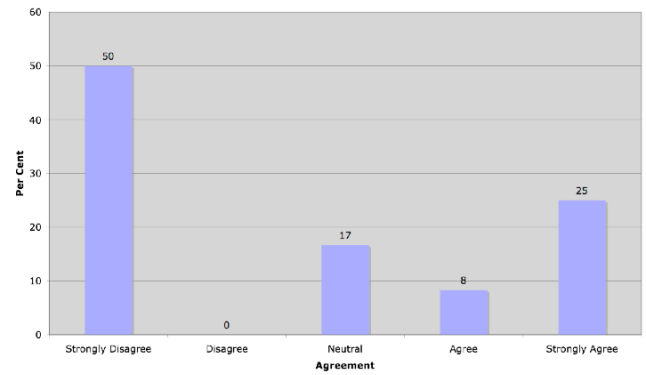
Q65 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Four New Guide Opportunities of 20 Rod-Days Each (Local Business, N=26)



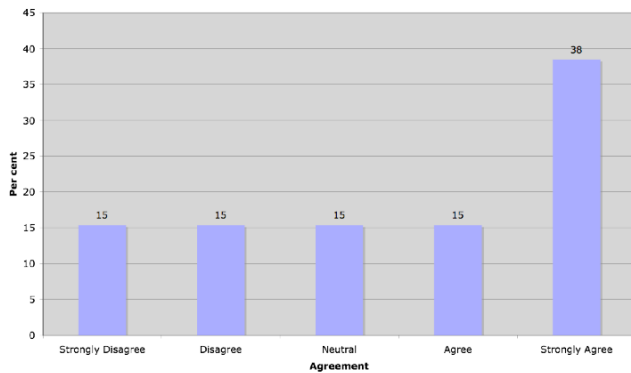
Q62 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Class I Classified Water All Year (Local Business, N=26)



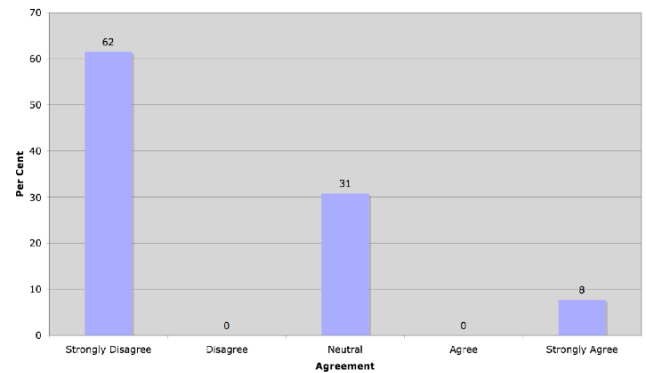
Q66 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Existing Guides from Terrace Area Issued 30 Additional Rod-Days Each (Local Business, N=26)



Q63 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Maintain Current Steelhead Stamp (Only Required for Steelhead) (Local Business, N=26)



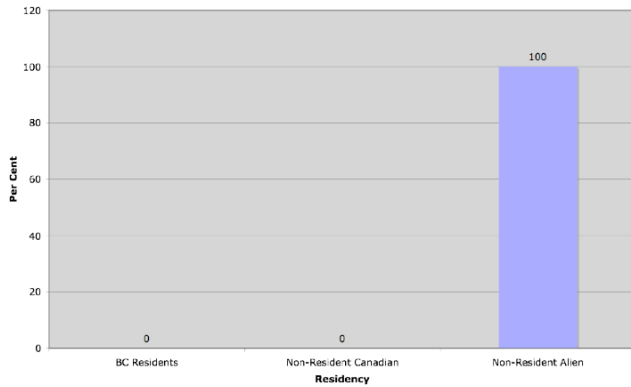
Q67 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Trigger Limited-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents (Local Business, N=26)



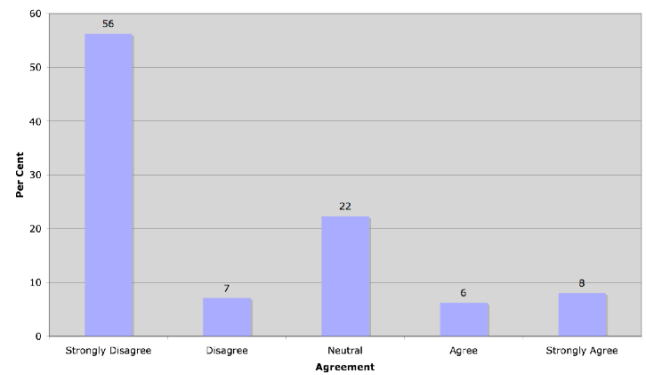
Appendix D Non-resident aliens: Response Form closed question results

(See Appendix A for full text of questions)

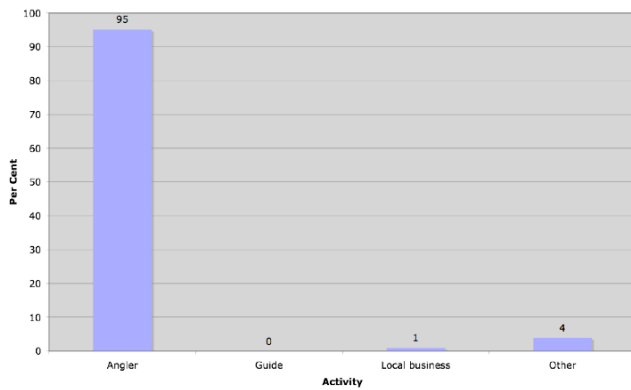
Q1 Place of Residence (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



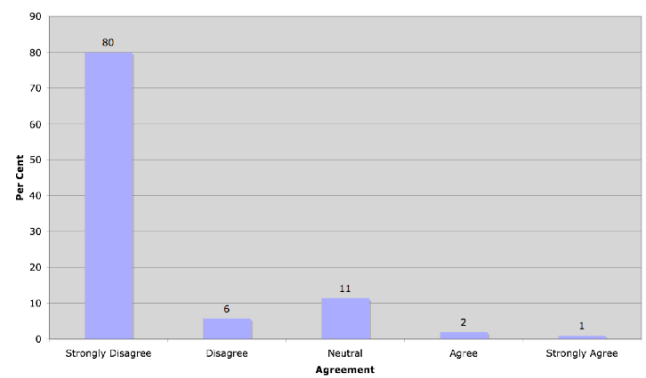
Q5 Kitseguella and Kitwanga: Resident-Only on Saturdays (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



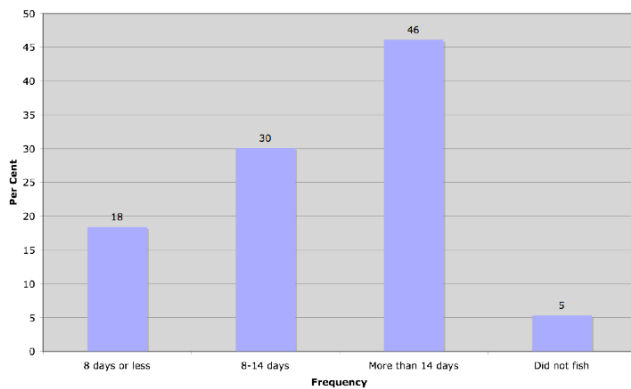
Q2 Principal Activity (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



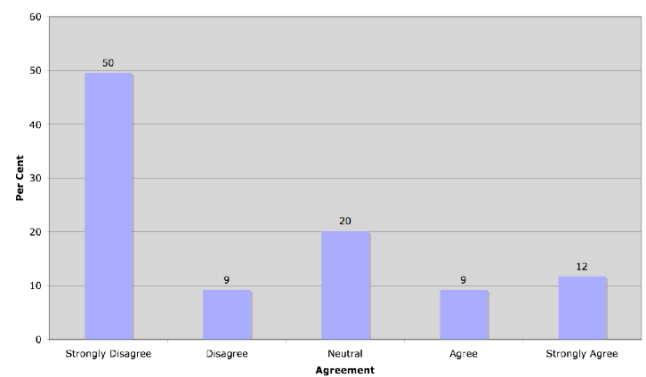
Q6 Kitseguella and Kitwanga: Trigger for Eight-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents (N=206)



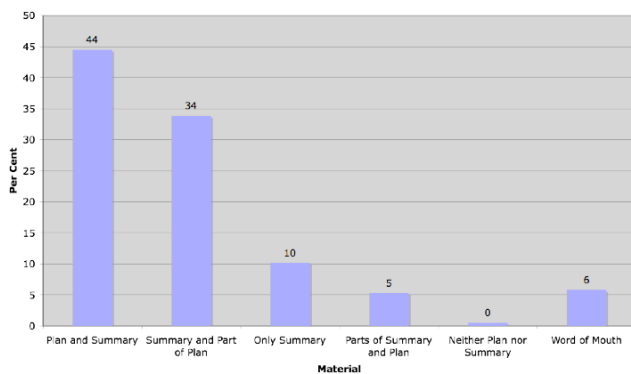
Q3 Angling Activity (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



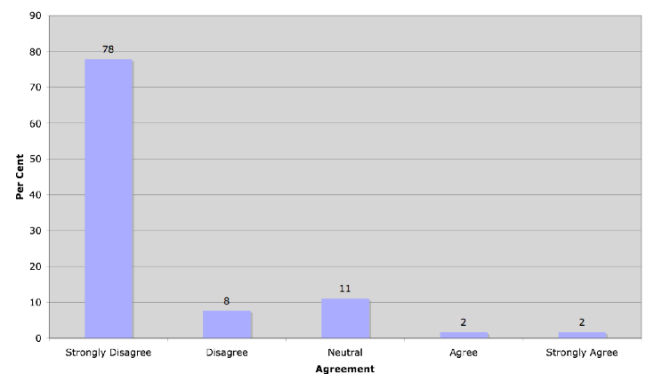
Q8 Suskwa: Resident-Only on Saturdays (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



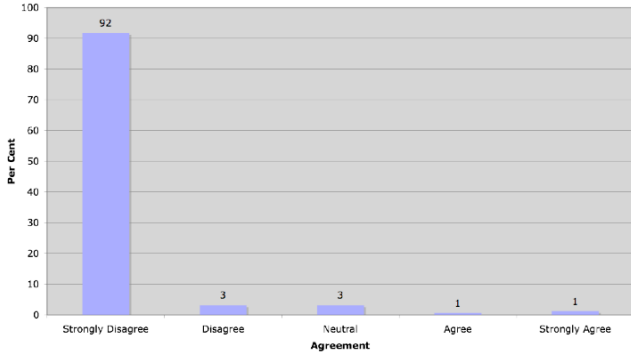
Q4 Background Information Read Before Completing Response Form (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



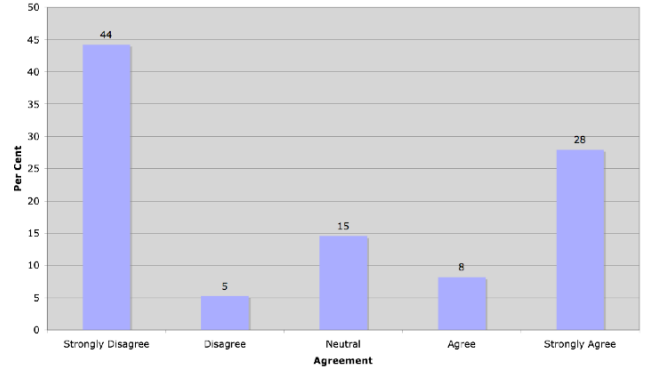
Q9 Suskwa: Trigger for Eight-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



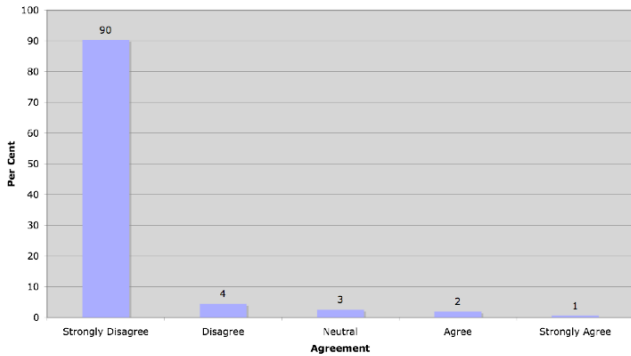
Q11 Skeena IV (Upstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Eight-Day Licence and Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents from Salmon River to Four-Mile Bridge (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



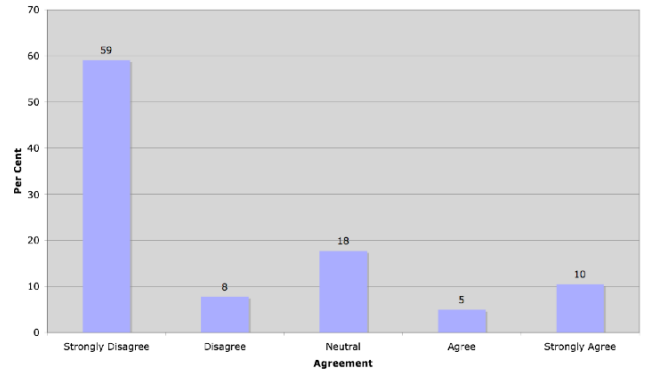
Q16 Kispiox: Status Quo Zone between 20.2 and 29.5 Kilometres on Kispiox Valley Road (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



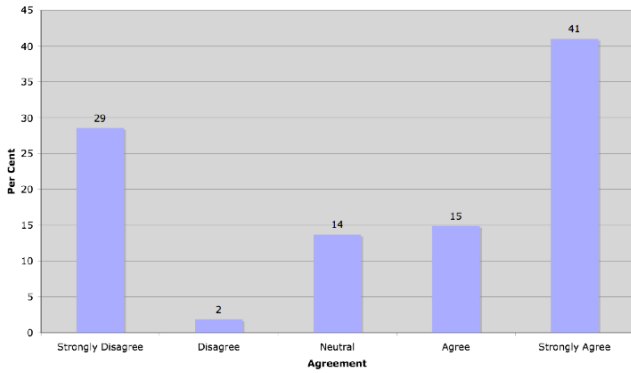
Q12 Skeena IV (Upstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Eight-Day Licence and Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents from Mouth of Bulkeley to Kitwanga Bridge (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



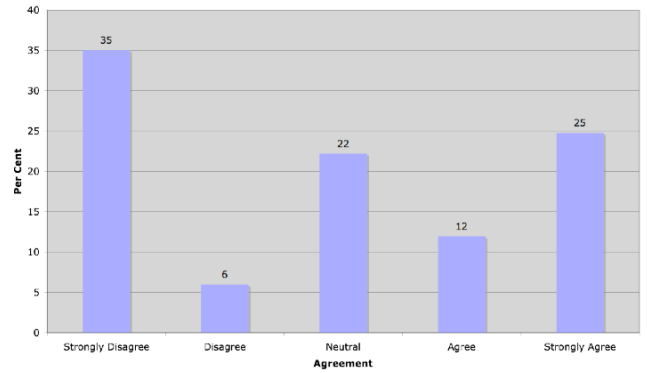
Q17 Kispiox: Resident-Only Angling on Saturdays (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



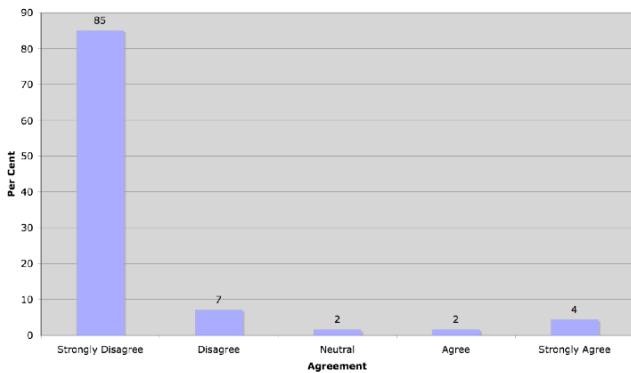
Q13 Skeena IV (Upstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Mandatory Steelhead Stamp Sept 1 - Oct 31



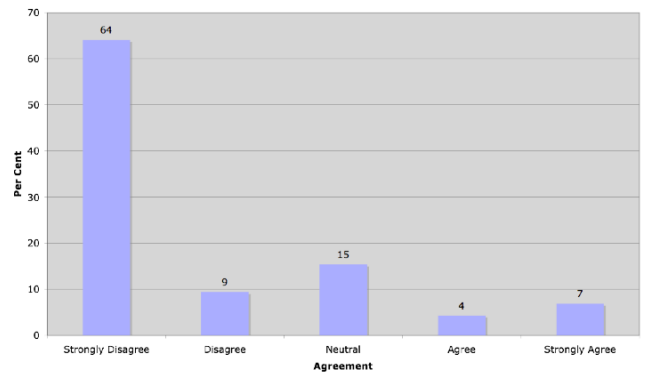
Q19 Babine: No Guiding Upstream from Nichyeskwa to 80 Metres Below Counting Fence (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



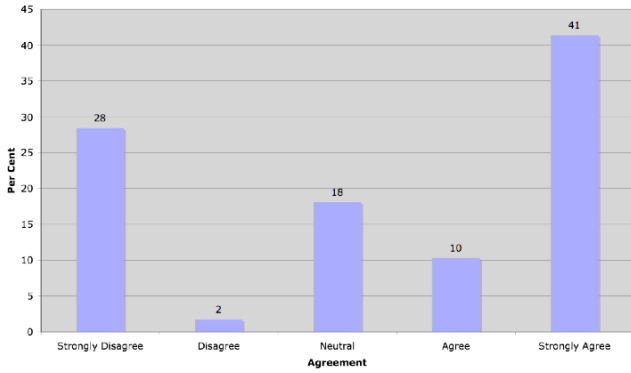
Q15 Kispiox: Eight-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



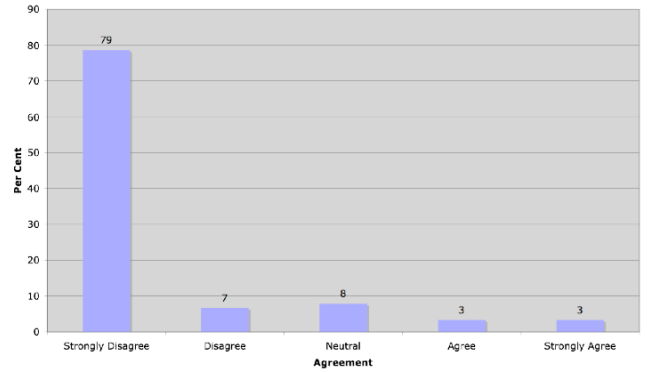
Q20 Babine: Resident-Only between Nichyeskwa and Nilkitkwa (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



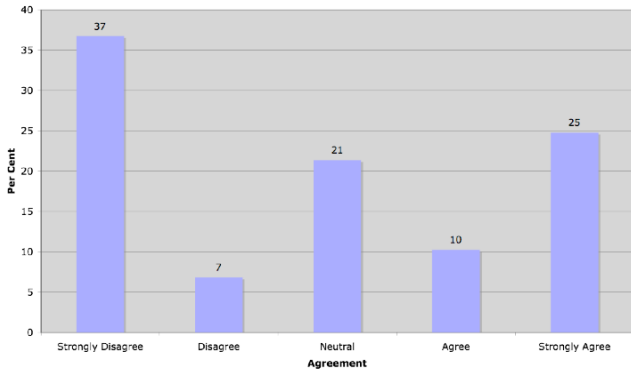
Q21 Babine: Open to All Anglers Downstream from Nilkitkwa (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



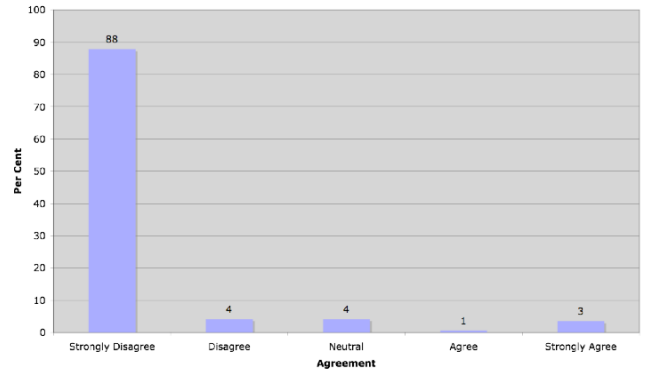
Q26 Bulkley: Trigger Eight-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents Option 1 (High Use) (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



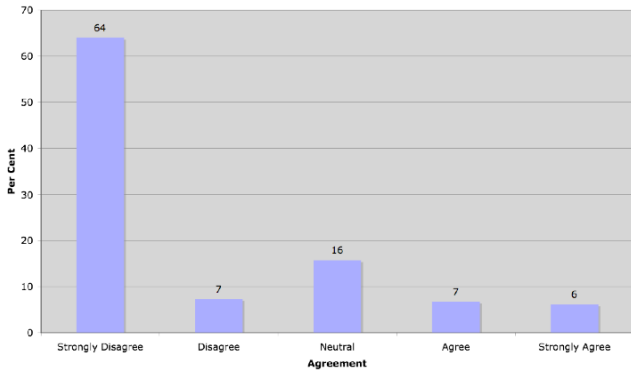
Q22 Babine: Ministry to Review and Rationalize Guided Rod-Days (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



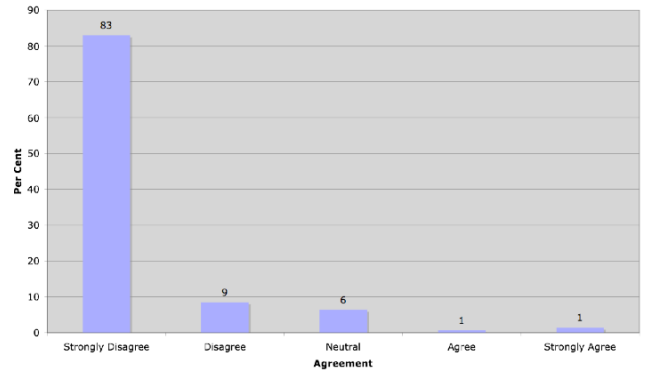
Q27 Bulkley: Trigger Limited-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents Option 2 (Average Use) (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



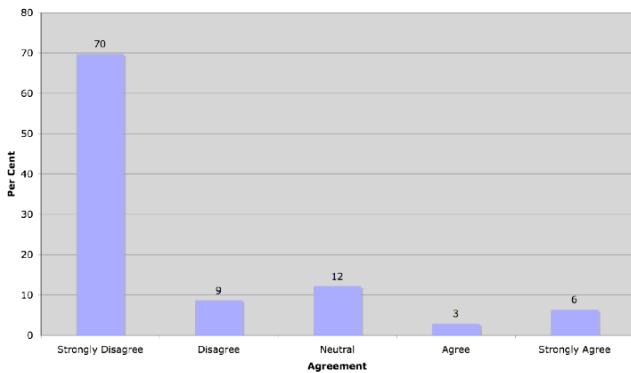
Q24 Bulkley: Resident-Only Weekends at Mouths of Chicken, Toboggan and Telkwa (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



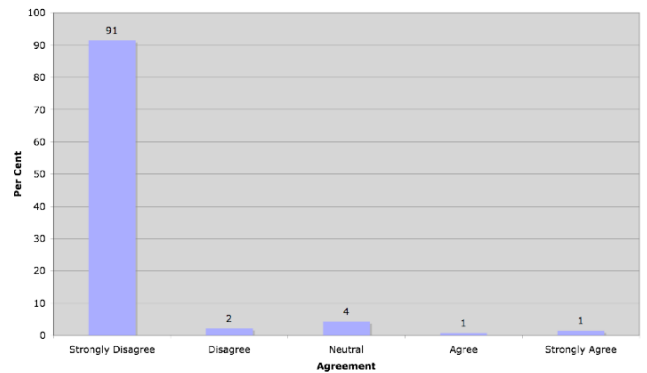
Q29 Morice: Trigger Limited-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents Option 1 (High Use) (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



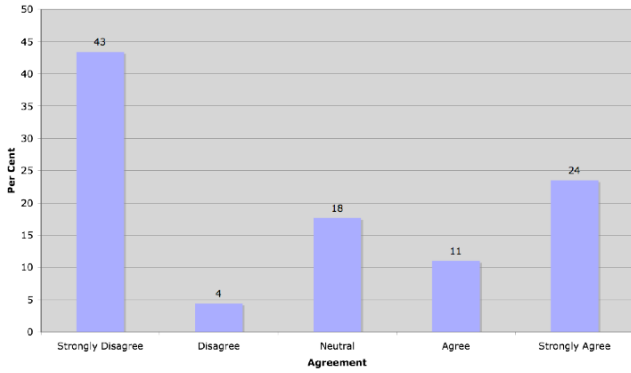
Q25 Bulkley: Resident-Only on Telkwa During Classified Period (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



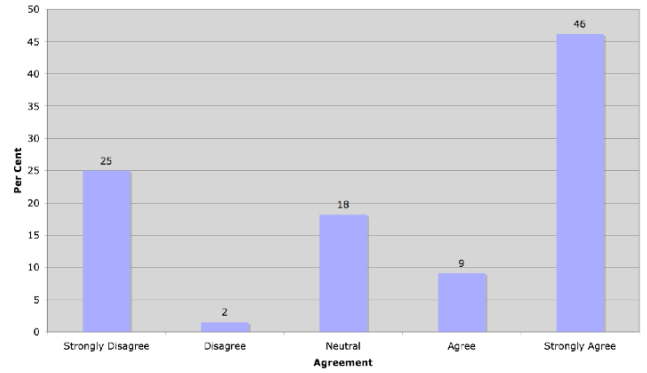
Q30 Morice: Trigger Eight-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents Option 2 (Average Use) (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



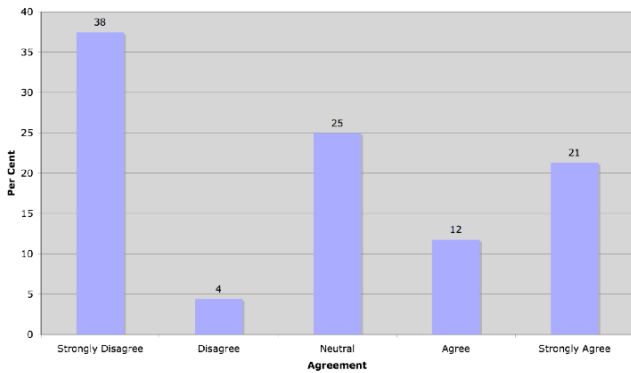
**Q31 Morice: Ministry Conduct Review of Guided Rod-Days
(Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)**



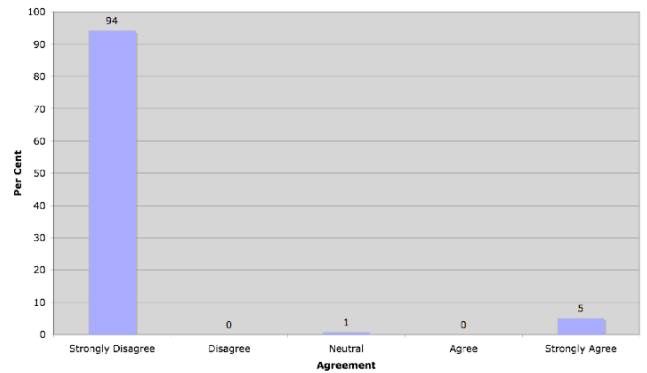
**Q36 Zymoetz I: Limit Guides to Maximum of Three Anglers per Boat
(Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)**



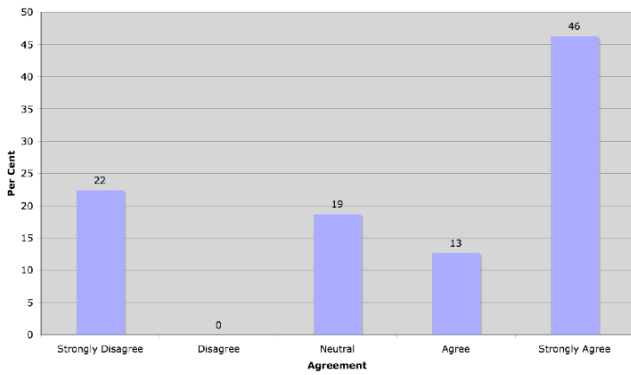
**Q33 Zymoetz I: Extend Classified Period from Aug 1 - Dec 31
(Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)**



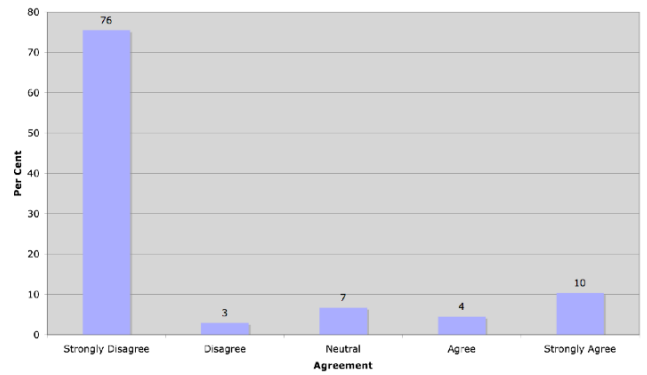
**Q37 Zymoetz I: All Non-Residents Must be Guided
(Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)**



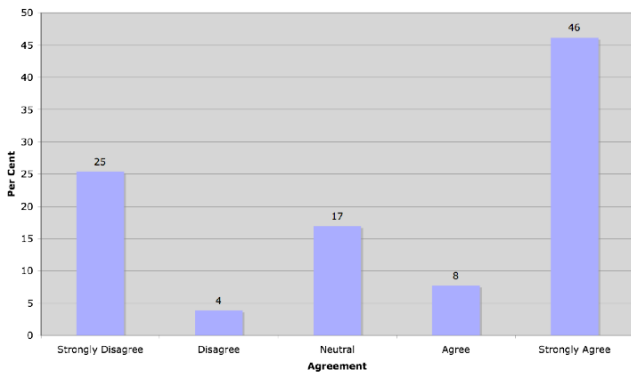
**Q34 Zymoetz I: Mandatory Steelhead Stamp Aug 1 - Dec 31
(Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)**



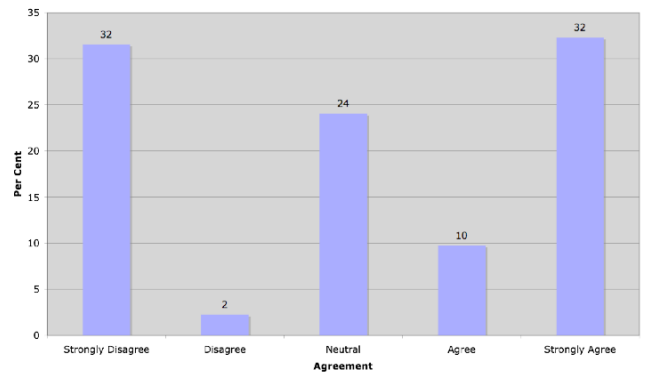
**Q38 Zymoetz I: Increase Allocation to Existing Guides by 10 Rod-Days Each
(Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)**



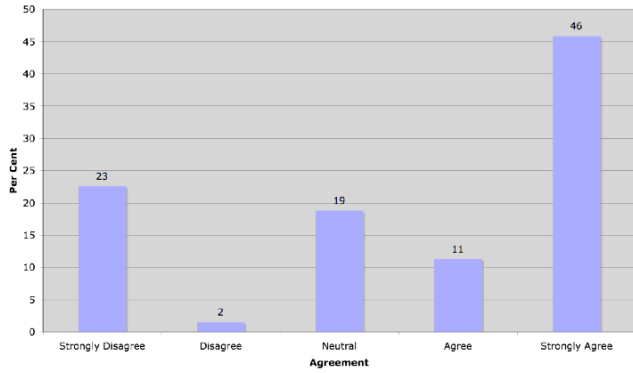
**Q35 Zymoetz I: Limit Guides to One Boat per Guide per Day
(Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)**



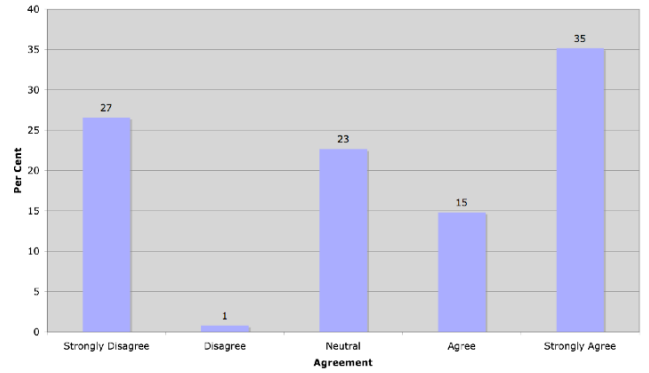
**Q40 Zymoetz II: Extend Classified Period to Aug 1 - May 31
(Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)**



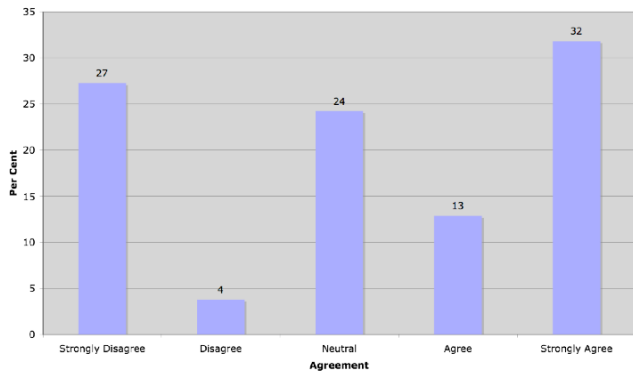
Q41 Zymoetz II: Mandatory Steelhead Stamp Aug 1 - May 31 (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



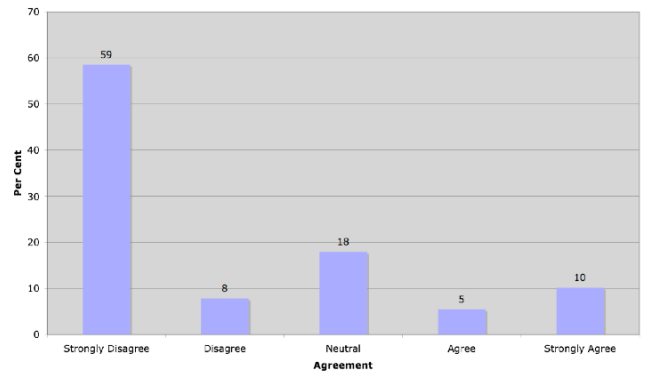
Q45 Zymoetz II: Distribute Guiding Effort Evenly Throughout Classified Period (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



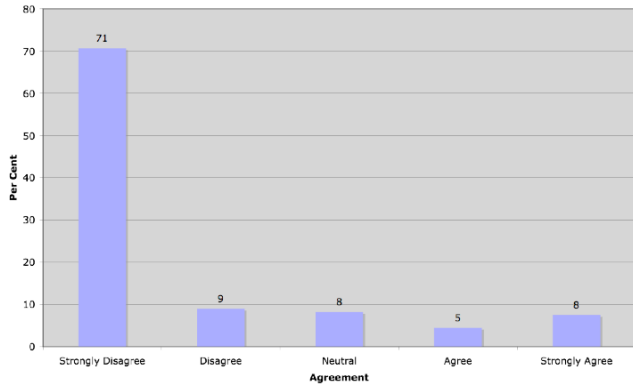
Q42 Zymoetz II: Include Clore River with Zymoetz II Classified Waters (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



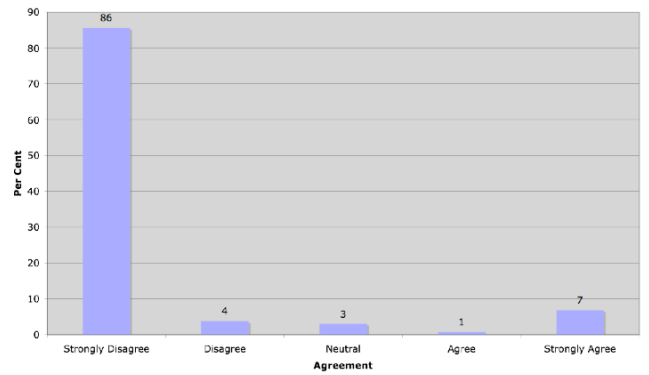
Q46 Zymoetz II: Increase Current Guide Allocation to 267 Rod-Days (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



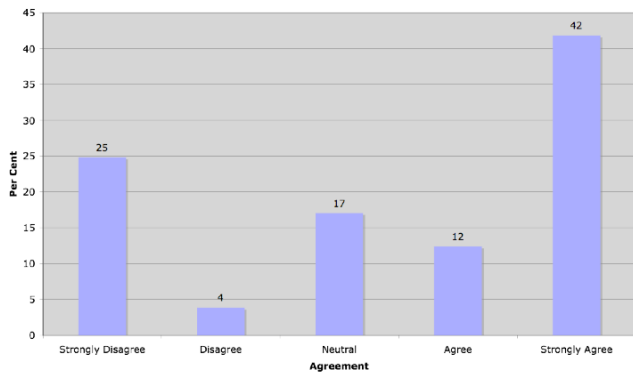
Q43 Zymoetz II: Resident-Only on Weekends (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



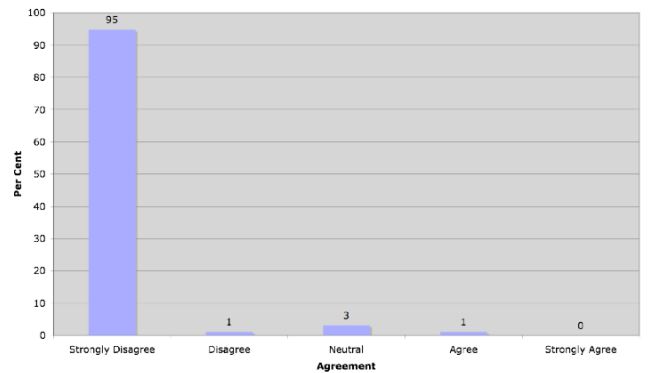
Q47 Zymoetz II: Limited-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



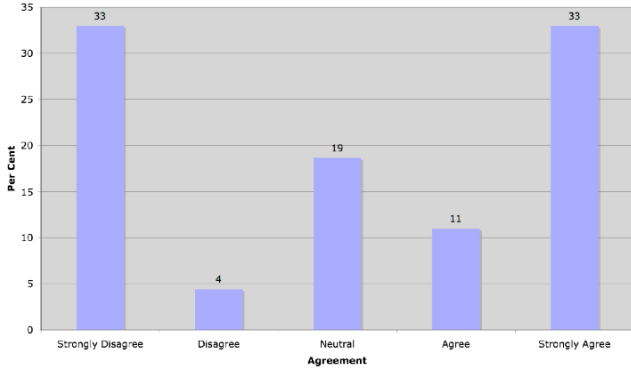
Q44 Zymoetz II: Maximum of Three Anglers per Guide or Assistant Guide per Day (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



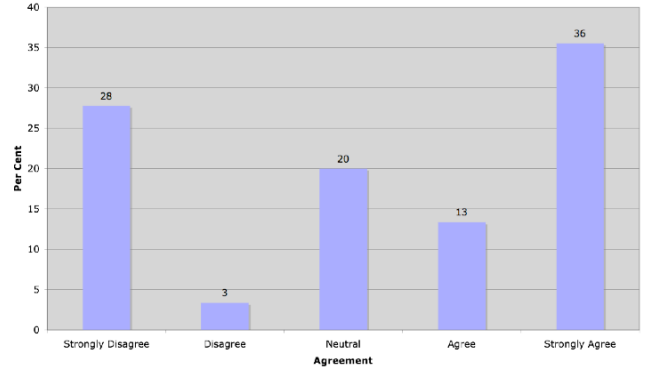
Q49 Kitsumkalum: All Non-Residents Must be Guided (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



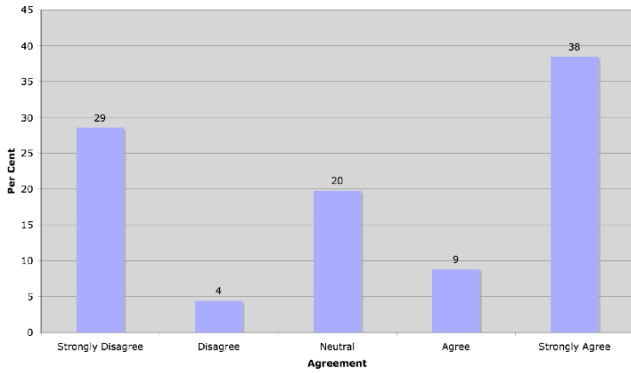
Q50 Kitsumkalum: Limit Each Guide to One Boat in Upper River and One Boat in Lower River (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



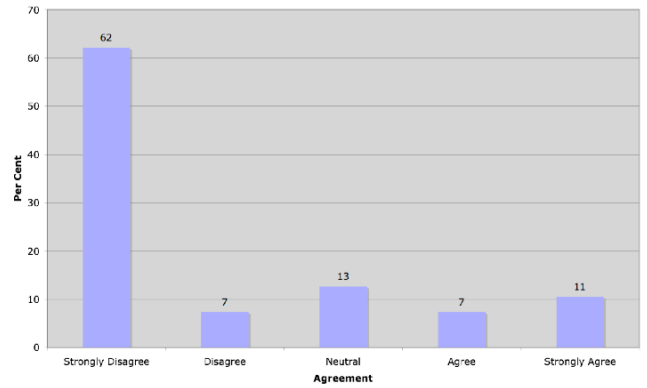
Q54 Kitsumkalum: Reduce Maximum Number of Guides to 11 (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



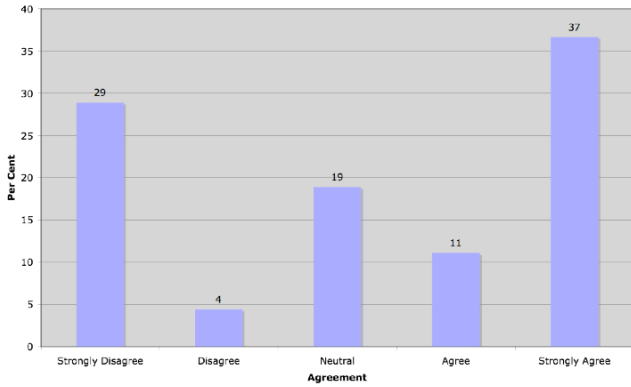
Q51 Kitsumkalum: Maximum Four Guided Anglers per Boat (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



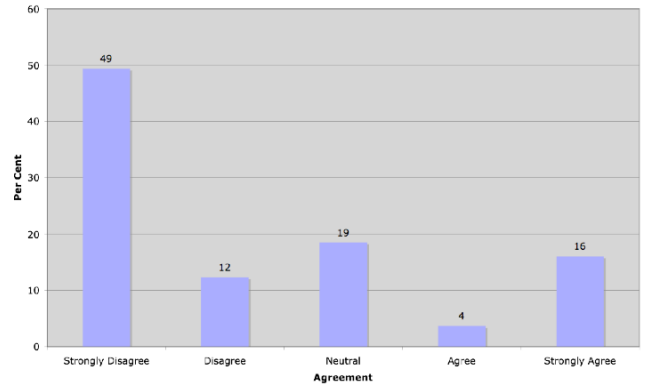
Q55 Kitsumkalum: Resident-Only on Sundays (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



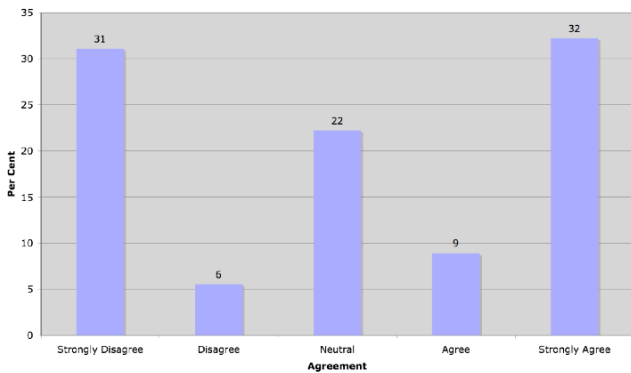
Q52 Kitsumkalum: No Guiding on Sundays (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



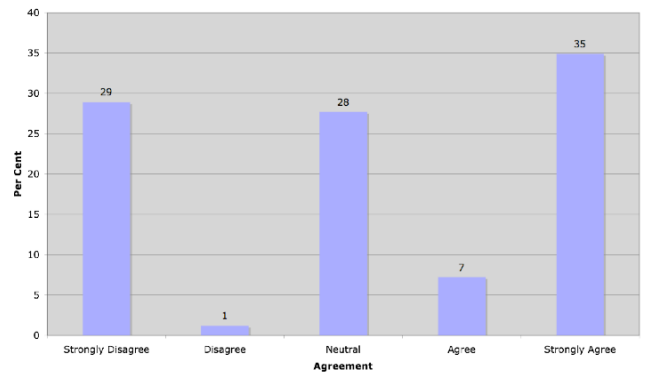
Q57 Lakelse: Class I Classified Water All Year (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



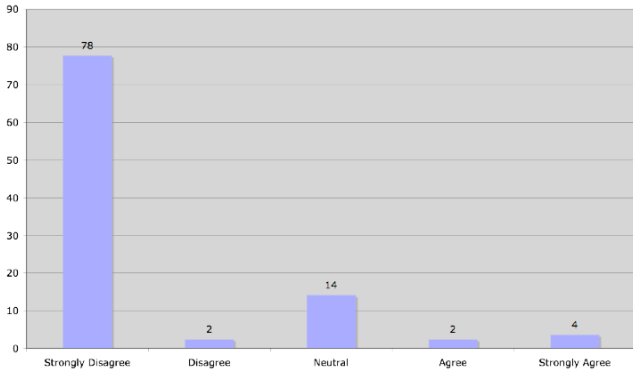
Q53 Kitsumkalum: No Guiding from Glacier Creek to Kitsumkalum Lake on Saturdays (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



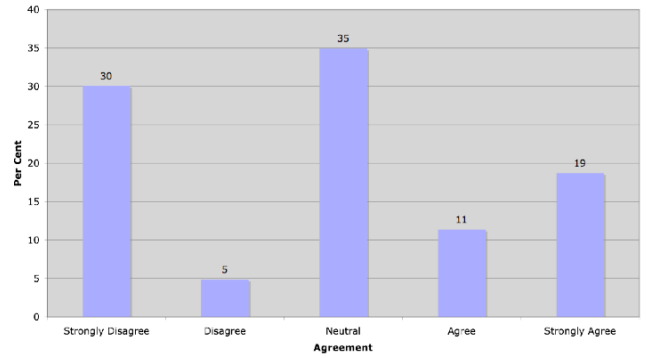
Q58 Lakelse: Mandatory Steelhead Stamp from Sept 1 - May 31 (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



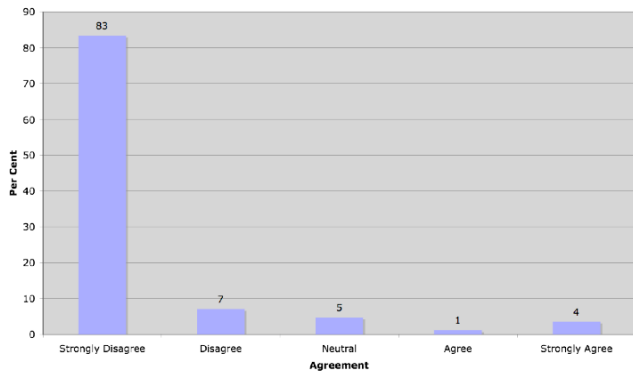
Q59 Lakelse: Resident-Only from March 1 - May 31 (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



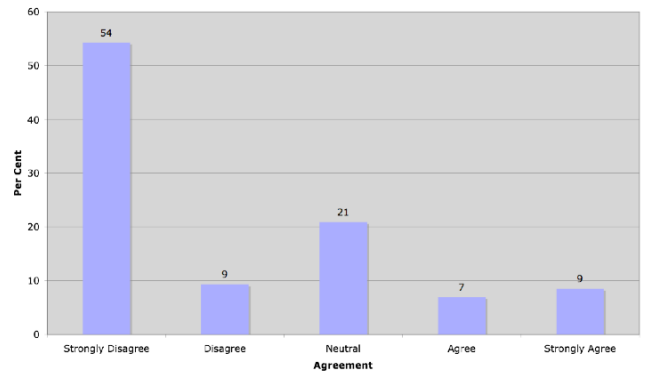
Q64 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Existing Guides Can Guide Downstream and Upstream of Kitwanga Bridge (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



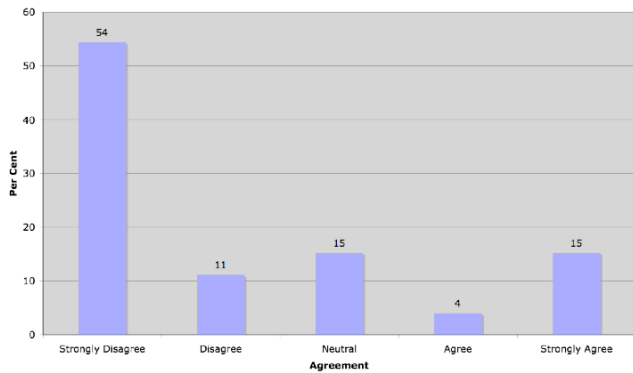
Q60 Lakelse: Trigger Limited-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



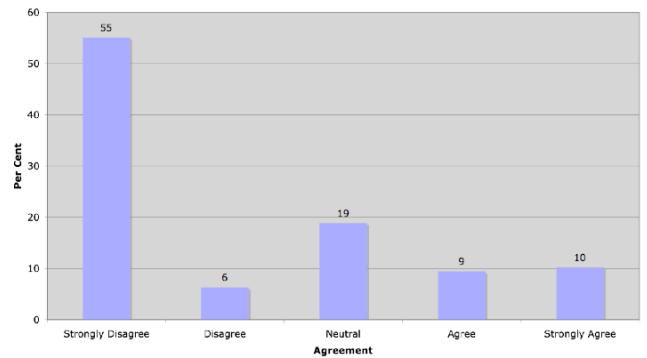
Q65 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Four New Guide Opportunities of 20 Rod-Days Each (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



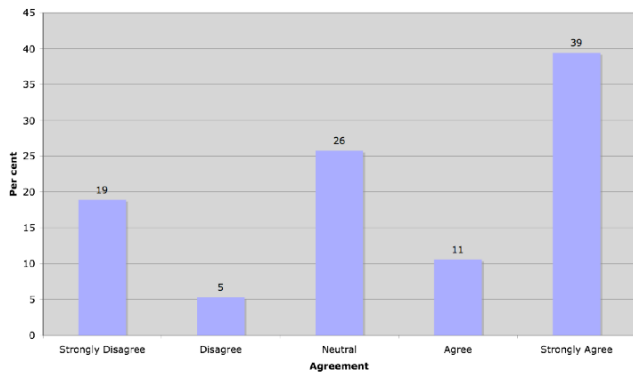
Q62 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Class I Classified Water All Year (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



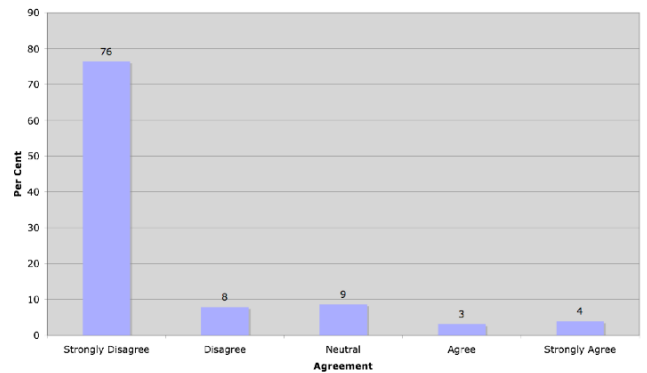
Q66 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Existing Guides from Terrace Area Issued 30 Additional Rod-Days Each (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



Q63 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Maintain Current Steelhead Stamp (Only Required for Steelhead) (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



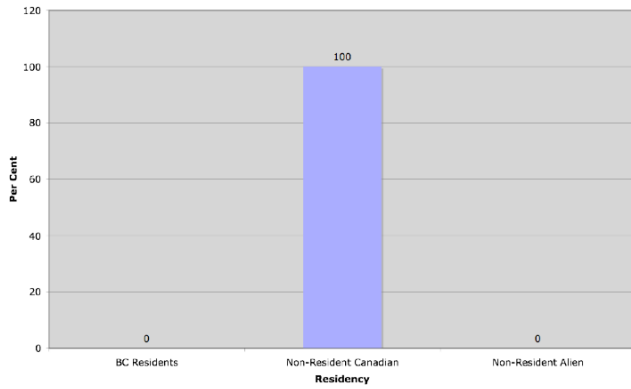
Q67 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Trigger Limited-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents (Non-Resident Aliens, N=206)



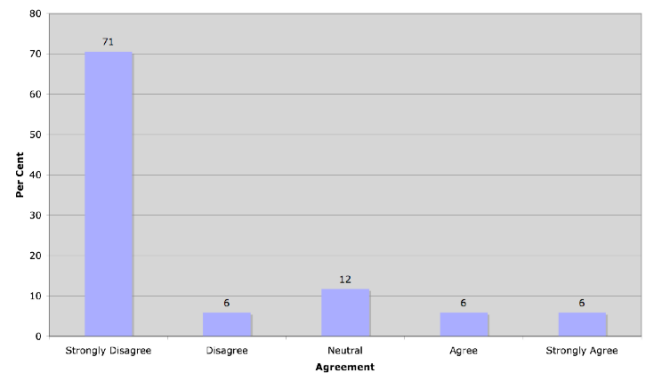
Appendix E Non-resident Canadians: Response Form closed question results

(See Appendix A for full text of questions)

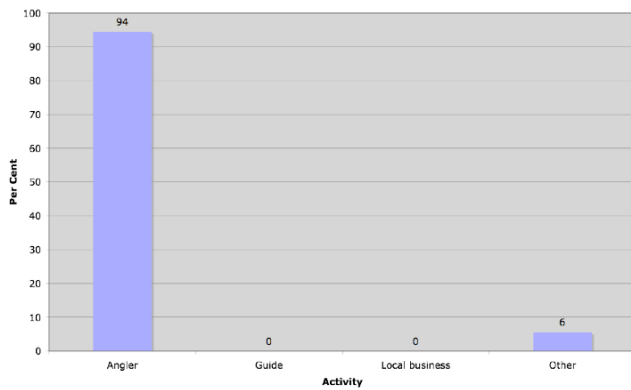
Q1 Place of Residence (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



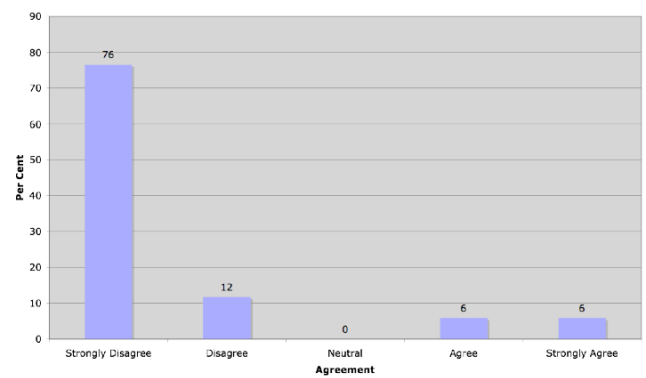
Q5 Kitseguella and Kitwanga: Resident-Only on Saturdays (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



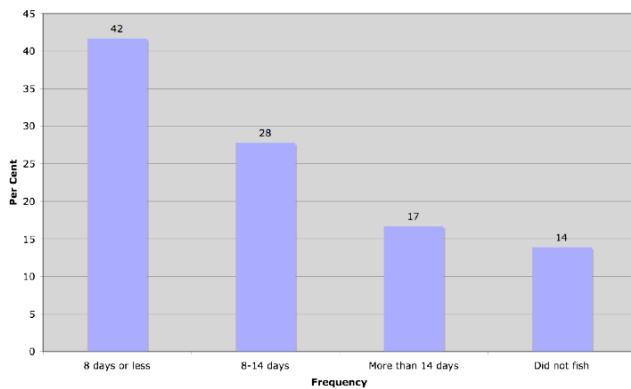
Q2 Principal Activity (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



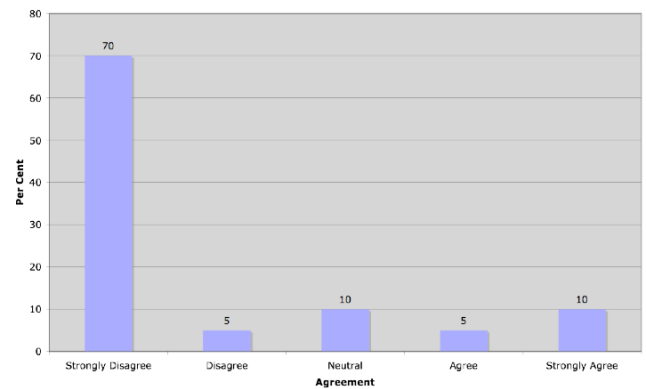
Q6 Kitseguella and Kitwanga: Trigger for Eight-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



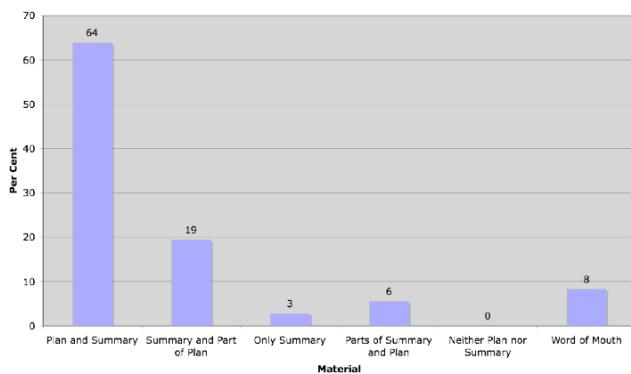
Q3 Angling Activity (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



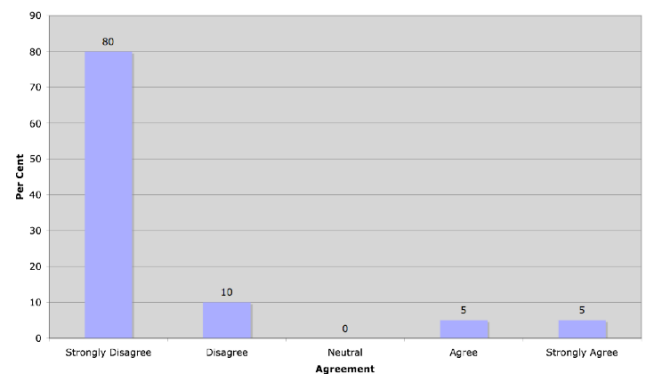
Q8 Suskwa: Resident-Only on Saturdays (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



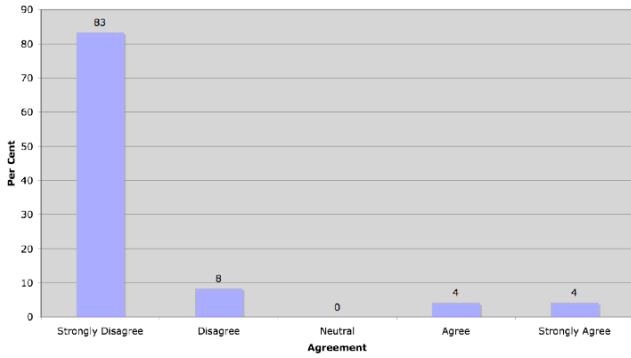
Q4 Background Information Read Before Completing Response Form (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



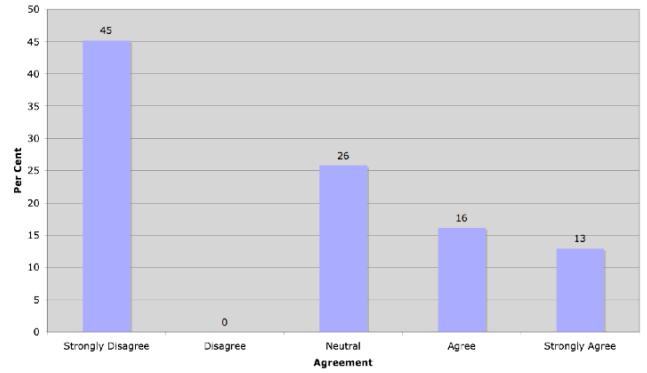
Q9 Suskwa: Trigger for Eight-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



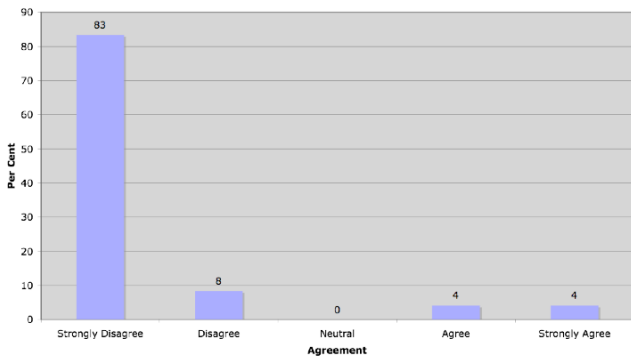
Q11 Skeena IV (Upstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Eight-Day Licence and Lottery from Salmon River to Four-Mile Bridge (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



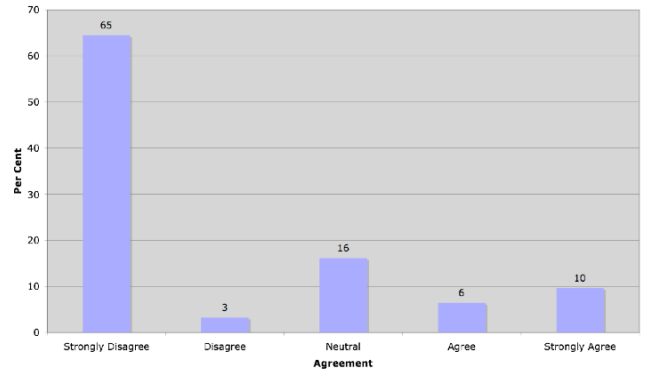
Q16 Kispix: Status Quo Zone between 20.2 and 29.5 Kilometres on Kispix Valley Road (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



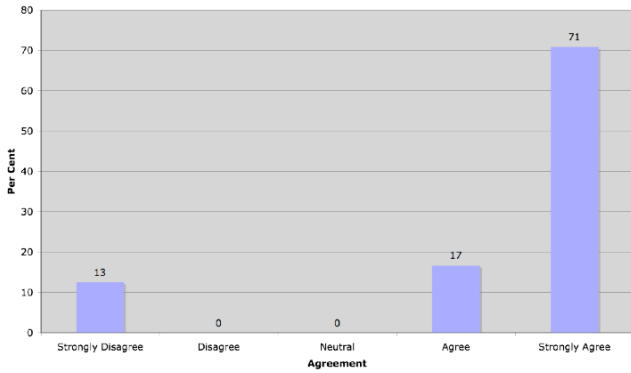
Q12 Skeena IV (Upstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Eight-Day Licence and Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents from Mouth of Bulkeley to Kitwanga Bridge (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



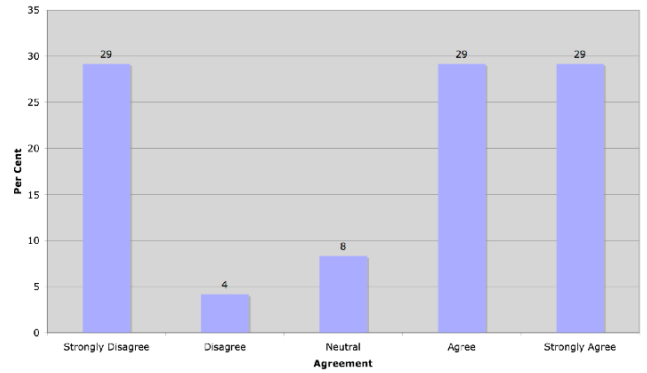
Q17 Kispix: Resident-Only Angling on Saturdays (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



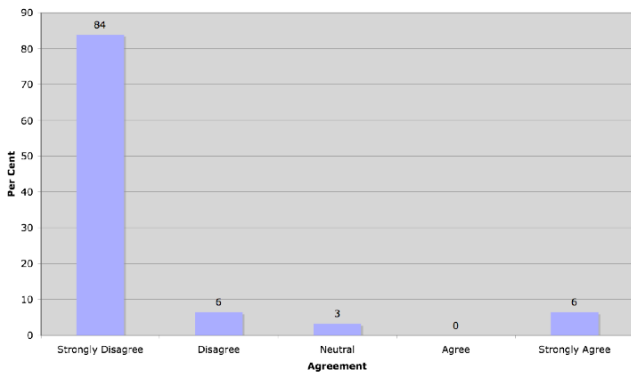
Q13 Skeena IV (upstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Mandatory Steelhead Stamp Sept 1 - Oct 31 (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



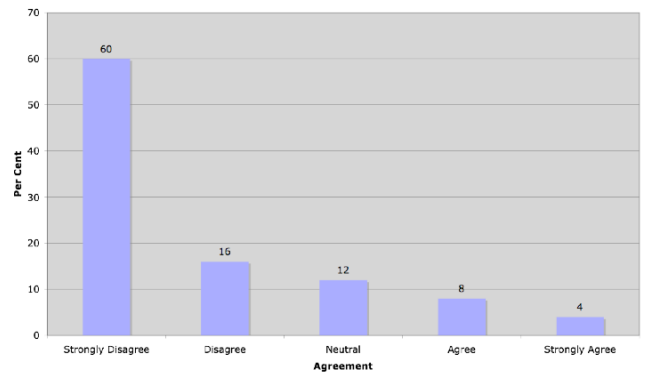
Q19 Babine: No Guiding Upstream from Nichyeskwa to 80 Metres Below Counting Fence (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



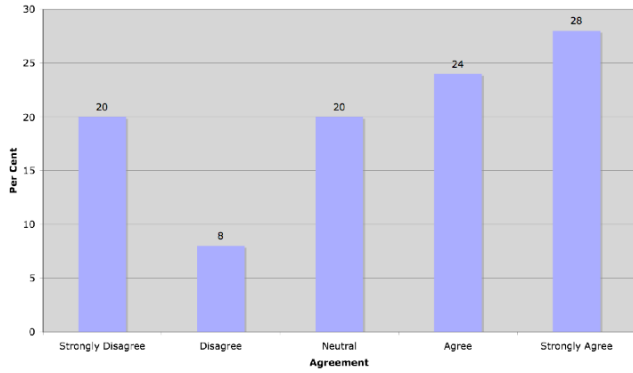
Q15 Kispix: Eight-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



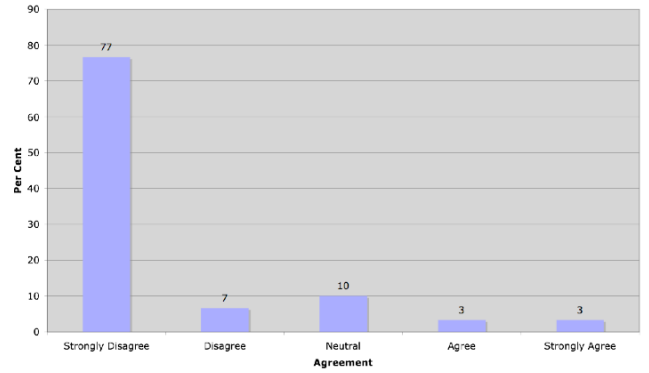
Q20 Babine: Resident-Only between Nichyeskwa and Nilkitkwa (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



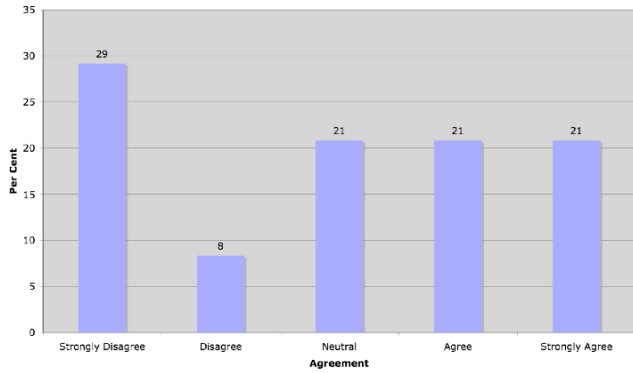
Q21 Babine: Open to All Anglers Downstream from Nilkitkwa (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



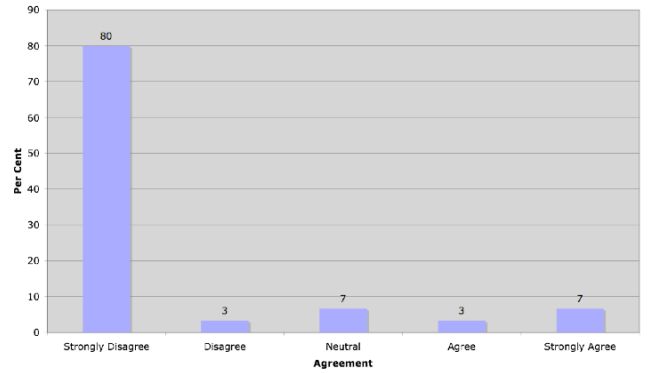
Q26 Bulkley: Trigger Eight-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents Option 1 (High Use) (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



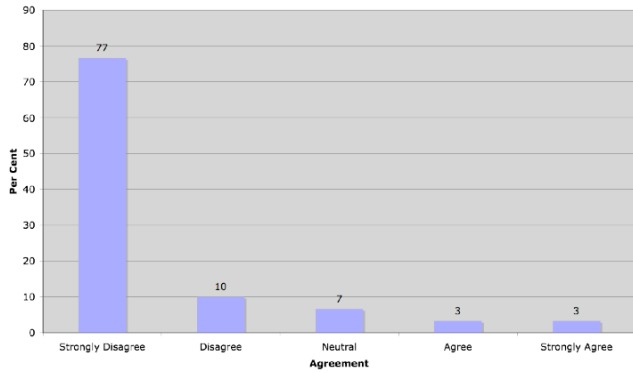
Q22 Babine: Ministry to Review and Rationalize Guided Rod-Days (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



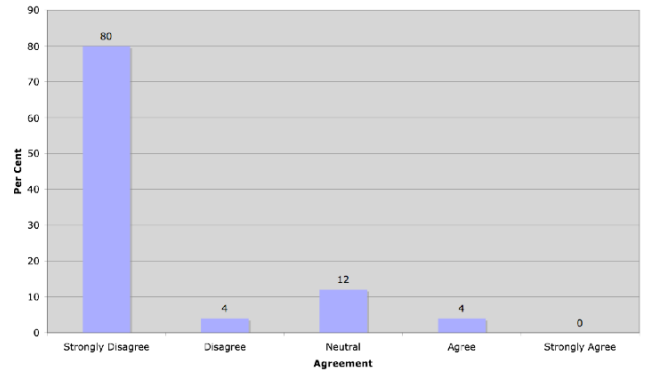
Q27 Bulkley: Trigger Limited-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents Option 2 (Average Use) (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



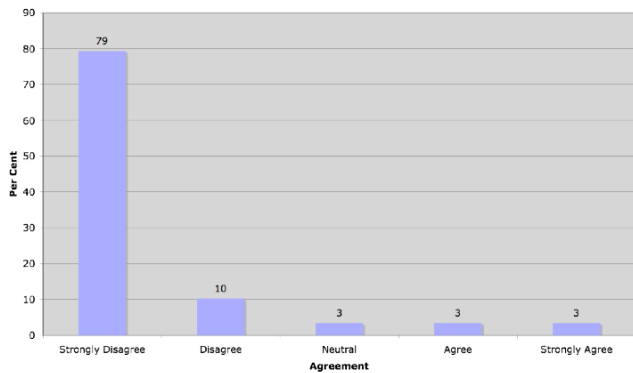
Q24 Bulkley: Resident-Only Weekends at Mouths of Chicken, Toboggan and Telkwa (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



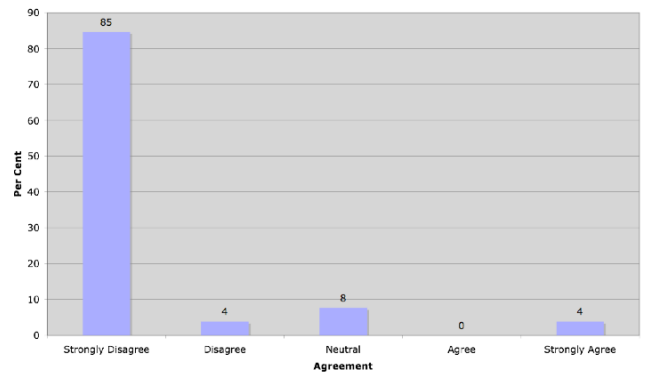
Q29 Morice: Trigger Limited-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents Option 1 (High Use) (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



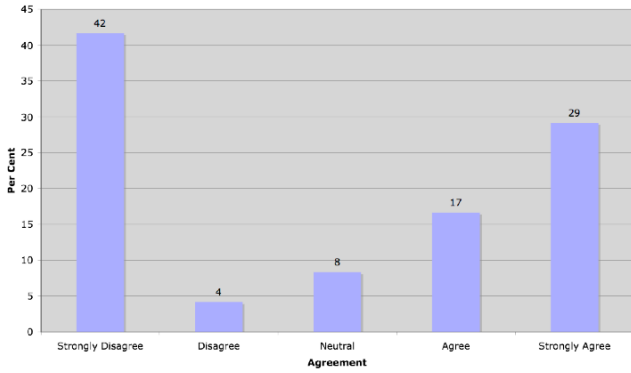
Q25 Bulkley: Resident-Only on Telkwa During Classified Period (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



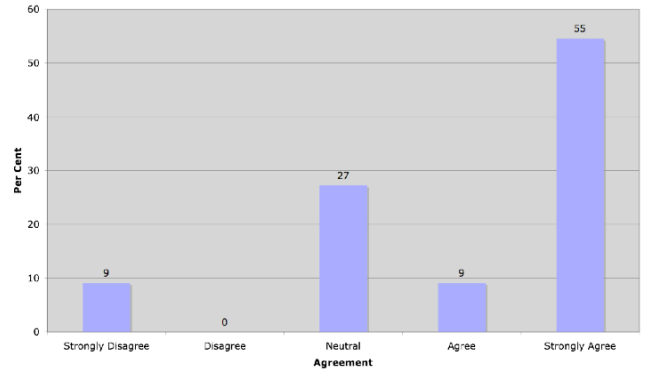
Q30 Morice: Trigger Eight-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents Option 2 (Average Use) (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



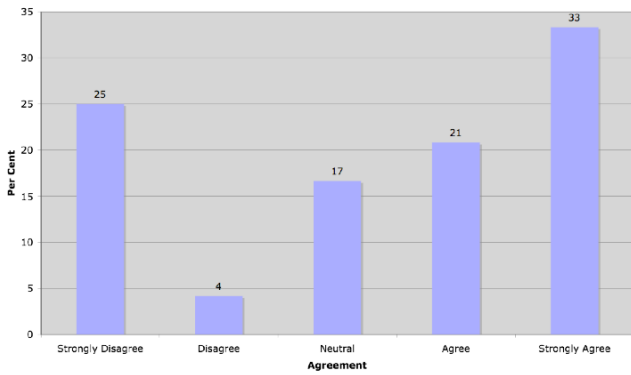
**Q31 Morice: Ministry Conduct Review of Guided Rod-Days
(Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)**



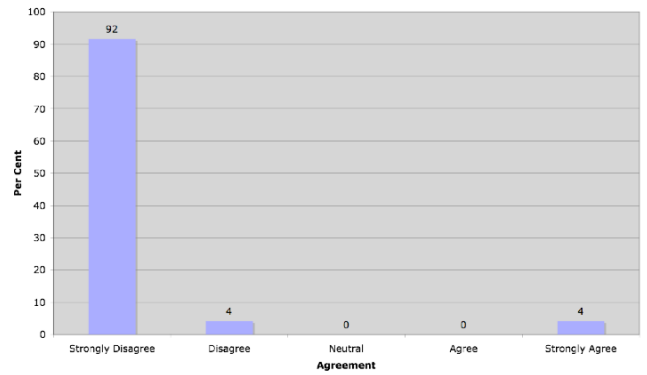
**Q36 Zymoetz I: Limit Guides to Maximum of Three Anglers per Boat
(Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)**



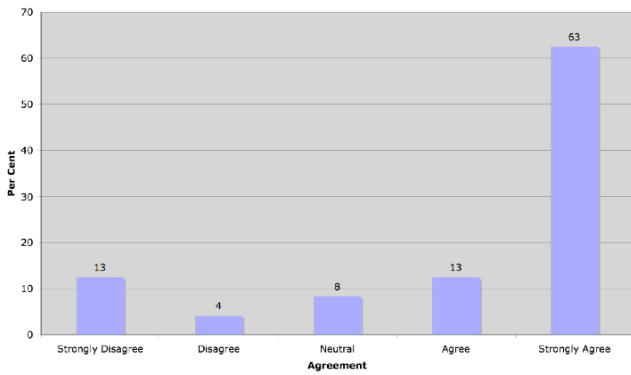
**Q33 Zymoetz I: Extend Classified Period from Aug 1 - Dec 31
(Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)**



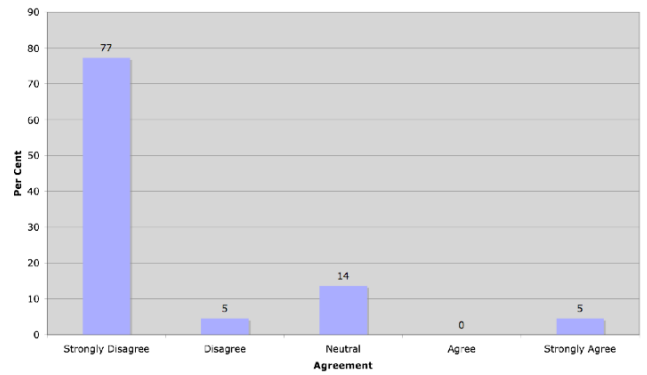
**Q37 Zymoetz I: All Non-Residents Must be Guided
(Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)**



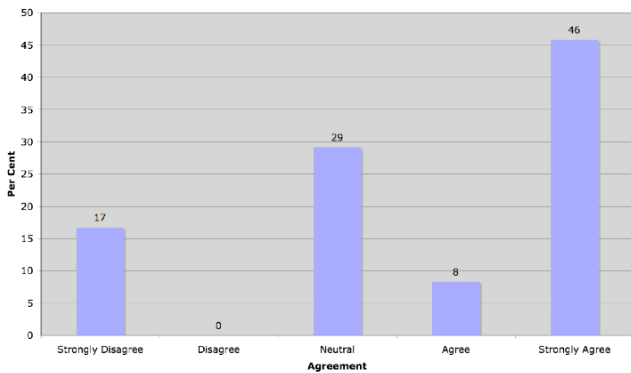
**Q34 Zymoetz I: Mandatory Steelhead Stamp Aug 1 - Dec 31
(Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)**



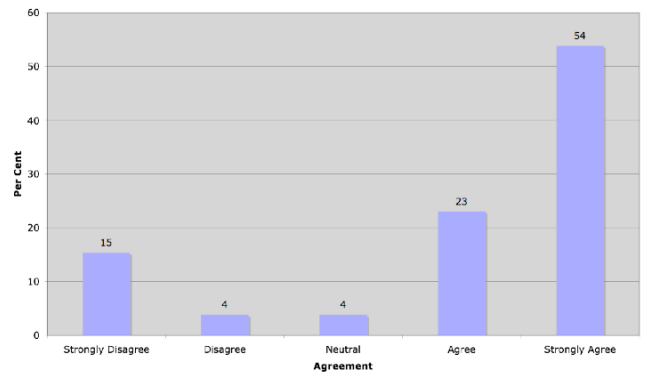
**Q38 Zymoetz I: Increase Allocation to Existing Guides by 10 Rod-Days Each
(Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)**



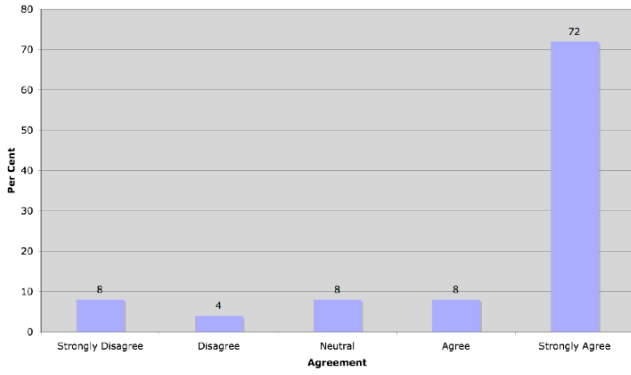
**Q35 Zymoetz I: Limit Guides to One Boat per Guide per Day
(Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)**



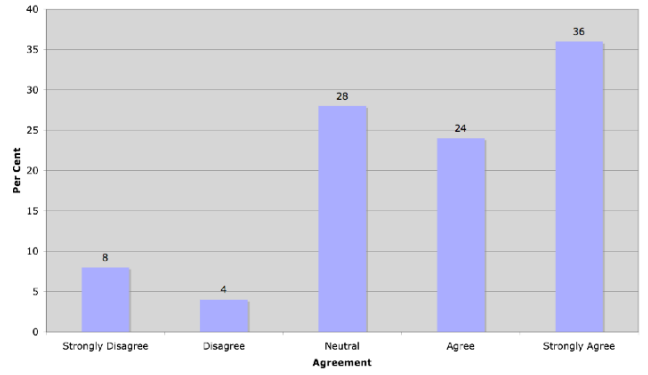
**Q40 Zymoetz II: Extend Classified Period to Aug 1 - May 31
(Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)**



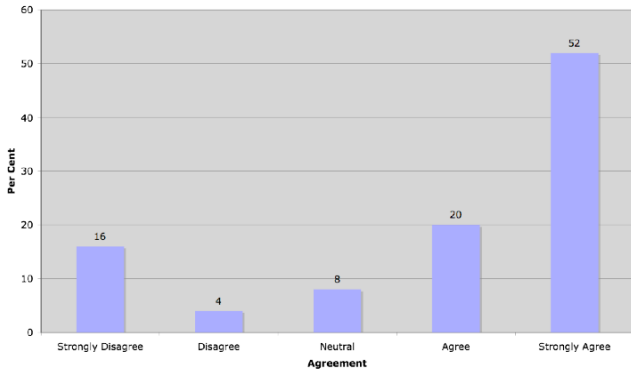
Q41 Zymoetz II: Mandatory Steelhead Stamp Aug 1 - May 31 (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



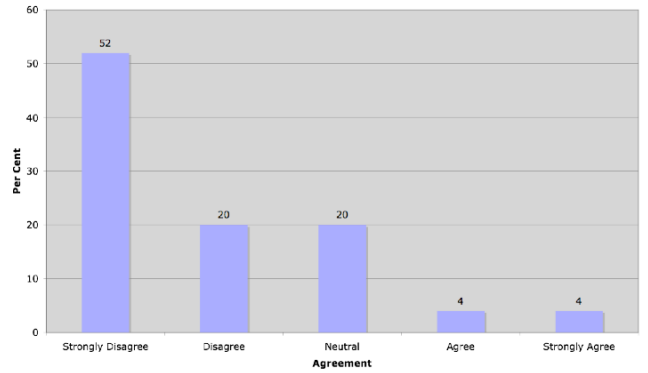
Q45 Zymoetz II: Distribute Guiding Effort Evenly Throughout Classified Period (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



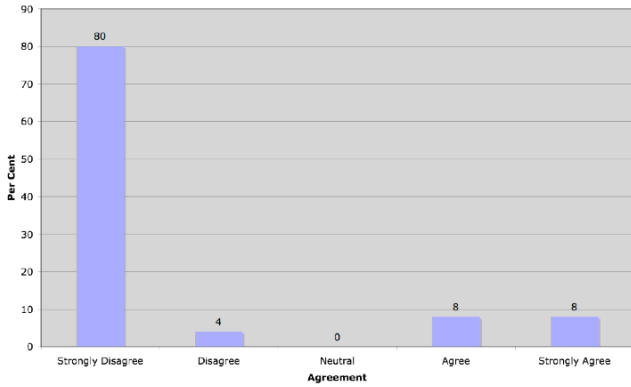
Q42 Zymoetz II: Include Clore River with Zymoetz II Classified Waters (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



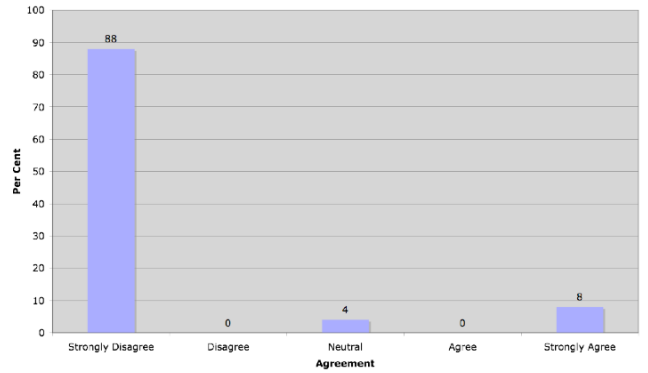
Q46 Zymoetz II: Increase Current Guide Allocation to 267 Rod-Days (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



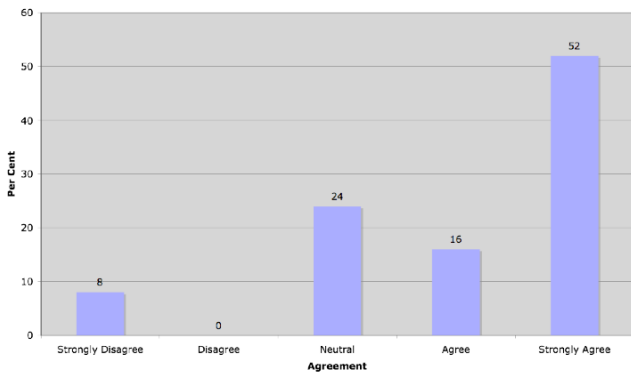
Q43 Zymoetz II: Resident-Only on Weekends (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



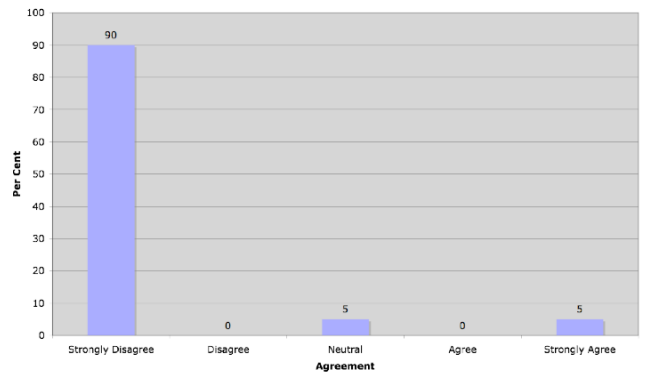
Q47 Zymoetz II: Limited-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



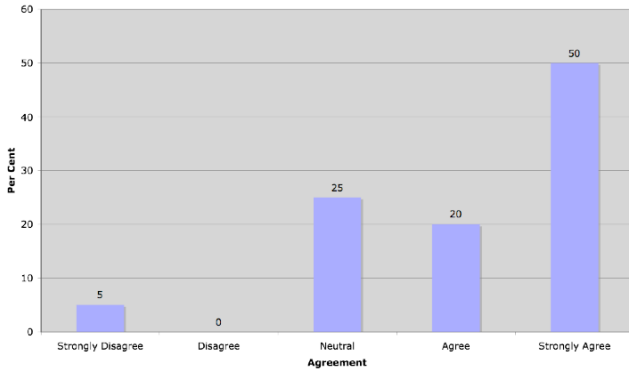
Q44 Zymoetz II: Maximum of Three Anglers per Guide or Assistant Guide per Day (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



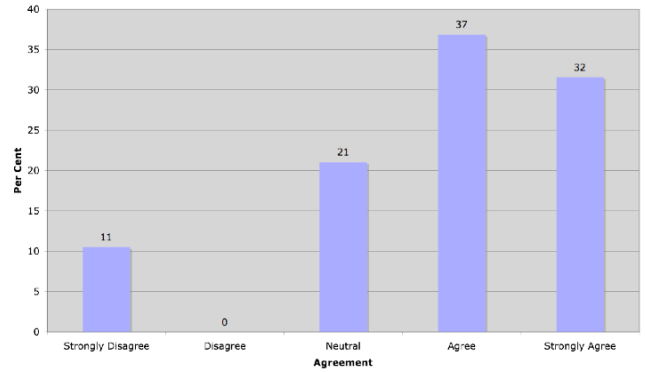
Q49 Kitsumkalum: All Non-Residents Must be Guided (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



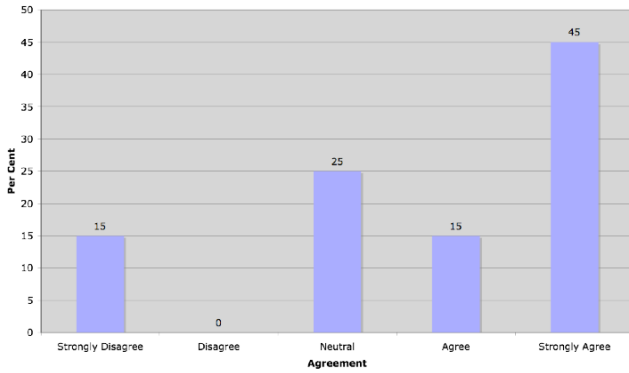
Q50 Kitsumkalum: Limit Each Guide to One Boat in Upper River and One Boat in Lower River (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



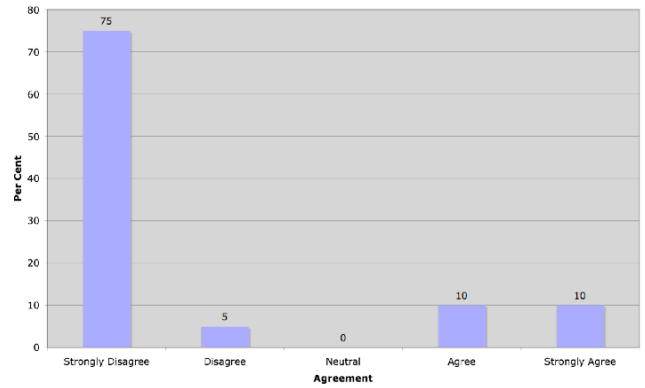
Q54 Kitsumkalum: Reduce Maximum Number of Guides to 11 (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



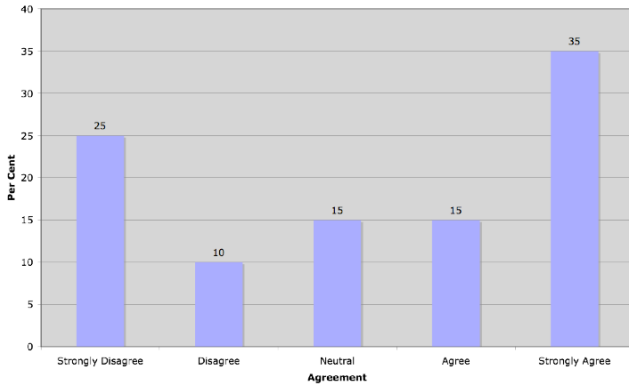
Q51 Kitsumkalum: Maximum Four Guided Anglers per Boat (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



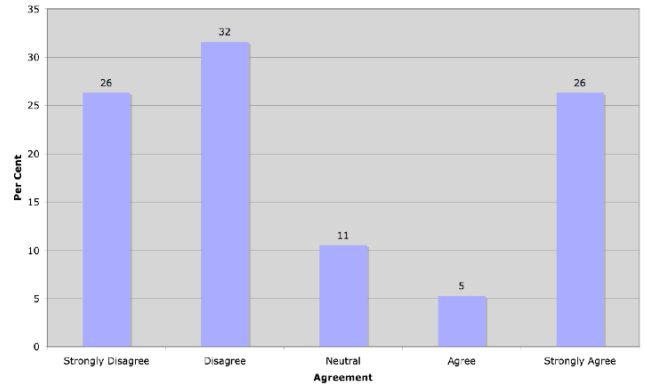
Q55 Kitsumkalum: Resident-Only on Sundays (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



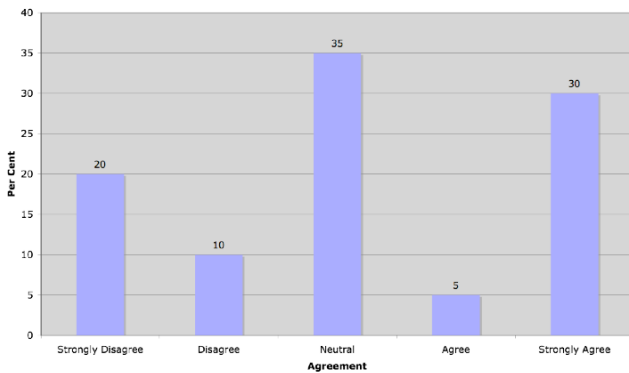
Q52 Kitsumkalum: No Guiding on Sundays (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



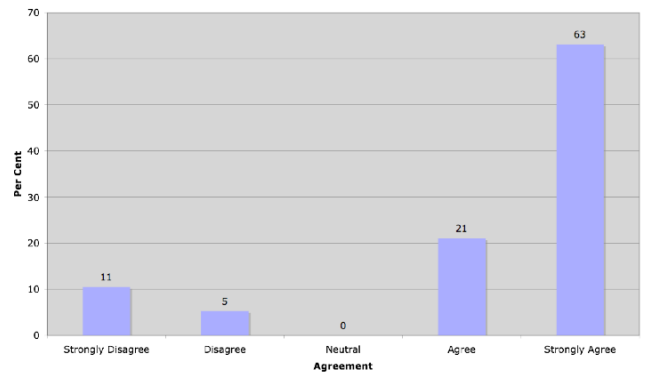
Q57 Lakelse: Class I Classified Water All Year (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



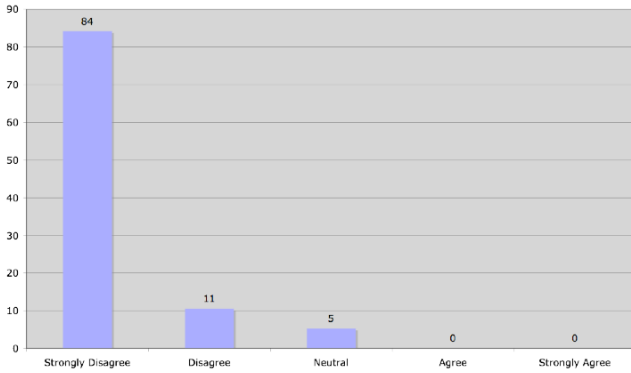
Q53 Kitsumkalum: No Guiding from Glacier Creek to Kitsumkalum Lake on Saturdays (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



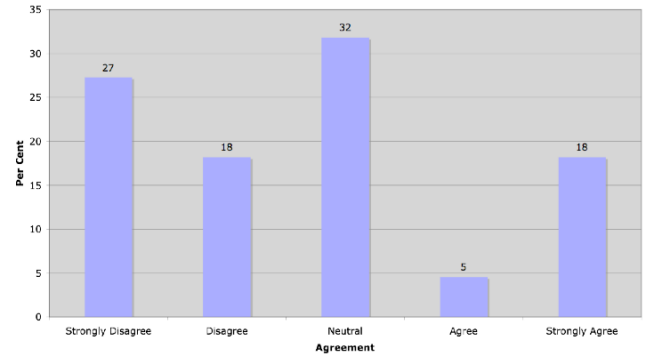
Q58 Lakelse: Mandatory Steelhead Stamp from Sept 1 - May 31 (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)



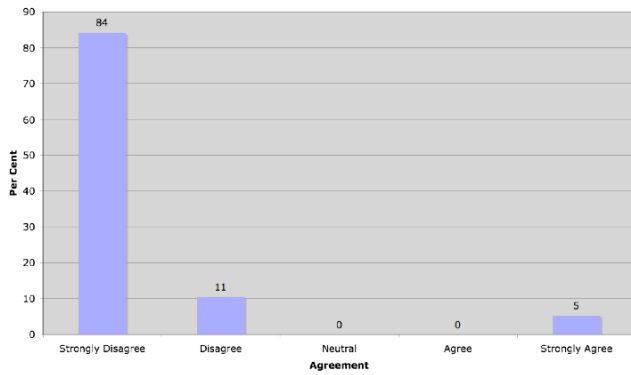
**Q59 Lakelse: Resident-Only from March 1 - May 31
(Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)**



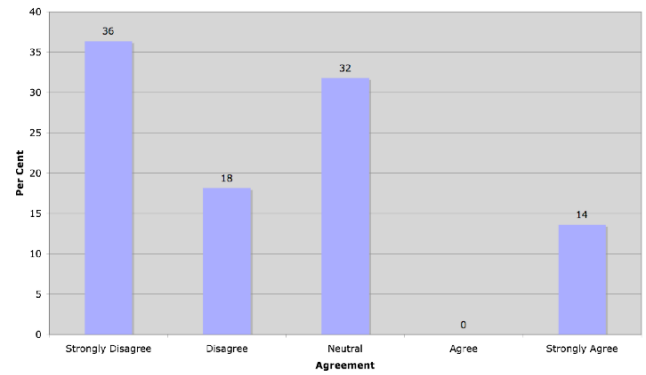
**Q64 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Existing Guides Can
Guide Downstream and Upstream of Kitwanga Bridge
(Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)**



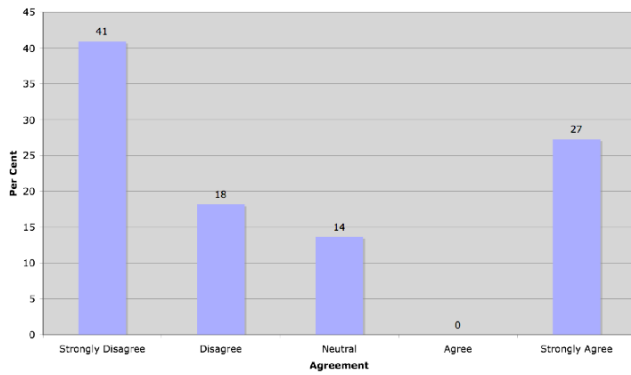
**Q60 Lakelse: Trigger Limited-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents
(Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)**



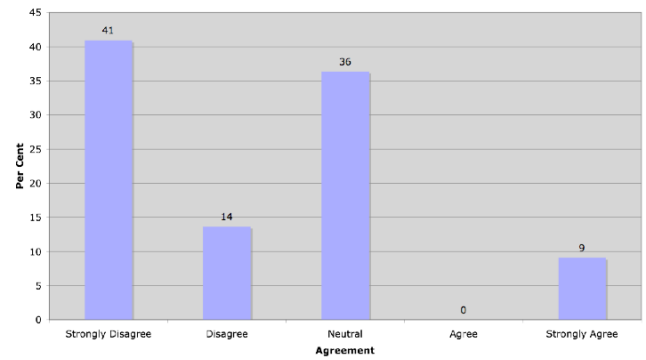
**Q65 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Four New Guide
Opportunities of 20 Rod-Days Each (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)**



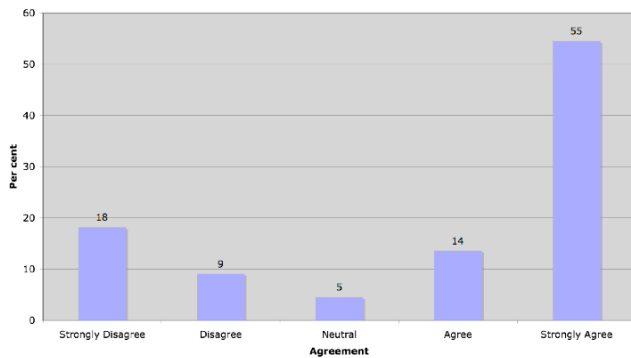
**Q62 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Class I Classified Water
All Year (Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)**



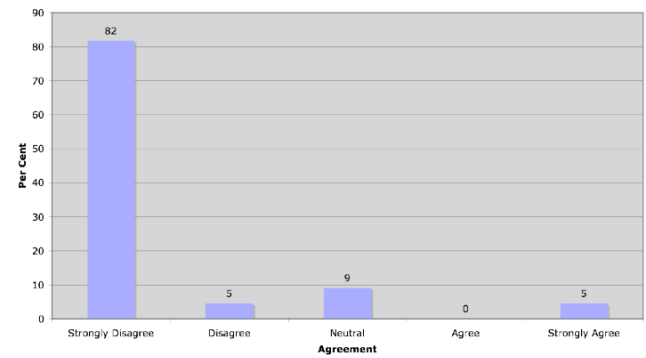
**Q66 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Existing Guides from
Terrace Area Issued 30 Additional Rod-Days Each
(Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)**



**Q63 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Maintain Current
Steelhead Stamp (Only Required for Steelhead)
(Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)**



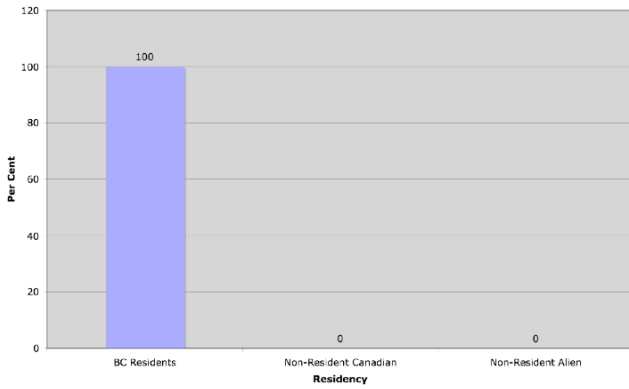
**Q67 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Trigger Limited-Day
Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents
(Non-Resident Canadians, N=36)**



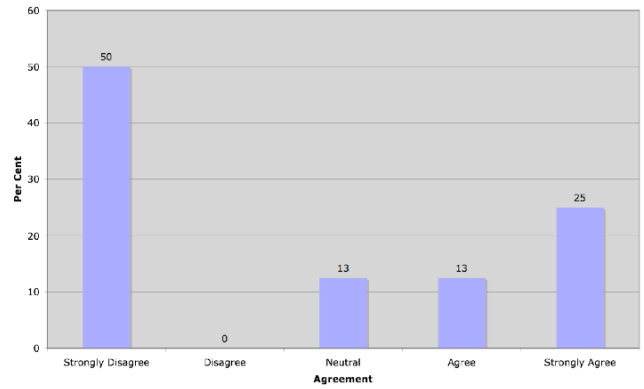
Appendix F Guides: Response Form closed question results

(See Appendix A for full text of questions)

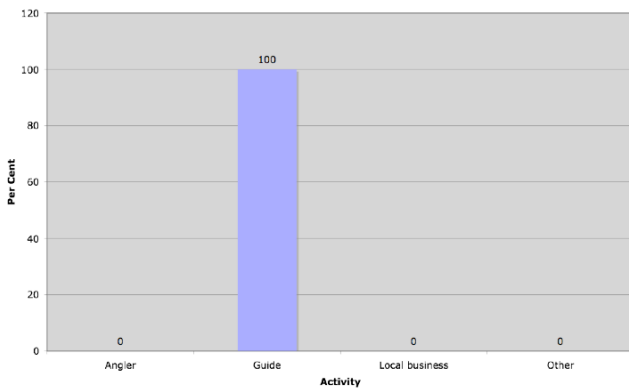
Q1 Place of Residence (Guides, N=15)



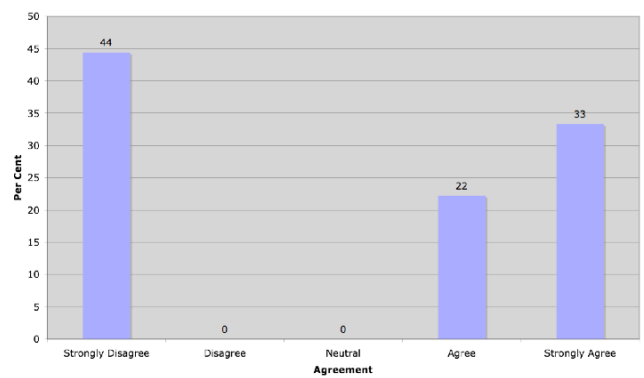
Q5 Kitsequecla and Kitwanga: Resident-Only on Saturdays (Guides, N=15)



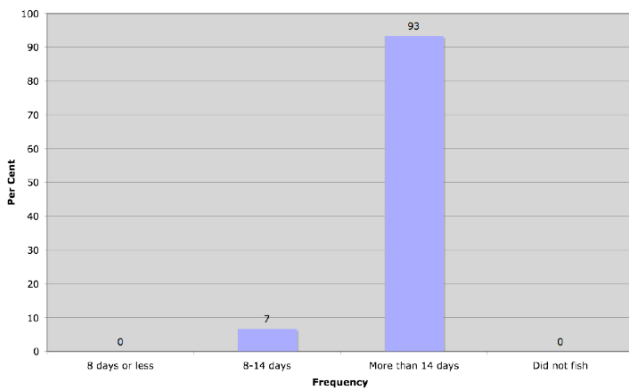
Q2 Principal Activity (Guides, N=15)



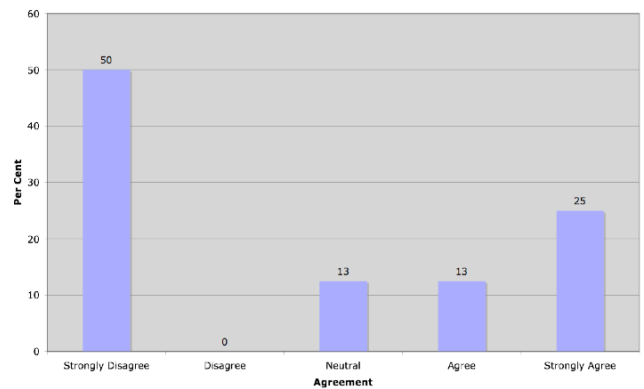
Q6 Kitsequecla and Kitwanga: Trigger for Eight-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents (Guides, N=15)



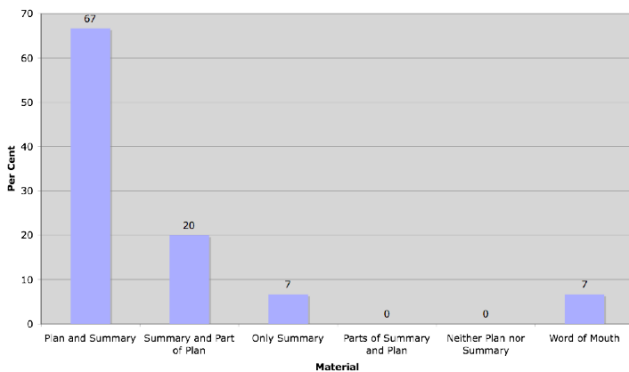
Q3 Angling Activity (Guides, N=15)



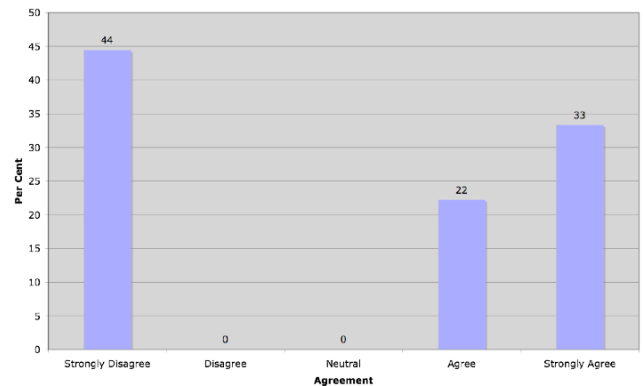
Q8 Suskwa: Resident-Only on Saturdays (Guides, N=15)



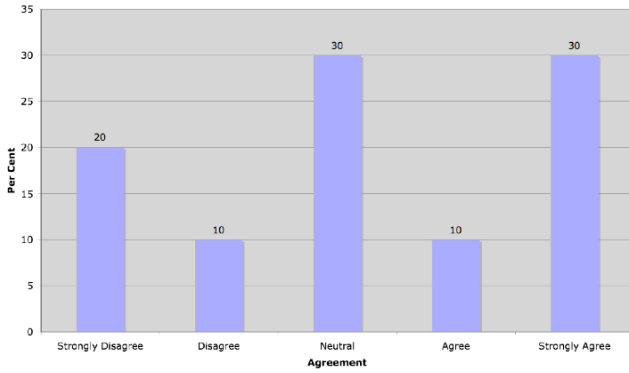
Q4 Background Information Read Before Completing Response Form (Guides, N=15)



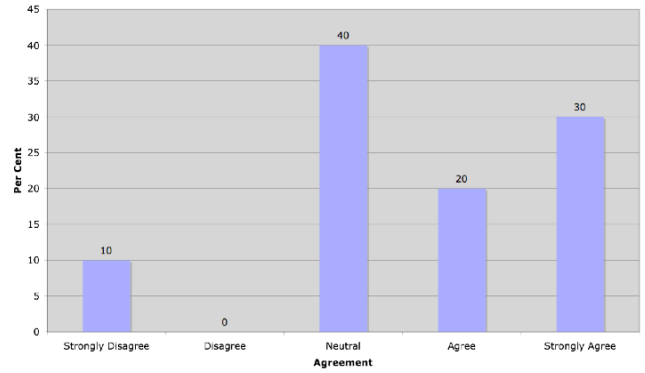
Q9 Suskwa: Trigger for Eight-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents (Guides, N=15)



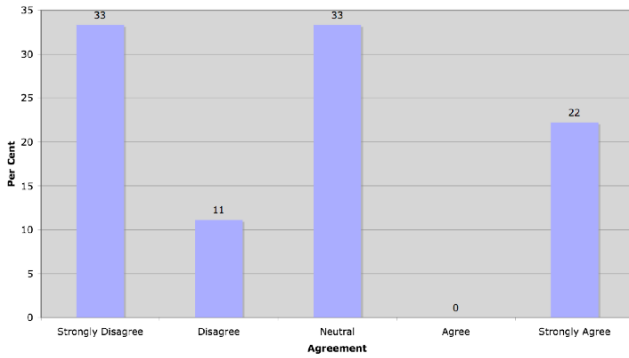
Q11 Skeena IV (Upstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Eight-Day Licence and Lottery from Salmon River to Four-Mile Bridge (Guides, N=15)



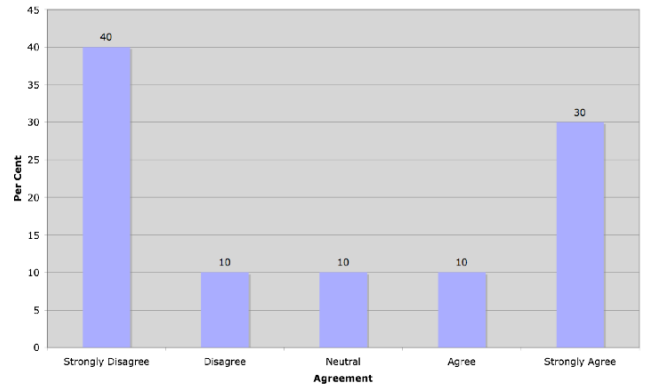
Q16 Kispiox: Status Quo Zone between 20.2 and 29.5 Kilometres on Kispiox Valley Road (Guides, N=15)



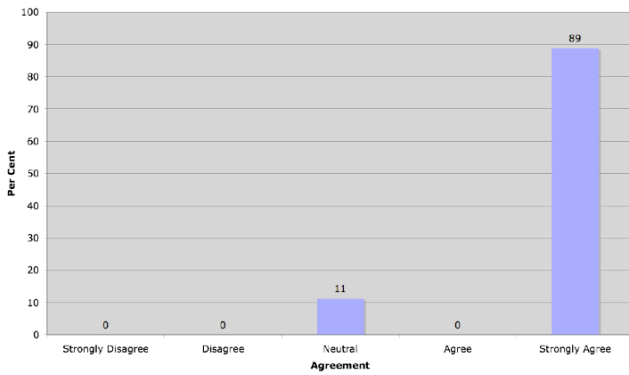
Q12 Skeena IV (Upstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Eight-Day Licence and Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents from Mouth of Bulkley to Kitwanga Bridge (Guides, N=15)



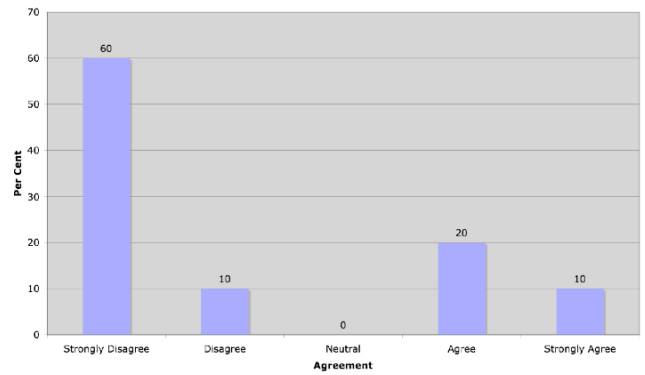
Q17 Kispiox: Resident-Only Angling on Saturdays (Guides, N=15)



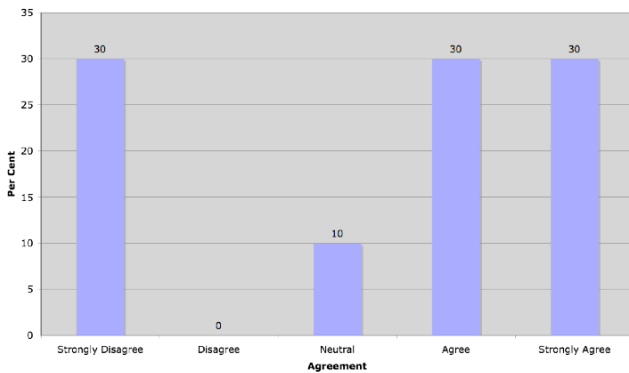
Q13 Skeena IV (upstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Mandatory Steelhead Stamp Sept 1 - Oct 31 (Guides, N=15)



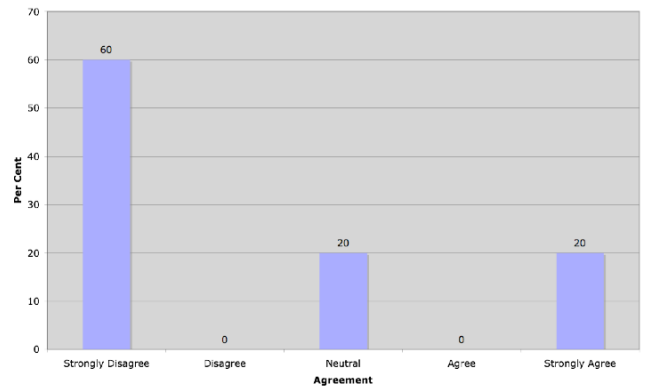
Q19 Babine: No Guiding Upstream from Nichyeskwa to 80 Metres Below Counting Fence (Guides, N=15)



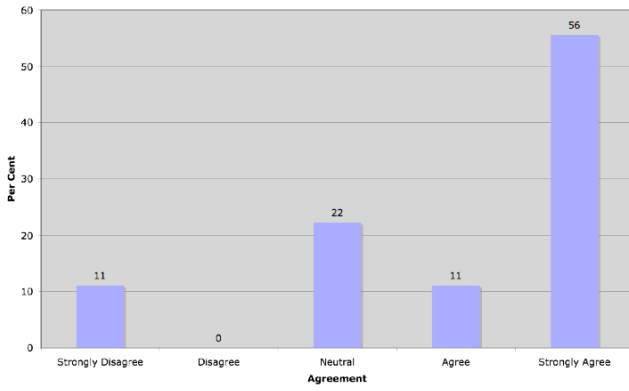
Q15 Kispiox: Eight-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents (Guides, N=15)



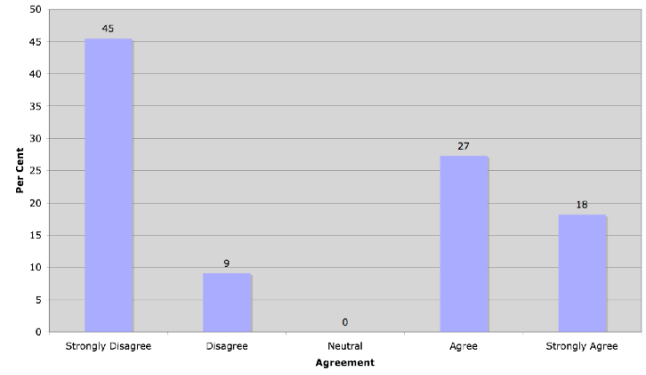
Q20 Babine: Resident-Only between Nichyeskwa and Nilkitkwa (Guides, N=15)



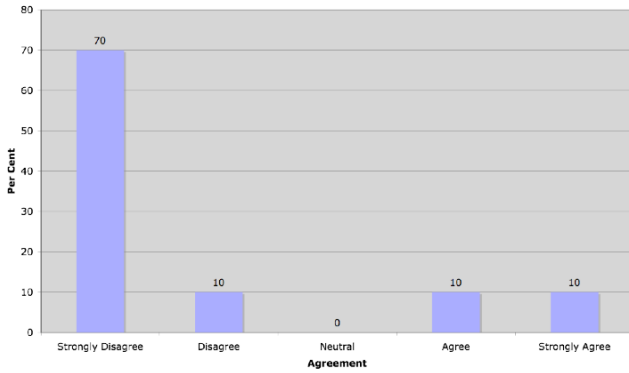
Q21 Babine: Open to All Anglers Downstream from Nilkitkwa (Guides, N=15)



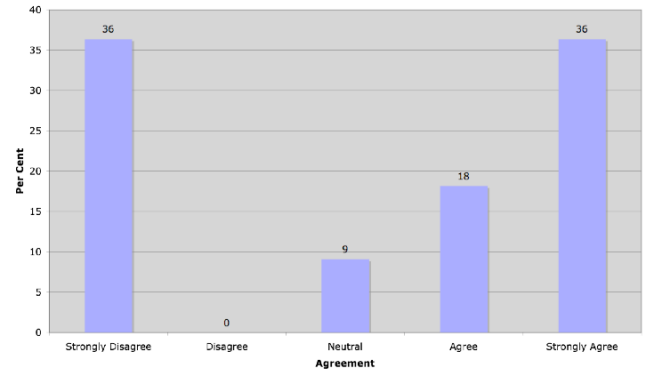
Q26 Bulkley: Trigger Eight-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents Option 1 (High Use) (Guides, N=15)



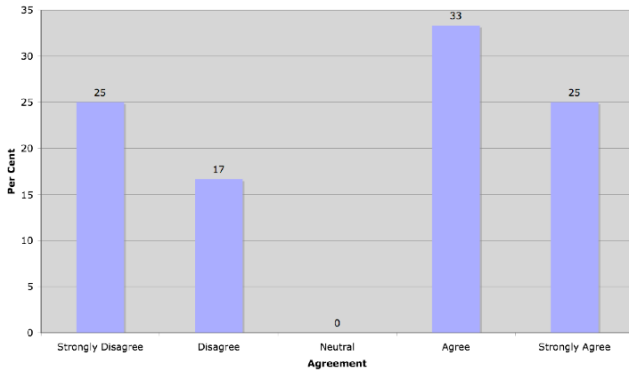
Q22 Babine: Ministry to Review and Rationalize Guided Rod-Days (Guides, N=15)



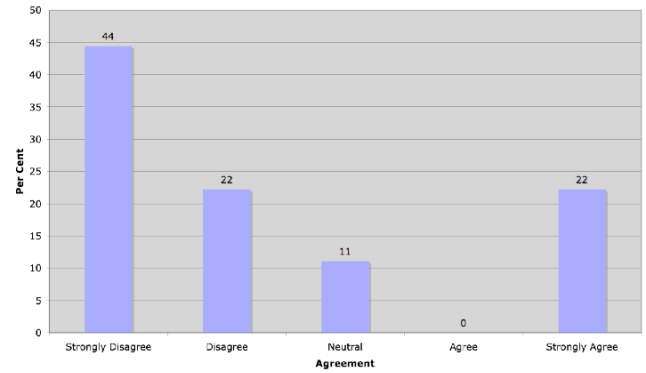
Q27 Bulkley: Trigger Limited-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents Option 2 (Average Use) (Guides, N=15)



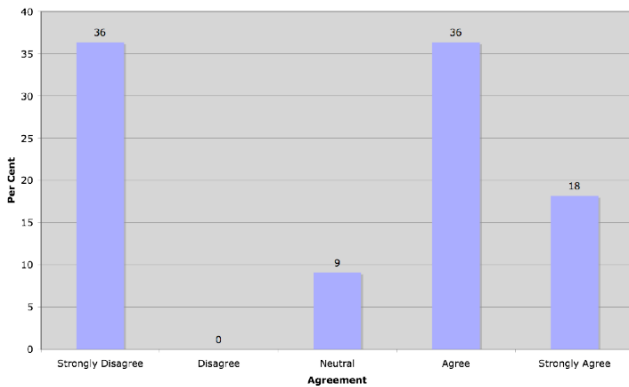
Q24 Bulkley: Resident-Only Weekends at Mouths of Chicken, Toboggan and Telkwa (Guides, N=15)



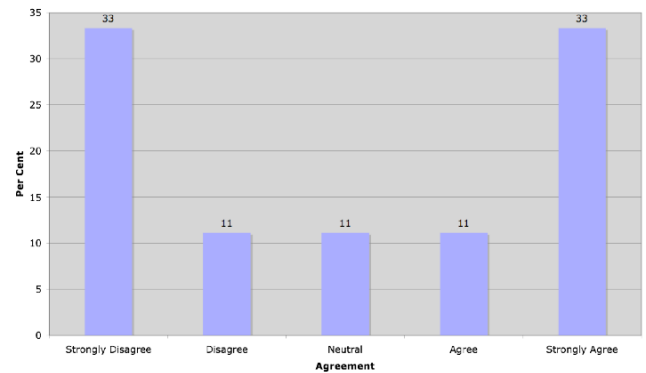
Q29 Morice: Trigger Limited-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents Option 1 (High Use) (Guides, N=15)



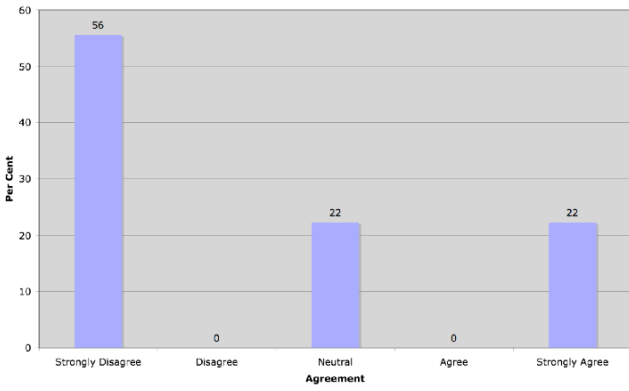
Q25 Bulkley: Resident-Only on Telkwa During Classified Period (Guides, N=15)



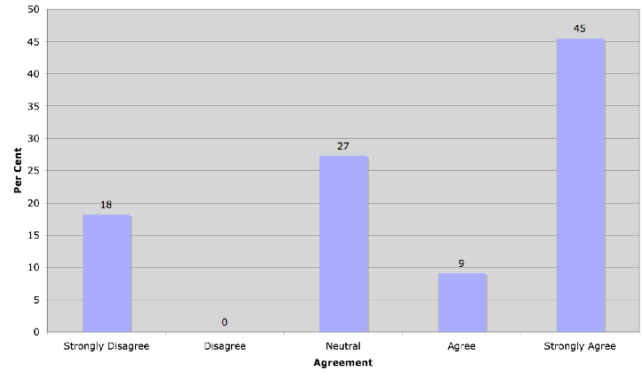
Q30 Morice: Trigger Eight-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents Option 2 (Average Use) (Guides, N=15)



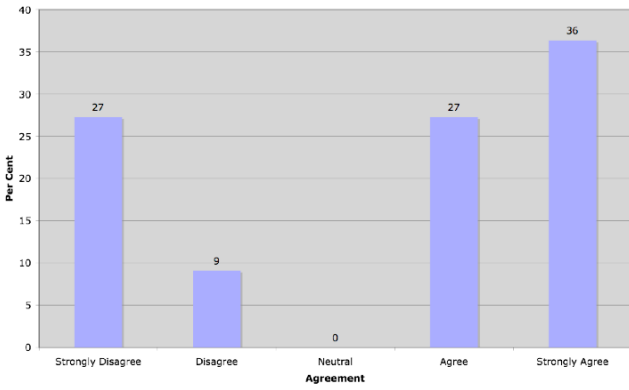
Q31 Morice: Ministry Conduct Review of Guided Rod-Days (Guides, N=15)



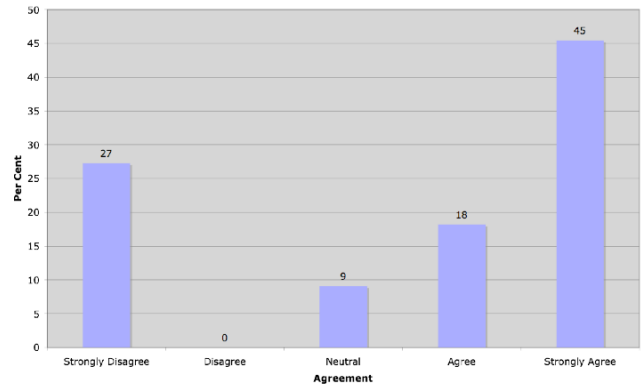
Q36 Zymoetz I: Limit Guides to Maximum of Three Anglers per Boat (Guides, N=15)



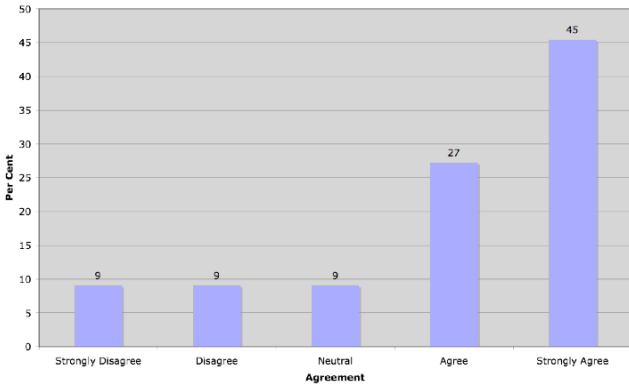
Q33 Zymoetz I: Extend Classified Period from Aug 1 - Dec 31 (Guides, N=15)



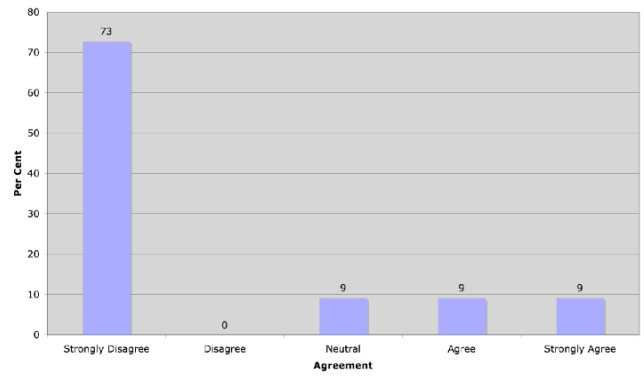
Q37 Zymoetz I: All Non-Residents Must be Guided (Guides, N=15)



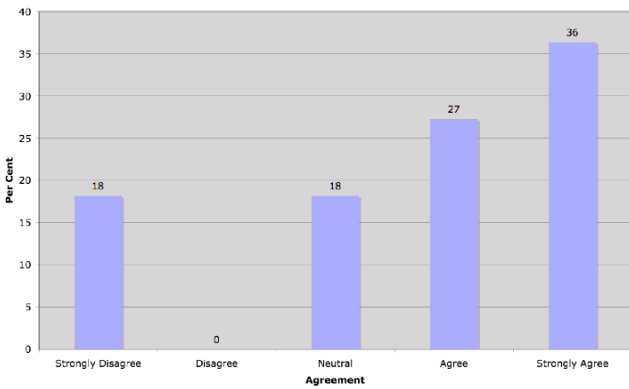
Q34 Zymoetz I: Mandatory Steelhead Stamp Aug 1 - Dec 31 (Guides, N=15)



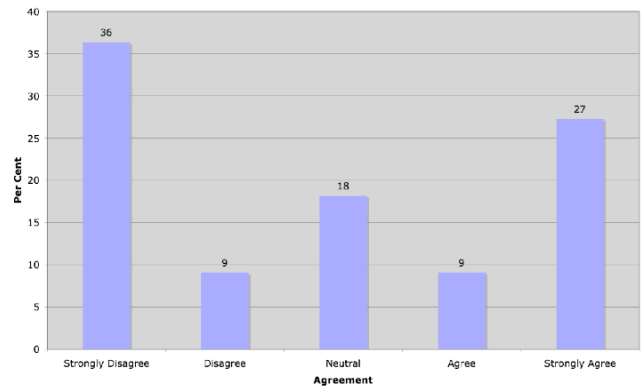
Q38 Zymoetz I: Increase Allocation to Existing Guides by 10 Rod-Days Each (Guides, N=15)



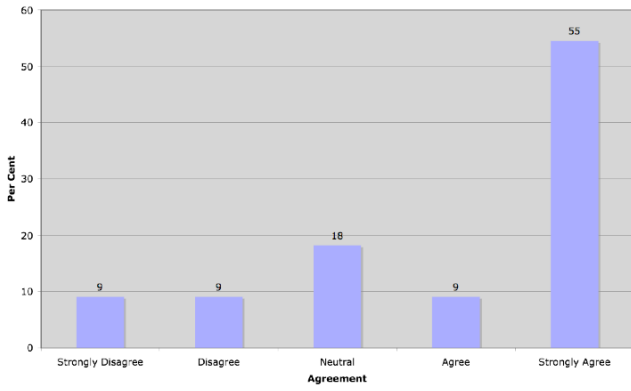
Q35 Zymoetz I: Limit Guides to One Boat per Guide per Day (Guides, N=15)



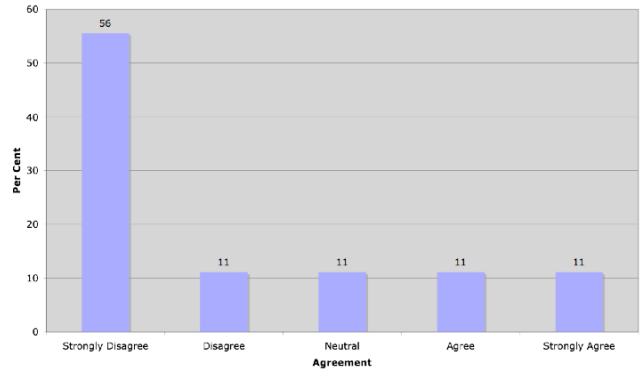
Q40 Zymoetz II: Extend Classified Period to Aug 1 - May 31 (Guides, N=15)



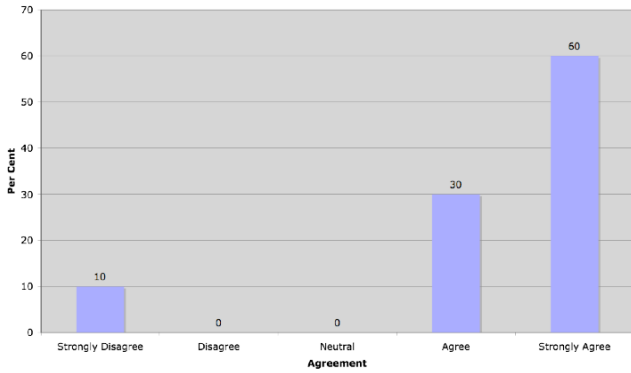
Q41 Zymoetz II: Mandatory Steelhead Stamp Aug 1 - May 31 (Guides, N=15)



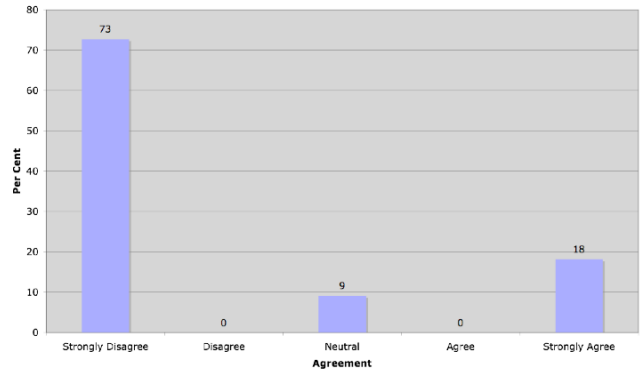
Q45 Zymoetz II: Distribute Guiding Effort Evenly Throughout Classified Period (Guides, N=15)



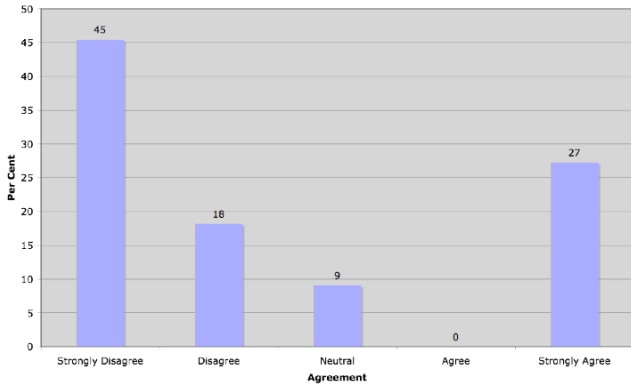
Q42 Zymoetz II: Include Clore River with Zymoetz II Classified Waters (Guides, N=15)



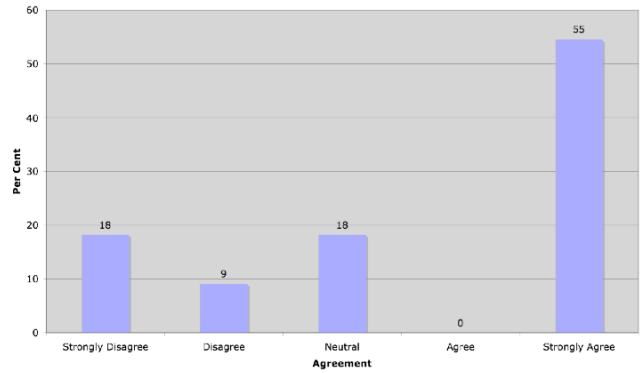
Q46 Zymoetz II: Increase Current Guide Allocation to 267 Rod-Days (Guides, N=15)



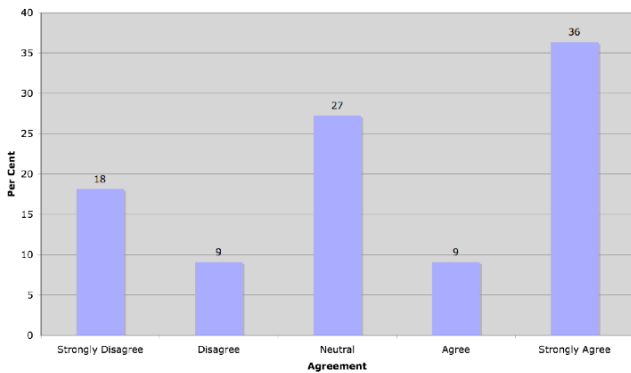
Q43 Zymoetz II: Resident-Only on Weekends (Guides, N=15)



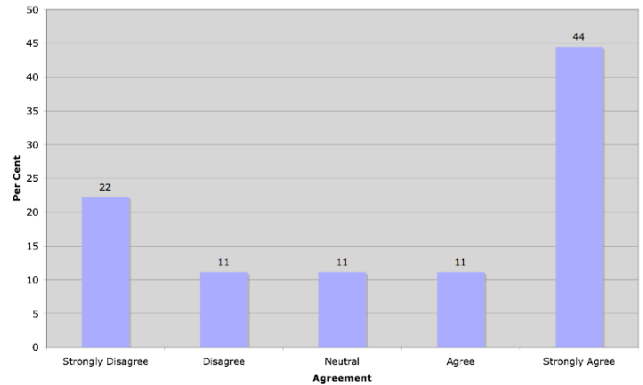
Q47 Zymoetz II: Limited-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents (Guides, N=15)



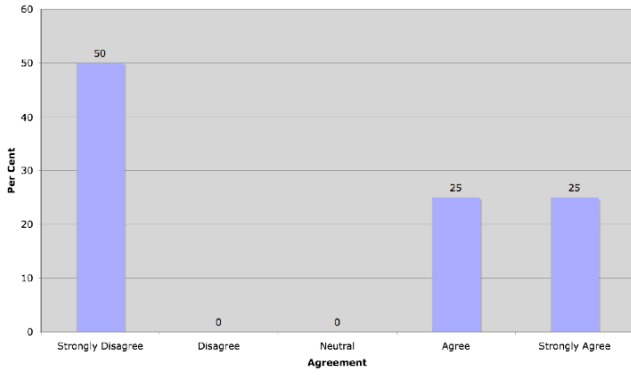
Q44 Zymoetz II: Maximum of Three Anglers per Guide or Assistant Guide per Day (Guides, N=15)



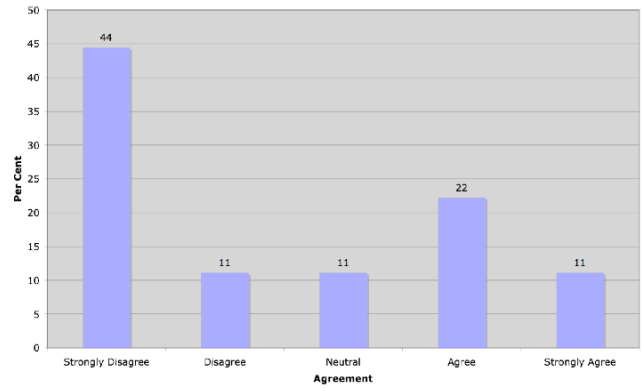
Q49 Kitsumkalum: All Non-Residents Must be Guided (Guides, N=15)



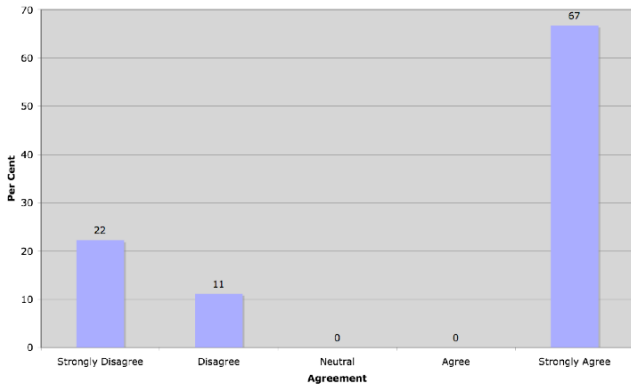
Q50 Kitsumkalum: Limit Each Guide to One Boat in Upper River and One Boat in Lower River (Guides, N=15)



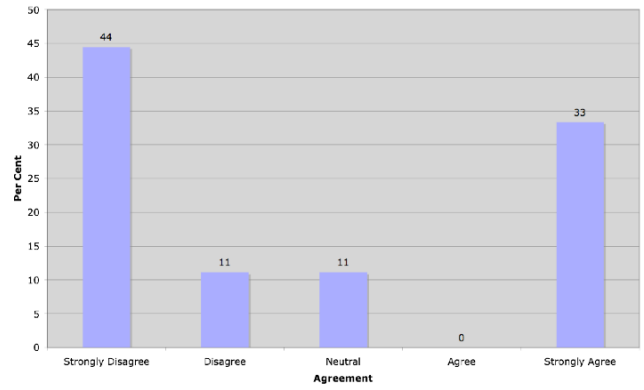
Q54 Kitsumkalum: Reduce Maximum Number of Guides to 11 (Guides, N=15)



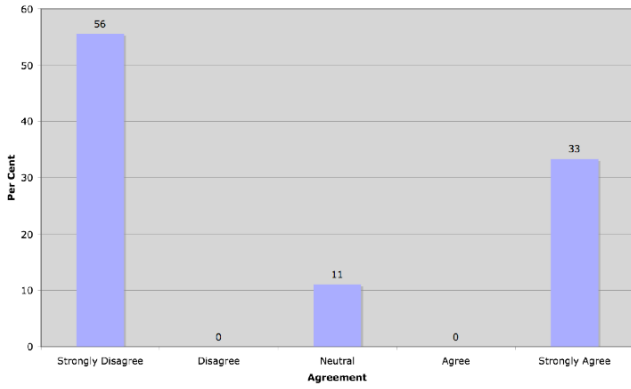
Q51 Kitsumkalum: Maximum Four Guided Anglers per Boat (Guides, N=15)



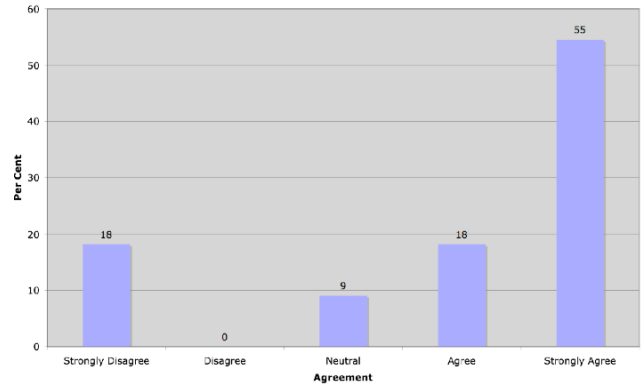
Q55 Kitsumkalum: Resident-Only on Sundays (Guides, N=15)



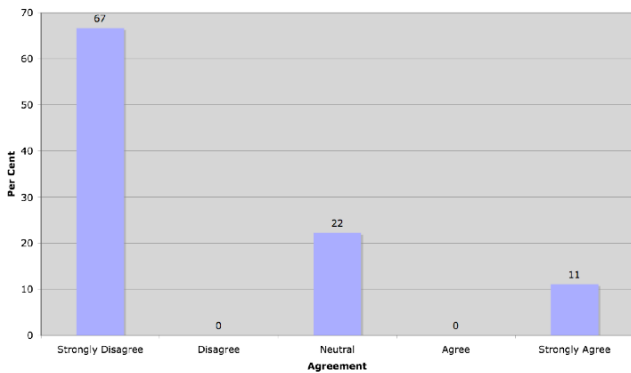
Q52 Kitsumkalum: No Guiding on Sundays (Guides, N=15)



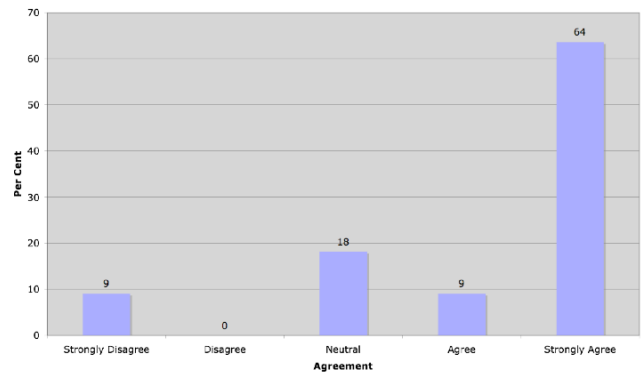
Q57 Lakelse: Class I Classified Water All Year (Guides, N=15)



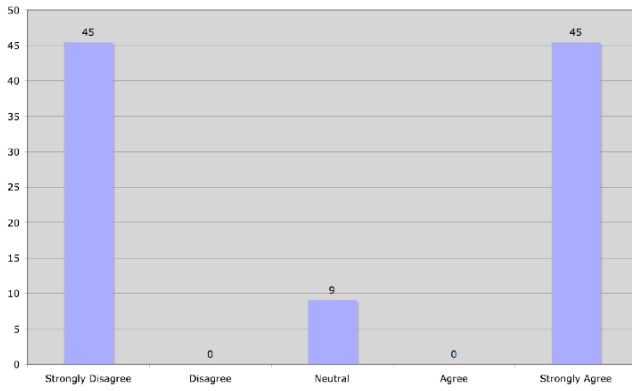
Q53 Kitsumkalum: No Guiding from Glacier Creek to Kitsumkalum Lake on Saturdays (Guides, N=15)



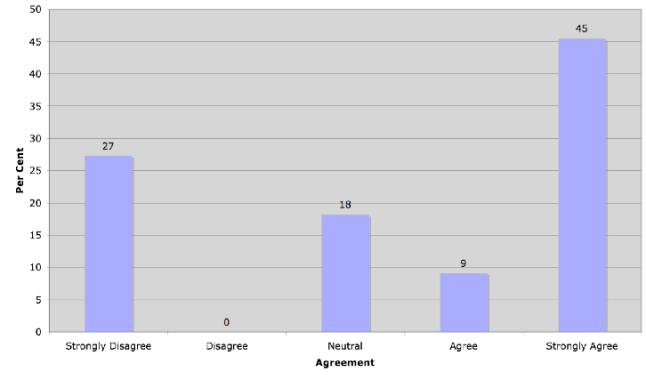
Q58 Lakelse: Mandatory Steelhead Stamp from Sept 1 - May 31 (Guides, N=15)



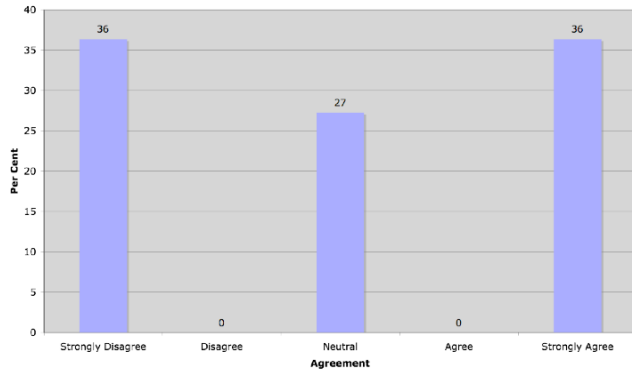
Q59 Lakelse: Resident-Only from March 1 - May 31 (Guides, N=15)



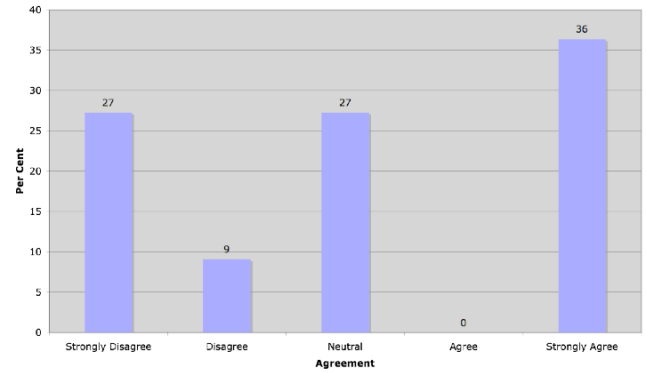
Q64 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Existing Guides Can Guide Downstream and Upstream of Kitwanga Bridge (Guides, N=15)



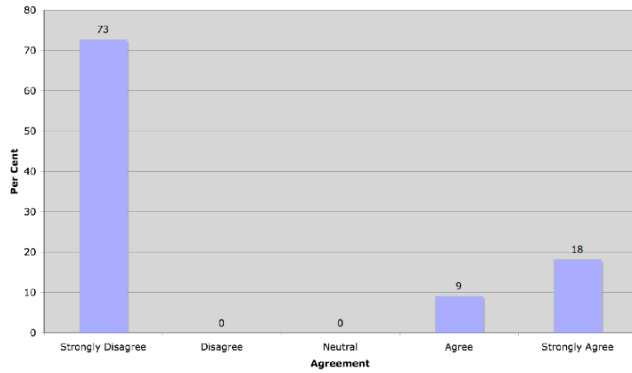
Q60 Lakelse: Trigger Limited-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents (Guides, N=15)



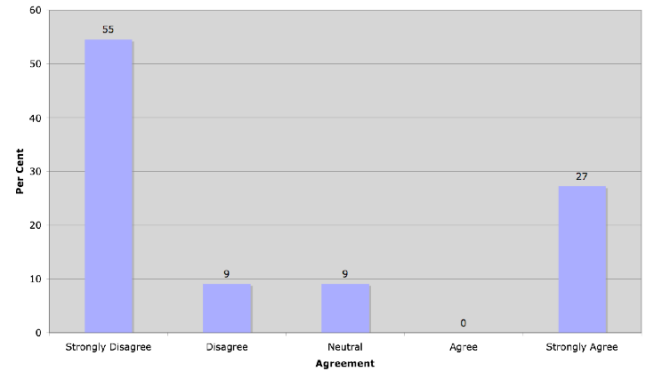
Q65 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Four New Guide Opportunities of 20 Rod-Days Each (Guides, N=15)



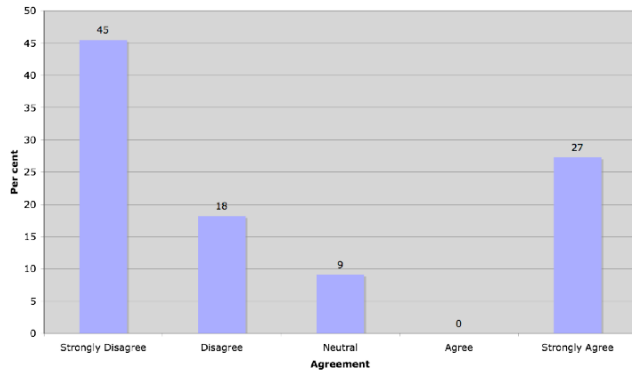
Q62 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Class I Classified Water All Year (Guides, N=15)



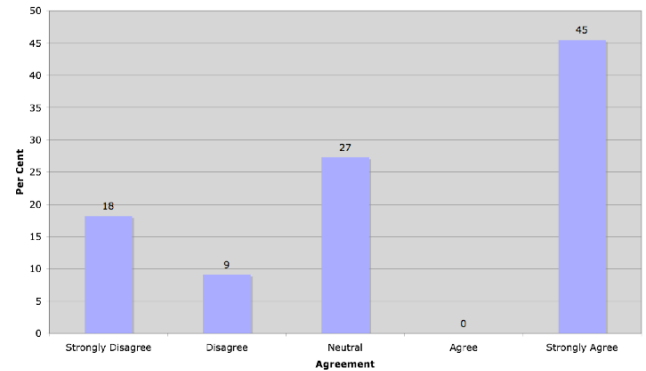
Q66 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Existing Guides from Terrace Area Issued 30 Additional Rod-Days Each (Guides, N=15)



Q63 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Maintain Current Steelhead Stamp (Only Required for Steelhead) (Guides, N=15)



Q67 Skeena IV (Downstream from Kitwanga Bridge): Trigger Limited-Day Licence Lottery for Non-Guided, Non-Residents (Guides, N=15)



Appendix G Resident anglers: Response Form comments

Q07 Kitseguecla and Kitwanga

I have ticked the 'strongly agree' choices, but the wording of the alternatives do not unfortunately accurately reflect my opinion. I will have the same comment for most of the boxes below. After fly fishing for steelhead for many years, I, and many of fellow residents I know or have met on the river have come to the same conclusion: that non-guided, non-resident fly-fishermen (typically Americans) are wrecking the fly fishing experience for residents in the province. These fishermen, who contribute minimal amounts to the provincial economy, and are hyper-competitive in their approach, have caused the overcrowding problems, and should be given limited access to the marginal sections (like those above, proposed to be given to residents). This proposal is a start, but does not go nearly far enough - the ultimate goal should be a resident and guide only fishery, and failing that, the residents should be given priority access to the premier sections. I do commend this initiative, but it is really only granting sections that no-one else wants, and will likely frustrate residents, and heighten tensions between residents and non-residents even more than is already the case.

There is already significant pressure on the Kitwanga

The carrying capacity calculation for the Kitwanga River should be refined to specifically include an Availability Factor that recognizes the proportion of the season that the system is in a fishable condition. This system, and several of the other subject waters, responds to certain typical weather events in a manner that the water clarity does not support angling for a significant number of days during the course of the season. As such, and assuming the daily carrying capacity estimate is reasonable, the carrying capacity as established in the plan overstates the actual level of effort that can be supported. If a factor of e.g. 0.90 were used (water clarity on 90 % of days is compatible with angling in the period assessed) then the resulting carrying capacity would be $0.90 \times 6 \text{ anglers / day} \times 57 \text{ days} = 308 \text{ angler days}$. This would also then affect the determination of the non-resident allocation (at 2 per day = 103 angler days).

The trigger recommended in the plan is also inconsistent with the determination of the carrying capacity. The plan specifies that the carrying capacity is based on daily use by anglers (all classes implied) yet it specifies the trigger is only considered as a tally of use by non-guided, non-resident anglers. If the carrying capacity is indeed reflective of use by all classes of anglers, the trigger to be considered should match the non-resident allocation (114 days, or as modified by consideration of an Availability Factor).

My comment above relative to the need to consider an Availability Factor in the determination of the carrying capacity is even more applicable to the Kitseguecla River. This watershed has fine textured soils that regularly render water clarity conditions to be unsuitable for angling. An Availability Factor of e.g. 0.80 may be appropriate to reflect the proportion of days during the season that this system is typically available for anglers.

My comment above relative to the inconsistency between determination and application of the trigger is also applicable to this system (the trigger should match the non-resident allocation of 57 days or as modified by consideration of an Availability Factor).

Marginal streams for steelhead. Residents should get resident only days on quality rivers.

#8 Saturday and Sunday for residents only

Resident angler only days Sat. and Sun.

These streams have only marginal fishing opportunities for steelhead (too small to provide desirable fly fishing water, little holding water, poor access, and many of the steelhead that spawn in them likely remain in the Skeena until spring). Most residents fishing these streams are probably only doing so because they can no longer stand the crowding on the more popular streams with better fishing. This proposal seems backwards: we should reduce non-resident effort on the crowded desirable streams (Kispiox, Bulkley etc.) to give residents more opportunities, and let the non-residents fish these secondary streams. Would like to see less angler-days to trigger 8-day license lottery (I would suggest 285,171 respectively), and then adjust up/down or keep the same in the future depending on data available after at least a 2 year period passes

Should be resident anglers only on both Saturdays and Sundays Both rivers should remain no guiding The proposed number of non-resident angler days is too many and should be reduced on both rivers

I fish the Kitsequecla, and while I agree with the recommendations these rivers are not a substitute for the highest quality waters which are now crowded.

Prefer current regulations

Regulations on other rivers will put added pressure on these rivers

You need to be able to put in for a draw and choose from 1 - 14 days, because there are a lot of anglers that only come to fish for 3-4 days and people also come for multiple week/river trips.

8-day consecutive licence may not accommodate fishermen that also come with their wives and sight see for an extended time; need to discuss more with operators that accommodate such guests. Non-resident targets seem high.

I am in favour of even more stringent restriction of non-resident guided or non-guided angling days

I fish all over the world. Some places are crowded and others are not. You are making our fishing for the rich only. I disagree to most of your plan. You wonder why fishing licence sales are down, the list of rules and regulations are looking like a tax form. The Skeena has a lot of water that cannot be accessed. If the water you want to fish is too crowded then the rich should hire a helicopter to get that special fishing experience. Special Gov. fees for non-residents and aliens is unfair suspect your anticipation that changes to regulations on other rivers will increase non-resident pressure on these systems.

(5.) I agree with resident only angling on Saturdays. Recognizes resident priority.

I do not believe in status quo, because crowding issues have been identified.

(6.) I support a lottery based non-resident fishery. I believe the triggers are set too low, and should be set at 3X's the proposed eight day permits to address the fact that these triggers will lag several

years after the crowding has reached or exceed the carrying capacity of the rivers. (Kitwanga trigger- 61 days x 2 anglers x 3 = 180 day trigger.) (Kitsequecla 1 x 61 x 3 = 180 day trigger)

If meaning is related to non-residents fishing in the region and regular residents are unaffected then I strongly agree

I disagree, respectfully, of the entire plan and planning process and my comments apply to all streams subject to this study. I realize you are trying to do your best, but in my view the concept is fundamentally flawed: it is not possible for the participants to represent everyone. So, my opinion: It is my opinion that the only people who should have any say into this is residents, guides and native groups. It is my opinion that non-residents can go fish wherever they came from and leave our fish alone. If the guiding industry needs non-residents, that is fine, that should continue as is. Everyone else can get out as far as I am concerned. This might sound harsh, but I mean this respectfully. The overcrowding has taken away any joy I have in fishing and cramming locals into fishing on Saturdays is no answer. The other thing that needs to be done is policing; I have watched people camping out, crowding me out, and all the while taking home their steelhead from the Bulkley, and these were BC residents. The Province needs to get on top of this before the resource is destroyed. Doing this river by river is a nice concept, but I want to be able to head out to Kitwanga or to Kispiox or just run down to Toboggan Creek whenever I feel like it, without having to pick and choose days to suit some guy who flies in on his jet and I don't want to go out to Toboggan to see an extended family of 15 people jamming up the river for 10 days like happens every year at that spot. Twice on one day a couple of them left the site only to spring out of the bush to reclaim their spot when they saw me coming. I want to just tell them off and go to the Suskwa without having specified days. Enough said, you get the picture: there is too much fishing pressure and non-guided non-residents will just have to go somewhere else and illegal fishers will have to be caught and prosecuted.

These are very small systems and the non-resident angler days may be too high if they are concentrated in a small area and short period of time.

These rivers are a world treasure, we as residents should have priority when it comes to fishing. As for nonresidents it should be a privilege to fish these priceless rivers and the nonresident anglers should be heavily controlled and pay for it.

Local residents do not just fish on weekends; during the week it is easier for locals to access the river than non-residents

Residents must have priority over all other anglers on the river.

Residents only for the entire weekend would better reflect resident priority.

8 Day license initiated immediately would eliminate the risk of not achieving it in the future.

Since targeting salmon on these rivers is prohibited, angling would be for steelhead and trout. Since no steelhead were counted at the Kitwanga counting station thru September, this is a bit of a non-issue.

Should be no guiding.

Regarding the entire Skeena system, a concentrated and successful effort to prosecute illegal guiding and outfitting would go a long way toward relieving some localized crowding and frustration felt by the local angler

Where do local natives contribute to the solution?

General: I really believe that the groups of non-residents who are "conducted" so-called; are a greater problem that cause over crowding in some of the key areas for salmon and to some extent the steelhead fishery. They are most often seen in areas of the sockeye.

Q10 Suskwa

I believe it important to give residents preferential treatment as we live and reside here because of the opportunities

See comment above - this is another section that has marginal fishing. I can only hope that, after this initiative is implemented, there will be an expansion of the program where access will be restricted to non-residents to all areas of the Skeena system.

This is a very small system and should be already on a lottery with a cap of 6 non resident rod days per week

My comment above relative to the need to consider an Availability Factor in the determination of the carrying capacity is equally applicable to the Suskwa River and I suggest this factor is similar in scale to that for the Kitwanga river e.g. 0.90. This watershed has fine textured soils that routinely render water clarity conditions to be unsuitable for angling.

My comment above relative to the inconsistency between determination and application of the trigger is also applicable to this system (the trigger should match the non-resident allocation of 114 days or as modified by consideration of an Availability Factor).

Marginal stream for steelhead. Residents should get resident only days on quality rivers.

Re item #8 resident angler fishing only on Saturdays and Sundays

Another marginal fishing stream (I know, I've fished it a bunch, even caught my first steelhead there). Same comment as number 7 above

Would like to see less angler-days to trigger 8-day license lottery (I would suggest 342), and then adjust up/down or keep the same in the future depending on data available after at least a 2 year period passes

Should be resident anglers only on both Saturdays and Sundays Should remain as no guiding on this river The proposed number of non resident angler days is too many and should be reduced

Prefer current regulations

Regulations on other rivers will put more pressure on this river

You need to be able to put in for a draw and choose from 1 - 14 days, because there are a lot of anglers that only come to fish for 3-4 days and people also come for multiple week/river trips.

Non-resident target is high; I can't recall 400 angler day pressure ever on the Suskwa.

Sometimes fish the Suskwa, but there's limited access to very a very small stream.

Don't understand question 9 as only 365 days in year? Lottery system is unfair as environmentalists can put in for lottery and not use the days and no one fishes!

No "only" fishing. We don't need more regs on any river!!

Need to be able to accurately account for non-resident angler days. At this point non-resident angler days are based on assumptions or best guess. There may be a need to decrease said days and this should be an option in the plan. This should be applicable on all systems in question.

And resident only on Sunday as well.

These rivers are a world treasure, we as residents should have priority when it comes to fishing. As for nonresidents it should be a privilege to fish these priceless rivers and the nonresident anglers should be heavily controlled and pay for it.

The Suskwa has less available wading water than most other rivers and the angling pressure seems to be much greater during peak periods. The river also suffers from anglers stepping on redds more than other rivers, Perhaps some educational material should be made available with the class 1 non resident license, Guides should take a more proactive approach to educating their clients about the sensitivity of certain areas of the river. The salmon returns have suffered on this and all the other Skeena tributaries because of anglers not paying attention to spawning fish and their need for peace and undisturbed gravel.

Full weekend for residents.

Initiate 8-day licence immediately

Should be no guiding

This is one of the last streams to go out when there are heavy rains. Often this is when portions of the stream maybe somewhat crowded.

Q14 Skeena IV upstream from Kitwanga Bridge

I agree with the mandatory steelhead stamp as long as the revenue is used for the resource.

Commendable initiative, but again, doesn't go far enough. The lottery should be implemented for the entire Skeena system for non-residents with a resident and guide-only fishery as the longer-term objective.

Steelhead stamp should include November

As per the discussion in the Management Element Analysis section of the plan, I support the creation of a Skeena V area (reach) to enable more directed management and to enhance the allocation of rod-days.

I feel the limited day licence lottery will help prevent overcrowding in some areas. I've been fishing the upper Skeena since I was a child and now I have to compete with American and German anglers for space on certain parts of the river.

Would like to see the whole section of the Skeena IV a lottery situation.

Re item #13 Mandatory steelhead stamp from Aug 1st to Dec 31

I agree with the lottery, but dependable enforcement is not realistic at such a small scale? I would like to see 8-day licenses and a lottery for non-residents for the entire length of the upper Skeena 4 section. Moreover, fishermen are still in the process of figuring out where steelhead can be consistently caught in this part of the Skeena mainstem.

Would like to see only 150 eight-day licenses issued immediately, and then adjust up/down or keep the same in the future depending on data available after at least a 2 year period passes

Would like to see all watercraft that are used by registered guides/assistant guides be identified on all sides by a registered decal that is very visible, and to see all guides/assistant guides wearing some very visible identification to show that they are registered guides/assistant guides

This entire section of Skeena IV should be resident only on Saturdays and Sundays including no guiding on Saturday and Sundays.

The # of guided rod days should be capped at the current use and the unused rod days should be retired. However if there is any increase from

existing actual use then at least the area from the Mouth of the Kispiox downstream to the Mouth of the Bulkley should be capped at its current existing historical actual use

Steelhead abundance/catchability seems really patchy, with sections around the Kispiox (especially) and Bulkley being best fishing. Therefore crowding affecting fishing is a possibility despite the long sections.

No new rod days mouth of Kispiox to mouth of Bulkley and also from mouth of Kitsegucla to Kitwanga bridge

With the exception of 13, prefer current regulations

Steelhead stamp should be mandatory from August 1 to reflect time when fish are in river

You need to be able to put in for a draw and choose from 1 - 14 days, because there are a lot of anglers that only come to fish for 3-4 days and people also come for multiple week/river trips.

I am not on top of the number of rod days, but will default to the working group expertise. The time is now to set the bar for the Skeena mainstem.

Mandatory steelhead stamp should apply from August 1st to October 31st. There is a large summer run that moves through this area in August.

Why should guides be different from everybody else?

(11. -12.) I do not have enough fishing experience with this section of river to agree or disagree with these proposals.

(13.) I do not agree that a Steelhead stamp should be mandatory, the needs to be a way to recognize the local food fisherman for salmon (Coho) who are not targeting Steelhead.

I disagree with the lottery system by itself as a management tool. Think that spreading anglers out over the system is a better solution. This could be assisted through the development of more launches. There are currently only very rugged access points that can not really be called launches.

Leave as status quo!! This whole study is ridiculous. Solve the real issues... commercial fishes and lack of fish!! This all is just to appease the Guides!! I have been a resident here for 10 years and there is no more and no less non resident or non guided people on river than any time in our history. Why act on behalf of guides to change things!! No lottery system!! Do you have any physical proof of over crowding rather than just hearsay!!

#13 steelhead angling participation needs to be accurately accounted for. Those targeting Coho or other species "not steelhead" will be required to purchase a steelhead stamp and as a result steelhead participation data collected will be grossly skewed. It is absolutely necessary that steelhead angling participation be accurately accounted for and would like to note that Sept and Oct are peaks seasons for Coho.

I have been fishing only for Steelhead in these sections of Skeena and had a lot of success, and can't believe it doesn't have a mandatory Steelhead Stamp. These rivers are a world treasure, we as residents should have priority when it comes to fishing. As for nonresidents it should be a privilege to fish these priceless rivers and the nonresident anglers should be heavily controlled and pay for it. The stamp should be very pricey just like our priceless Steelhead.

Steelhead Stamp should be required from August 1-December 31 as this is when steelhead are in the river.

Residents-only on weekends should be considered.

The 2 zones need to have rod days allocated specific to each in order to better control the angling effort.

There is potential for an undesirable increase in guide effort in this zone. Currently there is no distinction between this zone and the entirety of Skeena IV with respect to guide rod day allocation.

There will likely be a spillover of guide effort to this zone on Saturdays if the Kispiox amp is implemented as is. (No guides on Kispiox on Saturdays) I fish this area often and have never witnessed a conflict among fishermen.

(#12) This should allow the coho anglers at Anderson Flats provincial park to fish without the need for a steelhead stamp from September 1 to October 31

Q18 Kispiox

Good start - I can only hope that this proposal will lead to the decrease of non-residents. I really don't think that the non-resident, non-guided anglers have much effect on the local economy, when compared to guided angling, and the comparative amount of capital that is contributed. It's a real shame that B.C. gives its resources away for virtually nothing, when Norway, Scotland, etc. charge premiums for the privilege to fish world class streams that non-resident anglers have historically shown to be willing to pay.

All non resident should be guided on this system - you could double or triple the guide days. This system is the best (size wise) in the world and should not be available for non resident aliens on an unguided basis

I support the non-regulatory recommendation to institute the River Guardian Program for this system. This would promote compliance with regulatory measures and would convey to the large number of non-resident anglers present the cultural importance of this resource through direct contact angler education.

The Kispiox is another river that I grew up fishing on and have also witnessed a drop in quality of angling due to over crowding during the fall. The tourism dollars generated by non-resident anglers will not save local economies and businesses. A drop in tourism revenue is a small price to pay for enhanced fishing quality.

Implementation of eight day license should apply to the complete Kispiox river system. Resident fishing only on Saturdays and Sundays

Resident only on Saturday and Sunday

Resident angler only days Sat. and Sun.

Need 8-day licence applied to complete river.
Resident angling only sat and sun

I understand that there is an objective here of spreading out angling effort over the entire season to reduce crowding while not reducing the

total number of angler days, and as a resident, that works in my favour if I want to fish in the peak period. However, if non-resident anglers are shifted to lower productivity periods (when there are fewer fish or less favorable conditions), catch rates may be so low (with the added effort) as to make it 'not worth their while'. Then they will complain bitterly and the new plan may be seen as failure. It seems a bit disingenuous to tell someone they can still fish, but only when the fishing is poor, and then tout the fact that total rod days haven't been reduced. There is a reason why most of the fishing effort occurs in late Sept - early Oct: fishermen are intuitively adjusting their density to match the resource (biologists refer to this as the 'ideal free distribution theory' when applied to other species). It is also naïve to think that you can redistribute fishermen away from an 'ideal free distribution and expect total effort (and local economic gain) to remain the same. It will decrease. I don't agree that the crowding problem is limited to the peak period either. There may be less effort in the shoulder periods, but there is also less fish and thus it takes less fishermen to make it crowded (i.e., such that an average angler is unlikely to catch 1 steelhead per day). The chronic complaining about crowding stems directly from angler success (which is correlated to the ratio of fishermen to fish) it's not a sociological reaction to actual crowding (we're talking about less than a handful of people per km). It would be more honest and simpler to implement a substantial reduction in non-resident (and guided) effort across the board from current levels (i.e., at least a 50% reduction from current overall effort for all groups combined).

Would like to see target of less angler-days (I would suggest 520), and then adjust up/down or keep the same in the future depending on data available after at least a 2 year period passes

Would like to see all watercraft that are used by registered guides/assistant guides be identified on all sides by a registered decal that is very visible, and to see all guides/assistant guides wearing some very visible identification to show that they are registered guides/assistant guides

The entire Kispiox should be resident anglers only on Saturdays and Sundays, no non residents and no guiding.

Status quo zone 20.2 -29.5 to my way of thinking is note the way to go pushing all non guided non-

resident fisherman it a small section of river and over crowding that section would make for a poor fishing experience for those travel up here without a 8 day license.

These section also has some of best public access to the river and should maintain a high quality fishing experience for this section of river as well and not set it up for overcrowding.

I am concerned that if I move to Alberta I would be considered a non-resident, even though I own a cabin on the Kispiox river. I think there has to be an exception of non-resident owners of recreational property.

Great ideas - I may have to stop avoiding the Kispiox.

I don't think I can support any of the above. I would be in agreement with resident only from the lake (above the weir) downstream to the Nilkitkwa. Guides should be able to access these waters too!

Prefer status quo plus reduce number of guided angler days

Status quo zone experience the greatest over crowding in river should be included in lottery

Status quo zone too confusing when drifting down river, should be entire river.

You need to be able to put in for a draw and choose from 1 - 14 days, because there are a lot of anglers that only come to fish for 3-4 days and people also come for multiple week/river trips.

This is one river that requires some serious regulation. I am also concerned regarding bottom bouncing hook-ups during late season given higher hook-up success and additional stress to fish when residing in their winter pools. I feel that steelhead fishing should end by mid-Nov. for all Skeena Waters

I avoid this river during the steelhead season - August 1st to close. There's simply too many out there during the times the water is clear enough to fish. For this and other locations, is there thought to adding a definition such as 'resident alien' angler? There is a lot of foreign owned property throughout this region. Much has been purchased for the purpose of prolonged fishing visits.

The last four years on the Kispiox has been terrible from an over crowding perspective. At one point this fall I counted 11 people on the Lower Patch run. The potential for over crowding on the status quo section would still exist.

Looks to me that you can fish with a guide and bypass all the rules. Isn't it nice to be rich?

17 is Great idea for the Kispiox... guides are important economically however they are lowering the quality of the angling experience on this river. A day off without guides would be a welcome idea.

There should be no "status quo" war zones. Creating a free for all is going to lead to problems here and elsewhere.

I do not agree with the statement that on the Kispiox "The most important factor in weighing the different options was trying to manage non-resident anglers without seriously impacting local businesses that depend on those anglers."

I believe the goal should be to address crowding issues of non-resident anglers and to improve the quality of the fishing experience. It has been identified that resident use is low and the plan should focus to improve those opportunities. With an improved angling experience, lottery implementation and a higher status placed on the fishery, demand will increase and local businesses can charge accordingly, thus offset volume with quality and possibly improve revenues.

(15.) I support a lottery based non-resident fishery. I believe the proposed 99 8-day licences along with the guided allocation should be considered if it is applied to the whole river for the entire classified water period without the implementation of a status quo zone. The river watch proposal should be implemented and a trial of three years be given to the allocation and be evaluated after that time.

(16.) I do not support a status quo zone, because crowding issues have been identified, and this will exacerbate the problem in the zone especially if a lottery is implemented. The proposed zone area is in the most popular waters and in an area populated by residents. Additionally, the carrying capacity seems to have been reached considering

the 100 km of river, but it was further recognized that the lower 30km are the most utilized.

(17.) I agree with resident only angling on Saturdays. Recognizes resident priority.

I do not believe in status quo zone, because crowding issues have been identified, and this will exacerbate the problem in the zone especially if a lottery is implemented.

*Also guide boats should be identified and a max of three guided anglers per boat. No new rod days allocated to existing guides, any if any additional rods days are considered, they are to be allocated to new applicants, and those days reduced from the 8 day licence quota.

Additionally, demand and pressure will increase as restrictions to non-residents are implemented throughout the watershed, so measures must be in place to handle surges on all identified rivers.

Resident anglers can not get to the fishing holes as the non-residents have them all plugged! The general feeling I receive is they (non-residents) don't like my presence and they are/were there already and fishing...you see I am a resident and I should be able to fish the Kispiox also! We are crowded out and not welcome...

The lottery system alone does not address the entire issue. Guided anglers contribute greatly to the problem on this river. An extension of the classified waters period by one to two weeks in August and/or November and an accompanying weekly 'cap' on guided rods would eliminate stacking of guided rod days during peak consumer times....no change in total allocation just spreading them out over a longer period. Making the guides each have a different changeover day whereby they only fish 6 out of 7 days would help in conjunction with having non resident unguided anglers do the same...they can fish for 6 days and then must take one day off the river . . . they can not purchase their next days until they have demonstrated a day off.

See other comments... No resident only fishing!! This will not work, will not be fair, and is discriminating! Non residents are our economy here and spend \$ regardless if they hire guides or not. Do not affect our whole economy just because of complaints from guides and their buddies!!

There are 393 guide days on this river. Reduce the guide days. With private access they contribute greatly to the crowding. The average is 6.5 guided anglers per day. Some days there are more guided anglers than non-guided. Guides should not have preferential treatment on any rivers.

The status quo zone is the most productive section on the river and is the most fished. I strongly suggest that the eight day lottery licence system be implemented also in this section.

Excluding the lodges that generally operate on a weekly schedule, many nonresidents stay in a campground or B&B etc for a longer period as a result of the travel distance to get to the Kispiox and thus support the local economy. Therefore I would suggest increasing the number of days available in the lottery with residents only on weekends. This provides the nonresident a longer stay and since the Kispiox is a river most often subject to fluctuations in flow, it would give the anglers a more fair opportunity should the river "be out" during their visit. Considering the somewhat limited access to the river in many areas, the target number appears extremely high and causes considerable pressure in the lower 1/2 of the river. I would suggest to reduce the 795 angler day target significantly. Net result potentially would be fewer anglers staying for a longer period. Also there is no reason for the guides to use those lower reaches of the river during the peak angling times

Of late Sept/early Oct. If we limit the nonresidents then it is imperative and only equitable to limit the guide activity in order to reduce overall pressure!

It appears not many options are in place for this system. What about the weekend fishery for resident only? What about Triggers? What about non-resident lottery option? It is my opinion the options here do not consider resident use or priority but are geared toward the commercial sector. Resident priority is not for sale nor must it be compromised by a handful of businesses that care little of our fishery but more in lining their pockets at any expense!

I believe with the intentions of question #15 but strongly disagree with the status quo section! This is the best fishing area and will not help protect

fish stock. The entire river should be treated the same!

Status quo zone is best area of river in my experience (18 years) and is where most of the problems re crowding, etiquette etc. occur. I also feel there should be consideration of gear restrictions on this river.

Guides are very aggressive therefore residents should have at least a day. These rivers are a world treasure, we as residents should have priority when it comes to fishing. As for nonresidents it should be a privilege to fish these priceless rivers and the nonresident anglers should be heavily controlled and pay for it.

In my opinion this river is the most overcrowded in the region and the entire river should be lottery access for non-residents of BC.

I do not find the river too crowded, there is always somewhere to fish, and sometimes you just need to go a little farther. I would suggest raising licence fees and having a river guardian in, implement the Saturdays for residents only and leave it at that. I do not agree with items 15 & 16

Status quo zone has the potential to be severely overcrowded-poor mesh with such a quality fishery.

Displacement of guide effort to Skeena IV on Saturdays can/will be a problem.

The Quality Waters issue is an attempt on the part of the guides to solidify their position and profits. Saturday is traditionally a 'travel day' for guided clients. There are virtually no 'guided clients' fishing on Saturday anyway.

No additional guided rod days.

Reduce rod days and spread the days over the entire season rather than overcrowding with guides in peak periods. There tourism is important to more than just the interest of those with rod days

Bear Claw guides need to respect all resident anglers. They don't own the river!

There should be consideration of the provision for additional launching sites if there are Crown lands where such access may be developed.

Q23 Babine

Residents need to have priority assigned to them.

The Babine is a river that could benefit from a severe reduction in both guided anglers, and non-resident, non-guided anglers. It is frustrating being a lifelong resident of B.C., and having to compete with this circus-show of non-residents and guides competing with B.C. residents on this river.

I caught my first Steelhead on the Babine. Last year while fishing the upper Babine I was told by a local guide that he and his client were there first and I should move down stream. This really makes me mad, I now plan to start packing my hand gun when steel head fishing!

Please reduce opportunities for guides and non-resident anglers on the Babine. I was born and raised in the local area these are our rivers and our fish.

20. Need more river than 2.5 km.

Keep more of the river for residents only

More of the river should be resident angling only

Reserving 2.5 km of the Babine for residents is meager offering. I strongly support a review (and major reduction in) the number of guided days on the Babine. Under Bob Hooten's proposed AMP back in the 1990's (or 80 s?) it was recognized that the Babine was over allocated to guides. There were also some excellent recommendations in a more recent review by the Parks branch (none of them adopted) including a restriction on the use of jet boats to reduce conflict between guided and non-guided parties and disturbance to grizzly bears

Would like to see all watercraft that are used by registered guides/assistant guides be identified on all sides by a registered decal that is very visible, and to see all guides/assistant guides wearing some very visible identification to show that they are registered guides/assistant guides

Strongly agree with a review of the existing rod days and seek to reduce the total rod day allocation

The Babine guide allocation is way too high! Even when there are only a couple of non-guided

parties on the river, it's still crowded from guided clients alone! I find this a real turn-off, even though I love the river otherwise.

BC Parks should manage all recreational floatcraft by registering (and limiting if necessary) numbers and days on the river.

Overcrowding by guides when Nilkitkwa is out big problem

This river system should really be Guide only for NRA since it is one of few Class 1 waters we have in pristine condition.

You need to be able to put in for a draw and choose from 1 - 14 days, because there are a lot of anglers that only come to fish for 3-4 days and people also come for multiple week/river trips.

The Babine is seriously over-guided above the "gate" due to two guided operations + sat. camps in the upper river. It is next to impossible to fish a dry fly run first thing unless one camps on site. The River should not lose its focus as bears first, people second.

This stream will see increasing pressure, reducing the value of the guided experience at the top end. These recommendations are an example of that, limiting guiding to the zone below Nilkitkwa. The zones up to the fence were, at one time, a well used area for Norlakes Lodge. Angler movement along the trails was limited, as was the fishing at the fence. Now, as noted, the area around the bridge is a 'gong show' until the sockeye run is done. Even afterward there's a lot of angler walk-in activity down, now, to the Nilkitkwa. That's because resident anglers are pushed to the more remote areas, away from the Bulkley and Morice for example, in an effort to sustain the solitude and wilderness experience.

Our greatest industry is tourism, try to remember that

I believe you are on the right track on the Babine however the highly competitive nature of guides on the river and access make it difficult for resident anglers to have a high quality experience (being first on the water on some runs). If you extended the no guiding/resident only zone approx. one more mile downstream to where the road intercepts the river from the south. This would allow resident anglers a stretch of river that would

offer them enough room to ensure a better quality experience. This stretch of river can still be accessed by individuals who do not have the privilege of owning a river craft and don't mind walking. This is something that must be kept in mind when creating fishing boundaries and opportunities to resident anglers. Not everyone is a die hard steelhead fisherman wearing the \$2000 worth of clothing and slinging the \$1000 rod. Opportunities must still be available to all residents just looking for a nice day on the river. A river they can access without buying a boat that isn't overrun by guides and other non resident anglers.

"Status quo" zones are a recipe for disaster.

I think there definitely needs to be a reduction in rod-guide days on this system. Each guide often has 4 or more clients and functions as a jet boat driver, not a guide - they drop clients off in certain spots and then leave them there unattended for many hours. I also agree with making it no guiding above the Nilkitkwa river - often times when fishing is poor downstream the guides will use their jet boats and come upstream, making the river very crowded for people like me who don't have a jet a boat and can only fish a very limited portion of the river.

(20.) Recognizes resident priority.

Also guide boats should be identified and a max of three guided anglers per boat.

These rivers are a world treasure, we as residents should have priority when it comes to fishing. As for nonresidents it should be a privilege to fish these priceless rivers and the nonresident anglers should be heavily controlled and pay for it.

There is a significant over allocation of guide rod days on the PREMIER section of Babine downstream of Nilkitkwa mouth. This fishery is known to be completely dominated by the 2 guide operators.

Limiting guide activity above Nilkitkwa will exacerbate the issue raised in point one.

A reduction in guide rod-days is required.

Agree on the reduction of guided rod days. Crowding should be controlled by changes to bag limits, species closures. and gear restrictions

Three lodges have far too many rod-days! 1,650 more than the Bulkley

The Babine River requires expert power boat operation and knowledge to operate on the Upper Babine. Drift rafting requires expert operators/guides to drift the whole river as it is very dangerous below the Silver Hilton Lodge.

Q28 Bulkley

I believe option 2 would lend itself to a better experience for residents.

I'm not sure why the resident only section on the Bulkley is limited to the 3 'easily accessible' waters? This has to be a mistake!?! Why not have whole reaches of the prime Bulkley water made resident only, and have the guides and the non-guided non-residents fight over what's left.

I rarely fish the Bulkley above Smithers these days due to crowding

As per my comments above, the trigger should match the figure attributed to use by the targeted class (non-guided, non-resident anglers). A lower trigger is more desirable than a higher trigger as it will result in direct management intervention at an earlier time.

No guide boats or non residents below Suskwa Valley bridge. Have had guide boats race across the river to beat walk in fisherman to their only fishable water on several occasions.

Non residents tend to get to a hole and stay all day, not permitting resident access.

I'm not sure I understand the questions? However I strongly feel that the number of guides and non resident anglers needs to be reduced.

24. Need more than three runs.

I suspect that with the implementation of such a plan CW fees will increase for resident fisherman. If this plan was borne out of frustration experienced by the resident fisherman from having a limited fishing experience, then I would hope that there are not any complaints from resident anglers when fees are increased to cover costs of any additional administration, monitoring, or licensing.

I am sympathetic to anglers who travel great distances to fish BC waters, only to discover that they have arrived during a period of heavy rainfall that has blown out their target river. At least during a non-AMP era that angler would have had the freedom to move to another river the next day. Lotteries and Limited-day Licences will create a reduction in Non-Resident Angling pressure, but that type of management may have negative implications for our tourism industry.

I can honestly say that most of my negative fishing experiences have not been a result of conflict with non-guided, non-resident anglers, most have resulted from guides that are pissed off that I'm fishing an area in which they usually take their clients. With scowls on their faces they zoom by on their jet boats, trying to send me the message that I shouldn't be there. That type of behaviour doesn't enhance the quality of my fishing experience.

I hope this plan is not implemented.

The entire Bulkley river system should be resident only fishing on Saturdays and Sundays

Entire river should be resident-only on weekends

A lottery system should be implemented immediately on the Bulkley river. The fish in this system are being pounded relentlessly, leading to conservation issues. At the end of the day, conservation of the fish must rise above all the rhetoric about guiding and lost tourist dollars. Lotteries on other rivers will only lead to huge overcrowding issues on the Bulkley if angler days on the Bulkley are not also controlled as part of an overall comprehensive plan for the region

The Bulkley contains several hundred classic fishing runs. Offering residents exclusive access to three walk-in spots (two of which are marginal fly water) is an empty gesture. What about residents who fish from boats? Let the casual tourist with loafers and a spinning rod fish these. There are at least a dozen full day drifts on the Bulkley. On any given day, a couple of these drifts should be residents only. That is more than reasonable. A rotating schedule would allow non-residents a chance to fish each drift at some point. I would also support limited entry for residents for these resident-only drifts to allow residents to experience a world-class fishing stream under uncrowded conditions.

It is difficult to evaluate a recommendation like 814 angler-days in limited-day licences to non-guided, non-resident anglers because there is no context with respect to current total angling effort. A comparison of estimated total effort with and without this restriction would help me to provide a more informed opinion (maybe this was in the full report that I didn't read) Surveys of the Thompson River steelhead fishery suggest that a maximum of 1 angler per km is a good target to ensure a quality fishery for that river. The approach I would like to see for the Bulkley and the other major Skeena fisheries is to develop river-specific targets for angler density and then simply reduce current non-resident, guided, and resident effort (in that order) to achieve the target. If the target is being met by guided and resident anglers, then non-residents are out.

#27 - would like to see the 814 angler-days be lowered to 600

would like to see all watercraft that are used by registered guides/assistant guides be identified on all sides by a registered decal that is very visible, and to see all guides/assistant guides wearing some very visible identification to show that they are registered guides/assistant guides

24 the entire Bulkley should be resident anglers only on Saturdays and Sundays no non residents and no guiding # 26 disagree with the non resident allocation of 1716 anglers and would prefer something around or less than the #27 - 814 average use days As well, the total guided rod day allocation should be reviewed and reduced

The problem of over crowding is most apparent from the 15th of Sept. to the 15th of Oct. I would like to see a lottery for this time frame. The shoulder season does not need much or any regulation. We should find a way to utilize more of the resource in these shoulder seasons specifically the end of the season. This should conceivably increase the economic gains in times when Guides have openings, restraints are not packed and hotels have open rooms.

The Bulkley needs some action now. These recommendations won't change anything for me. I wouldn't want to just fish at those spots, with everywhere else crowded. It seems like the

Bulkley is being sacrificed so that other areas can be more tightly regulated.

Be careful that any change does not herd people upstream to the Morice

Prefer status quo licensing

I would like to see a status quo zone for all classes if a lottery is implemented for the Bulkley.

Steelhead stamp should be mandatory till December 31

Utilize "permit to accompany" as wildlife does so residents can have family members fish with them without having to go to a lottery. Make us pay for this "permit" within reason <\$50./family member and limit it to maybe a three week period to accommodate for water conditions or fluctuations in schedules.

You need to be able to put in for a draw and choose from 1 - 14 days, because there are a lot of anglers that only come to fish for 3-4 days and people also come for multiple week/river trips.

Mode of transport (jet boats) an issue taking away from a quality experience. Many of the recommendations are a deflection of Bulkley River stewardship such as 24 & 25. This river needs to be promoted as a walk-in and drift boat fishery, which would mean a good number of rod days of equivalent experience. I have lost interest in the Bulkley due to crowding at present levels of angling pressure.

Go with the average use option with 10 day licence. This will encourage longer visit trips. The average use allocation is more representative of 'reasonable' fishing space.

Option 2 is my choice

By now you will have guessed that I am against all these restrictions.

Agree with question 24 but strongly disagree that the area set aside is adequate given two of the spots also function as boat launches (Chicken Creek and Telkwa River). Additionally after the flooding last year I understand that Chicken Creek is not the calibre of whole that it used to be. In a nutshell this is a starting point only and instead of small polls sections of river need to be

allocated to resident only on Saturday's. What the group is proposing amounts to a few token spots but does nothing to address the issue of resident priority.

27. Strongly agree with the selection of Option 2 but strongly feel that the lottery with limited day licenses needs to be implemented effective upon approval of the plan as appose to after target is exceeded in twice in three years.

First and foremost I would like to thank the East Working Group participants for the time and effort put towards this extremely important issue. As a resident of Houston, B.C and a avid steelhead angler I definitely support this initiative and more importantly the quality of a fishery which is critical to the many users that rely on and utilize the fishery directly and indirectly. My home waters are the Morice River and the upper portions of the Bulkley River.

Bulkley River:

As identified in the draft plan the issues on the Morice River are quite similar to those of the Bulkley. As such I propose to just touch on some of the differences in terms of management tools and possibly closures but agreeably the issues are the same.

Management Alternatives:

For the most part the alternatives that I put forward for the Morice would also be applicable to the Bulkley with the following differences:

1. In addition to the resident only closures put forward in the plan I would put forward a resident only closure on Saturdays from the start of the upper Bulkley to Barret Station bridge. This closure dovetails with the closure for the lower Morice

2. Immediate implementation of LEH in conjunction with limited day licenses. Given the outdated nature of the current angler day numbers and not reflecting the true magnitude of the fishing pressure it is necessary to implement these measures effective immediately. We may have only one chance to implement this strategy given the political will and as such the time is know as we all know the pressure will only increase in the future.

Resident only area around mouth of the Telkwa needs to be made to include the run called the Burn.

Crowding on the Bulkley between Quick to Telkwa was extreme this year, bring the limited day licence in now

The resident only areas in Telkwa must extend to the bottom of the "Eddy" run as well as including the "Burn"/ "Cement Plant".

I think 1716 is a lot of angler-days for this system. In my opinion 814 is more reasonable number and think that sort of reduction wouldn't impact the local economy too much.

I do not agree with the statement "The most important factor in weighing the different options was trying to manage non-resident anglers without seriously impacting local businesses that depend on those anglers." I believe the goal should be to address crowding issues of non-resident anglers and to improve the quality of the fishing experience. It has been identified that resident opportunity should be improved, the plan should focus to improve those opportunities. With an improved angling experience, lottery implementation and a higher status placed on the fishery, demand will increase and local businesses can charge accordingly, thus offset volume with quality and possibly improve revenues.

(24.) I suggest making the Bulkley river resident only on weekends.

(25.) Agree, recognizes resident priority.

(26.) Option way too high. Crowding problems already exist.

(27.) Average use still equates to identified crowding problems. Target should be reduced by 33% of average. (814-33%=545 days) Considering the lag of implementation of the lottery and the crowding identified. Permits should be no longer than 8 days.

Additionally, demand and pressure will increase as restrictions to non-residents are implemented throughout the watershed, so measures must be in place to handle surges on all identified rivers.

*Also guide boats should be identified and a max of three guided anglers per boat. No new rod days allocated to existing guides, any if any additional rods days are considered, they are to be allocated to new applicants, and those days reduced from the 8 day licence quota.

Another ploy by guides to take over another portion of B.C.(Elk River etc nonsense) Just shut down Tourism B.C. and take out a series of ads telling folks to just stay home.

This is ridiculous again!! How is the average person to know the rules and regs when they are like this. I know the sellers of tags etc will have to go to school to understand all the restrictions. Leave well enough alone and deal with real issue of lack of fish!! It all will take care of itself.

If meaning is related to non-residents fishing in the region and regular residents are unaffected then I strongly agree

How can this be enforced?

this river is much to crowded and a eight day lottery should be considered river wide.

Suggest option 2 (average use) target non-resident non guided anglers.

Stop the jet boats period!

Re: lottery - it would be preferable to give those who've made consistent annual trips an advantage over those who haven't been before--if that's possible

The lottery figures are still too high, in my opinion.

put the use of jet boats on a lottery system, odd even day's for residents and non residents

These rivers are a world treasure, we as residents should have priority when it comes to fishing. As for nonresidents it should be a privilege to fish these priceless rivers and the nonresident anglers should be heavily controlled and pay for it.

There is too much pressure on this river and the jet boats that are unguided are largely driven without consideration for other fishermen or fingerling fish that I regularly see washed up on the riparian gravel by waves from jet boats. When I last fished on this river there was no indication

that the unguided jet boats had any sense of what they were doing! Until the boat size and speed is regulated the fabulous Bulkley will only be a shadow of what it once was. There is pressure from the guide outfits to keep motors on the river but until they are removed from the equation the Bulkley and real anglers will suffer.

Resident only weekends for section from Suskwa mouth to Porphory creek Reduce guide effort in same section -Option 1 = crowded water

Reduce pressure on the resource by reducing guided rod days

There are no need for lotteries on a river like the Bulkley. Guides complaining are a bigger issue and they could certainly have their rod days reduced. Resident fisherman complaining are those spending a large # of days on the river with no consideration for others. resident or visitors. There were more fisherman in the past with no crowding issues. Now that there are guides and lots of rod days, we have issues. Perhaps the guides could take clients over a larger area and time span instead of hammering the same holes day after day. Small rivers like the dean and Babine have less runs that are fishable and can become overcrowded. The Bulkley river is much different with lots of area for fishing and an economic effect. The visiting fisherman and their spouses are what keeps business alive and profitable for them to be here for all visitors whether guided or not. Protectionism for the sake of a few would be a stupid decision. I have fished the Bulkley/Telkwa for 50 years and have seen the effect of rod days and guides on the river

very much in favour of any mechanism that would temporally dissipate angler use of this river; crowding ruins the experience during peak season late Sept / early Oct. Allow a limited number of non-resident non-guided anglers to access the river, but spread this effort out over the season, as opposed to allowing it to occur all during peak season.

If Kitwanga, Suskwa, and Kispiox have Saturdays only for residents then Bulkley must be residents only for residents or it will be chaotic. All the central and eastern anglers will be at the Bulkley or Morice. Also, the guides need to be told to respect "all" anglers or get off the river! Far too many illegal guides based out of Telkwa

accommodation (old Douglas Motel [Alberta] and Ft Telkwa see website)

The option 1 (high use) is too high. Chicken Creek-Toboggan Creek-Telkwa River areas should not require a steelhead stamp during classified waters.

Q32 Morice

I used to fish a lot of days in the fall on the Morice, as well as the upper portion of the Bulkley. Low numbers of steelhead combined with high number of anglers in the last few years have frustrated me somewhat. I live & work (own a business) in Houston and enjoy the outdoors in this area. I would support a management system that allows an uncrowded (and unabusive) time for me on the river. My dollar investment in the sport of angling is quite high, as I own a river boat and several rods & reels (both fly and lure), waders, etc. I am not sure if overcrowding is caused by guiding or nonresidents. Perhaps residents is too broad of a term and should apply to regional residents only, where all but regional residents are restricted by a lottery for limited day licences.

Non-resident crowding is an issue on the Morice - at a minimum, a lottery should be implemented, and several prime sections made resident only.

I support Option 2 (average use) as it will enable that a lower threshold is considered to give effect to the limited-day licences. As per my comments above, the trigger should match the figure attributed to use by the targeted class (non-guided, non-resident anglers).

Implement lottery immediately.

The angling guide management review should include a reduction of guided angling. Resident angling only on Saturdays and Sundays.

Length of camping restrictions to those campers who stay and fish for long periods of time. More emphasis on education and etiquette. More enforcement on all rivers

Angling guide review should include a reduction of guided angling. Should be available to residents only on weekends

A lottery system should also be considered immediately for the Morice river. My experience is

the lower Morice (Aspen to Bymac) can be quite overcrowded.

The information is contradictory here. If crowding occurs on the Morice, and it is felt that residents need more opportunities, then how can the status quo be adequate. A lottery and limited-day licenses for non-residents should be implemented immediately. As per my comment above for the Bulkley, an angler density target is also needed for the Morice, and it should be lower than that for the Bulkley to reflect lower steelhead densities.

#30 - would like to see less angler-days (I would suggest 350) and then adjust up/down or keep the same in the future depending on data available after at least a 2 year period passes

Would like to see all watercraft that are used by registered guides/assistant guides be identified on all sides by a registered decal that is very visible, and to see all guides/assistant guides wearing some very visible identification to show that they are registered guides/assistant guides

The Morice should also be Resident Anglers only on Saturdays and Sundays no non residents and no guiding.

I disagree with #29 and would prefer #30 around 449 average days

Eight-day licences should be implemented here - some people come and camp for a long time.

Steelhead stamp should be mandatory until December 31

You need to be able to put in for a draw and choose from 1 - 14 days, because there are a lot of anglers that only come to fish for 3-4 days and people also come for multiple week/river trips.

I prefer the lower figure option, of which should also be the threshold target for lottery allocation. The water between Morice Lake and Lamprey Creek, or a portion thereof should be drift boat only. A non-guided section should also be in place occupying 1/3 of the river's length. Feel that similar to the Bulkley River areas need to be set aside for residents only on the Morice River. Would like to propose from Bymac Campground to bottom end of the Morice and also from Aspen campground to Owen flats.

29/30: Strongly agree with the selection of Option 2 but strongly feel that the lottery with limited day licenses needs to be implemented effective upon approval of the plan as appose to after target is exceeded in twice in three years.

First and foremost I would like to thank the East Working Group participants for the time and effort put towards this extremely important issue. As a resident of Houston, B.C and a avid steelhead angler I definitely support this initiative and more importantly the quality of a fishery which is critical to the many users that rely on and utilize the fishery directly and indirectly. My home waters are the Morice River and the upper portions of the Bulkley River.

I would like to put forward some recommendations to the East Working for their consideration in the final draft of the Angling Management Plan. The recommendations that I would like to put forward for consideration by the East Working Group are based my experiences and knowledge gained from use and enjoyment of the river during the steelhead season. I would like to put forward comments specific to the Morice River and the Bulkley River separately.

Morice River:

I strongly agree with the problems and issues that the working group identified on page 74 and 75 of the draft plan. Specifically I think the key issues as it relates to angler pressure include the following:

1. Crowding near campsites during the classified waters period and long-term campers. This is particularly true of Bymac campground and Aspen campground with both sites providing easy access for boaters and anglers on foot.
2. Over the past 2 to 3 years there has been a significant increases in the numbers of personal watercraft that are being used to access the portions of the river that have been previously inaccessible to most users.
3. Increased pressure resulting from overcrowding on other rivers in the Skeena watershed. As identified by the group on page 67 section 5.9.2 poor weather and turbidity elsewhere in the region often results in transfer of angling effort to the upper Bulkley and Morice. In addition assuming that this plan is implemented I believe that restrictions proposed on other rivers in the

watershed will further compound the problem of increased numbers being forced onto the Morice and upper Bulkley River.

Given the acknowledgement of these issues by the working group and the goal of the plan to regulate angler usage and adhere to the concept of resident priority I m perplexed why the working group has put forward a wait and see approach to management on the Morice River. Over the past 2 to 3 years there has been noticeable increases of angler usage on the river which has definitely detracted from the overall experience that can realized by all anglers. Furthermore residents are choosing to stay home during peak times given the influx of guides and non-residents who increase the difficulty around accessing the fishery. Adoption of this plan and specifically implementation of this plan with the proposed restrictions on other rivers will further compound the pressure issues on the Morice and Bulkley. As such I propose that the time is now to put forward restrictions outside of the status quo being recommended by the working group. Please accept these suggestions as possible modifications to your draft management strategies:

Management Alternatives:

1. I agree that limited day licenses do little by themselves to reduce pressure during peak seasons. As such implement a limited entry lottery linked to non-guided, non-resident limited day licenses effective upon endorsement of the plan. Currently the working group is proposing a pressure threshold that needs to be hit in two of three years before this management strategy is implimented, which is not immediate enough and does nothing to address the issue that is presently occurring. The working group acknowledged issues with pressure during peak times. Furthermore the numbers used to assess the number of rod days is outdated (2000) and does not adequately represent the current situation on the river which if formally known would surely result in the immediate implementation of this strategy. I put forward that the number of angling days available would be an average of Option 1(617) and Option 2(449) for a total number of available angler days of 533. As per other working groups.

It was deemed that this strategy will help to distribute non-guided, non-resident pressure over a wider window and limit some pressure during

the peak times which is consistent the issue that the working group identified and with the intent of the plan. The group has discounted this option for immediate implementation but provided no clear indication as to why they believe it will be ineffective when applied in combination upon endorsement of the plan.

2. Extend the classified waters window and time required for a steelhead stamp to August 15 to November 15 which coincides with times that there are catchable numbers of steelhead in the river and conditions are still conducive to angling. This option was discounted by the group given it precludes on the tail end of the season marketing reduced costs for the shoulder season. In my opinion this is the best time of the season given the presence of more fish, larger fish, and less people. It is more difficult to coax fish to the fly but it is definitely still a productive time given reduced pressures and more fish. In addition given the current surplus of guided rod days on the river this will have minimal impact to guides. Also this will also assist with the distribution of guided rod days outside of peak times.

3. There is no definitive trigger or impact to guides as currently put forward in the management strategies for the Morice. In my opinion the guides on the river have to be willing to shoulder some impact or logistical inconveniences at a minimum. I would like to propose that if the rod days for two out of three years exceed a predetermined option (i.e. Option 1) then the restrictions on number of guide boats and/or clients per guide boat be restricted in some fashion to reduce angler pressure. The working group has identified an overcrowding issues during peak times but indicate on page 76 under Management Element 7 that this is not a problem right now. In my opinion the guides are putting forward that they are not part of the problem and furthermore are not willing to be part of the solution by making any compromises. In my opinion this is a biased and unfair assessment of the problem and a lack of recognition that they contribute to the overcrowding issue as much as the

next person. By agreeing to be part of the working group you must be able to look past your personal needs and advocate for the larger good of the community. Page 6 and page 47 of the draft plan stipulates that representatives were expected to represent all interests and furthermore must take part as members of the community, not as

representatives of any particular sector. Based on the dismissal of any strategy that has the potential to impact guides now or in the future it would appear that the guides may be perceived as representing a narrower interest.

4. I would also like to propose that the following areas for partial closure to guided and non-guided, non-resident usage:

a. From Bymac Campground to the junction of the Little Bulkley River and Morice River;

b. From Aspen campground to Owen Flats

The areas should be designated as resident only Saturdays at a minimum or resident only weekends be designated for these portions of the river. This strategy is being proposed for several other rivers covered in the plan and is consistent with the concept of resident priority, which is currently totally lacking in the status quo approach being put forward by the working group. In addition this approach does not totally preclude guided and non-guided use on the river it just means that they have to move to other sections of river. In the draft plan on page 76 the group states that this option is not needed on the Morice but do nothing to substantiate why especially in light on the issues that the group identifies. Again this intuitively makes no sense and undermines the overall intent of the plan given resident priority is a key principle.

To summarize for the Morice the status quo as put forward is unacceptable given the intent of the Angling Management Plan and the issues for the Morice put forward by the working group. Furthermore the notion of precluding almost all of the management elements put forward for consideration by the working group with little of no rationale in light of the issues is unacceptable. I think that residents, guides, and non-residents all need to be willing to make sacrifices for the good of all unless a strong rationale can be provided and it not acceptable to just say that it is not needed or the tool was rejected.

In terms of the strategies I put forward this in my opinion represents the ideal. Obviously the ideal would most likely represent no compromise on the part of myself or resident anglers as a whole. As such if I was to rank my recommendation above in order of importance from highest to lowest it would be 1, 4, 3 then 2.

Crowding WAS an issue on the Morice this year, particularly with American anglers. Jet boats outfitted to the helm with people in matching outfits staking out the runs between Aspen and Bymac every time I went out... vehicles looked like guiding operations and were from Washington and Idaho. There was even a film crew following one of the jet boats. Very rude and arrogant anglers as well. I strongly disagree with leaving the Morice status quo and going to the lottery system on all the other systems as this will create a very serious crowding problem on this river.

Need to limit long term stream side camping at Aspen and Bymac

Again, I think 449 is a better number than 617.

(29.) Option way too high. Crowding problems already exist.

(30.) Average use still equates to identified crowding problems. Target should be reduced by 33% of average. (449-33%=300 days) Additionally, demand and pressure will increase as restrictions to non-residents are implemented throughout the watershed, so measures must be in place to handle surges on all identified rivers.

Max. 8 day licence permit

*Also guide boats should be identified and a max of three guided anglers per boat. No new rod days allocated to existing guides, any if any additional rods days are considered, they are to be allocated to new applicants, and those days reduced from the 8 day licence quota.

I do not believe the working group has done an adequate job at reducing identified crowding issues by not suggesting immediate implementations of management tools. same as Kispiox and Bulkley

If meaning is related to non-residents fishing in the region and regular residents are unaffected then I strongly agree

Again this river is too crowded and a better angling experience can be achieved through a eight day non-resident lottery.

Option 2 average use non-resident non guided anglers.

Re: lottery - it would be preferable to give those who've made consistent annual trips an advantage over those who haven't been before--if that's possible

These rivers are a world treasure, we as residents should have priority when it comes to fishing. As for nonresidents it should be a privilege to fish these priceless rivers and the nonresident anglers should be heavily controlled and pay for it.

Considering the fact that Coho returns in the Skeena tributaries have become terrible it is about time that fall fishing be closed on some of these smaller rivers.

We cannot have the guides allowed to use more rod days than the residents.

Reduce guiding

very much in favour of any mechanism that would temporally dissipate angler use of this river; crowding ruins the experience during peak season late Sept / early Oct. Allow a limited number of non-resident non-guided anglers to access the river, but spread this effort out over the season, as opposed to allowing it to occur all during peak season.

Sat only for residents or all central anglers (Kitwanga, Suskwa and Kispiox) will fish the Bulkley and Morice on Saturdays.

Fine river: the whole river from the lake down should be open for the whole season. Effort should be made to provide more access points on the upper river.

Q39 Zymoetz I

Please please implement #37 - non-residents must be guided. Why increase the number of guide days, especially if there are concerns about "the number of guides working in the area"???

The goal should be to decrease the number of non-residents, because the fishing experience of residents in this province is being compromised by them.

Do not increase rod days for current guides, why not offer someone else the opportunity to obtain rod days (maybe natives).

Instead of increasing rod days for current guides, why not offer someone else the opportunity to obtain rod days.

I agree with the working group finding that the carrying capacity of this river is limited and I recommend that the working group or MOE must establish what the carrying capacity is during this process. In order to ensure that access priority will be provided for resident anglers in the long term it is imperative that no further rod-days be allocated until it can be shown that the carrying capacity will support this without compromising future resident access. I am concerned that the plan currently provides a recommendation to increase the rod-day allocation for guides without a clear sense of how this may one day limit the availability of this resource to resident anglers. Perhaps a temporary or short-term increase in the rod-day allocation can be considered until such time as resident demand precludes this level of guiding on this river. A lottery system for residents should be avoided and should only apply once other classes of anglers are fully restricted

I also recognize that the working group members are striving for a balance of interests and this may be represented by the recommended increase in rod-days.

Helicopter transport of anglers is compromising the quality of the walk-in fishery and I recommend that helicopter use on this river should be monitored and possibly regulated, perhaps through a permit system. Passive efforts would also be valuable, such as regular communications with helicopter carriers to educate them as to the specifics of the guiding regulations that apply.

No Increase in Guide days they are the problem

36. One angler per boat.

37. Give non-residents a lottery system.

38. How can the river be considered crowded and then recommend increasing pressure. No additional guide days should be allocated.

Re item #35 and 36. Limitations should be implemented to restrict guides to one boat or one helicopter trip per guide per day.

Before BC residents are restricted fishing time due to river carrying capacities the number of

guided rod days should be decreased no additional rod days this fishery is already over subscribed

Maximum 2 anglers per boat

I am unable to comment on this river, however the reason I don't fish here is largely due to the overcrowded conditions I encountered the last time I fished there.

What about the use of helicopters by the guides? I fish this section a fair bit and I can't think of a worse insult than being buzzed by a low-flying helicopter after I've hiked into a wilderness river (it s happened more than once). Helicopters aside, I can't believe that a working group tasked with addressing overcrowded fishing has recommended that the number of guided days be increased by 50%, especially when they have noted that there are concerns with the number of guides in the area. Why bother taking days away from non-residents if you are just going to give them to someone else. Limiting guided effort to three clients in one boat is not going to help. Nine guided fishermen per day alone (never mind residents) are too many for this section. #38 - would like to see the rod-days remain the same to maintain the class 1 criteria

would like to see all watercraft that are used by registered guides/assistant guides be identified on all sides by a registered decal that is very visible, and to see all guides/assistant guides wearing some very visible identification to show that they are registered guides/assistant guides

Should Zymoetz I be closed earlier (November 1?) so that the steelhead are not being targeted more than is good for fish on their spawning grounds

This applies to all guides and all angling areas where there are rod days in Region 6 (and through out the province) - would it be better that all guides register their clients by internet (digital format) to MoE the morning of fishing or before going fishing so to help legitimize their recordings and to help guides to be seen as guiding in a legal manner (as well as help MoE keep on top of things in a more immediate manner)

#35 and #36 should read Limit guides to one boat or helicopter per day I agree with an increase in guided rod days but in no way should it be

increase by more than the proposed 10 days each for an additional 30 rod days in total

No new rod-days

Enforcement could minimally be at the entrance to the one access road.

Keep the guides to only person (angler) they can guide

What about helicopters? I encounter more heli-guided anglers than boaters in the Class 1 section. Is "boat" a catch-all meaning a guided party?

Why not move boundary to the confluence with Clore?

Have the new rods only to be used in the new extended classified time

Illegal guiding has been a problem

No heli-fishing permitted for both wildlife and quality angling experience.

Was the additional rod days offered to the guides on the upper Copper as a trade off for limiting the number of boats on the river? I don't agree with adding additional pressure on the river. This exercise is about offering a better quality experience to resident anglers. This comment is perhaps coming from the guides and I do not believe it at all!

Access to the river is only possible by helicopter, or you know where and how to find the few spots to reach the river. Access is just known by a few non-residents. By sure there is no overcrowding on Zygotas 1 area, cause you have to drive 50 km gravel road, pay for classified 1 and invest a lot of energy to reach spots. This is not done by a lot anglers, just a few. I just meet once a angler (Terrace local) when I fished there. Even me, who is a dedicated steelhead fly fisher just go there approx. once during my entire stay of around 20 days at Terrace.

Again, the guides like to have Zymoetz 1 under their control, cause it is quite profitable for them. That's the real reason I believe. "Overcrowded Zymoetz 1" is not even an argument, it's just a joke... I think these changes are very necessary. This section of the river is small and very

vulnerable to the increases in angling pressure seen over the years. I have fished this section of the river for several years now and seen a marked increase in angling traffic.

My other concern about this section of river is the use of terminal tackle. It is a small river and easily angled with a fly. The fish are aggressive, and in my opinion there should be a fly-fishing only regulation for this section. The catch rates would be a little bit lower (which is better for the fish!) and the quality of experience would be better for everyone. (36.) On this small system I believe it should be 2 clients per guide per day. further guide boats must be identified.

(38.) I do not agree that existing guides should be allowed additional days. Instead these days should go to new applicants only, and further those additional days must be reverted back to the province if the current user decides to leave the business. Rod days are not transferable by the users to another user. They must become available and be applied for by a new user. Rod-days are not for-sale by users. Extremely important to make mandatory non-resident requirement that they must be guided! Many people abuse this area with B&B's and other businesses ferrying non-resident fisherman to the limited number of fishing holes and dropping them off to fish and then picking them up later. Where are the residents to fish? This is an all day, every day scenario! I am against forcing non-residents to be guided. My friends out side of BC would not be able to come up and fish with me.

Suggest limiting guides to two anglers because guides frequently fish too.

Not all guides use boats to transport clients so rule of two should apply to guide rather than guide and boat.

Enforcement needs to be strengthened and conducted regularly or all the rules are pointless. Any increase in rod days as a result of non-resident guided only must hinge on this. If the NR guided only is removed so too would the rod-day that resulted from it.

All rod day must remain under the care custody and control of ministry. The resale of rod days by the holder "renter" must be prohibited. Distribution will be under the exclusive control of ministry and no compensation for un-used or re-distributed rod

days will be given to renters! This is a blanket comment for rod days Pressure is pressure, whether guided or non-guided. The Copper has too much pressure on it. To increase the number of guiding days on the river would defeat the purpose of amending the regulations (to reduce pressure and allocate more of the resource to local residents), and would only serve to increase the economic fortunes of the guides who have rod days on the Copper. The guides are exploiting this section of river and should not have more days allocated. These rivers are a world treasure, we as residents should have priority when it comes to fishing. As for nonresidents it should be a privilege to fish these priceless rivers and the nonresident anglers should be heavily controlled and pay for it. Question 36: Three clients per boat is too many. Two should be sufficient.

Question 38: No increase in rod-day allocation. Residents don't have room to fish because there are already too many guided clients.

Should be only 2 anglers with 2 guides per boat.

point 38 does not match the draft amp I received which states 40 additional rod days each for a total increase of 120. Grand total =178. (207% increase) Please clarify

One boat per guide or 1 boat per guide operation. Please clarify this.

No run on this section can accommodate 3 anglers at the same time.

An increase in commercial effort will result in more helicopter traffic and destroy the wilderness aspect of this unique fishery.

Weekends only for residents preferable. Where is the resident priority reflected in this amp.

This fishery was once a refuge for residents escaping from the more accessible and crowded areas-why not manage in a way that returns this opportunity to residents.

Almost all residents have only 1 option for access and that is to drive in and hike. They cannot compete with guides in helicopters. It requires a long drive and hike, significant fuel expenditures and more or less an all day commitment for residents to angle here. I do not see any increase

in guide effort as contributing to the overall quality of the fishery for residents.

Because this section of the river is extremely difficult to access, this is clearly an attempt by the guides to set a 'precedent' for 'guide only' sections of a river. They expect that nobody will oppose this issue and they will have set a precedent for future bargaining.

All guiding should be eliminated on this river and the lottery/limited day proposal implemented

Considering the number of non-resident guided anglers being brought into this small, easily-accessible river, it should be no surprise that these same anglers want to return to the river as non-guided anglers, after they've been guided once or twice.

Needs more access as area around kilometre 30-40 gets all the use/abuse on the fish stocks.

Q48 Zymoetz II

Please don't increase the number of guide days - this will defeat the purpose of the initiative to reduce the non-resident anglers. Sections of the Copper should also be made resident only.

Instead of increasing rod days for current guides, why not offer someone else the opportunity to obtain rod days.

This system has seen the biggest increase in crowding of all the Skeena tribs in the last 5 years. Personally all non resident aliens should have to be guided

Instead of increasing rod days for current guides, why not offer someone else the opportunity to obtain rod days.

As per my comments above, the trigger should match the figure attributed to use by the targeted class (non-guided, non-resident anglers).

I recommend that this process result in the establishment of the carrying capacity of the Clore River. The Clore is a small system with water clarity that is negatively affected by major sediment inputs in the lower watershed portion for much of the angling season. It has a limited capacity for anglers and is threatened by the same crowding pressures as Zymoetz II. The management and use of rod-day allocations on

this system would benefit from direct monitoring and management of the carrying capacity of this stream. Rod-days should be carefully applied to this system. I do not agree with lumping the rod-day allocation and monitoring of Clore River usage within the Zymoetz II umbrella. This will not provide the direct management I believe this system requires. No increase in guide days, they are the problem.

Need some way for residents anglers to be able to take out their relatives or friends from other parts of Canada. Hunting community came apply to the Ministry a month in advance a guide relatives or friends a couple times a year. 44. To many.

Re item #46 There should be no increase of guiding activity in Sept and Oct. Leave five guides and 117 rod days and evenly distribute the number of days over the season 20% in Aug and Nov. and 60% in Sept / Oct.

Regulations limiting long term camping should be implemented.

Change river from a class II to a class I no additional rod days

Non guided non residents= 150 angler days

I would like to see a restriction on the number of assistant guides for all rivers (i.e., 0). With respect to increasing guide days, my comment from #39 applies equally here.

#45 - Not sure this is workable. Could try and adjust in the future if guides can justify.

#46 - would not like to see more rod-days given unless good data available to justify

#47 - would like to see target of angler-days lowered (I suggest 198), and then adjust up/down or keep the same in the future depending on data available after at least a 2 year period passes

would like to see all watercraft that are used by registered guides/assistant guides be identified on all sides by a registered decal that is very visible, and to see all guides/assistant guides wearing some very visible identification to show that they are registered guides/assistant guides

should an upper part of Zymoetz II be closed earlier (November 1??) so that the steelhead are not being targeted more than is good for fish on their spawning grounds #40 the Zymoetz II should be classified from July 1st to April 30th

#41 Should be mandatory steelhead Stamp for entire classified period

#46 There has been a significant increase in the actual rod days used on the Zymoetz II in Aug Sept Oct over the last few years. There should be absolutely no way that any increase of rod days be allowed in Sept or Oct.

The proposed additional rod days of 30 each would be ok only if they can be controlled and spread out to not allow the majority to be used in August should be no more than 10 days for each guide in August. no new rod days

increase to only 20 days per guild must be used in the new classified period

Major overcrowding issues with lots of illegal guiding

Very crowded in 2008. Anglers were lined up waiting in their cars to fish the run. This section of river is the Vedder of the Skeena.

You need to be able to put in for a draw and choose from 1 - 14 days, because there are a lot of anglers that only come to fish for 3-4 days and people also come for multiple week/river trips.

3 guests per guide is too large for a river of this size. Nothing stops a guide for carting in a jet boat.

Totally against the classified "pay for fishing" concept. guides should be restricted to fishing their sports on one run at a time rather than spreading them all over the river

Again, increasing the guiding pressure will only make this system busier. A certain portion of the non resident non guided anglers will now hire a guide, guides are better prepared and know the river much better. In my opinion this wouldn't change the situation all that much on the river. Go with the lottery system and eliminate the Copper River camps of Americans who contribute virtually nothing to the local economy. The quality of the

angling experience on this system has seriously deteriorated because of this.

I'm fly fishing Copper river for the last 15 years and it is much more than my favourite river, it's a kind of "Vallhalla" for me, due to landscape, scenic, the river and of course the steelheads. I wrote down my experiences in a brochure (don't worry, I didn't spread it) with information and figures and facts, most locals and residents not even know about this river. I personally know most of the local guides and sorry for this comment: In an overall view it's a quite poor performance they provide to there customers. Anyway, I never will use such a "guide" to show me spots which I already figured out by myself and how to fish there, by spending lot of time and of course money... By sure many of anglers need to be guided, due several reasons, but not me. To protect Zymoetz river for the future is a must...and a very tricky job to realize. Increasing overcrowding is becoming a problem, but "guided only" will not solve it, cause guides are a problem too in this picture. Taking a look of your committee members, I assume that all of them will focus on achieving there personal interest targets. Guides like to have control about business on Zymoetz river and local anglers like to spend there days (mostly weekends) on an non crowded river. Both interests I can understand. But finally the non resident or alien anglers like me are the guys, which still provide the majority of money into fishing linked operations at Terrace. Most steelhead flyfisher I know, are by sure not looking for guided fishing days on Copper river, but appreciate much more to have impressive days by being just a part of the river and his landscape. It's a Canadian river and I clearly understand and accept that locals like to have initial rights. So I could agree to leave weekends to resident only for instance. A kind of lottery is ineffective. I mean, I can't agree if I have to plan a (even expensive) trip in advance and being related to an perhaps quite unpredictable lottery result. This is really unprofessional at least from my point of view.

Hope you find a proper compromise in this tricky issue to ensure both - a clear and secure prospective for Zymoetz river and his steelheads - and anglers who find themselves in acceptable conditions to visit this beautiful river also in future. You have to find a proper balance - good luck !

My personal summary for Zymoetz river:

Fly fishing only

Include all tributaries into Zymoetz classified waters Sunday for residents only Extend classified period from Aug. 01 - May 31 No over night camping along the entire river Proceed with non guided status

I think all these changes are great ideas. Something has to be done - this lower copper river is so crowded that I don't fish there anymore in September and October.

(43.) Reflects resident priority

(44.) Addresses crowding issues.

(46.) I do not agree that existing guides should be allowed additional days. Instead these days should go to new applicants only, and further those additional days must be reverted back to the province if the current user decides to leave the business. Rod days are not transferable by the users to another user. They must become available and be applied for by a new user. Rod-days are not for-sale by users.

(47.) Max. limited stay for 8 days. See number 39 comments as they apply to this river section also!

This system has become almost unfishable by resident anglers. Due to non-resident anglers camping in front of popular pools. I think even more restrictive measures should be taken.

Increasing the current guide allocation is a terrible idea and a complete sellout to the guides. The very low number of anglers in early/mid Aug. doesn't warrant an increase and therefore this increase will only be used during the peak Sept. period further crowding the river with guides. Dreadful! Inordinately better to maintain their number of rod days and spread them out! Pressure is pressure, whether guided or non-guided. The Copper has too much pressure on it. To increase the number of guiding days on the river would defeat the purpose of amending the regulations (to reduce pressure and allocate more of the resource to local residents), and would only serve to increase the economic fortunes of the guides who have rod days on the Copper.

Allocate additional rod-days only to be used in the month of August.

Clore should remain classified but separate river.

These rivers are a world treasure, we as residents should have priority when it comes to fishing. As for nonresidents it should be a privilege to fish these priceless rivers and the nonresident anglers should be heavily controlled and pay for it.

Regarding question #46. The rod days should be distributed evenly over the entire season so they cannot all be used during Aug- Nov, which is the busiest period.

Considering the fact that Coho returns in the Skeena tributaries have become terrible it is about time that fall fishing be closed on some of these smaller rivers.

There are already too many guides. No increase in allocation.

Should be only one angler per guide per day. If the guide takes one angler in the morning and one in the afternoon then 2 rod days are used up for that guide.

How is a huge increase in guide effort justified? How does this contribute to resolving the crowding issue.?

One of the basic premises that the guides are using in an attempt to justify their 'grab' of the fishing rights to our rivers is that 'locals' have been pushed off of their home rivers. 'Locals with whom I have discussed this situation chuckle and point out that they have stopped fishing where the regulations require 'catch and release'.

This attempt to 'grab' fishing rights on the part of the guides is based on greed, is unfair, and if supported by the ministry will encourage further manipulation of the ministry by special interest groups.

The idea of giving weekends to the residents is in no way a 'major gift' of the guides. Weekends are travel days for guided clients and they rarely fish weekends anyway. This is a 'red herring' tossed into the discussion by the guides.

Eliminate guides

Having non-resident anglers camped out on these runs is completely unacceptable.

Q56 Kitsumkalum

Commendable initiatives.

Guide pressure appears to have increased over the last 3 years

Two per boat guided.

The recommendation that all non-residents must be guided during the allowable guiding period is very restrictive and will have implications to the local economy. I would like the working group to ensure that the principle of access priority for Canadian residents over aliens is considered and that an alternative measure of all non-resident aliens must be guided is evaluated. Depending on the success of this measure and the future scope of management issues, the restriction could be further extended to all non-residents.

Need some way for residents anglers to be able to take out their relatives or friends from other parts of Canada. Hunting community came apply to the Ministry a month in advance a guide relatives or friends a couple times a year. Non guided non residents may not be that hard on the resource. Re item #51 allow only 3 guided anglers per boat. This should be implemented for "ALL" river systems. Re items #52 53 and 55. resident angling only on Saturdays and Sundays

Resident anglers only on Saturday and Sunday

Too many rod days

Resident angling only should be Sat and Sun.

Maximum 3 guided anglers per boat

Government to claw back 25% of existing rod days

This sounds a little more substantial. Why aren't these options proposed for the other rivers (I wish the resident anglers from the Terrace working group lived in Smithers). Limiting the number of guided fishermen per boat or per guide may mean less people on the river, but it does nothing to reduce angling effort. People fishing in a group (assuming they stay together in a group) are going to catch about the same number of fish regardless of how many of them there are. Even from a sociological perspective, for most Skeena steelhead streams, the issue of 'crowding' applies to the number of boats, not people. A much more

effective policy would be to require guides to remain with their clients throughout the day. Presently, a great number of guides on the Bulkley, Morice, Babine and Skeena mainstem, behave essentially as taxi drivers, leapfrogging back and forth with their jet boats, spreading clients among as many runs as possible simultaneously in order to monopolize large areas and to put their clients first through as many runs as possible. This greatly increases their impact on both the fishing success and piece of mind of other fishermen (they end up driving their noisy jet boats past other anglers many more times than if they remained with their clients). This tactic is used more frequently as overall angler pressure increases, compounding the problem.

#50 - would like to know if guides could justify having two boats on either the upper or lower river on the same day. If so then this might be an option I might go for instead of only 1 in the upper and 1 in the lower.

Also would be if favor of the guides having an extension to Nov. 1 instead of Oct. 15

#51 - would like to see only 3 anglers per boat

would like to see all watercraft that are used by registered guides/assistant guides be identified on all sides by a registered decal that is very visible, and to see all guides/assistant guides wearing some very visible identification to show that they are registered guides/assistant guides #49 disagree with all non residents must be guided. They are not the problem in Sept Oct or April May. The main increase has been in the use by guides.

#51 should be a Maximum of three clients per boat

#52 should be resident angling only on Saturdays and Sundays for entire of the classified period -- no non residents and no guiding. # 53 & # 55 see #52 # 54 should be a reduction in the number of guides to 11 and preferable less in the combined upper and lower river The number of anglers to guides could be further reduced to two per guide.

ad. 51; too many per boat - guide should be able to communicate with client - see guiding act safety regs.

Four anglers per guided boat is too high. Why not make it three as for Zymoetz?

No guiding in all upper river Saturday

Overcrowding by guides in spring

51) To many guided anglers per boat. Max passengers on any boat in any river should be restricted to 3. One guide looking out for the safety of 4 is inappropriate.

#49 would make it "only the rich can fish"

(49.) Increases resident angler opportunity and recognizes resident priority. Addresses crowding issues.

(50.) Increases resident angler opportunity and recognizes resident priority. Addresses crowding issues.

(51.) Maximum 3 anglers per boat. Reduces pressure and improves fishing experience. Guides should not be allowed to fish while hired.

(52.) Increases resident angler opportunity and recognizes resident priority. Addresses crowding issues.

(53.) Increases resident angler opportunity and recognizes resident priority. Addresses crowding issues.

(54.) Increases resident angler opportunity and recognizes resident priority. Addresses crowding issues.

(55.) Increases resident angler opportunity and recognizes resident priority. Addresses crowding issues.

* I believe this working group has done an excellent job to address the crowding issue, improve the angling experience and respect resident priority. These approaches and management tool recommendations should be looked upon as a model for other working groups within the Skeena watershed.

Reduce the guide days. They have unlimited access to upper river and only those with jet boats can access the lower. Limit guides to certain days on the river.

Maximum 3 guided anglers per boat. With the added restriction that guides can't angle for themselves, only instructional.

#52 & 55 Would like to see the entire river resident only angling on Saturday

Need to express caution as to the possibility of negatively impacting the chinook season. By limiting the steelhead fishery may cause crowding on the chinook fishery and negatively impact resident anglers. re:ques. 51- should be 3 per boat

This is my home river and the guides are destroying it, the pressure caused by them in spring and early fall is unacceptable for resident anglers and fish.

These rivers are a world treasure, we as residents should have priority when it comes to fishing. As for nonresidents it should be a privilege to fish these priceless rivers and the nonresident anglers should be heavily controlled and pay for it. Should be only 2 guided anglers per boat, which equal 2 rod days against the guides allocation.

Resident-only for entire weekend preferable.

Number 51 is pointless -does nothing to control guide effort-no guide would have more than 4 in their boat anyways.

Total 'grab' on the part of the guides. Give nothing get everything. The guides created a fictitious problem saying that the 'quality' of fishing has diminished, and then set themselves up as the ones designated to 'solve' the problem. My intelligence has been insulted.

Significantly reduce number of guide/rod days with a goal of total elimination over time

Why 4 anglers/guide when Copper has 3 anglers/guide? Why resident anglers on Sunday in West and Saturday in East and Central?

Should only be max of 3 anglers per guide boat.

Q61 Lakelse

should not be open to non residents from 01 Oct to May 31 - this system is too small to be a destination fishery

100 seems a bit low.

Any proposal for non resident fishing from June 1 - Feb 28 should include Resident angler fishing only Saturdays and Sundays

September and October have become very busy on the Lakelse river. The lower end of the Lakelse especially on weekends, but more and more non-residents are starting to show up putting more pressure on a small system.

#59 and #60 - would like to see the Lakelse a BC resident only river

Should also be Resident Anglers only on Saturdays and Sundays all year

Overcrowding in spring and fall

Good set of recommendations; concern is still walking on spawning beds by anglers, especially around the Herman Pool area.

If these changes on the above rivers were to be implemented for the Skeena System, then does that mean the Kitimat River will be changed into a classis fed watershed as well? Are there any changes in the near future for the Kitimat?

Point 59: at the risk of repeating myself, I highly recommend that this be adopted.

As you already mentioned above, Lakelse river is not crowded by steelhead fisher, but for "meat fisher" during the strong coho run. Most of them are Canadians, if not locals, majority coming from Alberta.

This is the problem and here you should find a proper solution. Steelhead anglers are not crowding the river.(58.) I do not agree that a Steelhead stamp should be mandatory, the needs to be a way to recognize the local food fisherman for salmon (Coho) who are not targeting Steelhead.

(59.) Increases resident angler opportunity and recognizes resident priority. Addresses crowding issues.

(60.) Increases resident angler opportunity and recognizes resident priority. Addresses crowding issues.

Limited day licences should be restricted to max. 8 days spread evenly throughout non-resident period.

If meaning is related to non-residents fishing in the region and regular residents are unaffected then I strongly agree

This could work!

Sept and Oct is the peak season for Coho and there are a great number of residents that exclusively target this species. By implementing a mandatory steelhead stamp in the months of Sept and Oct would give false data, pressure and demand on steelhead. All efforts need to be made to accurately identify steelhead anglers and not skew results by implementing a mandatory stamp when other species are in the system and being targeted.

#60 currently the LE River is a non-guided system (no rod days allocated) it must remain as such. The Lakelse is a phenomenal fly fishing river. I would like to see significant portions of the river be restricted to fly fishing only year round (Herman's to Rock Island, Thunderbird).

This river can not sustain any more increase in pressure.

These rivers are a world treasure, we as residents should have priority when it comes to fishing. As for nonresidents it should be a privilege to fish these priceless rivers and the nonresident anglers should be heavily controlled and pay for it.

The entire river should be for residents only due to its small size, tremendous steelhead population and accessibility. Fall steelhead fishery is crowded particularly when other rivers in the area are out due to high water.

Do we have the data collection capabilities to monitor effort on a timely basis??

No guiding

Worth protecting... definitely worth keeping guides away from this small river.

Q68 Skeena IV downstream from Kitwanga Bridge

Please don't increase the number of guide days- there are already too many allocated.

Please keep in mind that this recreational fishery has become completely overcrowded with American angling groups, and I've seen exchanges on the river which indicative of the tensions. The goal should be to improve the fishing experience of British Columbian residents, and to do this, the number of non-residents must be severely curtailed. Thanks for your time in reading my responses.

I do not think that non-residents , should be treated the same as a non-resident alien. Considering that federal tax dollars go in to the fish when they're in the ocean.

These comments are general and are not specific to Skeena IV (Response form did not provide for general comments):

I agree with the primary issue identified in the plan of overcrowding in the peak season, generally described as from mid-September to mid October. I also agree that the main objective of the proposed regulatory measures should be to spread effort away from the peak period, recognizing a principle of ensuring access priority for residents. As a general comment, one dimension I find notably absent from the plan is the lack of distinction between non-resident Canadians and those from out of country. As a Canadian citizen, I recommend that access priority for Canadians should also be a principle that is specifically considered by this process. The access priority hierarchy would then be:

1. B.C. residents
2. (non-resident) Canadians
3. Non- Canadians (aliens)

As another general comment, I found some inconsistency between the working groups in their recommendations regarding the period to apply the Classified Waters designation and the application of a mandatory Steelhead Stamp. My recommendation is to consistently apply these conditions for those waters and for those periods where steelhead are a focal species (i.e. beyond the recommendations in the plan also consider applying this measure for the period Sept. 1 to Dec. 31 to the Babine River, Kitwanga River, Kitseguella River, Kispiox River, Suskwa River and Morice River and for the period Sept. 1 to May 31 for the Kalum River). This enhances the effort / success monitoring opportunity associated with the Steelhead Stamp and the Steelhead

Harvest Questionnaire. Specifically, this enables the collection of information in the currently non-peak periods that are being actively managed for increased (shifted) effort. I do not accept the argument that this is an onerous and incremental cost to residents that are pursuing salmon. In my experience, the salmon run timing in these systems is largely coincident (coho in Sept. and Oct.) with the current periods that the stamp applies and/or there is generally a salmon closure in effect.

I am a resident angler in the Skeena region and I have developed a good knowledge of the subject waters from 30 years spent on them. I have reviewed the plan in full and benefited from attending the Public House conducted in Terrace on Saturday Nov. 15th. It is clear that a lot of effort and thought has been put in to this plan by the Working Group members, the Regional Committee and the Ministry of Environment (MOE) staff responsible for this initiative. I have a keen interest in ensuring that this region continues to provide a quality fishing experience for all those that live in and visit this area. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments and my sincere thanks to the Working Group members, the Regional Committee and the Ministry of Environment (MOE) staff responsible for this initiative. Their thoughtful recommendations and efforts are very evident throughout the draft Angling Management Plan and this is very much appreciated.

A letter to reinforce the comments provided in this response form is also being sent to the process facilitator.

There also is a proposal to not allow guiding for an area below Kitselas canyon, I say the no guiding area should be downstream of the Kitwanga bridge for 5 miles. No more guides, they are creating the problem and No increase in guide days, they are the problem.. If we don't do something now in ten years there will be no steelhead fishing. Resident anglers will not support the torture of our fish by non-residents all over our river system item #63 there should be a requirement for a steelhead stamp Aug 1st to Dec 31. Re item 65 and 66 there should be no additional guiding opportunities allowed

Reduce angler days from 1000 to 50

No new rod days

Limited entry for non guided non residents when effort exceeds 50 items 63,

there should be required steelhead stamp from Aug. 1 to Dec 31

65, 66 No additional guiding days should be allowed

With respect to increasing guide days, my comment from #39 applies equally here. I thought the purpose of this angler plan was to decrease angling effort, not develop new opportunities for guides.

#67 - would like to see the angler-days changed to 700 and implemented with a target of 700 and then adjust up/down or keep the same in the future depending on data available after at least a 2 year period passes

would like to see all watercraft that are used by registered guides/assistant guides be identified on all sides by a registered decal that is very visible, and to see all guides/assistant guides wearing some very visible identification to show that they are registered guides/assistant guides # 63 Steelhead Stamp should be mandatory for August 1st to October 31 and then only required when angling for Steelhead in other months.

65 & # 66 totally disagree with the proposal to issue 30 additional days to existing guides and the proposal to issue 4 new guides licences. The Skeena IV is the one of the last and only areas left that is not over run by guides and should be left as is for now. We do not know what the outcome of the implementation of the AMPs in the rest of the region will do regarding transfer of effort. At the very least, if there is any additional days granted in Skeena IV (downstream of the Kitwanga Bridge) they should be only granted outside of the area from the Kitwanga bridge downstream + - 10 or so kms. This area of Skeena IV should be capped at its current historical use.

As well, to avoid problems with transfer of effort as a result of the AMPS, the Skeena IV should also be resident angling only on Saturdays and Sundays no non residents and no guides. no new guiding or rod days

There needs to be guiding only for the alien anglers

For all rivers: improved boat access to even out pressure on rivers. Increased licensing fees with revenue to be used for the resource improvement. Licensing fees are far below world wide average for the quality of fishing that we have. It is important that some of the revenue is used to improve the fishery. no new rod days to be allocated from Kitwanga bridge to 10 km down steam of bridge and 10 km up and down steam of Kitselas canyon. only 20 new more days for existing guilds and only 2 new guides there is not a big over crowding problem at this time in the areas of Kitwanga and Kitselas but adding more days to guilds with boats would get very busy fast let them spread out in the other 100 km of river in the Skeena IV One general comment for all proposed changes. Canadians should be given the same angling opportunities as resident anglers. They should just have to pay more for the opportunity like they do now. Unless other provinces have similar restrictions if British Columbians want to fish their trophy waters. i.e. Atlantic salmon in the east.

Classified waters boundary needs to be changed to railroad bridge in terrace

You need to be able to put in for a draw and choose from 1 - 14 days, because there are a lot of anglers that only come to fish for 3-4 days and people also come for multiple week/river trips.

I strongly feel that limited entry is the wrong approach for the entire Skeena system.

Frankly speaking (from an non resident view) the steelhead stamp requirement is not quite logic. What does fishing for steelheads in Skeena river mean? I don't purchase a steelhead stamp and tell everybody I just fish for salmon, hoping that a steelhead attacking "by incident" my fly?

On every B.C. river, which contains steelheads or is used as a "transfer" like most of the Skeena, a steelhead stamp have to be mandatory for everyone who is fishing. Resident anglers have enough trouble fishing these waters, we do not need to give the guides more days. Already too much competition here for the few fish we have left.

(66.) I do not agree that existing guides should be allowed additional days. Instead these days should go to new applicants only, and further those additional days must be reverted back to the province if the current user decides to leave the business. Rod days are not transferable by the users to another user. They must become available and be applied for by a new user. Rod-days are not for-sale by users.

(67.)Option way too high. Crowding problems already exist.

(30.) maximum use still equates to identified crowding problems. Target should be reduced by 33% of max. (1000-33%=670 days) Additionally, demand and pressure will increase as restrictions to non-residents are implemented throughout the watershed, so measures must be in place to handle surges on all identified rivers.

Max. 8 day licence permit

*Also guide boats should be identified and a max of three guided anglers per boat. No new rod days allocated to existing guides, any if any additional rods days are considered, they are to be allocated to new applicants, and those days reduced from the 8 day licence quota.

I am aware this area has a number of unauthorized guides that are actually guiding the mouth of the Kitwanga River! When ask they indicate they are not guides, they are not guiding and these fishermen with them are "friends" from the States! Go figure.

If meaning is related to non-residents fishing in the region and regular residents are unaffected then I strongly agree

1000 user days may be too high and should be re-evaluated.

Do not support 4 new guide opportunities as much needs to be resolved with the current rod day system. Guide must be prohibited from selling rod days or acquiring compensation for said rod days. You can't sell what you don't own. This needs to be resolved before the addition of any new rod days or the addition of new guide opportunities. Regulations should not serve as an economic opportunity for guides. The pressure on the resource is reduced by limiting access to non-residents and reducing or at least not increasing

guide days on the river. All of the conservation objectives can be reached without any increase to the guiding days. Again, regulations should not serve to line the pockets of the guiding industry. Steelhead stamp should be mandatory as I have been catching many Steelhead within that period and the money should be used for Steelhead conservation, habitat etc.

These rivers are a world treasure, we as residents should have priority when it comes to fishing. As for nonresidents it should be a privilege to fish these priceless rivers and the nonresident anglers should be heavily controlled and pay for it.

Steelhead Stamp should be required all year round as the only month when steelhead are not accessible is June.

A more complete study of the impact on riparian areas by large boats should be undertaken and recommendations should be made to lessen the impact on fingerling fish near the stream bank. Most guide boats do try to keep the wake down as much as possible but unguided boaters seem to disregard the environment and other anglers to the point where standing near the Trans Canada outside Vancouver is about the same as fishing on the Skeena! There may be room for guide effort increase below Kitwanga. There is no room for a guide effort increase in the zone from salmon river to 4 mile bridge.

I thought the principal behind the QWS was to decrease angling pressure. Adding guides, increasing guide range, and increasing guide days opposes the very principal on which the QWS was formed. What clearer proof do you need that this is a power grab by the guides. These guides are behaving like "Americans."

All anglers should be required to possess a steelhead stamp if there are steelhead in the Skeena system.

Objective should be to reduce and eventually eliminate the exploitation of a public resource through the elimination of all guiding on the mainstem Skeena and Bulkley/Morice. No guiding on any of the tributaries where there currently is no guiding. Reduction and eventual elimination of guiding on small special systems like the Copper. No increased guiding on rivers with long standing guided tradition like the Kispiox and Babine increased international attention to the lower

Skeena in July/August/Sept is clearly resulting in more pressure than in the past.

Open mouth of Kitwanga to coho as returns are way back to historical high numbers!

Appendix H Local business: Response Form comments

Q07 Kitsequecla and Kitwanga

Is it necessary to eight-day licence the entire classified period? Or is there crowding in a more specific period of time?

Change to class 1...use \$ from increased licence costs for creel surveys. We need better data. Higher licence fees will cut down on crowding by non-residents in my opinion.

I think if there is no guiding allowed on these rivers, then there should be no non-resident angler allowed to fish there either.

Keep rivers open for everyone.

Whatever changes are made should apply to guided as well as non-guided anglers. The guides should not have preferential treatment.

I am pleased that this is being addressed, these rivers would be beat to death if there was a closure elsewhere.

Q10 Suskwa

Change to class 1...use \$\$\$ from increased licence costs for creel surveys. We need better data. Higher licence fees will cut down on crowding by non-residents.

I think the Suskwa should be left for residents only.

Keep rivers open for everyone.

A lottery system is not the way to go in the Skeena watershed period. Consider and include input from other sources beyond that of the limited scope of the designated toolbox, as this watershed and its many rivers, communities and stakeholders are far more complex than the Dean River (which the angling use plan makes several references to) and this is a unique place, with unique issues that may constitute legislation changes, not only regulation changes.

The selection process of working groups, the mandate set by the MOE and the data which this angling use plan references is flawed and seems to have no proof content. There does need to be angling use plan to ensure the sustainability of the

fisheries and quality angling experience; that both addresses quality waters and conservation issues but with fair input from all stakeholders."

Q14 Skeena IV upstream from Kitwanga Bridge

#11 change classified waters from September 1 to October 31 to reflect the steelhead fishery timing, to class 1. July 1 to October 31 could stay class 2.

The Skeena River is rarely overcrowded except for areas like at the Kitwanga River and Anderson Flats. These areas are not the places where people should go during the busy period if they want wilderness fishing. If you fish by boat between Hazelton and Kitwanga there are hardly any people.

Keep rivers open for everyone.

An 8-day lottery will kill the steelhead tourism industry for all but the guides. If guides do not use their rod days they should be turned back.

A lottery system is not the way to go in the Skeena watershed period. Consider and include input from other sources beyond that of the limited scope of the designated toolbox, as this watershed and its many rivers, communities and stakeholders are far more complex than the Dean River (which the angling use plan makes several references to) and this is a unique place, with unique issues that may constitute legislation changes, not only regulation changes.

The selection process of working groups, the mandate set by the MOE and the data which this angling use plan references is flawed and seems to have no proof content. There does need to be angling use plan to unsure the sustainability of the fisheries and quality angling experience; that both addresses quality waters and conservation issues but with fair input from all stakeholders.

Q18 Kispiox

Limited day licences for non-residents and residents.

Keep rivers open for everyone.

The 8-day lottery will put all of the non-guided establishments out of business and also create a zoo in the "status quo" zone. The crowding on the Kispiox during peak times is because the guides

typically have most of their clients come during that period. Check the counterfoil data. You will see that more than half of the pressure in peak season comes from guides.

Something needs to be done, but whatever is implemented will make some people quite upset. This is where "Government" needs to step up and do what is best for the fish, and personal, or economic gain be thrown aside. If the guided rod days were spread out, and non-guided non-resident anglers put on a lottery, the crowding issue would be resolved. The resident angling days should also be monitored, and if too many rod days were used, we need to be capped also.

A lottery system is not the way to go in the Skeena watershed period. Consider and include input from other sources beyond that of the limited scope of the designated toolbox, as this watershed and its many rivers, communities and stakeholders are far more complex than the Dean River (which the angling use plan makes several references to) and this is a unique place, with unique issues that may constitute legislation changes, not only regulation changes.

The selection process of working groups, the mandate set by the MOE and the data which this angling use plan references is flawed and seems to have no proof content. There does need to be an angling use plan to ensure the sustainability of the fisheries and quality angling experience; that both addresses quality waters and conservation issues but with fair input from all stakeholders.

Q23 Babine

No crowding problem except between weir and Nicheyewa Creek.

(19) No need to implement a resident only fishery at this time due to the lack of use in that area. The last 5 years in mid October I have fished that section of the river guided and non-guided and have only seen 2 other anglers that were not guided.

Keep rivers open for everyone.

For #19, I disagree with the wording because how do you control whether or not the non-resident angler is being guided or not?

There have been many reports from non-guided anglers that the guides on the Babine are often

very rude to them. Also many anglers who use the Babine guides say they only do so because they would have nowhere to stay otherwise and don't like camping.

A lottery system is not the way to go in the Skeena watershed period. Consider and include input from other sources beyond that of the limited scope of the designated toolbox, as this watershed and its many rivers. Communities and stakeholders are far more complex than the Dean River (which the angling use plan makes several references to) and this is a unique place, with unique issues that may constitute legislation changes, not only regulation changes.

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Q28 Bulkley

A lottery can't be "the only way". There must be alternative suggestions that could be explored such as 4 day on, 2 day off. There must be some ideas that are more inclusive than exclusive.

"Overcrowding" is a relative term.

Launch sites will be "overcrowded" because of their convenience. Is it possible to add new public launch site(s) on public property?

Education of etiquette for parking considerations, i.e. alternative parking areas after boat is launched. Etiquette of respect of space for other fishermen. Etiquette of fishing practices. If poor etiquette then licence could be revoked. How to monitor? Eye witness accounts and/or lobby for more Conservation Officers.

I feel that a lottery would have a large impact on local businesses that get a secondary spin-off of the fishing season (motel, restaurant etc) I would like to see the actual statistics of the fishing that is occurring on peak season not just implied facts. We need to know the actual numbers we are dealing with before we try to make a plan.

(24) Agree to 24 but it should be the whole river, much easier to manage. Could look at this option for 1 day either Saturday or Sunday.

(25) Do a creel survey, need more data.

Divide the Bulkley River into some zones and limit sections like between Telkwa and Smithers to a certain # of rod days to spread people out and give locals some priority in the busy areas.

Add some more boat launches to spread people out and prevent congestion at the launches and the first fishing runs close to the launches.

Any pressure we can take off this river would be great.

Keep rivers open for everyone.

A lottery-based system will stop more than 90% of steelhead fishermen from coming to our area to fish!

The lottery system will kill the steelhead tourism industry which is a huge economic benefit to the entire region. It is already making steelheaders feel unwelcome and in these difficult times we cannot afford to be putting people out of business to benefit the guides. It is very obvious that the working groups had an agenda to benefit the guides and to hell with the rest of the community.

The Bulkley has room for a lot of fishermen, but the use of jet boats needs to be monitored.

A lottery system is not the way to go in the Skeena watershed period. Consider and include input from other sources beyond that of the limited scope of the designated toolbox, as this watershed and its many rivers, communities and stakeholders are far more complex than the Dean River (which the angling use plan makes several references to) and this is a unique place, with unique issues that may constitute legislation changes, not only regulation changes.

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Q32 Morice

Divide the Morice into three sections and cut down the people on the lower section by spreading people out. Make the most used stretch lottery based.

Limited day licences for non-residents and residents.

Keep rivers open for everyone.

Rod days not used should be turned back and perhaps re allocated to others if necessary. There needs to be clear data supporting the theory of overcrowding not just the opinions of a vocal minority.

A lottery system is not the way to go in the Skeena watershed period. Consider and include input from other sources beyond that of the limited scope of the designated toolbox, as this watershed and its many rivers, communities and stakeholders are far more complex than the Dean River (which the angling use plan makes several references to) and this is a unique place, with unique issues that may constitute legislation changes, not only regulation changes.

The selection process of working groups, the mandate set by the MOE and the data which this angling use plan references is flawed and seems to have no proof content. There does need to be angling use plan to ensure the sustainability of the fisheries and quality angling experience; that both addresses quality waters and conservation issues but with fair input from all stakeholders.

Q39 Zymoetz I

No more rod days issued to guides. All this will do is transfer angler effort from non-residents non-guided to guided...this will do nothing for the resident angler. A guided angler is high impact, as the guides know all the best runs. Most non-resident anglers are low impact it takes years to learn the water that the guide knows. As a resident I would rather fish behind a non-guided non-resident than a guide.

The guiding community shouldn't priority over the other business community that services the fishing industry. It is unfair to increase the guiding days when the other service providers are being cut back.

Guides should have no special privileges.

How self-serving is that!! What about the Copper River Motel? The river is crowded if it has non-guided anglers but non-crowded if it has the same people but they are guided? It is certainly obvious that all of the people on the Terrace working group were guides!

The three existing guides need to be allocated more than 10 rods days each. Is this some kind of joke? Who came up with this number? Did the West AMP Working Group "all" agree to this number via consensus? I have personally read in another draft the number was 40. Who decided to change the number 40 down to 10?

Q48 Zymoetz II

Limited day licence for entire period?

(46) No more rod days issued. There is way more guiding today than there was 15 years ago...on paper it shows the same but in reality it's way more. There was a 5th guide licence issued on the Copper in the last few years, the guide that sold those rod days, didn't ever use all the days only a fraction of them. Plus the other days that he owned were not utilized, once the days were sold now they are all used.

The historical rod days used in the August to November time frame was about 60 days if I recall for a number of years. One guide sold 8 days to another guide and now the new guide has been using up to 100 days in the August time frame as it's not classified at this time, so guiding is unlimited to all guides holding Copper class 2 days.

The August fishery was a local resident fishery and now it is gone to the guides for the most part as well as non-guided non-residents.

Limited day licence for non-residents and residents.

Guides need no special privileges. All fishermen are important to us.

Again the guides on the working groups are looking after themselves with total disregard for the Motels and restaurants that cater to non-guided anglers. Why is a guides client more important than a motel or restaurant's customer.

Why is an angler unwelcome if he is non-guided but welcome if he is guided?

The current guides need to be allocated more than 30 rod days each. Who is trying to put the guides out of business? My suggestions: 1. Class 2 from Aug 1 to Dec 31. 2. Allocate 750 new rod-days to the five existing guides. 3. Lottery for non-res (4 day licence) from 14KM to Limonite Creek. 5. Wide open to non-res from 14KM to 0KM. 6. Allocate 200 new non-tenured rod-days between 10 new guides. The Clore River should be a "stand alone" Class 1 river with guide only for non-res.

Q56 Kitsumkalum

(51) Should be a maximum of 3 guided anglers per guide for upper and lower river.

(53) Would rather see the whole river go to no guiding on the weekends...resident only.

There is not a lot of use on this river from non-guided non-residents during the steelhead fishery.

The problem with the Kalum crowding is from the guides; this river needs to have the guiding cut way back in my opinion.

Lets look back 15 years ago; the majority of all the guiding took place in the month of May then July 1 to August 6 for a salmon retention fishery (Chinook). Now the make-up of guiding has changed dramatically, it's changed to a March 15 to the end of May fishery then September 1 to October 15...for steelhead and early run Chinooks. As a resident 15 years ago you would hardly see a guide 'till late April, now there is major activity that takes place. So as a resident we have lost most of our opportunity as the guides are taking up a lot of the best pieces of water and some but not all do not move all day long.

The July Chinook fishery the last few years has seen little activity from non-residents using their own boats...most of the non-residents have switched effort to the Skeena river as the perception is better angling success.

Guiding is the reason the Kalum is crowded in my opinion...it should be cut back.

There are mostly locals or guides fishing all year. Bait ban all year and a limited day licence for non-residents.

#54 depends on how many rod days there are.

We love our tourist fisherman.

Did anyone think to ask the Kitsumkalum Band what they think of this? I am sure they get a lot of their business from non-guided anglers. Is Terrace so prosperous that it can afford to be turning away tourists because a few guides don't like to share the river? It's not their river!!

My suggestions: 1. Class 2 year round (whole river) 2. Guide only for non-res 3. Extend guiding period March 15 to November 15 4. Allocate 200 rod-days with open tenure for 10 new guides. 5. zones(s) where non-res can fish non-guided (Example from Kalum Lake downstream to Camp Creek)

A lottery system is not the way to go in the Skeena watershed period. Consider and include input from other sources beyond that of the limited scope of the designated toolbox, as this watershed and its many rivers, communities and stakeholders are far more complex than the Dean River (which the angling use plan makes several references to) and this is a unique place, with unique issues that may constitute legislation changes, not only regulation changes.

The selection process of working groups, the mandate set by the MOE and the data which this angling use plan references is flawed and seems to have no proof content. There does need to be angling use plan to unsure the sustainability of the fisheries and quality angling experience; that both addresses quality waters and conservation issues but with fair input from all stakeholders.

Q61 Lakelse

Limited day licence for entire period?

(57) Leave the river class 2 from September 1 to October 15 for the Coho fishery...before and after make it class 1. Salmon angler will not pay for the higher class 1 licence in my opinion. This will cut down the number of non-residents, no need to make it a resident only fishery at this time.

(58) Steelhead stamp required from October 15 to August 31...as most of the steelhead come into the Lakelse after October.

Limited day licence for non-residents and residents.

There are other ways to deal with a perceived crowding problem than making tourists feel unwelcome. There needs to be hard data gathered to support the claims of crowding not just the word of a vocal few.

My suggestion: 1 Guide only for non-res 2. Guiding should be allowed in a small zone around mid river. (No guiding on this river goes against the Guiding Principles).

Q68 Skeena IV downstream from Kitwanga Bridge

Limited day licence for entire period?

(62) Leave class 2 for the salmon fishery, Chinook, Coho, Sockeye, Pink...this fishery is huge to the business community. September 1 to October 31 change to class 1.

(65/66) No more rod days issued...guiding is a big part of the crowding.

(67) See #10 this will help reduce the non-guided non-resident activity.

I and many other anglers I know would like to see the area from Kitwanga bridge down stream to the first place the Skeena river meets the hwy.... resident only...no guiding...no non-residents...from September 1 to October 31. This is a holding area for Kitwanga sockeye, as may know the sockeye run in the Kitwanga has very low returns. The Kitwanga Band would be in favor of this option, as it will reduce the angling pressure from non-residents and guided anglers. Also this is the only area on the whole Skeena system to have a residents only area. I don't think that's too much to ask.

There is only the Kitwanga mouth really interesting during late summer and fall, reduction with limited day licence and bait ban on the whole upper river, started on the mouth of the Lakelse, from June-November.

Although in the past 10 years the number of anglers has increased in certain areas, crowding

does not exist, although there may be a need for a lottery system to be brought into affect in the future, I think it is premature to do so at this time. The use of a lottery system at this time is premature, and it would have a devastating affect on local business owners. I fly fish over 300 days a year on most of the rivers and have seen an increase in anglers, but there is not yet crowding. I do agree that a River Guardian program should be started, and as I am a retired fishing guide and spend most of the year on these rivers, I would be very interested.

We love our tourist fisherman! Some have been coming for 20+ years to our beloved valley. Guides: Does that dictate whether you can fish here or not? Are we not a free country? I believe in "Canada, strong and free!"

How cozy! A working group made up entirely of guides voting to allocate themselves more rod days all the while claiming there are too many people already. It's like politicians voting themselves a pay raise, it stinks!

I do not know this section, but it is the foundation for all tributaries upstream. Please use common sense as well as science to manage our treasure. Thank you for your time and effort in keeping our rivers, and fish stocks healthy.

My suggestions: 1. Class 2 July 31 to October 31. 2. New Guides: allocate 4586 (5000 minus 414 existing guides = 4586) 3. Allocate 30 rod-days to each existing guides. 4. Have ZONE(S) for Guide only for non-res.

Appendix I Non-resident aliens: Response Form comments

Q07 Kitseguecla and Kitwanga

I believe that the fishing should be carefully guarded. However, for me who lives in Florida, USA, to spend the thousands of dollars to come up there to fish and then to find that I may or may not be able to fish due to a lottery or a guide would be unquestionably a NO. I would go on to Alaska and spend my money there before I would take a chance at Terrace.

These two rivers I've fished since 1976. They have very intermittent runs of steelhead and hardly anyone fishes them at all.

No need for regulations on these rivers.

Take a wait and see approach.

If you put the plan in, I will never come back to fish again.

Agree with the proposal.

Long-term goals need to be set. Determine the value of sport fishing industry to local economies. Involve all stakeholders and set targets and goals. More in depth studies involving all parties in respect to ideal amount of rod days per river.

Never found the river to be crowded.

If crowding is not a problem, why make resident only-days? Please don't alienate foreign anglers - the Skeena system needs international support to defend itself from commercial fishermen and Big Oil.

Your plan will simply force non-residents to not come to BC. This will ultimately result in a business problem for local merchants and a bad reputation for BC. Not a wise move at all.

No lottery, please. (Without an electronic licence, no way to manage a lottery program. Being "stuck on one river, when it is "out", or not being able to fish with your steelhead companions because one of you got a lottery licence, and the rest.

The 8-day limit, lottery program on the Dean River, is a horrible mistake.

This seems to be led by exclusionary regionalists. It will damage the area's economy a lot.

Crowding is not an occasional issue on these rivers. It very rarely an issue.

Non-Guided non-resident anglers are not the reason for decreased numbers. Remove the nets from the Skeena mouth or utilize in stream salmon harvesting and the numbers will flourish

The Kitwanga is shadow of its former fishery-- who goes there for steelhead? This river seems to need lots of habitat help. I've never encountered another angler on the Kitseguecla. Again, threats aren't from anglers but habitat (logging/ roads etc.) or mainstream Skeena impacts (net fisheries).

You are driving the sport of fishing for steelhead to an elitist sport as it is in most places in Europe. Shame on you. Shame on the commercial interest. Shame on the guide. So much for the common man...You are eliminating any opportunities that I would have to freely visit your country to fish for steelhead.

Controlling use and crowding is good, but at the same time be mindful of the potential effect on local economy by non-resident anglers.

Raise the rod day fees if you want to limit the number of anglers. Lottery based drawing will not work for rivers that are surrounded by infrastructure. For example if I have an 8-day lottery date and I check the Internet to find the rivers are blown, why would I even come. Just one example of why this plan is flawed and there are several.

I don't think the angling pressure on these rivers merits any changes at all. I've fished the Kitseguecla several times and have never even seen another car on the road.

My comments are general in nature and might be appropriate across the drainage. The primary concerns need to be for the resource. Residents can make a legitimate argument for ease of access. Non-resident Canadian and alien (NR) should expect some level of control. While I didn't read every line, it appears to me that the guide industry is trying to dictate accessibility in their best interest. While every business person wants

to generate maximum income potential, the restrictions on NRs who don't use guides needs to be balanced in the best interests of the local businesses.

NR licence fees should reflect the "trophy" potential of the fishery. Higher fees may restrict some activity. In the US, the norm for differences between R and NR fishing licence fees is/was generally pegged at a 3 to 1 ratio. For hunting licences, up to 10 to 1 was acceptable recognizing the costs to state for management purposes and the value of the animal to be pursued. Maybe a 10 to 1 ratio on NR fees might be considered.

If campsite occupation is an issue, limit the number of days a person can camp in one spot. Maybe 8-days (7 nights) and they have to move to a new campground.

To spread pressure, you could use an odd-even licence number to dictate which day a person may fish. Licences ending in even number fish on even days and odd numbers on odd days. Downside is groups of fishers can't be on the water for the same days. Maybe a group licence would work.

The same scenario could be used for guide vessels or licences and even for resident fishing.

On-line applications for NR licences shouldn't be too hard to establish. It is done for big game applications. 8-day blocks could be established by river and folks would have to apply either as individuals or as a group with a maximum group size permitted. The weather can't be forecasted for hunting seasons and we take our chances when applying. The same should be in place for fishers. NR could have up to 3 choices and maybe be able to draw for 3 different licences, but each licence would be for a particular river section.

Guides could be provided with names of successful applicants if they wanted to contact them for potential guided trips. Guides could also bid on fishing days and their clients would be outside the draw process. Guides could then charge whatever the market would bear for a trip and the trip could be anytime within the parameters for the river section.

Unsuccessful applicants would get preference points for the next years draw. If the point pool

gets too big (see CO sheep licences) it could be capped at 3 years of points and when a person draws, all points are removed and they have to start over.

Guided trips would fall outside the preference point system giving the guides the opportunity to price their trips as they deem appropriate.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment. BC has a lot to offer the NR fisher. I've made some trips North for saltwater fishing and have enjoyed my times in the Province.

These two rivers see little to no pressure except for the mouths.

I am against any resident only days. I can't see sitting around spending my money on lodging, food, etc. without being able to fish. Fishing is the "why" I spend my money there.

Item 6 proposed restriction to one angler per day on the Kit. is unrealistic as most anglers prefer to fish with a friend. Restricting fishing to one angler per day would definitely cause me to cancel any fishing plans I had.

I do continue to rent annually with others a house near Smithers during September and November. I have done so for several years and have spent as much as 2 months there at a time. I did not go to BC this year because of my total dissatisfaction with the attitude of BC governments, especially towards alien anglers.

I think the whole proposal is a clear sham -- an attempt by the guides and lodges to monopolize BC's dying, near death, fishery. It is what I expected. BC would do much better to concentrate on increasing public access to the rivers (you can drive the length of the Bulkley/Skeena and find almost none. It's in stark contrast to, say, the Matapedia in Quebec [I fish there every Spring] or the North Umpqua in Oregon). In Quebec, on the Matapedia, there is no "overcrowding" despite many more "alien" anglers on an equally famous anadromous river. Also, BC must get some control of commercial fishing, fish farming, logging and other habitat abuse and the ethics of its guides and resident fisherman.

I fish around the world. I do so at lodges, with guides and on my own. All the ways of doing it.

What I see of ethical lapses is always, invariably, by a local gear fisherman, or, more commonly, by a guide. In fact, guides are the worst offenders. Some guides think they own rivers. All over the world. Not just BC. I have seen guides physically attack local residents! I have seen guides try to run down wading anglers with drift boats. I have seen guides run over water a wader was clearly fishing.

If the BC government really cared about restoring the magnificent Skeena System runs and establishing a "world class" fishery on this river system, it would attack the problems: access, habitat degradation, commercial fishing excesses, etc. Believe me, your fishery is not "world class" and has not been such for a long time. It is simply "historic." -- "has been." Its problems are not caused by hordes of aliens. You caused them yourselves. I fish "world class" fisheries and the Skeena is not such! Fishing is better in the Milwaukee River in Milwaukee, Wisconsin! None of your proposals are based on any objective facts. All are anecdotal claims of guides and resident anglers -- fictitious "talking points" in some nickel and dime political argument you're having with yourselves about resource allocation in Canada; it's all, transparently, about "getting mine". Skeena system fishing is almost as bad as California fishing and you should take heed. The El and the Russian were once great steelhead rivers too. I have, as a pilgrim, actually fished these rivers. It's where you are headed, folks, if you continue with this nonsense. Get over your inflated sense of your provincial empowerment. Stop blaming regular guys from Europe and the USA. Start curing the real problems.

Soon (within the next 15yrs) you will be limiting Resident anglers.

All for one and one for all if you have one system without a lottery you will be inviting anglers to crowd. Not that I agree with the lottery system - because I really think it is not needed.

Q10 Suskwa

I believe that the fishing should be carefully guarded. However, for me who lives in Florida, USA, to spend the thousands of dollars to come up there to fish and then to find that I may or may not be able to fish due to a lottery or a guide would be unquestionably a NO. I would go on to Alaska and spend my money there before I would take a chance at Terrace.

Again I've fished this river since 1976. It is a spate river and steelhead are only in it after a big rain. It also is hardly fished.

A small unique run of steelhead arrives in this shallow river and retreats back to the main stem Bulkley near the Suskwa confluence to hold a waiting spawning season. There they get pounded mercilessly by guide boats all fall. That's what needs regulation.

Agree with the proposal.

A 10-day lottery is more realistic.

River is fished mostly by residents. River too small for 8-days on just this river.

If crowding is not a problem, why make resident only days? Please don't alienate foreign anglers - the Skeena system needs international support to defend itself from commercial fishermen and Big Oil.

Your plan will simply force non-residents to not come to BC. This will ultimately result in a business problem for local merchants and a bad reputation for BC. Not a wise move at all.

Please, No 8-day, lottery for non-resident, non-guided anglers.

Limited public access is the real problem, not overcrowding. Increasing public access along the river would allow anglers to spread out and thus address any overcrowding. If the recommended changes are adopted, I would then suggest no changes for non-resident non-guided anglers who fish early and mid-September periods (i.e. status quo for these anglers through the 3rd week of September) since that is not a peak period for most of the rivers in the Skeena River watershed.

I have fished the Suskwa occasionally. I have never experienced anything resembling a crowding problem. It's a nice river but most people don't want to walk to down or up river to find the runs. The average angler is not going to spend much time fishing this river. If people think this river is crowded right now then the only answer would be to not let any anglers from out of BC fish in BC.

#9 would be an enforcement nightmare in a region where even the basic enforcement is non-existent or ineffective.

Non-Guided non-resident anglers are not the reason for decreased numbers. Remove the nets from the Skeena mouth or utilize in stream salmon harvesting and the numbers will flourish

Crowding not an issue if an angler is willing to hike, I rarely encounter other anglers. Limited access tends to funnel anglers to three access points-- hiking/ ATV at the Bulkley confluence, the lower and upper bridges. The greatest concern here is access. Private landowners have begun to post significant sections limiting access, some are quite hostile. With more public access this river could support far more anglers in relative solitude.

There is no crowding on this river at all!

On the Suskwa you are addressing a crowding problem that rarely exists. I have fished it for years and except at the mouth with the Bulkley very rarely see anybody. Who in the world would want to fish the Suskwa 8 straight days. Furthermore, and this applies to all of the lottery crowd control options in all the rivers, is how you accommodate someone who wants to fish with his son/daughter or friend. Perhaps you addressed that but I didn't see it.

Rarely are there resident anglers on this river.

This comment applies to all responses below. The entire Qualities waters process has been poorly handled from the formation of the working group, the subversive way the proposal by-passed the many impacted, to the proposal that hurts many for the benefit of a few. The entire proposal should be thrown out.

This plan says you do not care about the many citizens whose living depends on visiting steelhead anglers, that only a few outfitters matter and that we are not welcomed in BC. We fly fish, release our fish and bring millions (far more, in fact, than the commercial fishery) to your economy.

Two anglers per day seems very low. I would think this river could support more pressure than that without sacrificing the fishing experience.

This is a fishery I could fish if I was not lottery selected for the Bulkley, Kispiox, or Skeena backed up to a guided week for a few days.

Increase resident opportunities? What opportunities have been lost? I fish this river a lot and it is very seldom that I encounter anyone. There's plenty opportunity for anyone that wishes to fish this little gem. What really is the motivation here?

This is another case of us vs. them. If you do this you will only have locals and guides fishing in the Skeena watershed.

Again, I am against any resident only fishing days. It costs me too much money to just sit around.

I have fished this river. There is no public access.

Lottery and short-term fishing would make a planned trip impossible.

Soon (within the next 15yrs) you will be limiting Resident anglers.

Q14 Skeena IV upstream from Kitwanga Bridge

I believe that the fishing should be carefully guarded. However, for me who lives in Florida, USA, to spend the thousands of dollars to come up there to fish and then to find that I may or may not be able to fish due to a lottery or a guide would be unquestionably a NO. I would go on to Alaska and spend my money there before I would take a chance at Terrace.

Please get real. This is ridiculous. This is big river.

Please no lottery. Not fair! Can't fish with angling partners. What if the river "goes out"? You're screwed.

I haven't fished the Skeena that much, but when I have it was never crowded. And this has been several times in the past few years, always in late September or early October. I simply don't perceive a need for limiting rods on the Skeena.

This is a big river with lots of room and no crowding. There is one run downstream of the Kispiox that is much loved at certain times and water levels by an assortment of anglers with 'local knowledge'. Recent years when it has been in prime condition it has been squatted on by

possessive guides who do not share. That's a problem worthy of regulation.

I fish 6 days with a guide each year (12 days this past year) and if I am to fish a few days before, between, or after the guided trip, a lottery win at an oddball time will not allow me to coordinate my fishing.

I will not be booking corporate trips to the Skeena river system if this passes. I know I spend more money while visiting the area than just fishing, so I am sorry to see this affect the local businesses as well.

Agree with proposal.

Any thoughts about overcrowding on the Skeena are overblown and xenophobic. As fishermen, we all understand that someone else, Canadian or alien could be in a given fishing "hole." That is just part of life.

No freedom to choose which river to fish.

I would like to see the money from steelhead Stamps and the HCTF go towards the fish instead of general revenue. I wouldn't mind paying higher fees if I knew the money was going back into conservation, enforcement and enhancement.

Please don't alienate foreign anglers - the Skeena system needs international support to defend itself from commercial fishermen and Big Oil.

Your plan will simply force non-residents to not come to BC. This will ultimately result in a business problem for local merchants and a bad reputation for BC. Not a wise move at all.

If the number of anglers in this area is a problem issue a specific number of licences a day for that river but do not institute a lottery. I fish the Skeena a lot during the three week prime time and have not had an issue with crowding.

The lottery and 8-day fishing restriction will kill non-resident alien tourist fishing and economically devastate the town (like Smithers) that depend on sport fishing dollars for their viability.

No 8-day, lottery for non-resident, non-guided anglers.

There are other more effective ways to solve the perceived problem than a lottery. The elite interest groups fail to take into account the wider picture. Limiting the fishing will reduce the overall income to the community.

There 368 kilometers of river available; 327 guide rod-days used out of 1,000 rod days allocated. Data on non-guided anglers rode-days is not reported, but given what is known, it seems clear there is no problem based on empirical data.

The concern I have with these approaches starts with the assumption that there is a "problem." Crowding is defined as "too many anglers" during the peak of the run by an unknown resident angler. Is the river crowded because this person can't fish their favourite run whenever they want to, or just on Saturdays, or what?

How many non-guided non-resident angler days were used in each of the last five years? How many non-guided resident angler days were used in the last five years. Without this information, how can you know if there is a problem? Is the river crowded because this person can't fish their favourite run whenever they want to, or just on Saturdays, or what? Without baseline data, of guided and non-guided river days by week and month, it is impossible to determine if the problem is real or just a way to keep non-residents from fishing without a guide. It is pretty obvious that residents of the Skeena River system are not nine-to-five suits that cannot sneak out to fish when they want to.

I spent many days during what the plan describes as the time of crowding (Last 2 weeks of Sept. 1st 2 weeks of Oct.) I would put in at Hazelton and literally not see another angler the entire day. So I don't understand the need for any sort of plan on the Skeena. Also the Skeena is not always fishable during peak season so a lottery seems meaningless.

It seems to me that the Skeena is so far from being over crowded its a joke to even be discussing it in this plan. If there are some minor crowding issues at the mouth of the Kispiox or the Bulkley then make those areas "resident only". Most visiting anglers are happy to walk or float to find their own water. The discovery of where ti fish is the allure of being a non-guided angler to me. I can afford to be guided but that is not the experience I am looking for.

At the boat ramp the most I have ever seen is 3 jet boat trailers one being ours. If anything your plan should be encouraging more anglers to fish the Skeena. This is the most under utilized resource in the drainage that can handle a lot more pressure.

It makes absolutely no sense to put a lottery on a river that has "large sections of river that are quite underutilized".

Not necessary.

Any surcharge where the revenue would go to the resource and to improve angler access would be welcome. Any increase that went into the general fund would be unwelcome.

Non-Guided non-resident anglers are not the reason for decreased numbers. Remove the nets from the Skeena mouth and utilize in stream salmon harvesting and the numbers will flourish.

If the river is blown out your trip is down the tubes because of the lottery system.

Fished this area this October 25th & 26th and never saw another angler.

Nobody fishes 90% of the water available-- access to all but a few points is impossible. No wonder the few access points (such as the Bulkley confluence) see localized 'crowding'. Still far under utilized.

The lottery system seems too restrictive and confusing. The data used to develop the angler use days seems questionable and biased. I do not think the angling is crowded up in the Skeena system, and the angling experience is still quality. I am very frustrated with this plan as indicated. If implemented, I will probably give up on fishing in BC. What happens when good friends who drive up together can't draw the same river? It's not fair. Your local economy will suffer from the drop in tourism.

The Skeena gets no fishing pressure from unguided aliens. Only a handful are fishing it with a jet boat. Guides put on the most pressure.

You are driving the sport of fishing for steelhead to an elitist sport as it is in most places in Europe. Shame on you. Shame on the commercial

interest. Shame on the guide. So much for the common man...You are eliminating any opportunities that I would have to freely visit your country to fish for steelhead.

Should consider to prohibit fishing by boat access by non-resident and non-guided anglers. This is killing local guiding business. It is not difficult for rich US and Euro guys. But most of Japanese anglers are quite gentle for steelhead. It is really bad we are involved this problem because of bad attitude guys.

Please disclose source / data that shows overcrowding. I receive steelhead information sheet every year from Fish and Wildlife branch and it shows continuous decline in number of active anglers.

Current plan only benefit party who runs guide & lodge service (most) and resident anglers.

I agree with limiting day portion of the licensing plan, but not with the lottery portion. I think you will find that you will eliminate a fair amount of overcrowding across the entire season simply by limiting non-resident anglers to 8 consecutive days per classified water.

The problem will be a lack of flexibility -- I don't mind paying for the licence if this part of the Skeena is in fishable shape, but it often isn't. I'm not going to book it on the off-chance that it is reasonably clear when I'm in the area (late in the season).

Fly water on the Skeena has never been a problem. Never.

The Skeena is big and is certainly one of the last areas that need regulation. The only people that hog the water are Tommy Lee's guides!!! They should not be allowed to anchor in runs and fish from the boat. Tommy Lee's guides are the worst conservationists (only interested in numbers and hence don't look for fish but will stay in one run all day) and most impolite people on the river!!!!

I'm opposed to limiting the number of anglers on the Skeena. Most of the Skeena is accessible best by boat, so there aren't many non-guided anglers there anyway.

I fish the River in both areas in (11 & 12) above. I would like to see an 8-day lottery that will give me

a choice of at least 2 or 3 rivers in that 8-day lottery period. Preferably Bulkley, Kispiox, and Skeena IV. I fish from 4 days to a week with a friend after or before a one or two week guided trip. It is crucial that I fish with a friend and be able to pick 8-days before or after my guided trip.

Given the volatile nature of Skeena conditions and the amount of time it is not fishable I would not "take a chance" at a drawing given that the odds are great that the river would be out for a majority of any 8-day period.

My wife and I fished this water for 6 days between September 20 and October 12. We also fished this part of the Skeena during the same period in 2006 and 2007. Angler density is very low here and the river would actually support more anglers without crowding. Your own report indicates many unused guided days during the period. An eight day limitation would be acceptable as long as the days do not have to be consecutive.

Please re-visit item 14. In addition, your draft strongly indicates a specific area of the Kispiox as an overcrowding problem area: Resthaven to the confluence of the Kispiox with the Skeena River. I was on the upper and lower Kispiox this year during the peak weeks. Very few fishermen are in the upper stretches. Yet, the plan is to regulate the entire river due to problems in a specific portion. Why? Did none of the guides apprise the working group of this fact? Or is it a bit of a territorial issue? I saw one guided boat on the upper area the day I went there, and no one else. Once again, non-guided non-residents must pay the penalty so guided fisherman can be catered to. It's plain as day. And once again, visit your local businesses to see if your entire plan is in THEIR best interest. A lot of the plan is good, but a lot of things have not been considered.

Open up better access to spread people out! But honestly if you don't want to fish in a popular spot move on (hike or boat). This is really very simple.

Mandatory steelhead stamp ok only if they are always available. No shutting down the fishery because no more stamps are available!

Eight-day licences are impractical except on rivers like the Dean that are accessible only by water. Unlimited duration, but limited consecutive-day licences, capped after total angler use is reached (tracked by e-licensing), would be a better

compromise for sustaining local economies and spreading non-resident angler use across waters and throughout the classified period.

Crowding problems are a subjective analysis and unfortunately this perception of overcrowding in this instance comes from interested parties that have a bias towards less anglers. In a perfect world everyone would have their own untouched piece of Of water to fish everyday but that is not the reality, nor is it the expectation of nearly all anglers out there, others than those influenced by the guiding fraternity. The Skeena is the least populated river of all when it comes to anglers. I fished it this past season and hardly saw another angler let alone had to share water with anyone else.

Steelhead stamp is a good idea. The money can be used for many positive fishing enhancements.

No problem with requiring a steelhead stamp, but I do not think the lottery or restrictions are necessary.

Lottery and short-term fishing would make a planned trip impossible

Q18 Kispiox

I believe that the fishing should be carefully guarded. However, for me who lives in Florida, USA, to spend the thousands of dollars to come up there to fish and then to find that I may or may not be able to fish due to a lottery or a guide would be unquestionably a NO. I would go on to Alaska and spend my money there before I would take a chance at Terrace.

Limit the guides. This is another attempt to take the emphasis off of loss of steelhead stocks and the possibility that Royal Dutch Shell through its surrogates contributed \$1,500,000 to the AMP process in order to take the concerned anglers who fought the coal mine and coal methane gas line. Obviously, there is some feeling that some in MOE were paid off.

Resident anglers can "fish anytime". We non-resident anglers, fly thousands of miles, and spend thousands of dollars, and can't fish on Saturdays. Not fair!

Please, please, please no lottery, and no 8-day licence to fish one quality water river. Not fair!

Like the rest of the Skeena drainage, subjective "crowding" problem does not exist according to common sense definition of the term. I go to the Skeena drainage precisely because it is not crowded. On an international yardstick, it is not crowded. Recommend do not alter the current management regime. Redirect the time and money involved in this plan toward conservation of fish stocks. Without them, no one can go fishing, and no business can be had.

When I travel to go steelhead fishing, I know that it's always going to be a crapshoot in terms of weather, water conditions, and numbers of fish in the rivers. Taking Saturdays away from non-residents might prove to be very aggravating if that turns out to be the only day the river is fishable. Likewise, making Saturdays the "resident" angling day could prove to be a bust if those are the days when the rivers are unfishable. Over the course of many years this will all work out (statistically), but that doesn't mean it'll work for either residents or non-residents that have a limited fishing lifetime. Steelhead fishing is simply too unpredictable to regulate with this kind of structured regulation.

Kispiox is classic example where improved sportsman access alone could spread out use pattern enough to resolve all current complaints via increased carrying capacity

A lottery will not allow me to fish unguided with a friend or two immediately before or after I have taken a six-day guided trip. The days must coincide.

This is discriminatory. Breeding ill will and creating a monopoly for guides. I have fished for 20 years on Skeena rivers, and I and my fishing friends have spent thousands of dollars each year in the area, in fact one of them retired to Smithers and invested more than a million dollars in the local economy.

Vital to implement proposal and reduce angling pressure.

Never found the river to be crowded.

This whole plan appears to be an all out effort by the guides to make public provincial water their private enterprise. The real problem is not the number of fishermen but the numbers of fish. If the numbers of fish returning cannot be managed

and restored to good recreational levels further restricting won't be an issue because most of us that have enjoyed many years in this wonderful country won't be there. The licensing issue further complicates the problem as it tends to concentrate the fisherman and it certainly adds to the traffic as fisherman search for licence vendors that are open. A single licence for the Skeena system would certainly distribute the fishermen much more evenly. I believe your recommended management alternative will have a significant negative impact on the local economy. Myself and the 7 people I fish with will not return to fish any of the rivers under these proposed management alternatives. We spend \$12,000 to \$20,000 annually in the Hazelton area depending on how long we stay.

I suppose to significantly reduce the guided days.

One day this year I was passed by 5 guided rafts with two fisherman each!

The long travel from Chicago would make no sense for the ability to fish only 5 days.

I have stopped coming to this area due to the over-crowding and applaud your government for finally taking initiative to make a difference. I was sad to go and when I left, I took a major contribution to local economy with me. If this plan were implemented, I would certainly return knowing that my fishing would once again be worth the while. I don't believe it is my place to comment on resident only days as I am from out of country. I would like to see the money from steelhead Stamps and the HCTF go towards the fish instead of general revenue. I wouldn't mind paying higher fees if I knew the money was going back into conservation, enforcement and enhancement.

Please don't alienate foreign anglers - the Skeena system needs international support to defend itself from commercial fishermen and Big Oil.

Your plan will simply force non-residents to not come to BC. This will ultimately result in a business problem for local merchants and a bad reputation for BC. Not a wise move at all.

The Kispiox does have a crowding problem. A lottery is not the answer because it takes away any flexibility to fish other rivers or with a friend or relative. A maximum number of anglers for each

day on the Kispiox can be controlled by a computer licence program and issued on a first come first serve basis. Set the max number and when they are sold you must find another river to fish, the lottery will not give you any options. Set a number of fishing days you can fish at that time of the year say 8 to 14 and allow the individual a chance to choose a river to fish on each day.

Any additional licence fees must be used to fix the steelhead problems by buying out commercial licences or enforcement of new laws.

The lottery doesn't interest us because I fish with my brother (he forgot to inform you when he submitted his form). We come from France and we want to fish together. Usually we fished one week guided and one week on our own.

Rotate "turn over days" with guide clients. This is the best way to spread out anglers.

Do not implement 8-day limit, lottery system. Totally unfair! What if river "goes out"? Implement the River Guardian program. Help stop illegal guiding, and creel census.

You're screwed. What is one of your angling buddies gets drawn in the lottery and you don't? You are screwed.

The guides are the only beneficiaries of this 8-day lottery. Anglers will leave, never to return if implemented! (River Guardian program should be instituted.)

I am a catch and release fly fisherman who has fished waters from Chile to Russia to New Zealand to Scotland to numerous places in the Caribbean. However, it was about 7 years ago when I decided to try steelhead fishing for the first time. I researched and read quite a bit before deciding to come to northern BC to do so. I called and spoke to a person who was my primary guide on that first trip. I fell in love with the Kispiox Valley/River. More importantly, I felt a common spirit/bond with the people of northern BC (including First Nations residents) like nowhere I had been. In short, it felt like this boy from the "deep south" had finally "come home". I have made numerous trips to the area since then and I fished with at least 8 different licensed guides over the first few years there. While I no longer need to be guided to catch steelhead on the

Kispiox River, I have the utmost respect for the high-quality guides in the area.

About 4 years ago, I bought a small cabin on 80+ acres on the Kispiox River, just across and upriver from Resthaven. I bought the place from Tom Bell, where he had lived for many years. I pay property taxes annually. I have spent significant time, energy, and money improving the cabin/property. I have bought inflatable boats, multiple rods, reels, and other gear from Oscar's in Smithers. I want only to improve the conditions of all the northern BC waters, especially the Kispiox River, for all anglers, landowners, and visitors. I have many friends there now, and I try to enrich their lives in any way I can, as they have enriched mine. I also invest significant (to me) personal resources into the local/regional/provincial economy. I make every effort to practice and I likewise expect only the very best fishing etiquette wherever I fish. Some of my most treasured times in life have been on the Kispiox River. I say all this in preface to giving you my thoughts about the plans being considered to suggest that 1) there are some non-resident, non-guided, "alien" anglers who are truly stakeholders there, and 2) some of those stakeholders love and care about the area/waters/people deeply and desire only what is best for all of them. Now my thoughts: 1) I agree the Kispiox River (and others in the area) can be somewhat overcrowded between September 11th and October 21st, but not early (before September 10th roughly) or later (after October 21st roughly) during the classified waters season. 2) I feel the classified waters season should not be extended (should remain September 1-October 31). 3) I feel there should NOT be any additional restrictions before September 10th or after October 21st and the status quo should be kept during those 20 days (less than 1/3rd of the classified waters season). 4) I agree with the 8-day licence lottery concept for non-resident, non-guided anglers from September 11th until October 21st. 5) I agree with the status quo for the 20.2-29.5 km segment of the river. 6) I agree with the resident only angling on Saturdays, but I would only have that restriction in place from September 11th-October 21st. 7) If the restrictions are going to be placed throughout the entire classified waters season (September 1-October 31), I agree with others on 99 ten day (rather than eight day) licences by lottery for non-resident, non-guided anglers.

I believe this represents compromises in the combined best interests of all parties (including the guides who have significant economic interests tied to the new restrictions and may therefore be somewhat over-represented in the work groups compared to other stakeholders). Please do not take the comment above about the guides in the wrong way. The guide's interests are equally important (and perhaps a little more so) to those of all other stakeholders, but economic interests of one group must not take precedence over interests of other stakeholders...not if fairness to all is to be a key consideration.

Question: Will landowners/taxpayers who are not BC citizens be given any preference or special consideration in lotteries for annual non-resident, non-guided licences? If not, could this be considered? I openly and honestly admit this question is submitted by me completely because of concerns about my own special interests in being able to continue to fish during the prime steelhead season in future years.

I humbly submit these thoughts/suggestions to you for your consideration. May what is ultimately decided during the Quality Waters Strategy Process for the Skeena Watershed be decided ethically, with clarity in reasoning, and with all stakeholders' concerns being considered equally.

Having a residents only angling day seems like a good idea but having it on a Saturday will reduce the number of weekenders coming to spend much needed money in the community. Maybe a Monday or another weekday would make a more reasonable and quiet time for local anglers.

If you want to go to a limited day lottery it should include residents as well. But a lottery will not work what if the river blows out and you spent your money on expensive airfares to get there. Get rid of the private watercraft. There are lots of other measures that can be implemented. Why pick on the non-guided non-residents only? I fish the Kispiox with a guide, Todd Stockner, when we run into people do you think it matters to me if they are non-resident or resident? If we run into an illegal guide or outfitter which has happened, the only way to deal with that problem is to arrest them, confiscate their equipment. Charge me more and provide River Cops. You may think my comments conflict with a quality experience but it's the little details that are causing me a problem. Fix the fish issue and people will be happy again.

Fishable length of the Kispiox is 100 kilometers. Approximately 10 kilometers of the most popular reaches will be open with no restrictions. I predict that crowding will be epic if the other parts of the river are constrained. This seems to be a plan to make conditions worse, assuming there is a problem. Why not try to spread the demand away from the most popular runs?

The concern I have with these approaches starts with the assumption that there is a "problem." Crowding is defined as "too many anglers" during the peak of the run by an unknown resident angler. Is the river crowded because this person can't fish their favourite run whenever they want to, or just on Saturdays, or what? Without baseline data, of guided and non-guided river days by week and month, it is impossible to determine if the problem is real or just a way to keep non-residents from fishing without a guide.

How many non-guided non-resident angler days were used in each of the last five years? How many non-guided resident angler days were used in the last five years? Without this information, how can you know if there is a problem?

It is pretty obvious that residents of the Skeena River system are not nine-to-five suits that cannot sneak out to fish when they want to. Is the Saturday resident provision for anglers who drive up from Vancouver for the weekend?

Limited public access is the real problem, not overcrowding. Increasing public access along the river would allow anglers to spread out and thus address any overcrowding. The proposed recommendations seem to disproportionately favor guides at the expense of other local businesses whose income is more dependent upon non-guided anglers. In other words, if non-guided non-resident anglers are limited to a lottery system, most of these anglers will stop coming due to the high price of guides and the limited number of non-guided licences available. As a result, guides will realize some increase in business but the majority of such anglers will no longer fish the area which will significantly harm local businesses. If the recommended changes are adopted, I would then suggest no changes for non-resident non-guided anglers who fish early and mid-September periods (i.e. status quo for these anglers through the 3rd week of

September) since that is not a peak period on this river.

Should be able to guide or fish on whatever day you choose, crowding isn't bad at all if the majority of the river pressure is spread out.

Why not try to limit the consecutive number of days a non-resident angler can fish to two or three rather than privatizing the river.

Resident only weekends exert unnecessary non-resident anglers who have endured Air Canada's usurious rates to come to the area for limited holidays.

The Kispiox is an unstable watershed; the river goes out very easily. A lottery system on the Kispiox would be increase dissatisfaction if an angler were not able to fish due to the river being blown out. Would the authorities consider a refund, or re allocation of time?

Because the Kispiox "goes out" so often an eight day licence lottery would not work. Non-resident anglers understand that in most years you have to be willing to spend a lot of time waiting it out in camp. Should an angler enter the lottery, come up for his/her 8-days, and find the river unfishable for all or most of the week, you can bet he/she won't be back. For myself, if it comes to that, I'm not going to take the gamble.

Non-Guided non-resident anglers are not the reason for decreased numbers. Remove the nets from the Skeena mouth or utilize in stream salmon harvesting and the numbers will flourish.

Lottery makes it difficult for planning a trip in relation to my work. A eight-day licence make it for me not worthwhile anymore to come (to expensive to fly for just 8-days!)

Cannot identify "overcrowding"! You haven't seen what is going on prime rivers in Europe, United States, Russia, Argentina.

What you need is: Get rid of nets where the Skeena flows into the Pacific sea.

Written ethics how to behave on the river control that the ethics are followed all anglers must have and use landing nets.

Fly fishermen don't hurt the steelhead population...not having non-resident anglers fly fishing these waters takes away the economy necessary to conserve them...none of this makes any sense.

With regard to point 16, I think the whole river should remain status quo.

No guiding should be permitted up-stream of the confluence off the Babine and the Nilkitkwa River. Access below the confluence is very limited to Resident and Non-Resident anglers and permitted guides basically have the whole rest of the Babine to just short of the confluence with the Skeena to themselves. The bear issue has to be addressed in that upper section because eventually there is going to be an altercation between fishermen and the bears with a bad outcome.

I've fished the Kispiox for over twenty years-- yes it can get busy. Overall, I would have to say angler use is declining since the 1990's (I think fisheries' data supports this). Catch rates and steelhead numbers seem to be down, the river seems to be "in" and fishing well less frequently. Logging? Changing weather patterns? I don't know the cause, but the Hazelton's are taking the economic hit. Again, greater upstream access could help to reduce crowding in the lower river.

The lottery system seems too restrictive and confusing. The data used to develop the angler use days seems questionable and biased. I do not think the angling is crowded up in the Skeena system, and the angling experience is still quality. I am very frustrated with this plan as indicated. If implemented, I will probably give up on fishing in BC. What happens when good friends who drive up together can't draw the same river? It's not fair. Your local economy will suffer from the drop in tourism.

Give the river to the locals in the weekends.

This river should be open to all at all times. If you want to keep the fish catch down even further, catch and release only, fly inly. There is already limited access to this river so the guides already control the Kispiox in many ways. The merchants will greatly suffer without aliens. No alien I know has ever killed a fish on the Kispiox. I spend \$200 + a week there and will never come back. Why, the river goes out and you have to wait days if not

longer to fish it. 8 scheduled days is worthless for a 5000-mile trip.

Should consider to prohibit fishing by boat access by non-resident and non-guided anglers. I saw many boats of non-guided anglers. This is not good for most of the guides.

In 2006 I was on Kispiox and fished 7 days beginning of October. During the stay I met a lot of foreign anglers on the river and in campground. But I never had occasion that I did not find water that I could fish. I was always able to find water to myself if I looked for it.

I have spent three years in a row now doing guided and non-guided angling on the Kispiox and there is no question that this river is simply way over-crowded. The ease of floating and wading across this river makes it unique to rivers like the Skeena and Bulkley. As it is now, I don't think anyone has a quality experience except when they get lucky (typically first hole you fish in the morning). It is too complete. This is why I support this plan on the Kispiox.

The problem will be a lack of flexibility -- I don't mind paying for the licence if the Kispiox is in fishable shape, but it often isn't. I'm not going to book it on the off-chance that it is reasonably clear when I'm in the area (late in the season).

Your lottery system will eliminate non-resident, non-guided anglers, the visitors who pump the most money into local economies. This short sighted, misdirected plan will kill businesses in those communities. The only beneficiaries are the greedy, local guides, who have been the main participants in designing this one-sided plan. This is not the Dean River, with its miles of undeveloped bush, where a lottery system has succeeded. This river has great accessibility, making tourism the major source of income in the valley. The lottery system won't allow for my husband and I to spend the money to fly up to fish this river; we might not draw our allotted days together. We will be forced to visit other fishing destinations, if this plan goes through; one where we will have a more successful, positive travel experience. I suppose many other places welcome out tourism dollars much more than the designers (mostly guides, or relatives of guides) of this management plan do.

Raise the daily fees to \$50.00. Reduces the number of anglers and keep the same revenue stream. The local businesses should keep a large % of their current business. The lottery system will have a very negative impact.

Tough call, but limiting all anglers to no more than 4-5 days in a row is a better solution. A lottery (months in advance) would put the Bed & Breakfast and lodging operations on the river out of business and would make people go elsewhere!

I think it would be better to limit the days any one angler can fish per year on the Kispiox to 8 instead of having a lottery system for 8-day passes. Much of the crowding comes from anglers that will only fish the Kispiox for the month of September and October. If those anglers are forced to fish other rivers after fishing their 8-days on the river, the crowding would be lessened.

I am not sure how many anglers will be fishing the Kispiox River during any one day in terms of item 15. Above. I believe that the maximum number should be around 50 anglers spread out over various drifts of the river. The lottery must be for a different drift each day and should enable two people to apply for the same 8-day period. The problems of the Kispiox River usage will not be solved if everyone fishes the same stretch of river. Note that it makes no sense having an 8-day lottery when you are proposing that we cannot fish on a Saturday. What are we supposed to do on a Saturday during the 8-day period? I suggest you shorten the lottery period to 6 days if you insist on locals only fishing on Saturdays. I have been fishing a guided week and 4 days on my own every year for the last 13 years. Chances are great that I will not fish unguided anymore and I may not return at all. There are many fly-fishing destinations in the world that would welcome the US\$7,000 to US\$10,000 I spend in BC on my annual fly-fishing trip.

For me as a fisherman coming from Europe the journey is not worth less than two weeks. And I really like to stick to one river for two weeks to learn about the water.

While on the river this fall I experienced many times when there were no fishermen in sight on some of the Kispiox popular runs and I have photos to prove it. And the fishing conditions were premium.

Question 17. If implemented Saturday would be a change day for all the camps and the Smithers airport would be a nightmare.

I agree with the over crowding but any lottery must have an option for a friend or family member to fish with. I usually fish a few extra days on my own backed up to a guided trip I need to be able to get licence for those days with an option for other rivers if say the Kispiox is over booked. I don't want to watch the residents fish on a weekend while I have to sit and watch.

Again, I would not travel all the way to the Skeena area for a predetermined 8-day period to fish just 1 river that could be out.

I do not agree with any of these proposals. I also spoke to many business owners, who said that they were systematically excluded from the consultation process. I will assist them in funding a law suite against these ridiculous proposals if they are taken any further.

An eight-day limitation would be acceptable as long as the days do not have to be consecutive. The Kispiox is very fragile and goes out very easily. A lottery that limits licences to eight consecutive days is a huge risk for a non-resident angler.

Prefer status quo on entire river. Have recently returned from seven days on the kispiox and bulkley. Experienced no overcrowding.

On the basis of 15. and 17, there is no sense traveling from Europe to the Kispiox waiting a) to win in a lottery or b) for Sunday to come. What do I do on that Saturday in the Kispiox Valley if I can't fish?

My suggestions:

1) Buy the nets that hinder the fish to swim from the pacific sea to the Kispiox.

2) Regulate fishing at the Kispiox, so that every fisherman has to have and to use a landing net.

3) Have official rules, about the ethic of fly-fishing and you want it done on the Kispiox.

4) Arrange for stronger controls of the anglers by officials to ensure that landing nets, barbless hooks and the official ethics are closely followed.

5) Steps 1to4 incl. will ensure much more and better fish in the Kispiox. This improvement for the fish will allow accommodating any angler at any day.

6) Whoever wants to use guides may do so. Whoever does not want to use guides may do so as well. You cannot force experienced anglers that have fished the world and the Kispiox already to use guides. (For what reason? what will the anglers learn?)

7) Have competition pricewise for guiding service!

By the way: I have never ever experienced crowding problems in the last years I have fished the Kispiox! if you ensure that everybody knows how to behave, if the angling spot is "occupied" that's ok. Nowhere in the world you can ensure that an angler is completely on his own and there is no waiting period for him if he wants to fish a special spot. So your problem has been thought through around the world, wherever anglers fish and no other meaningful solution has been found than what I outlined before.

I am not familiar with the Babine simply because I don't fish it due to difficult access.

Leave status quo, period.

The reason "crowding" occurs between late September and early October is that this is the period when the fishing is historically best on the Kispiox. Implementing the lottery system throughout the Classified Waters period will effectively place some anglers on the river (in some years) prior to the time when fish are "in the river" and subsequent to the time that the river can "blow out" due to late season weather. If I am planning a trip there and get a Sept 1-8 lottery draw, I very likely might, along with many other anglers I know, choose to go and spend my money elsewhere.

I fished the Kispiox River from Sept. 20-26, 2008. During this period, I found certain locations along the river (the immediate area around Date Creek, the run immediately above the lower bridge at Kispiox Village, near the mouth of the Kispiox, and the several runs near the "Potato Patch", to be experiencing "angler pressure" on some days, and not on others. Even then, the "overcrowding" I experienced did not detract from the quality of

my angling experience, nor did it reduce my chances for catching fish. Throughout the period I fished there this year, I did not consider the river to be "overcrowded" even by BC standards (it was nothing compared to what we experience on US rivers in Oregon and Washington). According to reports from other anglers who fished other parts of the Kispiox at the same time, there was not significant crowding on the river...essentially there was plenty of river to go around, and all anglers I encountered experienced success in fishing during the week I was there.

Of note, I was dismayed at the angling etiquette displayed by one First Nation guide I encountered on the river who placed his client directly in front of (below) me on a quality run, I was fly fishing, and his client was spin fishing. The spin fishing client immediately caught a fish out of the run, just 30 yards below me. In addition, during a two-day period during the week, a party of four non-resident anglers absolutely "slayed 'em" on the lower Kispiox with spinner gear (apparently it is far more effective), and on a subsequent day I found one dead steelhead in the water where they fished without question as a result of this activity. I realize that this effort on your part is to appropriately deal with angler crowding issues and not conservation issues, however, I very strongly feel that the Kispiox River should be regulated as fly fishing only (along with single barbless hooks, never from boats, as it already is). You have a world-class trophy steelhead fishery in the Kispiox River. That steelhead run must be managed in perpetuity. I am thankful to have had the opportunity to once-again fish the Kispiox River and find quality angling. I first fished the Kispiox in the falls of 1990 - 1993, and found crowding issues to be greater then than in 2008.

I believe you will have difficulty implementing the lottery system, that some non-resident anglers will choose to not participate as a result, that it could reduce commerce in the local areas. The lottery system will drive non-residents away. (There are other quality angling destinations in the world, you know!) Furthermore, by instituting the lottery system with the status-quo section along the lower Kispiox River, that section will experience considerably greater crowding and angling pressure than now. With the status-quo section implemented, the steelhead will suffer considerably greater mortality as a result of greater angling pressure in that stretch of the river. As these fish migrate through that lower

river zone, the quality of the fishery above that zone (and in whole) could be adversely affected by implementing this strategy.

As for resident only fishing days, they can fish whenever they want at any time as it is. By pushing non-residents off the rivers on those days, local commerce will suffer. You have non-residents coming from all over the world to fish on a limited number of days, usually a week in length. Are you going to tell them that they CAN'T fish on one of six or seven days for which they've spent maybe 1000s of dollars?

Your job is to manage a fishery and a tourism industry at the same time. With these strategies in place, you could risk the quality of both. Be careful, and be certain that any strategy that is implemented must be evaluated for effectiveness on an annual basis (with utmost transparency) and modified without excessive or cumbersome bureaucracy or process. It needs to be fluid...if it doesn't work, be able to change it at will. I am grateful for this opportunity to speak to these issues.

I come to BC 2/3 times a year and meet with 2/3 traveling angler friends and rotate days on various rivers according to conditions.

The implementation of 8-day draw (as per the Dean) would make organizing a trip with friends a nightmare and could mean having to fish one river for 8-days when it has "gone out" instead of moving with conditions for an enjoyable and relaxed holiday. This is the very thing that makes BC so unique and to change it would be to make it all the same as elsewhere in the world.

I would say a upgraded fisheries officer system that would allow correct policing on all the rivers to discipline those who do not follow or practice correct angling etiquette and rotation on well fished runs would probably be helpful to iron out any confrontations or bad feeling.

I cannot think of a time when I have had bad feeling expressed with Canadian anglers and have only had a few problems with one or two 'foreigners' who have not understood angling etiquette.

Eight-day licences are impractical except on rivers like the Dean that are accessible only by water. Unlimited duration, but limited consecutive-day

licences, capped after total angler use is reached (tracked by e-licensing), would be a better compromise for sustaining local economies and spreading non-resident angler use across waters and throughout the classified period.

As above, is there really a crowding problem? Do the Classified waters licence sales indicate a surge in unguided non-resident usage?

I am a guide so can empathize with what guides at times have to put up with but at the end of the day they are only facilitating the angling opportunity for anglers. Nothing more, nothing less.

There's a saying, "If it's not broken, don't fix it." I think that applies.

I think the jumble of rules, with most of the river except for 9 km, would just push more anglers into the 9km stretch which would likely do more to increase crowding in this stretch. I think that any lottery decision should be based on actual non-resident rod days (like the Bulkley and Morice) so people would see that these rules were being put in place due to actual crowding and not "perceived" crowding by residents and guides who have a financial interest in shutting non-residents out of the fishery.

I have fished here quite a bit. I have fished by myself and with guides and at lodges.

Crowding is not the issue that is once was, Skeena angling licence #'s are down and this will deeply affect the local economy. In addition, the process is flawed because local business were not part of the strategy development.

Lottery and short-term fishing would make a planned trip impossible, with the river out (that happens often) nonresidents could not move to other rivers.

Q23 Babine

Rafting rules and restrictions and enforcement are needed.

I believe that the fishing should be carefully guarded. However, for me who lives in Florida, USA, to spend the thousands of dollars to come up there to fish and then to find that I may or may not be able to fish due to a lottery or a guide would be unquestionably a NO. I would go on to

Alaska and spend my money there before I would take a chance at Terrace.

Resident anglers need no special consideration. They can fish anytime.

Reduce number of guided rod days. (Analysis needs to verify that guided rod days allocated is higher than needed.)

Like the rest of the Skeena drainage, "crowding" problem does not exist according to common sense definition of the term.

Guided anglers are not contributing to a crowding problem on the Babine, and neither are unguided anglers.

Redirect the time and money involved in this plan toward conservation of fish stocks. Without them, no one can go fishing, and no business can be had.

No guiding above Nilkitkwa great idea. Not necessary yet to be also resident only. Area immediately below Nilkitkwa served by the two upper lodges is the most over subscribed steelhead water in all of BC. Guide activity should be cut in half on this section for the welfare of the fish.

Below the. Nilkitkwa is pretty much inaccessible except for guides. Reduction in guided days does nothing but make each day cost more. The guides protect the quality of fishing by managing fishing areas and angler density.

There are to many guided rod days above Beaver Flat. Two lodges are one to many.

I fish and stay with Babine Norlakes Lodge. If you put any part of this plan in effect it will kill off the lodge owners and the money that is brought into your country and I won't be back to spend my money in your country. This will kill the town of Smithers.

Agree with proposal.

Have fished the Babine 21 years in a row. My respectful recommendation is to leave it alone. I fish at the Silver Hilton and don't know some of the other areas of concern.

Babine is a very complex classified water. Important to work out a "fair compromise" for all parties, in all sections.

The Babine is an actual guide-and-lodge river and the guide allocation should be examined carefully to preserve the quality of the experience for guests who contribute significantly to the local economy.

Non-Guided non-resident anglers are not the reason for decreased numbers. Remove the nets from the Skeena mouth or utilize in stream salmon harvesting and the numbers will flourish.

Crowding on the Babine above Nichyeskwa Creek is a function of river conditions. When the entire river is fishable the 'walk- in' access provides relatively uncrowded fishing for those unable to pay the high fees charged by the lodges. When the creek is 'glacial' or excessively high everyone is forced into the short upper river area. Eliminating guides seems unfair-- perhaps eliminating boat traffic and allowing 'foot access only' would help preserve a wilderness experience.

Most pressure on the Babine comes from the guides, except those from Silver Hilton. All other harass unguided anglers.

You are driving the sport of fishing for steelhead to an elitist sport as it is in most places in Europe. Shame on you. Shame on the commercial interest. Shame on the guide. So much for the common man...You are eliminating any opportunities that I would have to freely visit your country to fish for steelhead. The best thing to do is to eliminate all commercial fishing for steelhead or any commercial fishing that would impact the entire projected run of steelhead.

Should consider prohibiting fishing by boat access by non-resident and non-guided anglers.

The Babine is more like the Dean River, which we assume has been somewhat of a model for your design plan. I do think the number of non-guided anglers should be increased. I believe they add way more to the economy than the selfish, short-sided guides.

Far too many guided anglers towards the upper end. Five anglers per guide boat is common, which ends up being five spots taken per boat.

The guided anglers are simply dropped off and left for hours unwatched by their guides, which I believe is illegal on the system.

The number of guided rod days on the upper river (above 15km) is very high. Unfortunately the guides also do not promote conservation and are more interested in taking photos of fish than keeping the fish's gills underwater. They need to promote live catch and release and not dead catch and release!

I agree that guided anglers should be limited. Non-guided, non-resident anglers seem to bear the brunt of all the blame. But the non-guided anglers are the ones putting money into the local economy. Guided anglers only benefit the lodges they stay at and have much less positive impact on the local economy than non-guided anglers.

I feel more effort should be taken to insure there are enough fish (wild) escaping then to restrict the numbers of fisherman.

Due to its isolation and difficulty of access, the Babine will or should never have such an issue and hence I think the status quo should remain.

A reduction in allocation is a reduction in local economy. Unless damage to the fish is the driving force, these regulations only remove money from the pockets of the locals.

I fish only within the confines of the Silver Hilton Lodge. every steelhead caught there is released. There are no fish taken, none. All fish are released delicately and guides and anglers alike assure themselves that the fish is capable of swimming and surviving before release. Moreover, all anglers at the lodge pay over \$500 each year to "Save the Babine".

Q28 Bulkley

If these actions are taken, people will either stop fishing or it will distribute pressure to other less used fisheries that cannot sustain pressure.

My most expensive fishing trips are always to BC. I spend thousands of dollars more than on other trips, including Alaska. I have fished the Bulkley, Morice, Babine and Kispiox but next trip, should you remain fisherman-friendly, I'll try other rivers too.

I have had trouble hiring guides for optimum times in the past, as they are generally unavailable unless I hire them for a week. Even then, most have their "favorite" clients and have told me that they are unavailable in much of September and October, and definitely in later Sept. and early Oct.

Our first trip, we were lucky enough to locate a guide who showed us "the ropes" for two days. He was about to retire and was not as booked as other guides. He was, however, far from a satisfactory guide as he boated us to good places but explained very little and was most inattentive. He was also the most expensive guide I have ever hired!

The thousands I have spent in the Smithers area were for lodging, restaurants, car rentals and fly fishing equipment. I cannot believe that you would slight these businesses and favor the few who would benefit from the proposed changes.

If you are concerned with the health of the fisheries, I would suggest a second look at commercial netting practices. If you are concerned with your economy, I would suggest remaining fisherman-friendly for those of us who prefer limited professional guiding but rather self-guided trips.

I can honestly tell you that were these proposed changes to be put into play, I would switch my vacations to southeastern Alaska for my steelheading.

I believe that the fishing should be carefully guarded. However, for me who lives in Florida, USA, to spend the thousands of dollars to come up there to fish and then to find that I may or may not be able to fish due to a lottery or a guide would be unquestionably a NO. I would go on to Alaska and spend my money there before I would take a chance at Terrace.

I have no experience of overcrowding

No lottery. What if river is out? Can't fish with angling partners? (Not fair, We won't come back if implemented).

457 (30%)! guided rod days not used, see p.72 of Quality Water Strategy draft. How can guides ask for more, when they don't use what is allocated?

Like the rest of the Skeena drainage, "crowding" problem does not exist according to common sense definition of the term. I go to the Skeena drainage precisely because it is NOT crowded. On an international yardstick, it is not crowded. Recommend do not alter the current management regime. Redirect the time and money involved in this plan toward conservation of fish stocks. Without them, no one can go fishing, and no business can be had.

I understand the motivation for developing a Quality Waters Strategy, and support the MoE's efforts to reform the way steelhead fisheries are managed in the Skeena Basin. I have seen days when the Bulkley from Telkwa to Smithers was crowded, and that did detract from the quality of my experience. I have also encountered anglers practicing poor angling etiquette, which was also a cause for degrading my experience. As I noted in my comments about the Kispiox, one thing that is always important for me when I travel to the Skeena country is an opportunity to change plans as conditions dictate. I would hate to be relegated to a single section of a single river if conditions there were terrible during my entire stay, while conditions were marginal or good in another angling zone (or river). I have also fished the Dean River 5 times on unguided float trips, and in those cases we have no options, just float the river and hope for good conditions. But access and options are so

Much better in the Skeena basin, and the diversity of angling possibilities so much greater, that it would be a shame to treat anglers as if they were on the Dean and have no where else to turn. Perhaps one way to accommodate this flexibility is to allow anglers to purchase permits for rivers that are below their angler caps, or to leave some rivers (like the Skeena) out of the limited licence regulations, so that an angler isn't stuck with the lottery pick that was made months before the actual fishing trip.

And a minor point: I tried to follow the math used to develop the angler-day allocations for non-residents in high and average use situations, and I don't understand the way this was done (and I have a PhD!).

The most fishermen I have witnessed on the Bulkley during any day of the peak season is 8, for the most part all persons fishing this area respect other anglers and tend not to overcrowd

particular areas/holes. Any person who feels the Bulkley is "overcrowded" should witness popular spots in the western United States. Those of us non-residents who choose to fish the Bulkley have a commitment to respect the river, nature, residents and other fisherman. I personally have witnessed over 300 steelhead being caught and not one of those was handled improperly then quickly released. To put this simply, I am a US resident living in California who takes responsibility to protect the environment and fishery. I thoroughly enjoy my time fishing the Bulkley but if this initiative passes then I will not even bother taking part in the lottery. I will instead spend my 2-4 weeks a year fishing rivers in Northern California which while not having the runs of steelhead the Bulkley does do have quality fishing close to my residence. Looking back on the years my figures are that when fishing the Bulkley I average putting \$500 to \$700 a day into the local British Columbia economy, a modest sum but a fortune to my family and I. With the economy in decline if the protected waters initiative passes then I will choose to invest my earnings into my own Northern California economy. Is it worth taking away from Canadian citizens who profit from non-guided anglers just to appease local guides who are paranoid from misinformation and think the world is crashing down around them? These guides will continue to profit from those seeking them out and have nothing to worry about from the non-guided minority. This problem can be solved simply, since the Bulkley is a protected river, simply change the licensing requirements. First eliminate the one day licence for non-residents making the 8-day licence the only one you can get, this will cut down on anglers that are simply there for a sort time and not investing in the local economies. Second raise the fees for licences; those of us who love the Bulkley will pay double, triple, whatever since you cannot put a price tag on the feeling we get on a perfect fishing experience. Last, leave the licensing fees guided anglers pay the same or even lower them meaning more profit for the guides. In conclusion I have enjoyed every minute of every day I have fished not only on the Bulkley but in British Columbia, if this initiative passes I will not be back. I have not spent 45 years on this planet learning to fish just to blackmailed by the guides, paying for paranoid, self centered, know-it-all babysitters is not where I plan on spending my hard earned money.

Lottery anything anywhere other than remote areas (Dean) is a bad unworkable idea.

It is not clear how a lottery system would work (I haven't seen any details) I typically make my reservation in the Jan-Feb time frame to fish with 2 to 4 other people for 1 to 2 weeks. If access to the Bulkley is limited via a lottery it would make it impossible to schedule a trip where multiple people were involved.

I fish the Bulkley only after Oct 15 each year. It may be crowded before this time of the month, but in the past 8 years, I have fished in almost complete solitude. Maybe the classified waters period should be altered, or a lottery only apply to the PEAK, peak season which seems to be Sept 15-Oct 15. Ironically, the only anglers that have ever been in my way have been parties of 2-3 being guided.

Limitation of non-guided angling should be absolute last resort and implemented only if demonstrable impact on fishery can be documented. Priority should be given to increasing escapement, protecting and restoring habitat and angler education. More fish in the river, even under existing conditions, every one would be happy.

My principal residence is in the US, but I am a landowner on the Bulkley. I cannot imagine that it would be in the community's interest to prevent a landowner -- regardless of where his principal residence may be, to be restricted from fishing his own frontage. I come up most years and leave many dollars in the local economy. I would have to stop.

This whole concept is off base. It is discriminatory against the non-resident. It's like give us the money, but not the presence. In the 3rd Reich, government got together with the guilds and created monopolies, like this scheme with the guides. it is much like fascism. It belittles Canada. First the non-resident; then the resident? The problem, other than guide's full employment is lack of access. Trout Creek is an example; it used to take up a lot of slack, now it's private non-access. When the non-resident classified water fee was doubled it cut the non-residents at least in half, so now most of the perceived problem is gone. Check current statistics last year and this year. You will drive the tourism industry out of their best months.

While the Bulkley River can appear crowded at times, the overall situation is not as bad as described. Alien or non-guided anglers can always come at different times to get away from the crowds. Granted, it is colder (or warmer), but you can always get away from the crowding. A lottery will make it difficult for non-resident, non-guided anglers to plan their trips. Furthermore, a lottery (at least as described in the draft) does not allow for transfer in the event a river goes "out" during the drawn lottery period. This effectively ruins a trip for anglers and will lead to many anglers deciding that it is not worth it to come to BC to begin with.

Plenty of places to fish. Never thought of the river as crowded.

Severe restrictions would impact local economy unnecessarily.

More access points are needed between Hazelton and Smithers

Again, long distance travel for limited fishing time would make these rivers unattractive. For non-resident anglers, just have a graduated fee structure. First 7 days at some price, lets say 100. Second 7 days priced at 200, third at 300. That would provide some control but wouldn't displace those who have invested in the community or support local guided operations.

Again - stopped coming up here to fish due to the extremely poor conduct on the river, couldn't stand to see so many wonderful fish mishandled and basically got fed up. I haven't fished the Bulkley for 4 years now and have started exploring other parts of the world for the less crowded streams. As a non-resident, I don't feel I have a place to tell residents whether or not they should have zones specifically allocated for them.

Please don't alienate foreign anglers - the Skeena system needs international support to defend itself from commercial fishermen and Big Oil.

Any lottery would be a disaster for traveling anglers; we would not be able to plan to make trips work. We would simply stop visiting. Why not impose a Class II limit on days the way there is for Class I? That way we could plan to visit but not be restricted on weekends, lotteries, etc. The overall crowding would go down but people would still be able to visit.

I am against any lottery. The management sets a number of angler days on the river and when they are sold out you must go to another river.

The lottery is a bad idea. Increasing resident fishing opportunities is a good idea.

Lottery system is unfair. Guides are "lining their pockets with money". Everyone else gets screwed. Have 7 guides rotate their "turn over day", and make the 7th day a no fish day. As a compromise, non-res, non-guided could do the same. (p. 72 of "the Draft", 457 guided rod days were unused in '07.) Overcrowding is bullshit.

Restrictions will only bring bitterness and an unwillingness for non-residents to visit the area at anytime. Restrictions need to be across the board and not alienate people.

The Telkwa River is under utilized. I do not see any need for restrictions. When good water conditions exist, the Telkwa River offers an option to decrease fisherman numbers on the Bulkley.

Provide river cops, police and arrest. Charge us more to do this. This is a huge river, never had a crowd problem in the past!

No discussion that I could see about why the Telkwa should be resident only.

The concern I have with these approaches starts with the assumption that there is a "problem." Crowding is defined as "too many anglers" during the peak of the run by an unknown resident angler. Is the river crowded because this person can't fish their favorite run whenever they want to, or just on Saturdays, or what?

How many non-guided non-resident angler days were used in each of the last five years? How many non-guided resident angler days were used in the last five years? Without this information, how can you know if there is a problem? Is the river crowded because this person can't fish their favourite run whenever they want to, or just on Saturdays, or what? Without baseline data, of guided and non-guided river days by week and month, it is impossible to determine if the problem is real or just a way to keep non-residents from fishing without a guide. It is pretty obvious that residents of the Skeena River system are not

nine-to-five suits that cannot sneak out to fish when they want to.

Limited public access is the real problem, not overcrowding. Increasing public access along the river would allow anglers to spread out and thus address any overcrowding.

Why were local businesses not included in the key draft development process? I suspect you will hurt, perhaps severely, local businesses if the plan as frequently discussed is implemented. (Lottery allocation of days to NRA; obligate use by NRAs of a guide, etc. on some rivers.) Please weigh this carefully before taking protectionist actions which may come at great cost, overall, to the BC economy.

There are portions of the Bulkley that are over crowded. There are many parts of the Bulkley that are underused with no crowds at all. It all depends on what your goal are. If it is to keep anglers visiting the area and putting money into the economy then the idea should be to find a way to spread anglers out so there is a balance of anglers in all of the sections. For instance there are hardly any angler from Canyon creek to Morris Town every day. So if you want to spread anglers out either put in access to get more anglers into this section. Or divide the river into sections and determine a daily number of guide rods per day for that section and a number or non-guide rods per day. Sell the licences on line and once the set number of licences for that day are sold then the angler will have to find another section to fish.

There are many potential solutions. It seems like you guys are going for the most difficult, most radical and most limiting solution in the form of the lottery system without doing the easiest things 1st that you might just find solves most of the issues at hand. Here is my observation and suggestion for what it is worth:

I have been going to Skeena River fisheries yearly for the last 6 years. In that time I have never once had my licence checked. My point being is if you actually enforced the existing rules you might find that the crowding thins down quite a bit. My suggestion would be to have a fish and wildlife representative at every public launch (Bymac, Walcott, Quick, Telkwa, Chicken, Trout Creek, Suskwa Bridge etc) on the Bulkley daily. They would check every single persons licence

every day that alone would probably cause your revenue to double and many crowding You can invest all this time, money and effort into putting a fancy "lottery system" into place but without any enforcement in place its useless. If you can't even enforce the existing system what makes you think you can enforce an even more complicated system.

The lottery system works on the Dean because it is one river, with extremely limited access that makes it very easily to enforce the rules. Though I have never been to the Dean my friends who go regularly tell me that their licences are checked almost daily. Now you are thinking of trying to enforce that system across the entire Skeena watershed. I think you will end up with a new system on paper but the same issues on the water.

Without having an "open" fishing season it becomes impractical to schedule a fishing trip to Smithers when one is traveling several thousand miles and will be spending several thousand dollars for the sole purpose of fishing.

I have never seen this river actually crowded. I have been on the water with other anglers, but I have always had plenty of spots to fish.

Resident angler opportunity consists in picking up the rod and leaving the house. There is an infinity of under-used opportunity on the Bulkley. Any restriction of non-resident opportunity will reduce the income of Smithers and Bulkley valley business people. That is very clear to all locals who are not fishing guides.

My comments on the Kispiox also apply here. We campers often hang around for long periods of time (spending money in the process) but we don't usually fish except when conditions are right. When the steelhead are in everybody is happy and when they are not, residents and some others cry "too crowded".

Lottery makes it difficult for planning a trip in relation to my work. A eight-day licence make it for me not worthwhile anymore to come (to expensive to fly for just 8-days!)

Fished the Bulkley and Morice October 22nd - 24th, and had no problems with crowding. Yes there were other anglers, but we had no problems finding good runs that were open. We started

early at daybreak on one day and didn't see any other anglers on a prime run right in Smithers.

I think the Ministry needs to limit jet boat use on the Bulkley. Back when most of the boat use was just drift boat or rafts there was a natural progression of where float fishermen had to put in and take out and wade fishermen could find unused water. With all the jet boat use, it is now extremely hard to just wade fish the river.

Holy cow- this is a huge river. If you are willing to seat a little there many miles of river where I have never seen another angler! Chicken Creek, Toboggan Creek, and Telkwa are obvious and easily to access.

The lottery system seems too restrictive and confusing. The data used to develop the angler use days seems questionable and biased. I do not think the angling is crowded up in the Skeena system, and the angling experience is still quality. I am very frustrated with this plan as indicated. If implemented, I will probably give up on fishing in BC. What happens when good friends who drive up together can't draw the same river? It's not fair. Your local economy will suffer from the drop in tourism.

Any lottery system needs to be structured to allow for proper long term planning and reservations at local businesses.

The only thing on the Bulkley that concentrates people is the lack of enough and good access. Make more access and you will spread out the people.

The Bulkley goes out ablow Telqua so no trips with limited specific days work at the expense of travel, auto, lodging, food, etc. Also, no alien I know have ever killed any Bulkley fish. If you want to improve the ambiance and rush by the guides to get to all the known fishing spots, get rid of motors.. Smithers depends upon aliens. So does Air Canada, and the Auto rental companies. No open rivers, no B.C. Good luck with your selfish, economically unwise plan for limited alien fishing.

You are driving the sport of fishing for steelhead to an elitist sport as it is in most places in Europe. Shame on you. Shame on the commercial interest. Shame on the guide. So much for the common man...You are eliminating any opportunities that I would have to freely visit your

country to fish for steelhead. The best thing to do is to eliminate all commercial fishing for steelhead or any commercial fishing that would impact the entire projected run of steelhead.

Crowding has not been an issue for me during all of my 6 trips to the Skeena region period.

Should consider prohibiting fishing by boat access by non-resident and non-guided anglers.

I have fished the Bulkley guided and non-guided every year since 1999. If you restrict non-residents from angling unguided on the Bulkley, you will strongly impact local tourism businesses. The reason is that like many anglers who go on guided trips on Skeena Rivers, I often arrive a day or two early and/or stay a day or two longer after my guided week. This is when we like to go fish on our own and if you make this difficult, we will without question shorten our trips. These "extended stays" are when we spend a lot of money locally.

I have fished the Bulkley every year since the mid-eighties. I walk in: float it with friends: and stay at a lodge (Bob Hull's). Sure at times, you don't get the pool you had hoped to get, but up until 3 years ago we caught fish and often times just after someone worked a pool. The problem isn't crowds these last few years, its fish. The argument about crowds is a distraction from the real problem of controlling commercial fishing at the mouth. It would seem to me that what brought on this management plan is poor fishing. Who can we blame for that? You blame the foreigners. The fishing experience on the Skeena will not return to its former self until you address the core problem. It is not that complicated.

Your own angling surveys (which we receive in the mail from your government after our visit to BC each year) is our "report card" of how over crowded the Bulkley actually is. We have seen, graphically, that the number of total licences purchased and the number of fish caught has declined steadily since the year 2000. I don't know where the information is coming from that the angling plan is using to determine that the Bulkley is incredibly overcrowded, but it is not entirely believable to us. Sure, when there is a big storm and many of the rivers in the Skeena Valley are muddy, the Bulkley is the "go-to" river, because it retains more clarity longer. I don't think you can eliminate the visiting, non-guided

angler based on the crowded conditions after a big storm, or during the 2 highest use weeks (last week in Sept. and the first week in Oct.) of the season. I think there is a one-sided majority (guides, friends of guides, or relatives of guides) that has been handpicked to make the choices included in the Angling Management Plan. I think that through lack of fair representation, the Angling Management Plan has been directed towards eliminating the non-resident, non-guided anglers. Of course, the major beneficiaries of this Management Plan are the local, greedy guides. The local, resident angler, who fishes 4 or 5 days a season, and spends far less staying in hotels, eating out in restaurants, renting cars, buying fishing tackle or gifts (than the non-resident, non-guided angler), isn't even aware of the problem. By targeting the non-resident, non-guided anglers as the sole reason for overcrowding, and so disproportionately regulating only their fishing days (through the lottery), you will virtually eliminate them coming to Smithers for their fishing vacations. Smithers, with its Bulkley River fishing, is in direct competition with other fishing destinations during the popular Fall season. Why on earth would a traveling angler, eager to pump tons of tourist dollars into the merchant's pockets, choose to risk fishing the Bulkley, with the proposed regulations mentioned above in force? Of course, there is a chance they will draw, through the lottery, during their allotted vacation time. And maybe they will be able to luck-out and draw their 8-days with the fishing partner that they wish to travel with. Oh, and then if the river gets muddy from seasonal weather, they are stuck with their 8-day, restrictive licence, and can't move to another river to at least make their vacations somewhat of a success. What were the designers of this misguided Angling Management Plan thinking? I'll tell you what it looks like to outsiders...it looks as though the Management Plan will make the guided fishing the only way for a non-resident angler to insure he can have the allotted days that coincide with his vacation schedule, or that he can travel with his fishing partner and be assured they will be able to fish together. Again, this Management Plan is so unfairly swayed to benefit the guides, and eliminate the non-guided anglers. I can't believe that the people in charge of making the final decisions as to the Management Plan, are so prejudiced towards helping the guides get exactly what benefits them, while ignoring the huge economic benefit of the non-guided, non-resident angling tourist!!! We would like to see a reduction

in the number of guided angling days, to allow the non-guided, non-resident angler to feel like a welcome member of the Bulkley Valley fishing community, instead of the cause for all of the over-crowding. The so-called "Working Groups" (without any representation from the non-guided, non-resident anglers) selected to make the decisions in the Angling Management Plan would never consider this option...would they?

I own a home on the Bulkley in Telkwa. I spend roughly \$8,000 per year in taxes and homeowner expenses. I have spent over \$230,000 remodeling and building a new garage. I spend 4 months in the area and enjoy skiing, mountain biking, hiking and spending time with my friends, but I live to steelhead fish. I don't spend day after day beating the same stretch water, but instead fish different rivers in the system. I go out of my way to not crowd or interfere with my fellow anglers. I don't think asking to fish without lottery-based regulations is too much to ask. I have always felt welcome here, but now it seems I am a bad American who needs to leave the area, as if I am some sort of parasite. We as a group have resource extraction companies like Shell Oil trying to destroy this great resource, yet we are focused on this small minded issue, which benefits a few and potentially puts several small businesses out of business. Why?

Get rid of the campers and make them stay in motels. But leave the river open to all anglers with a revolving day where only locals can fish! This should include guided anglers and allows people that work on the weekend to have their own special day!

Why are non-guided anglers only being limited? Smithers thrives on the money brought in from non-guided anglers. I've eaten in every restaurant and spent countless money at Oscar's on fishing gear. It's the non-resident anglers that help the economy. As for the resident only fishing access, I think the residents know where to go to avoid the crowds and will have their secret spots. Designating certain points resident-only isn't necessary.

This is crazy. If you have a lottery on other rivers such as the Kispiox River, all anglers who are unsuccessful in these lotteries will end up fishing the Bulkley River. This will make it worse than it already is. I believe you need to have a 6-day lottery for this river as well and that the lottery

should entitle the angler to fish a different stretch of the Bulkley River each day. One huge issue that is not addressed by any of this relates to gear fisherman. I strongly believe that you need to have a separate season for these guys. Sharing a run or drift with them is a disaster. It is like making archery hunters hunt at the same time as the guys with normal guns.

As a foreigner how do I get into the lottery system?

No jet skis.

An option in the lottery to fish with a partner. The need to back up my lottery choice to a one or two week guided trip. Maybe a priority lottery pick if you have been guided for a week. The flights are too expensive to spread out weeks.

Not enough rational info to draw any conclusion here.

This is a remarkably self-centered and ill-considered proposal, clearly aimed at maximizing guide profits, while ignoring the economic impact on the rest of the local economy. Instead of favoring the guides, the aim should be to extract the maximum amount of revenue from anglers who are not local. This proposal does just the opposite. It favors those who have a lot of time on their hands and who can come at any point in the fall. These typically are those with fewest resources to spend on their fishing.

The solution is simple - raise licence fees to a point where it limits the number of non-residents fishing. This will raise revenue for the province and ensure that only those who are prepared to spend the money to come and who can afford to patronize local business will be on the river. It could be made more effective by requiring anglers to stay in a local establishment in order to purchase a licence. The increased licence revenue must be used for better enforcement and not go into the General Fund. I have had my licence checked twice in 25 years.

If enacted, this plan will greatly reduce the lobbying effort by non-resident anglers for limits to the netting that takes place at the mouth of the Skeena. It will also reduce the incentive for local business owners to lobby against netting. One of their most powerful arguments to limit netting has

been the contribution of steelhead fishing to the local economy.

So, for the sake of having the river more open to guides, the plan reduces pressure to preserve the resource. In the end, it will ruin their business. If it were not so tragic, it would be.

Licence sales and angler use have declined steadily since 1998. Your own surveys and reports sent to us after each season indicate this trend. If a lottery were implemented, my wife might draw and I might not. This would make it impossible for us to plan any kind of trip to the Skeena valley. We spend an average of three weeks in the valley from September 10th to October 10th. We spend between \$6000.00 and \$8000.00 for accommodations, food, fuel and licences. We drive 2000 miles to get to the valley. If these restrictions are placed on us, we will not be able to fish in your community any longer. Also, our store has booked clients for local guides since 1978. We will need to recommend that our clients fish other destinations where non-residents and their contributions to local economies are more welcome.

Experienced no crowding on various sections of the Bulkley the week of 10/18 to 10/24

Please see my comments above on the Kispiox. Same applies to the Bulkley.

Part of the problem you see may arise that all guides lead their customers to the same spots which are then crowded. But where is the problem? One has to wait or search for a different spot. Where is the problem?

This river is so big. Many people decide to follow the crowds so to speak so more people will be found in the terminal zones but seriously the only so-called crowds I have ever seen are in the most popular spots so why limit access to the whole river to blanket day licensing. This has to be the most ridiculous idea I have ever heard in the world of angling regulations. Who really benefits by this. Again find another spot to fish if you think there are too many people. There are miles of untouched water. Give me a break!

Insulting to nonresident anglers, invites retaliation.

Eight-day licences are impractical except on rivers like the Dean that are accessible only by water.

Unlimited duration, but limited consecutive-day licences, capped after total angler use is reached (tracked by e-licensing), would be a better compromise for sustaining local economies and spreading non-resident angler use across waters and throughout the classified period.

The Dean Lottery works because of the logistics of getting in and out of the area. Doing such to the Bulkley is a non-thinking persons approach. I fish the Bulkley and often have the area I fish to myself. I also come earlier in September to avoid larger numbers of anglers and enjoy the warmer days.

At least on the Bulkley you are actually basing more restrictive rules on angling usage and not "perceived" overcrowding.

See my comments at #7, above, as these are general and applicable here. I have fished this river, a lot.

Crowding is not the issue that is once was, Skeena angling licence #'s are down and this will deeply affect the local economy. In addition, the process is flawed because local businesses were not part of the strategy development. This is very shortsighted in light of economic circumstances. Raise fees, don't limit anglers.

I think you would need to place all rivers in the System in the Lottery or none at all otherwise you will waste time and money again in 3 yrs.

Q32 Morice

I believe that the fishing should be carefully guarded. However, for me who lives in Florida, USA, to spend the thousands of dollars to come up there to fish and then to find that I may or may not be able to fish due to a lottery or a guide would be unquestionably a no. I would go on to Alaska and spend my money there before I would take a chance at Terrace.

Better opportunities to reach the river.

Get real! Do angling management review. Verify # rod days, then act accordingly.

No lottery!

Like the rest of the Skeena drainage, "crowding" problem does not exist according to common sense definition of the term. I go to the Skeena

drainage precisely because it is NOT crowded. On an international yardstick, it is not crowded. Recommend do not alter the current management regime. Redirect the time and money involved in this plan toward conservation of fish stocks. Without them, no one can go fishing, and no business can be had.

I've fished the upper Morice, in the Lamprey Creek Campground area every year since 1996 except 2006. The only time that area could ever be considered at all crowded by anglers was in some of the earlier years, usually when the Kispiox and sometimes the lower Bulkley had blown out. More recently, we have seen very few anglers in that area, resident or nonresident. In 2008 I fished 8-days there, and we saw only 4 or 5 resident anglers fishing for 1 or 2 days each. I was the ONLY non-resident, non-guided angler in that area during the 8-days I fished there in 2008. We know the local guides and have always gotten along well sharing the river with them.

I fish the Morice only after Oct 15 each year. It may be crowded before this time of the month, but in the past 8 years, I have fished in almost complete solitude. Maybe the classified waters period should be altered, or a lottery only apply to the peak, peak season which seems to be Sept 15-Oct 15.

Ditto the above comments: but so much of the Morice is inaccessible, what's the point? The river, if made fisher friendly, could accommodate many more fishermen who would never see each other. The same is true of the Bulkley. I fished for 5 days and only saw 2 other competing fishermen. The program is a solution looking for a problem. The problem is lack of access.

Your plan will simply force non-residents to not come to BC. This will ultimately result in a business problem for local merchants and a bad reputation for BC. Not a wise move at all.

Get some more data points before adding new management tools (esp. the lottery) to the regulations.

No lottery. Unfair! MOE Review is a good idea. Then, set rod-day allocation.

Implement River Guardian program to help with stopping illegal guiding, and creel census.

The use of jet boats should be prohibited on this river. It is a small intimate remote river, and the use of jet boats ruins the experience for others.

I honestly don't understand that resident anglers need more opportunities on the Morice. How about: stub out the cigarette, turn of the TV and go fishing? I was on the Morice a lot last year and hardly saw anyone. This really feels like a fantasy exercise.

Same argument as on the Kispiox and Bulkley except, of course, the Morice seldom "goes out". But there are periods when there are very few fish in the river and a smart angler knows to take those days off. I have fished the Morice for many years as both a guided and an unguided angler. I have never seen it what you could call crowded.

Generally over-crowding on the Morice occurs when many other rivers of the Skeena System blowout and go off in color. The Morice is another candidate for limited parts of the river to be used by jet boats. I could see where Resident-Only Days could be a factor for the Morice.

Again, the key phrase is "crowding in the areas around campgrounds"--instead of reducing angling how about increasing the number of campgrounds to spread out the anglers over a wider area?

The lottery system seems too restrictive and confusing. The data used to develop the angler use days seems questionable and biased. I do not think the angling is crowded up in the Skeena system, and the angling experience is still quality. I am very frustrated with this plan as indicated. If implemented, I will probably give up on fishing in BC. What happens when good friends who drive up together can't draw the same river? It's not fair. Your local economy will suffer from the drop in tourism.

Any lottery system needs to be structured to allow for proper long term planning and reservations at local businesses.

I've fished the Morice for 20 years and there is space for everyone!

This river has difficult access and is hardly fished except by the private Britton camp. It already is limited to aliens in this way. Freedom of the rivers is the only way to fish or to forget B.C. I hire

guides but I don't ever want to be forced to and specific allocations with such variable river conditions is impossible.

You are driving the sport of fishing for steelhead to an elitist sport as it is in most places in Europe. Shame on you. Shame on the commercial interest. Shame on the guide. So much for the common man. You are eliminating any opportunities that I would have to freely visit your country to fish for steelhead. The best thing to do is to eliminate all commercial fishing for steelhead or any commercial fishing that would impact the entire projected run of steelhead.

Again crowding a non-issue in this section.

Should consider prohibiting fishing by boat access by non-resident and non-guided anglers.

There is not an issue on the Morice. I have fished the river several days for years, and have never found it crowded to the point of not finding great water. The Guides are friendly and seem to have plenty of water. This makes no sense at all.

Leave the river open to all anglers with a revolving day where only locals can fish! This should include guided anglers and allows people that work on the weekend to have their own special day! aliens could be limited to no more than 4 days in a row. A lottery would be terrible for the local merchants because tourist would go elsewhere if they are limited by more than the local conditions.

What happens if you want to bring your family to go fishing? Does everyone have to be drawn for all the same days of fishing. Come on, come up with something else.

Make the whole river fly only, not just the part above Lamprey Creek.

Eight-day licences are impractical except on rivers like the Dean that are accessible only by water. Unlimited duration, but limited consecutive-day licences, capped after total angler use is reached (tracked by e-licensing), would be a better compromise for sustaining local economies and spreading non-resident angler use across waters and throughout the classified period.

The place is not crowded! Leave it alone. When everything blows out with bad weather, yes it gets

heavily fished but all anglers accept that will be the case.

At least on the Morice you are actually basing more restrictive rules on angling usage and not "perceived" overcrowding.

Crowding is not the issue that it once was, Skeena angling licence #'s are down and this will deeply affect the local economy. In addition, the process is flawed because local businesses were not part of the strategy development. This is very shortsighted in light of economic circumstances. Raise fees, don't limit anglers.

Q39 Zymoetz I

Non-residents should not have to be guided. If this unfortunate proposal becomes law, then the guides should be allowed more rod-days.

I believe that the fishing should be carefully guarded. However, for me who lives in Florida, USA, to spend the thousands of dollars to come up there to fish and then to find that I may or may not be able to fish due to a lottery or a guide would be unquestionably a no. I would go on to Alaska and spend my money there before I would take a chance at Terrace.

Having fished there several times at different parts of the year I strongly disagree with the statement about crowding. There is virtually nobody up there most of the time.

No requirement for non-residents be guided. Again verify # rod days, both for guided and non-guided anglers. Make it fair!

Like the rest of the Skeena drainage, "crowding" problem does not exist according to common sense definition of the term. I go to the Skeena drainage precisely because it is NOT crowded. On an international yardstick, it is not crowded. Recommend do not alter the current management regime. Redirect the time and money involved in this plan toward conservation of fish stocks. Without them, no one can go fishing, and no business can be had.

Agree Classified should begin earlier here but not necessary later. Hate any 'must be guided' rule.

Essential to implement proposal and protect fish.

Limit guides to 2 anglers instead of 3.

These are sound ideas. However, again if non-residents were only allowed to fish 5 days you would drive many away.

This is a blatant power grab by a handful of guides! Please don't alienate foreign anglers - the Skeena system needs international support to defend itself from commercial fishermen and Big Oil.

I am a US citizen. I have fished BC for 25 years. Most of the time has been guided, except the last 8 years. I have guided in Colorado. I know the correct and proper way to fish. Now, you want to take away my real true love of nature... camping, alone, with a partner, and fly fishing for the world's finest species. I have spent thousands of \$, over this period. I turned 80 last August. Will I ever get a chance to see 'my' spots again?

The flip side: The economy is going to hell. Unless corrected, BC businesses will go bankrupt, the way your programs are set up. I think you have gotten 'a lotta bit' greedy...and many of my friends up there will suffer. It is a shame!

Rotate "turn over day" for guides. No requirement for non-residents to be guided.

Work together. Make it fair for everyone, i.e. appropriate # on guided rod days, one boat per guide, per day, with 3 anglers per day. No lottery! Do MoE Review on the rod days, both for guided and non-guided non-residents.

Upper Copper.

This river should not be guided only! 6 of the 8 on the working group are guides or ex-guides giving a huge bias to any argument that is put forward. Over crowding is rarely an issue and the working group is only protecting their own interests.

I have spent a moderate amount of time on the Zymoetz I section, usually 3-4 days per season over the last 5 years. Access is limited but I have rarely encountered other fisherman. I have, however, heard of resident anglers keeping Coho and fishing above the restricted boundary. Suggest some enforcement.

Guides should be able to work as often as possible regardless of non-res. being guided or not. If people can afford to be guided then they

will book a guide, if they cannot afford it they will not book, regardless of non-res. must being guided by law.

I've been coming to the Zymoetz for more than 20 years and have never experienced crowding. Please dispense with the crap we all know that the actual number of anglers on the river has fallen with more than 50% over the last 5 years. This is a sham and the so called crowding is something invented by greedy Guides. We who actually fish the rivers have quite a different experience. The only thing that there is crowding of on the rivers are the guides jet boats.

Here is a shining example of selfish opportunism on the part of guides.

I am not sure if you could make this anymore one sided. If you do not want me to come up and fish then come out and say it. You are not limiting user days but instead increasing user days for guides. The only people who are giving anything up are the non-residents. Some of these guides only guide 60 days a year and you want to allow 50% more user days to guides. The next thing you will be doing is limiting the residents when they start complaining that there are no fish and you already limited the non-residents.

Again to save steelhead water and fish we need to show the government that the sport fishing opportunities out weigh the harvesting economy and limiting days does not help show this.

There are not sufficient steelhead in the Zymoetz from August 1st to make a viable steelhead fishery! These proposals are a joke!

They are called guides not gods. Guides do not own a river. These proposals make it their personal playground. I would be in favor of Resident-Only Days on this portion of the Zymoetz.

I am extremely concerned about the pro-guide stance of these questions. As a former guide myself, I understand that 'guided fishing only' enhances their revenue. However, through the years I've changed my views on limited access to fisheries-- particularly where 'catch & release' regulations are enforced. We will loose all steelhead unless there is an abundance of concerned anglers and a broad and extensive economic interest in sport fishing. While limiting

access may benefit a few anglers in the short run, limiting participation in the long run can only reduce the influence of sport anglers as opposed to other (and far more damaging) impacts such as commercial fishing, logging, mining and other forms of development...

No guiding on the copper! Use the Thompson system!

You are driving the sport of fishing for steelhead to an elitist sport as it is in most places in Europe. Shame on you. Shame on the commercial interest. Shame on the guide. So much for the common man...You are eliminating any opportunities that I would have to freely visit your country to fish for steelhead. The best thing to do is to eliminate all commercial fishing for steelhead or any commercial fishing that would impact the entire projected run of steelhead.

Eliminate guiding in the Skeena System.

Should consider prohibiting fishing by boat access by non-resident and non-guided anglers.

The resource belongs to the people and the people bring the dollars to the communities. Restricting public access to public lands/waters and then giving some of that access to a guide isn't right in my book.

If a person, resident or non-resident, wants to hire a guide that is their call. If the management agency wants to set limits on use as it appears BC is doing with fisher days, then the guides should be soliciting for business amongst the licensees. They shouldn't be handed X amount of licences (fishing days). If they are as good as they profess, they should be able to find enough folks who want to book a trip with them.

Boats should be forbidden.

This quite a special stretch and you should not have to be guided to fish it! It is very tough to access without a helicopter and those that put in the effort should be allowed to fish it.

The upper Zymoetz is already hard to get to for non-guided anglers. Making it guided only would be very unfair to anglers who can't afford a guide. Extending Classified Waters season is a good idea.

Question 36. Two anglers per boat.

Easy to see who you chose for your steering committee.

Guide only? Who do you think benefits by this and why is that recommended. Was it because the guides make up a lot of the seats on these working groups? Is fishing about a person enjoying the outdoor experience anymore or is it all about the money? Seriously! think about it. Are the guides going to get their cake and eat it too? Who do these rivers belong to anyway? Certainly not me but definitely not the guides either. I'm sick and darn tired of watching money and greed take over everything. If this plan went through I would encourage everyone I know to never take their hard earned money up there again. What a joke!

This is a typical case of guides not wanting anybody in their water.

Even discounting mid-Nov through Dec as unworkable for guides, 10 days for an additional six weeks of guiding opportunity is punitively low and represents only another week and a half opportunity at most. This number needs to be at least 20. Or Kalum guiding needs to be extended beyond Oct 15 to provide viable business opportunities for area guides and an influx of non-resident money into the community from late October through, mid-Nov.

I have fished the road accessible part of the Upper Copper and it is limiting if numbers of angler are there. Open access above the bridge to the lake to allow more angling opportunity.

Should not privatize rivers by making them guided-only. While I am a non-resident alien I think this proposal would not be fair to Canadian citizens, many of whom have a voice in fishery issues due to the DFO being a federal agency. Considering the make-up of the members of the working groups (71% guides or former guides and the rest resident anglers) these proposals are not surprising but are self-serving.

See my comments at #7 above, as they are generally applicable here. I have fished the length of this river.

The idea to have guide-only regulations is preposterous and serves the members of the committee at the detriment of the local economy.

Giving guides ownership of a public resource is not going to protect the resource or decrease use. It will, however, allow only wealthy people to fish and decrease overall tourism dollars. I am skeptical that sport anglers who primarily practice catch and release have a major impact on steelhead populations. I will not spend my money in the communities that don't want me to visit. I strongly support additional dollars going toward conservation for steelhead through increased licence fees.

38 implies that this is a done deal. I think non-guided individuals help maintain the integrity of the guiding systems standards of excellence by providing a bit of competition.

Q48 Zymoetz II

No lottery system is needed for non-resident, non-guided anglers. Let them fish when and where they wish.

I believe that the fishing should be carefully guarded. However, for me who lives in Florida, USA, to spend the thousands of dollars to come up there to fish and then to find that I may or may not be able to fish due to a lottery or a guide would be unquestionably a NO. I would go on to Alaska and spend my money there before I would take a chance at Terrace.

Having fished there at peak time more than once there are some runs that get disproportionate attention, but there are very large stretches of the river that get almost no attention. Crowding is only an issue if one is a guide aiming to get sports into a particular spot.

267 guided rod days is unfair. Don't force non-residents to be guided. Camping on river for extended periods, not good. Limited day licence O.K. But no lottery.

Like the rest of the Skeena drainage, "crowding" problem does not exist according to common sense definition of the term. I go to the Skeena drainage precisely because it is NOT crowded. On an international yardstick, it is not crowded. Recommend do not alter the current management regime. Redirect the time and money involved in this plan toward conservation of fish stocks. Without them, no one can go fishing, and no business can be had.

Most sympathetic to resident's plight on this river. Rather see rotated restricted halves of system until actual use numbers warrant otherwise. Don't like seeing anyone eliminated. OK with those that can't give it a rest endure double crowding one day a week.

Along with Kispiox this gets more pressure than anywhere on the Skeena system.

Limit guides to 2 instead of 3 anglers.

Please don't alienate foreign anglers - the Skeena system needs international support to defend itself from commercial fishermen and Big Oil.

Rotate "turn over day" for guides, to spread out use. Give Residents only a Saturday or a Sunday. Do not implement a lottery for non-res, non-guided.

Use a limited-day licence, Do MOE Review of rod-days for both guides, and non-res. Make it fair.

6 of the 8 on the working group are guides or ex-guides giving a huge bias to any argument that is put forward. Over crowding is rarely an issue and the working group is only protecting their own interests.

I have never experienced illegal guiding but this is the location where I have heard of this being a problem.

I don't pretend to know what's best for the Zymoetz. It really is a conflicted fishery because it's an easy do-it-yourself fishery where the services of guides are hardly required.

You want the non-resident to support the economy but not give them any choices.

As for Zymoetz 1.

The proposal for no guiding on weekends becomes mute when their allocation is increased by 150 rod-days. Guides wouldn't be giving up proportionately to Non-Residents.

I am extremely concerned about the pro-guide stance of these questions. As a former guide myself, I understand that 'guided fishing only' enhances their revenue. However, through the years I've changed my views on limited access to fisheries-- particularly where 'catch & release'

regulations are enforced. We will lose all steelhead unless there is an abundance of concerned anglers and a broad and extensive economic interest in sport fishing. While limiting access may benefit a few anglers in the short run, limiting participation in the long run can only reduce the influence of sport anglers as opposed to other (and far more damaging) impacts such as commercial fishing, logging, mining and other forms of development...

No guiding at all use the Thompson system.

Also, when the Bulkley goes out, with all the other rivers, the only fishable water is the upper Bulkley and the Morice. Any limitation on anglers would have them sitting around doing nothing for days if not longer.

You are driving the sport of fishing for steelhead to an elitist sport as it is in most places in Europe. Shame on you. Shame on the commercial interest. Shame on the guide. So much for the common man...You are eliminating any opportunities that I would have to freely visit your country to fish for steelhead. The best thing to do is to eliminate all commercial fishing for steelhead or any commercial fishing that would impact the entire projected run of steelhead.

Eliminate the guides off of this system.

I often fish the upper section of the Copper via guide and helicopter. This is incredibly small and fragile water. I am therefore in favor of making the upper copper primarily a guided experience.

Boats should be forbidden.

Perhaps, through increasing the Classified Waters period, and making it more expensive to fish the Zymoetz, you will eliminate the non-resident, non-guided anglers who are 'cheaper', maybe some of the guys who want to camp out, cook their own meals, etc. Of course, the non-guided, non-resident anglers who are staying for extended periods in Terrace are going to benefit the community the most. They will be staying in motels, eating meals in restaurants, renting cars, buying fishing tackle, shopping at liquor and grocery stores. By implementing a limited day licence lottery on them, you are misguidedly eliminating those angling tourists who will spend the most money in the community. The Zymoetz River is unique with its abundant accessibility. It,

above the other rivers in this survey has the greatest appeal for the non-guided, non-resident angler. Why not capitalize on it's great appeal, and design a management plan that will benefit the community, not just a hand-picked group of greedy guides. How about limiting the angling days of the guides (rather than increasing their rod-days)? That would greatly reduce the angling pressure, would allow more tourists to feel welcome, and would greatly enhanced the Terrace economy. No, I don't think the decision makers chosen to come up with solutions in your one-sided Angling Management Plan would even consider our suggestions.

Andrew, who was on the committee, is a guide and not a resident. At least that is what he specifically told me!

Limiting the number of days each angler can fish the Zymoetz would be a good idea. If anglers could only fish 8 or 16 days per year on this river, they would be forced to spread out and avoid crowding on it.

The best thing to do is to reserve the Zymoetz River only for fly-fishing.

Limiting the number of days that we non-residents can fish annually would be OK as long as the days do not have to be consecutive. A lottery based system that is an eight-day consecutive licence would essentially shut us out due to the inconsistent nature of the river. Increasing the number of guided days as mitigation to the local merchants for the loss of revenue generated is ludicrous. Not everyone can afford a guide and many of us prefer to find our own fish regardless of the cost. Angler effort on the Zymoetz has declined steadily since 2000 due declining fish numbers. 2008 was an exception but increased effort to protect the runs of steelhead would make more sense.

Unlimited duration, but limited consecutive-day licences, capped after total angler use is reached (tracked by e-licensing), would be a better compromise for sustaining local economies and spreading non-resident angler use across waters and throughout the classified period.

The Copper is one of the most easily accessed rivers so people can spread out. I fished it a few days this season both early and in the middle and

found similar numbers of anglers both times. I wouldn't call it crowded.

Should not privatize rivers by making them guided-only. While I am a non-resident alien I think this proposal would not be fair to Canadian citizens, many of whom have a voice in fishery issues due to the DFO being a federal agency. Considering the make-up of the members of the working groups (71% guides or former guides and the rest resident anglers) these proposals are not surprising but are self-serving.

Crowding is not the issue that is once was on the Copper. You are in essence taking money out of the local economy and putting it in the hands of guides - without reducing crowding.

In addition, the process is flawed because local businesses were not part of the strategy development. This is very shortsighted in light of economic circumstances. Raise fees, don't limit anglers.

Q56 Kitsumkalum

I believe that the fishing should be carefully guarded. However, for me who lives in Florida, USA, to spend the thousands of dollars to come up there to fish and then to find that I may or may not be able to fish due to a lottery or a guide would be unquestionably a NO. I would go on to Alaska and spend my money there before I would take a chance at Terrace.

As a non-resident don't fish it. Don't mind especially as it is crawling with bears in the Fall.

Limit guides to 2 anglers.

Your plan will simply force non-residents to not come to BC. This will ultimately result in a business problem for local merchants and a bad reputation for BC. Not a wise move at all.

6 of the 8 on the working group are guides or ex-guides giving a huge bias to any argument that is put forward. Over crowding is rarely an issue and the working group is only protecting their own interests.

If you wish to reduce pressure ethically, simply rule out non-resident anglers altogether. Don't allow them to come under the condition that they be exploited by guides. Just tell them they can't come.

Main problem on Kalum is activity of certain guides.

I am extremely concerned about the pro-guide stance of these questions. As a former guide myself, I understand that 'guided fishing only' enhances their revenue. However, through the years I've changed my views on limited access to fisheries--particularly where 'catch & release' regulations are enforced. We will lose all steelhead unless there is an abundance of concerned anglers and a broad and extensive economic interest in sport fishing. While limiting access may benefit a few anglers in the short run, limiting participation in the long run can only reduce the influence of sport anglers as opposed to other (and far more damaging) impacts such as commercial fishing, logging, mining and other forms of development...

You are driving the sport of fishing for steelhead to an elitist sport as it is in most places in Europe. Shame on you. Shame on the commercial interest. Shame on the guide. So much for the common man...You are eliminating any opportunities that I would have to freely visit your country to fish for steelhead. The best thing to do is to eliminate all commercial fishing for steelhead or any commercial fishing that would impact the entire projected run of steelhead.

Eliminate all guides.

I have never fished this river but would like to. However, there are so many GUIDED anglers before 15 Oct, that I can't find a run open!

Most pressure on this river is from guided fishermen. Limit the number of guided fishermen on the Kalum and the crowding problem will go away. Access is hard enough on the river for the non-guided angler, so no limitations should be placed on the days non-guided anglers can fish. If guiding is going to be limited as proposed, in fairness, the guide season should be extended to Nov 15. Stopping the season at Oct 15 puts an undue burden on the guide operations to find other quality steelhead opportunities in the region between Oct 15 and Nov 15.

Should not privatize rivers by making them guided-only. While I am a non-resident alien I think this proposal would not be fair to Canadian citizens, many of whom have a voice in fishery

issues due to the DFO being a federal agency. Considering the make-up of the members of the working groups (71% guides or former guides and the rest resident anglers) these proposals are not surprising but are self-serving.

You are in essence taking money out of the local economy and putting it in the hands of guides - without reducing crowding. Non-residents should NOT need to have a guide to fish BC waters, period.

In addition, the process is flawed because local businesses were not part of the strategy development. This is VERY shortsighted in light of economic circumstances. Raise fees, don't limit anglers.

Q61 Lakelse

No lottery needed.

I believe that the fishing should be carefully guarded. However, for me who lives in Florida, USA, to spend the thousands of dollars to come up there to fish and then to find that I may or may not be able to fish due to a lottery or a guide would be unquestionably a NO. I would go on to Alaska and spend my money there before I would take a chance at Terrace.

Probably would fish with a guide only on the Skeena due to size. Don't have good info on crowding.

6 of the 8 on the working group are guides or ex-guides giving a huge bias to any argument that is put forward. Over crowding is rarely an issue and the working group is only protecting their own interests.

Again, just rule out non-resident anglers. Don't figure out how to give them a bad deal while trying to extract money from them.

This is off the wall. Who fishes the Lakelse in July and August? Almost nobody, apart from the locals who jig for pinks off the logging bridge at weekends. How many class 2 licences have been sold in July & August for the last 5 years? This proposal is unbelievable.

I am extremely concerned about the pro-guide stance of these questions. As a former guide myself, I understand that 'guided fishing only' enhances their revenue. However, through the

years I've changed my views on limited access to fisheries-- particularly where 'catch & release' regulations are enforced. We will lose all steelhead unless there is an abundance of concerned anglers and a broad and extensive economic interest in sport fishing. While limiting access may benefit a few anglers in the short run, limiting participation in the long run can only reduce the influence of sport anglers as opposed to other (and far more damaging) impacts such as commercial fishing, logging, mining and other forms of development...

You are driving the sport of fishing for steelhead to an elitist sport as it is in most places in Europe. Shame on you. Shame on the commercial interest. Shame on the guide. So much for the common man. You are eliminating any opportunities that I would have to freely visit your country to fish for steelhead. The best thing to do is to eliminate all commercial fishing for steelhead or any commercial fishing that would impact the entire projected run of steelhead.

This river is too close to Terrace and is always clean in rainfall events you need to keep it open to the public all the time. Terrace will lose tourist/fishing money if it's restricted. It is the local Terrace fly shop's bread and butter river.

If the Kalum and Lakelse are closed to non-resident anglers, spring non-resident anglers who visit Terrace will be restricted to the lower Zymoetz and Skeena. Seems irrational.

Should not privatize rivers by making them guided-only. While I am a non-resident alien I think this proposal would not be fair to Canadian citizens, many of whom have a voice in fishery issues due to the DFO being a federal agency. Considering the make-up of the members of the working groups (71% guides or former guides and the rest resident anglers) these proposals are not surprising but are self-serving.

All for one and one for all if you place a lottery on one area it has to be done Skeena wide.

Q68 Skeena IV downstream from Kitwanga Bridge

Increases in classified waters fees makes fishing these rivers accessible only to the wealthy non-residents.

I believe that the fishing should be carefully guarded. However, for me who lives in Florida, USA, to spend the thousands of dollars to come up there to fish and then to find that I may or may not be able to fish due to a lottery or a guide would be unquestionably a NO. I would go on to Alaska and spend my money there before I would take a chance at Terrace.

It is painfully obvious to see that the gist of this is to give greedy guides more rod days and N.G.N.R's less access!

So, the outfitters and guides make lots more money at the expense of all the other small business owners in their community: sporting goods stores, gas stations, restaurants, motels, grocery stores, tackle shops, banks, etc.

Doesn't sound like a fair deal to me.

Make sections for daily use with limited access.

No need for Class I Classified Water in this section of the Skeena. See Bruce Hill's letter to the Premier, dated 11/24/08.

See no need to manage this area now. This is a wonderful place but it ain't class 1 wilderness.

See comments above. If you don't want non-residents just say so, rather than these arbitrary and capricious discriminatory rules, that tells non-residents you really only want their money, and not their presence. Catch and release steelhead fishing is not for everyone you have to love the sport to spend the money flying to the Skeena area, spending the amount for a 8-10 day trip, and be rained out, or not drawn in a lottery. Reality is no one will risk the inhospitable environment. What's wrong with live and let live??

Again need to prevent crowding.

With many family and friends living in the area, I worry about the impact on the local economy if tourism drops off.

Additional launches between Terrace and Kitwanga are needed to facilitate the use of drift boats and would spread out those fishing this stretch of the Skeena. This would lessen the need for powerboats as well.

Stricter restrictions should be placed on the salmon commercial fishery, not on anglers. Sounds like the lottery will be the outcome of this. Please don't restrict anglers choice of week to fish. If there are too many regulations and increased government management, (which increases angler cost) my friends and I will choose another fishing destination.

General Comment. I have spent roughly \$27,000 annually directly in the Smithers area fishing for steelhead. While this is probably at the high end I doubt if I am alone. Some of the suggestions are good and most wouldn't affect me because I use a guide exclusively, however, making weekends available only to residents would probably change my habits.

More power hungry guide politics. Please don't alienate foreign anglers - the Skeena system needs international support to defend itself from commercial fishermen and Big Oil. I must confess I have misgivings about the make-up of the working groups - essentially all resident anglers and local guides. Where are the other local business owners who depend on NRAs who don't go the all-inclusive route? Are you sure you are considering all stakeholders?? If these provisions become law I can guarantee you would see a steep drop-off in the number of returning NRAs. That might be what the guides and lodges want, but it would not serve the interests of the fishery, or the long-term interests, economic and environmental, of the region. steelheaders must build a coalition if we are to face are real foes - commercial netters, Royal Dutch Shell, and others. this debate is divisive and framed in the wrong terms.

I do not agree with the lottery. Set a number of rod days on the river and when the number is reached the fishermen must find another river to fish.

No lottery! for non-resident non-guided.

6 of the 8 on the working group are guides or ex-guides giving a huge bias to any argument that is put forward. Over crowing is rarely an issue and the working group is only protecting there own interests.

Obviously these suggestions only benefit the guides who designed this idea. Come on!!

Some of your comments are way off base and will result is a dramatic loss of revenue to area businesses.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Draft Angling Management Plan - Skeena Quality Waters Strategy (hereafter referred to as The Draft Angling Management Plan).

By way of introduction, I am an experienced steelhead/salmon angler. I have fished for these species on most important waters around the world: steelhead from the Santa Cruz River in Argentina to Kamchatka steelhead rivers on most principal rivers in between including BC rivers (Skeena, Thompson, central coast, Vancouver Island, etc.) and Atlantic salmon in eastern Canada, UK, Scandinavia and Kola Peninsula. In other words, I have angled under a wide range of management regimes. In addition to my angling experience, I have been involved in salmon/steelhead conservation for over thirty years:

Director of the Steelhead Society of BC for a decade;

Founder of the Wild Salmon Center (www.wildsalmoncenter.org) a large, international salmon/steelhead conservation organization with programs around the Pacific Rim and directed the long-term Kamchatka Steelhead Project;

Chair of the FFF Steelhead Committee.

Publisher of The Osprey for 12 years and currently editorial advisory to that publication.

I appreciate the work that has gone into developing The Draft Angling Management Plan. I have responded on the form to several specific recommendations. Frankly, since I find the draft generally unsatisfactory, the response form fails to provide a mechanism to register my reservations. In the first place, comments on the response form are restricted to the options proposed by the drafting committee. These are not the only options. Restricting responses to these recommendations fatally undermines the utility of The Draft Angling Management Plan. Especially, unwise was the decision to exclude non-resident/non-guided anglers and local business interests in the process which leaves out two critical communities and skews the recommendations to reflect the interests of those

who participated (local guides and residents). The process specifically restricts stakeholders to those folks who live in Skeena country (not including non-residents who are property owners in the local communities). It goes without saying that the Skeena does not belong only to those who live on its banks. Further, it is completely unrealistic to depend exclusively on local anglers and guides to represent the interests and perspectives of those excluded groups particularly since the participants (guides and local anglers) view non-resident/non-guided anglers as the problem. Finally, based upon the solutions proposed, those who drafted The Draft Angling Management Plan appear to have been indifferent to the economic interests of their fellow citizens.

If non-resident/non-guided anglers are The Problem, some provision should have been made by the MOE for structured in-put from this segment of anglers which would have produced a more workable plan. Based on my conversations with hundreds of non-resident anglers, I am confident that The Draft Angling Management Plan would have found useful suggestions from this angling segment what would work for them, how to maintain their support for Skeena conservation, etc. Angler density on the Skeena is partially a result of province-wide mismanagement of BC steelhead resources. MOE annual angler surveys show that there are actually less anglers for steelhead today than twenty years ago. However, because virtually all other BC steelhead stocks have collapsed, the remaining anglers go to Skeena country in September and October rather than fishing closer to home Thompson, Vancouver Island streams, etc. Further, in spite of promises to the contrary, commercial interception on the Skeena remains a major conservation issue. The Draft Angling Management Plan takes no account of these critical issues.

The process appears to assume that the only stakeholders live in Skeena country.

The almost exclusive focus on an eight-day lottery as the solution fails to take into account many other options:

Gear/method restrictions such as no fishing out of boats, artificial lures only, fly fishing only and so on;

Establish guide free areas such as on the Thompson River. In my experience, guides and

guided anglers are often the loudest complainers about crowding because they are paying to fish and feel that the non-guided anglers (resident as well as non-resident) detract from what they are paying for. I recall an incident on the Dean River many years ago. I was camped on dangerous rapids which guides required their anglers to walk around while the guide ran the boat through the rapids. A non-resident, guided angler responded to my friendly hello with, "The problem with you is that you are here". Weighting angling opportunity towards more guided anglers as The Draft Angling Management Plan appears to favor is almost certain to foster this sort of hostility on the river with resulting bad behavior;

Weekend closures for guided and non-resident anglers on specific stretches of individual rivers;

Different management zones on individual rivers, such as used on the Gaspé Peninsula rivers. Some stretches are open for lotteries conducted months in advance; some stretches open for lottery on three day advance; some stretches open to anglers at large; daily sales of lottery tickets that have not been purchased by the winters and so on;

The Draft Angling Management Plan cites the lottery system on the Dean River as a success. I have fished the Dean under this plan since its inception. The MOE should take note that the number of anglers of all types (resident/non-guided, non-resident/non-guided and guided) have declined because the MOE has failed to protect the resource. There are less anglers of all types now because the Dean steelhead run is a faint shadow of the run that existed 25 years ago--this on a wilderness river with pristine habitat. You know what the problem is but fail to address it. The same situation applies on the Skeena. Similarly, Atlantic salmon angling is dominated by the very wealthy non-resident anglers and therefore lacks broad political support for conservation. The status of Atlantic salmon throughout their range speaks volumes about the efficacy of this approach. Why would it be different in BC with steelhead? An eight-day lottery system and emphasizing guided non-resident angling will not solve the underlying problem and may well sever the relationship with non-resident anglers who have made their own, complimentary conservation efforts in the watershed.

The Draft Angling Management Plan aims at dramatically reducing the number of non-resident/non-guided anglers with a concurrent drop in tourist business in the local community. It is certainly fair to ask if this goal shared by the local community and the Province at large. How will The Final Angling Management Plan incorporate their interests and concerns? A brief examination of the connections between steelhead abundance, non-resident anglers and local economic well being in Spence's Bridge would certainly raise some cautionary flags.

General lack of enforcement, especially regarding illegal guiding is mystifying. I am astonished that this remains an issue. You know who they are yet the MOE does nothing to terminate this annoying practice.

I spend a lot of money on Terrace BC tourism annually. I live upon world-class saltwater sport fishery in USA. Management of striped bass fishery has been beneficial to fish and angler as one and nowhere was there a discrimination made about angler being resident or non-resident. Fish management needs to be directed to the environment, not the economic reassurance of local guides! Snobbery will get you nowhere in fisheries management and our dollars can be just as strong to the steelhead of South American waters once BC steelhead succumbs to mismanagement though we all agree we should protect BC steelhead and not the pockets of the guides there.

On a totally different note let me add to this questionnaire. I have been coming to the Skeena area fishing for steelheads for many years. Some years back there was the beginning of some crowding on the most popular stretches of water, this has since all but disappeared.

I travel with 3 friends and we normally use in the neighbourhood of CAD \$ 5000 each during our stay. When this discussion about mandatory guiding and lottery was first brought to our attention last year we had a discussion whether to come or stay away. You need to know that a month long trip with 4 participants is not something you organize in a matter of days. We normally start the planning as soon as we return from our trip. We decided to go this year 2008; we will not be coming back.

We will miss the many friends we have made over the years, but we will not be made the scapegoat for the perceived problem of overcrowding and the decline in steelhead return. The problem is not the non-guided non-resident aliens; the problem is the greed of the guides and the grossly incompetent management of this unique and irreplaceable natural recourse.

Cut to the chase: figure out where it is believed non-resident anglers are the problem and disallow them from those waters. Don't try to run them through the guide industry. This will allow non-resident anglers to more quickly understand their status here.

I am perplexed that your overall fisheries management system is failing and you cannot see the forest through the trees. Can you not learn from the mistakes of your neighbor if a business or industry is failing you do not bail it out by looking to secondary participants tax payer in the US and Non-resident anglers in BC. You must change the way you manage. The Ministry has been given ideas about in stream harvest, restrictions on netting at the Skeena mouth but the ministry is just continuing to listen to the guides. The guides are so short sighted that they think non-guided residents will come to them to fish the waters in the future with these new regulations. This could not be farther from the truth.

Please provide equal weight in your consideration to all the vested parties: non-resident anglers, resident anglers, restaurants, liquor stores, fly shops, hotels, airlines, airport vendors, rental car companies, cell phone providers, gas stations, grocery stores, clothing stores and guides.

The wrong restrictions are being recommended...locals don't own the rivers and this is not a plan that helps the rivers or the steelhead...just makes it nice for the locals...where good fishing exists people will come and if you eliminate the people coming to the Skeena system and the necessity for the sport fishing economy...you also eliminate the funding for the steelhead to help fight dams, pollution, netting, etc. then there will be no steelhead for the locals either...now is not a time to be selfish and have the Skeena all to yourself...it's a time to create funds to fight the man-made problems that are making steelhead disappear. Create a plan that helps resilient wild steelhead come back to

their previous numbers and it won't matter so much how many guides and fisherman are on the water.

This plan certainly lines the pockets of guides. Basically, guides get more days and non-residents get less. Now that's a real answer to over crowding. Charge more for the non-residents so that only the well heeled can fish through guides. I can't even imagine what the local businesses would say if they were actually part of the Group. I agree something must be done and you have elements of a solution. But this is very lopsided in favor of guides.

Who wrote this plan? the guiding industry by the looks of it.

Here again, most of these proposals don't make sense. You have stated a concern for over-crowding in the future, but ask to increase rod-days and guide opportunities for guides. Then put restrictions on non-residents. Rewarding guides and squelching non-resident opportunities. I don't know what the answer will be for the Skeena System, but I can tell you that an 8-Day Lottery System for non-residents is not it. Options will need to be flexible for residents, guides, and non-residents alike. If a river blows out for my 8-Day Lottery selection, what is a non-resident to do?? He certainly wouldn't have the options that a resident or guide would have! resident-only days may help, but is still comes down to misguided management practices. Limiting use, as I already have stated is a band-aid solution. When there is even less fish in the system, is British Columbia going to limit resident use? To disenchant a group and potentially lose their alliance doesn't make sense. These are people that the Skeena System needs. Many of them are the ones willing to spend monies and make the extra effort to take on the hard issues facing the Skeena River System. Thank you for your time in allowing me to present some of my opinions and concerns.

I am extremely concerned about the pro-guide stance of these questions. As a former guide myself, I understand that 'guided fishing only' enhances their revenue. However, through the years I've changed my views on limited access to fisheries-- particularly where 'catch & release' regulations are enforced. we will loose all steelhead unless there is an abundance of concerned anglers and a broad and extensive economic interest in sport fishing. while limiting

access may benefit a few anglers in the short run, limiting participation in the long run can only reduce the influence of sport anglers as opposed to other (and far more damaging) impacts such as commercial fishing, logging, mining and other forms of development...

Open water, no kill, and if you want to limit any catch, fly fishing only. This eliminates any need to control this large water. i am not suggesting fly fishing only because it is unfair to other anglers. it is used however in quebec on all atlantic salmon fishing waters.

You are driving the sport of fishing for steelhead to an elitist sport as it is in most places in Europe. Shame on you. Shame on the commercial interest. Shame on the guide. So much for the common man...You are eliminating any opportunities that I would have to freely visit your country to fish for steelhead. The best thing to do is to eliminate all commercial fishing for steelhead or any commercial fishing that would impact the entire projected run of steelhead.

Crowding is not the real issue - Commercial netting is - please focus your efforts on the real issue - angling pressure is declining with run strengths.

It is an idea increase fee of ticket for non-resident and non-guided. Should consider prohibiting fishing by boat access by non-resident and non-guided anglers.

But critical things are commercial fishing at month. Many steelheads are in net with Coho. See the result when stop fish net at mouth. BC has still good resource, so the point of discussion should be how manage the resource.

I also agree you become strict for fishermen. I heard most of fly fisher are using regular hook in Skeena Tributary. I have been checked twice in ten years by rangers, only twice! Why you do not check hooks and tackles of them? Some guys using trailer hooks, they were from US. I never do that. I am very serious about nature so never think make it bad. I am commenting a lot about these manners in my website because I do not see stupid Japanese anglers over there. You know, basically people want fish, if they struggle with fishing; they easily become rude to regulation. I see bad manner Italian and Austrian who never care rationing angling which is never amused. I

understand how guides and local anglers feel. So I never open certain fishing hole in my site, just try to introduce how the fish and country nice in a world. I never hope stupid greedy Japanese dominate steelhead waters. I prefer to fish alone. Hope you open your water to us who has good attitude to nature and steelhead. If there is something I can help, I try to do it.

I can't believe that you are trying to increase the guided days. The "crowding" of all your rivers is due to the guides showing their clients where they should fish!!! (with or without help).

Why would an increase in guide-rod days be a good idea if crowding is an issue? I would think that limiting the number of guided days would help the crowding issue.

The guides are trying to monopolize the whole system!

Mandatory steelhead stamp ok only is they are always available. No shutting down the fishery because no more stamps are available!

Unlimited duration, but limited consecutive-day licences, capped after total angler use is reached (tracked by e-licensing), would be a better compromise for sustaining local economies and spreading non-resident angler use across waters and throughout the classified period.

I travel to BC for steelhead every second year. I expect inclement weather and am flexible where I fish accordingly. With the restrictions being touted in this draft my continued support to the economy of Northern BC would cease. It would make it untenable for me travel there which I suspect is the aim of many of the QWS Committee.

Should not increase guide licences. The main reason for any increase is due to shutting out non-BC residents from the rivers. This is self-serving and should be expected considering the makeup of the working groups.

You are in essence taking money out of the local economy and putting it in the hands of guides - without reducing crowding.

In addition, the process is flawed because local businesses were not part of the strategy development. This is very shortsighted in light of

economic circumstances. Raise fees, don't limit anglers.

As previously stated I will not be spending my money if these recommendations are implemented. Good luck with protecting your steelhead rivers after you disenfranchise strong steelhead conservationists throughout the world.

Appendix J Non-resident Canadians: Response Form comments

Q07 Kitsequecla and Kitwanga

This would destroy my present rights and freedoms. This system seems to me as a protectionist system for a few.

Why use these two rivers in this survey? If the plan is to use the "answers" or information gathered and apply it to other rivers, this response form is invalid.

If you create a lottery it means that people who travel have only one option should heavy rains blow the river out what are the options then. This would eliminate anglers like me from the fishery.

This is clearly a money grab for greedy guides, shame on you BC shame on you. Think if all provinces started to regulate the waters as your province is suggesting. I feel the tourist dollars will be happily spent elsewhere if this AMP goes through. This year myself I am fishing the South Pacific rather than steelhead waters of BC. The cost is the same and I don't have to deal with the cold. Once I factor in more days I must pay for a guide the decision will be made easily.

5 & 6. Where does this "sense of entitlement" come from? What gives local BC residents the belief that the river belongs to them first and everyone else comes 2nd? I could accept a trigger of a 10-day licence and the 2 anglers per day but I DO NOT!! support the idea of the lottery that tells me when and where I can fish!

Also in regards to 1 person / day I feel Angler safety must be considered... i.e. wildlife attacks, trips & falls resulting in a broken leg/ankle or worse. And if the goal is to "increase the anglers enjoyment" then on a personal level I enjoy fishing with a friend that I can share that experience with. 2 persons in a group can also decrease mortality rates by utilizing 2 man steelhead landing techniques.

I feel non-residents of BC but residents of Canada should not be classed in the same group as Americans and Europeans. I am all for limiting pressure and do plan on fishing steelhead a few times in my life but I don't feel it is fair as Canadians to be classed as non-residents of a province and charged the same fee as if we were not from this country.

Q10 Suskwa

This would destroy my present rights and freedoms. This system seems to me as a protectionist system for a few.

This should not include non-residents, just aliens.

Allow Canadians a yearly-classified licence!

The river is not crowded at all!

8 & 9. Again I don't understand why resident's opportunity is decreased to begin with? On page 8, Bullet point 4, states that "resident anglers were not participating in the sport fishery. This is a "choice" made by the individual. Its not as if the Non-Res & the Non-Res Alien are taking all the licences and leaving nothing for the locals. A Non-Res does not have anymore rights to the water than a local person and cannot stop a local from being on the river, so stop crying about it, wake up early, get your rod, and get out there.

I feel non-residents of BC but residents of Canada should not be classed in the same group as Americans and Europeans. I am all for limiting pressure and do plan on fishing steelhead a few times in my life but I don't feel it is fair as Canadians to be classed as non-residents of a province and charged the same fee as if we were not from this country.

Q14 Skeena IV upstream from the Kitwanga Bridge

This would destroy my present rights and freedoms. This system seems to me as a protectionist system for a few.

This should not include non-residents, just aliens.

This is a massive river and no crowding issues, why implement more costs and complicate licensing. Increase the daily fees. Differentiate between non-resident Canadians and non-resident aliens.

11. I don't agree with the way Non-Residents and Non-resident aliens are painted with the same brush. All restrictions that are proposed seem to be directed at both Non-Resident (Canadians) and Non-Res aliens equally, However on pages 30 & 31 of the AMP, of the 10 "key points" that were presented, all ten of the points make reference to Non-Res aliens. The plan should

focus on aliens first and see if satisfactory results are achieved before placing restriction on fellow Canadians.

I strongly agree with a mandatory steelhead stamp. This is a useful tool for the conservation of the fishery. I strongly disagree with anything to do with a non-resident being grouped with a non-resident alien, and a lottery. I think the logical solution would be to limit the non-resident alien angler to a specific number of days on a given river. With the many rivers in the Skeena watershed this would spread out the non-resident alien and still provide them with angling opportunities. This would not drive them away not creating an issue with tourism. This would also solve issues with some illegal guiding from seasonal out of country guides.

I feel non-residents of BC but residents of Canada should not be classed in the same group as Americans and Europeans. I am all for limiting pressure and do plan on fishing steelhead a few times in my life but I don't feel it is fair as Canadians to be classed as non-residents of a province and charged the same fee as if we were not from this country.

Q18 Kispiox

If you want to preserve the steelhead fishery, you must do a better job of enforcement and regulate aboriginal fishing activities. The commercial fishery for Coho at the mouth of the Skeena must be suspended during the Steelhead migrations. Commercial logging must stay much farther back from the edges of all these rivers. These are the only ways you will gain what you have stated as an objective. These comments apply to each river under consideration.

This would destroy my present rights and freedoms. This system seems to me as a protectionist system for a few.

Non-residents Canadians shouldn't be grouped in with non-resident aliens.

The resident-only proposal (#17) is a self-serving policy that will only benefit local anglers and likely have negative effects on local businesses that rely on non-resident and NRA anglers.

#15 would be a more viable option if the proposed status quo zone (#16) was increased in length.

Increase the daily fees, maybe a lottery for aliens (like the Dean as in the proposal). Differentiate between non-res Canadians and non-res aliens.

15. I would agree with a 10 day licence but without the lottery.

16. I disagree with the creation of "zones" for a specific group of fish; I feel that this will only add to misconception that the water "belongs" certain groups (locals).

17. Again disagree with the concept on Resident only or priority. What makes someone who drives 12h from Vancouver any different than someone who drives 12h from Alberta?

-Zoning is not a good management idea as that way you create boundaries for all involved. With the limited rod days for the non-resident alien angler on a watershed you spread out a lot of potential problems on the Kispiox as most anglers are non-resident aliens.

- Resident only is a very slippery slope. Do you zone residents? This would just add to illegal guiding as well keeping guides to 6 days a week rather than 7 for the classified dates.

Non-resident anglers should be able to fish as per current regulations.

I feel non-residents of BC but residents of Canada should not be classed in the same group as Americans and Europeans. I am all for limiting pressure and do plan on fishing steelhead a few times in my life but I don't feel it is fair as Canadians to be classed as non-residents of a province and charged the same fee as if we were not from this country.

Q23 Babine

This proposal reeks of protectionism by guides and resident anglers.

This would destroy my present rights and freedoms. This system seems to me as a protectionist system for a few.

Non-residents Canadians shouldn't be grouped in with Non-resident aliens.

Differentiate between non-res Canadians, and non-res aliens.

This river is absolutely not crowded. Crowded mostly by Grizzlies! Two lodges act like river belong to themselves.

20. I agree with the "No Guiding" part of this recommendation but not the Resident only part.

21. I feel this recommendation should be altered as to not specifically target guides but create sections of the river that are no jet boats allowed.

22. I would accept this if the left over Rod Days were then put towards the non-res/non-guided anglers

What happens when the Nilkitkwa "blows" out? Non-residents get to fish mud? Not good enough for the money they bring to the table.

Reducing guide rod days will not be needed if you limit the rod days to the unguided non-resident alien.

I feel non-residents of BC but residents of Canada should not be classed in the same group as Americans and Europeans. I am all for limiting pressure and do plan on fishing steelhead a few times in my life but I don't feel it is fair as Canadians to be classed as non-residents of a province and charged the same fee as if we were not from this country.

The Ministry should consider the overall impact on the commercial interests in the area, and not limit access to non-resident steelhead anglers. Enriching a few guides should not be the priority of the Ministry, as it appears to be in the proposed management plan. When visiting BC from Alberta to fish, I spend an average of \$1000 per week in the local area, excluding guides. Consider the loss of tax revenue, licences fees and other expenditures when implementing new regulations.

Q28 Bulkley

If you want to save the steelhead fishing on the Bulkley, you had better do a better job of regulation enforcement, curb, control and enforce regulations governing aboriginal activity at Moricetown. Curtail commercial fishing for Coho during the time steelhead are moving into the Skeena system and establish larger riverside buffer areas that commercial logging firms must observe.

This proposal also reeks of protectionism by guides and resident anglers. In my experience the "crowding" referred to is greatly inflated. The impact of this proposal on local business will be huge and the "working groups" are trying to minimize it.

This would destroy my present rights and freedoms. This system seems to me as a protectionist system for a few.

Non-residents Canadians shouldn't be grouped in with Non-resident aliens.

#24 & #25 are short sighted and self-serving. They fail to take into consideration, that many of the local businesses (restaurants, gas stations, motels, B&Bs, etc.) rely on non-resident and NRA angler business. I realize that many of the locals are frustrated that more people are fishing 'their' waters but such extreme measures as the proposals listed under #24 & #25 would have many negative ramifications.

Raise the daily fees. Differentiate between non-res Canadians and non-res aliens. Limit guided days. (Why should partially American owned guide operations benefit over any Canadian?)

I never see crowding on the Bulkley runs I fish. What are you trying to do? Who is behind these proposed controls? I am a Canadian, a resident of Alberta, who has fished the Morice - Bulkley for many years, have never killed a Skeena fish or interfered with other fishermen. These proposed controls are fascist bullshit.

All Canadians are "resident" anglers. If you discriminate I will never spend another dollar in the region. Period. I can fish elsewhere (apparently this is the committees objective - be careful what you wish for).

24. I strongly disagree with this recommendation UNTIL there is a better description of the "zone area" at these places, i.e. 500 yards upstream and 500 yards downstream of the confluence?? How big is this so-called "zone"?

25. This recommendation would not affect me directly. However, if implemented, it would create a standard that could be applied later to other rivers.

26 & 27. I still disagree with the recommendation of a lottery system and by definition that is provided by the Working Group, it clearly states in 1.1 Quality Waters Strategy, paragraph 3 and again in 3.3, paragraph 2, that "the primary objective of the AMP is to establish the least restrictive measures possible. By agreeing with Option 2 (which is more restrictive and limiting than option 1) is to be in direct contradiction of the above stated objective. By definition of the "Primary Objective" the Working Group would have no choice but to use recommendation option 1.

A 2nd notable contradiction with this draft is page 5 -Executive Summary 1.0 -under the Quality Waters Strategy- paragraph 4 -states that "An AMP does not address steelhead stock abundance issues" but then under the Bulkley River, page 67, section 5.9.2 - Problems and Issues, point 7 states "A General downward trend in the abundance of fish." The AMP says that it wont address steelhead stock issues but then uses the statement about the downward trend in the abundance of fish to support their argument when it becomes convenient and self serving.

-As a suggestion why not try the creation of jet boat free zones? (for example, between Houston and the Hwy Bridge in Smithers). On multiple occasions during my trip on the Bulkley River, a guide with a jet boat would park his/her boat in waters that are easily accessed by Walker/Waders, trying to get their clients into a "last run of the day" fish which contributes to the "crowding issue." With access to all 141 kms of fishable river via jet boat, why do guides feel they need to fish in these spots?

Zoning is not the answer. Spread anglers out by creating more accessible water. From Smithers upstream to Houston there is lots of access. However from Chicken creek down to Trout Creek the access is limited. Create more boat launches/access points between Chicken creek and trout creek.

If it's just the Telkwa River you want to implement resident only then go for it.

No lottery is needed with the limited rod day for the unguided non-resident alien.

I feel non-residents of BC but residents of Canada should not be classed in the same group as

Americans and Europeans. I am all for limiting pressure and do plan on fishing steelhead a few times in my life but I don't feel it is fair as Canadians to be classed as non-residents of a province an charged the same fee as if we were not from this country.

Q32 Morice

Set limits and enforce them.

This would destroy my present rights and freedoms. This system seems to me as a protectionist system for a few.

Non-residents Canadians shouldn't be grouped in with Non-resident aliens.

Raise daily fees. Differentiate between Canadians and aliens.

I never see crowding on the Morice runs I fish. See #28 comments. Treat Albertans as we treat residents of BC

29 & 30 as stated above, if the "average use" option was recommended over the "high use" it would contradict the Primary Objective of the AMP that states its intent is to "utilize the least restrictive measures".

I feel non-residents of BC but residents of Canada should not be classed in the same group as Americans and Europeans. I am all for limiting pressure and do plan on fishing steelhead a few times in my life but I don't feel it is fair as Canadians to be classed as non-residents of a province an charged the same fee as if we were not from this country.

Q39 Zymoetz I

Guides are not credible participants in these discussions. Their ax grinding is misappropriated. We are talking about preserving a fishery not setting up special status for a self-interested group. From MacDonald Lake west, impose no fishing for eight miles from the west end of the lake.

This would destroy my present rights and freedoms. This system seems to me as a protectionist system for a few.

I am a Canadian. Does that mean anything to the extremely greedy guides of the Bulkley Valley?

Non-residents Canadians shouldn't be grouped in with non-resident aliens.

Give your head a shake guide only is all wrong. Why increase rod days when trying to manage over use. How about give back to all Canadians by no guiding, differentiate between Canadians and aliens.

Your data shows that non-resident anglers are the lowest users of the resource, yet they are the ones who will benefit least from this strategy.

Limit non-Canadians non-guided anglers.

The Above stated recommendation in regards to the Zymoetz I river, between questions 32 & 33, makes mention of "the sensitivity of habitat" which again contradicts 1.1 paragraph 4 of Quality Waters Strategy that states "An AMP is not intended as a conservation tool, and as such does not have in its scope the ability to prescribe conservation based measures." It is the responsibility of the AMP work within the guidelines that the working group agreed upon and not to add opinion in an attempt to strengthen their argument.

I feel non-residents of BC but residents of Canada should not be classed in the same group as Americans and Europeans. I am all for limiting pressure and do plan on fishing steelhead a few times in my life but I don't feel it is fair as Canadians to be classed as non-residents of a province and charged the same fee as if we were not from this country.

Q48 Zymoetz II

This would destroy my present rights and freedoms. This system seems to me as a protectionist system for a few.

In 2008, October 7-12, the river was not busy. One camper was observed on the 38 kms of river. I have fished Sept -Oct for the past 15 years as a non-resident. Crowded conditions peaked 3 to 4 years ago. The angling experience has improved since then. Suggest limit alien licences.

This is the system that I most enjoy angling on a eliminating the option for do it yourself trips makes it out of reach for many financially and for many others. Both resident and non-resident anglers alike share equal opportunities and it should remain that way.

Non-residents Canadians shouldn't be grouped in with Non-resident aliens.

One of the objectives at the top this page states: "...with a lottery system that "spreads" angler use evenly over the Classified Waters period". #46 is designed to purely benefit the guides. If we are "spreading" out the angler use then why do the guides need more rod days? I understand that the classified waters period would now be longer but about reducing the number of guides, or just spreading out the current number of rod days over the longer period of time. This would truly be a step to reducing pressure and enhancing the fishery. Guides would be justified in charging a premium for these days to ensure that they meet their revenue goals. It's simple supply and demand.

There should also be something in here to address illegal guiding.

I feel non-residents of BC but residents of Canada should not be classed in the same group as Americans and Europeans. I am all for limiting pressure and do plan on fishing steelhead a few times in my life but I don't feel it is fair as Canadians to be classed as non-residents of a province and charged the same fee as if we were not from this country.

Q56 Kitsumkalum

This would destroy my present rights and freedoms. This system seems to me as a protectionist system for a few.

More Greed!

Non-residents Canadians shouldn't be grouped in with Non-resident aliens.

#49, #55: Does the Kalum River belong to the residents of Terrace? It would certainly seem that way based on these proposed changes. Once again, I realize the frustration that some of locals must feel when "their" river is being crowded but these measures are excessive. I can't see local business owners supporting these proposals. Terrace is a hub for non-resident and NRA anglers who come up north to fish the many rivers in the area. These proposed measures are directly attempting to drive away non-resident and NRA traffic. At least the proposed measures on the Kispiox and Bulkley are subtle. This whole

plan is not conservation based (which I know is stated) but it does little to address enhancing the overall fishing experience but is merely a self-serving proposal put together by local anglers and the guide community.

It is absolutely not right and unfair to force non-residents to pay for guides they do not want or need. Making guiding mandatory is an excessive measure that does nothing to enhance the overall fishery. If there was a scientific explanation (conservation based) for this then perhaps more people would be willing to consider this. #49 really shows how self-serving and shallow this whole plan is.

If this was to go through, I really think that enforcement would be a huge issue. It would also lead to illegal guiding because the current rod-day allocation would not be able to satisfy the overall demand to fish the Kalum. Simply put, people would not be willing to be forced to pay for a guide.

Differentiate between Canadians and aliens the guides should be banned. They target spawning fish when conditions are slow for fresh fish. Mentality "have to get the clients something" bullshit.

* When the AMP states that resident opportunities are declining..." Is this based on factual based findings or popular "local" opinion? Please keep in mind "locals" may choose to "not participate in the fishery" due to the overlap of hunting season.

I feel non-residents of BC but residents of Canada should not be classed in the same group as Americans and Europeans. I am all for limiting pressure and do plan on fishing steelhead a few times in my life but I don't feel it is fair as Canadians to be classed as non-residents of a province and charged the same fee as if we were not from this country.

Q61 Lakelse

This would destroy my present rights and freedoms. This system seems to me as a protectionist system for a few.

Non-residents Canadians shouldn't be grouped in with non-resident aliens.

I feel non-residents of BC but residents of Canada should not be classed in the same group as

Americans and Europeans. I am all for limiting pressure and do plan on fishing steelhead a few times in my life but I don't feel it is fair as Canadians to be classed as non-residents of a province and charged the same fee as if we were not from this country.

Q68 Skeena IV downstream from Kitwanga Bridge

Sport fishing guides should not have a voice in the setting of government policy.

Placing that group in the capacity of "expert" is ludicrous. Yes, they are knowledgeable. No they are in no way impartial or objective. It is very much like asking the Japanese to be responsible for the regulation of whale hunting.

With regards to all the above: I am a Canadian Citizen and as such, it is imperative that you do not exclude me from a fishery that my tax dollars help to manage and provide for. I cannot understand such selfish policy that would see me treated the same as someone with no vested interest in this valuable resource i.e. non-resident alien.

If Canadians are excluded from this fishery (who just happen to provide the jobs and financial input for those who would exclude us!) then it will become a matter for the Federal Court to rule on. This is unconstitutional!

This would destroy my present rights and freedoms. This system seems to me as a protectionist system for a few.

Issue all the additional rod days you like. A lot of people talked to will not show up in the fall to fish the Skeena water shed at all. The Alaskans treat non-BC Canadians better than you, And that's where a lot of Canadian dollars will go.

Non-residents Canadians shouldn't be grouped in with Non-resident aliens.

If we are trying to manage overcrowding then why would you increase guide rod days. Yet also want to take away from everyone else. Differentiate between Canadians and aliens.

Rules for salmon fishing should be the same for all Canadians. Presently an American only pays a couple dollars more than an Albertan who pays a sh!t load more than a BC resident. Make the Americans pay.

Any resident of BC who has an Alberta fishing licence can fish the world class Bow River any time they want to. No \$20.00/ day classified water permit required.

64. All guides should have to conform to the same set of rules regardless.

I feel non-residents of BC but residents of Canada should not be classed in the same group as Americans and Europeans. I am all for limiting pressure and do plan on fishing steelhead a few times in my life but I don't feel it is fair as Canadians to be classed as non-residents of a province and charged the same fee as if we were not from this country.

Appendix K Guides: Response Form comments

Q07 Kitseguecla and Kitwanga

Charge more.

Nobody fishes these rivers. They are creeks.

These should be BC Resident only fisheries and if any Non-Residents are allowed to fish these streams they should have to be guided as pursuant to the QWS Resource Documents Hierarchy of exclusion clause.

Disagree strongly with resident only days or times or rivers...very self centered idea.

Why bother to manage for 1 angler per day...ridiculous effort for little effect.

Zoning of rivers with weekly rotation lottery fishing LEA for all provide access if necessary. "Quality Waters" is not qualified. A zoning of all rivers now will allow a better management of the resource. Zoning allows for a lottery of rod-days for all anglers to compete for. No group of anglers should be ostracized or prioritized. The fish should be the only priority. A lottery of all zones for designated times (i.e., 7 days) in conjunction with a rotation of the times (i.e., one week per zone), would allow a limited number of anglers and would give the fish a rest. On alternate weeks, the zones would be open (status quo). Without fish we have no need . . .

Q10 Suskwa

Creek not a river. If two anglers are ahead of you, you catch no fish. Not a viable or utilized fishery.

This should be BC Resident only fisheries and if any Non-Residents are allowed to fish the stream they should have to be guided as pursuant to the QWS Resource Documents Hierarchy of exclusion clause.

Again, disagree with resident only times, days, or rivers...too selfish and self centered...

Also repeat: ridiculous to go to this trouble to manage 1 or 2 anglers per day.

Q14 Skeena IV upstream from Kitwanga Bridge

Skeena 4 has no crowding issues. It is 200 yards wide and over 200 miles long. #11 & 12 are off

the charts ridiculous. Straight up a guide agenda/water grab.

This will not help the crowding at the confluence of the Skeena and Kitwanga. I would suggest moving the boundary down to the Skeena west bridge.

Same as #7

Q18 Kispiox

Think that if eight-day limit is implemented on the Kispiox that it should be implemented on all rivers. Major concern to all types of anglers that this will significantly increase pressure on other rivers...exactly the opposite of what you guys are trying to achieve.

Note that "status quo" zone will only work with proper public access. May have to move upstream boundary to the Forestry Recreation campsite at 40 kms on the road.

RE: 15. Is there enough days for the non-guided non-resident 14 is a little for a number I think.

RE: 17. This will push the whole industry of guides to use the weekend as change days, and put more pressure on the other rivers in the area on the weekends.

Kispiox has issues with crowding, but a fee raise will be the only effective way of balancing tourism and angling concerns.

Totally disagree with resident only times, rivers, days, etc.

From a guide perspective it is a short enough season already.

Q23 Babine

There needs to be a lottery for this river as well.

The salmon days from need to looked at that the Bulkley river lodge has.

Make a change to regs that says anglers can't be issued more than one 8-day licence and they are forced to return to town for licence. This would reduce crowding as it would double trip costs. Few would do multiple trips.

Perception of too many guides/guided days not backed up by statistics on resident usage. Res.

usage is limited by the wilderness aspect of the river and the technical boating requirements.

Do not agree any rationalization of guided days is required

Q28 Bulkley

I believe that if a lottery were to be placed that it should be done immediately. If the Kispiox eight day is to be implemented in the first year, the Bulkley should be as well. We will see a significant increase of anglers on this river if they are limited on the Kispiox. I feel that having an eight-day limit should apply on the Babine, Kispiox, Skeena, Bulkley, and Morice. Why not limit the amount of time each angler, non-resident and alien, can spend on each river fishing. I believe that this would be one of the simplest methods of spreading the anglers.

I like the idea that resident only fish on weekends at Chicken Creek, Toboggan, and Telkwa. Great to give the locals a break on all of this. However, should be regulated by river guardians at put ins or take outs just to get an idea just how many people are actually partaking. If numbers are consistently low, this should be reconsidered because this will increase pressure on other stretches of the river.

Non-Residents and Non Resident Aliens that have purchased property in any area to steelhead should be grandfathered. There are many great people that have bought properties here in the valley to enjoy what we all love. These people should be considered differently than folks that come for a couple of weeks whenever they can. Now, illegal guiding is something that I feel strongly against, and there are many times on the river where I can't help to speculate that this is the case. So, for those who have bought property here, let them buy an annual licence for this area, but restrict them slightly. I believe that it could be easily regulated by letting them have the right to fish here all season but they can only register a few friends that they can fish with when purchasing their licence. Maybe limit it to 5 friends who have to abide to the synopsis you create and create harsh consequences to those that hide more than their allotted 5 I believe that it would be a simple solution to keeping the landowners happy and controlling the amount of illegal guiding that happens on the water.

Not sure what the distinction between question 24 and 25 is . . .

I would like to see a trial lottery beginning in 2010 for a three-year period. After the crowding in 2008, that would definitely 'thin and spread' the crowds. If we wait for two years of crowding out of three years, we might wait forever.

We must protect the reputation of the Skeena system steelhead by bringing in regulations that provide a quality angling experience to all anglers, whether guided, resident or non-resident.

The committee has identified many of the problems we encounter on the Bulkley, whether we are guiding or just fishing and they must be applauded for that.

With any regulation changes, there must be an enforcement presence on the river during the fishing season. Cheaters (licence) are cheating everyone, not just the government.

The Bulkley (and Skeena) has become a cheap fishing experience, especially when the runs are good and opportunities are limited elsewhere. The cheap fishing experience does not put money into the local economy (or only to a very limited amount) and dilutes the available fishing. Camping at boat launches or in farmer's fields or on the river somewhere doesn't contribute locally. While we can't control the whole river, the town of Smithers can post no camping signs at Lunan Road and Chicken Creek and have the RCMP patrol every night during the fishing season (our tax dollars at work).

We must also tighten the procedures for issuing resident licences. Alberta has a WIN card system - a \$5 licence, valid for a 5-year period. Photo ID is required when applying and then this card and ID number is used to purchase your licences during that 5-year period. Some of the cheaters are purchasing resident licences, due to improper licensing procedures.

Illegal guiding - I pay a lot of money for my guide's licence. To see someone guiding illegally (and they are easy to see) and no enforcement of any kind sends the message that the Bulkley is 'open' and 'easy'.

Can we not re-define the term guiding and include examples of what is considered 'illegal'? and then

enforce it? e.g. rental of pontoon boats, drift boats, etc.(what is considered okay and what isn't). Taking 'friends' fishing - different friends every week - for the whole season. There are lots of examples.

I feel that we have to provide more angling opportunities for RA in more rivers in the region. The Babine River comes to mind - hard for RA to access the fishing there. It is not a private river, although it seems to be that. To do that, the province might have to provide written info to publicize 'new areas' for residents to try fishing.

To sum up, something has to be done and 2010 seems far away right now. In 2008, it was 'open season' and a 'free for all' on the Bulkley. Crowding brings about bad etiquette on the river and a bad reputation and our steelhead deserve better than that.

The area needs to be greater for the zoning for the resident-only the put-in/take-outs are not enough. They need a section of river.

The answer is simple raise the fees. That increased revenue should go back directly to the resource. NOT GENERAL REVENUE. That money could then be used for more of a presence of police on the river. Switch to licensing. We can make up all the complicated rules we want, but without someone to enforce the rule changes what is the point.

There are no fish early and it is too cold late for tourists. Saying the aim is to spread use is laughable. The aim with these regulations is to cap the peak. Period. No fish no fishermen. Too cold fewer fishermen. Hump in the angler usage will get more pronounced every year as early run steelhead are getting wiped out. This exacerbates the crowding issue. Only tool that will slide anglers is a more expensive prime time. Those that can't afford prime time push to shoulder weeks. This is positive for local economies.

24, 25. Disagree with resident only zones... most ng-nr's do not frequent the locales mentioned in any great numbers...no need to enact this measure at this time...

26. Agree measures to spread out usage in peak time only are required.

Two days with no guiding is too much restriction for guides, it is a short season and a 5-day week will not pay the bills for many guides. One day for resident anglers is something a lodge can survive.

Q32 Morice

Same as above. Feel that there should be only 8-day allotments for all of the rivers. Maybe the rod days should be reviewed. Wasn't there a mix up from day one anyways?

The days that Ray had are a double deal! That new Frontier owners have.

Impact for community tourism is severe with lottery tool. Not balanced. Pull it for Class 2.

The lodges on the Morice have limited licensing and further restriction would ruin their business. Business fluctuates and now we have a world wide financial crisis so business will slow down. It would be totally unfair to penalize guides in a recession. Rod days are paid for in advance regardless how good or bad business is. If you are worried about too much guiding you should welcome days that are paid for and not used.

Q39 Zymoetz I

Instead of increasing rod days for current guides, why not offer someone else the opportunity to obtain rod days.

The Class should be done for all rivers if you are going to do this it is about the fish and they don't leave at the end of Oct.

If you extend the classified period from August 1-December 31 then every rod day will cost guides more money up front. What happens if we have another flood or the economy keeps going downhill. I would agree to the classified period plus the limiting of guides on a per day basis and the limit per boat if we only had to pay for the days that we used. I do not think that the limit should be 10 days per guide if we are limited to three anglers per day. That is only a total of nine guided anglers. Why would we need an annual limit of days if we have a day limit and guided only. Nine guided non-residents per day is nothing. The resident angler will not be impacted with those restrictions. The overcrowding has been the non-guided non-resident.

Any rod day increase must be distributed fairly for the province. Giving away rod days worth \$

apiece is not fair for existing guides or the province. Guides should pay to play.

Not enough rod days for guides to operate reasonable businesses, and meet new demand from guide only regulations for NR and NRA. The existing 250-rod days have only 58 given out to guides and the remaining 192 should be divided evenly and be given out to the existing 3 guides.

33. Disagree completely.

34. Agree somewhat.

36. Could be 2 per boat, agree somewhat with the idea behind this 38. Agree somewhat, but believe it would be easier to manage just 2 guides. The smallest licence holder should have days/licence traded for some on another river. Managing 2 guides on Zymoetz 1 would make it much simpler. Having 3 mid size guide outfits will create crowding conflicts and lessen the wilderness experience. While having only 2 outfits allows easier coordination to avoid running into other guided parties.

38. New days not enough to accommodate 'guided only' for non-res AND extension of Class Period.

33 There are few fish in the upper Copper in August and few anglers so there is no need to classify and over regulate.

38. 10 days each is a joke!! There are only 3 guides and only 58 rod-days. How are the guides going to make a living on so few days?? They should receive 5 or 10 times the number of days you suggest

#36 should be 2 anglers/boat.

Q48 Zymoetz II

Instead of increasing rod days for current guides, why not offer someone else the opportunity to obtain rod days.

I would agree if we are going to be restricted to numbers of clients per day, no weekends guiding etc then we should only pay for rod days that we use. Our cost of doing business is increasing with less opportunity to guide. Paying for the rod days up front then being restricted when we can guide. We are cutting our own throat by agreeing to those kind of changes. I agree that there has to

be a limit of pressure on the rivers. Non-guided non-residents must be restricted to at least if not less then the amount of days that are set aside for guided anglers. I would agree to these changes if we only had to pay for days that we are using.

Any rod day increase must be distributed fairly for the province. Giving away rod days worth \$ apiece is not fair for existing guides or for the province. Guides should pay to play.

Not enough rod days to accommodate new classified season or run viable guide operations, also to restrictive for NR, & NRA. There should be a minimum 150 more rod days given out to each of the 5 guides to allow them to run viable guiding operations. NRA & NR should be given an open section of the of the Zymoetz II below 17km and restricted via lottery for the rest of Zymoetz II.

46. If guide usage is a concern, why give out more rod days to them?? This would be more than doubling the guided usage?

40. There is no need to classify the river beyond Dec 31, there are few fish and even fewer anglers after the first of the year.

43 Two days of non-guiding is too restrictive, guides need to be able to make a living.

45 This is BS; we are already restricted to one boat and willing to give resident anglers one day. Too many restrictions will ruin our businesses.

46 30 days is not nearly enough days for us to survive if you classify the river until the end of May.

Maximum 2 anglers per guide for #44.

Q56 Kitsumkalum

Maximum three per boat.

Same as Zymoetz. Will agree if we do not have to pay for unused rod days. #54 reducing Kalum licences to 11. One of the licences that is not being used belongs to me. These licences are part of our estate. These licences are worth a lot of money and I would like to sell this licence. If the ministry wishes to retire that licence then I should be paid market value for that licence. No guiding above Glacier creek on Saturdays and no guiding at all on Sundays. This reduces the time for us to use our rod days. What about opening the Kalum

to guiding a little longer to make up for the Saturday and Sunday restrictions. Change the guiding time to Guiding March 15- November 15th.

No reason to limit number of guides. Days are limited.

To short of a guide season need to extend the fall season until at least Nov 15, boat restrictions to tight to allow viable guiding businesses to operate on the Kalum.

Disagree with any resident only times, places...far too selfish and narrow-minded view of public resource.

These all seem like great ideas for quality angling

Maximum 2 guided anglers per boat for #51.

Q61 Lakelse

Way way to complicated. Make things simple. First increase fees for everyone. For example if a resident pays \$1 then a non-resident pays \$1.50 and an alien pays \$2. Non-residents should have a huge increase after 8 days. Then after 16 days it should double again. That would slow down the traffic without making it too expensive for residents. Implement licensing. That would automatically keep an inventory of who is fishing and when.

The rest of the rules that have been drafted up, I could not be in favour of any of them.

If there is no guiding on the Lakelse then there should be no non-residents on the river. Resident only all year.

Breaks the hierarchy of exclusion according to the QWS document with the 100 NR days and is not acceptable to me as a fishing guide.

57. Class 1 is saved for wilderness rivers with extremely high values.... This river does not fit into that category at all.

Q68 Skeena IV downstream from Kitwanga Bridge

The new days should go up for bid. Other group's lodges can get a chance.

There is plenty of room for more guiding opportunities in Skeena 4. 80 more rod days is next to nothing. Why is there going to 1000 non guided days and only 85+80=165 guided days?

Any rod day increase must be distributed fairly. Giving away rod days worth \$ apiece is nonsensical for the province and existing guides. Guides should pay to play. Skeena 4 has no crowding issues in my view. There are plenty of businesses and rod days for sale, those interested in expanding their business or working in another stretch of river need to realize it is not fair to buy Bulkley days for instance and expect to operate on the Morice. Rivers have been zoned the same way for at least 10 years.

This is a huge section of river with migrating fish; there is lots more room for guiding in this area. There should be a lot more new allocation than just 80 more rod days. A new zone should be created from Sedan Creek to the existing lower boundary with 5000 more rod days and 25 new licences.

62. This river also does not fit the Class 1 definition 66. Disagree with guides giving themselves more quotas... too much conflict of interest.

62. This is crazy!! It is not a remote section of river and does not meet the requirements for class one designation. The only time there is a crowding issue is August thru October.

63. Make the steelhead stamp mandatory in the classified period. This will eliminate gray areas and generate more revenue for the province.

66. If you classify the river year around this is not nearly enough days to survive on.

Appendix L Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date: Oct 29, 2008
 Time: 9:30 am
 Location: Prince Rupert

Number attending: 13
 Attendees: Elected officials and staff from all levels of government, anglers, commercial fishers, commercial fishing union representatives, First Nations commercial fishing organizations

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
All	Spreading out angler effort over Classified Water period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will not work because steelhead only in rivers for five weeks; will put increased pressures on the stocks • Will increase "snag" fishery for sockeye • Will this put more pressure on the commercial fishery to deliver more fish to the anglers? • Will this increase angler expectations of catching more steelhead earlier in the year? • Puts more pressure on non-steelhead species • Could exacerbate conflict between commercial and sport fishery • Could have an effect on aggregate stocks, which contain both depressed and healthy individual runs • Could actually result in increased effort 	
All	Eight-day licence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Problematic – if water "blows out," where can you go? • Eight days is too long 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at other jurisdictions for options — i.e., New Zealand: three-day licence, six casts and you have to move up the pool • Choose options that have added benefit of increase revenue <p>What about a "punch-card" eight-day licence? (Some don't like this; eight consecutive days is ok)</p>

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
All	Lotteries	How will caps be monitored?	
All		Guides are regulated and have an allocation and non-residents will have an allocation in regulation – but what about commercial fleet? Will guides be last ones on the river?	
All		If you only regulate certain rivers, effort will shift, i.e., from Kispiox to Bulkley	Should be cap on angler use for whole Skeena watershed
All		Impact of angler use on conservation	Need to have areas of the river with no angler use – sanctuaries for spawning, resting
Lakelse	Non-regulatory recommendations	Good – get people and jet boats off spawning beds	

Other Issues and Concerns
<p>Commercial/sport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disconnect between MOE and DFO • Prince Rupert community suffers because of sport/commercial conflict • Gill-netters release fish only to have them killed upstream – is this fair? <p>Conservation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Money generated from licence sales should go back to specific rivers and be used for conservation and enforcement • Why not use the WIN program, which was developed in BC and now used in Alberta? • Where is connection between angler use and effect on fish stocks? • Impact of mortality as a result of sport fishery; need to measure • Don't walk on spawning beds • Allocation must be based on conservation • Need to measure total effort and pressure of sport fishery and regulate • Need controls on how many fish anglers can catch • The more effort allowed in the sport fishery, the less available for the commercial fishery • Commercial fishery bears burden of conservation • Need for in-season management; too long a delay before management initiatives take effect <p>Other jurisdictions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • British experience – very difficult to fish; very expensive to fish <p>Enforcement /monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Albertans with PO boxes so they get illegal resident angling licences

Other Issues and Concerns

- Monitoring and enforcement very important
 - Bring back guardian programs
- Education
- Importance of etiquette – brochure?
 - Better fish identification needed
- Process
- Guides are driving process

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date: Oct 29, 2008 Number attending: 4
 Time: 6:30 pm Attendees: Resident anglers
 Location: Kitimat

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
All	Lottery	How seriously will the ministry take this tool? Will they implement it? Will they get e-licensing to do this?	
All		When you regulate certain rivers, the problem will move to another river. This is particularly a problem when unregulated rivers are near capacity, such as those that are suggested for triggers. Turbidity problems and blow-out are already causing people to move around; this is one more thing.	Need to regulate on a watershed basis. Do some flow chart forecasting and figure out where people would move.
All		This is about quality experience, not business.	Non-residents should be regulated
Kispiox	Status quo zone	If there are crowding problems, why is there a status quo zone? Crowding may be come even more extreme.	
Kispiox	Resident-only on Saturday	Excellent idea	
Bulkley, Morice	Triggers for when limited-day licence by lottery is invoked	Trigger identifies and solves the problem too slowly, especially in the electronic age, when as soon as the fish show up, the anglers show	Implement limited-day licence and lottery now.

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		up.	
Morice		Some issues were identified but not addressed.	
Zymoetz I, Zymoetz II	Extend Classified Water period by starting on August 1	Some support this; others think it will not address crowding.	
Zymoetz II	Extend Classified Water period to May 31	Don't support. Very little activity after October 31.	
Zymoetz I, Zymoetz II			Change boundary to downstream of Clore and make Clore part of Zymoetz I, which is Class I
Zymoetz II	Regulating non-residents	Why are we restricting non-residents and at the same time increasing the guide allocation?	Don't increase guide allocation
Kitsumkalum	All	Good model of appropriate regulation	Change to 3 guided anglers/boat from 4 guided anglers/boat
Lakelse	All	Support these	

Other Issues and Concerns
<p>Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don't agree with composition of Working Groups • If Quality Waters Strategy says priority is resident, guided and then non-resident, why are we consulting with business? <p>Overcrowding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for a definition <p>Guide rod-days</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should not be sold • Should be made available to young people in a fair process • Crown should retain ownership <p>Enforcement and monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Put River Guardians on Lakelse <p>Local economy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Real tourist dollars are in salmon, not steelhead • Poor quality angling experiences are turning people away

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date: October 30, 2008 Number attending: 3
 Time: 12:00 pm Attendees: Tourism, chamber of commerce, local
 Location: Kitimat government hopeful

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
All	Lotteries	Bad for tourism Should make it easier for more non-residents to come, not fewer	
All		Don't make it like the Miramichi in New Brunswick.	Moving people to lakes in area from rivers would reduce crowding

Other Issues and Concerns

- Enforcement
- Problem, need more
- Tourism
- Need maps that show people where to fish
 - Needs to diversify
- Process
- Terms of reference too restrictive

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date: Oct 30, 2008 Number attending: 3
 Time: 1:45 pm Attendees: Resident anglers
 Location: Kitimat

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
All	Resident-only zones and time periods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent acknowledgement of resident priority. But residents are restricted because they cannot fish for food (retention fishery). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catch and release should be reviewed in 2010 with idea that there might be a retention fishery?

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not consistent across waters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saturday preferred weekend day
All	Increasing guided rod-days to balance increased Classified Water period or because regulation changing to guided only	If non-residents reduced in future, rod-days need to be reduced too. If regulations revert to status quo in future, rod-days should revert to status quo	
All	Triggers	How will they be monitored?	
All	Limited-day licence	Length needs to be consistent across watershed	
All	Restricting non-resident Canadians	Concerned about restricting fishing by family members from other parts of Canada	Have a "permit to accompany" for family members similar to hunting
All	Restricting non-residents	Concerned about lumping non-resident aliens (non-Canadian) with non-resident Canadians	Should be a difference with fewer regulations for non-resident Canadians
East Working Group rivers	Distributing unused rod-days to local businesses or First nations	Do not agree with this	
Zymoetz I, Zymoetz II	Extending Classified Water period	Coho anglers will have to buy a Steelhead Stamp, which may make it appear like number of steelhead anglers has gone up.	
Zymoetz I	BC residents may need to be restricted in future	This is contrary to Quality Waters Strategy; guides should be regulated before residents	

Other Issues and Concerns
<p>Guiding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rod-days should not be sold; should belong to ministry All new rod-days should be for available to all Difficult for new guides to get into the business Problem with monopolies <p>Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of participation of anglers in process and in fishery because: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No kill fishery

Other Issues and Concerns

- Bait bans
 - Regulations need to be based on science
 - Gear restrictions
 - Businesses should not bully ministry
- Enforcement/monitoring
- Support River Guardian program
- Specific section so plan
- Section 3.5: Nothing on importance of sport fishing to residents, only talks about financial importance
 - Page 40, last paragraph: Residents should not suffer because of financial gain
 - Section 5.7.4: Define resident priority provincially
- No support for bait ban on Kitsumkalum
 Angling licences should be non-transferable

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date: Oct 30, 2008 Number attending: 13
 Time: 6:30 pm Attendees: Resident anglers, one media
 Location: Terrace

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
All	All non-residents lumped together	Not fair; non-resident Canadians should have priority before non-resident non-Canadians. Fee structure is set up that way.	"Permit to accompany," which is used in hunting, for relatives from other parts of Canada. (Need to be careful that it is not perceived as guiding.)
Zymoetz II	Resident only angling on weekends	If whole weekend presents problems if non-resident family members are visiting and want to fish on the weekend	
Kitsumkalum	Guided only for non-residents	No, non-residents should not be restricted. There are not a lot of non-residents and there is not a crowding issue, especially after January 1 (some disagreed with this saying when weather is good, can be crowded in winter). Too many guides.	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
Kitsumkalum	Reduce number of guides to 11 from 13		Revisit
Skeena IV below Kitwanga Bridge		No guiding from Kitselas Canyon to Gossen sub-division	
Skeena IV	Issue Terrace area guides 30 additional rod-days each	No rod-days to existing guides	Rod-days to new guides

Other Issues and Concerns
<p>Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to fish properly • How to handle fish • How to identify fish <p>Conservation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gear restrictions (hook size) to minimize harm to fish • Fish caught in Zymoetz I are being caught too many times <p>Enforcement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where are resources to enforce all these new regulations? <p>Monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Importance of this needs to be made known to Director of Fish and Wildlife <p>Boats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Like to reduce the number of boats in the upper Kitsumkalum

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date: Oct 31, 2008 Number attending: 12
Time: 10:15 am Attendees: Chamber of Commerce, tourism, local business, local government, MLA and MP staff
Location: Terrace

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
All	Kitsumkalum, Lakelse, Zymoetz I and II	"Cuts too deep"; Where would a non-resident fish?	
All		Fishing and tourism have declined – this will	Need economic impact study

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		not help; Need jobs People coming to area need certainty	
All	Non-resident regulations	People cannot fish with their family from outside BC	"Permit to accompany" would be an idea
All		Unconstitutional to restrict non-residents	
All		People who hear about plan will not come to fish here	
All		Where is perception of crowding coming from?	
All	Eight-day licence	Problem if river "blows out" or anglers want to spend a day or two ocean fishing	
Kitsumkalum		Do you need a guide to fish for Coho here?	
Kitsumkalum	Guided only for non-residents	Too restrictive	

Other Issues and Concerns
<p>Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for local business representation on Working Groups • Guide domination of process • Has been divisive • Stakeholder meetings were not well advertised (others disagreed) • Working Groups need to meet together to share ideas <p>Conservation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why not part of this process? • If licence vendors are filling out information, why isn't government collecting and analyzing the information? <p>Tourism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Businesses need to focus on what they are good at — catering to anglers • What kind of people are we trying to attract to the region? <p>Enforcement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May not have to deal with crowding if you had proper enforcement • Why not spend HCTF money on enforcement

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date: October 31, 2008
 Time: 1:00 pm
 Location: Terrace

Number attending: 11
 Attendees: Guides, one resident angler, tourism, chamber

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
All	Eight-day licence	Good; should stop illegal guiding even without a lottery	
All	Regulating non-residents	Family from outside BC should be able to fish	
All	Lotteries		Why couldn't the Limited Entry Hunting system be used for anglers?
All	Guide regulations	Why are their inconsistencies between the three Working Groups?	
Kitwanga, Kitseguecla	Trigger eight-day licence lottery	Should be guided only for non-residents	
All West Working Group waters		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only fair way to determine carrying capacity is by creel census • Looking at number of pools is not enough especially when boats involved 	
All West Working Group waters			Need economic impact study
All West Working Group waters	Daily management of anglers, eight-day licence lottery	Good	
Zymoetz I, II		Crowding not a problem here except in September - October	
Zymoetz I	Guided only for non-residents	Good	
Zymoetz I	Limiting number of boats and number of people per boat	Good	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
Zymoetz I	Increase rod-days of current three guides by 10 rod-days each	Brings total guide allocation for river to 88 rod-days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not enough, should be higher — 250? Allocation procedure should follow Quality Waters Strategy document
Zymoetz II	Extend Classified Waters to August 1 to May 31	Too long; no crowding in winter and spring	
Zymoetz II	Spread guide effort out over season	Does not agree	
Zymoetz I and II, Kitsumkalum, Skeena IV below Kitwanga Bridge	Increasing rod-day allocations	Should not go to existing guides	Should go to new guides wanting to get in the business, wanting to increase number of different rivers where they can guide, or wanting to break into the Classified Water “market”
Kitsumkalum	Closed for guiding October 15	Should not be	Open all year for guiding
Kitsumkalum	Guided only for non-residents	Too restrictive	
Lakelse		Should be residents only or guided only for non-residents	
Skeena IV below Kitwanga Bridge	Four new guide opportunities of 20 rod-days each	Too few rod-days; rod-day allocation not based on fishable water	Should increase number of rod-days (various options from 350 to 2,000 rod-days)
Skeena IV below Kitwanga Bridge			
Skeena	Eight-day licence	Have eight-day licence for Skeena I to V to spread anglers out	

Other Issues and Concerns

Process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There were not enough Working Group meetings Guides got “beat up” in Working Group process

Other Issues and Concerns

- Quality Water Strategy document not always followed; Summary Form (page 56) should be used, abide by hierarchy of exclusion and protection of historical guide use
 - Business person needed on West Working Group
- Illegal Guiding
- Still a problem
- Tourism
- Giving away the tourism experience
- Guiding
- If guide has historical use on a river and river becomes Classified, that guide should have first opportunity for the new Classified rod-days
- Funding
- Where does money go from angling licences or guide licences?
- Education
- Fish identification
 - Proper catch and release

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date: Oct 31, 2008 Number attending: 6
 Time: 7:00 pm Attendees: Non-residents
 Location: Hazelton

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
All	Eight-day licence and lottery	No flexibility to fit with holiday planning, especially in combination with weather and blow outs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need choices and flexibility (that's why many non-residents come at the end of the season when they can fish without restrictions) • Should be making it easier to accommodate non-residents • What about an eight-day licence that you can use anywhere anytime? • Will not come if lottery and eight-

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			day licence implemented
All		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where is crowding data? Don't believe crowding is a problem 	Angler etiquette is a solution to the crowding problem
Kispiox	Status quo zone	Will concentrate crowding	Rotate location

Other Issues and Concerns
<p>Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meetings purposefully times so difficult for non-residents to attend Guides in Idaho do not have a say in managing the rivers <p>Guides</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only people who have treated us badly on river <p>Conservation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercial fishing issue Scientific studies It's about the fish; without fish, what's the point If there are no fish, no one will come <p>Enforcement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need more <p>Dean River</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No fish People who cared have gone Don't want this to happen to Skeena

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date: Nov 1, 2008 Number attending: 4
Time: 10:30 am Attendees: Resident anglers
Location: Hazelton

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
All	Lotteries	Could be better explained in draft plan.	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		How will everyone know when a target is reached? Will the ministry be able to implement lotteries through e-licensing?	
All		Where will anglers go if regulations increased on the Kispiox? What impact will that have?	
All		Need for consistency in how guides are dealt with. For example, guides were regulated quite heavily in the West Working Group and not at all in the Central Working Group.	
All		Should non-resident Canadians and non-residents, non-Canadians be treated equally?	
All		Consider more spatial management alternatives as well as temporal (over time) Improved consistency between Working Groups	
East and Central Working Group rivers		Suggest no guiding on Saturday and Sunday for both these areas.	
Suskwa	Lottery	Should have eight-day licence and lottery now and not on a trigger	
Skeena IV above Kitwanga	Eight-day licence lottery / zones	There needs to be separate lottery for each zone; otherwise people could all be in one place rather than spread out	

Other Issues and Concerns
Monitoring and enforcement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bring back the River Guardian program'

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date: Nov 1, 2008
 Time: 1:00 pm
 Location: Hazelton
 Number attending: 38

Attendees: Local businesses, resident anglers, elected local government officials, MP's staff, one media

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
All			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People need to be part of the solution • They could just choose to not go to an area if it were crowded
All			Need an independent, economic impact study
Kispiox	Eight-day licence lottery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not support • Some visitors need over a year in advance to book their trip to Canada • How could a group of four come on a holiday together? • Average guest stay at one hotel is two weeks and they fish all over the place • If plan goes through, guides will have guaranteed days, they will be a winner, but many accommodation providers will not have the same certainty, so some businesses will do well and others will suffer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perhaps there should be a lottery just during the four-week period of crowding • Finding a place to fish should be a first come first served basis
Kispiox		Does not believe that there are 100 steelhead anglers on the river	
Kispiox	Resident-only day	Don't agree with this idea	
Kispiox	Cap on total number of anglers	Yes there should be a cap	
Kispiox			Guiding should be spread out over the Classified Water period

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
Kispiox	Status quo zone	Limited land access to this zone, mostly through private property	
Kispiox	Lottery	Lottery is the problem Lottery is the most democratic method	Just go with the eight-day licence alone without a lottery
Zymoetz I	Restricting residents in future	Should not happen; contrary to Quality Waters Strategy	

Other Issues and Concerns
<p>Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the past, peoples' points of view have not been adequately captured, how can we be assured that our comments will be heard and will be brought forward to the Working Groups and reflected in the revised draft plan? • Feel left out of the process • Why don't you take minutes and send them out to everyone? • Why is the Bulkley Anglers survey not being included in the Phase II Consultation Report? (A summary of the results is being included but this process has its own survey and there is concern that the other survey has some biases that will skew its results.) • Support Working Groups effort but there is a perception that all community interests are not at the table and that unless this happens, the community will not support the draft plan. • Need business community representatives on Working Group, so they bring relevant parts of the consultation report forward • Not enough notice for stakeholder meetings • Need an economist on the Working Groups • General concerns about application process to be on the Working Groups including that it was not fair that applicants had to agree to the terms of reference • Important that everyone maintain their relationships after this process is over • Process has damaged the community, damage is done <p>Local economy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any plan that limits economic growth is bad for the area; need to be stimulating the economy, not hampering it. Hazelton will be hit hard by over-regulation of non-resident anglers. • Concerned that steelhead anglers will not come back to the area, similar to the situation in Spences Bridge. • People are going to announce at major meeting in Montana that anglers are not welcome in this area • Does the ministry know whether tourists will come back if lotteries are implemented. • Need to spread the word that steelheaders are welcome in BC <p>Planning process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A lot of misinformation has been circulated on the draft plan

Other Issues and Concerns	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the draft plan be implemented? • Classified Water system should not be river-specific; it should be for entire system • If draft plan is implemented will there be more or fewer anglers on the river? • Wanted facilitator to call a vote in the room to see who disagrees with the process by raising their hands (facilitator did not but someone else did and most people raised their hands) 	
Crowding/angling quality	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need better information on crowding • Some agree and others disagree that crowding is a problem • Overcrowding has been solved because a lot of people are not going to come 	
Conservation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish first. Fish are the most important commodity • Conservation is very important 	
Guiding	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rod-days for guides are regulated but local businesses can have as many non-guided, non-residents on the river as they like and that's not fair • B&Bs and other accommodations people should have rod-days 	

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date: Nov 1, 2008 Number attending: 3
 Time: 3:45 pm Attendees: Guide, resident anglers
 Location: Hazelton

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
Kispiox		Spreading guide effort out over Classified period would not affect business	There is already a "gentlemen's agreement" on where guides will work each day on the river
Kispiox	Resident only Saturday	Would lose some flexibility	
Kispiox	Status quo zone	How would people access this zone?	
Kispiox	Eight-day licence lottery		Punch card might offer flexibility
Skeena IV above Kitwanga Bridge	Zones with eight-day licence and lottery	Good idea	

Other Issues and Concerns

Other Issues and Concerns

Crowding

- Is going to continue to get worse and at some point may need to restrict residents
- Personal watercraft are a problem: the use of these boats exacerbates crowding problems because anglers in these boats spread out over many more pools than if they were all in a large boat together and fished a pool together.

Tourism

- People staying at Kispiox accommodations fish more than the Kispiox
- Surprised at unrest caused by draft plan; much larger changes have been made in the past (no bait, no power boats) and there was not such a great uproar

Guiding

- Need flexibility so licensing can be done on paper not on the Internet because of slow dial-up

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date:	Nov 1, 2008	Number attending:	16
Time:	7:00 pm	Attendees:	Local business, tourism, chamber of commerce, local government elected officials, resident anglers
Location:	Smithers		

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
All	Eight-day licence lottery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inflexible, most anglers do not fish on a river for eight days straight; they move around • Clients need certainty for bookings as much as one year in advance • Sometimes a river will blow out and you would not be able to use your licence • How would the lottery be rolled out, how would it function? • Would there be days available right during the season? • Non-resident anglers will not come and that will hurt the local economy • Part-time residents (non-resident landowners) suffer most as a result of 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		these regulations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business fears are damaging to the community • What if two friends want to angle together? 	
All		Why wasn't it proposed that licence fees be increased?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licence fees should be part of the tool kit • Could consider a higher fee during the peak times and lower in the shoulder seasons • Tiered licensing would not be favourable to guided anglers
All		Are the rivers so unique that they require river-specific intrusive regulations?	
All		How do people identify non-residents? Is it because they are people who they do not know?	Non-resident anglers and resident anglers should be identified by wearing their licences on their hat or in a visible location, which would make it easier to identify who is causing the problem if there is overcrowding.
All		Etiquette could go a long way to solving crowding issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perhaps anglers should sign an etiquette contract when they get their licence • Local steelhead society had an etiquette card that could be handed out when licences are purchased • e-licensing could have an online section on etiquette
Bulkley		About 500 rod-days unused: Why didn't they revert to the province? Non-guided anglers could take the place of these guided rod-days	Guide rod-days should be "use if or lose it."

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
Bulkley, Morice		Some guides only operate at the very peak time or focus most of their activity during the peak time	Guiding should be spread out over Classified Water period

Other Issues and Concerns
<p>Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will there be another consultation / public meeting after the draft plan is revised? • Notice period for stakeholder meetings was unacceptable. • Divisive, would like to see people working together not against each other • Why are guides making decisions that affect non-guided anglers? <p>Crowding / quality angling experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don't agree that crowding is a given • Want to see a better definition of crowding • Want to see hard data on crowding • Where precisely does crowding occur? • Maybe anglers should just put up with it • No definition on quality angling experience • Where is the data on people's lack of a quality angling experience? • Is the number of resident anglers increasing or decreasing? • Will BC residents be regulated at some level? • Many non-residents very happy with their experience. <p>Access</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could solve many problems <p>Conservation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The fish are the most important thing. <p>Tourism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Businesses need to diversify so they do not depend on steelhead angling so much. <p>Guiding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern that rod-days have become a commodity

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date: Nov 2, 2008 Number attending: 7
 Time: 1:00 pm Attendees: Resident anglers
 Location: Smithers

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
Kitwanga, Kitsequecla, Suskwa		Target calculation needs to factor in blow outs	
Babine		Limited access for residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could develop old bridge site past Nilkitkwa Creek • Could upgrade trail on south side down to Nichyeskwa • Deactivate road at Gale Creek
Babine		Guide use is inconsistent because of how Parks deals with guides	
Babine		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Below Nilkitkwa dominated by guides and 10-12 anglers per lodge on this stretch each day. This makes it very difficult for residents to find water to fish in. • Rod-day total for guides on Babine is grossly inflated (compare to Bulkley , which has a much higher carrying capacity) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan should recommend decrease in rod-days for Babine
Bulkley		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unused guided rod-days should be re-allocated or returned to the Crown 	
Bulkley	Lottery	Lottery should start in November or December so participants know well in advance whether they have been successful	
Bulkley		Significant crowding (especially guides) upstream of Suskwa boat launch (1/2 km below Suskwa mouth to Kwaln? Creek); also Walcott area and airport canyon	
Bulkley		Increased usage of guide days may affect	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		crowding and fish stocks	
Bulkley	Trigger for limited day licence lottery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Option 2, average use, the lower angler-day threshold for non-residents • Current levels of use are already exceeding carrying capacity • Should implement now and not wait for trigger • If Kispiox regulated, anglers will come to Bulkley 	
Bulkley	Resident only at confluence of three streams	Does not support — this will concentrate resident anglers in one place Others support	
Zymoetz I	Increase in guide rod-days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Too much; not justified just because season is long as little angling pressure at beginning and end of Classified season anyway • Will increase helicopter traffic in a fragile wilderness setting 	Should be no increase
Zymoetz I, II	Increases in rod-days	Zymoetz allocation proposals do not make sense; need to be clarified	
Zymoetz I, II	Increase length of Classified Water Period	Makes little difference because not many fishing opportunities in November because of the weather and in August because there are not many fish	
Kitsumkalum	No guiding on Sundays	Why is this inconsistent with other rivers? Why not all weekend?	
Lakelse	Resident-only time period	Does not support because overwintering steelhead will be hurt (but comment made by ministry that significant number of winter steelhead also entering the system)	

Other Issues and Concerns

Process

- What prompted this process? Is there a record of all those who complained?

Other Issues and Concerns

Angler-use

- Much more resident angling pressure than data indicates.
- BC resident (non-locals) on the increase; need data on this

Conservation

- What is effect on steelhead of being captured many times?
- Are there enough fish?

e-licensing

- Support it and it's long overdue

Access

- If you increase you can spread out the anglers

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date: Nov 2, 2008 Number attending: 2
 Time: 3:00 pm Attendees: Guide, resident angler
 Location: Smithers

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
All		Working Groups should make recommendations on number of guides and number of rod-days allocated for each river.	
Babine		Takes a lot of skill (driving boat in tricky waters) and resources (jet boat, drift and helicopter out). If access improved, wilderness experience will be decreased	

Other Issues and Concerns

Guiding

- Guides are a local business too and put lots of money into the local economy

Process

- Seat at Working Group table for non-guided, local business

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date:	Nov 2, 2008	Number attending:	22
Time:	7:00 pm	Attendees:	Local business, local elected officials, media, resident anglers
Location:	Smithers		

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
All	Lottery	If lotteries on Zymoetz II, Kispiox and Skeena IV above Kitwanga Bridge go through, it will push anglers to the Bulkley, which will force implementation of the lottery on the Bulkley.	No lotteries
Bulkley, Morice	Lottery and limited-day licence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dean River is a very poor regulatory model to use for Skeena watershed rivers • Lottery only an effective tool for Class I waters • If lottery is implemented, there's no going back • It's going to drive people out, deter them from coming • Business community needs flexibility • Eight-day licence does not even consider business side of the argument 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fee increase for peak seasons • Change Class II waters to Class I to increase fees • Instead of reducing number of anglers, spread them out with more access points/boat launches • Spread guides out over the Classified season too • Change angler behaviour to reduce crowding • Should start with small steps first and see if they work
Bulkley		Assure resident priority	Resident-only on Saturdays

Other Issues and Concerns
<p>Regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are there tools in the toolbox that the ministry is not interested in using? • What happens to Phase II recommendations if they fall outside the toolbox? • Can a certain water be changed from Class II to Class I? • Needs to be an overall review of the fee structure for steelhead angling <p>Angler use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What was overall guided angler effort on Bulkley River? • Need to consider results of other surveys of anglers.

Other Issues and Concerns	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What about a lottery for putting in a boat • Need to be able to identify anglers and their origin (arm band?) so public can be clear about who is causing problem 	
Process	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why was there no representation from the business community? • Hold a final multi-stakeholder meeting before consultation process is completed • Concern that voices of non-residents are not being heard 	
Angling licences	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Money needs to come back to the region 	
Crowding/angling quality	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who originally complained to ministry about crowding • Need to focus on angler etiquette education • Motorized boat restrictions on river 	
Enforcement/monitoring	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring back River Guardian program • Need more to stop illegal guiding • Never seen enforcement presence on the river 	
Tourism	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to focus on more than just steelhead angling 	

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date:	Nov 3, 2008	Number attending:	8
Time:	10:00 am	Attendees:	Non-residents, local business
Location:	Smithers		

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
All	Lottery and limited-day licence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would take a lot of effort and resources • How can you fish with friends? • Inflexible and unpredictable • Will remove all individuals who really care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better access would alleviate crowding • If people could see/know where crowding was occurring, they would self-regulate • Need to educate people on crowding • Increase licence fees

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should be minimum length of stay for non-residents so these anglers become vested individuals in the steelhead fishery
All		Powerboats are a major problem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change river management to a "beat" system
All	Residents only on one or two weekend days	OK with that	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suggest alternating resident-only days on adjacent rivers Guide transition coupled with a resident-only day could exacerbate the crowding issue
Babine		"Over-guided" (primarily above Silver Hilton) and takes away from wilderness experience	

Other Issues and Concerns

Process

- Would information from www.bulkleysteelheadanglers.com surveys be included in consultation report?
- Were there significant changes between the leaked draft plan and the draft released in October 2008?
- Newspaper advertisements last winter were misleading and did not make it clear who would be interested in the public meetings.
- How were stakeholder meetings advertised?
- What will format of open house be?
- Why were letters not sent directly to the Working Groups as requested in Phase I?
- Meetings last winter held at a bad time of year as weather was poor and travel was difficult.
- Should have informed all non-residents
- Were attendees at meetings double-counted?
- Poor awareness of process; process seems secret
- Working Group composition is biased; certain voices not being heard
- Perception that guides will be only ones to benefit from process.
- Some resident anglers on Working Groups are now working as guides.
- What/who is driving the Quality Waters Strategy process? Where are the letters?
- Everyone who values the resource should be treated equally
- Peace is important and needs to be maintained

Other Issues and Concerns

- Appreciates opportunity to be heard in a foreign country
- Crowding/angling quality
- Overcrowding does not exist; photos of Kispiox during peak season with no anglers in them submitted.
 - No way to identify anglers to tell who is causing crowding problem
 - Did the first Response Form define what crowding is?
 - This is not a wilderness experience.
 - Over-crowding needs to be defined
 - Need to define quality experience
 - Carrying capacities need to be determined for all rivers.
- Regulation
- Why should all non-residents pay the price for the illegal guiding problem?
 - In Norway, everyone is treated equally — residents and non-residents.
 - Toolbox very limited
 - Need to avoid regulations that exclude one group over another
- Conservation
- Why is fish return not part of this process?
 - Commercial fishery needs to be addressed.
 - Cannot be separated from angler use and quality of experience
- Guiding
- Guides have unfair advantage over non-guided anglers
 - What is definition of a guide

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date:	Nov 3, 2008	Number attending:	2
Time:	2:00 pm	Attendees:	Tourism, chamber of commerce
Location:	Houston		

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
Morice	Limited-day licence lottery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-residents will not come back • Difference between the Limited Entry Hunting lottery is that there is still an open season, whereas no open season is being proposed for non-resident steelhead 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		angling in the draft plan	
Morice		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing regulations on some rivers will push anglers to the Morice 	

Other Issues and Concerns
<p>Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No representation on Working Groups from Houston area <p>Angler-use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most anglers are either from other parts of BC or from Italy Some folks don't even know they need a fishing licence Residents do not fish for steelhead, mostly because they cannot keep them Non-residents access Morice via Aspen and Bymac, which are easy-to-access locations, which is also where residents have been complaining about crowding <p>Boats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jet boat use increasing on Morice <p>Crowding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aspen campground was not crowded last summer Issue around personal watercraft and crowding needs to be better explained

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date: Nov 3, 2008 Number attending: 4
Time: 7:00 pm Attendees: Resident anglers
Location: Houston

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
All			Willing to pay more for licences especially if money goes into local fishery.
Babine		Many non-residents catching steelhead in August; makes it hard for residents to fish	Extend Classified period so they pay more for licences (make them pay for abusing these fish)
Bulkley, Morice	Lottery	Lotteries on other rivers will push anglers to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Needs to be a cross-watershed

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		these two rivers	unified approach to management that takes into account that anglers will go elsewhere if a particular river is regulated <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement now before Morice and Bulkley get overcrowded • Lower threshold – Option 2 • Monitoring key to see how it is working; could even discontinue lottery later if things settle down
Morice		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Places like Aspen and Canoe Point (downstream from Bymac Bridge) are very crowded with non-residents from outside Canada 	Resident-only angling on Saturdays at Canoe Point
Morice		Lots of grizzlies in upper Morice and key bull trout spawning beds	Upper river should be resident only or possibly closed
Bulkley, Morice	All	Will ministry have money to implement given current downturn in economy?	

Other Issues and Concerns
Process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should not be consulting with non-residents Tourism/local economy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is business community's concern? Crowding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perceptions of crowding depend on where you are from, what you are used to, or if you have an agenda to bring the Quality Waters process to a halt. • Pontoon boats are increasing crowding • Can tell who is involved in the crowding by looking at the US licence plates Conservation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How will ministry know when steelhead populations have crashed and will they know fast enough to shut down the fishery in order to meet escapement targets?

Other Issues and Concerns

- Who is monitoring the commercial fishery?
 - Perception at Babine River that more than sockeye are being harvested but no one is allowed to see.
 - Chinook enhancement should be conducted to increase the retention opportunity in the Little Bulkley.
- Education
- Document on proper angling etiquette should be handed out to people when they buy their licences

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date:	Nov 17, 2008	Number attending:	9
Time:	12:00 pm	Attendees:	Tourism Advisory Committee (Meeting was a presentation with questions at the end.)
Location:	Smithers		

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
Bulkley	Limited-day licence lottery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If guides use resident-only weekend day as their change day, it may have major impacts on local airports. • Have not heard that crowding is a problem. • What is the context around Options 1 and 2 for the Bulkley lottery? 	Weekend only for residents as an alternative

Other Issues and Concerns

- Angler use
- How many BC residents are guided?
 - Has there been any special consideration for non-resident property owners?
 - Is there any opportunity to change the definition of a resident? Another way to look at it?
- Crowding
- Where is the crowding issue coming from?
- Conservation
- When was the closure of the Thompson River steelhead sport fishery?

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date: Nov 20, 2008
 Time: 10:30 am
 Location: Smithers

Number attending: 15
 Attendees: Guides, resident anglers

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
All		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More funds needed to manage plus need to reduce crowding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make all rivers including the Bulkley Class I Increased revenue for management
All	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How will we know if quality angling has been achieved? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final report must have a section on monitoring in the non-regulatory recommendations Monitoring and enforcement should be funded by local generated money from licence sales coming back to the community .
All		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to be very clear on rod-day reductions in draft AMP 	
All	Lottery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why can't the LEH (Limited Entry Hunting) system be converted to angling (LEF) That system is funded by an application fee; why not do the same here? Lottery needs to be in place for entire Classified season 	
Babine		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to narrow down actual areas that are receiving increased effort — what are the facts, time, and location? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interview people on the river or people who spend a lot of time on the river to learn what is going on
Bulkley	Trigger eight-day licence lottery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intensive regulations on the Kispiox will drive anglers to the Bulkley and then the Bulkley will have to suffer for two or three years before a lottery is in place. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement blanket regulations and do it now. Bulkley, Morice and Kispiox will both need to be regulated at the

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other similar sorts of shifts will occur in the watershed. • Concern about waiting for two out of three years to exceed target number of non-guided, non-residents. This does not address the crowding issue here and now. • Resident anglers are looking for action now. 	<p>same time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target will be difficult to develop but set one and monitor and see how it works.
Bulkley		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between Chicken Creek and Limin? Road, there was a huge increase in angling pressure • How will plans be dynamic enough to compensate for changes over time and over different parts of the river 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could create some spatial zones for the lottery, but this would be very labour intensive
Zymoetz	Limited-day licence lottery, guide day allocations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why is there a decrease in non-guided, non-resident effort (lottery) and an increase in guided effort? • If rod-days are "taken back," guides will need to be compensated • Guides are in a conflict of interest to be having a say in allocation of their rod-days 	

Other Issues and Concerns
<p>Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is it a concern that one user group is being heard more than another? • Guided clients have not been heard as loudly as non-guided, non-residents in the consultation. • If the interest bases rule the process, then the end-product will be problematic • Final AMP is not legally binding <p>Crowding / angling quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waters with most access need most management <p>Monitoring and enforcement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There needs to be a presence on the river; this could come through increased local funding

Other Issues and Concerns

Angling licenses

- Amount of revenue coming in from angling licences in Skeena Region is very large in comparison to the amount of money that comes back into the region; need a funding formula that brings more money back.

Guiding

- Allocation of rod-days needs to be looked at more thoroughly outside of the Quality Waters process.

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date: Nov 20, 2008
 Time: 2:00 pm
 Location: Smithers

Number attending: 5
 Attendees: Local business, resident angler

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
Bulkley	Limited-day licence lottery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If lottery, non-residents have said they will not come back • Tourism is very important to Smithers; many repeat clients • Large fear of losing economic revenue because of restrictions to non-resident anglers • Business owners see non-residents' coming to this area as a very positive thing. • There is no crowding problem. • Lottery does not spread people out spatially, only temporally • Some people do not want non-residents to come here because of their own self-interests. • If non-resident landowners could not fish from their house, they would not come. 	
Bulkley	Limited-day licence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would be OK for most non-residents but not landowners 	
Bulkley	Resident-only times	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-residents would be accepting of a 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		resident-only day on the weekend, but this does not distribute the effort in any way	

Other Issues and Concerns
<p>Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How many responses have been received? • What has been the general level of acceptance with the draft plan? <p>Crowding / quality experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is a quality experience? Need to define this before we change the rules. • There is no problem on the waters around Smithers with respect to crowding and lack of a quality experience. • Reducing the number of anglers, does not guarantee that they will have good etiquette. • Angling data does not indicate that there is a crowding problem. <p>Angler use</p> <p>Resident anglers may need to be more regulated some day.</p> <p>Enforcement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a need for more enforcement.

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date: Nov 20 2008
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Smithers

Number attending: 5
Attendees: Resident anglers, guides

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
Bulkley	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presently underutilized • Crowding problems exacerbated by lack of access at Trout Creek • Never been a problem to find water to fish in; if you want a spot you need to get up early, which has been the situation for 50 years. • Crowding is at boat launches and at peak times only. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could ministry purchase Trout Creek boat launch? • Entire Bulkley River should be resident only • More access points would allow anglers to spread out. • 12-day licence for all rivers

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-residents do not thinking river is crowded, if they did, they would leave. • Knows of many non-residents fish for four days and then take a day off • Shift of angler effort from Kispiox to Bulkley could be a problem • Differing opinions on whether there is a crowding problem or not • Many residents have stopped fishing because of crowding problems • Nothing needs to be changed 	
Morice	Guided rod-days	Should be reduced	
Bulkley	Guided rod-days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unused rod-days should have been reduced or taken back by the province 	
Bulkley, Morice		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are guides really giving anything up? • Does one day of resident-only angling on the weekend really impact them when most of their clients fish for six days? 	Guides should spread effort over Classified Water season

Other Issues and Concerns
<p>Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where do the consultations go from here? <p>Crowding / angling quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where are crowding complaints coming from? • No one they are speaking to ever complains of a degraded angling experience. • Crowding problems do exist • Everyone should have an opportunity to be the first to fish a particular water • Resident anglers need to change their expectations • Some of the resident anglers are asking for too much. • Walk-in anglers should have priority over those in boats <p>Tourism / local business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In view of the recession, we need to be careful telling people they cannot come <p>Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could anglers fill out an online survey on etiquette before they buy their licence

Other Issues and Concerns

- Should spend more time educating anglers
 - Observed that most anglers have very good etiquette
 - Brochure given to people when they buy angling licence
- Conservation
- Need hook size regulation to reduce mortality

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date: Nov 21, 2008 Number attending: 4
 Time: 10:30 am Attendees: Guides
 Location: Hazelton

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
All		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreasing jet boat use will increase quality of angling • Pontoon boats exacerbate illegal guiding 	No boat access for non-residents
All	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do we find a draft plan that reflects that elusive balance of interests? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could create a Skeena watershed 12-day licence for non-residents. • Could increase licence fees.
Kispiox	Status quo zone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May be a good idea but may be a conservation concern if fish hold in the area and are "hit hard" by anglers • Kispiox guides are not very happy with this idea but they are willing to go with it. 	
Kispiox	Eight-day licence lottery, status quo zone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The carrying capacity calculation may be an underestimate so that target number of non-guided, non-residents would increase and the number of anglers in the status quo zone could be higher • Some feel that the lottery better happen right away because they think if it does not happen now, it never will be government will not have the inclination or resources. 	Could make the Kispiox a Class I water

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> People do not understand that they can fish eight days on each different water, if you are successful in the lottery on each water. 	

Other Issues and Concerns
<p>Guiding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guides contribute a lot to the local economy and many people do not seem to know this. <p>Crowding / quality of angling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many people not bothering to purchase steelhead stamps and that contributes to perception that effort is going down when it may not be true. In general, non-residents think there is no crowding and resident anglers and guides think there is. Many accommodations people do not angle so there sense of whether crowding is occurring or not is not based on good information. <p>Angler use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should not grant special privileges to non-resident landowners <p>Tourism / local business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> B&Bs will need to be regulated at some point Accommodation providers need to accept the risks associated with their businesses <p>Monitoring / enforcement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bring back River Guardian program

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date: Nov 21, 2008 Number attending: 11
Time: 2:00 pm Attendees: Local business, elected local official, resident anglers
Location: Hazelton

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
Kispiox	Eight-day licence lottery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unacceptable solution No flexibility What happens when the river blows out? 	
Kispiox	All		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guides need to be spread out

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			<p>over the classified season</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having more access to the river would spread anglers out • Increase licence fees during peak times • Anglers fishing for four days and then two days off • Beat system where anglers have to stay in a particular zone via a lottery • Overcrowding should take care of itself; if people find it crowded they will leave. • Have eight-day licences just during the peak of the season • Divide river into upstream (Class I) and downstream (Class II) zones with
Kispiox	Eight-day licence	Supports this licence on its own without lottery and target	
Kispiox		Illegal guiding is a problem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anglers could send in an application to fish with friends

Other Issues and Concerns
<p>Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why were business owners not allowed to participate on Working Groups? This makes it a flawed process; maybe we should just step back before we proceed with the draft plan • How much has been spent on the Quality Waters Strategy and consulting fees? <p>Other plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why was East Kootenay Angling Management Plan able to implement a River Guardian program? • Lottery system in Oregon where everyone applies — residents and non-residents <p>Angling licences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How much money is generated from licences in this region? <p>Illegal guiding</p>

Other Issues and Concerns	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How large a problem is illegal guiding? • Put information on this as an offence on the licence Crowding / angling quality <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apparently speaking with residents there is no crowding. 	

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date: Nov 21, 2008 Number attending: 2
 Time: 7:00 pm Attendees: Resident anglers
 Location: Hazelton

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
Kispiox	All		Of a seven day week, have three days for everyone, two days for non-residents, and two days for residents

Other Issues and Concerns	

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date: Nov 22, 2008 Number attending: 2
 Time: 10:30 am Attendees: Guide, resident angler
 Location: Terrace

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
All		Supports all non-residents being treated the same but also supports the "permit to accompany" idea where non-resident family members could fish with family with a permit	
All	Lottery		Should be opportunities for groups

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			to apply Should not be exceptions for non-resident landowners
Zymoetz I	Increase guided rod-days by 10 for each of three guides	Thinks it should be increased by more, but no new guides	
Zymoetz II	Extend Classified Water period from August 1 to May 31	No reason to extend to May 31; very little steelhead fishing on the river in the winter	Should start July 1
Zymoetz II	No guiding on the weekend	Does not support; it would be difficult to do the guide changeover	Just one resident day on weekends would be acceptable, because guides could take their clients to another river for one day but not two
Zymoetz II	Increase each of five guides by 30 rod-days	Not enough	Should be 150 per guide and to existing guides, not new guides
Zymoetz II	Spread guided effort over the Classified season	Not necessary	Guides should be limited to one boat per day to preserve the quality of the experience.
Kitsumkalum	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OK with most of this • Does not support non-guided section on Saturdays • Guiding should be allowed from October 16 to November 1 as this is not a very busy time 	
Lakelse	All	Seem fine	
Skeena IV downstream from Kitwanga Bridge	Reclassify to Class I	Does not believe this stretch of river is reflective of a Class I experience; road is too close	If anything were Class I, it should be upper Skeena IV
Skeena IV downstream from Kitwanga Bridge	Four new guide opportunities of 20 rod-days each	Could be increased	Five new guide opportunities with 100 rod-days each
Skeena IV	Skeena IV guides from	Not fair because upstream guides not included	Upstream Skeena IV guides should

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
downstream from Kitwanga Bridge	Terrace area would be issued 30 rod-days each		also get additional rod-days, not just the Terrace-area ones

Other Issues and Concerns
<p>Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The public needs to know what the final recommendation in the revised draft plan are and what the ministry implements <p>Crowding / angling quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Big problem with people camping on Zymoetz I from Planet Fly-fishing <p>Illegal guiding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Illegal guides could get around the lottery if they just said they were a group leader and not fishing; solution is to say they have to have a licensed guide as leader of any group

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date: Nov 22, 2008 Number attending: 2
Time: 2:00 pm Attendees: No local business, resident anglers
Location: Terrace

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
Zymoetz II		Fish are holding in the area in the late season (November – December) and are probably subjected to more mortality from catch and release	Upper Zymoetz should be considered for closure before December 31

Other Issues and Concerns
<p>Guiding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why do guides not have to identify themselves? At one time had stickers on their boats. All information on who is a licensed guide and who is an assistant guide should be available online. Do assistant guides have to write a guiding examination?

Stakeholder Meeting Notes

Date: Nov 22, 2008
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Terrace

Number attending: 2
Attendees: Resident anglers (previous attendees from afternoon, so waited for 45 minutes and ended meeting)

Other Issues and Concerns

Resident anglers

- General questions about landed immigrant status and what constitutes a resident of BC.
- If you were part owner of a timeshare would that make a difference?

Appendix M Public Open House Notes

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
All	Limited-day licence lottery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will address illegal guiding • Eight days is too short • Eight day licence by itself would be OK; lottery is the bad thing • No flexibility with lottery • How would groups come and fish? • Eight-day licence should be on all Classified Waters of the Skeena watershed • Illegal guides would have to move too even if just the eight-day licence and no lottery • 90 per cent of our customers say they will not come back • Should apply to guided anglers too • Need to consider tourist dollar and benefits to local business and tourism in the area 	
All		All non residents should be guided	
All			Close fishery after October 31 to protect overwintering fish from exploitation
All			Guides off the river by 4:30 pm to provide a resident opportunity
All	All	Need to be more consistent across all waters	
Kispiox	Status quo zone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no access to this zone • This is not where the best fishing is 	
Kispiox			Spread guided rod-days out over the Classified Water season
Lakelse, Kitwanga, Kitseguecla, Suskwa		Should all be resident-only	
Suskwa, Kitseguecla,	Eight-day licence lottery	Targets were set using historical estimated total effort rather than effort from just non-guided, non-residents	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
Kitwanga			
Bulkley	Zoning for residents only at the mouths of three creeks	How large will the zones actually be?	

Other Issues and Concerns
<p>Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working Group composition was not fair Guides have a conflict of interest Possibility of a judicial challenge Conflict of interest on Central Working Group: one of the members has a property for sale in the status quo zone <p>Crowding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Everyone just needs to get along; if shows up at a pool with other anglers, just moves on <p>Enforcement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What about auxiliary conservation officers? <p>Local business / tourism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is there a compensation package for local business? <p>Gear</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create an allowance for seniors that allows them to use barbless hooks during the salmon fishery <p>Boating</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pontoon boats are a problem on the Bulkley River No fishing on boats on the Bulkley <p>Camping</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ban camping along Skeena River: work with tourism folks to move tourism to other accommodation providers Camping on Skeena must be better regulated (related to chinook fishery); would control illegal guiding too. <p>Regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What about regulation orders and regulation change? Are all these reflected in legislation? Could they be legally challenged? In a case where legislation is not changed? Why not make steelhead stamp for entire season? <p>Etiquette</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is a problem Guides are contributing to this too

Appendix N Notes from Email Submissions (Residents)

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
All	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Much misinformation in the “front end” of the plan • Draft plan is too intrusive, complicated and expensive • Eight-day licence lottery will negatively affect the local economy 	
All		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As a resident angler I would rather fish behind 10 non-residents than two guides with 4 clients total; the guide knows all the spots, unlike most non-residents. • Guides and anglers are asking the business community to take the big hit and that isn't right 	
All	All		<p>I have an idea, it's easy and it doesn't have to apply to guided anglers. In waters that non-residents need to purchase a daily fishing permit, set a four consecutive day limit with a mandatory day off in between every four-day stretch. This would give the fish a break, encourage longer, varied and more leisurely tourist stays and not have a negative effect on guides or business people. After a couple of years, if this doesn't reduce crowding enough make non- resident anglers take two days off in row.</p>
All	All		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make it a condition of a Steelhead tag license to report when all classes of anglers fish for steelhead. Just the river and date. This will provide us with data on all classes and on all rivers, all season. Currently we only receive use data from classified license counterfoils, guide reports and guardian

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			<p>programs that are very expensive and time consuming. This places the burden of data collection on the anglers not on the under-funded ministry.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider four resident-only Sundays during the prime fall season mid September to mid October at least on the three rivers in region 6 that experience heavy use at this time. Bulkley, Kispiox and Zymoetz (Zymoetz). I have many friends who try to fish the Zymoetz at this time of year and it's impossible with the amount of anglers on the water. A Sunday with no guides and no non-residents would help the resident anglers get their kids fishing again. I hope.
All	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Non-resident property owners and the possible effects of regulations on property values." This has no bearing on the Quality Waters Strategy process nor should it be considered in the creation of the draft plan. The ministry does not manage property values; it manages the fishery! 	
All	All	<p>I have witnessed people yelling at each other for the right to a run, people dragging steelhead on the rocks in order to land them, as well as, fish staying out of the water for far too long to have the perfect picture taken.</p>	<p>There are plenty of rules in the synopsis but there is a need for more education. A solution that I have is to create a short length video that is mandatory to watch before a licence is purchased. Seeing how the licenses will all be done electronically, it could be played before the licence is filled out. The video could cover points like how to step into a run that is already occupied, if you are in a boat give way to walk-ins, how to properly handle a fish, and the consequences of a steelhead's survival rate if it is not treated properly.</p>

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
All	Limited-day licence lottery	Just do eight-day licence for each river only, no lottery	
All	All	As much as we would like to not need to limit anyone the hierarchy of exclusion has been agreed on. Non-residents will ultimately need to live with some restrictions.	Prior to making any management alternatives: 1. Historical angler use data needs to be summarized and available to everyone 2. E-licensing in place and functioning 3. Commitment from government to fund enforcement.
All	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What I do not appreciate is the threats that the ministry is encountering in regards to legal action by a handful of private local business owners. At large their only interest is that of flooding our rivers with non-residents for personal financial gain, which has had a negative effect on our fish stocks, resident angling opportunities, created crowding and has been a large factor in the reduction of resident participation. • This is why you have heard the strong stance by residents that their priority over non-residents be respected throughout the region and a call to stop the displacement of resident anglers to accommodate non-resident anglers. The ministry is entrusted to represent the resident public best interests as a whole and that of their common property resources. • It is not the responsibility of ministry to manage private business opportunities. It is understood that we have commercial interests in play and certainly their concerns and input should be brought forward for consideration. They however do not have priority over First Nations or resident users 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>or their access, opportunity, and enjoyment over this publicly revered fishery.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In retrospect it is the greed of some businesses that has created the problem. Mass advertisement campaigns geared to maximize business potential and profit has been largely responsible for creating a blitz of non-resident participation on many of our revered waters. 	
All	Guided rod-days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rod-days gained as a result of the implementation of "non-resident guided only" must hinge on one another. If for example the non-resident guided only restriction were to be lifted any rod-days acquired as a result of the "guided only" restriction would need to be removed. Rod-days must not be combined i.e. if there are 30 rod days allocated to three guides they must not be combined to allow one guide 90 days. Such a direction would create monopolization and must be prevented from occurring. If there is a need in the future to implement increased restrictions, rod-days will be clawed back and or removed before the opportunity of resident anglers is negatively impacted. Resident anglers opportunity must be treated on a first on, last off and be an integral part of resident priority. 	
All	All	Do not lump non-resident Canadians with non-resident, non-Canadians. Such a direction degrades revered social aspects of our fishery that are important to resident anglers. Work may take family or friends out of BC into neighboring	The Quality Waters Strategy must have a provision that allows a resident to obtain a permit to accompany a non-resident Canadian.

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>provinces and as a result the Quality Waters Strategy would force them to hire a guide in order to angle Classified Waters. For example, a resident father would be denied opportunity to fish with his son, daughter or friends simply because they reside in another province and hiring a guide may be cost prohibitive.</p>	
All	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From remarks made by my regular annual alien guests, overcrowding is a concern, but less so than the perceived fewer fish (not less of a run necessarily but taken by nets before they can get this far, no wonder more are going to fish in tide waters), the weather causing too much or too little water, and those who fish with no consideration for others (officers could monitor this better perhaps)! If it is too busy, my guests just go elsewhere, or lake fishing if the rivers are "blown out" (alternately, I take them berry picking!). • I do not think that a draw would be appropriate, given the fish / water considerations, the additional fee (plus sometimes more to the Natives if from a river bank located in a Reserve) to fish classified waters, several know the area better than some guides, so don't need and some are not wealthy, nor are all just fishing for steelhead. Many come for a vacation, which just happens to allow for some good fishing (when it is good, it is the best!). I can agree somewhat with the draw for hunting (preservation of a species), and maybe needing guides so as not to get lost, but I 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		don't think this would apply to too many fishermen.	
All	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I do not agree with the thinking that someone from Alberta or other provinces cannot come and fish our waters anytime they want. We all live in the same country called Canada. I do not have a problem with restricting foreign anglers (outside of Canada) to either certain times of the year or to be with a guide — no problem — as this is standard practice in some countries already. I also do not have a problem with a limited entry lottery system for foreign anglers (outside of Canada) — as long as there is a reasonable (high enough) number of draws made. 	
All	All	A famous angler by the name of Lee Wulff noted that a river without friends, is a river in peril. Friends are invariably those who use a river and certainly include fisherman. Any plan that reduces users, reduces friends. At least some of these are the folks targeted for reduction in the strategy who spend money and time each year in beautiful British Columbia. Reducing their number would seem to reduce the tremendous economic contribution associated with the fishery including the many businesses frequented by these visitors.	
All	All	<p>Reject the entire strategy because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitator abandoned the “guiding principles” of the QWS and allowed recommendations into the draft that did not recognize the economic value of this public 	<p>Recess the whole process until three things are in place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An economic impact assessment is done for the entire Skeena Steelhead Tourism Industry.

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>resource or resident priority.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business community who will be greatly impacted was not included in the process, • Facilitator is quoted in the Northern Connector as saying "It was felt it (eight-day lottery) was the fairest way to reduce non-resident angling use" The non-guided alien (hence the rest of the tourism industry) takes the full hit while the guided non-resident angler is not impacted in any way. This is not what I consider fair. • The information given to the public is misleading and sometimes completely false. • It is a classic case of conflict of interest to allow guides to make changes to the regulations that will benefit them to the detriment of their competition • There is no data to support the claims of over crowding • No economic impact assessment to determine the impact these changes will have on the economy of the Skeena Watershed. • No one on the Working Groups will be negatively impacted in any way by the recommendations and many will gain substantially financially. • Stakeholders excluded from the groups will be very negatively impacted. • By allowing the Working Groups to be so heavily weighted with guides who will benefit substantially, financially and excluding the businesses community who will be negatively impacted, the whole process is 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hard data in the form of creel surveys is done on the rivers in question to determine the exact nature of the perceived crowding problem, what portion of the anglers are unhappy and whether they are guides, residents, guided aliens or non-guided aliens. • A broader range of stakeholders is included in the Working Groups. • Re-classify all Class 2 rivers to Class 1 from September 15 to October 15. • Use the extra revenue from the daily licences to fund a River Guardian program and conduct creel surveys. • Make it a licensing requirement that the guides spread their rod days evenly throughout the entire classified season.

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		fatally flawed.	
All	All		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reclassify the rivers to Class 1 during peak times. • Insist that extra money not go into general revenue or to support hatcheries in the south, but remain on the Skeena system for River Guardian Programs. Have the River Guardians do creel surveys for three years to get some concrete data. At the end of that time analyze the data to see if there is a crowding problem and what percentage of total anglers are unhappy. If crowding is an issue then reconvene the Working Groups but this time also include representation from the business sector the steelhead tourism sector, and non-resident property owners.
All	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not support draft plan • Negative financial impact on local business and economy • Some of the businesses to benefit from steelhead fishing season include: airplane/helicopter bookings, vehicle rental, fuel for planes and vehicles, accommodation, angling guides, tradesmen, farm labour, banking, lawyers, accountants, insurance agents, grocery stores, sports and other retail outlets, restaurants and even house/window cleaners 	
All	All	Support the draft plan but don't believe creating new rod-days for guides will help the situation of river crowding	Should give two resident-only days instead of the proposed one
All	All	Everyone is part of the crowd — residents, non-residents and guides	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend Classified Waters period for an additional week or two in August

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spread guided rod-days evenly over period • This avoids a situation where rod-days get stacked up during peak consumer times. • Guides would have different changeover days, which would help as well. • Non-guided, non-resident anglers would have to take one day off per week. So as an example, a non-resident arrives here on Wednesday, they can fish any river or combination of rivers that they choose for six days and then would be required to stay off all the rivers on the seventh day. These days off would be staggered rather than all on one day of the week. • Improve boat launches for better access and to spread out anglers
All	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree that crowding at peak season is an issue and best way to do that is to spread out effort • Would like to see a distinction between non-resident Canadians and non-resident non-Canadians • Inconsistencies between Working Groups need to be addressed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Period to apply the Classified Waters designation and the application of a mandatory Steelhead Stamp 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make Classified Water season and mandatory steelhead stamp <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sept 1 to Dec 31 for the Babine, Kitwanga, Kitsequecla, Kispiox, Suskwa and Morice ○ Sept 1 to May 31 for the Kitsumkalum
All	All		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reclassify Class 2 to Class 1 waters during prime time. September 21-October 15. This addresses the crowding issue and insures that those that stick around leave the most economically for the province. It protects residents, non-residents, landowners, tourist economies and guides. If guides argue their

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			<p>anglers can't afford a higher license class I disagree as we are talking prime time. Check the rod day stats they sell out every year. If the local economy says another 20 bucks a day is going to drive out a fisherman I'd argue they aren't that critical to local economies and that tourists that leave more for the province will move in. Also anglers that can't afford prime time might slide to cheaper shoulder seasons that would be a good thing for local economies (They wouldn't slide to shoulder seasons with any other tool.)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Class 1 waters: No changes except to change regulations to state that anglers cannot be issued more than one 8 day classified waters license. That forces anglers to return to town for a license and insures anglers can't park on the Babine or do a three week float on wilderness rivers. Few will do back to back floats as it requires two helicopters, twice the cash etc. This addresses crowding and forces anglers to move daily to make their take out without creating management issues for MOE. For those that do multiple floats it means they return to town and stay in hotels, eat in restaurants etc. <li>3. Create 300 yard hotspots in traditional "local" pools where needed to address resident issues with crowds. These areas would be for non-guided resident anglers only. This will insure residents have an area to fish after work or on the weekends. It also

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			<p>makes sure kids get into fishing as they can step in and fish a run with limited skills and fish productively. This is a huge issue for new angler recruitment.</p> <p>4. Implement a fee on Classified Waters Licenses that goes directly to purchasing and maintaining access points on Classified Waters so that anglers can spread out. They don't have that option now as the Bulkley for instance has only one public boat launch from the Skeena to Smithers. Knowing Aliens help fund boat launches and angling opportunities would improve how resident anglers feel about them. Montana has a program like this for hunting. It has made a tremendous difference and has increased hunting opportunities for residents.</p>
All	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guides were the first to be capped in 1990 following the great fishing seasons of 1984, 1985 and 1986. Since that capping, the other categories of anglers are now to the point where their success and growth rates are of real concern. • In late 1990s, Bulkley creel surveys indicated 17 per cent guide usage of the total usage. Guided use is the minority on all rivers except the Babine, Sustut and Damdochax. These three more remote and truly wilderness quality rivers were pioneered by guides and still are. There may be a need to address crowding on the remote rivers but only at such time as the non-guided categories become a problem, which they are not at the present time with 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>the exception being the weir area on the Babine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is fair to say that guiding is not the problem with our classified waters. In all workshops and meetings since 1990, one constant theme repeated itself: non-guided, non-resident anglers and illegal guiding were the agreed upon problems. If we do not address those two problems in the draft plan, then we have failed to deliver a truly Quality Waters product for all categories of anglers. • Draft plan attempts to address non-guided, non-resident angling by the creation of higher pricing, lottery, limited licence sales and resident-only zones and times. We should not be kicking anybody off the fishery. Should be looking at actual problem areas and times instead of the shotgun approach. • There are legitimate locations and time periods that need to be addressed — some specific crowding on the Kispiox, Bulkley, Zymoetz, Skeena, Kitsumkalum and perhaps a few other areas. If we are successful in just addressing those areas and let's say a time period of September 20 to October 20, then I think we will have credibility. The question is, what specific areas based on reliable data, and what time period that could be consistent with all rivers so that one river's crowding does not move to another, etc. • Use of lottery, or a limited licence sale through the e-licensing program has some 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>merit. Whether through reclassification from II to I, or from license increases, or through a reallocation of existing license revenues, I think there must be targeted enforcement of the areas slated for restriction. This specially earmarked enforcement must be funded annually and only redirected when new areas become crowded as a result of the displacement of anglers from previously crowded zones. In other words, let's have a goal of user-pay for any new enforcement created by the new draft plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business community of Smithers can support some reduction in the number of anglers in the Skeena watershed for the sake of creating the perception, real or not, that quality exists in our watershed not only for angling, but it fosters the marketing edge that a number of quality products exists in the Skeena watershed for a number of uses. • If we want to put ourselves on the world-class map and attract many more visitors to our area for all seasons, then we must address the overall salmon and steelhead fish supply and use that as a success story to showcase all the other activities and seasons available in our communities. • The short-term negative feedback you are receiving from non-resident anglers threatening to boycott our fisheries will quickly be replaced with a higher paying, higher quality tourist that is looking for a world-class array of products that our region could represent. The economic ramifications 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>are huge and the Quality Waters Strategy could be used as a starting point in a short-term and long-term strategy to rebuild our shattered northwest economy leading up to the 2010 Olympics and beyond.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Illegal guiding was identified time and time again in the numerous workshops and meetings since 1990. The Wildlife Act's definition of an angling guide is problematic so I think we should change the definition so that our CO's have more powers and discretion to act. If we remove the compensation and reward component of the legislation, then any person accompanying and assisting anglers to fish become suspect. The discretion will come in comparing residents who have non-resident friends fishing with them to non-residents who are frequently witnessed accompanying and assisting non-resident anglers over many weeks and months. If we narrow down the difference between resident helpers and non-residents helpers, that would be a huge first step to cleaning up the illegal guiding situation • Later if it is determined that the resident is also participating in the illegal guiding situation, it may be much easier to have a secondary designation of the Wildlife Act that deals with compensation and reward but not a requirement of the definition of an angling guide, but a additional tool to justify any resident investigations. • Recommend every river establish a Babine 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>River Foundation and Babine Watershed Monitoring Trust type of stewardship model whereby a surcharge is established for every angler, and this surcharge directly funds the various stewardship expenditures — quality can pay for maintenance of quality and also creation of new qualities through restoration or establishment of new opportunities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a Federal/Provincial funding program for fishery projects aimed at employing displaced forestry workers. Perhaps some additional funding could help the Quality Waters Strategy at this critical time. Huge amounts of dollars have been assisting the Skeena watershed and other areas of BC from such foundations as the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation. There needs to be a pooling of these various funding groups to work towards one goal of delivering on the fish supply and those who fish. The possible economic stimulus for both First Nations and non-First Nations would be huge because I have learned that everything in our watershed depends on the salmon. Forestry and mining have proven short-term and very cyclical whereas fish and wildlife plus tourism can be renewable and long-term with little interruption in revenue and expenditure outlays, in fact, we could return to a much more healthier watershed in terms of employment and investment, all in keeping with a "green initiative." 	
All	Lotteries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fishing success not good for first few weeks 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>of September, so who wants to fish then?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to understand what perception of crowding is and deal effectively with temporal and spatial distribution of what is determined to be an acceptable number of anglers • Where is data to show that non-guided, non-residents are the problem? 	
All	All		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reclassify all class 2 streams to class 1 during prime time • Resident, non-resident and non-resident alien licensing requirement to complete a course in fish handling and river etiquette • Some minor changes we can make when we have e-licensing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduated licence fee increase i.e., Class 2 rivers \$20 per day for first 10 days, \$30 per day for next 10 days, etc. • Resident licensing requirement to e-file the rivers they fish daily (for angler/river use data)
All	All	Non-guided, non-resident limits on any river cannot exceed the guide limitations as set out in the Quality Waters Strategy Resource Document's hierarchy of exclusion	
All	Guiding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guiding is a far more dominant feature of the perception of crowding than is being acknowledged • In 1990, numerous guides ended up with inflated rod-day quotas on multiple waters and no verification of historic activity on which the allocations were based ever occurred. • The "use it or lose it" provision was seen as 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>a "safety valve" but the province has never "retired" any rod-days.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consequently, there are more rod-days on the Bulkley (about one-half) that are unsupportable; likewise for the upper Skeena • Guiding in general needs to be recognized for the disproportionate impact it has on other anglers, especially residents. This is not a condemnation of guides or guiding. It simply reflects reality. Guided rod-days involve boats much more frequently than days attributable to any other angler group. Boats provide the competitive advantage and higher catch rates guided anglers expect and pay handsomely for. Guides are on the best available water continuously over the peak of the season. Resident angler effort, especially that contributed by weekending "locals", is much more uniformly distributed in both time and space. The average guided angler catches significantly more fish per day than the average resident angler. 	
All	Additional guided rod-days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conferring more rod days on existing guides (Zymoetz, Skeena IV) would be a monumental mistake if maintenance of quality fishing is an objective • The number of Skeena IV guided rod-days and guides in Schedule A of 125/90 does not represent untapped opportunity. 	
All	All		<p>Things That Could Work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resident only times and places, but only if significant areas are set aside

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New regulations to constrain escalating boat use. There are provisions under the Wildlife Act to make regulations. • Conditions on angling guide licences that, where necessary, restrict the temporal and spatial distribution of operation and restrict the number of boats and/or clients per boat. • Fee adjustments but only if/when the licence revenue sharing formula is re-negotiated so more money stays in the region • Phone- and Internet-based reservation system for all anglers on at least some Classified Waters and perhaps sections of waters (e.g., resident-only reaches). No limit on the number of days per licensee or numbers of licensees of any particular class per unit time or area should be contemplated until there is proof of need. Insufficient resources to finance a ministry-wide electronic licensing system do not need to be an excuse. The BC Ferries reservation system is an example of a much simpler and more affordable model. • Put a dedicated conservation officer on the water to ensure a reasonable level of compliance and adjust the penalty for non-compliance to make it a significant deterrent (licence privilege cancellation?) • Management options based on real data could follow, along with a simple but representative process for decisions. • No more guides, no reallocation of unused rod-days, and no more guided rod-day allocations.

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bury the Quality Waters Strategy. It isn't working and isn't even remotely affordable. Call it a learning experience. For the money already spent on nothing more than process, the framework for a vastly improved management system for Classified Waters could have been in place today.
Kispiox, Bulkley, Zymoetz II, Morice, Skeena IV above Kitwanga Bridge	Limited-day licence lottery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not work for Class II rivers No fish available at beginning and end of season so cannot "flatten out" use No flexibility if river blows out or weather changes Will severely impact tourism, particularly in times of an economic downturn Unlikely to be approved by province, because of impact on tourism Reflect unbalanced community interests Will result in decrease in angling licence sales and reduced revenue for ministry Province could not afford to implement The non-guided, non-resident "fish bums" that cause a lot of the problems will just move around so this will not address crowding Will impact guides negatively because clients that do some guided fishing and some unguided won't come for as long and changeover times will be problematic Resident-only zones near urban areas are a good idea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fee increase would reduce crowding and change behaviour of "fish bums" If province won't consider a fee hike then re-classify rivers to Class I for peak times of year Province should weigh in on the tools and remove any that would never be implemented
Suskwa, Kitseguecla, Kitwanga	Resident-only on Saturdays	Support	
Suskwa,	Trigger	Targets may be too high particularly because of	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
Kitsegucla, Kitwanga	limited-day licence lottery	the strong likelihood that these waters will "blow out"	
Suskwa	All	Spillover effect from other rivers will not be addressed fast enough	
Kitwanga, Kitsegucla, Suskwa	All		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resident-only year round • If not resident-only then all non-residents must be guided via non-tenured pool of rod-days
Kitwanga, Kitsegucla	Residents-only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very underutilized, why regulate? 	
Kitwanga	All	Carrying capacity calculation should be refined to specifically include an "availability factor" that recognizes the proportion of the season that the system is in a fishable condition. This will have an effect on the trigger calculation as well.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For example, if a factor of 0.90 were used (water clarity on 90 per cent of days is compatible with angling in the period assessed) then the resulting carrying capacity would be $0.90 \times 6 \text{ anglers / day} \times 57 \text{ days} = 308 \text{ angler-days}$. This would also then affect the determination of the non-resident allocation (at 2 per day = 103 angler days) • The trigger recommended in the plan is also inconsistent with the determination of the carrying capacity. The plan specifies that the carrying capacity is based on daily use by anglers (all classes implied) yet it specifies the trigger is only considered as a tally of use by non-guided, non-resident anglers. If the carrying capacity is indeed reflective of use by all classes of anglers, the trigger to be considered should match the non-resident allocation (114 days, or as modified by consideration of an availability factor).
Kitsegucla	All	See comments and solutions for Kitwanga re: availability factor and how that affects the carrying capacity and trigger calculation	Factor should be 0.80

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
Suskwa	All	See comments and solutions for Kitwanga re: availability factor and how that affects the carrying capacity and trigger calculation	Factor should be 0.90
Skeena IV above Kitwanga Bridge	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why not resident-only day on Saturdays here? Need to divide lottery up into the two zones to evenly distribute non-resident, non-guided angler effort 	
Skeena IV above Kitwanga Bridge	Residents-only		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zone from Shegunia (Salmon) River to Bulkley confluence
Skeena IV above Kitwanga Bridge	All	Support creation of a Skeena V area to enable more directed management and to enhance allocation of rod-days	
Kispiox	All	Support	
Kispiox		Does a resident-only Saturday exclude guided anglers? If it does, then a lot of guiding will move to Skeena IV on Saturdays	
Kispiox	Status quo zone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will be a "zoo," will exacerbate crowding and will result in trespassing This is the most overcrowded and much of the time most productive section on this river. This is to appease the business owners in the valley and is completely unacceptable, as it does nothing to address the main problem on the river. In fact it will probably make it worse as all the non-residents will stay in that section and won't move at all. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zone Kispiox campground to Skeena as Kispiox 1 and campground to falls above Sweetin as Kispiox 2. Use counterfoil data to determine which zone gets the most pressure Possibility of reclassifying high-pressure zone class 1 all season if too busy. Guide licensing requirement to spread rod days evenly throughout the season. Guide licensing requirement to use 50 per cent of rod days in zone 1 and 50 per cent in zone 2. Extend classified season to November 30 to reclaim traditional resident angler season

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
Kispiox	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At this hard economic time it does not do well for this community (the Hazeltons) to be slowing down the businesses that exist in our area, and at the same time allowing a few others to prosper • Another major economic fall out is the possible withdrawal of needed American funds in support of existing fish enhancement programs. It is a well-known fact that user groups are the ones that will support – with dollars – their recreational activities of choice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status Quo as usual for next two years • Have in place for 2009 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ E-licensing ○ River Guardian program ○ Economic study on dollars generated by fishing industry • Sell licenses to all users of the rivers – residents, non residents and guides alike; then we know exactly how many of each group are on the rivers • Program to ask a few questions such as did you have a quality experience today? And did you feel that the river was crowded? • All non-compliance would be subject to fines • Have river guardians keep a daily eye on the river and add much needed data to the overall picture; corroborate with the e-licensing • Hire crew or use river guardians to clear out or even just to identify existing public access points on the river • We need a viable economic study that sites the numbers of dollars generated by the fishing industry and who it affects. • The e-licensing and River Guardian program will help to identify the carrying capacity of the river, based on hard facts and not on anecdotal reporting of a few. Once this has been established, a clearer picture can be established as to what the river can support and where we go from there.
Kispiox	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The eight-day lottery and the suggested carrying capacity do not allow any flexibility and they are unfair to existing business. If 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggestion # 1: Identify carrying capacity of the river. The suggested carrying capacity seems low and there is not enough data to

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>the river blows out on your eight days, you have no option but to go elsewhere. The 99 eight-day licences only allows 14 non-residents to be on the river on any day, (unlimited on the status quo zone, defeating the purpose of quality fishing), not enough to support the businesses of the area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are three user groups on the river — residents, non-residents and guided anglers. The draft plan is primarily aimed at non-residents. This has created much controversy on many levels. We have no hard data on how many residents are using the rivers and this need to be collected. • A status quo zone is not needed if one decides to use the allowable days on a first come, first served basis. If not, the status quo zone becomes over-used and fishing is low quality. 	<p>support this number. How many residents use the river? We need to know.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggestion #2 Once carrying capacity has been determined, by use of accurate data counts of residents, non-residents and guides, the days available could be put up on a first come, first served basis. (Residents would also be expected to book their days.) • Half of the desired days could be purchased ahead of time so that individuals could plan ahead. The other remaining days would become available day by day, so that if you are in the area you get on the computer at a set time, you download your ticket for the next day and if the river is fully subscribed to, you need to pick a new river. This could even be more fine tuned by breaking the river into its nine beats and having anglers choose their water and if it that beat is full, you would have to choose another beat – all on computer and easily recorded, such as is done in the Maritimes and Québec. • Suggestion #3 Only use the eight-day licensing at the peak crowding times. The guides would also be required to limit their clients during the overcrowded time (late-September, early-October) • Suggestion #4 There are more and more resident “rod slingers” appearing on the river each year. Maybe residents also need to contribute for their use of the river. A lower user fee for the resident than the non-residents perhaps? At a minimum, residents

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			<p>need to be accounted for as they are also contributing to the crowding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggestion #5 Increased user fee during peak times or reclassify the river • Suggestion #6 There needs to be a River Guardians in place to police all of the above. It would seem that if you were in the area with your eight-day licence and your river just blew out that this just might encourage someone to say "well catch me if you can" and head to another river without proper licensing.
Kispiox	All	Support non-regulatory recommendation to institute the River Guardian Program	
Kispiox	All	<p>Reject all Kispiox recommendations because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The eight-day lottery system is too intrusive a tool and should not be in the toolbox. There is a consensus among non-guided, non-resident tourists polled that they will likely not return to our region if they are required to win a lottery in order to do so. It is simply too onerous and does not give them the flexibility they require to fit a Skeena fishing trip into their vacation plans. • The reason steelheaders choose Hazelton as a place to stay is that they are within half an hour of four steelhead rivers and they decide each morning which river they want to fish. My average guest stays a week with me but fishes at least three of the four rivers. The eight-day lottery would force them to spend their entire week on one river, which is directly counter to the objective of the draft plan. 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The recommendations will mean that our amenity migrants (non-resident angler river front property owners) will no longer be able to fish from their own property unless they are fortunate enough to win a lottery and then only for eight days. These people contribute greatly to the culture and economy of the area and a mass exodus will cause real-estate values to crash and the economy to suffer even more. Reject the status quo zone because it will crowd all the non-guided fishermen into a very short section of the river while leaving the rest of the river empty except for the guides and a few "lottery lucky" anglers. There was no thought given to the implications of access and the impact this would have on the residents living along the river. There is no access point at the top end of the zone so those wanting to drift will have to trespass because there is nowhere else to go. 	
Kispiox	Eight-day licence lottery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the working groups decided on this, my clients have said they would not be back. Over the past nine years, no one has ever complained about over crowding, only the guides. Lack of fish is the issue. What is the ratio of who is for the lottery, and who is against it? Why would a few, less than 19 per cent, have the authority to destroy the economy in the Hazeltons, and all the small business on the Kispiox River. As I understand the equation the non-residents are allowed 99 licences and the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are asking for an unbiased survey, not by guides, for the fall of 2009 and 2010 as to the number of non-residents fishing on the river. We are asking this to be done before the lottery is initiated.

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		guides are allowed 390. We feel there is something wrong with this figure.	
Kispiox	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I feel that some of the problem is directly related to the commercial fisherman at the mouth of the Skeena in August, however it has become increasingly evident that non-guided, non resident fisherman are reaping havoc on the resident population of fish, and creating a fishery that is becoming non-viable, and will lead to a lost asset. When I began fishing the river I would go up at the end of Sept. or early Oct. and see no other fisherman during the day. As the non-resident population increased I got later every until I was fishing in early Nov. Then an article in steelhead magazine outlining the late season on the Kispiox, it has become a river severely over fished the entire year. • I am now left with visiting friends in the valley, as I will not fish the river in this state of ruin. I feel bad for the fish that get caught many times during the season, poorly released, leading to many fish dieing and unable to spawn in the spring. If something is not done soon we will have lost a supreme asset in B.C. forever. Many American rivers have already met this demise and now we are letting them ruin ours and considering allowing them to have a say in our conservation decisions (give me a break). If our government regulators are not intelligent enough to see what is happening to this fishery, God help the local taxpayers. We 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>need change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please listen to those locals who are in touch with the river on a daily basis, not the nonresidents or those locals that rent to them but are not on the river. I feel the guides on the river do an outstanding job protecting this resource, listen to them please. 	
Kispiox	All		<p>Reclassify the Kispiox to Class I for the period from Sept 15-October 15. Use the extra \$20 per angler per day to hire River Guardians. You should be able to hire enough guardians to cover each drift on the river from the extra revenue. Have them do an in-depth creel survey as part of their duties as was done in 2001. That way you will have complete data (which now you do not) to decide whether in fact there is an over crowding problem, the exact number of happy anglers versus unhappy ones, whether these unhappy anglers were guided or not, or if they were guides or resident anglers. I think the answers would surprise you.</p> <p>This would not cost the ministry any more money and would provide hard data for Working Groups to make balanced decisions</p>
East Working Group rivers		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most rivers in the Smithers area are open for fishing from mid-June until the end of December (roughly 29 weeks). There is an over-crowding problem (or a perceived over-crowding problem) for about two to three weeks at the end of September / beginning of October. Is it worth alienating non-residents anglers because of a minor inconvenience to resident anglers that only 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the number of clearly marked boat launches on the rivers Re-instate or create River Guardian programs Resident-only fishing on Saturdays in September and October Limit the use of motorized crafts on certain sections of rivers Educate anglers on proper etiquette / catch

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		lasts fourteen to 21 days?	and release techniques <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get hard data with e-licensing • Change Class II waters to Class I waters at peak times • Clearly indicate fishing guides and their boats to curb illegal guiding. Change the definition of a guide so that payment does not have to be part of the proving.
East Working Group	Non-regulatory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local businesses must not be given any priority to unused rod-days. A system has to be developed that fairly distributes unused rod-days. 	
Babine	Resident-only zone between Nichyeskwa Creek and Nilkitkwa River	Extend zone another 2.5 kilometres downstream from Nilkitkwa River and create an enhanced access area at the bottom of the zone for pontoon boat pullout.	
Babine	Guiding	Much of river very dominated by guides	
Babine	Resident-only zone between Nichyeskwa Creek and Nilkitkwa River Resident and non-guided, non resident zone from Nichyeskwa up to 80 metres below smolt counting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guiding should not be excluded from these two zones because there is not a crowding problem • Guiding only occurs up in this area if Nilkitkwa blows out • Guides voluntarily spread out effort • Number of guided anglers has decreased since late 1980s 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
	fence		
Babine		Too many float craft launched from weir causing problems of crowding in area of guided lodges	BC Parks should stagger launches of these float craft More signage for "no trace camping"
Babine		Only crowding problem is between federal fisheries weir and Nichyeskwa Creek in August	Classify river during August
Babine		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-guided, non-resident use in upper river was very high in summer of 2008; non-guided resident was low Increasing access would destroy wilderness experience 	
Babine		Illegal guiding is an issue	Change Wildlife Act's definition of a guide so that it excludes the "compensation and reward part" and then COs can act
Babine	Guiding	Action needs to be taken on fact that river has too many guided rod-days; would help deal with guide situation below the mouth of the Nilkitkwa.	
Babine	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zone from the DFO weir to the Nichyeskwa Creek confluence (about 1 km), is readily accessed by road and is fished heavily by resident anglers who walk up and down both sides of the river Zone from Nichyeskwa to the Nilkitkwa confluence (about 4 km) is considerably less accessible, less fishable and heavily traveled by grizzly bears during the chinook salmon spawning season Guides fish between Nilkitkwa and Nichyeskwa very sparingly and usually when rainfall and snowmelt events produce high and turbid flows in Nilkitkwa that constrain fishing success downstream on the Babine The incidence of guided anglers anywhere 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>near or upstream from Nichyeskwa has been negligible since the arrival of the first jet boat on the river more than 30 years ago.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing numbers of non-guided non-resident anglers and even some resident anglers now drift the entire Babine but guided anglers continue to dominate (oversubscribe) all the best water at all the best times. None of the angling use data put in circulation by MOE speaks to the realities of the Babine fishery or the issues that need to be addressed. The draft AMP recommendations would change nothing and do nothing for resident anglers. 	
Babine	All	Agree	
Babine	Zone between Nichyeskwa and counting fence should be non-resident	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agree - because this is zone where there are lots of non-residents and guides don't use this area at all But other zone between Nilkitkwa and Nichyeskwa should be open to guiding because few residents use this area anyway 	
Babine	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upper Babine guided rod-days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> My suggestion is to have guide operations refrain from angling on guest-change days. It would work best if the two camps synchronized their change day but it would still be very useful even if they had separate change days. They would each refrain from angling on change days while the other camp that was not changing over would still angle but limit the pools fished to an established zone, much as they do now. This would give residents approximately eight days during the classified season where they would enjoy a good opportunity

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			<p>to fish the prime runs on that stretch.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a schedule is established for the season- that information would be made available to anglers. Ideally (from a resident's perspective) that day (or the two days under a separate change-day scenario) would be combined with a designation of resident-only. If the resident only designation were deemed to be problematic-the proposal without resident-only status would still be highly regarded by resident anglers.
Bulkley, Babine	Residents-only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None of the guides or the target non-guided, non-residents fish Telkwa River, Chicken Creek and Trout Creek except perhaps to launch boats; what evidence can anyone present that guided or non-guided, non-resident anglers oversubscribe either of those areas? Property owner at Trout Creek forbids public access except for a few guides Waste of time to make Telkwa resident-only 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On Bulkley, suggest larger zones such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bulkley Tatlow Falls to Chicken Creek Telkwa to Tatlow Telkwa to Smithers China Creek to Suskwa
Bulkley	Trigger limited-day licence lottery	Implement immediately; already a problem	
Bulkley	Resident-only zones	<p>Add one more zone:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident-only closure on Saturdays from the start of the upper Bulkley to Barret Station bridge (dovetails with the closure for the lower Morice) 	
Bulkley	Limited-day licence lottery	Implement immediately	
Bulkley	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No action to deal with guided effort between Suskwa mouth and Porphory Creek 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Option 1 no good; this is why there is a problem 	
Bulkley	Target for lottery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is unclear where the angling effort statistics originate. The draft plan states the highest effort estimate over the last decade was 6,440 angler days in 2000. In fact the Steelhead Harvest Analysis data clearly indicates otherwise. The highest use was 14,152 angler days in 2001 and the average over the past decade was 11,048. The Steelhead Harvest Analysis undoubtedly overestimates the actual effort but, if some specific bias estimate is being used to calculate the potential number of 8-day licences available under different scenarios, the report should say so. It is similarly unspecified how the estimated 42 per cent non-resident figure was derived. The Steelhead Harvest Analysis data indicates the average angling effort contributed by all non-residents combined over the past decade ranged between 32 per cent and 43 per cent and averaged 37 per cent. 	
Bulkley	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See comments and solutions for Kitwanga re: availability factor and how that affects the carrying capacity and trigger calculation Support lower trigger 	
Bulkley	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not support more guides and rod-days and would suggest the current guides identify themselves and their boats. This would at least enable all users to know who they were referring to, be it residents, non-residents, guides, or First Nations I believe the non-guided, non-residents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>contribute more to local economies than guided since they don't stay at guides' facilities and their money is spent locally rather than at a guided facility that has corporate interests in other countries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The idea of using regulations that currently exist on the Dean River with strategies for the Bulkley River is ludicrous. The Dean is a much smaller river with very limited fishing areas that can become crowded and there are no stores, shops, or local walk-in fishing areas. • The number of visitors to Smithers will be reduced to the point of making businesses suffer and not being available to local residents and guided guests if legislation is implemented. • I have to wonder how any proposed changes could be enforced since the current enforcement can't even take care of the alleged unlicensed guide issues. • I don't support legislation and protectionism. I do support a campaign to inform people on proper handling of fish and respect of our resource with consideration of all user interests. 	
Bulkley	All	<p>The Bulkley AUP was a good document with considerable support from all stakeholders including the business community but unfortunately was never implemented. Many resident anglers are frustrated about this and other failed past processes and are reluctant to take part in this process.</p>	
Bulkley	All	I am not sure what is considered to be	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		overcrowding to the point of lowering the angling experience, but in my humble opinion the crowding has been less in the past several years.	
Bulkley, Morice	All	<p>Like about draft plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognizes importance of improving angling experience • Acknowledges need for broader and more refines regulatory regime, data collection and improved enforcement • Recognizes that quality angling can be influenced by etiquette, angler numbers, education, and nature and use of water craft <p>Don't like</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fails to recognize that sport fishery has become a regional industry • Working Groups not representative • Lottery unfairly targets non-residents; guided must be included; residents too • Ministry data does not support proposed regulations • Disregards growth in guiding industry • Tool box inadequate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulate commercial fishery at mouth of Skeena • Collect more data to justify management objectives • Pay aboriginal food fisheries to not keep steelhead • Course on ethical angling, mandatory for getting licence • Course for guides and assistants • Ban motorized boating on upstream tributaries (above Telkwa) except for enforcement and data collection
Morice	Trigger limited-day licence lottery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement immediately; already a problem • Suggest target that is average of Options 1 and 2 	
Morice	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strongly agree with problems and issues identified • Bymac and Aspen campgrounds are problems for crowding • Problem with personal watercraft contributing to crowding • Poor weather or conditions in other parts of watershed lead to anglers coming to the 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>Morice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residents stay home because of crowding by guides and non-residents 	
Morice	All		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extend Classified period from August 15 to November 15, corresponding to times steelhead are catchable; spread non-resident anglers and guides over the longer period Guides are part of the problem and should be restricted too: number of guides per boat, or number of boats per guide (will help with perception that guides have too narrow an interest) To address resident priority, propose resident only Saturday: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> From Bymac Campground to junction of Little Bulkley River and Morice River <p>From Aspen campground to Owen Flats</p>
Morice	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See comments and solutions for Kitwanga re: availability factor and how that affects the carrying capacity and trigger calculation Support average use (Option 2) 	
Zymoetz I	Extend Classified period	Agree	
Zymoetz I	Resident lottery in future	Opposed to lottery for residents ever; this is one of the few wilderness areas available to residents	Consider resident-only Saturday
Zymoetz I			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guided only for non-residents Existing unassigned 192 rod-day quota be given out equally between the three guides (64 days per licence) Class I August 1 to December 31

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			Mandatory Steelhead Stamp August 1 to December 31
Zymoetz I	Restrict BC residents in future	This does not fit with resident priority principle of Quality Waters Strategy; guides should be reduced before resident anglers	
Zymoetz I, Kitsumkalum	Guided only and increased rod-days	Unacceptable abuse of guide involvement in Working Groups	
Zymoetz I, Babine		Different approach for wilderness Class I rivers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cannot hold consecutive tags for more than eight days; anglers will have to return to town to get licences, which will likely limit the time they fish Leave fees alone until economic conditions improve
Zymoetz I	All		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classified August 1 to December 31 Guided only for non-guided, non-resident Divide up existing unassigned rod-day quota equally between three licensees One group of anglers per day per guide licence with a maximum of three guided anglers per group Resident-only fishing on Sundays
Zymoetz I	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed guide rod day total (88) will ultimately result in three helicopters working in this wilderness section during every fishable day of the prime season. They will effectively cover all of the class I section on a daily basis. This will severely impact the wilderness values of this special section of river. A significant component of resident anglers has been utilizing this section as a refuge to experience some measure of solitude coupled with wilderness values and decent 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>fishing. All of these anglers are of a class that cannot afford helicopter access. These anglers make an all day commitment to travel by vehicle and hike in through some pretty challenging terrain. This daily guide pressure will result in negative changes to the response behaviour of the steelhead in this river.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Zymoetz II recommendations contain a proposal to have weekends as resident-only but I do not see that here. As an example, make from Limonite Creek upstream to Treasure Creek resident-only on the weekends. This measure would recognize resident priority and may still accommodate economic interests. 	
Zymoetz I	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No lottery for residents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working Group must establish carrying capacity No further guided rod-days should be allocated until carrying capacity demonstrates that the river can support them Monitor and possibly regulate helicopter use
Zymoetz I and II	Guided rod-days	I don't support more rod days or guided only fishing on the Zymoetz River or other waters.	
Zymoetz II	All	Do not agree with lumping the rod-day allocation and monitoring of Clore River usage within the Zymoetz II umbrella	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish carrying capacity of the Clore River
Zymoetz II	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rationale behind proposed increase in guide days is to adjust for the extension of the Classified Waters season but the math shows an additional increase during the main season (Sept/Oct) from 117 to 160 days. Is this justified and/or realistic? With 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>the reduction of available days during s Sept/Oct (weekends for residents) this will further concentrate the guide effort on those remaining days available to the guide industry. Perhaps this is regarded as the tradeoff for giving up the weekends?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imperative to have mechanism in place that will be effective in distributing the guide effort over the extended season as is proposed. (60% during Sept/Oct). If this is not accomplished many of the potential benefits of the new plan will be lost. 	
Zymoetz II	All	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) First of all the draft Angling Management Plan you have produced is not an Angling Management Plan at all; it is simply recommendations. An Angling Management Plan deals with fishable kilometres of river, angler density targets, current use data, etc. then finally gets to recommendation. Where is the background information in this draft Angling Management Plan? The Quality Waters process delivers a template to follow while developing an Angling Management Plan. Where is the template you used? 2) Guiding on the Zymoetz II in the off-season is the biggest part of my business not because it's particularly great fishing but because no one is there, it's close to my lodge, and it's fly-friendly water. Do you seriously think my guests would travel from all parts of the world to fish with me if we fished near other anglers? How can there be a crowding problem if no one is there? The truth is there is absolutely no crowding 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>problem (verified by data) in August or November.</p> <p>3) The data demonstrates that from September 20 - October 10 non-resident anglers are over subscribed, that's the only problem on the Zymoetz II. The Zymoetz II recommendations are completely unacceptable, unsupported by data and/or facts.</p> <p>4) The allocation of guided rod-days does not follow the Quality Waters Strategy document, which clearly lays out the process on page 66:</p> <p>5) "8.0 Guided Angler Day Allocation Method</p> <p>6) Figure 1 is a flow chart showing the initial allocation of guided angler days defined in an AMP. Three criteria will be used to determine the initial allocation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. History of guided angler-day use during the reference period b. Existing financial investment in the angling guide's business in the region c. Purchased value in the case of guided angler-days being auctioned" 	
Zymoetz II	All		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classified August 1 to December 31 • Resident-only on Sundays • 150 additional rod-days per guide licence on top of existing quota • Two groups of anglers per day per guide licence with a maximum of three guided anglers per group • Non-guided, non-residents limited to 10 anglers per day with an annual cap of 750 angler-days (same as additional guide

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
Zymoetz II			quota) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1600 rod-days assigned for guide quota • Existing five licences will have 300 rod-days each • 100 non-tenured days available for other guides downstream of 17 km • Class II August 1 to December 31 • Downstream 17 km open access to non-residents • Upstream 17 km restricted access to non-residents via electronic licensing allowing up to eight non-guided anglers per day • One eight-day licence per year for non-residents Mandatory Steelhead Stamp August 1 to December 31
Zymoetz, Kitsumkalum, Lakelse		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You need to take a hard look at eliminating the non-guided, non-resident component, for example, only guided non-residents permitted. This would improve the control of the fishery. It would be beneficial to guides (no, I am not a guide) and it would benefit the local economy. • I agree with the current definition of non-resident as anyone outside of BC. 	
Kitsumkalum, Lakelse	All	Support	
Kitsumkalum			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open all year to guiding • Non-residents guided only above canyon • One eight-day licence per year for non-residents • Mandatory Steelhead Stamp September 1 to June 1 • Additional 75 rod-days made available for

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			<p>existing licences (approximately 1000 new days)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class II water all year <p>Two unused licences made available to new guides</p>
Kitsumkalum	All non-residents guided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very restrictive and will have implications on local economy Should provide access priority for Canadian residents over non-Canadians and monitor to see whether restriction should be further extended to all non-residents 	
Kitsumkalum	All	How does limiting of guides to two boats per day achieve results? With 11 guides, there is a potential to have 22 guide boats on any given day.	
Kitsumkalum	All		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open to Guiding March 15 to November 15 BC Resident only fishery November 15 to March 15 Sundays resident only if the guide season is extended to November 15 Two Groups per day per guide licence Guided-only above the canyon
Lakelse	All	I think the Lakelse River is too fragile to allow guiding. Right now there is some pressure on it, but you have to look at the kind of pressure it gets. For the most part it is fly guys with the appropriate sized rods for the fish they are after, usually avid fishermen who try hard not to do harm the fish or the environment. You see very little garbage left behind and usually the etiquette is great on the river. Locals hold the Lakelse in special regard, like the Zymoetz and some others.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
Lakelse	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should be solely fly-fishing above the CNR 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		bridge – all year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-resident anglers should be restricted to the fall fishery. • No fishing from the bridge (on the lower section). 	
Lakelse	All		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resident-only year round • If not resident-only than all non-residents must be guided via non-tenured pool of rod-days
Lakelse	All	Agree	
Lakelse			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-residents guided-only • 1000 new rod-days made available with 20 potential licences with 50 rod-days each • Class II water all year Mandatory Steelhead Stamp September 1 to June 1
Skeena IV below Kitwanga Bridge	All		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5000 new rod days broken into 25 new licences with 200 rod-days each • Class II July 1 to October 31 • Mandatory Steelhead Stamp Aug 1 to June 1 • Existing Skeena IV licences can guide anywhere in Skeena IV • Remaining unassigned rod days on Skeena IV be given out to existing licence holders in an even manner • One eight-day licence per year for non-residents
Skeena IV below Kitwanga Bridge	All		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skeena III/IV boundary moved to Lower Kitselas Canyon • Existing Skeena IV licensees can guide anywhere on Skeena IV and will be allowed to access the unused existing rod-day quota • Existing Skeena IV guides in zone from 2

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			kilometres upstream of Kitwanga River Mouth to Sedan Creek <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the above zone, place a daily limit on non-guided, non-residents • New Zone from Sedan Creek to Lower Skeena IV boundary with 10 new guide licences made available with 100 rod-days each (1,000 rod days in total) and a limit of one group per guide license
Skeena IV below Kitwanga Bridge	All	No concerns here	
Skeena IV	All		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The area from Kitselas Canyon to the lower boundary of Skeena IV should be declared a no guiding area • There should be four new guiding opportunities and 80 new rod-days
West Working Group rivers	Additional rod-days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terrace Working Group made up of 100 per cent guides and ex guides gave themselves more rod days worth about \$45,000 each that somehow is going to help the perceived crowding problem? Then they want guided-only on two rivers to do away with their "competition." Talk about conflict of interest! And this was sanctioned by the ministry representative in their group even though it goes completely against the guiding principles of the QW Strategy. This recommendation should never have been allowed in the draft and shows how poorly this whole fiasco has been conducted from the beginning. 	

Other Issues and Concerns

Process

- Too many guided interests on Working Groups; no business representatives
- Local First Nations left out of process
- Ministry never implemented Bulkley Angling Use Plan or Classified Waters initiative
- Local anglers do not want to participate in the Quality Waters Strategy because of history with ministry
- "Declassify" rivers for use by residents
- Abandon the Quality Waters Strategy process
- The problem is not the guides, not the resident anglers, not non-residents and not First Nations; it's the ministry's dysfunctional bureaucracy that does not respect community interests
- Quality Waters is a fair process and people on Working Groups are best people to do the job
- Resident anglers drove this process, not guides
- A non-resident landowner should not have the same priority as a resident landowner
- People say that they want everything to stay the same but it doesn't; residents have adapted to changing regulation in fishing and hunting, non-residents have to do that too
- Guides are the only ones who have extensive rules and regulations
- In 1990, ministry promised that non-guided, non resident anglers would be regulated but it has never happened and it should as part of this plan
- How can accommodation providers dictate how many anglers should be on a river?
- Many people have been very misinformed about this process through certain people in the community
- "Resident priority mandate" is the root cause of the problem and hierarchy of resident>guided>non-resident Canadian>non-resident non-Canadian needs to be revisited
- Poor facilitation at some of the stakeholder meetings; allowing dominant people to talk too much
- Quality Waters Strategy process is not fair and does not represent all interests
- Working Group members display naiveté, willful blindness and bring their own personal agendas, which is unacceptable.
- Guides and the ministry are running this not community stakeholders. Example, your open house in Hazelton, did not have any documentation, no letters, no newspapers articles, not one thing in the entire building showing the other side of this issue, and why the community does not want an eight-day lottery.
- The Response Form has design problems. Sample sizes will be too small to be of any interest. Any response data presented should be expressed in terms of both number and per cent.
- Unfortunately, there are a few self-serving individuals out there who would sacrifice their values to achieve their own personal goals. What might appear a tireless effort on the surface, is shadowed by disrespectful comments, the distortion of facts and the exclusion of pertinent information. These individuals play one interest group against another; this never results in a mutually beneficial outcome and can even divide communities. A very wise man once said "Opinions are the world's most abundant commodity, therefore we owe it to ourselves to do our own due diligence. Get 100% informed and heed your own council." (For

Other Issues and Concerns

example - review Skeena Quality Water's website.)

- A division has been caused in our tourism industry by the Quality Waters Strategy process. Our community now faces conflict between tourism businesses that I view as destructive and possibly long lasting. In my opinion the sectoral nature of the meeting process contributes to that division. While I appreciate sectoral meetings may be more productive in gaining consensus among like-minded people, they have the potential to cause fear created by not knowing what the "other side" may be saying.
- Participation of resident anglers is conspicuously limited, in large part the result of anglers becoming disillusioned with the lack of results from the previously developed, but shelved plan. It will be a mistake on the part of the Ministry to not see this new review through to an applied conclusion.
- Resident priority is not for sale!
- Non-residents should not be consulted in this process
- First Nations must be completely integrated into the consultation process
- The focus and mandate of the Ministry of Environment is and should be fish, rivers and resources...not tourism and economy.
- The fact that the final plan will not be presented to the public until it is too late is also a big mistake.
- This West Working Group draft does not follow the spirit of the Quality Waters Strategy or the resource document whatsoever! All you had to do was insure that the Working Groups followed the document, that's all. A resource document driven draft plan would have discovered the few real crowding problems, and would have dismissed the perceived or outright lies about crowding problems.

Tourism / local business

- Residents of BC need to decide how they feel about tourism versus rights of locals

Access

- Problem with helicopter traffic on Zymoetz I; needs to be monitored and possibly regulated
- Need more access for walk-in, bike-in to Babine for resident anglers.
- More boat launches means more boats, which means more crowding; increased access yes but not via big boats

Crowding / angling quality

- Major camping on Morice contributing to crowding by non-guided, non-residents at Bymac, Aspen and Owen flats.
- Angler crowding has not increased but angler competition has
- Process ignores effect that better runs of steelhead would have on perceived quality of angling and crowding issues
- Steelhead Harvest Analysis data cannot be accurately used for measuring angler density
- There have been too few creel censuses and caution needs to be used in using creel results to talk about crowding and quality experiences
- First part of run getting hit hard by commercial fishery and this pushes fish and anglers into middle and late run, which contributes to crowding
- One hundred anglers in jet boats have way more impact than the same 100 anglers walking shorelines.
- In 2008 during my last day on the Babine, I encountered nine other jet boats (i.e. ten counting mine; six of ten were guide boats) and seven rafts on the first 8 kilometres of the 13-kilometre trip between my starting point and the DFO weir. Does 17 boats on a

Other Issues and Concerns

short section of a river widely advertised as world-class constitute a quality fishing experience?

- Even though some do not agree there is a crowding problem, a majority of anglers have indicated otherwise.
- I have to admit I was frustrated, last night, to hear people question whether or not the river banks are crowded, reducing the quality of the angler's fishing experience. Having fished the Bulkley from the time I was 12 years old (1972), to me the increase in number of anglers and increased pressure on this resource is so obvious.

Conservation

- Losing our unenhanced, wild salmon runs in the Babine

Historical Angler use

- When fishery was made catch and release, number of resident anglers decreased markedly and licence sales show this
- Lower Skeena sport fishery is focused on salmon and steelhead has never been a big player here
- Kitwanga, Kitseguecla, Lakelse and Suskwa were set at zero guides for because none of them had steelhead populations that could sustain the sorts of pressure that guides might bring to bear on them, and resident anglers were accorded the priority described in policy.

Boats

- Concern about changes to the Navigable Waters Act and how that might affect access and boating on rivers.

Guiding

- There is much concern and lack of support for the ability of rod day licence holder to be able to sell off or lease rod days for personal profit. Rod days are not owned but rented by users and as such one can't sell what one does not own. By allowing such a practice hinders fair and equal opportunity to those aspiring to be guides. Care, custody, control and distribution of rod days must remain in the hands of the ministry.

Appendix O Notes from Email Submissions (Non-Residents)

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
All	All	<p>Opposed to everything in the plan because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lotteries have no flexibility and cannot fish where and when desired; no way to account for water conditions, fishing reports, weather, etc. • Rivers are not crowded; if you don't like the crowds go to a different part of watershed • Non-resident property owner not being treated fairly • Resident-only fishing on weekend day(s) is ridiculous 	
All	All	Present plan is unacceptable	<p>Suggest instead:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tiered pricing for non-resident licences • First eight days increase by \$20 to \$41 per day • Second eight days increase to \$60 per day • Cost more at peak season • Money generated from licences used to buy-out Skeena gill-netters <p>This plan would reduce the number of non-resident anglers but give flexibility to accommodation providers. People could fish for as long as they could afford. People might not be happy about fee increases but they would know the money was going to dealing with a major conservation issue, getting rid of the commercial fishery.</p>
All	All	<p>Quality Waters Strategy is not working because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not all stakeholders represented • Using inaccurate information • Tool box is inadequate • Conservation is not included 	<p>Minister should delay process and ministry implement some generally acceptable measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resident-only for every second Saturday for six-week period from early September to late October on Morice, Kispiox, and Lower Skeena

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resident-only for every other Saturday on Bulkley, Upper Skeena, and Zymoetz. • Free Classified Waters licences for residents. • Licence fee increases allowed only if all revenues utilized for resource management and conservation. Fee increases not solely to regulate crowding and care needs to ensure that those with less money can still participate. • Select and implement a few of the non-controversial management measures that have been suggested, such as no guided fishing on the Babine upstream of the Nilkitkwa River and improved angling-etiquette education. <p>In the future, any further regulations must be supported by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive, highly accurate and pertinent, historical data • Determine angling carrying capacity of each river • Improve access
All	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not in favour of guided-only fishing • Non-residents contribute more to the local economy than residents • Many of us are both guided and non-guided and we want to do both kinds of fishing • It is very difficult now for a non-resident to get a Classified Water licence — hunting down a vendor, often far from the river that you want to fish on. Now with this proposed plan the inflexibility and harassment is only accentuated making it so burdensome to fish your rivers that it finally becomes not worth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To create quality opportunities for residents, my solution is resident-only weekends on all rivers currently under review. This measure will have a relatively low impact on the local economy. Certainly less than the lottery system. The lottery system might come into play during a future review. • In order to help the guide sector, I would have the weekends still available to guiding, provided that a mechanism is put in place to ensure that they do not shift their effort to the higher quality weekend fishery.

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		it.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To control long-term anglers, I would suggest a regional cap on the Classified Waters. As an example I will use 15 days. This seems to me to be a reasonable amount of fishing for travelling anglers. With resident-only weekends this would average out to a three- week stay in the region. I believe this will be implementable under the initial e-licensing system. This would solve the lack of flexibility issue that has been cited with the lottery proposal. Groups would be able to fish the same days. People could move around the region easily, etc. • These measures will not address the peak season concentration of effort but perhaps a plan such as this could be regarded as an initial step of a multi-stage implementation process. • Annual reviews are a vital component of this Quality Waters process. This monitoring process should be capable of making determinations as to whether the plans require tweaking or not. More tools may become available in the future and the degree of acceptance of particular tools by various stakeholders may also change over time (lottery for example). • A River Guardian program would certainly prove to be a logical complement and it would be instrumental in acquiring resident angler effort on a stream-by-stream basis.
All	All	I am a non-resident Canadian and I pay federal taxes which go in-part to pay for management of steelhead in BC, so I should be treated differently than non-Canadian non-residents	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
All	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are not harvesting fish. This latest draft is taking things a bit far. Why not come out directly and say classified water law is nothing but a gouge tax of non-residents of BC and government subsidized profiteering for guides and outfitters. The government of BC is creating private paradise for BC residents and guides working these classified systems by exclusion. • If you really wanted to decrease the pressure on these systems wouldn't you limit access to profiting ventures? In the Skeena area, during classified times, at my estimation there are nearly 16,000 rod-days and increasing according to the plan? Why? Isn't it too crowded? That's an average of about 250 a day. Tax them instead of non-residents. I don't feel I'm a tourist; I'm a resident of Canada. I find it especially offensive that I'm considered non-resident in your province. I'm ashamed that I'm treated more fairly on this issue in the US where I am a legitimate alien. • Constitution says all Canadians should be treated equally, so he should be able to fish 	
All	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree there are crowding problems, especially on the Bulkley and Kispiox, but this draft plan will not improve that. • Why no non-residents or local business on Working Groups? • Life will be harder and more complex for non-resident anglers 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to include all the rivers • Zones and times for local are OK 	
All	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Originally lived in BC, but continue to come to cabin on Kispiox for 30 years; now family and children come too • Plans are too restrictive; would not be worth coming • Cannot hire a guide because they are too expensive • Willing to pay more • Special consideration for people born in BC that now live in other parts of Canada 	
All	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sometimes it's crowded but than I just go to another location or river • It takes a lot of planning and I spend a lot on a fishing trip and it is the highlight of my year, but if I am restricted or if there is uncertainty about where and when I can fish, I will not come back • I am angered because the money I put into the BC economy is not being appreciated • Some people seem to be blaming everything on the non-residents but guides are involved too. 	
All	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I always refuse to participate in processes where the government tells me what is in the tool box and what is not; if it's not in the tool box then put it in • A vastly increased number of rules, many of which are incredibly complicated and difficult to implement, will not lead to less illegal guiding, or folks following the rules, or less 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>crowding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BC is unable to stop even a small fraction of illegal guiding, or enforce the rules they already have • The CO service and the ministry have taken huge budget hits for twenty years; many of us fought that, and we always lose 	
All	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don't go to a lottery on any rivers. Save that for last. It's expensive and hard to do right (and we don't have any evidence to suggest MOE has the capacity to implement something that complicated anyway). • I spend lots of money in these communities each time I come up and fish • Why are you making non-residents have to hire a guide on all these rivers? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-resident landowners must have grandfathered access to the rivers they are on • Increase fees and use money locally to get rid of commercial fishery
All	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Illegal guiding is a problem • Lotteries and eight-day licences are overkill • Do not want guided-only anywhere; these rivers should not be privatized to the guiding industry • Fishing data indicate number of anglers going down; this means that angler overcrowding is more perceived than real or it could be due to behavior of anglers (hogging holes, not rotating, etc) which could be changed through education and more enforcement instead of measures that would make fishing more difficult and expensive to access. • Plan to fish elsewhere if we all have to be guided 	Make legal guide boats more visible

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
All	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crack down on the illegals, the people who are illegally guiding or outfitting these people come mainly from Europe, they now have web sites advertising their services. • When I think back on my over-crowding experiences it has always centered around these types of non-residents. • Lotteries will not work and are not fair. Airfares and transportation costs have gone through the roof, so a person goes through the required steps, applies for a lottery and waits until it's time to fish, travels long distances and arrives only to see his chosen river blown out by heavy rains and or snow melt and he is stuck, can't go any place else because his lottery says that specific river at the specific time. So, would you invest and come to BC under those circumstances? • Restricting access to non-residents to a 200-yard or whatever the idea is for certain well-known runs or access points is not fair and will not work. What is an angler supposed to do, parachute in? • Restricting a non-resident to a certain number of fishing days will not work for many of the reasons mentioned above. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pay for and equip river cops to enforce the rules. Have two-man teams, give them jet boats and ATV's and other state-of-the-art communication gear. • Have rules clearly printed on the licences or part of the form or packet that people get when they buy their licences, make it part of a kit. Then provide this kit with call-in numbers to report the offenders and their location and then immediately dispatch the river cops and make some arrests, confiscate boats and equipment and watch how fast the overcrowding problem goes away. • Give the guides state-of-the-art communication equipment that they can use to call in the cops. • Post large signs clearly showing the rules and call number to report violations at every known major access point or bridge crossing. If necessary, print the signs in as many languages as it takes • Then enforce the rules. Post river cops at know places where these illegals enter the rivers. • The main stem Skeena is a vast yet physically intimidating river capable of supporting many more anglers throughout its length than it now does. So develop an access plan and access points. Provide maps clearly showing holding water, runs, pools, riffles and glides where steelhead will hold, take away the intimidation by size and location problem and watch how quickly anglers would spread themselves out even more

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If there really is a crowding issue, zone smaller rivers during peak season and prohibit walk-in for both residents and non-residents. • Stagger the guide change-over days • Guides, how about having a morning conference call or night before call and pre-agreeing on where you will fish that day to avoid bumping into each other? • Perhaps the ministry needs to consider if the number of rod-days is appropriate for a given river. Are there too many? If so, perhaps certain beats could be reserved for guides only, assuming the saturation point by rod-days is correct. Guided clients will not compete with walk-ins and walk-ins will not compete with guides. • Perhaps some rod-days should be re-allocated to the Skeena if it is determined that there are too many for a given river. This might require a little more driving for the guides but it would help spread the traffic out or provide for an experience of solitude if that's what the paying client wants. • How about banning private watercraft, tubes, jet boats, rafts, etc. used by either resident or non-resident or at least having them subscribe to a lottery or section system. • How about looking at how people fish and designate gear areas and fly fishing areas.
All	All	As a person who makes a living in the world of economics, I can confidently say this plan will not cause a downward spiral in the	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>tourism/fishing economy of BC but will rather help it. You must know the problems with overcrowding are only during the times the rivers are classified. This plan will allow businesses such as hotels, gas stations, car rentals, etc. to enjoy a much steadier flow of business over a prolonged period. Fishermen like us will be forced to alter the way we approach fishing in the Skeena - we don't get to flock to the steelhead by plane, train or automobile when we know the fish are at their best numbers, which is what we did for many years before the internet. Now, if we don't get drawn for the lottery or we don't want to be limited to only eight days, then we come in the months that the rivers are not classified or we fish the rivers that the lottery or eight-day licence does not apply. This plan extends a two-month season to as much as four months which, in my view, is a much more sustainable approach. If we are not willing to alter our approach of how we fish for steelhead in Canada, then we are willing participants in contributing to their decline. We certainly cannot name ourselves as ambassadors to steelhead when one takes a look at our rivers here in the US. Let's hope Canadians do a better job than we have.</p>	
All	All	<p>Are these captured?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will not come if draft implemented • The blame for crowding issues during "prime time" should land solidly not on regulations, but on the fact that our seasons are 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>shrinking to compensate for the loss of early run steelhead to commercial interception over the last 50 years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan sends a message that BC is not open for tourism • Do you want fishery to be exclusively the purview of river anglers? • Rarely fish for 8 days in a row • Never seen crowding or poor angling quality • Draft plan seems to favour a small group of special interests • Access to the many rivers in the Skeena System is very primitive and so people are forced to fish in much the same areas, utilize various boats and gravitate to small areas 	
All	Limited-day licence lottery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As non-resident alien anglers we feel that it would be very beneficial to adopt a lottery for non-residents as it would spread fishermen over the full length of the season and thereby provide the resident anglers with an opportunity to fish during the entire season without being buffeted by non-residents who are concentrated during several weeks of the season, provide higher quality angling as the steelhead are not being hammered during one concentrated period and spread the economic benefits provided by non-resident fishermen to the community over the entire season. It is also worth noting that the substantial revenue earned by the guides for the most part stays in the area and is in addition to the food and lodging 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>revenue that the non-guided anglers bring to the community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We understand that the lottery system could very well limit the number of days that we can fish the Skeena drainage, but we believe that the proposal is in the best interests of all people that reside, visit and fish in this drainage. 	
All	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Much has been said about how the Quality Waters Strategy restructure is diverting attention away from the critical conservation issues in the region such as commercial netting, aquaculture and natural gas development in the headwaters. Personally, I think we have to be honest with ourselves and recognize that angling impact, though it may be minor, is also a conservation issue and important to monitor and regulate, if necessary. Managing angler impact is part of the bigger conservation picture. Is regulation/restriction necessary? Is there "overcrowding?" In my estimation, sometimes yes, sometimes no. Some places yes, some places no. It's not black and white. But we do know that the human footprint in the region is not going to get significantly smaller in the near future. I think it's in our best interest to be proactive and do something about it now, while the resource has a chance to survive... If anglers and the sport angling industry (that includes guides, guided anglers and non- 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On the surface, the task sounds like an imposing order, given the subjective nature of the word "quality" and the notion of equality — and even more so, where equality is due, considering national borders, citizenship, aliens, etc. But maybe it's not so difficult to diagram roughly in a way that could lead to more definition. Personally, I see the direction of an equitable solution as having four major components: Allowable Angler Density Scoping – Certainly this is a subjective element. But it is at the heart of the project. First step, as scientifically as possible, it must be determined how many angler-days a given river or river zone can accommodate before the quality of experience or the health of the resource is compromised. According to the draft plan, these density numbers have been established. Who knows how accurate or meaningful the numbers are? I don't, but I know we have to start somewhere, lay down a working baseline. Hopefully biological considerations were or will be given as much weight in this determination as

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>guided anglers, resident and alien) are effectively self-regulating, then and only then can we take the moral high ground against large-scale industrial resource extraction and similar impacts. If we remain in the finger-pointing paradigm, we are no better than the large-scale offenders. For that reason, this process, i.e., development of a management plan that fairly regulates angler density, is uniquely important. I wish we could just say, "leave it alone and it'll be OK." I don't think it will. I think those days are over.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Of course, the phrase that sticks is "a plan that fairly regulates angler density." The three committees and the MOE have the challenge of making this determination. Like others in this thread, I encourage them to scrap the toolbox constraint and consider any and all ideas that seem workable. 	<p>immediate economic considerations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angler Density Allotment - Of course, this is the monster under the bed. Many recommendations have been offered in this thread and in the released first-round plan. No use repeating them. I will say, in general terms and at this point in time, I would encourage the committees to toss out any measures that act to dissuade or prevent anglers from visiting the region. Instead, mechanisms that distribute angling pressure across more water and throughout the seasons are more meaningful and more helpful — and likely to be more beneficial to more of the local economy. • More specifically, since the current Quality Waters Strategy is essentially zone management, I support a more refined zone management approach: more slicing and sectioning. I support early sales of licensing (by lottery only if first come, first served is too exclusive) with a percentage held back for on-demand, on-location purchasing (again by lottery only if first come, first served is too exclusive). I'm more in favour of limiting consecutive days allowed on any given zone than limiting total number of days allowed on any given river or zone. Don't stop someone from spending a month and thousands of dollars in the region. Do move them around; make them take a day or two off fishing a particular zone. Any suggestions on this subject are easy to put forward. But the details and workability of any

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			<p>approach can only really be determined by looking at the numbers in the allowable angler density scoping for each zone. Theoretically, days would be apportioned according to the existing Quality Waters Strategy hierarchy of privilege. This is sticky too, but it has to be based on some percentage model.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Back to my previous point for a last thought here, and a lob to the committees: It may seem counterintuitive, or ironic, but I think and hope we'll find that the development of a carefully regulated sportfishing industry, even expanded from what we see now, will be the best way to keep wild steelhead returning to the Skeena. A vibrant, sustainable tourism economy including guides, guided anglers and non-guided anglers, is the best safeguard against the prototypical scourge of incidental-extirpation-in-the-wake-resource-extraction. We must make steelhead economically valuable, and they have to be recognized as such by the broader community, or they'll be considered expendable, at least in the collective subconscious. The same unintentional demise of steelhead and salmon populations has been enacted in spite of the cry of good citizens over and over in the modern history of western North America. Get this right and we have a rare chance to take a big step in stopping the slide. • Electronic Licensing - An effective and smoothly working, real-time licensing system that can track individual use through a central database

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			<p>and feed that to points of sale/distribution is key to any meaningful management scenario. Once the density allotment for various zones is determined, proper management becomes an information technology job. The retail world has it figured out. I'm sure the BC government can make it work as well. If they can't, or if it's deemed too complicated or administration-intensive, then the entire effort is ineffective.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enforcement – I'll be repetitive here because it's an irrefutable fact of human behavior: without visible and active enforcement presence, any regulatory measure is ineffectual. How does the province put more CO's on the water? Do licence fees need to be higher? Probably so. How do the residents of BC hold their government accountable for its use of collected taxes and fees? As they are anywhere, politics are ugly and essential. Pressure, pressure. Direct us non-residents and we'll apply pressure as well. Volunteer or paid citizen patrols working with MOE seems like an idea to support. Government and community working together? If they value the resource and the livelihood it brings, they will. Since this is all about money and budget, creative solutions are in order. • Simple enough, right? No...OK, that was a breezy walk through the thorny parts. But, in the end, how this plays will be up to the people of British Columbia. They will have to wade into the details and make some choices. No use getting too detail-fixated here. The fate of a big

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			<p>intangible thing many of us hold most dear is in their hands. I trust they'll understand our consternation and fretting. Like others have voiced, I have developed friendships with individuals in the region that I count as some of my most cherished. I'm going to stick my neck out and say I have confidence that they will, with due diligence, craft a workable plan, and one that can be amended as necessary as its effectiveness unfolds. I believe they will listen to what we have to say and measures like boycotts are not required and counterproductive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lastly, and most loudly, I want to make sure we all look at the broader perspective and get on board with solution making as much as possible. British Columbia, Canada and all of us by extension have an opportunity here to show the rest of the world how a world-class recreational fishery can be managed democratically to a) provide the region with a sustainable economy not based on resource extraction and b) keep all constituents in touch with the intangible and immeasurable thing that wild rivers and wild fish provide.
All	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I completely support the idea of a limited-day licence for class II water on the Skeena system for non-resident anglers. This is a healthy evolution and it would help reduce pressure over time. • I am also happy to pay the classified waters fees, steelhead stamps, etc. in order to help support the fishery. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No jet boat allowed on all rivers except for Skeena - Skeena is a much larger river than other rivers in question. By prohibiting jet boat on all other rivers "quality" of fishing should be up by a lot. • No jet boat and boats allowed for non-guided, non-residents on all rivers; pontoon still allowed - This still gives resident anglers and guided

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • But, your plan is predictably and systematically biased towards resident anglers over non-resident anglers. In my years fishing near Smithers, I have seen just as many BC residents contribute to crowding. I have seen BC residents camp for weeks at a time on the Dean, Morice, etc. in prime water. • The idea of making certain waters "resident only" on weekends or other periods is ridiculous. If you are going to limit days they need to be limited for all anglers. • I also completely disagree with the lottery system as it is proposed. Visiting anglers have to plan around their schedules at home, not the dates that we might or might not receive in a lottery. And, for many of us, that planning takes place months in advance. A lottery implemented as stated would simply prevent me from planning from fishing most years. Tourism would suffer greatly in the region as many of us simply would not come to BC. 	<p>anglers much advantage to fish holes where foot access is not possible. Pontoon still allowed, because if we limit access for non-residents, it will create another crowding problem at or around access point where easily accessed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resident-only day - Introduce resident-only day on (possibly) Saturday. • Increase licence fees for non-residents to pay for enforcement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Class I to \$60, up by \$20 ○ Class II to \$40, up by \$20 ○ Steelhead stamp to \$100, up by \$40 <p>Fly fishing only on all Classified Water - Because fly fishing is the least efficient way to fish but the best way to release fish.</p>
All	All		<p>In Washington State we have found the ultimate tool to address "overcrowding" - there are so few fish that we can almost always find open water in which to practice our casting. In light of this, we have no plans to restrict access and aliens from other states and provinces can recreate alongside the locals.</p>
All	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I would hate to see fishing in the Pacific Northwest become an elitist sport like Atlantic salmon fishing has become in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a need for better law enforcement with more conservation officers. • Licensed guides can and should have protection

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		Quebec and New Brunswick reserved for the very wealthy. That policy has made fishing prohibitively costly for most residents of the region including my own family let alone non-residents except for the wealthy elite.	<p>of their livelihood but not to the point of excluding other anglers and certainly not to the detriment of other small businessmen.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulation of non-resident fishing should be reasonable. We do not want to feel unwelcome in your province
All	All		<p>It seems to me that there are only three legitimate ways to reduce/distribute angling pressure</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Limit the number of anglers Limit the amount of time they can fish Limit where they can fish. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> These three would also fit under several of the headings of the current tool bar of the proposed AMP. In a nutshell, I believe that some kind of "hybrid" plan which includes these three kinds of limits is the only way an AMP will work because of the volume of anglers who want to fish the Skeena, and because of the competition amongst them, and their perceived conflict of interests. Resident anglers and First Nations should be the last to be limited in any way-if at all. BC guides and lodges with guided anglers would only have to assume some more relatively minor restrictions, as they already have rod-day quotas, and limits on the rivers they can guide on. Bed and Breakfast operations and non-resident, non-guided anglers have to assume some kind of restrictions, as there are none now, and that doesn't sound appropriate to me. This group includes non-resident anglers who are also homeowners. On the other hand these

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			<p>folks cannot be squeezed out of the picture. Their economic and political contributions are too important and valuable. They have to be included in a way that respects their economic circumstances, contributions and their political and social perspectives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Given this basic stakeholder perspective I think any overall plan should be somewhat river specific and should consider the essential characteristic of the river in question and where it stand in the mix of Skeena watersheds. BC has a great combination of opportunities- the best and most diverse in the world- and there is something there for anglers of all types. Some rivers are still wilderness rivers, others are semi wilderness, and some are closer to civilized processes and definitions. To me, this means we should consider these categories when we look at carrying capacities, for example, and any AMP should respect and help protect the qualities that make those rivers what they are. This includes the rivers close to roads. Even here, in these cases, the BC rivers far outshine all others, and they need to be protected. • First Nations And Resident Anglers - No new limits. • Non Resident Guided Anglers - This group could fish any times and anywhere open for them to book and would be limited by the available slots held by BC guides and lodges with no restrictions other than prior restrictions of the guide rod-day allotments and watershed

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			<p>licensing etc. Raise the Classified daily fees for these anglers. Use the money for Skeena watershed processes- monitoring etc. not the general fund. Un-used rod days by guides and lodges should be subject to re-evaluation; maybe take some away if they are simply not being used.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-Resident Non Guided Anglers - New limits. On each river there could be a zone set aside for these anglers, and they could fish this zone for a maximum period of eighteen consecutive days. Then they would have to move to another river. This zone should represent a significant percentage of the total amount of fishable river. • If zoning is politically impossible, you could also limit the number of non-resident, non guided anglers with a lottery similar to one which has worked in California's most popular and crowded rivers. It works like this: First, the carrying capacity of the stream in question would be determined for each week of the two month season. Then, around eight to six months before the beginning of the fishing season, one half of the available permits for each river would be available for pre-booking for certain amount of time- say for two months. These permits would be distributed throughout the entire two-month season. Prime time would cost more than "shoulder time." After two months, all such pre-booking is closed. At a certain time, say September 1, the other half of the total available permits are then made available on a first come

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			<p>first served basis. When these are all used up, no more permits are available for non-resident non-guided anglers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This kind of lottery gives everyone the opportunity to come up and fish-if they want it badly enough. • Non Resident Anglers Who Own Homes In The Skeena Region - could be exempt from this lottery and have a seasonal licence similar to those of a resident angler. It would seem fair however that they pay more for their seasonal licence than a full time Canadian resident/citizen does. • I realize that this kind of approach is more complicated than anything we have seen before and it would take more money to execute and monitor than previous plans, but I think that it could be achieved if there was sufficient political will, a willingness among the various stakeholder groups to give a little, and funding from increased licence revenues to pay for monitoring etc. It might also be possible to “edit” the plan and streamline it in some ways.
All	All		<p>Areas where there is some agreement (form an email list of almost 100 people, mostly non-residents):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lottery - This is a tough one and if other mechanics were in place, we wouldn't need it. There is the idea that a lottery can offer two options: one half of the available slots for each river are available on an early bird pre-season basis. The second half are available at the

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			<p>beginning of the season on a first come first served basis. It has worked in California.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of Enforcement of the rules - I don't know what this means, other than no monitoring/enforcement for current regulations. If so, I agree. No one is looking after the chickens and there seems to be a lot of foxes around. Monitor/enforcement takes money, but I think we could get it. • Increase fees - I think this should be done but only if the money stayed out of the general fund and went to some kind of Skeena Management/Monitoring organization. It seems to me that if sport fishing generates around 50 million a year, it deserves some kind of office or government branch in Smithers to "take care of business," and could be funded by fee increases. Maybe the government funds half and the fishing industry does the other half. That's the way we do part of The Babine River Foundation. <p>I also don't buy the argument that increasing the fees makes the fishing only for the rich. What does rich mean? Even if anglers only camp out, it's already too rich for 20-30% of the non-resident angling population due to, among other things, licence fees and transportation costs just to get up there.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limitation on number of days allowed on a given river - I agree, and the burden should not be carried by non-guided guests. On the other hand they currently have no limits at all and how can

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			<p>they justify that? Guides and lodges have limits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Quality experience has not been defined - Maybe. Maybe the real problem is that everyone has a different idea. Do you remember that survey by BC Parks and Hugh Markides held in Smithers? Everyone had a different idea of what a quality experience meant. To most anglers a quality experience revolves around the concept of angling pressure. Some steelheaders don't want to see another angler anywhere in sight- all day long. Others can stand a few other anglers around, and some anglers don't mind standing in a line up and fishing that way. <p>I realize this is personal and very subjective, but I don't feel that if there were a lot more steelhead in the rivers, crowding wouldn't be an issue. My value system includes some privacy and seclusion, and a strong connection to the river and landscape they flow through. I wouldn't consider it a quality experience if I were getting a twenty pounder on a dry fly on every third cast if I was standing shoulder to shoulder in a line up. I've done this in California and in my opinion this kind of fishing does not have the magic I am looking for as a necessary part of my experience. I don't have to be the only guy on the pool, but too many of even the most decent of anglers somehow dilutes the experience and leaves me still hungry for something else.</p> <p>The only ways I can think of to settle this are (1) just make something up, and set an arbitrary limit for the number of anglers for each river,</p>

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			<p>according to economic and political priorities of the various user groups, or (2) go to a zoning on rivers and have different limits and regulations for the different zones.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Etiquette - I don't know how to change this unless we come up with some kind of enforcement/monitoring and how can we afford that? We would need a lot of monitors on each and every river. Education will help in some cases. • Giving up some areas or times of day to local anglers - I like this idea. Zoning would do it and so would Saturday only fishing for resident anglers. Guides and lodges use that day as a change over. • Illegal guiding - this is tough. How can you prove it and what is it? Where do you draw the line between friends fishing together, and something else? I guess if money is exchanged for fishing help, that surely is guiding, but it's hard to prove. And I just don't see how we can prevent it. Unless we go to a "Whistle Blower" program with rewards, and if someone does get caught the price is very, very, very expensive. • Access points - There might be some promise here, in my opinion but it would be politically difficult... Maybe on the rivers with road access like the Bulkley, Copper, Kispiox etc. access points could be "institutionalized" and become a part of the fishing regulations and monitoring system. In other words, there would be only certain access points and they had a monitor or

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			<p>river guardian stationed there who checks licences etc. and number of anglers. Some other access points might have to be closed. Fishing guests are an important part of your communities. Some surely are. Where would we be without the non-resident guys who have contributed all the money, and who have worked so hard in behalf of the Skeena rivers etc.?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staggered change days for guides - This is fairly easy- at least in one way. All the lodges and guides have to do is have the same calendar dates for the season each year. This way, the dates stay the same each year, but the day of the week automatically changes. At Silver Hilton for example week # 1 is always Sep 3-10. Week # 6 is always Oct 8-15, but the day those dates fall on, changes each year. <p>Areas where there is still a rub</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zoning - I think this would work if it was kept as simple as possible and if there was some kind of monitoring. They do this in Eastern Canada for Atlantic Salmon Rivers, and it works. Whether people like it or not, zoning gives you a lot of bang for your buck. It allows you to (1) protect certain biologically sensitive areas of each river, (2) distribute pressure, and (3) make concessions to the different kinds of anglers who want different things (First Nations; resident; non-resident non-guided; non-resident guided, etc That's not a bad track record for one concept, • Changes in the restrictions on the guiding

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			<p>industry - I don't know what changes they are talking about. In their defense I will say this: they are the most regulated of all user groups...and that's a fact.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Tools in the Tool Box - Unless I am reading them wrong there do seem enough. The concept of "Regulations" alone would seem to include anything anyone can think of. <p>As I said earlier- opportunities and responsibilities must be shared. We are all in this together, and the good old days of cheap, easy, accessible fishing with little or no competition and legal restrictions are gone forever. We have to grow up and deal with this, and everyone will have to tighten his or her belts a little.</p>
All	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposals in the draft plan focus on a reduction of the non-guided, non-resident, those who fish longer than eight days. When looking at your own data, this is the smallest group. If you want to achieve a reduction in the numbers of people fishing the Skeena system, than the effect will be minimal by focusing on this very small group and do nothing about the growing numbers of new local BC fisherman that start to fish the Skeena system. You don't achieve anything. If you want fewer people fishing than you will have to manage all fisherman, natives, locals, Canadians, aliens. I'm fishing between 25 and 30 days. So apart from giving up flexibility in river choice I also have to give up 75% of my fishing 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> No fishing by aliens (guided and unguided) on Sundays. Make more access for all of us so we spread out more over the rivers. No powerboats for aliens and non-locals. Go to a beat system, make a day float into a beat and sell licence per beat instead of licences for a river for all anglers (guided and unguided) and make it visible how many licences are already been sold for a beat this will spread out people, without reducing the total number of anglers and thereby the income for the local economy. This can be done by e-licensing as it is done on many European salmon rivers. Try to get all aliens to float with a boat this spreads people out over the river, very effectual in combination with more boat ramps /more

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		time.	shorter floats.
All	All		I fish every year in Cape Breton Nova Scotia for Atlantic Salmon and all the water is public water so you just pick a pool and fish and if others are there you take your turn in rotation or try another pool.
All	Guided only	Do not support guided-only on any rivers; it will just spread to even more rivers.	
All	Lotteries	<p>1) Those calling for lotteries to limit the number of non-residents do not seem to realize what they would lose in terms of lobbying power to keep netting, fish farms and other adverse factors that affect the steelhead. One of the most consistent themes running through this post is that many anglers who are not residents and who fish the Skeena would stop going to fish in BC. Do the lottery advocates really believe that these people would continue to give contributions and write letters in support of the fishery if they feel resentful and if they no longer can easily access this wonderful resource? If they do, they are deluding themselves.</p> <p>2) With the drop off in business that would result from a lottery system, a great deal of support from the local business community who benefit from the dollars brought in by non-resident fishermen would disappear. Therefore, two of the most influential lobbying groups would be greatly diminished as a result of the proposed lottery.</p> <p>3) Even if those advocating a lottery system are altruistic steelheaders who have only the</p>	<p>Therefore I suggest limiting changes to a minimum. From the great deal that has been written in this post, four proposals meet the criteria of simplicity, bringing money to the area and ensuring a strong lobby for the steelhead.</p> <p>1) Increase licence fees overall. This will mean some decline in the number of people fishing although we do not at the moment know how many. We need some experiments here to see what happens</p> <p>2) Have a "high season surcharge" - this will reduce the number of people coming in the peak three weeks and perhaps spread them out over the season. Again we need to see what happens</p> <p>3) Charge a fee for every boat on the river, including water otter type craft. This will reduce the number of boats on the river.</p> <p>4) Put much more money into enforcement. Without enforcement, any system will not work. Right now there are a lot of non-residents fishing without licences</p> <p>5) I would like to add a fifth suggestion, namely that a portion of the higher licence fee be set aside to buy out at least some of the licences of</p>

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>good of the resource in mind, it still comes across as a self-centered attempt by the guides to leave the river open for themselves.</p> <p>4) If I were a local business person, I would want those who come from far away to spend lots of money in the region - this has implications for the way access is managed. A lottery system would have the opposite effect. People with a great deal of time on their hands would have the flexibility to come whenever their number came up. Unfortunately this group tends not to have the same purchasing power -lots of time and little money are generally related, except for rich retirees who go to lodges anyway.</p> <p>5) The brutal fact is that we are talking about finding some means of rationing - right now the consensus appears to be that there are too many fishermen on the river at the most desirable time, although what too many means is unclear. At the moment, the lack of data is a major hindrance to rational decision making. We do not even know how many people fish the various rivers of the Skeena system, when they are there and how many times in a season they fish. How can we take rational decisions without the most basic of data? That aside, perhaps we could all agree that there need to be fewer fishermen, who spend more money. How do we bring this about? Reducing the number</p>	<p>the netters at the Skeena mouth.</p> <p>6) An additional suggestion of mine is that some of the money also be used to gather data, so we are not all just talking from impressions, rather than facts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The attraction of this system is that it is very simple and the fees can be adjusted to get to a point where there is a consensus that the number of people on the river brings sufficient revenue, while at the same time avoiding overcrowding. Some might say that this is elitist and favors those who can afford the higher licence fees. Well, since it would not apply to locals, they would not be affected and since local businesses need people with money to come to the area, they would be happy. If that is elitist, so be it. • I should also add that I have seen many attempts to preserve resources similar to the one that is going on right now. Typically, some interested people get together to form a committee. They then bring in other like-minded people, tending to exclude those who do hold the same opinions. As the process gathers pace, proposals become more and more complicated, with rules being suggested left and right. The committee falls in love with the beauty of its complicated but unworkable system. The end result is a miserable failure. Invariably, another group then comes together and the process starts all over again.

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>of fishermen on the river means rationing. This can either be done through prices - that is how markets work - or through administrative methods. Unfortunately, the history of rationing through administrative decree is dismal. It hardly ever works.</p> <p>6) The proposed lottery system is the worst possible way of rationing the resource. Apart from pleasing a few guides and locals, it fails the following essential criteria for preserving the steelhead and local businesses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Lobbying for the resource to be enhanced - No, it has the opposite effect b. Obtaining money to do the lobbying - No, it has the opposite effect c. Is it simple? - No, in fact there is no hope of this system being implemented effectively because it is so complicated. A key feature of successful systems is that they are simple. d. Will it maintain tourism revenues from non-residents? - No, it will have the opposite effect. <p>7) Since we do not know the ultimate effect of whatever is put in place, we need to start cautiously. It is much easier to ramp up something that shows promise than it is to introduce something that involves a complete overhaul of how things are being done. If the overhaul does not work, the</p>	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		process has to begin all over again.	
All	Guiding		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish guide-free areas such as on the Thompson River. In my experience, guides and guided anglers are often the loudest complainers about "crowding" because they are paying to fish and feel that the non-guided anglers (resident as well as non-resident) detract from what they are paying for. • Different management zones on individual rivers, such as used on the Gaspé Peninsula rivers - some stretches are open for lotteries conducted months in advance; some stretches open for lottery on three day advance; some stretches open to anglers at large; daily sales of lottery tickets
All	All	BC has to remember that it is competing on a world basis for fishing dollars. I can fish in Washington and Oregon for steelhead as well as Montana for trout (not to mention here at home on the Bow) and Belize for saltwater species.	
All	All	Plans need to provide times for steelhead to rest and spawn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No guiding on any stream until fish numbers can be quantified. • No non-resident non guided fishing for steelhead or salmon on any rivers in BC • Limited residential fishing (days and time of year) on all streams. • If you can fish the Copper you cannot fish for steelhead on any other stream within the Skeena watershed.
All	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am totally willing to pay the daily conservation fees in order to fish your rivers. 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>In fact on several occasions, I have purchased tags for several different rivers just to have the opportunity of changing up my options relative to water conditions, weather, or just for a change of scenery.</p>	
All	All		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would support an increase in Classified Waters fee if a certain percentage of the increased fee were put towards a Conservative group that was non-profit such as the Steelhead Society of BC. As of now the commercial fishers have to purchase a fisheries registration card a \$10 fee conservation stamp that goes back into the Suzuki foundation or the Pacific Salmon foundation. Why could the Classified Water fee not have the same criteria? This again should be implemented through residents, as well as non-resident • Limit the non-resident, non-Canadian to a set number of days on a certain river, that way they would have to move to another river after there allocated "days" where used up on that river.
All	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I appreciate your efforts at improving the current controls on fishing these great rivers. I fish exclusively with a guide and spend considerable money in the Smithers area doing it, \$27,000 this year. For me the critical issue would be making the rivers unavailable on weekends. I wouldn't come all the way from Chicago for just five days fishing. • My sense is that the cry for residents only on weekends is from a rather small group. 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>There is a larger community of residents that benefits greatly from the money that people like me bring in.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I have no problem with you charging non-residents more to fish more but I do have a problem with eliminating the option to fish. If it is non-guided, non-residents who are creating the crowding, just make them pay so that they are contributing. 	
All	All		<p>Anglers can be spread out by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Increasing river access by developing more boat launches to spread out anglers and utilize other river sections. 2) Mandating a cap on the number of anglers on sections of rivers—forcing anglers to go to another section. 3) Rotating the turnover days of the commercial operations. The seven licensed guides on the Bulkley, could each use a different turnover day to help lower the number of anglers on a given day. 4) Extending the classified water season in August and November for guided rods days with a weekly 'cap' of the number of guided anglers each day on specific stretches of rivers. The total number of guided rod days would remain the same, but would be spread out over a longer period of time. 5) Limiting non-resident anglers to a maximum of six days in a row, mandating one day off after that six-day stretch. 6) Increase the cost of licences for everyone and

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
			<p>use the money for conservation.</p> <p>7) Establish river guardian to help with etiquette and illegal guiding</p> <p>Other ideas</p> <p>1) Alternating days for jet boat and non-motorized boat use on certain river sections.</p> <p>2) Establishing rotating sections of some rivers for local angling use only, one day per week, with mandatory daily registration to tract local angling use.</p> <p>3) Visible licences, colour-coded to identify anglers and guides to help with management and illegal guiding.</p>
Kispiox	Residents-only weekends		Have resident-only on one weekend day but just in one part of the river
Kispiox	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opposed to changes that might impact or further restrict the freedom to fish for steelhead • After coming to a cabin for 30 years, I have built a house along the river using local building labor and materials. I would never have begun this quest had I known that I would not be allowed to fish the river more than a limited few days per year or if I thought such right could only be gained by a lottery. My interest in the rivers has substantially enhanced the local economy in my own small way. • The economic impact to these communities by the non-residents is quite significant when one considers the owners and 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>employees of service stations, food stores, motels/B&Bs, restaurants, equipment vendors and, yes, even the river guides themselves.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Although I hope to continue using the services of guides in the future, I also had hopes of fishing unguided from time to time. I don't like coming around the corner on any river and finding that the choice spot is already taken. Inconvenient, yes, but is it enough of a nuisance to lock up the river? 	
Kispiox	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current recommended plan is to limit non-resident alien licences to 99. The river already receives 900. It goes down to 1/9 from current level and it is only equal to the level that was 20 year ago. It does not sound fair to us. • Steelhead anglers spend a lot of money coming and staying in BC 	
Kispiox	Status quo zone	There are trespass issues, will just be a crowded zone	
Babine	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the campers who raft/jet the river, we are looking for a wilderness setting with the challenge of catching a trophy steelhead. To succeed at these goals, there is a need to manage the resource and all anglers — including guided, non-guided and rafters. • Most rafters who are interested in being guided would be satisfied prior to Sept 7 (off the river); anyone rafting with a guide after that should have angling rod-days and be 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>handled as such, resident or not.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-guided rafters (resident or otherwise) should be in a lottery to establish time lines and preserve the experience. I have played hopscotch with rafters on the Dean and Babine; with proper planning, you can stagger and limit the angler groups, it preserves the quality for all involved. • Jet boats targeting the upper 20 kilometres are few, as the boating is dangerous and natural hazards seem to keep traffic to a minimum, but if there were a resident-only rule it would minimize the much greater danger a large influx of jet boats pose to a the upper grizzly bear habitat, and immediately avoid any alien influx of jet boaters who want to learn the river. 	
Bulkley, Morice		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present regulations that divide these two rivers up makes it very difficult to move around without buying additional licences; ends up being expensive • Problem is not in the numbers of people we encounter, but the problem is exacerbated by the attitudes of local BC fishermen towards non-residents. Perhaps locals should consider which segment of the fishing population is actually financially supporting the fishery Looking at the fee structures and considering that the BC resident fisherman's one time all river cost when proportioned across the classified waters, their contribution to the fishery is 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>negligible. The non-resident contribution is orders of magnitude greater yet these are the persons your policy has been penalizing and is about to drive away - except perhaps for the wealthy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-residents feel insult when treated as dirt by the BC guides and some of the BC steelheaders and this now includes the non-resident Canadians who used to fish in the Kootenays before the government made the fishery the private turf of the guides and local fishermen. 	
Bulkley	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited set of solutions that were included in the toolkit • My personal experiences on the Bulkley would suggest that there is more than enough water for everybody. Even so, I have voluntarily restricted my weekend fishing over the past several seasons to allow me to enjoy other aspects of the community while allowing local residents to enjoy the rivers. 	
Bulkley	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It seems silly to think that once the other rivers become lottery based that you won't have spill over to the Bulkley if it is not lottery based and therefore it will become crowded. Spare yourself the time and money and if one river is in the lottery then all need to be. Locals will really enjoy the "easily" accessible points • I think the draft plan needs to address access. The Quality Waters Strategy is wrong in assuming that access is good on 	

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>the Bulkley. Has not anyone with foresight seen all the for sale signs along your river. What do you think happens when you get a few landowners that acquire land and no longer allow access for locals or non-locals alike? A plan similar in nature to Montana's Block Management Program should be looked at so your resident anglers can spread out. Use non-resident fees to support a program or equivalent nature.</p>	
Bulkley	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of these restrictions will severely hurt tourism in Smithers and surrounding communities • Will affect property values • Fewer people will fish • Not predictable • Difficult for groups • Non-resident property owners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pay property taxes ○ Raise property values ○ Contribute to the community and are part of the community ○ Employ local people ○ Protect the environment • Lottery infringes on rights as a non-resident property owner; proposed regulations deny non-resident property owners the equal protection and benefit of the law in contravention of Section 15(a) of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Canada Act, Schedule B, 1982 (UK); proposed regulations discriminate against 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resident only times are good • Just have lottery on specific zones of the river

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
		<p>non-residents and they cannot be justified under Section 1 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.</p>	
Bulkley	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have been fishing for Steelhead in BC since 1973. I am a catch and release fly fisherman and typically spend 2 – 3 weeks in the province. I am a US citizen. My personal observation including the fall of 2008, specifically on the Bulkley River is that overcrowding is compromising the quality of the fishing experience. I know this is also the case on the Kispiox as well. • I believe there is no single solution but some compromise can be reached. At one end of the spectrum are the hotel owners and B&B operators who want as many people as possible on the river, and on the other side are the local residents who can't find a place to fish and BC guides who can't provide their clients the quality experience they are getting paid to provide. One of the real problems that I witness first hand are non-residents in particular US fishing guides who spend September and October in trailers or tent camps and "entertain" a new group of "relatives and friends" every week. These guys are fully equipped with state-of-the-art fishing equipment including jet boats and are displacing BC guides and locals, everyday. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Limit non-resident and non-BC Canadians to a specific number of days on any of the Skeena Watersheds. or 2) Any non-resident or non-BC angler pay the normal fee for the first week of fishing classified water, then every additional day should be subject to an increased fee for the two weeks then a substantial additional fee is imposed for additional days over two weeks. All fees they get put into a fund for enhancement of Skeena Steelhead fishing.
West Working Group		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some committees seem to have capitulated to guide interests, especially the West Working Group. I totally respect the efforts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Zymoetz is the worst case. Make it eight days only. Spread the existing rod-days over August too, but don't increase the rod-days

River	Management Alternative	What do you like? What don't you like?	What would you change?
rivers		<p>put in by folks, it was a huge sacrifice for them to take that time, but I can't support the recommendations. How giving out more rod days on the Skeena solves anything is beyond belief. The one river where folks who don't want a crowd can go to, and we increase rod days? What happened on the Zymoetz is that legal guides have been teaching illegal guides how to access the runs for twenty years. Now we do it on the Skeena? Insanity. The Skeena is not broken, for heavens sake leave it be.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guides on Working Groups have a conflict of interest setting guide rules 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See where that goes. Maybe Class I next, or double or triple the licence cost. • Demand the BC government allot resources to run sting operations and get rid of the illegal guiding
Skeena IV		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does the ministry intend to separate and identify Skeena IV non-guided, non-resident anglers who are actually fishing for salmon versus steelhead and how will it be justified that the lottery is applied to a period when Skeena IV may be underutilized? • How could the West Working Group describe Skeena IV, which is bordered on one shore by a screeching transcontinental connected railway, the other shore bordered with a major provincial highway, interspersed with towns, industry, ranches and residences as a "<i>Wilderness</i>" area and thusly deserving of category 1 classification? 	

Other Issues and Concerns
<p>Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working group composition biased; dominated by guides

Other Issues and Concerns

- Non-local resident anglers also need to be part of the Working Groups
- Boycott does not make sense at all as it is going to hurt the community as a whole; need to give the process time to react to comments; if the next draft still ignores the rest of the community, then it is time to speak up more vocally as it seems clear the 8 day and lottery tools don't work for the community; rather quietly push to have people get involved, submit comments and help find solutions.
- I believe these poor results, and the controversy over them, were caused by the process itself being flawed in structure, terms of reference, design and execution.
- Why aren't the First Nations part of this process?
- Your facilitator seems to already have his mind made up as to what he will recommend based on various comments he has made to people; since you contracted him to facilitate, he is your contracted employee and therefore this creates a conflict of interest
- Since the backlash on this whole plan has been immense why not advocate a retrenching and rethinking of this whole thing to begin with.
- At a loss to totally understand where this proposal is coming from. I am suspicious because on the face of it, the committee composition and the schedule of meeting suggest an attempt keep the proceedings under the radar so to speak at least during the critical formative stages of draft. It may also be a politicized extension of the rudeness and threat of vandalism sometimes expressed at river access points toward out-of-province licence plates; the simple lack of fish in the river over the recent years and the challenges that guides have had in getting their sports into fish, or just plain old uninformed self interested groups attempting to corner a public good for their own benefit. If it's about local angler access let us not forget that these are migratory fish on federal waterways that belong to all Canadians.
- As a US angler, I do not look at this plan as a sign that we are not welcome, I look at it as a solution in the making. Perhaps the process has flaws and the recommendations are not yet what they need to be, but the process is underway to iron out those wrinkles. Those that wish for the status quo are as selfish as they say the people working on the Quality Waters Strategy are. We have had access to the Skeena when we want, for as long as we want and where we want, our entire lives. We have been spoiled by this freedom. Kicking and screaming like a spoiled child is certainly not part of working towards a solution but rather creates more conflict, animosity and delays the possibility of positive momentum.
- Many of our steelhead angling friends, promise to boycott fishing the Skeena Quality Waters in 2009. I believe, though effective in driving home our point, local businesses simply would "go out of business". As an alternative, authorities need to totally, "re-think angling in quality waters."
- The Quality Waters "Strategy" is nothing more than a ploy by a very small group of money oriented individuals to remove the largest group of conservationist supporters of Wild Steelhead in British Columbia and in the process financially ruin the livelihoods of far too many hard working business stakeholders whose very existence depends upon tourist dollars from foreign anglers. Anyone who cannot see through this disastrous scheme should go back to school and take Course 101 in Conflict of Interest.
- It is obvious decisions have already been made

Other Issues and Concerns

- Facilitator seemed hostile and disinterested in non-resident point-of-view
- Guides are completely dominating the process and the draft plan
- There should have been a more structured and comprehensive consultation with non-resident anglers, particularly given that they were deemed the problem
- Response Forms were too restrictive; did not allow people to comment outside the box
- Tool box should include gear restrictions
- The working groups have already framed the issues and identified the perceived problems without input from the stakeholders

Tourism / local business

- Business will collapse if this plan is implemented

Guiding

- Guides have a really bad attitude; they think they own the river; a lot of that attitude comes from the pressures to give their clients a quality fishing experience for all the money they are paying

Conservation

- Non-resident anglers source of funding for conservation; don't push them out
- Significant damage to steelhead stocks begins before the fish enter the Skeena at the river mouth with the inadvertent by-catch from the commercial salmon netters and as well by the gill netting in the rivers.
- Fix the fish problem. Get more Steelhead into the River System and guess what happens, people stop complaining real fast and fish will hold in many places spreading the anglers and guides out all over the rivers and watch how fast the complaining stops. Loser: the irresponsible commercial fisherman, so fix that problem, get them to compromise on how they fish or buy out their profits if there are any.
- If it is about conservation and concern for the well-being of the runs, then this thing is totally wrong headed in that the aliens that are being targeted are probably the most significant source of outside funding for the various trusts and programs established for the watersheds and fish.

Angling licences

- In 2007, had to drive long distance to purchase licence and even longer to check out the river to make sure it was fishable; need to be more places to purchase licences
- In 2008, could buy licence online but don't have access so still has to do all the driving
- If it's crowded, you go to another river, but you need another licence and that means a whole lot of driving
- Where do my fees go?
- Oregon has a better licensing system that captures more data than what BC is using

Crowding / angling quality

- Where is the verifiable documentation that proves that crowding actually exists?
- What I do feel is that crowding is a bogus argument that there may actually be too many guides vying for their share of the pie, and the issue of etiquette is something that all current users could use a refresher course on
- There is no crowding problem