

## Skeena Fisheries Advisory Committee 2007 Regulation Proposal Submissions

<b>SFAC Regulation Proposal No.: 2007-01</b>	
<b>Location:</b> <i>Please provide specific details on the water body. In cases where only portions of water bodies are of interest, use known landmarks, tributary confluences or measured distances from landmarks as descriptors.</i>	
Skeena Region	
<b>Existing Regulation(s):</b>	
No current restrictions on helicopter access for angling	
<b>Proposal:</b> <i>Include a concise &amp; accurate description of the proposed regulation (e.g. increase daily possession limit for white sturgeon from 1/day to 2/day on Skeena River downstream of markers at Exchamsiks/Skeena rivers confluence).</i>	
That the use of helicopters not be permitted for the purpose of steelhead angling. That this restriction be implemented in the 2007/08 angling synopsis.	
<b>Rationale:</b> <i>Provide a descriptive statement for: 1) the objective(s) for the new regulation (e.g. conservation, increase opportunity, simplify regulations, public safety, other); 2) why the regulation is necessary; 3) why and/or how the regulation would be effective at reaching objective; 4) expected outcomes of the new regulation; 5) provide reference to biological studies or supporting literature where appropriate. Add an additional sheet if necessary.</i>	
<p>There is growing public concern regarding steelhead conservation and sustainability. Ministry of Environment has recently proposed a province wide non-retention policy for this species and feels a need to err on the side of conservation due to the lack of scientific data and inventories. In light of this we feel a further conservative approach is required and it is requested that remote inaccessible steelhead refuge sites be further protected. It is also strongly felt that where scientific data and inventories are unavailable to provide a limited resident only retention fishery for wild steelhead in a sustainable manner then allowing un-regulated exploitation of remote steelhead refuge sites must cease. In order to address this issue and err on the side of conservation it is requested that helicopter angling for steelhead not be permitted in region 6.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better addresses steelhead conservation concerns.</li> <li>• Protects remote isolated steelhead systems and stocks.</li> <li>• Prevents catch and release steelhead mortalities in remote areas.</li> <li>• Protects wild steelhead spawning sites on the upper reaches of many systems.</li> <li>• Stops harassment of wild steelhead on reds in remote areas.</li> <li>• Removes a threat to a number of small, isolated systems that naturally have small steelhead populations.</li> <li>• Increases and protects the quality of fishing for everyone that low elevation helicopter use would otherwise diminish.</li> <li>• Stops the act of spotting steelhead from the air and then landing to target them. This is a common practice that many feel is unethical and not fair chase.</li> <li>• Very difficult and costly to patrol and enforce regulations on helicopter anglers.</li> </ul>	
Proponent:: Mike Langegger, Kitimat Rod & Gun Association	Date: Jan. 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2007

**Skeena Fisheries Advisory Committee  
2007 Regulation Proposal Submissions**

**SFAC Regulation Proposal No.: 2007-02**

**Location:** *Please provide specific details on the water body. In cases where only portions of water bodies are of interest, use known landmarks, tributary confluences or measured distances from landmarks as descriptors.*

Skeena Region

**Existing Regulation(s):**

No current restriction on angling guide retention of catch

**Proposal:** *Include a concise & accurate description of the proposed regulation (e.g. increase daily possession limit for white sturgeon from 1/day to 2/day on Skeena River downstream of markers at Exchamsiks/Skeena rivers confluence).*

That the angling synopsis clearly states that angling guides are not allowed to angle and/or harvest a quota for themselves while providing guiding services.

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

While any angling guide is being paid for his/her services and in the company of clients it is requested that he/she not be able to personally angle or obtain a quota while providing such services.

**Reason For Proposal:**

- Considered unethical and inappropriate for a guide to angle for him or herself and/or obtain a quota while being paid by clients to perform guiding services.
- Guiding is to direct, instruct, outfit, educate, as well as know and guide within the law. Not to angle or harvest a quota personally while being paid for such services.
- Is consistent with government policy. Hunting guides are not entitled to hunt or obtain a quota while being paid to perform guiding services.
- Aids in conservation by reducing angling activity of paid guides, their harvest of fish and increased mortalities associated with catch and release.
- Will provide greater professional service for clients.

Proponent: Mike Langegger, Kitimat Rod & Gun Association

Date: January 24, 2007

**Skeena Fisheries Advisory Committee  
2007 Regulation Proposal Submissions**

<b>SFAC Regulation Proposal No.: 2007 - 03</b>	
<b>Location:</b> <i>Please provide specific details on the water body. In cases where only portions of water bodies are of interest, use known landmarks, tributary confluences or measured distances from landmarks as descriptors.</i>	
Skeena Region	
<b>Existing Regulation(s):</b>	
Youth are not required to hold an angling license.	
<b>Proposal:</b> <i>Include a concise &amp; accurate description of the proposed regulation (e.g. increase daily possession limit for white sturgeon from 1/day to 2/day on Skeena River downstream of markers at Exchamsiks/Skeena rivers confluence).</i>	
It is requested that a youth angler definition and category be added to the angling synopsis so that future opportunities or relaxed restrictions can be considered and applied for youth anglers.	
<b>Rationale:</b> <i>Provide a descriptive statement for: 1) the objective(s) for the new regulation (e.g. conservation, increase opportunity, simplify regulations, public safety, other); 2) why the regulation is necessary; 3) why and/or how the regulation would be effective at reaching objective; 4) expected outcomes of the new regulation; 5) provide reference to biological studies or supporting literature where appropriate. Add an additional sheet if necessary.</i>	
<p>There is a need to have junior anglers recognized in the angling synopsis. Currently no viable youth angler classification exists or a means to create independent opportunities or relaxed restrictions for them.</p> <p>It is felt that a youth angler category should be established and implemented in the regulation section of each region that allows for special regulation consideration. Youths that are learning to angle are at a disadvantage when compared to adult and teen anglers. Youth motor skills, coordination, attention span and knowledge of angling are still developing and put them at a disadvantage.</p> <p><b><u>Reason For Proposal</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To create opportunities for junior anglers.</li> <li>• Tool for Regional Managers and user groups to effectively implement opportunities for junior anglers.</li> <li>• Will allow for more youths to actively and joyfully angle.</li> <li>• Will allow youths to actively participate and enjoy angling.</li> <li>• Aid in altering the current decline of resident anglers.</li> <li>• Creates increased opportunity for family interaction.</li> <li>• Offsets age oriented disadvantages that unfairly hinder and frustrate youths.</li> </ul>	
Proponent: Mike Langegger, Kitimat Rod & Gun Association	Date: Jan. 24, 2007

**Skeena Fisheries Advisory Committee  
2007 Regulation Proposal Submissions**

<b>SFAC Regulation Proposal No.: 2007 – 04</b>	
<b>Location:</b> <i>Please provide specific details on the water body. In cases where only portions of water bodies are of interest, use known landmarks, tributary confluences or measured distances from landmarks as descriptors.</i>	
All region 6 streams	
<b>Existing Regulation(s):</b>	
Regional regulations-2 trout/char from streams, none under 30cm, only 1 over 50cm	
<b>Proposal:</b> <i>Include a concise &amp; accurate description of the proposed regulation (e.g. increase daily possession limit for white sturgeon from 1/day to 2/day on Skeena River downstream of markers at Exchamsiks/Skeena rivers confluence).</i>	
1 trout or char per day from streams, none under 30cm, none over 50cm	
<b>Rationale:</b> <i>Provide a descriptive statement for: 1) the objective(s) for the new regulation (e.g. conservation, increase opportunity, simplify regulations, public safety, other); 2) why the regulation is necessary; 3) why and/or how the regulation would be effective at reaching objective; 4) expected outcomes of the new regulation; 5) provide reference to biological studies or supporting literature where appropriate. Add an additional sheet if necessary.</i>	
<p>Anglers from throughout region 6 have been seeing a decrease in the number and size of trout And char in our streams. There is currently very little known by MOE about these populations And reality is that there simply is not enough funding and staff to properly assess these populations. Therefore the precautionary principle should be adhered to a reduction in catch limit. This should be implemented to ensure sustainable populations throughout our region. The none over 50cm regulation would create protection for trophy size fish which are highly sought after by anglers.</p>	
Proponent: Daniel Daigle, SAGA	Date: February 25, 2007

**Skeena Fisheries Advisory Committee  
2007 Regulation Proposal Submissions**

<b>SFAC Regulation Proposal No.: 2007 – 05</b>	
<b>Location:</b> <i>Please provide specific details on the water body. In cases where only portions of water bodies are of interest, use known landmarks, tributary confluences or measured distances from landmarks as descriptors.</i>	
Lower Copper River	
<b>Existing Regulation(s):</b>	
Regional Regulations – 2 trout / char from streams, none under 30cm, only 1 over 50cm	
<b>Proposal:</b> <i>Include a concise &amp; accurate description of the proposed regulation (e.g. increase daily possession limit for white sturgeon from 1/day to 2/day on Skeena River downstream of markers at Exchamsiks/Skeena rivers confluence).</i>	
Char & Trout Release below signs in lower canyon	
<b>Rationale:</b> <i>Provide a descriptive statement for: 1) the objective(s) for the new regulation (e.g. conservation, increase opportunity, simplify regulations, public safety, other); 2) why the regulation is necessary; 3) why and/or how the regulation would be effective at reaching objective; 4) expected outcomes of the new regulation; 5) provide reference to biological studies or supporting literature where appropriate. Add an additional sheet if necessary.</i>	
To protect and enhance char & trout in lower Copper River. Because this section of river remains open all year it receives heavy pressure from steelhead anglers, as a result trout and char have been heavily impacted. This regulation would protect and revitalize these fish.	
Proponent: Daniel Daigle, SAGA	Date: February 25, 2007

**Skeena Fisheries Advisory Committee  
2007 Regulation Proposal Submissions**

<b>SFAC Regulation Proposal No.: 2007 - 06</b>	
<b>Location:</b> <i>Please provide specific details on the water body. In cases where only portions of water bodies are of interest, use known landmarks, tributary confluences or measured distances from landmarks as descriptors.</i>	
Kitimat River	
<b>Existing Regulation(s):</b>	
Regional Regulations – 2 from streams, none under 30 cm, only one over 50 cm	
<b>Proposal:</b> <i>Include a concise &amp; accurate description of the proposed regulation (e.g. increase daily possession limit for white sturgeon from 1/day to 2/day on Skeena River downstream of markers at Exchamsiks/Skeena rivers confluence).</i>	
Wild Cutthroat Trout Release in Kitimat River and Tributaries.	
<b>Rationale:</b> <i>Provide a descriptive statement for: 1) the objective(s) for the new regulation (e.g. conservation, increase opportunity, simplify regulations, public safety, other); 2) why the regulation is necessary; 3) why and/or how the regulation would be effective at reaching objective; 4) expected outcomes of the new regulation; 5) provide reference to biological studies or supporting literature where appropriate. Add an additional sheet if necessary.</i>	
To Protect wild cutthroat trout on Kitimat River. These fish intermingle with hatchery fish. Because there is heavy pressure due to hatchery enhancement this regulation would protect the remaining wild cutthroat trout while still allowing the harvest of hatchery trout. The Kitimat has large wild cutthroat, this would enhance these stocks creating better quality of fishing and protect brood stock for hatchery fish.	
Proponent: Greg Knox, NC Steelhead Alliance	Date: Feb. 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2007

**Skeena Fisheries Advisory Committee  
2007 Regulation Proposal Submissions**

<b>SFAC Regulation Proposal No.: 2007 - 07</b>	
<b>Location:</b> <i>Please provide specific details on the water body. In cases where only portions of water bodies are of interest, use known landmarks, tributary confluences or measured distances from landmarks as descriptors.</i>	
Lakelse River	
<b>Existing Regulation(s):</b>	
Regional Regulations – 2 from streams, none under 30 cm, only one over 50 cm No Kill for trout upstream of railway bridge March 1 <sup>st</sup> to April 30th	
<b>Proposal:</b> <i>Include a concise &amp; accurate description of the proposed regulation (e.g. increase daily possession limit for white sturgeon from 1/day to 2/day on Skeena River downstream of markers at Exchamsiks/Skeena rivers confluence).</i>	
Cutthroat Trout Release in Lakelse River and Tributaries all year.	
<b>Rationale:</b> <i>Provide a descriptive statement for: 1) the objective(s) for the new regulation (e.g. conservation, increase opportunity, simplify regulations, public safety, other); 2) why the regulation is necessary; 3) why and/or how the regulation would be effective at reaching objective; 4) expected outcomes of the new regulation; 5) provide reference to biological studies or supporting literature where appropriate. Add an additional sheet if necessary.</i>	
To Protect cutthroat trout on Lakelse River. The Lakelse contains some of the finest cutthroat fishing in our province. Because of its proximity to Terrace it receives heavy fishing pressure throughout much of the year impacting heavily on these fish. This regulation would protect these fish creating a trophy fishery for residents. People who still wish to harvest cutthroat can fish Lakelse Lake and other nearby streams.	
Proponent: Greg Knox, NC Steelhead Alliance	Date: Feb. 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2007

**Skeena Fisheries Advisory Committee  
2007 Regulation Proposal Submissions**

<b>SFAC Regulation Proposal No.: 2007 - 08</b>	
<b>Location:</b> <i>Please provide specific details on the water body. In cases where only portions of water bodies are of interest, use known landmarks, tributary confluences or measured distances from landmarks as descriptors.</i>	
Buckley Creek (WSC 660-185500)	
<b>Existing Regulation(s):</b>	
Daily retention 2 trout/char, 1 over 50 cm; possession two daily limits. No seasonal closure	
<b>Proposal:</b> <i>Include a concise &amp; accurate description of the proposed regulation (e.g. increase daily possession limit for white sturgeon from 1/day to 2/day on Skeena River downstream of markers at Exchamsiks/Skeena rivers confluence).</i>	
Buckley Creek closed to angling Nov. 1 – June 30. None over 50 cm.	
<b>Rationale:</b> <i>Provide a descriptive statement for: 1) the objective(s) for the new regulation (e.g. conservation, increase opportunity, simplify regulations, public safety, other); 2) why the regulation is necessary; 3) why and/or how the regulation would be effective at reaching objective; 4) expected outcomes of the new regulation; 5) provide reference to biological studies or supporting literature where appropriate. Add an additional sheet if necessary.</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enforcement conflict presently exists with Buckley Lake regulations:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Buckley Lake closed from Nov. 1 – April 30</li> <li>○ Daily limit 2, none over 50 cm (possession 4)</li> <li>○ <b>proposal will harmonize Buckley Creek regulation with Buckley Lake's seasonal closure, bag and size restrictions.</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><i>Why close the stream &amp; not just C&amp;R?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• maintain consistency with other RB spawning closures</li> <li>• Primary spawning habitat for Buckley Lake RB; highly vulnerable to catch and release mortality plus directed harvest</li> <li>• Public safety at issue due to potential human wildlife (Grz bear) conflict during spawning period</li> <li>• Buckley Lake angling pressure peaks during spawning period (2006 Buckley Lake angler survey)</li> </ul>	
Proponent: Dease Lake COS & Skeena Fisheries Section, Ministry of Environment	Date: Feb. 24, 2007



**Skeena Fisheries Advisory Committee  
2007 Regulation Proposal Submissions**

**SFAC Regulation Proposal No.: 2007 – 09**

**Location:** *Please provide specific details on the water body. In cases where only portions of water bodies are of interest, use known landmarks, tributary confluences or measured distances from landmarks as descriptors.*

Bulkley River

**Existing Regulation(s):**

The start of the bait ban on the Bulkley River currently starts on August 1<sup>st</sup>

**Proposal:** *Include a concise & accurate description of the proposed regulation (e.g. increase daily possession limit for white sturgeon from 1/day to 2/day on Skeena River downstream of markers at Exchamsiks/Skeena rivers confluence).*

The proposal is to delay the start of the bait ban till August 15th.

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

Delaying the bait ban would allow for an increased harvest opportunity for the last portion of the Chinook salmon run. Clean Chinook are available up to the third week of August. This same proposal was passed by the Upper Skeena SFAB and the North Coast SFAB. Fisheries and Oceans Canada indicated when discussions occurred around the proposal they did not foresee a problem with the use of bait up till August 15<sup>th</sup>. Chinook Anglers have noticed once the water drops and significantly cleans the catch rate on Chinooks drops significantly if one is not using naturals baits. In the monitoring of the Chinook fishery on the Bulkley river in 1988 the consultations found that chinook anglers due to the locations fished and or the gear used did not have any amount of by catch on resident fish species present in the river (rainbows, Dolly Varden Char and whitefish) as well as other salmon species that were present in the river during the first two weeks of August ( Pink salmon, Coho salmon and Steelhead trout).

Other regulations are in place for all of these other species already. Retention of these other species (except steelhead) is currently allowed. And all species are open to sportfishing during this time frame.

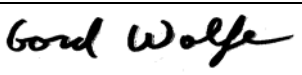
This proposal was approved by the fisheries section of the Ministry for one summer. In the variation order justification done by Ministry staff they indicated the proposal was of minimal risk to resident fish and would not compromise any conservation concerns with summer run steelhead.

We feel the approval of this modification of the current regulation would enhance the catch of late season Chinook in the Bulkley River.

I have compiled a detailed summary around this proposal and will provide that to you once I find it at home ( later this week)

Proponent: <i>Gord Wolfe</i>	BC ST Society	Date: February 26, 2007
------------------------------	---------------	-------------------------

**Skeena Fisheries Advisory Committee  
2007 Regulation Proposal Submissions**

<b>SFAC Regulation Proposal No.: 2007 - 10</b>	
<b>Location:</b> <i>Please provide specific details on the water body. In cases where only portions of water bodies are of interest, use known landmarks, tributary confluences or measured distances from landmarks as descriptors.</i>	
Skeena River	
<b>Existing Regulation(s):</b>	
The Skeena River is closed above Cedarvale January 1 to May 31 <sup>st</sup> of each year.	
<b>Proposal:</b> <i>Include a concise &amp; accurate description of the proposed regulation (e.g. increase daily possession limit for white sturgeon from 1/day to 2/day on Skeena River downstream of markers at Exchamsiks/Skeena rivers confluence).</i>	
The proposal is to open this portion of the Skeena River ( mainstem only) upstream to ( ??) to sportfishing.	
<b>Rationale:</b> <i>Provide a descriptive statement for: 1) the objective(s) for the new regulation (e.g. conservation, increase opportunity, simplify regulations, public safety, other); 2) why the regulation is necessary; 3) why and/or how the regulation would be effective at reaching objective; 4) expected outcomes of the new regulation; 5) provide reference to biological studies or supporting literature where appropriate. Add an additional sheet if necessary.</i>	
<p>Two separate proposals were passed at the NorthCoast SFAB regarding this concept.</p> <p>Proposal 1 called for the Skeena River ( upstream to the Kispiox First Nations reserve) to be open for sportfishing opportunities during this entire time frame. If this proposal is approved it would allow anglers a sportfishing opportunity much closer to Hazelton and Smithers. A similar regulatory regime is currently present on the Skeena River below Cedarvale. This proposal if approved would allow anglers to catch some of the early migrating Chinook salmon in April and May. Other species that might be encountered in this portion of the Skeena River during this time frame are resident rainbow trout, whitefish, dolly varden char, cutthroat trout and steelhead trout.</p> <p>No special regulatory measures ( other then what is in the synopsis) are currently in place on this portion of the Skeena River to restrict the harvest or sportfishing opportunities on these species except steelhead trout.</p> <p>This portion of the Skeena River was open to sportfishing during this entire time frame up to the late 1980's.</p> <p>Proposal 2 called for this portion of the Skeena River to open on May 1<sup>st</sup> of each year to allow for a sportfishing opportunity targeting the early returning Chinook stocks.</p> <p>Either proposal would provide some extra sportfishing opportunity for upper Skeena resident anglers and allow for some catch of these early migrating Chinook stock prior to the river becoming unfishable in late May.</p>	
Proponent:	 BC ST Society
	Date: February 26, 2007

**Skeena Fisheries Advisory Committee  
2007 Regulation Proposal Submissions**

<b>SFAC Regulation Proposal No.: 2007 - 11</b>	
<b>Location:</b> <i>Please provide specific details on the water body. In cases where only portions of water bodies are of interest, use known landmarks, tributary confluences or measured distances from landmarks as descriptors.</i>	
Kalum River	
<b>Existing Regulation(s):</b>	
No Bait Ban	
<b>Proposal:</b> <i>Include a concise &amp; accurate description of the proposed regulation (e.g. increase daily possession limit for white sturgeon from 1/day to 2/day on Skeena River downstream of markers at Exchamsiks/Skeena rivers confluence).</i>	
Bait ban on Kalum River October 31 <sup>st</sup> to April 30th	
<b>Rationale:</b> <i>Provide a descriptive statement for: 1) the objective(s) for the new regulation (e.g. conservation, increase opportunity, simplify regulations, public safety, other); 2) why the regulation is necessary; 3) why and/or how the regulation would be effective at reaching objective; 4) expected outcomes of the new regulation; 5) provide reference to biological studies or supporting literature where appropriate. Add an additional sheet if necessary.</i>	
<p>To Protect over wintering steelhead. These fish enter the river in August and continue to run through the fall and winter. During the winter when the water is low these fish are very susceptible to bait and there is a lot of pressure from anglers especially during the early spring. Bait is known to cause higher mortality rates than artificial lures and because of the length of time (up to 9 months) these fish reside in the river the potential impact is significant. This bait ban would reduce to number of steelhead hooked by the average angler therefore reducing mortality rates. Using bait it is not uncommon to hook a dozen fish or more per day per angler. Angling effort is increasing on the Kalum and a bait ban would reduce the mortality rates from this increased pressure while maintaining a quality fishery.</p>	
Proponent: Greg Knox, NC Steelhead Alliance	Date: February 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2007

**Skeena Fisheries Advisory Committee  
2007 Regulation Proposal Submissions**

<b>SFAC Regulation Proposal No.: 2007 - 12</b>	
<b>Location:</b> <i>Please provide specific details on the water body. In cases where only portions of water bodies are of interest, use known landmarks, tributary confluences or measured distances from landmarks as descriptors.</i>	
Yakoun River	
<b>Existing Regulation(s):</b>	
No fishing 13 km downstream of Yakoun Lake outlet; CT release; no power boats; Class II Sept 1-Apr 30; ST stamp mandatory Dec 1 – Apr 30.	
<i>Note added by MOE: Province wide wild ST release in effect April 1, 2007.</i>	
<b>Proposal:</b> <i>Include a concise &amp; accurate description of the proposed regulation (e.g. increase daily possession limit for white sturgeon from 1/day to 2/day on Skeena River downstream of markers at Exchamsiks/Skeena rivers confluence).</i>	
Change annual limits for “wild” ST retention. Steelhead, limits to state – 2 ST from Yakoun and 5 total per season from QCI streams.	
<b>Rationale:</b> <i>Provide a descriptive statement for: 1) the objective(s) for the new regulation (e.g. conservation, increase opportunity, simplify regulations, public safety, other); 2) why the regulation is necessary; 3) why and/or how the regulation would be effective at reaching objective; 4) expected outcomes of the new regulation; 5) provide reference to biological studies or supporting literature where appropriate. Add an additional sheet if necessary.</i>	
This proposal reduces harvest limits but still provides some opportunity for harvest for those that want to. This also allows you to retain fish [ST] that are suffering from a serious hooking wound and are likely to die even if released.	
Proponent: Ken Franzen, Prince Rupert Rod & Gun Club	Date: Feb. 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2007