



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

Date: FEB 1 / 12 # of pages 2
 To: Fisheries Section, Skeena Region Ministry
 Fax # 250-847-7728
 Office: 3726 Alfred Avenue, Smithers BC Ministry
 Phone # 250-847-7260
 From: Brian L. Patrick Phone # 250-638-1369
 Fax # 250-638-8500

Instructions for Proposal Submission:

- Members of the Skeena Fisheries Advisory Committee (SFAC) interested in submitting a proposal to introduce a new, or change an existing regulation for consideration are requested to follow the guidelines provided in this form to facilitate Ministry & SFAC evaluation.
- Deadline for submission of proposals for the 2010 SFAC meeting is January 30, 2010.
- Proposal submissions may be faxed, mailed or emailed to the Fisheries Section, Fish & Wildlife Branch, Ministry of Environment, Smithers.

Proponent Contact Information:

Name: Brian Patrick
 Mailing Address: 5008 Agar ave.
 Affiliation: Misty River Tackle and Hunting
 Day-Time Phone: 250-638-1369 Email: mrt@citywest.ca

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.

Upper Lakelse River, specifically from the boundary to well below the confluence with Hermann's Creek

Existing Regulation(s):

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

No Fishing whatsoever at any time

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.

This area known locally known as Hermann's Hole is a prolific spawning bed for most of the species indigenous to our area. People fish and wade through the gravel beds all year round and it is impossible to estimate how many redds are destroyed by this wading and fishing. These type of areas are where the future generations of fish are being created and after the gauntlet of people, animals and birds and other fish taking their toll on the species trying to make it to their birthplaces in order to procreate it is reprehensible that we humans are wading into the actual spawn beds in order to have fun! Every step in this gravel bed disturbs and releases multitudes of laid eggs into the flow of the river and of course the fishing is great due to the chumming effect of this action. E.g. loose eggs floating downstream are a great attractant for hungry fish of all species. The steelhead found here are also at the end of their journey and just waiting for the conditions for them to lay their own eggs ideally in peace but as it is now they are targeted because they are congregating there.

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.

Insect Creek is a Skeena River tributary that flows into the Skeena immediately downstream of Cedarvale on river right. Insect Creek is a fourth order stream that has limited access to the upper reaches. The lower reaches of Insect Creek are accessible from the forest service road bridge that crosses the creek

Existing Regulation(s):

The current angling regulations that apply to Insect Creek are described on page 55 of the 2011 -2013 angling synopsis. The creek is open to angling all year, and a single barbless hook must be used. All wild steelhead must be released.

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

Three potential regulation changes were considered.

1. Move the Cedarvale boundary downstream to include the middle Skeena tributaries in the seasonal closure between January 1 and May 31.
2. Close Insect Creek to angling downstream of the forest service road bridge between January 1 and May 31.
3. Close Insect Creek to angling January 1 and May 31.

This proposal is for option 3. Close Insect Creek from January 1 to May 31.

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.

Most rivers and creeks in British Columbia that support populations of summer-run steelhead have spatial or temporal closures to provide an area of refuge while they over-winter. In the Skeena Region, angling closures on the upper Skeena and Nass drainages after December 31 provide refuge to a majority of the over wintering summer-run steelhead. However, some systems in the Skeena drainage that support summer-run steelhead were not included in the area covered by the closure. Since the original angling closure boundary (Cedarvale) was identified, other important overwintering areas have been identified. The Conservation Officer

Service and the provincial fisheries branch in Smithers have identified the lower reaches of Insect Creek as an important over wintering area for Skeena summer-run steelhead. Anglers are known to target steelhead, in the winter months, in this important over wintering area. Due to the remoteness and difficulty accessing this creek in the winter time, we believe that this closure will not impact the angling opportunities of a large number of anglers. The closure dates have been selected to be consistent with other dates in the watershed.

Signature:

Date:

SFAC 2012-3



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**Proposal for Regulation Change:
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Date:	<u>Feb. 6, 2012</u>	# of pages	_____
To:	<u>Fisheries Section, Skeena Region</u>	Ministry	_____
		Fax #	<u>250-847-7728</u>
		Ministry	_____
Office:	<u>3726 Alfred Avenue, Smithers BC</u>	Phone #	<u>250-847-7260</u>

From:	<u>Randy Dozzi</u>	Phone #	<u>250-615-5440</u>
		Fax #	_____

Instructions for Proposal Submission:

- Members of the Skeena Fisheries Advisory Committee (SFAC) interested in submitting a proposal to introduce a new, or change an existing regulation for consideration are requested to follow the guidelines provided in this form to facilitate Ministry & SFAC evaluation.
- Deadline for submission of proposals for the 2007 SFAC meeting is one month prior to the meeting date: February 26, 2007.
- Proposal submissions may be faxed, mailed or emailed to the Fisheries Section, Fish & Wildlife Branch, Ministry of Environment, Smithers.

Proponent Contact Information:

Name: Randy Dozzi

Mailing Address: 5006 - Walsh Ave., Terrace, BC, V8G 3H7

Affiliation: SSBC

Day-Time Phone: 2506155440

Email: dozzi@citywest.ca

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.

All freshwaters in BC

Existing Regulation(s):

None

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

To eliminate use of sulphites in all bait cures

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.

Scientific proof of significant mortalities to juvenile salmonids from concentrations over 12%, (some cures have more than 90%) . Even at 12% there are still mortalities. For unhooked fish there should be zero mortality. We must not use poisons for fishing when we know they kill fish. We have no idea what contribution to declining numbers sportfishing with these bait cures has caused. sulphites are totally unnecessary and should be banned completely for bait cures. We cannot rely on peoples "word" they will not be used in excess. With so many factors negatively affecting fish, we will help insure more juvenile fish will survive and spawn without changing any fishing regulations or techniques.

Randy Dozzi

Feb. 6, 2012



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**Proposal for Regulation Change:
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Date:	<u>Feb 08 2012</u>	# of pages	_____
To:	<u>Fisheries Section, Skeena Region</u>	Ministry	_____
Office:	<u>3726 Alfred Avenue, Smithers BC</u>	Fax #	<u>250-847-7728</u>
		Ministry	_____
		Phone #	<u>250-847-7260</u>
From:	<u>Dustin Kovacvich SAGA</u>	Phone #	_____
		Fax #	_____

Instructions for Proposal Submission:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Members of the Skeena Fisheries Advisory Committee (SFAC) interested in submitting a proposal to introduce a new, or change an existing regulation for consideration are requested to follow the guidelines provided in this form to facilitate Ministry & SFAC evaluation. ▪ Deadline for submission of proposals for the 2010 SFAC meeting is January 30, 2010. ▪ Proposal submissions may be faxed, mailed or emailed to the Fisheries Section, Fish & Wildlife Branch, Ministry of Environment, Smithers. 	
Proponent Contact Information:	
Name: Dustin Kovacvich	
Mailing Address: 591 Kalum Lake Road	
Affiliation: Skeena Angling Guide Association	
Day-Time Phone: 250-635-4577	Email: rkovacvich@citywest.ca

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.

Zymoetz I

Existing Regulation(s):

Closed all year from McDonell Lake downstream 3 km to signs
Closed all year between signs in Zymoetz Canyon
No fishing above the sign at the transmission line crossing (below Zymoetz Canyon), Jan 1-June 15
Bait ban
Above Limonite Creek: Class I water Sept 1-Oct 31; Steelhead Stamp mandatory Sept 1-Oct 31
Below Limonite Creek: Class II water Sept 1-Oct 31; Steelhead Stamp mandatory Sept 1-Oct 31

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

Zymoetz I

Fly Fishing Only July 24 to December 31

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.

The majority of anglers on Zymoetz I are fly fisherman which is a less productive method of fishing than conventional (gear fishing). When only a small minority of gear fisherman fish Steelhead in Zymoetz I they greatly decrease the quality of angling for the majority fly fisherman. This is done by conventional anglers hooking and putting down much larger amounts of Steelhead per angler than fly fisherman therefore greatly reducing the potential success of the majority fly anglers.

Zymoetz I contains many pools and runs that are challenging to angle with fly fishing equipment but easily fished with conventional equipment. Steelhead in Zymoetz I have seen increasing pressure over the years. Making the river fly fishing only would increase areas of sanctuary for Steelhead particularly late in the season when they have a tendency to stack up in deep holding pools which are challenging to fly fish but easily fished conventionally putting additional stress on holding overwinter summer Steelhead.

Fly Fishing only regulations are a great solution to increasing the quality of angling experience for the majority of anglers and to help reduce stress levels on overwintering summer Steelhead

Signature:

Date: Feb 08 2012



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SFAC 2012-5

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To: Fisheries Section, Skeena Region Ministry _____
Office: 3726 Alfred Avenue, Smithers BC Fax # 250-847-7728
Ministry _____
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From: Dustin Kovacvich SAGA Phone # _____
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Name: Dustin Kovacvich	
Mailing Address: 591 Kalum Lake Road	
Affiliation: Skeena Angling Guide Association	
Day-Time Phone: 250-635-4577	Email: rkovacvich@citywest.ca

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.

Clore River

Existing Regulation(s):

Closed all year from McDonell Lake downstream 3 km to signs
Closed all year between signs in Zymoetz Canyon
No fishing above the sign at the transmission line crossing (below Zymoetz Canyon), Jan 1-June 15
Bait ban
Above Limonite Creek: Class I water Sept 1-Oct 31; Steelhead Stamp mandatory Sept 1-Oct 31
Below Limonite Creek: Class II water Sept 1-Oct 31; Steelhead Stamp mandatory Sept 1-Oct 31

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

Clore River

Fly Fishing Only July 24 to December 31

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.

The majority of anglers on Clore River are fly fisherman which is a less productive method of fishing than conventional (gear fishing). When only a small minority of gear fisherman fish Steelhead in Clore River they greatly decrease the quality of angling for the majority fly fisherman. This is done by conventional anglers hooking and putting down much larger amounts of Steelhead per angler than fly fisherman therefore greatly reducing the potential success of the majority fly anglers.

Clore River contains many pools and runs that are challenging to angle with fly fishing equipment but easily fished with conventional equipment. Steelhead in Clore River have seen increasing pressure over the years. Making the river fly fishing only would increase areas of sanctuary for Steelhead particularly late in the season when they have a tendency to stack up in deep holding pools which are challenging to fly fish but easily fished conventionally putting additional stress on holding overwinter summer Steelhead.

Fly Fishing only regulations are a great solution to increasing the quality of angling experience for the majority of anglers and to help reduce stress levels on overwintering summer Steelhead

Signature:

Date: Feb 08 2012

SFAC 2012-6



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Name: Dustin Kovacvich	
Mailing Address: 591 Kalum Lake Road	
Affiliation: Skeena Angling Guide Association	
Day-Time Phone: 250-635-4577	Email: rkovacvich@citywest.ca

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.

Zymachord River

Existing Regulation(s):

Standard Region 6 Skeena Watershed Stream Regulations

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

Catch and Release only on Trout and Char year round

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.

The objective of the new regulation is to protect the trout and char fishery on the Zymachord River which has seem dramatically increased pressure over the past 3 years.

The Zymachord river used to have fairly limited access and is a moderately productive small watershed that can produce decent sized Cutthroat Trout, Dolly Varden, and Bull Trout. In recent years the old logging road has been rebuilt adjacent to the rivers banks greatly increasing access and consequently fishing pressure. As has been shown in many other areas of the province wild coastal char and cutthroat populations do not stand up well to moderate to heavy harvest rates.

It is hoped that by reducing retention limits to zero that the Trout and Char populations on the Zymachord river can remain at a reasonable level of abundance.

Signature:

Date: Feb 08 2012