



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

Date: Nov. 11, 2015 # of pages 3

To: Fisheries Section, Skeena Region 250-847-7337
Ministry

Office: 3726 Alfred Avenue, Smithers BC Phone # 250-847-7260

From: Jeff Lough Phone # 250-847-9729 (h)
Phone # 250-847-7326 (w)

Proponent Contact Information:	
Jeff Lough - Regional Fisheries Biologist MoFLNRO	
Box 5000	
Smithers, BC	
Tel: 250-847-7337	Alt: 250-847-7260

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.

Lachmach River (MU 6-14)

Existing Regulation(s):

Several Federal, Provincial and Regional angling regulations apply to the Lachmach.

The Water-specific regulations for the Lachmach R. applicable to this proposal are:

- No Fishing September 1 to October 31
- Bait ban

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

The Water-specific angling regulation for the Lachmach R proposed to be changed on April 1, 2016 is to:

- Rescind the No Fishing Sept 1-Oct 31 regulation.

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.

From the late 80's through to the late 90's, the Lachmach River was managed by DFO as a North Coast Coho index stream. In April 1987, at DFO's request, B.C. prescribed a No Fishing from Sept.1-Oct. 31 regulation to complement DFO's zero (0) harvest quota for Coho on the Lachmach. This approach to regulation harmonization is often referred to as a "mirror order". This additional regulation would reduce an anglers ability to, if encountered by enforcement officers, state that they were fishing for non-Coho species (e.g. Cutthroat, Dolly Varden) but would actually be "incidentally" catching (and ultimately impacting) Coho on the index stream.

After the Lachmach R. was no longer managed as North Coast Coho index stream the quota for Coho for that stream became 1/day, however a request by DFO to remove BC's "mirror order" was never received. Accordingly the No Fishing Sept 1 to Oct. 31 (for fin fish other than salmon) mirror order has remained in the *Freshwater Fishing Regulation Synopsis* since 1987 to present.

If the No Fishing Sept 1 to Oct. 31 regulation is rescinded there would be increase opportunity to angle for finfish other than salmon in the Lachmach River for the Sept.1 – Oct. 31 period.

Signature:



Date: November 11, 2015

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

Date:	<u>Nov. 17, 2015</u>	# of pages	<u>3</u>
To:	<u>Fisheries Section, Skeena Region</u>	Ministry	<u>250-847-7728</u>
Office:	<u>3726 Alfred Avenue, Smithers BC</u>	Phone #	<u>250-847-7260</u>
From:	<u>Len Vanderstar</u>	Phone #	<u>250-847-9729 (h)</u>
		Phone #	<u>250-847-7326 (w)</u>

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 March 15, 2015 SFAC meeting is February 1, 2015.
- Proposal submissions may be faxed, mailed or emailed to the Fisheries Section, Fish & Wildlife Branch, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, Smithers.

Proponent Contact Information:

Name: Len Vanderstar

Mailing Address: 1761 Kidd Rd., Smithers, BC, V0J 2N6

Affiliation: Friends of Morice Bulkley; Friends of Wild Salmon

Day-Time Phone: 250-847-7326 (w)

Email: lvanderstar1761@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 Skeena Region steelhead rivers

Existing Regulation(s):

None existing

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).*

I am recommending that the Sports Fishery Advisory Committee consider:

1. Set a restriction on hook size for spoon fishing during times of river occupancy by steelhead adults so that there is minimal chance of the hook penetrating into a fish's eye or gill plate;
or
2. Ensure that spoon hooks are trailing hooks to minimize eye penetration (the hook is not leveraged into the eye but able to stay in one place due to its inherent flexibility of spoon attachment);
or
3. Restrict the use of spoons for steelhead fishing (*may be problematic with a coho catch and retain season overlap*).

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.*

Over the years, I have noticed that hardware gear fishermen (using spoons) are disproportionately injuring and killing adult steelhead in Skeena Region rivers (I have fished steelhead in the Skeena Region for over 20 years). This is largely due to the large hook size, even though they are barbless. What I have noticed is that the larger supplied hook that comes with the lure has a greater tendency to penetrate into the fish's gills internally (throat hooked), or extending beyond the lip and damaging/blinding one eye of the fish. A case in point was yesterday I decided to experiment with two steelhead fishing techniques on the upper Morice River. I hooked and retrieved eight, four using fly casting (trailing hook flies) and four using a cleo spoon (this is a smaller spoon than most kitimat spoons). Two of the steelhead suffered eye injury (one for sure blinding) from the cleo spoon; no lasting injury was associated with the flies (typical clean hook-ups on the side of their mouths).

I also hooked an even number of bull char on both fly line and spoon casting. Of the six or so bull char

caught, no fish was injured but one was fortunate enough not to have the hook penetrate into a gill even though the hook was embedded deep in the throat. I have witnessed a few bull char mortally wounded due to deep spoon hook penetration by these aggressive fish over the years.

Incidentally, I came across a dead steelhead this season (2015) that I “suspected” was the result of bleeding from the gills due to hook penetration. In all the years that I have steelhead fished, I only witnessed one steelhead die from a fly hook-up (although some may have died upon release due to over-playing by inexperienced fishermen), but the major contributing factor was likely the gill parasites that I noticed on the doe.

The argument that hook size increases hook-up and retention success does not hold water from my experience; smaller hooks are equally as successful from my experimentation, and short trailing hooks even more successful. There is a general consensus that one is going to inflict more deep tissue damage to the fish with large hooks.

Steelhead conservation is not just about “escapement”, “habitat” or “catch & release”, but also about reducing injury and mortality.

Signature: *Len Vanderstar*

Date: Nov. 17, 2015

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

Date:	<u>November 26th 2015</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:	_____	Phone #	_____
		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 2014 SFAC meeting is February 2, 2014.
- Proposal submissions may be faxed, mailed or emailed to the Fisheries Section, Fish & Wildlife Branch, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, Smithers.

Proponent Contact Information:

Name: Hannes Edinger

Mailing Address: 4795 Merkley Rd. Terrace, BC V8G0B5

Affiliation: Steelhead Society of British Columbia

Day-Time Phone: 250-635-8653

Email: Hannes@bigriveranalytics.com

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 2 – from Exchamsiks River to 1.5km above Kitsumkalum River

Existing Regulation(s):

Class 2 water from July 1 – Sept. 30th.

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).*

Add to Schedule C.2 (section 13 (1.1)) Applicable Waters and Periods for Angling Guide Restrictions in Column 1: Skeena 2 from Exchamsiks River to 1.5km above Kitsumkalum River, and in Column 2: **From:** March 1st **To:** May 31st

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.*

- 1) Broadly the objective for the new regulation is to increase opportunity in the spring steelhead fishery. In alignment with the Quality Waters Strategy, the objective is to “maintain or improve the quality of angling opportunities on classified or other quality waters in British Columbia”.
- 2) The regulation is necessary due to crowding. Skeena 2 from March 1st to May 31st is, by any measure, a “Quality Waters” fishery. The Skeena 2 spring fishery has been featured in international videos and is widely advertised online alongside similar fisheries that are all classified waters. Because Skeena 2 is not classified after September 30th, guides with rod days on Skeena 2 have unlimited access during the spring steelhead fishery through their own guiding operations, but also (problematically) through the assistant angling guide program. Specifically, the assistant angling guide program allows an unlimited number of assistant angling guides per guide license (subject to approval of the Regional Manager). This creates the opportunity for assistant angling guides to conduct their own guiding operations independently from the guide license to which they are assigned. Assistant angling guides acting independently of the guide license to which they are assigned eliminates the usual logistical limitations per guide license (providing food/shelter/boats/guides). Through this process guided angling pressure on a “Quality Waters” angling opportunity has become essentially unlimited, with predictable results; a competitive, crowded fishery whose overall value is diminished because of ill-defined property rights to the guided angling experience. Without well-defined property rights the Skeena 2 spring fishery has become a typical

case of “the tragedy of the commons” whereby guides/assistant guides have individual incentives to further exploit the resource because the costs are borne by the collective angling community through crowding, and the benefits accrue to the individuals. Unchecked, systems susceptible the tragedy of the commons, like the Skeena 2 spring fishery under the current policy framework, will fail to optimize a scarce resource. Further, Skeena 2 is susceptible to water-level fluctuations in the spring that can effectively eliminate the fishery overnight. Guides and assistant angling guides are put under enormous pressure to find alternative fisheries for their clients. This pressure results in crowding on much smaller local systems like the Zymacord river that are far less able to handle the pressure that was directed at the Skeena 2 fishery. Further, this creates incentives for illegal guiding on nearby systems that are classified and more resilient to springtime water fluctuations like the Kitsumkalum. While the concerns related to the Skeena 2 spring fishery are related to crowding and a quality angling experience for guided and resident anglers alike, the concerns related to the spillover into much smaller fisheries like the Zymacord have biological foundations.

- 3) The regulation would be effective because it would cap the guided angling pressure directed at the Skeena 2 spring steelhead fishery to 16 guided groups of anglers per day (1 group per guide license with rod days on Skeena 2). The regulation would curtail the current practice of assistant angling guides operating independent guiding operations based primarily on the Skeena 2 spring steelhead fishery. It should be noted that this practice of independent assistant angling guides operating their own business can continue, however only the angling guide (license holder) or one of their assistant angling guides would be able to operate on Skeena 2 at a single time reducing overall congestion.
- 4) The proposed regulation would *defacto* create a maximum of $92 \times 16 \times 3 = 4,416$ rod days (based on three guided anglers per boat, guiding each day of the proposed regulation) for Skeena 2 during the period March 1st to May 31st. Given that Skeena 2 has 3,568 allocated rod days for the period July 1 – Sept. 30 this proposal is in alignment with the Skeena Quality Waters Strategy, if perhaps too generous, in the amount of guided angling pressure deemed suitable for Skeena 2 considering the angling opportunities in the same stretch of river in the spring are far fewer than those available during the summer.

Signature:



Date: January 8th 2016.

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 (Copper) River Class 1, A Section

Existing Regulation(s):

Zymoetz Class 1, A Section – Canadian Residents only on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays July 24 to December 31. There are also some specific regulations for guiding that allows non - resident anglers to be guided on Fridays that can be found on the Government website.

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).*

Discuss the possibility of implementing a lottery system and/or other ways to improve the management of angling in the Class 1, A Section of the Zymoetz (Copper) River.

The other changes that could be considered to improve the quality experience for all those who fish this section of the river while at the same time providing a regime that limits the number of anglers who can fish this section on a daily basis;

(1)The number of guides who operate on this section of the river could be reduced from three to two by buying out one guide and all non-resident anglers fishing this section would have to be guided.

(2)Reduce the size of the area where guiding can take place so that a section is set aside for resident anglers.

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.*

Not to be confused with the previous angling regulation proposals, we are asking for a discussion over how to regulate and control angler numbers into this mostly pristine, wild place, and talk about access and transport of anglers into the valley. It is time to consider a lottery system as a way to manage both resident and non-resident anglers, and guiding only for non-residents.

The Dean River has a quasi non-resident lottery regulation and the Elk River in the east Kootenay is the latest river as we understand it to have some control by this means over the number of non-residents who can fish that river.

We think that one of the three existing angling guiding operations should be bought out and an equal number of rod days should be divided between the two remaining operators with one guide allocated a portion of the upper half and the second guide allocated a portion of the lower half, with a section in the middle being retained for resident anglers only.

All non-residents should have to be guided by one of the two operators. If a guiding only regulation is not implemented we can to some extent say good bye to this part of the Zymoetz River system because it already has achieved International star status and will, a step at time, be taken over by non-residents setting up tent camps for extended stays. It may be time to implement as well, a resident lottery system to manage this relatively small river system to limit the number of anglers who can fish the section on a given day.

For the most part access to the middle of Section A, which is the most popular sub-section for resident anglers to fish are limited to using what remains of a mainline forest road. The road has washouts and partly collapsed bridge which can only be traversed by walkers, bicycles and ATV's.

For those who are able, helicopters are a viable option which we talked about in Proposal #4 but did not discuss a private helicopter use regulation. We understand that regulating the private use of a helicopter is a more complicated process issue.

Access to the upper sub-section is by vehicle from the Bulkley Valley and by walking or by floating to the fishing locations or again by helicopter.

The lower 1/3 sub-section or so can be accessed via a mainline forest road and by walking into various pools or by helicopter.

Signature: Jim Culp

Date: January 24, 2016

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

Date:	<u>January 23, 2016</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>Jim Culp</u>	Phone #	<u>250-635-2540</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 2016 SFAC meeting is February 7, 2016.
- Proposal submissions may be faxed, mailed or emailed to the Senior Biologist, Mark Beere, Fisheries Section, Fish & Wildlife Branch, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, Smithers.

Proponent Contact Information:

Name: Jim Culp

Mailing Address: 4709 Hamer Ave. Terrace BC V8G2E2

Affiliation: BC Federation of Fly Fishers Region 6 Representative

Day-Time Phone: 250-635-2540

Email: culpoutdoors@telus.net

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 (Copper) Class 2, B Section

Existing Regulation(s):

Zymoetz Class 2, B Section – Canadian Residents only on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays July 24 to December 31. There are also some specific regulations for guiding that allows non-resident anglers to be guided on Friday and Saturday that can be found on the Government website.

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).*

This proposal is for the Zymoetz River in the Class 2, B Section above the First Canyon at 5 km. on the Copper River Forest Road, from October 1 to the angling closed time (Jan.1 or Dec.1), be restricted to fly fishing only, using a floating line and a single fly hook, with no internal or external weight, with a maximum of a # 4 fly hook size.

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.*

At the March 15, 2015 SFAC meeting following the discussion of the two fly fishing only proposals put forward by Dustin Kovacvich and the acrimony that ensued, the committee members talked about alternative ways to provide protection for Zymoetz River steelhead. One was to close the river to all angling during November, or as early as October 1, and the other was a daily catch and release limit of steelhead (see BCFFF Zymoetz River proposals for catch and release and earlier/ longer steelhead angling closed time).

Should the Zymoetz River catch and release limit proposal not be acceptable or workable we are putting forward this proposal as an alternative.

The rationale to close a river to angling for conservation reasons and not seriously weigh other options is not acceptable. All alternative tackle restrictions and innovation must be reviewed and considered prior to an angling closure to determine whether or not one or more could achieve the same objective.

There is an answer to the conundrum of too many steelhead being caught and released above the Lower Canyon at 5 km. on the Copper River Forest Road to the Limonite Creek boundary with the Class 1 Section. The epicenter or where the majority of runs and pools are located, which attract the bulk of overwintering steelhead, is above the Second Canyon. These fish begin to collect as early as late September and increase their buildup over their migration period that tapers off to only a dribble of fish in late October. Large numbers of steelhead hold in these pools before they disperse to their spawning areas in the following spring.

This is the time for angler action and innovation as a way to reduce the number of steelhead hookups while maintaining quality steelhead angling during October and November. The BCFFF will support an open tackle period from July 24 until the September 30 for the Class 2 Section. This is the steelhead migration time into the upper river system, into the Clore River and so on before these fish begin to rest and hold in the area of concern from about October 1 on. The reality is that some of steelhead, even before October 1, begin to congregate and hold in this section of river. This is the time when there is need for tackle restrictions that puts the conservation and well being of steelhead before anglers maximizing their catch.

Our recommendation/proposal would substantially reduce the number of steelhead hookups, as the water temperature decreases, that coincides with a reduction in the number of steelhead hookups. It is common knowledge that as the water temperature drops, the activity level and the metabolism of these fish slows down, consequently they are not as active in their search for a surface morsel to eat which could be a fly skating across the water surface.

What many anglers do not understand is that it is easier to use a fly rod and tackle, more relaxing and the least expensive way to fish for steelhead. When a steelhead is hooked using a floating line and fly the thrill is impossible to duplicate, particularly if one is using a surface fly that a steelhead rises too or chases across the surface.

No angler, regardless of age or sex who is able to walk along a rough rock or stone beach or bank and is able to wade in a fast current is excluded from fishing this way.

If members of the SFAC committee and the Fish and Wildlife Branch Fishing Section agreed to

our proposal, anglers at the season end would be bragging and be excited over single encounters with steelhead grabbing their fly off of the surface, rather than hooking a large number of steelhead and putting most of them on the beach. Our goal is to try and instill the quality experience approach amongst anglers rather than it being a competition with the quantity of steelhead caught being the most important goal.

No regulation will completely solve the conundrum of the ever increasing number of anglers that want to angle on a river such as the Zymoetz. This being the reality means that more and more will have to be willing to share the opportunity with others. Along with that attitude will be the need to get along and develop a code of conduct and an attitude that is no different than with our everyday lives when shopping and carrying out our day to day business. Life is becoming more and more challenging because of its high pace and complexity. As anglers maybe we can contribute a wee bit to a slowdown over the way we live and treat each other in a more considerate and sharing way.

Signature: Jim Culp

Date: January 24, 2016

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

Date:	<u>February 3, 2016</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>British Columbia Federation of Fly Fishers</u>	Phone #	_____
		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 2016 SFAC meeting is February 7, 2016.
- Proposal submissions may be faxed, mailed or emailed to the Senior Biologist, Mark Beere, Fisheries Section, Fish & Wildlife Branch, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, Smithers.

Proponent Contact Information:

Name: Jessea Grice

Mailing Address: BOX#126 Telkwa B.C. V0J2X0

Affiliation: BC Federation of Fly Fishers

Day-Time Phone: 250 877 9965

Email: jessea.grice@gmail.com

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 and Morice Rivers

Existing Regulation(s):

Non-resident aliens are restricted to non-guided fishing Monday to Friday. They can fish on Saturday and Sunday with a licensed guide.

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).*

In order to maintain the Bulkley/Morice world class steelhead fishery, we propose implementing a trial rod day booking system for the Bulkley and Morice Rivers for 3 years starting in 2017.

The data recorded over three years would then help determine the number of angler days in the classified period (September 1-October 31) that would be distributed to the different groups in order to limit the number of anglers per day. **The number of days would then be divided amongst the different user groups after consultation with all stakeholders.**

Days would be booked using an online system and could be booked from April 1 (start of the fishing season) onward with a maximum number of days to be booked at one time.

Non-Resident Aliens would be the first to be restricted with guide rod days being restricted second, followed by resident anglers as the last group to be restricted.

Resident only weekends would remain unchanged.

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 this proposal is to address the crowding on the Bulkley and Morice Rivers. Crowding is increasing and having a booking system will address the crowding while enhancing the quality of the fishing experience.

A "Rod Day Booking System" was widely accepted by Quality Waters Strategy participants as an effective tool to reduce crowding and preserve a quality angling experience

Signature



Date: February 5, 2016

