

# Final Notes

## **Terrace AMP Meeting: Terrace (West) Working Group Saturday April 19 – Sunday April 20, 2008**

### **1 WORKING GROUP MEMBERS**

Resident anglers: Jason Ouellet, Chris Culp, Jim Culp, Rob Brown,

Guides: Dan Daigle, Dustin Kovacvish

MOE: Dana Atagi      MoE Coordinator

Guests: none

Observers: Day 1, Tom Bell, Regional Manager, Skeena Region MOE

Facilitator: Sandra Bicego, Alan Dolan & Associates

s.22

### **2 ACRONYMS**

NRA - Non-resident alien

NGNRA – Non guided, non resident alien

NRC - Non-resident Canadian

### **3 SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 2008 – AFTERNOON BREAKOUT GROUP NOTES**

#### ***3.1 Expectations of this process***

- Constructive plan developed that addresses our key issues and challenges
- A quality fishing experience
- The angling situation does not deteriorate further
- Strive for something better on the rivers; develop long-lasting, future-oriented solutions
- Elimination of animosity; want to enjoy fishing when we go; want to relax
- Want to learn from others here
- Guides can make a living
- Implementation of Hierarchy of Exclusion principle, from the QWS document (NGNRA regulated first)
- Outcome dispels misunderstanding between guided and resident angler “use” system

- Clarify the NGNRA situation, particularly on the Copper
- Ensure NRAs have opportunity to fish, but probably something less than what is now the case
- Skeena IV from Terrace to Kitwanga remains wild

## **3.2 Working Group Roles and responsibility**

### **3.2.1 Decision making process**

- We agree to operate by consensus.
  - By consensus, we recognize that the outcome is something less than full agreement and will be ‘near perfect’ – something we can all live with.
- When there is a suggestion made by the group, it will be put forth as a “proposal.”
  - The proposal is just that, something to be discussed by the group.
  - The process to be used will be for the Working Group member to suggest a proposal and the facilitator will note it, and facilitate a go-around.
  - The go around allows everyone a chance to provide comment.
- Once everyone has been heard we can step back and review where there is agreement or disagreement and proceed from there to determine the extent of consensus on the proposal.
- Silence does not mean agreement.
  - The facilitator will conduct go-arounds to check in with everyone, as a means of including all Working Group members.
- It was discussed and confirmed on Day 2 by the Working Group that the Hierarchy of Exclusion is a key principle in the QWS which emphasizes that guides are to be considered in a certain order before non residents

### **3.2.2 Conduct, responsibility, roles**

- Working Group members will at all times be respectful of each other; we can be hard on the issues, but soft on people.
- All Working Group discussions are confidential and all members will abide by this rule of confidentiality.
- MOE role includes ensuring the “public view is presented. The MOE member will also provide technical clarification and offer key governmental considerations where needed (e.g., information about management costs, internal workings of government that can help with the process decisions).

### **3.2.3 Re: 1 hour public session in May**

- Applications by public wanting to attend the Terrace Working Group meeting in May should be received ahead of time by the lead facilitator, Alan Dolan, or QWS Biologist, Paddy Hirshfield.
- 1 hour will be allotted to Saturday afternoon, at the end of the Working Group session.
- Speakers have a maximum of 5 minutes which will be facilitated by the Working Group Facilitator.

### **3.2.4 Media**

- All media requests will be referred to the lead facilitator, Alan Dolan or Paddy Hirshfield.
- An external relations message summarizing the meetings will be compiled by the lead facilitator which can be sent out to media and the public.
- If the public or other stakeholder desire to know what we have discussed in our meetings, we can describe:
  - Who is at the table

- The rivers we talked about
- Basic information about the rivers
- Procedures we are adhering to: conduct, responsibility, roles, decision making agreement
- We can use the agenda as an outline for what we can talk about with those outside the Working Group.

### **3.3 Homework**

- Read package: Consultation Report, QWS Resource Document, Angling and Scientific Collection Regulation (125/90), Sample of other Angling Management Plans: Horsefly River, Lower Dean River, East Kootenay. Print out of Graphs, to be read with Historical Data Summary of Angler Use document.
- Re: the sample Angling Management Plans: read through and note examples of what worked in other situations, noting why the possible solutions worked in those circumstances. Note: these are *not* the only solutions. Keep open-minded to new possibilities.
- **Note** that the Guiding Graph on p 44 of the Consultation Report presents Guide responses only. What about resident

### **3.4 Logistics and attendance at next two meetings**

#### **3.4.1 Next meeting**

- Set for May 10 and 11. All Working Group members can attend.
- At the next meeting, we are looking for a Range of Options.

#### **3.4.2 Policy for Alternates**

- Commit to attend all meetings because hard to catch up if miss a meeting.
- There are two missing folks so that there are two instead of three guides as part of this weekend's discussions.
- Need to confirm whether s.22 will be attending future meetings. If they cannot attend, Paddy to determine new representatives. This is important to maintain the balance of discussions as required by the QWS.

## **4 SUNDAY APRIL 20, 2008 – BREAKOUT GROUP NOTES**

### **4.1 Angler Use Data Discussion**

- Concern with data not being reported accurately – concern there is under reporting. E.g.,
  - de data for Copper does not seem accurate; (Figure 5 and 6); A guide knows he used 25 rod days on the Zymoetz I in 2005 guiding NRAs, and yet the data shows 'zero'. Information is missing.
  - Regarding the Kalum guiding data: Fig 5, '96 data: seems more days were used than shows
  - Resident angling data is lacking
  - Note there is a 20-30% error margin. Quite high.
- SHA biases in the positive direction are a concern
- Concern about perception of guided rod day bias

- Working Group decided: The data is useful for helping decisions; It is a guide; informs what we know; it is not gospel; good for showing trends.

**Working Group requested: Regional Committee for their Assessments of Regional Waters.**

## **4.2 AMP Development – Draft Issues, Problems and Objectives**

### **4.2.1 The Issues/Problems**

- The whole group agreed to add a new #10 suggested by the MOE representative: to ensure the least intrusive tool. This addition will enable weighting options and improve transparency and robustness of the recommendation.
- #6: one group member suggested leaving off “unlikely to increase”...
- #9: change from “too many regulations, confusing” to “Some regulations are confusing.”

### **4.2.2 Objectives**

- The Working Group generally agreed with the objectives.

## **4.3 Prioritized Waters**

***Zymoetz (“The Copper “)***

***Zymoetz I***

***Zymoetz II***

***Skeena IV (downstream from Kitwanga Bridge)***

***Kitsumkalum (“the Kalum”)***

***Lakelse***

## **4.4 Key issues for all rivers**

- Increased road development has lead to increased access opportunities.
- Information tools - such as the Internet – blogs, newsletters, Google Earth program; GPS devices; new Backroad Map Book – have lead to an increase in anglers being aware of access points to the river [and all rivers].
- Improved fishing equipment – e.g., rods, floatation devices, have lead to increased ability to catch fish.

## **4.5 Zymoetz I**

### **4.5.1 Description**

- Approximately 50 km long with approximately 30 km of fishable area.
- The headwaters is in Smithers which is also where the river is accessible from.

- Downstream boundary: Limonite Creek, below Cooper II.
- Other access points are Copper Road, Inkleanza Road and by helicopter from Terrace or Smithers.
- The whole Copper stays brown long after rainfall.

#### **4.5.2 Regulatory and management restrictions'**

- Class I river – Sept 1 – Oct 31
- Closed to angling Jan 1 – June 15<sup>th</sup>
- Guided fishing occurs from Aug 20 to Nov 10.
- Approximately 250 maximum rod days available. Approximately 50 days are allocated.
- There used to be no August fishery in the late 80s.
- 3 licensed guides; one from Smithers; 2 from Terrace.
- Has a SMZ similar to Lakelese
- Bain Ban exists.
- Data: Generally available for ZI and ZII; challenge because no distinction between the two sections; creel survey '99 and is considered 'ok'.

#### **4.5.3 Hot spots, key issues and problems**

##### ***What are the issues/problems?***

- The whole river is a hot spot.
- Access: can hike trails down to the river.
- Very exceptional and unique place.
- Fish are in better shape here than the Babine. There are special fish on this river; they are bigger and stronger; can land steelhead up to 32 lbs.
- Moody fish, requires special fly.
- Dry fly fishing possible.
- This may be the last place in the world for small stream, dry fly, steelhead fishing.
- In the last few years: increasing pressure from fishing and this will only grow.
- Small river. Fish are more vulnerable. The river cannot take the increasing fishing pressure.

##### ***Where are those issue located and at what time of year?***

- Some areas more difficult to access; can use helicopter or raft/float but this is quite dangerous; if fit, can hike in.

##### ***Who is involved?***

- All anglers; and more and more: NGNR
- Have seen up to eight NRA with a guide s.22
- More exploration is occurring. Seems lik where to go. The river has gained more profile. One person was seen walking around with a GPS and seemed to know where he wanted to go.

#### **4.5.4 What else is important?**

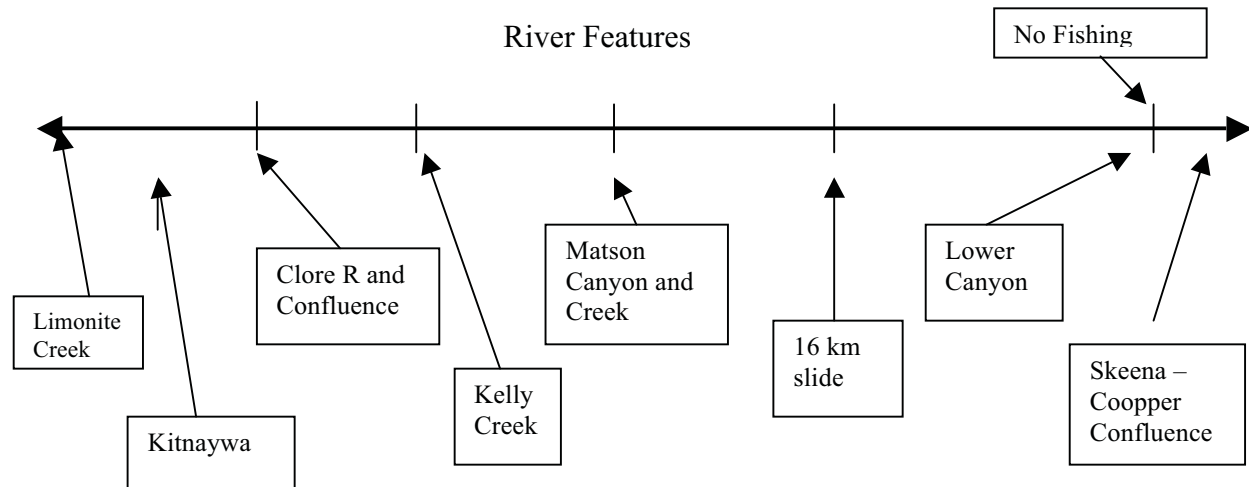
- High wilderness values.
- Threat of mining; ongoing logging.
- OGMAs on both sides of river, from LRMP process.
- No logging below 1<sup>st</sup> bench after September.
- Helicopter companies, car rental agencies

#### 4.5.5 Carrying Capacity

- Suggestion for 0.3 – 0.5 anglers per km / day.

### 4.6 Zymoetz II

#### 4.6.1 Description



Approximately 50km long

#### 4.6.2 Regulatory and management restrictions

- Class II Sept 1 to Oct 31
- Year long bait ban
- Available rod days: 2—
- Currently 5 guides with ~ 117 rod days allocated
- No fishing above the 5km mark at Lower Canyon from Jan 1 to June 15

#### 4.6.3 Hot spots, key issues and problems

Every km is not the same on these rivers; e.g., 100 anglers per day with 2/pool on the Zymoetz is overcrowding. That is about 1200 angler days.

Number of available fishing spots are limited.

*What are the issues/problems, where are they located and at what time of year?*

Unclassified from July to August.

- Steelhead fishing is not as good in July.
- Best times to fish are August.
- Unlimited guiding underway.
- Guiding has increased substantially in August
- Generally more rafts seen now across the whole river

- Angling use is increasing generally, especially in August, but depends on water conditions.
- The fish used to be found near the Clore River and are now found on the whole river.

At other times of the year

- Access is easy because of logging road and distance markers.
- Camping occurs throughout the area.
- Trash is an issue
- Variable water quality; the river can remain dirty due to slides and heavy rains – which arise from cold nights and warm days.
- Some guiding; 20-30 rod days in November; the shoulder season.
- When the climate is warmer, the fishery continues later.

### ***Who is involved?***

- Poor etiquette by NRAs.
- Local anglers do not frequent area due to crowding; fish in shoulder season.
- BC residents fish during the season.
- Aug – early Sept, it is easier to camp at a ‘hot spot’ and remain for a long period of time.
- Illegal guiding an issue; European ads are blatant. German fishing clubs

### ***Data***

Shows NRA is an issue.

More resident angler use; more of everyone.

### ***Clore River***

- Data is spotty.
- 12 km accessible length.
- Big increase in angling pressure; used by all anglers.
- Tough access; hard work to get to river; 2 access points with boat put ins; 2 good pull outs at 4 kms.
- Managed under ZII.
- Easy to get crowded due to small size of limited fishable water.
- Comparable to Upper Copper; a special place.
- 8m slide on far bank that dirties whole lower river and one near trapline.
- Consider it unique part of Copper and needs to be discussed in this process.
- Fish are found at the surface of the whole Clore.
- Guiding: more taking place above the Clore.
- Suggestion that could be a zone response.

#### ***4.6.4 What else is important?***

#### ***4.6.5 Carrying Capacity***

### ***4.7 Skeena IV (below the Kitwanga Bridge)***

This discussion took place on Day 1 and needs to be completed by the Working Group before the next set of meetings

#### **4.7.1 Description**

- Area covered spans 1km above mouth of Copper to Hwy 37 (Kitwanga Bridge) – approximately 200 km

#### **4.7.2 Regulatory and management restrictions'**

- Approximately 400 rod days for 200 km of River
- 10 Guides with 1000 rod days

#### **4.7.3 Hot spots, key issues and problems**

*What are the issues/problems?*

- Mouth of Kitsumkalum
- Kispiox
- Kitselas Canyon to the lower boundary (above the confluence with Zymoetz)

*Where are those issues located and at what time of year?*

*Who is involved?*

*Some proposals for discussion:*

- Skeena upstream and downstream – this is open for discussion
- Do not want to have bidding for rod days for guides.
- Opportunity for sport fishery
- Not a lot of guiding on the river
- Zoning possible on stretches

#### **4.7.4 What else is important?**

#### **4.7.5 Carrying Capacity**

### **4.8 Kitsumkalum (the Kalum)**

#### **4.8.1 Description**

#### **4.8.2 Regulatory and management restrictions**

#### **4.8.3 Hot spots, key issues and problems**

*What are the issues/problems?*

*Where are those issues/problems located and at what time of year?*

*Who is involved?*

#### **4.8.4 What else is important?**



#### **4.8.5 Carrying Capacity**

### **4.9 Lakelse**

This discussion took place partially on Day 1 and Day 2.

#### **4.9.1 Description**

- A smaller river in this Terrace region; approximately 9 miles long.
- Boundary of Lakelse is the mouth of the Skeena River.
- CNR bridge is at the lake outlet.
- It is considered the *go-to* river when others are out of shape because stays clean longer; cleans up faster than other rivers and has a productive fishery.
- Reasonable access available throughout.

#### **4.9.2 Regulatory and management restrictions**

- A class II river.
- The River is managed through gear-based temporal and spatial restrictions.
- One of six non guided rivers in the region.
- At 9 km upstream of the CNR Bridge, there is flyfishing boundary area.
- No coho fishing is allowed above the bridge.
- There is a bait ban on the river.
- Powerboat ban.
- Steelhead stamp required Dec 1 to May 1.
- The river supports mixed stock salmon fisheries, particularly at the lower logging bridge. The salmon fishery is a highly controversial fishery in this area.
- Targeting spawning steelhead during April to May and possibly to early June is illegal under the Regulations.
- Resident trout are found in the upper end of the river.
- Cutthroat trout release fishery Mar 1 – April 30

#### **4.9.3 Hot spots, key issues and problems**

##### ***What are the issues/problems?***

Desirable sport fishing spot and consequent overcrowding due to:

- easy access to the river; similar kind of access as in the upper Copper.
- can take new people there to learn to fish
- high productivity of the fishery
- Easy fly fishery
- Great for taking kids there to fish; easy to walk along river; educational
- Great place to watch wildlife;
- Great quality; a special place.
- High value to residents of community for the reasons above.

Other issues:

- It is felt that pressure for steelhead fishing will only increase with time.
- Illegal guiding a key issue; many fishermen have seen people ‘helping’ a group of anglers

- Have experienced poor etiquette (e.g., poor guiding practices; fish handling, impacts safety with bears in area)
- Ethical aspects arise from the way anglers fish:
  - numbers caught;
  - how released;
  - stationary fishing vs rotating, especially if other anglers are around
  - especially if the angler(s) are spending a number of days in one spot [this happens].
  - Group decided to focus on # of anglers per km and leave ethics to later.
- There are potential negative impact arising from spillover from other systems when they get squeezed

### ***Where are those issues located and at what time of year?***

Issues at key locations:

- The waterline of the Lakelse river changes due to Skeena River snowmelt in Spring. This affects water quality for fishing.
- The mouth of the River is a hot spot because it has clean water and access is available, which leads to increased use and crowding.
- Logging bridge is located ¼ km down from mouth of Skeena River; a hotspot because an access point.
- Uncontrolled access development changes impacts the quality fishing experience because enhances crowding.
  - E.g., The Canyon to Mink Creek: quad trail developed through to Cody's Mill; has increased access. Trail is wide; can almost drive through with a vehicle; poses pressure on the quality angling experience.
  - Group felt that quad trail development is occurring throughout creek.
- On upper river in particular, if ethical standards are followed then the river does not seem crowded; can handle the pressures of local use.
- The way we fish affects the quality fishing experience. For example, because fly fishing requires constant moving, type of gear used is important along the upper river - particularly at "The Rock."
  - More broadly: Use of gear and the etiquette that goes with it affects the quality fishing experience.

### ***Who is involved?***

#### ***Parking Lot***

Parking Lot - Fish stock management issue:

- Steelhead and salmon could be upstream migrating fish and mixing with the Lakelse steelhead fish stock. There is poaching of steelhead returns to the ocean.
- Spawning habitat for all salmon and steelhead species.
- Anglers walking on gravel impacts eggs and increase mortality
- Suggestion: Could identify spawning habitat areas and restrict access to areas.
- Study needed for this.
- Group decided: identify the issues and focus on angling use plan; once done then can return to parking lot items.

Parking Lot – LRMP and other issues

- SMZ for First Nations sites along river; Culturally Managed Trees.
- Extensive logging just beyond the SMZ

Task: Jim Culp to review Kalum LRMP to identify items significant for this process.

### ***Some ideas for discussion at next meeting***

- Working group suggestion for change to Class I status. This gives it a high status and profile.
- The working group wants to protect this river; Class I provides a deterrent effect to non - guided and non – residential use.
- Could zone the river.
- Possible protected zone – class A park.
- Ideal for local resident anglers. Was considered for resident only in the past and is the reason the river is not currently guided.
- Working Group Q: what are the tools for resident-only use?
- Re: Steelhead stamp required Dec 1 to May 1. Group suggestion to change this: year round, or more specifically, from August 1 – June 30.
- If a lottery option is posed:
  - it restricts non Canadian use.
  - could also encourage tourism because creates an ‘elite’ fishing river for fewer non Canadians.
  - is the most expensive option in the tool box.

#### ***4.9.4 What else is important?***

- The river is important to the Community both socially and economically. It provides a place for family camping and educating kids. The river is important to B&Bs and their guides along with Tackle shops who send clients to river.
- The bulk of the business in tackle shops is local resident shoppers.

#### ***4.9.5 Carrying Capacity***

- Example from Horsefly Angling Use Plan: if 0.5 fisherman per km = 5.5 angler days for whole river – is this good for the Lakelese river?
- Information is an issue: it is a data-poor system; we have trend data. Needs creel survey
- Busy steelhead fishing times are in fall – Sept – Oct. A busy day is seeing about 12 people. 60-70% or more are local anglers.
- 4 month period of use; 120 days of fishing are possible. 720 rod days possible.
- Data shows that in previous years, there were higher number of rod days [1980s]; recent years, 1000-2000 rod days. However, this includes 20-30% error margin.
- Suggestion by group to consider 500-1000 rod days as suitable for a quality fishing experience.

# **Final Notes**

## **Smithers AMP Meeting: Terrace (West) Working Group** *Saturday, June 7 - Sunday, June 8 2008*

# Table of Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>REVIEW AND UPDATES.....</b>	<b>4</b>
2.1	UPDATE FOR APRIL 19- 20 MEETING NOTES.....	4
2.2	REVIEW OF MAY 10-11 MEETING NOTES.....	4
2.3	REPORT ON INFORMAL MEETING.....	5
2.4	REVISED OBJECTIVES.....	5
2.5	REVISED EVALUATION CRITERIA.....	5
2.5.1	Objective 1.....	5
2.5.2	Objectives 2, 3 and 4.....	5
2.5.3	Objectives 5 and 6.....	5
2.6	ASSESSMENT PROCESS.....	5
<b>3</b>	<b>KALUM MANAGEMENT ELEMENTS.....</b>	<b>5</b>
3.1	SUMMARY MANAGEMENT ELEMENTS .....	5
3.2	ASSESSMENT AND DISCUSSION OF KALUM MANAGEMENT ELEMENTS .....	6
3.2.1	Re: Status Quo.....	6
3.2.2	Re: Management Element #2 – Change to Class 1 and STHD Stamp .....	7
3.2.3	Re: Guide Use Restrictions and No Guiding on Sundays .....	8
3.2.4	Re: Guide Use Restrictions and No Guiding on weekends .....	8
3.2.5	Re: Angling Use Restrictions: Mandatory guiding for NRA for entire river .....	8
3.2.6	Re: Angling Use Restrictions: Limited License Availability option.....	9
3.2.7	Re: Top Recommended Management Alternative #8 .....	9
3.3	KALUM RIVER CONSEQUENCE TABLE .....	10
<b>4</b>	<b>SKEENA IV.....</b>	<b>10</b>
4.1	SUMMARY MANAGEMENT ELEMENTS .....	10
4.2	ASSESSMENT AND DISCUSSION OF SKEENA IV (BELOW KITWANGA BRIDGE) MANAGEMENT ELEMENTS .....	11
4.2.1	Re: Status Quo.....	11
4.2.2	Re: Management Element #2.2: Steelhead Stamp Aug 1 – Dec 31.....	11
4.2.3	RE: 2.1: Change to Class 1 .....	11
4.2.4	Re: Management element #3: Lottery for NRA/NRC .....	11
4.2.5	Re: Management element #4: 8 day licence.....	11
4.2.6	Re: Management element #5: No Guides at River Mouth.....	12
4.2.7	Re: Management element #6: No NRA Zones .....	12
4.2.8	Re: Management element #7: No Fishing from Boats .....	12
4.2.9	Re: Management element #8: Guide only for NRA/NRC .....	12
4.2.10	Re: Top Recommended Management Alternative .....	12
4.3	ECONOMIC IMPACTS OVERALL .....	12
4.4	SKEENA RIVER CONSEQUENCE TABLE.....	12
<b>5</b>	<b>TBC - ZYMOETZ I.....</b>	<b>13</b>
5.1	SUMMARY MANAGEMENT ELEMENTS .....	13
5.2	ASSESSMENT AND DISCUSSION OF ZYMOETZ I MANAGEMENT ELEMENTS.....	14
5.2.1	Re: Status Quo.....	14
5.2.2	Re: Management element 5.2: No fishing from Boats.....	14
5.2.3	Re: Other Management Elements.....	14
5.2.4	Top Recommended Management Alternative.....	14
5.2.5	TO BE FILLED IN: Consequence Table.....	15
<b>6</b>	<b>ZYMOETZ II.....</b>	<b>15</b>
6.1	SUMMARY MANAGEMENT ELEMENTS .....	15
6.2	ASSESSMENT AND DISCUSSION OF MANAGEMENT ELEMENTS .....	16
6.2.1	Re: Status Quo.....	16

6.2.2	<i>Re: Management Elements 2-7</i>	16
6.2.3	<i>Re: Top Recommended Management Alternative: #8</i>	17
6.2.4	<i>Consequence Table</i>	18
<b>7</b>	<b>LAKELSE</b>	<b>18</b>
7.1	SUMMARY MANAGEMENT ELEMENTS	18
7.2	ASSESSMENT AND DISCUSSION MANAGEMENT ELEMENTS	19
7.2.1	<i>Re: Status Quo</i>	19
7.2.2	<i>Re: Management Element #2: Water Designation: Class 1 all year, STHD Stamp</i>	19
7.2.3	<i>Re: Management Element #3: Licence Class Restriction</i>	20
7.2.4	<i>Re: Management Element #6: Angling Use Restriction</i>	20
7.2.5	<i>Top Recommended Management Alternative: Angling Use Restriction Package</i>	21
7.2.6	<i>Consequence Table</i>	21

## **Working Group members in attendance**

### **Present:**

- **Resident anglers:** Jason Ouellet, Chris Culp, Jim Culp, Rob Brown,
- **Guides:** Dan Daigle, Andrew Rushton
- **Guide Alternate:** Randy Dozzi
- **MOE:** Dana Atagi, MoE Coordinator

### **Absent:**

- Resident Angler Alternate: s.22
- Guide, s.22

### **Guests:**

- Tom Ethier, Director, Fish and Wildlife, MOE
- Tom Bell, Regional Manager, Skeena Region, MOE
- Miles Stratholt, Fish Science Analyst, MOE

**Facilitator:** Sandra Bicego, Alan Dolan & Associates

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

These draft meeting notes provide a summary of the discussions of the Terrace (West) Working Group AMP meetings held in Smithers, June 7 – 8, 2008. Notes are presented in list form and not in priority order, nor necessarily in the order of the meeting agenda. The purpose of these draft notes is to provide a summary record of the discussions and serve as input to the development of the Angling Management Plan.

---

Note: These notes do not necessarily follow the order in which items were discussed.

## **2 REVIEW AND UPDATES**

### ***2.1 Update for April 19- 20 meeting notes***

- Edits were provided from s.22

### ***2.2 Review of May 10-11 meeting notes***

- Edits were provided from s.22
- Members encouraged to s ail

## **2.3 Report on Informal meeting**

- The Working Group clarified their interests for Zymoetz II
- Negotiated rod days
- Discussed changes needed on other rivers

## **2.4 Revised Objectives**

1. To maximize the quality of the angling experience
2. To maximize resident angling opportunities
3. To maximize non-guided, non-resident angling opportunities
4. To maximize opportunities for guided anglers
5. To minimize the ministry's management and enforcement costs
6. To minimize regulatory complexity

## **2.5 Revised evaluation criteria**

### **2.5.1 Objective 1**

Very poor quality(1)/ poor quality(2)/ moderate quality(3)/ good quality(4)/ excellent quality(5)

### **2.5.2 Objectives 2, 3 and 4**

Low(1)/ medium-low(2)/ medium(3)/ medium-high(4)/ high(5)

### **2.5.3 Objectives 5 and 6**

Very high(1)/ high(2)/ moderate(3)/ low(4)/ very low(5)

## **2.6 Assessment Process**

Each river was discussed and evaluated using the evaluation criteria. The Working Group decided that the scale comparisons were to be considered spatially, Skeena-wide, rather than temporally. Temporal comparisons are harder to do because of the major changes in fishing experience over time.

## **3 KALUM MANAGEMENT ELEMENTS**

### **3.1 Summary Management Elements**

#### **1. Status Quo**

##### ***Water designation and license surcharge:***

2. Change to class 1 for entire river and STHD stamp mandatory all year

##### ***Guide Use Restrictions***



3. 1 boat upper/1 boat lower river per guided group / party; and no guiding on Sunday
4. 1 boat upper/1 boat lower river per guided group / party; and no guiding on weekends

#### ***Angling Use Restrictions***

5. Mandatory guiding for NRA on entire river
6. Limited license availability for 4 NGNRA after a threshold is reached.

#### ***Zoning***

7. as developed by s.22 at last meeting

#### ***Top Recommended Alternative***

8. 1 boat upper/1 boat lower; maximum number of anglers: 4 per boat. No guiding on Sundays for entire river. No guiding from Glacier Creek to Kalum Lake on Saturdays. Guiding only for NRAs. Max number of guides 11 per upper and lower Kalum

## ***3.2 Assessment and Discussion of Kalum Management Elements***

### ***3.2.1 Re: Status Quo***

- Originally no guiding
- Shift to more STHD guiding
- RDs now concentrated more on STHD.
- Some view that USA residents do not fish here because cannot kill
- Little resident pressure
- Used to be rare to see boats; some days do not see people; however this is increasing yearly
- Real start to the season is September; fewer people in August
- Two periods: fall – Aug to Sept and Spring – Mar to April

#### ***Comments about the rating for Objectives 1 in the Consequence Table***

- given the use out there, it is probably a '4' or '5'
- Guides may feel it is a '4' on the scale but residents may consider it is lower than 'good quality'.
- Decided on 3

#### ***Comments about the rating for Objective 2***

- SHA data shows that 75% are BC residents, 22% are NRA and 3% are NRCS.
- Spring saw more use in 2007. Spring is busier on both the upper and lower river. There is increasing pressure overall. Increased pressure is tied to boat/road access areas.
- Some people support the no kill law but some Working Group members felt that others want a kill fishery.
- Decided on 2.5

#### ***Comments about the rating for Objective 3***

- Fairly low; some key areas due to easy access.
- Lower would be a rating of 3; upper, 2; 2.5 overall.

*Comments about the rating for Objective 4*

- 600 RD used
- 5.

*Comments about the rating for Objective 5*

- No regs; agreed on 4

*Comments about the rating for Obj 6*

Not very complex at this time. Easy to understand. Changes from '08 to '09 will be very little. Rating of 4 agreeable.

**3.2.2 Re: Management Element #2 – Change to Class 1 and STHD Stamp**

The Working Group decided that since the STHD stamp alternative worked out to be rated similar to the Class 1 change alternative, that the two would be merged together as one packaged alternative (see section 3.3 Consequence Table).

Overall, the Working Group felt that this alternative increases the status of the river. The impact is overall neutral to anglers; and better overall in terms of lower costs.

*Comments about the rating for Obj 1*

- From guiding perspective little change.
- Reasons for this alternative: river is exceptional/unique; despite roads on either side; Working Group identifies this river as a premier river.
- Agreed that the rating would be 3 or 4.

*Comments about the rating for Obj 2*

- 3 or 4 – similar to obj 1; could be slightly more positive.
- Agreed on rating of 3 on the upper and a rating of 4 on lower parts of the river.

*Comments about the rating for Obj 3*

- From SQ, the rating would drop down to a rating of 1 on upper and 2 on lower

*Comments about the rating for Obj 4*

- Opportunity raises profile
- RD fees go up.
- Most don't mind paying
- Addresses illegal guiding and improves enforcement
- Rating of 5

*Comments about the rating for Obj 5*

- Management and enforcement costs most likely stay the same. Rating of 4.
- Later the Working Group changed this to a rating of 3

#### *Comments about the rating for Obj 6*

- Slightly more regulatory complexity; rating of 3.
- Later the Working Group changed this to a rating of 2.

#### *Parking Lot*

Re: MA #1, change to class 1 river: Issue of cost for guided angler vs non guided angler. Q: will guides sell less days? Group felt guides will probably still guide the same amount; probably no change on lower.

### **3.2.3 Re: Guide Use Restrictions and No Guiding on Sundays**

- Monthly cap on RD by number of boats on upper/lower river
- Make it a condition of the license
- Possibility of no guiding on Sundays on the lower river only
- Guides are constrained potentially
- Q of how to enforce. Guides are the best eyes out there; use of peer pressure; guides also manage numbers through paperwork; view that guides bring order where there was none.
- General agreement that there would be some days given up. Some of the Working Group members were interested in the 'Sunday' option.

#### *Comments about rating for Objective 5*

- Agreed it is a 4 because no change in regulations; can make it a condition of license.

### **3.2.4 Re: Guide Use Restrictions and No Guiding on weekends**

#### *Pros Cons of giving up Sundays vs weekend*

- If Sunday is chosen as a day for no guiding: Pros are that the pressure is spread across the river and decreases pressure from other systems.
- If the no guiding on weekends is chosen then guiding can move to other systems. Licensed clients will fish without guides in any event.

The Working Group was divided as to which of the above options were more favourable, but agreed that they would come to some form of agreement over the weekend.

#### *Comments about rating for Objective 1*

- Good for anglers; some increase from Status Quo; agreed on 4.

#### *Comments about rating for Objective 4*

- Days used will shift; so decrease in opportunities; agreed on rating of 3.

### **3.2.5 Re: Angling Use Restrictions: Mandatory guiding for NRA for entire river**

- This is not active in the province.
- View that this is the only way to address illegal guiding which is viewed as a major problem on the river.
- Consulting report shows that local business is in favour – over 55%

- Could be applied to certain rivers and certain times.
- As for tourism impacts, hotels are booked and bookings are increasing. Thus, a 'guide only' management option may not impact local business. Areas affected may include unlicensed B&Bs.
- Could impose a trigger for this option; e.g., allow x number of NGNRA days and when that number is reached, 'guide only' is triggered. Kootenay approach.
- Micro management could be dealt with via e-licensing [?]

*Comments about rating for Objective 4*

- Not that many NRAs actually out there.
- Good for residents; great for guided anglers. Rating of 5.

*Comments about rating for Objective 5*

- Some cost in communications, information in educating anglers. Rating of 2.

*Comments about rating for Objective 6*

- Relatively easy to understand. Rating of 3.

Question asked: is there a softer way to manage NGNRAs other than mandatory guiding?

**3.2.6 Re: Angling Use Restrictions: Limited License Availability option**

*Comments about rating for Objective 2*

- Few less people; guaranteed less crowding. Rating of 4.

**3.2.7 Re: Top Recommended Management Alternative #8**

- Working Group felt this was the most agreeable management alternative for the Kalum if all the elements are combined and implemented on an annual basis.
- Focus is on guided and resident anglers. Leaves 300 RDs for NG use
- Data shows that ~650 RD were used in 2007. Impacts ~ 1200 NRA

*Comments about rating for Objective 1*

- Rating of 1 as no NGNRAs

*Comments about rating for Objective 4*

- Rating of 5 since increases stability; value of day increases.

*Comments about rating for Objective 5*

- Rating of 1 because telling NRAs cannot fish; increases calls to government

*Comments about rating for Objective 6*

- Complicates regulations; rating of 1.

### 3.3 Kalum River Consequence Table

Management Elements		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Objective (shortened)	Eval Criteria (1 is worst; 5 is best)	Status Quo	Class 1	STHD Stamp	Guide Rest / No G on Sundays	Guide Rest / No G on w/e	Angl Rest / Mand. G NGNRA	Angl Rest / Ltd Lic.	New Package
1Maximize quality	very poor-1/ poor-2/ moderate-3/ good-4 /excellent-5	3	3 o4 4	3	4	4	4	4	4
2Max res angling opps	low-1/ med- low-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	2.5	Upr: 3 Lwr: 4	2.5	4	5	4	4	4
3Max non-guided, non-res opps	low-1/ med- low-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	2.5	Upr: 1 Lwr: 2	2.5	4	5	1	2	1
4Max opps for guided anglers	low-1/ med- low-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	5	5	5	4	3	5	5	5
5Minimize MOE costs	very high-1/ high-2/ moderate-3/ low-4/ very low-5	4	3	5	4	4	2	1	1
6Minimize regulatory complexity	very high-1/ high-2/ moderate-3/ low-4/ very low-5	4	2	4	3	3	3	3	1

## 4 SKEENA IV

Skeena boundary: Kitwanga bridge down to the mouth of the river.

### 4.1 Summary Management Elements

#### 1. Status Quo

#### 2. Water Designation

2.1 Change to Class 1

2.2 STHD Stamp mandatory Aug 1 – Dec 31

### ***License Class Restriction***

3. Restriction on NRA/NRCs (lottery)
4. NGNRA/NRC 8 day license mandatory

### ***Area Zoning***

5. Zone River mouth confluence – no Guides
6. No NRA zones

### ***Angler Use Restrictions***

7. No fishing from boats
8. NRA/NRC must be guided
9. Top Recommended Management Alternatives
  - Class 1 all year
  - 4 new guide opportunities for a potential 20 days each
  - existing guides up to 120 RD
  - 200 additional rod days
  - 800 NRAs = cap [or was it 600 or 1000?]
  - max 8 day license with a trigger
  - 75 licenses

## ***4.2 Assessment and Discussion of Skeena IV (Below Kitwanga Bridge) Management Elements***

### ***4.2.1 Re: Status Quo***

*Comments about the rating for Obj 1*

- Crowded only in specific hot spots

### ***4.2.2 Re: Management Element #2.2: Steelhead Stamp Aug 1 – Dec 31***

- Need to harmonize dates with Central Group.

### ***4.2.3 RE: 2.1: Change to Class 1***

### ***4.2.4 Re: Management element #3: Lottery for NRA/NRC***

- Question asked if this option is necessary? Some of the group felt that it may not be and eventually dropped it as an option for consideration.

### ***4.2.5 Re: Management element #4: 8 day licence***

*Comments about the rating for Obj 3*

- Some impact; there is still access overall; and still need a licence.
- Economic impact is minimal; those camping will move to other areas.

#### **4.2.6 Re: Management element #5: No Guides at River Mouth**

- Keep this option to help with crowding.
- Despite zoning of river mouth, possibility of it still being busy.
- Self regulation can help.

#### **4.2.7 Re: Management element #6: No NRA Zones**

- Costs will increase from status quo.
- Not much difference in quality from management element #5 other than the NGNRA factor.
- Little difference to guided anglers and resident anglers.

#### **4.2.8 Re: Management element #7: No Fishing from Boats**

- Usually an issue for small rivers.
- Decision to delete this option.

#### **4.2.9 Re: Management element #8: Guide only for NRA/NRC**

- Working Group decided they do not want to take every opportunity away for NGNRAs.
- Decision to drop this option.

#### **4.2.10 Re: Top Recommended Management Alternative**

- The Working Group recommended this package as the top alternative for the Skeena IV.
- Economic impacts mainly to NRAs and B&Bs.
- Recommendation includes a review of overall progress with this management alternative 3 years after implementation.

### **4.3 Economic Impacts Overall**

Overall the Working Group felt there were not a lot of economic impacts. There is some impact regarding 8-day licensing. It was felt that most of the impact are based on optics and that this may be short term as people will get used to the change over time.

### **4.4 Skeena River Consequence Table**

Management Elements		1	2.1	2.2	3	4	5	6	9
Objective (shortened)	Eval Criteria (1 is worst; 5 is best)	Status Quo	Class 1	STHD Stamp	Lottery Rstrict NRA/ NRC	8 day lic	Zoning – N G on rivermth	No NRA Zone	Top Recomm Package
1Maximize quality	very poor-1/ poor-2/ moderate-3/ good-4 /excellent-5	4	5	4	4	4	4	4	5

<b>2Max res angling opps</b>	low-1/ med-low-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
<b>3Max non-guided, non-res opps</b>	low-1/ med-low-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	5	4	6	2	3	4	3	4
<b>4Max opps for guided anglers</b>	low-1/ med-low-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	3	4	3	4	4	4	4	4
<b>5Minimize MOE costs</b>	very high-1/ high-2/ moderate-3/ low-4/ very low-5	4	4	4	1	3	4	1	1
<b>6Minimize regulatory complexity</b>	very high-1/ high-2/ moderate-3/ low-4/ very low-5	4	4	4	2	3	4	1	2

Management Elements No's 7, 8 were dropped.

## 5 TBC - ZYMOETZ I

### 5.1 Summary Management Elements

#### 1. Status Quo

#### 2. Water Designation

2.1. Extend Class 1 period (July to Dec)

- Same as Zymoetz II

2.2 STHD Stamp required (Aug to Dec 31)

- Same as Zymoetz II

#### 3. License Class Restrictions

3. 1 Lottery for NRA/NRC

3.2 Trigger reached: residents may be restricted (carrying capacity)

#### 4. Guide Use Restrictions

- Restrict # of clients/guide
- Restrict # of boats/guide

#### 5. Angler Use Restrictions



5.1 NRA/NRC must be guided

5.2 No Fishing from boats

## **5.2 Assessment and Discussion of Zymoetz I Management Elements**

### **5.2.1 Re: Status Quo**

*Comments about rating for Objective #1*

- Still high value experience. Rating of 4

*Comments about rating for Objective #2*

- Rating of '4' because no restrictions although access is difficult.

*Comments about rating for Objective #3*

- Rating of '5' because not restricted in any way.

*Comments about rating for Objective #4*

- Few opportunities; approximately 50 angler days so access to the fishery is limited; rating probably '2' or '3'.

### **5.2.2 Re: Management element 5.2: No fishing from Boats**

- Add 10 days per existing guide, as Guide Only.
- Classified as per Status Quo.
- Working Group decided not to go with this option due to better coverage of top recommended alternative below.

### **5.2.3 Re: Other Management Elements**

- Other management elements were not chosen because Guide Use restrictions and Angler Use Restrictions are addressed by the top recommendation
- Fishing from boats is less of an issue in this reach.

### **5.2.4 Top Recommended Management Alternative**

- Classified from Aug 1 – Dec 31
- Guide use restrictions: 1 boat per group/day. Maximum 3 people per boat.
- Angler Use Restriction: NRA/NRC guided only.
- When trigger reached: residents may be restricted (due to exceeding carrying capacity over a set period of time). The Working Group did not establish the figures for the trigger. Instead the Working Group decided that the Ministry will review after a period of time.
- Currently 58 RD to guides.( Add 40 additional RD to each Guide for total 120 additional days to accommodate that it is guided only - no NRA/NRCs opportunities – thus increased G allocation further to 178 for the period).

- Working Group chose this option because it covers the biological season of the STHD.

### 5.2.5 TO BE FILLED IN: Consequence Table

Management Elements		1	2.1	2.2	3.1	3.2	4	5	5.2	6
Objective (shortened)	Eval Criteria (1 is worst; 5 is best)	Status Quo	Class 1 ext.	STHD Stamp	Lic CI Restrict lottery NRA/ NRC	Trigger for Resi Anglr	G Use Restr	Angl Use Restr: G-only NRC/NRA	No Fishg From boat	Top Recomm Mgmt Alt.
1Maximize quality	very poor-1/ poor-2/ moderate-3/ good-4/ excellent-5	4	4 (5)	4	5	4	4	4.5	This was not rated	4.5
2Max res angling opps	low-1/ med-low-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	4	4 (5)	4	n/a	4	4	5		4.5
3Max non-guided, non-res opps	low-1/ med-low-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a		n/a
4Max opps for guided anglers	low-1/ med-low-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	2 or 3	4 or 5	4	n/a	n/a	4	3		4
5Minimize MOE costs	very high-1/ high-2/ moderate-3/ low-4/ very low-5	3	3	3		4	3	3		3 or 4
6Minimize regulatory complexity	very high-1/ high-2/ moderate-3/ low-4/ very low-5	3	3	3		4	3	3		3

## 6 ZYMOETZ II

### 6.1 Summary Management Elements

#### 1. Status Quo

## **2. Water Designation**

- Extend CW period Jul/Aug to Dec
- STHD Stamp Mandatory

### ***License Class Restriction***

3. Lottery for NRA
4. Limit NGNRAs to 2-4 day licenses or 8 day licenses

### ***Guide Use Restrictions***

5. Limit # of clients / guides
6. Area Zoning - temporal and spatial

## **7. Angler Use Restrictions**

- Guiding only for NRAs
- No angling from boats

## **8. Top Recommended Package**

- No Guiding on weekends
- No NRA on weekends
- 1 assistant or 1 guide per 3 clients / day
- Aug1 – May 31 classification period - STHD stamp
- Guiding license at 40% in shoulder season: Aug and Nov
- 60% Sept – Oct
- NRA/NRC non guided lottery or electronic access
- Use 20% in Aug; 60% Sept/Oct; 20% Nov – May 31
- Include Clore in the management of the river.

## **6.2 Assessment and Discussion of Management Elements**

### **6.2.1 Re: Status Quo**

- More effort in August to Nov than other months.

#### *Comments about rating for Objective #4*

- Opportunity is being maximized so rate as '4'
- Sept/Oct heavily restricted so '1' or '2'; concluded that overall the SQ is '3'

#### *Comments about rating for Objective #5*

- River Guardian can keep an eye on the river.

### **6.2.2 Re: Management Elements 2-7**

- These are incorporated into the new proposal.
- Zoning is not needed.

### **6.2.3 Re: Top Recommended Management Alternative: #8**

- Seems agreeable to all Working Group members
- Allows for NRA – balances interests
- Fair on guides
- No one can complain?!
- Maybe no guiding on Sundays? Or Give Sat on the Kalum.
- Spring pressure: Aug 1 – May 31
- 20% during Nov – May
- Discussion
  - re: weekends: No NRA, no guiding
  - or on Sundays: no NRAs and no guiding
  - addresses illegal guiding
  - but NRAs have 40% of the days.
- NRAs are really constrained.
- Consider seasonal cap by resident class eliminates need for zoning.
- New proposal is easier to manage.
- 263 RDs to NRAs
- 1300 total days
- SHA data appears to support 1300 day cap.
  - MOE will work on the numbers.
- Negative impacts may occur for the town but mainly based on optics. The proposal will lead to more predictability for all.

#### *Comments about rating for Objective #1*

- The rating goes up to a '4' from the SQ
- Busy days are still possible
- It is uncontrolled.

#### *Comments about rating for Objective #2*

- Rate as a '5' because sharing the river. NRAs and NRCs get priority on weekends.

#### *Comments about rating for Objective #3*

- Drops to '3' because of the lottery aspect. NRC/NRA have opportunity but there is less of it (not allowed on weekends).

#### *Comments about rating for Objective #4*

- There are more days; more certainty; fewer people fishing close together.
- The quality experience improves.
- Pick up more days.
- Prime time.

### Comments about rating for Objective #5

- This is an expensive proposal.
- Working Group will volunteer time to make this proposal work.

### 6.2.4 Consequence Table

The Working Group elected to fill in only the Status Quo and their top recommended management alternative.

Management Elements		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Objective (shortened)	Eval Criteria (1 is worst; 5 is best)	Status Quo	Class 1 ext. & STHD Stamp	NRA Lotry	Limit NRA/ NRC licens	G Use Restr: Limit clients	Zoning	Angl Use Restr: G-only NRC/NRA	Top Recomm Package
1Maximize quality	very poor-1/ poor-2/ moderate-3/ good-4 /excellent-5	2							4
2Max res angling opps	low-1/ med-low-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	3							5
3Max non-guided, non-res opps	low-1/ med-low-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	5							3
4Max opps for guided anglers	low-1/ med-low-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	3							4
5Minimize MOE costs	very high-1/ high-2/ moderate-3/ low-4/ very low-5	3							1
6Minimize regulatory complexity	very high-1/ high-2/ moderate-3/ low-4/ very low-5	4							1

## 7 LAKELSE

### 7.1 Summary Management Elements

#### 1. Status Quo

#### 2. Water designation

- Class 1 All year

- STHD Stamp
- 3. License Class Restriction**
- 4. Guide Use Restriction**
- 5. Zoning**
- 6. Angling Use Restriction – top recommended package**

## **7.2 Assessment and Discussion Management Elements**

### **7.2.1 Re: Status Quo**

*Comments about rating for Objective 1*

- Crowded locally. Resident fishery; ‘3’ generous.

*Comments about rating for Objective 2*

- ‘2-3’: High competition due to access and where fish are located.

*Comments about rating for Objective 3*

- No restriction for NRAs; easy ‘4’ rating.

*Comments about rating for Objective 5*

- very low costs

*Comments about rating for Objective 6*

- High amount of regulatory management; other fisheries overlap.

### **7.2.2 Re: Management Element #2: Water Designation: Class 1 all year, STHD Stamp**

*Comments about rating for Objective 1*

- Overall less people

*Comments about rating for Objective 2*

- Increased status

*Comments about rating for Objective 3*

- Drops from SQ to ‘3’; yet some anglers are driven out [?]
- Now have to pay more money: \$40/more per day.

*Economical considerations*

- Salmon angling by NRA could be affected
- Some change or shift could take place by NRAs
- Tackle shops could be affected
- However, there are other opportunities with salmon fishing during this same timeframe.

- BCRs could mitigate the money lost by NRAs being affected. BCRs tend to stay at motels/hotels. This would have a positive economic impact for business in town.
- Campers may not be as affected, as they would continue with camping.

### **7.2.3 Re: Management Element #3: Licence Class Restriction**

- Several options discussed for period:
  - Sept 1 – May 31
  - Oct 1 – May 31
  - Nov 1 – June 1
- Group chose Sept 1 – May 31 as the best option.
- Discussion included: the negative aspect of this choice is that there is some overlap with salmon (coho). Yet this period reflects the biology of STHD, and management information is collectable.

#### *Comments about rating for Objective 2*

No change; 3 extra months improves quality if anything.

#### *Comments about rating for Objective 3*

- Sets a monetary disincentive
- Less salmon fishing.
- Some will have to purchase licenses. NRAs will be at \$63. NRAs will consider this ‘ok’... cheap, though some backlash will occur.
- NRCs will not be as pleased with this management element.

#### *Economic Considerations*

- Negative impacts to salmon fishery
- Some will still come to salmon fish.
- Forest camp sites may be a little more empty [?]
- B&Bs may experience some blowback – at least 2-3 B&Bs could potentially be affected by this management element.

### **7.2.4 Re: Management Element #6: Angling Use Restriction**

Discussion about options for this management element:

Generally:

- Resident priority
- Survey by Ministry, approximately 2-3 years from implementation, to assess progress with data and if the trigger has been reached.

The following were options that were discussed as part of this suggested management element. Eventually the Working Group reworked it into a new recommended management alternative (see section 7.2.5).

#### **Option 1:**

200 NRA and NRC; divide between Spring and Fall.

Trigger: if numbers go up to 200 days, restrict NRAs/NRCs

**Option 2:**

- 100 NRA only during fall.
- Currently Mar 1 – May 31 is fly fishing only; could say No NRAs (i.e., Resident only fishery from Mar 1 – May 31 entire river)

**Option 3**

- No NRAs
- NRC limited to 4/day with annual limit of 200
- BCRA capped 3200 - 3500

**Option 4:**

- Trigger: Limit NRA/NRC to 100 days each during period: May 31 - June 1
- Eliminates illegal guiding in Spring and if trigger hits.

*Comments about rating for Objective 1*

- We've eliminated classification during a period.
- Quality of fishing increases for BCRs. Probably better than SQ during fall; positive for residents in Spring. Thus rating of '4.'

*Comments about rating for Objective 5*

- High cost if triggered yet offset through fees; still, rated '1'

*Economic Considerations*

Hotels may lose some business in Spring. May not be as much as for the unlicensed B&Bs, who cater more to NRAs and tend to offer what the Working Group considers 'illegal guiding' services. Overall minimal negative impact.

**7.2.5 Top Recommended Management Alternative: Angling Use Restriction Package**

From the above elements, the Working Group chose the following as the top recommended management alternative:

- Class 1 all year
- STHD stamp Sept 1 – May 31
- Resident only fishery Mar 1 – May 31 for entire river
- NRA and NRC capped from June 1 – Feb 28 – 100 days

**7.2.6 Consequence Table**

The Working Group focussed only on the management elements which had the greatest area of agreement

Management Elements		1	2	3	4	5	6
Objective (shortened)	Eval Criteria (1 is worst; 5 is best)	Status Quo	Class 1 ext. STHD Stamp	Lic Cl Restrict – Sept 1 – May	G Use Restr	Zoning	Top Recomm Mgmt Alt. Angl Use Restr:



				<b>31</b>			
<b>1Maximize quality</b>	very poor-1/ poor-2/ moderate-3/ good-4 /excellent-5	3	4	4	Did	Not fill	4
<b>2Max res angling opps</b>	low-1/ med-low-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	3	4	4			5
<b>3Max non-guided, non-res opps</b>	low-1/ med-low-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	4	3	4			1
<b>4Max opps for guided anglers</b>	low-1/ med-low-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	n/a	n/a	n/a			n/a
<b>5Minimize MOE costs</b>	very high-1/ high-2/ moderate-3/ low-4/ very low-5	5	5	5			1
<b>6Minimize regulatory complexity</b>	very high-1/ high-2/ moderate-3/ low-4/ very low-5	2	2	2			1

# **Final Meeting Notes**

## **AMP Meeting 2009 Terrace (West) Working Group Notes**

*Saturday, June 13 - Sunday, June 14, 2009  
Terrace, BC*

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1</b>	<b>DISCUSSION OVERVIEW .....</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1	MEETING OBJECTIVES.....	3
	<i>Outcomes.....</i>	3
	<i>Next Steps.....</i>	3
<b>2</b>	<b>INTRODUCTORY MEETING DISCUSSIONS .....</b>	<b>4</b>
2.1	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION .....	4
2.2	REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF WORKING GROUP NOTES.....	4
2.3	OVERVIEW OF PROCESS AND TASKS .....	4
2.4	REPORT ON E-LICENSING.....	4
<b>3</b>	<b>REVIEW OF RIVERS AND CONSEQUENCE TABLE DISCUSSIONS .....</b>	<b>5</b>
3.1	LAKELSE RIVER .....	5
	<i>Review and Revision of Management Elements.....</i>	5
	<i>Non Regulatory Tools .....</i>	6
	<i>Lakelse River Final Agreed List .....</i>	7
	<i>Lakelse Consequence Table.....</i>	7
	<i>Lakelse Consequence Table Discussion .....</i>	7
	<i>Lakelse River Recommended Management Alternative .....</i>	8
3.2	ZYMOETZ I.....	9
	<i>Review and Revision of Management Elements.....</i>	9
	<i>Zymoetz I Final list .....</i>	12
	<i>Zymoetz I Consequence Table .....</i>	13
	<i>Zymoetz I Consequence Table Discussion .....</i>	14
	<i>Recommended Management Alternative .....</i>	17
3.3	ZYMOETZ II.....	17
	<i>Review and Revision of Management Elements.....</i>	17
	<i>Zymoetz II Final list .....</i>	21
	<i>Zymoetz II Consequence Table .....</i>	22
	<i>Zymoetz II Consequence Table Discussion .....</i>	23
3.4	SKEENA IV BELOW THE KITWANGA BRIDGE .....	24
	<i>Review and Revision of Management Elements.....</i>	24
	<i>Skeena IV Final list .....</i>	26
3.5	KITSUMKALUM .....	27
	<i>Review and Revision of Management Elements.....</i>	27
	<i>Kalum Final list.....</i>	27
3.6	END OF DAY GO AROUND .....	29

# West Working Group AMP Process, June 13-14, 2009

## Working Group members in attendance

- **Resident anglers:** Jason Ouellet, Chris Culp (absent Sunday, May 31), Jim Culp, Rob Brown, Brian Kean
- **Guides:** Dustin Kovacovich, Dan Daigle, Andrew Rushton, **Guide Alternate:** Randy Dozzi
- **Tourism:** Luke Houlden
- **Business:** Glenn Kelly
- **MOE:** Dana Atagi, MOE Coordinator

**Guests:** Paddy Hirshfield, MOE, Quality Waters Biologist

**Facilitator:** Sandra Bicego and Alan Dolan of Alan Dolan & Associates

---

This document outlines a summary of the discussions of the West Working Group AMP meeting held in Terrace on June 13 and 14, 2009. Notes are presented in list form and in the order of the meeting discussions. The purpose of the draft notes is to provide a summary record of the discussions and serve as input to the development of the Angling Management Plan.

## 1 DISCUSSION OVERVIEW

At the end of the May meeting, the West Working Group produced a draft list of new management elements. See May Meeting Notes, sections 6.4, 7.4, 8.4, 9.4, and 10.4. These lists were not final nor agreed upon; they were considered brainstormed lists, or considerations, based on the consultation report feedback, new membership perspectives and application of the tool box. They were to be refined at the subsequent meeting, which forms the basis of these notes.

### 1.1 Meeting Objectives

At this meeting during June 13, 14, 2009, the WG reviewed the draft lists for each of the rivers with an aim to:

- clarify and refine the management elements for each river; and,
- build consequence tables for three rivers.

### Outcomes

All river management elements were refined

Consequence tables were produced for Lakelse, ZI and part of ZII

### Next Steps

Next steps include completing the ZII consequence table discussions along with Skeena IV and Kitsumkalum

## **2 INTRODUCTORY MEETING DISCUSSIONS**

### **2.1 Welcome and Introduction**

Two facilitators guided the meeting discussions over the weekend. Alan Dolan and Sandra Bicego. Sandra welcomed all the Working Group members who then introduced themselves to the new Working Group member, Luke Holden, Tourism representative.

### **2.2 Review and Approval of Working Group Notes**

The meeting began with a review of the May meeting notes. Errors were corrected as follows:

- Section 10.4 – table of management elements missing for Skeena IV; to be added by facilitator.
- Clore River: it was noted that it does have wilderness values and this should be noted.
- Page 9: regarding helicopter use; the notes say, “not considered further.” This was noted as an error as it was discussed and several members of the group felt that more discussion about this issue is needed.
- Page 15: table needs to be edited: change to 3 anglers per guide per day.”
- Page 21: regarding boat launches: this needs more discussion to address access quality.

The facilitator made these changes to the May Meeting Notes.

### **2.3 Overview of Process and Tasks**

Alan Dolan reviewed the process that has been undertaken to date and the tasks that lay before the Working Group. The purpose was to ensure clarity about the vision of the Quality Waters process, the rules of Working Group conduct, and the tasks mandated to the group.

### **2.4 Report on e-licensing**

Paddy Hirshfield provided feedback from MOE IT staff about the capabilities of the present e-licensing system. E-licensing is currently not able to accommodate lotteries, caps on limited-day licenses, Skeena steelhead stamps, and tiered license fee structures due to extreme financial constraints although it may be possible for MOE to do this in the future. The Working Group was advised to consider developing a plan based on other management elements that are available. . Any management elements that include e-license functions that are not currently available could be included as long-term approaches.

**MOE Action Item:** It was suggested that there is a need for estimates of money generated by Steelhead sport fishery (guides, anglers, etc); MOE to review.

### 3 REVIEW OF RIVERS AND CONSEQUENCE TABLE DISCUSSIONS

#### 3.1 Lakelse River

##### *Review and Revision of Management Elements*

The management elements that were identified at the May meeting were reviewed with an aim to refining the list to ensure it was an appropriate list of elements for consideration in the consequence table discussions planned for Day 2.

Below is a table outlining the Management Elements that were identified in May, and the group's decisions towards refinement of that element: whether to keep it on the list, change it, or remove it.

Lakelse River Management Elements (identified at May meeting)	Comments and conclusions from this meeting
1. Status Quo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The Lakelse is a Class II Classified Water all year long.</li><li>▪ It is one of six non-guided rivers in the region.</li><li>▪ A Steelhead Stamp is required between December 1 and May 31.</li><li>▪ There is a fly-fishing only section downstream from the lake outlet to the CNR Bridge (nine kilometres upstream from its confluence with the Skeena River) from March 1 to May 31.</li><li>▪ A bait ban is in place year round.</li><li>▪ There is a powerboat restriction (no motorized boats) in place due to its small size and resulting safety hazard.</li><li>▪ There is a cutthroat trout catch and release (non-retention) fishery from March 1 to April 30. The boundary for this fishery is from the lake outlet downstream to the CNR Bridge.</li><li>▪ No coho fishing allowed above the CNR bridge crossing.</li></ul>
2. Classified Water period - Change to Class I all year	<p>Yes keep on the list because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Relatively easy and not costly for MOE to implement; involves change to Regulation 125/90</li><li>▪ Supported by CR Ph II</li><li>▪ No adverse impacts (i.e. costs) to guides or resident anglers</li></ul> <p>Why important:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Designates river as "special" and hence it will be better recognized at other planning processes</li><li>▪ It is a river close to Terrace that has wilderness attributes</li><li>▪ Would deter NR because of increase in license costs</li><li>▪ It would better protect the fish habitat in the river</li></ul>
3. Steelhead Stamp: mandatory Sept 1 – May 31	<p>Yes keep on list because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Increases fees, which may be a deterrent to non-residents</li><li>▪ Extension reflects when SH are actually in the river</li><li>▪ Produces more data for MOE to better manage SH (as steelhead anglers will be part of the mail out Steelhead Harvest</li></ul>

<b>Lakelse River Management Elements (identified at May meeting)</b>	<b>Comments and conclusions from this meeting</b>
	<p>Questionnaire survey at the end of the license year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Applies to all classes of anglers</li> </ul>
4. a) Resident – only times: Mar 1 – May 31 entire river; NR access June 1 – Feb 28	<p>Removed from the list:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mixed results in CR Ph II</li> <li>▪ MOE can implement but complicated</li> </ul> <p>Why important:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reduces NGNR access to the fishery, but minimally; increases opportunity for resident anglers.</li> <li>▪ Potentially a conservation benefit to trout (sidebar).</li> </ul>
4 b) Resident only period: all year	<p>Removed from list:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MOE: Easier to implement than 4a) but it was very restrictive for NGNRs and sent negative messaging to NGNR</li> <li>▪ Concerns for impacts to business and tourism sectors</li> </ul> <p>Why important:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ same as 4 (a)</li> <li>▪ Addresses resident priority hierarchy</li> <li>▪ As the Lakelse is a small river (22 km in length) members of the WG felt that the impact to local economy would be small</li> <li>▪ Business impact will depend on what rest of plan would look like.</li> </ul>
5. Resident Only Zone: all year, from Power Line upstream to outlet of Lakelse Lake; involves ~ 5.5 km of 22 km	<p>Keep on list:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MOE concerned that this element was more complicated as it involved changes to regulations, maps and signage.</li> <li>▪ However, WG felt it was a better option than either 4 (a) or (b)</li> <li>▪ Keeps steelhead opportunity in lower part of river for NR</li> <li>▪ Reduces impact on the fall coho salmon fishery, as much of the NGNR effort occurs in the lower 16.5 km of river (from Skeena upstream to the Power Line)</li> <li>▪ NRs would not be seriously impacted</li> <li>▪ Resident Anglers would like this</li> </ul>
6. Limited Day license lottery for NG, NRA: Triggered if NGNR exceed 100 AD 2 out of 3 yrs	<p>Removed from list</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ due to fact that cannot utilize this tool at this time.</li> </ul>

### ***Non Regulatory Tools***

#### 1. Signs:

- Outline what regulations are in effect.
- License requirements.
- This would improve angler education of local regulations etc.

## 2. No fishing for steelhead

- Zone/season approach was discussed as the spring fishery for trout takes place at the lake outlet when fall run steelhead are spawning. The concern was for the harassment (some intentional and some unintentional) of the spawning steelhead.
- Suggestion that this issue needs to be referred to Sport Fish Advisory Committee – by MOE or other organization

## 3. Enforcement of ATVs, camping on rivers

- MOE to discuss with MOF the opportunity to develop a process to deal with this issue. Great concern of the Working Group that ATV and camping enforcement and management must be dealt with

### ***Lakelse River Final Agreed List***

The following is the list that was to be put forth for the consequence table discussions

1. Status Quo
2. Classified Water designation: Change to class 1 all year
3. Mandatory Steelhead Stamp: Sept 1 – May 31
4. Resident Only: from power line crossing to upstream of Lake outlet

### ***Lakelse Consequence Table***

Management Elements		ME 1	ME 2	ME 3	ME 4
Objective (shortened)	Evaluation Criteria (1 is worst; 5 is best)	Status Quo	Classified Water designation: Change to class 1 all year	Mandatory Steelhead Stamp: Sept 1 – May 31	Resident Only: from power line crossing to upstream of Lake outlet
<b>1 Angling quality</b>	very poor-1/ poor-2/ moderate-3/ good-4 /excellent-5	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2 Resident angling opps</b>	low-1/ med-low-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3 Non-guided, non-resident opps</b>	low-1/ med-low-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4 Opps for guided anglers</b>	low-1/ med-low-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>n/a</b>
<b>5 MOE costs</b>	very high-1/ high-2/ moderate-3/ low-4/ very low-5	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>6 Regulatory complexity</b>	very high-1/ high-2/ moderate-3/ low-4/ very low-5	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>

### ***Lakelse Consequence Table Discussion***

#### ***ME #1 - Status Quo***

- Very similar to the points raised by the WG in last year's June notes; similar reasons (however, note we are interpreting the objectives differently);



- Obj 1: Crowded locally. Resident fishery; '3' generous.
- Obj 2: 'High competition due to access and where fish are located; 2-3.'
- Obj 3: No restriction for NRAs; easy '4' rating.
- Obj 5: Very low costs
- Obj 6: High amount of regulatory management; other fisheries overlap

### ***ME #2 – Change to Class 1 all year***

- Obj 1: increases, better quality, fewer anglers
- Obj 2: Opportunities stay the same
- Obj 3: Opportunities are not diminished despite fee increase
- Obj 5 MOE costs go up: changes to regulations, e-licensing, website would need updating
- Obj 6: Same as status quo. No more complexity

### ***ME #3 –Mandatory Steelhead Stamp Extension***

- Obj 1: same reasons as Class 1.
- Side bar conversation:
  - Obj 1 is about quality for whatever groups that are on the water.
  - Obj 2,3,4 are about opportunities to fish on the river, not about quality
- Obj 2 and 3: RE: ME # 2 and 3: Opportunities are not diminished despite fee increase If fee increases means fewer people will participate, then quality will improve
- Obj 5: costs go up: changes to regulations, e-licensing, website would need updating
- Obj 6: regulatory complexity has not changed

### ***ME #4 – Resident only - from power line crossing to upstream of Lake outlet***

- Obj 1: quality goes up
- Obj 2: resident opportunity sees no change
- Obj 3: fewer opportunities so rating goes down; can't fish in part of the river
- Obj 5: Higher costs for MOE to put signage on river, change regs, website, Synopsis, etc.
- Obj 6: Slightly lower complexity than ME#2 and #3

### ***Lakelse River Recommended Management Alternative***

- The group came to 100% consensus that the recommend package would include: Management elements: (ME) #2 (Change to Class 1 all year)(ME #3 (Mandatory Steelhead Stamp Sept 1-May 31), and ME #4 (Resident only zone - from power line crossing upstream to outlet of Lakelse Lake). The Working Group felt that ME #4 was very important as the upper reaches of the river has been the one area where there has been consistent crowding and etiquette issues.
- Note that ME #4 leaves lower river open (16/5 km or 75%) to salmon anglers (fall coho fishery). This was a compromise so that classified waters steelhead regulations would not interfere with the valuable salmon fishery in most of river where that occurs.
- 5 ½ km or 25% of river is resident-only. The Lakelse is a small system that is very important to the resident angling community. Recognized by both guides and resident angler reps.

## 3.2 Zymoetz I

### Review and Revision of Management Elements

Below is a table outlining the Management Elements that were identified at the May meeting and the Working Group's decision towards refinement of that element: whether to keep it on the list or remove it.

<b>Zymoetz I Management Elements (agreed to at May meeting)</b>	<b>Management Element Details</b>	<b>Comments and conclusions from this meeting</b>
1 Status Quo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Class I Classified Water – September 1 – October 31</li> <li>Mandatory SH Stamp: Sept 1 – Oct 31</li> <li>Closed to angling January 1 – June 15</li> <li>Guided fishing occurs from early August to the end of November</li> <li>A maximum of 250 guided rod-days is available. A total of 58 rod-days are currently allocated</li> <li>There are three licensed guides, which is the number allowed under BC Regulation 125/90; one from Smithers; two from Terrace</li> <li>For the past 2 years, the Ministry has issued 30 permit days (10 each to the 3 licensed guides.</li> <li>Year-round bait ban is in place</li> </ul>	
2 a) Mandatory steelhead stamp extension:	Aug 1 – Dec 31	Removed from list: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MOE: easy to implement and not expensive</li> <li>CR Ph II: supported by all groups</li> </ul> Why important: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Captures the steelhead season;</li> <li>simplifies regulations;</li> <li>Should be harmonized with Z II</li> </ul>
b)	all year – full river (Z I and Z II)	Removed from list: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MOE: does not make sense as the river is closed Jan 1 to June 15 (upstream of lower canyon)</li> <li>CR Ph II: ?</li> <li>Why important: consistency</li> </ul>
c) NEW: extension:	June 16 – Dec 31	Added to the list: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Captures when steelhead are potentially in river; for Z I this is essentially when the river is open to fishing.</li> <li>But it would have an impact on early season Chinook salmon anglers MOE: implementable and clear</li> </ul>
3 a) Classified water extension:	Aug 1 – Dec 31	Removed from list: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Same time period as for mandatory steelhead stamp</li> </ul>

<b>Zymoetz I Management Elements (agreed to at May meeting)</b>	<b>Management Element Details</b>	<b>Comments and conclusions from this meeting</b>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MOE: easy to implement</li> </ul>
b)	All year – full river (Z I and Z II)	<p>Removed from list:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does not really make sense as river is closed to angling January 1 to June 15 and closure times differ for ZI and ZII</li> <li>• MOE easy to implement</li> </ul>
<b>c) NEW</b>	<b>June 16 – Dec 31</b>	<p><b>Added to the list:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MOEcomment is that guides have not fished in June or July and only a handful days in Aug; NGNR and Resident effort probably has similar pattern in use.</li> <li>▪ No impact on salmon; no chinook fishing; coho closed due to DFO non-retention regulations in upper river</li> <li>▪ Impacts guides using non CW period, but not significant</li> <li>▪ Who is targeted: all classes of anglers</li> <li>▪ Group chose this option for same reason as 2(c) and WG intent was to have steelhead stamp mandatory during the CW period</li> </ul>
4. a) Guide restrictions:	3 existing guides, 1 boat per guide per day	<p>Removed from list:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MOE: regulations don't include boats</li> <li>▪ There are other ways that might work better, such as regulating groups</li> </ul>
b)	<b>3 anglers per boat (or group)</b>	<p><b>Keep on list:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MOE: implementable and acceptable</li> <li>▪ Why: to cap and distribute daily Guide effort</li> <li>▪ Guides are ok with this as most generally do not have more than 3 guided clients at any time on the river</li> </ul>
<b>c) Added</b>	<b>1 group per guide per day</b>	<p><b>Keep on list</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MOE: indicated that this is a better element than ME #4(a) as it applies to both boats and walk in guided parties</li> <li>▪ MOE: implementable and acceptable</li> </ul>
d) Added	Spread % guided Rod Day (effort) allocation over CW season	<p>Removed from list:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MOE: easy to implement</li> <li>▪ Considered not appropriate for this river as the guide allocation is not large</li> <li>▪ Geographical (spatial) issue</li> <li>▪ No problems identified with intense peaks of</li> </ul>

<b>Zymoetz I Management Elements (agreed to at May meeting)</b>	<b>Management Element Details</b>	<b>Comments and conclusions from this meeting</b>
		guiding activity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Not a necessary option</li> </ul>
<b>5. Guide only for NG NR</b>		<b>Keep on list:</b> MOE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ not many NGNR on Zym I – based on available survey data;</li> <li>▪ easy to implement</li> <li>▪ is an intrusive tool; quite restrictive even though impact is small</li> <li>▪ Consultation Report: not supported by NRA and local business</li> <li>▪ Should not “give away” the resource</li> <li>▪ Potential for crowding in the future</li> <li>▪ Zymoetz I is a unique and different kind of angling experience (small wilderness river); need to protect it</li> <li>▪ Fishery is now out there on the internet</li> <li>▪ MOE suggestion – put a trigger on this element and invoke if number of NGNR gets to a target level</li> </ul> Why important <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Eliminates illegal guiding</li> <li>▪ Wilderness values need to be protected (LRMP recognizes this)</li> <li>▪ Not a lot of NR here; but this could change</li> </ul>
<b>6. Guide regulations:</b>	<b>increase RD for the 3 guides by x Rod Days due to implementation of ME #3c (extension of classified waters period)</b>	<b>Keep on list</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MOE: easy; fair to do</li> <li>▪ CR: not supported by all groups</li> </ul> Why important: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Just three guides; fair and reasonable amount</li> <li>▪ No new guides would be added to schedule</li> <li>▪ Make up for loss of guiding in non CW season</li> </ul>
<b>7. a) Resident only days</b>	<b>resident only on Saturday</b>	<b>Keep on list</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MOE: can be done with e-licensing;</li> <li>▪ Why Saturday? more things for NR to do; and not a church day but does not benefit residents who have to work on Saturday</li> </ul>
<b>b)</b>	<b>resident only on Sundays</b>	<b>Keep on list</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MOE: can be done with e-licensing;</li> <li>▪ Why Sunday: resident anglers have other</li> </ul>

<b>Zymoetz I Management Elements (agreed to at May meeting)</b>	<b>Management Element Details</b>	<b>Comments and conclusions from this meeting</b>
		things to do on Saturday
c)	resident only all weekend	<p>Removed from list: too intrusive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impact would be too great</li> </ul> <p>Why important:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ resident opportunity to angle and not compete with anyone else</li> </ul>

### ***Zymoetz I Final list***

1. Status Quo
2. Mandatory Steelhead Stamp: extension: June 16 – Dec 31
3. Classified Water period extension: June 16 – Dec 31
4. Guide restrictions: Max 3 anglers per guided group; one group per guide per day
5. Guide only for NR
6. Guide Regulation: increase RD for 3 existing guides by x RD each
7. Resident Only:
  - a. Saturday
  - b. Sunday

**Zymoetz I Consequence Table**

Management Elements		ME 1	ME 2	ME 3	ME 4	ME 5	ME 6	ME 7a	ME 7b	ME 8
Objective (shortened)	Eval Criteria (1 is worst; 5 is best)	Status Quo	Mand SS ext: June 16 – Dec 31	CW ext: June 16 – Dec 31	Guide restrictn: Max 3 A/ guide /group; 1 group/ guide/day	G only for NR	Increase RD for 3 existing guides by x RD each	Resident Only: Saturday	Resident only Sunday	NEW: 2 days for NRA
<b>1 Angling quality</b>	very poor-1/ poor-2/ moderate-3/ good-4 /excellent-5	4	4	4	4 ½	5	3-4	5	5	3 (5 for other)
<b>2 Resident angling opps</b>	low-1/ med-low-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
<b>3 Non-guided, non-resident opps</b>	low-1/ med-low-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	4	4	4	4	1	4	3	3	2
<b>4 Opps for guided anglers</b>	low-1/ med-low-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	2	2	1	1	2	3-4	1-2	1-2	2
<b>5 MOE costs</b>	very high-1/ high-2/ moderate-3/ low-4/ very low-5	5	3	3	4	2	3	2	2	2
<b>6 Regulatory complexity</b>	very high-1/ high-2/ moderate-3/ low-4/ very low-5	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2

## ***Zymoetz I Consequence Table Discussion***

### ***ME #1: Maintaining Status Quo***

- Obj 1: High quality of angling currently; rating of '4'.
- Obj 2: Medium high resident angling opportunities.
- Obj 4: Very few RD available - limited guiding opportunities.
- Obj 5: No change to current regulations.
- Obj 6: No change to status quo.

### ***ME #2: Mandatory SH Stamp extension: June 16 – Dec 31***

- No change except that there are moderate costs to MOE; regulatory complexity stays the same as for the status quo.

### ***ME #3: Classified Water period extensions: June 16 – Dec 31***

- Obj 4: Opportunities for guided anglers go down because we've cut out shoulder season. Rating: 1.

### ***Both SS and CW extensions***

- Obj 5: MOE costs go up due to modifications required to e-licensing, regulation changes, and website changes.

### ***ME #4: Guide restriction: max 3 anglers/group/guide; 1 group per guide/day***

- Obj 1: Quality improves because this management element helps to spread out use on the river and addresses crowding; guided anglers have a better time on the water because there are fewer in a group.
- Obj 3: Opportunity for a GA goes down because now numbers in a group are restricted.

### ***ME #5: Guide Only for Non Residents***

- Obj 1: Goes up to '5' because this objective it is about anglers who are on the water.
- Obj 2: Rating stays same as status quo.
- Obj 3: Low rating of '1' because NRAs are not able to fish without a guide.
- Obj 4: Rating stays same as status quo because there are no additional opportunities or decreased opportunities.
- Obj 5: Goes down from status quo due to closing season for NGNR; modifications to e-licensing; and, guide regulation changes.
- Obj 6: Stays same.

### ***ME #6: Increase RD by x for the 3 existing guides***

- Obj 1: Quality goes down because there are now more anglers on the water.
- Obj 2: RA opportunities stay the same.
- Obj 3: The rating stays the same as current status quo.
- Obj 4: Depends on number of days provided; overall would but go up due to increased guide opportunities.

- Obj 5: As this element involves a tender process and change to regulations 125/90, there is some moderate increase to MOE costs.
- Obj 6: Regulatory complexity remains unchanged.

#### ***ME #7a: Resident Only: Saturday***

- Obj 1: Quality goes up because fewer fishermen on the water; focus is on the RA only.
- Obj 2: Opportunity for resident anglers does not change.
- Obj 3: NG NRA opportunities go down from the current situation; NRAs cannot fish one day per week; thus, reduced opportunity for NGNR.
- Obj 4: Opportunities for guided anglers go down somewhat due to no guiding one day/week.
- Obj 5: MOE costs go up even more due to: managing guide restrictions, changes to e-licensing, website updating, and synopsis changes.
- Obj 6: For MOE, this element involves complex regulations.

#### ***ME #7b: Resident Only: Sunday***

- Obj 1: Quality goes up because fewer fishermen out on the water; focus is on the RA only.
- Obj 2: Opportunity for resident anglers does not change.
- Obj 3: NG NRA opportunities go down from current situation. NRAs cannot fish one day per week; thus, reduced opportunity for NGNR.
- Obj 4: Opportunities for guided anglers go down somewhat due to no guiding one day/week.
- Obj 5: MOE costs go up even more due to: managing guide restrictions, changes to e-licensing, website updating, and synopsis changes.
- Obj 6: For MOE, this element involves complex regulations.

#### ***Resident Only: Saturday vs Sunday?***

Conclusion: Group was more in favour of Sunday

- Need to take into account other groups; lots of reasons in the West to choose Saturday; so NR can shop; important to businesses.
- Purpose: to do other things on Saturday, better to allow for resident-only on Sundays; better for anglers.
- Illegal guiding eliminated especially by ME #5 - Guide Only for NR.
- Consultation Report shows that this option was not supported by non residents and local business
- Several members emphasized that this river is a special place, a gem; and the impact to the economy would be small.

#### ***Status Quo vs Change***

- Looking at the ratings across objective 1, the quality seems unchanged with the suggested management elements. Someone asked: If quality is unchanged, why not remain with status quo?
- Some members of the group were looking to the future and were concerned about the changes coming. This river is getting more known; there is more and more publicity about this river. So changes offered through a management plan were the way to address what is coming in the future.



### ***Limited Day License Lottery***

- Working Group struggled with the issue of not having lottery tool available. There was a strong desire to regulate NGNR.
- One working group member emphasized that NR angling is significant to tourism; non residents bring revenue for businesses.

### ***ME #8: License Class restriction -Non Guided NRA access for 2 days per week – No Trigger***

- This element was created while the WG was rating the other elements.
- What: Open for non guided non resident angling for 2 days during the week.
- Who: Restricts non guided non residents the rest of the week (5 days per week).
- When: Open to non resident angling 2 days/week; proposed Mon/Tues or Mon/Wed.
- Where: river wide but limited to Zymoetz I.
- Why important:
  - Less intrusive to NGNR than going to a lottery. This element was a variation of ME #5 which offered 7 days of Guide Only for NRAs. Distributes effort;
  - Recognizes RA priority; recognizes hierarchy of exclusion.
  - Mon/Wed is good because: Minimizes long term camping; permits opportunity if river blows out.
  - Overall: Acknowledges potential of double-edge sword to NR with the hierarchy of exclusion.
  - Protects angling quality: this is important due to the small delicate nature of this river.
- Consequence Table analysis
  - Obj 1: When NGNR are on the river with RAs, the quality of angling would be '3' – a drop from status quo rating of '4'. However, when Guided NRAs are on the river along with and RAs, then the quality would go up, to a rating of '5.'
  - Obj 2: No change to status quo because maintains RA opportunity.
  - Obj 3: NGNR opportunities go up from ME #5 because less restricted with 5 days for Guided angling and 2 days open to NG angling.
  - Obj 4: Guided angler opportunities are ensured and stay the same as status quo.
  - Obj 5: Costs increase for MOE.
  - Obj 6: Regulatory complexity increases.

### ***ME #8a: License Class restriction - Non Guided NRA access for 2 days per week – with Trigger***

- Others in the group liked the above approach but wanted to see it enacted as a trigger based on some figure reached over time.
- Possible trigger calculations considered by different WG members were: 25, 50 or 75 NGNR angler-days.
  - There was no discussion; these numbers were suggested by several members of the group.
  - It was noted that 50 AD is approximately 50% of the current use.
- No further analysis was conducted on this option. The discussion was whether or not the 2 day access for NGNR was necessary immediately (ME #8) or delayed with the use of an NG effort trigger. Members of the WG noted that they felt it necessary for immediate implementation.

### ***Zymoetz I Recommended Management Alternative***

The status quo was removed from the list and several packaged options were considered by the Working Group. 5 options were considered in total, and a minority and majority report was developed.

- Option 1: ME's #2-4, 6 and 8:  
SS, CW, Guide restriction, Increase RD, 2 day NRA
- Option 2: ME's #2-6, and 7b:  
SS, CW, Guide restriction, Guide Only for NR, Increase RD, Resi Only Sunday
- Option 3: ME's #2-4, Trigger ME #5, and 6:  
SS, CW, Guide restriction, increase RD. trigger for Guide Only for NR
- Option 4: Option 1 (ME's #2-4, 6 and 8) with a trigger for 2 day NRA:  
SS, CW, Guide restriction, Increase RD, 2 day for NRA with trigger
- Option 5: 2-4, 6 and for the interim: 7(a) or (b); add a trigger that when hit, drop 7.

A straw poll was taken to determine the group's preference for the different packaged options.

- Majority supported Option 1
- Minority supported Option 4

### ***3.3 Zymoetz II***

#### ***Review and Revision of Management Elements***

Below is a table outlining the Management Elements that were identified at the May meeting and the Working Group's decision towards refinement of that element: whether to keep it on the list or remove it.

<b>Zymoetz II Management Elements (agreed to at May meeting)</b>	<b>Management Element Details</b>	<b>Comments and conclusions from this meeting</b>
1. Status Quo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ This section of the Zymoetz River is a Class II Classified Water between September 1 and October 31. A Steelhead Stamp is required during these months.</li><li>▪ The river is subject to a year-round prohibition on the use of bait.</li><li>▪ The licensed guiding activity is currently restricted to five angling guides who are allocated 117 rod-days. Schedule A of BC Regulation 125/90 establishes a maximum of five guides and 200 rod-days.</li><li>▪ There is no fishing allowed between the signs demarcating the Lower Zymoetz Canyon.</li><li>▪ The river is closed to angling above the five-kilometre mark at the Lower Canyon from January 1 to June 15 to protect overwintering summer steelhead.</li></ul>	
2. a) Mandatory SH Stamp ext.	Aug 1 – May 31	Remove from list
b)	Aug 1 – Dec 31	Remove from list
c)	<b>All year</b>	<b>Keep on list</b>
3. a) Classified Water period extension	Aug 1 – May 31. and retain CI II status	Remove from list

<b>Zymoetz II Management Elements (agreed to at May meeting)</b>	<b>Management Element Details</b>	<b>Comments and conclusions from this meeting</b>
b)	change to start on July 1	Remove from list
c)	change to start on Aug 1 – Dec 31	Remove from list
d)	<b>All year</b>	<b>Keep on list:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MOE: easily implementable</li> <li>▪ CR: Supported</li> <li>▪ More money due to fee increase</li> <li>▪ Costs more money for guide rod days</li> <li>▪ Why important: Might spread people out</li> <li>▪ Some impact on Chinook</li> <li>▪ Mostly resident use; but some non residents</li> </ul>
4. Boundary Change	Include Clore River with Z I classified waters	Removed from list <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MOE: legally and administratively difficult</li> <li>▪ Can do better under zoning</li> </ul>
5. Change to Class I	All year	Removed from list <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ CR: suggested this option mostly because they thought fees could not be changed so this was one way to raise fees</li> <li>▪ MOE: easily done but no wilderness values like Z I</li> <li>▪ Fee changes would be a better way to do it</li> <li>▪ unsure what it would do to angling pressure</li> <li>▪ Increases guide fees.</li> </ul>
<b>6. a) Guide Restrictions</b>	<b>Max 3 A/G per day</b>	<b>Keep on list with 6 (b)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MOE: doable as per Z I; same reasons as Z I</li> <li>▪ Element was modified: took boating aspect off and focused on anglers and no. of groups to be limited.</li> <li>▪ CR: supported by all groups with mixed response from guides</li> </ul>
<b>6 b)</b>	<b>Limit one group per guided angler per day</b>	<b>Keep on list with 6 (a)</b>
c) Angler number restrictions	2 groups of anglers per guide per day with max 3 angler per boat	Removed from list <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪</li> </ul>
d) G restrictions	<b>Distribute G effort evenly throughout season, all year, as a condition of G license</b>	<b>Keep on list</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Aim is to distribute evenly to avoid peak problem</li> <li>▪ CR some groups have indicated guides contributing to crowding at some times in</li> </ul>

<b>Zymoetz II Management Elements (agreed to at May meeting)</b>	<b>Management Element Details</b>	<b>Comments and conclusions from this meeting</b>
		some places
7. Angler number restrictions	Allow up to 8 non guided anglers per day	Removed from list
<b>8. Guide Regulations: RD Quota</b>	<b>Increase current G allocation from 5 G and 117 RD to 267 RD (incr 30 RD /G)</b>	<b>Keep on list</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CR PH II: only guides supported this option</li> <li>MOE: straightforward; fair allocation</li> <li>In response to extended CW season, to compensate for CW guides presently guiding in shoulders when waters are not classified</li> </ul>
9 a) Resident-only times	Weekends –2 days - during classified periods	Removed from list but changed; see 10(a) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MOE: doable</li> <li>Need to look at more tools</li> <li>Consider combination with 10: Guided NRA Zone</li> </ul>
b) Resident-only times	One weekend day (Sat or Sun)	Removed from list
<b>10. a) Guided NRA Zone; and Resident only time period - weekends</b>	<b>Zoning to address/control non-resident alien use</b>	<b>Newly added to the list</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guide zone easier to manage</li> <li>This original option was removed from list: open access downstream, 17km from lower canyon to SK IV confluence</li> <li>restricted access upstream, 17km above lower canyon. Via elicensing</li> </ul>
b) Seasonal No NR Zone	Seasonal no NR zone during some portion of the season	Removed from list; see new package in 10(a) and 11 below.
<b>11. a) Guide only Designation: spatial</b>	<b>Guide only for NRA - Z II</b>	<b>Keep on list</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CR Ph II did not support</li> <li>MOE: see Z I</li> <li>Seen as way to regulate NGNR when lottery and limited-day license options are not available</li> </ul>
<b>b) Guide Only: seasonal</b>	<b>Guide Only for NRA Oct 15 – Nov 15</b>	<b>Keep on list as an option</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seen as way to regulate NGNR when lottery and limited-day license options are not available</li> </ul>
12. License Fee increase for NG NRA	Added to be consistent with guided angler fees.	Removed from list <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MOE: good to suggest amount but more likely done at provincial level</li> <li>MOE will identify whether increase fees will be a disincentive to angling</li> <li>Would it really reduce numbers?</li> <li>Actual costs: \$46/\$71</li> </ul>

<b>Zymoetz II Management Elements (agreed to at May meeting)</b>	<b>Management Element Details</b>	<b>Comments and conclusions from this meeting</b>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Money should be directed locally</li> <li>▪ Might stop the steelhead fishermen who do not add to the local economy or may reduce their stay</li> <li>▪ Thus, move to watershed level or provincial level discussions.</li> </ul>
<b>12. Limited Day license and lottery for NG, NRA</b>	<b>Implement immediately for NG, NRAs with target of 267 angler days spread evenly over the CW period</b>	<b>Keep on list:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ CR feedback shows that this option was not supported by NR and local business.</li> <li>▪ MOE: not resourced to deliver</li> <li>▪ Group desire to keep in the mix somehow; when funds and resources are in place, this option needs to be put in place.</li> </ul>

## ***Zymoetz II Final list***

1. Status Quo
2. Steelhead stamp extension: all year
3. Classified Water period extension: all year
4. Guide restrictions
  - a) max 3 anglers per guide per day; limit of one group per guide per day
  - b) distribute guide effort evenly throughout Classified Water season
5. Guide regulations: increase RD by x per guide
6. Resident-only weekends during Classified Water + Guided NRA Zone (need to define zone).
7. Guided-only for NRA
  - a. On ZII
  - b. Oct 15 – Nov 15
8. Limited day license - lottery for NGNR: long term strategy

**Zymoetz II Consequence Table**

Management Elements	Management Elements		ME 1	ME 2	ME 2	ME 2	ME 4 (a)	ME 4 (b)	ME 5	ME 6	ME 7 (a)	ME 7 (b)	ME 8
Objective (shortened)	Objective (shortened)	Eval Criteria (1 is worst; 5 is best)	Status Quo	SS ext: all year	CW period ext: all year	Guide restrictions a) max 3 anglers / guide / day; limit of one group /guide / day	Guide restrictions b) distribute guide effort evenly throughout CW season	Guide regulations: increase RD by x per guide	Resident Only weekends during CW	Guide Only for NRA On ZII	Guide Only for NRA Oct 15 – Nov 15	Ltd licer lotte NGN long strat	
1 Angling quality	1Maximize quality	very poor-1/ poor-2/ moderate-3/ good-4 /excellent-5	2	3	3	4	3-4	Did not finish	Did not finish	Did not finish	Did not finish		
2 Resident angling opps	2Max res angling opps	low-1/ med-low-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	5	5	5	5	5						
3 Non-guided, non-resident opps	3Max non-guided, non-res opps	low-1/ med-low-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	5	5	5	5	5						
4 Opps for guided anglers	4Max opps for guided anglers	low-1/ med-low-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	2	2	2	2	2						
5 MOE costs	5Minimize MOE costs	very high-1/ high-2/ moderate-3/ low-4/ very low-5	3	3	3	3	3						
6 Regulatory complexity	6Minimize regulatory complexity	very high-1/ high-2/ moderate-3/ low-4/ very low-5	4	4	4	4	4						

## ***Zymoetz II Consequence Table Discussion***

### ***ME #1: Status Quo***

- Obj 1: currently very poor; sometimes 1, sometimes 2.
- Obj 4: not enough opportunities for guided anglers.
- Obj 5: the current situation for MOE: moderate costs.
- Obj 6: currently, low regulatory complexity.

### ***ME #2: Extend Steelhead Stamp: all year***

- Obj 1: Still not necessarily achieving perfection.
- Obj 2: No change to status quo arises from this element on its own.
- Obj 3: Non Guided NRA opportunities definitely go down because NGNR are now regulated.
- Obj 4: Opportunities for guided anglers sees no change.
- Obj 5: Costs are around the same.
- Obj 6: Complexity remains the same.

### ***ME #3: CW period extension: all year***

- Obj 1: this element eliminates the issue of NRAs camping
- Obj 2: RA opportunity sees no change from status quo.
- Obj 3: ditto
- Obj 4: ditto
- Obj 5/6: ditto

### ***ME #4: Guide restrictions: 1 group of max 3 anglers per guide per day***

- Obj 1: Quality would increase because spreading out effort and fewer NRs fishing in groups.
- Obj 2: RA opportunity remains the same.
- Obj 3: Non Guided NRA opportunity remains the same.
- Obj 4: Guided angler opportunities are still the same.
- Obj 5: Costs are the same as for a Steelhead stamp extension.
- Obj 6: Regulations are not that complex.

### ***ME #4(b): Distribute guide effort evenly throughout CW period.***

- Obj 1: Quality increases due to spread out of angling effort.
- Obj 2: RA have same opportunity as status quo.
- Obj 3: Non Guided NRA opportunity is the same as status quo.
- Obj 4: Guided anglers have the same opportunities; fewer of them in a group but all this element does is spread out the angling effort.
- Obj 5: Costs are relatively straightforward.
- Obj 6: Regulations not very complex.
- Question of what is 'evenly.' The WG did not identify a percentage figure



We did not finish with this ME and did not finish the table. To be discussed at next meeting.

### 3.4 Skeena IV Below the Kitwanga Bridge

#### Review and Revision of Management Elements

Below is a table outlining the Management Elements that were identified at the May meeting and the Working Group's decision towards refinement of that element: whether to keep it on the list or remove it.

<b>Skeena IV (Below Kit Bridge) Management Elements (agreed to at May meeting)</b>	<b>Management Element Details</b>	<b>Comments and conclusions from this meeting</b>
1. Status Quo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schedule A of BC Regulation 125/90 establishes a maximum allocation of 1,000 angler-days and a maximum of 10 angling guides for all of Skeena IV Classified Water.</li> <li>The current allocation is 414 angler-days distributed among nine guides spread out over 375 kilometres of river (from just upstream of the Zymoetz confluence to headwaters).</li> <li>The period of classification is from July 1 to October 31 and a Steelhead Stamp is only required when angling for steelhead.</li> <li>The Skeena River main stem (above Cedarvale) is closed to angling from January 1 to May 31 to protect overwintering and spawning steelhead</li> </ul>	
2 a) Classified Water period extension:	Class 1 all year	Removed from list
b)	Aug 1 – (May?) 31	Remove from list <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MOE: does not fit within the guidelines in QWS.</li> <li>CR Ph II: did not support this element</li> <li>Wilderness kind of river despite highway and railway</li> <li>Need to be consistent</li> <li>Concern for protection from development; Class I does protect in some ways.</li> </ul>
c)	All year – full river of this section of SK IV	Remove from list <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Modified to Status quo to match with Steelhead stamp option.</li> </ul>
<b>d) Added</b>	<b>July 1 – Dec 31</b>	<b>Keep on list:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Added to match with Steelhead stamp</li> </ul>
3. a) S. S mandatory	Status quo only when angling for SH: July 1 – Oct 31	Removed from list – see (e)
b)	Aug 1 – May 31	Removed from list
c) NEW	Sept 1 – Dec 31	Remove from list <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Added this element to harmonize with Central group</li> </ul>

<b>Skeena IV (Below Kit Bridge) Management Elements (agreed to at May meeting)</b>	<b>Management Element Details</b>	<b>Comments and conclusions from this meeting</b>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mostly steelhead anglers; few or none</li> </ul>
d)	all year – full river (Z I and Z II)	Remove from list <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Modified to: July 1 to Dec 31</li> </ul>
<b>e) Added</b>	<b>July 1 – Dec 31</b>	<b>Keep on list</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dec 31 not many people fishing but consistent with other rivers.</li> </ul>
4. a) Guide restrictions:	No G from Kitselas Canyon – Sk IV lower boundary	Removed from list <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggestion to make a zone resident only from Kitselas Canyon to Sk IV lower boundary</li> <li>Does not follow QWS because NG NR can still fish</li> </ul>
b) Guide restrictions:	No Guiding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Removed from list for same reason</li> </ul>
c) Guide restrictions:	Open to Guides if reclassify	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Removed from list because not reclassifying</li> </ul>
d) Guide only for NG NR	1 group/day	Removed from list <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not necessary</li> <li>Not large enough quality problem</li> </ul>
<b>5.a) Guide regulations:</b>	<b>increase RD for the 3 guides by x RD (due to #2 above)</b>	<b>Keep on list as a concept</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>X guides and X rod days each</li> <li>CR Ph II: no groups supported this element</li> <li>MOE: implementable</li> <li>Should be higher;</li> <li>Number should be as decided before</li> </ul> Why important: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>underutilized rod days</li> <li>alleviates guide crowding around Terrace, Sk III</li> <li>QWS says guides should have more because NGNR have more</li> <li>Guides not using all days now</li> <li>QWS 2005 refers to fine print around exclusion.</li> <li>Focus on solutions for hot spots.</li> </ul>

<b>Skeena IV (Below Kit Bridge) Management Elements (agreed to at May meeting)</b>	<b>Management Element Details</b>	<b>Comments and conclusions from this meeting</b>
b) Guide regulations:	Existing Skeena IV G get 30 new RD	Removed from list and go with (a) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Should not do minister's job; ok to say x additional days and let Ministry undergo its process</li> <li>Sealed tender process: a) proposal, b) bid, or c) both.</li> <li>WG should identify total rod days and existing and new guides</li> <li>Let Regional Manager of MOE identify distribution of those days</li> </ul>
6.a) Resident only times	delete trigger; should be resident only designation full time	Removed from list: (a) to (d) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Don't want to restrict too many rivers</li> <li>Tourism will take a hit</li> <li>Sends a bad message</li> <li>Prefer spatial to temporal</li> </ul>
b)	Resident only on Saturday	
c)	Resident only on Sundays	
d)	Resident only all weekend	
<b>e) New Resident Only zone</b>	<b>Usk Ferry to Sk IV lower boundary Flint Creek to Shandala Creek.</b>	<b>Keep on list</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Added as new suggestion to help create more resident priority</li> </ul>
<b>7. Limited Day License for NG NR</b>	<b>Trigger for when more than 1000 angling days 2 out of 3 years</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leave for long term "park it out back"</b></li> </ul>
8. License Fee change	To be reviewed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional level discussion</li> </ul>
9. Boundary Change	Move lower boundary to lower Kitselas Canyon and classify as SK III	Remove from list. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guides view as negative impact? Could be a problem.</li> </ul>

### ***Skeena IV Final list***

1. Status quo
2. Classified water extension: July 1 – Dec 31
3. Steelhead stamp extension: July 1 – Dec 31
4. Guide Regulations: x new guide opportunities with x new RD each
5. Resident-only involving two zones: Zone 1: from Usk Ferry to SK IV lower boundary; Zone 2: Flint Creek to Shandala Creek

6. Limited-day license for NG NR – Long term strategy: trigger of 1000 angler-days two out of three years.

### 3.5 Kitsumkalum

#### Review and Revision of Management Elements

Skeena IV (Below Kit Bridge) Management Elements (agreed to at May meeting)	Management Element Details	Comments and conclusions from this meeting
1. Status Quo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kitsumkalum River (and its tributary streams) is a Class II Classified Water year round. A Steelhead Stamp is required between December 1 and May 31.</li> <li>The river is subject to a prohibition on the use of bait between January 1 and March 15.</li> <li>The licensed guiding activity is currently restricted to 11 angling guides who are allocated 959 rod-days. Schedule A of BC Regulation 125/90 establishes a maximum of 13 guides and 959 rod-days between March 16 and October 15. There is no guiding between October 16 and March 15.</li> </ul>	
2. Mandatory Steelhead Stamp:	Aug 1 (changed at meeting to Aug 7) – May 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CR Ph II: supportable</li> <li>MOE: doable</li> </ul> <p>Why important?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Same as other waters; some salmon, Chinook</li> <li>Chinook anglers may be upset</li> <li>Season ends Aug 6, so move to Aug 7</li> </ul>
3. a) Resident-only times	On Sundays	<p>Keep on list</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CR: mixed support</li> <li>MOE: doable</li> <li>Concern that pushes effort to other waters</li> <li>Sunday better day for rest</li> <li>Stagger Sat and Sun? - no</li> <li>Sunday is ok on appropriate rivers</li> </ul>
b)	Nov 15 (changed to Oct 15) – Mar 15	<p>Keep on list</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggestion comes from CR Ph II process</li> <li>MOE: implementable</li> <li>group moved date to Oct 15</li> <li>Conflicts with need to make up guide RD if resident only.</li> <li>Harmonize date with NG season; hence desire for Oct 15</li> </ul>
4. a)Guide Restrictions	limit G 1 group in upper and 1 group in lower on any day	<p>Keep on list</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MOE: can't regulate boats</li> <li>Change 'boats' to 'group'</li> </ul>

Skeena IV (Below Kit Bridge) Management Elements (agreed to at May meeting)	Management Element Details	Comments and conclusions from this meeting
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change to two options:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-- Aug 7 – Oct 15</li> <li>-- Mar 15 – May 31</li> </ul> </li> <li>1 group/guide upper</li> <li>1 group/guide lower</li> </ul>
b) Guide restrictions	4 guided anglers per group	This option was removed
c)	3 guided anglers per group	Keep on list Consistent with other rivers
d)	2 groups per day per guide license	Remove as now addressed through 4(a) and (c)
e) Seasonal:	no G on Sundays	Dealt with under resident-only management element
f)	open to guiding all year	Remove from list <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other options are better supported in CR</li> </ul>
5. No Guiding spatial zone (changed during meeting—see Kalum final list)	No G from Glacier Creek to Kitsumkalum Lake on Sat.	Changed – see Kalum Final list below <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggestion to change this to a resident only option.</li> <li>MOE: not as easy to do spatial – signage, reg changes, more complex</li> <li><i>No guiding</i> is easier.</li> </ul>
6. Guide Regulations	54. Reduce number of G to 11 (reg allows 13)	Agreed by the group
7. a) Guided only for NR		Remove from list <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not a lot of NG NR in Steelhead season</li> <li>Was done as a preventative measure for future possible problems if NGNR increase</li> </ul>
b)	above lower canyon	Remove from list <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Canyon closed during Steelhead season.</li> </ul>

### ***Kalum Final list***

1. Status Quo
2. SS mandatory Aug 7 – May 31
3. Resident-only:  
Sundays  
Oct 15 – Mar 15
4. Guide restrictions: Limit 1 group upper, 1 group lower per guide with max. 3 anglers per group.
5. Resident-only Glacier Creek to Kitsumkalum Lake on Saturday.
6. Guide regulations: reduce number of Guides in 125/90 to 11.

### ***3.6 End of day go around***

#### **Positive aspects**

- Meeting accommodation date needs
- Think we have an opportunity to do something
- Getting things done and meaningfully discussed
- Working
- Patience and hard work of facilitators

#### **To be improved**

- Lack of willingness to implement strategies to limit NGNR
- Not getting down to data/carrying capacity
- Considering things individually when they are inter-related within a river and between all rivers
- Don't get bothered by people who are frustrated
- Shorter breaks and lunch
- Lack of time; need to discuss and talks
- Really upset!
- More watermelon
- One more weekend
- NGNR have disproportionate impact

# **Final Notes**

## **AMP Meeting 2009 Terrace (West) Working Group Notes**

***June 27- 28, 2009  
Smithers, BC***

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1</b>	<b>OVERVIEW .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>SUMMARY RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES .....</b>	<b>4</b>
3.1	LAKELSE RIVER .....	4
3.2	ZYMOETZ I.....	4
3.3	ZYMOETZ II.....	4
3.4	SKEENA IV BELOW THE KITWANGA BRIDGE .....	5
3.5	KITSUMKALUM .....	5
<b>4</b>	<b>ANALYSIS OF FINAL SET OF RIVERS AND IDENTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES.....</b>	<b>6</b>
4.1	ZYMOETZ I.....	6
4.2	ZYMOETZ II.....	6
	<i>Review and Revision of Management Elements .....</i>	<i>6</i>
	<i>Zymoetz II Final List of Management Elements.....</i>	<i>10</i>
	<i>Zymoetz II Consequence Table .....</i>	<i>11</i>
	<i>Zymoetz II Consequence Table Discussion.....</i>	<i>12</i>
	<i>Zymoetz II Discussion Continued at Meeting Held on June 27 .....</i>	<i>13</i>
	<i>Zymoetz II Recommended Management Alternative .....</i>	<i>17</i>
4.3	SKEENA IV - BELOW THE KITWANGA BRIDGE.....	18
	<i>Review and Revision of Management Elements .....</i>	<i>18</i>
	<i>Skeena IV Final List of Management Elements .....</i>	<i>21</i>
	<i>Skeena IV Consequence Table .....</i>	<i>22</i>
	<i>Skeena IV Consequence Table Discussion.....</i>	<i>23</i>
	<i>Skeena IV Recommended Management Alternative.....</i>	<i>26</i>
4.4	KITSUMKALUM .....	27
	<i>Review and Revision of Management Elements .....</i>	<i>27</i>
	<i>Kalum Final List of Management Elements.....</i>	<i>29</i>
	<i>Kitsumkalum Consequence Table .....</i>	<i>30</i>
	<i>Kitsumkalum Consequence Table Discussion.....</i>	<i>31</i>
	<i>Kitsumkalum Recommended Management Alternative.....</i>	<i>31</i>
4.5	ROD DAY DISCUSSION, SUNDAY JUNE 28,.....	32
	<i>Zymoetz I .....</i>	<i>32</i>
	<i>Zymoetz II.....</i>	<i>32</i>
	<i>Skeena IV.....</i>	<i>33</i>



# West Working Group AMP Process, June 13-14, 2009

## Working Group members in attendance

- **Resident anglers:** Jason Ouellet, Chris Culp (absent), Jim Culp, Rob Brown, Brian Kean
- **Guides:** Dustin Kovacovich, Dan Daigle, Andrew Rushton, **Guide Alternate:** Randy Dozzi
- **Tourism:** Luke Houlden
- **Business:** Glenn Kelly
- **MOE:** Dana Atagi, MOE Coordinator

**Guests:** Paddy Hirshfield, MOE, Quality Waters Biologist

**Facilitators:** Sandra Bicego and Dorli Duffy, Alan Dolan & Associates

---

This document outlines a summary of the discussions of the West Working Group AMP meeting held in Smithers on June 27 – 28, 2009. Notes are presented in list form and in the order of the meeting discussions. The purpose of the draft notes is to provide a summary record of the discussions and serve as input to the development of the Angling Management Plan.

## 1 OVERVIEW

On May 30, 31, 2009, the West Working Group met and redeveloped a list of new management elements.<sup>1</sup> These lists were not final nor agreed upon; they were brainstormed lists of considerations, based on: a) the consultation report feedback, b) new membership perspectives and c) the application of the revised tool box. The draft Management Elements identified in May were refined at the subsequent meeting in June.<sup>2</sup>

In its first June meeting, the West Working Group completed analysis of, and identification of recommended management alternatives for Lakelse River and Zymoetz I. Zymoetz II was left unfinished.

On June 27, the West Working Group met to complete the analysis of and identification of recommended management alternatives for Zymoetz II, Skeena IV (below the Kitwanga Bridge), and the Kitsumkalum rivers. The following notes are the results of these deliberations.

## 2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It must be noted that the Working Group worked very hard and with true commitment at all full weekend meetings in 2008 and in 2009. The members of the group constantly struggled to consider all interests at the table, and to balance those interests against each other, and in light of the objectives of the Quality Waters Strategy. It was by no means an easy task for this group, with an incredible passion and pride for steelhead angling, for the steelhead themselves, their communities, and for the rivers of the Skeena watershed.

---

<sup>1</sup> See May 30, 31 2009 Meeting Notes, sections 6.4, 7.4, 8.4, 9.4, and 10.4 which list the management elements.

<sup>2</sup> See June 13, 14, 2009 Meeting Notes where final lists of management elements were identified.

## 3 SUMMARY RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES

### 3.1 Lakelse River

The group came to 100% consensus that the recommend package would include: Management elements: 2, 3, and 4.

- ME #2: Classified Waters period redesignation from Class II to Class I - all year
- Me #3: Mandatory Steelhead Stamp Extension: Sept 1 – May 31
- Me #4: Resident only zone - from power line crossing to upstream of the Lakelse Lake outlet. The Working Group felt that ME #4 was very important.

### 3.2 Zymoetz I

A straw poll was taken to determine the group's preference for the different packaged options.

- **Majority supported Option 1:** ME's #2-4, 6 and 8:
  - ☐ ME #2 – Mandatory Steelhead Stamp extension: June 16 – Dec 31 [or same as new Classified Waters period extension]
  - ☐ ME #3 – Classified Waters period extension: July 24 – Dec 31
  - ☐ ME #4 – Guide restrictions: (3 anglers per boat, 1 group per guide per day)
  - ☐ ME # 6 – Guide Regulations: Increase rod days (100 rod days – based on June 28 morning meeting)
  - ☐ ME # 8 – License Class Restrictions: Non-guided non-residents permitted 2 days per week (Monday/Tuesday or Tuesday/Wednesday)
- **Minority supported Option 4:** Option 1 (ME's #2-4, 6 and 8) with a trigger for 2 day NG NRA:
- NB: s.22 on record as supporting Guide Only.
- For either option chosen: Group requested that in the long term, make it a red flag for MoE to cap NRAs at 500 rod days

### 3.3 Zymoetz II

- ME # 2 – Mandatory steelhead stamp: July 24 – May 31
- ME # 3 - Extend Classified Waters period: July 24 – May 31
- ME # 4A – Guide restriction: 3 anglers/guide; 1 group/guide/day
- ME # 4B – Guide restrictions: distribute effort evenly. Minority Reports:
  - Some working group members want guides to use less than 30 % of their guide days per month (+/- 5%) because the season is approximately 3.5 months long.
  - Some working group members want current guided effort levels maintained during Sept/Oct; Any new guided rod days should be allocated in the former shoulder periods (not Sept/Oct).
- ME #5 – Rod Day Quota for 5 guides (from June 28 rod day discussion)
  - Range from 600 - 400-450 – 356 – 267.
  - More support for 356; some support for 600; less for other options.

- ME #8: Limited day license and reservation system for the long term.
- ME # 11– Resident only weekend and Guide Only Zone
  - Saturday and Sunday for residents only: Clore to Limonite Creek.
  - Guiding Zone on Saturdays: Skeena III to Matson Creek bridge (23 km).
  - Allowing for some controlled opportunity for non residents.
  - Free access by NRC/NRA: Tues, Wed, Thurs.

### 3.4 Skeena IV Below the Kitwanga Bridge

- Status Quo
- ME # 2 – Extend Classified Waters period: July 1 – Dec 31
- ME # 3 – Extend mandatory steelhead stamp: July 1 – Dec 31
- ME #4: Rod Day Quota (decided on Day 2, June 28).
  - Zone from Flint Creek to Chindemash Creek: 586 days.
  - Works out to 7 rod days /day. Maximum 50 days per guide (avoids monopoly). 1 group/guide/day.
  - Existing Skeena IV guides will operate as normal.
  - Deduct from existing Skeena II Quota. Challenge for MOE recognized.
- ME #7A: Resident only zone: Mouth of Kitwanga: Shandilla Creek to Boulder/Sudan Creek. NRC/NRA to have 3 days open access per week. No guiding.
- ME #8 Resident only zone: Shindimash Creek to existing downstream boundary (Skeena III). Non-residents get 3 days open access. No guiding.
- **Red Flag:** MOE review of NRC/NRA effort over time for this zone and when “x” days are reached two out of three years (x = 1000-2000 non-resident angler days, for example, 1500 days (*presumably per classified water period*), request that MOE return the use to Resident Angler Only. When those “x” days are reached a trigger would be launched for an 8-day license and reservation system.

### 3.5 Kitsumkalum

ME #2: Mandatory Steelhead Stamp: Aug 7 – May 31

ME #3A: Resident only time (Sunday) during Classified Waters period.

ME #3B: Resident only time: Working Group decided on “winter season”

- Option A: Oct 15 – Mar 15 (status quo)
- Option B: Nov 15 – Mar 15 (assuming Sundays are Resident Only).
- Option C: Nov 1 – Apr 1
  - The options have implications for the guide season suggested in ME #7 (extending guiding into November)
  - Options for dates: this is an optics issue; travelling non-residents are primarily here in Sept/Oct.

Me #4: Guide restriction: 3 anglers per guide/one group per guide per day; one group upper and one group lower river.

ME # 5: Resident only time (Saturday) and zone (Glacier Creek to Kalum Lake)

Distribution of Guide Effort: Cannot use more than 40% of allocated rod days during any one of the following periods:

- Mar 15- May 24
- May 24 – Aug 7
- Aug 7 – Oct 15

## **4 ANALYSIS OF FINAL SET OF RIVERS AND IDENTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES**

The following analysis focuses on the remaining rivers for the West WG: Zymoetz II, Skeena IV (below the Kitwanga Bridge) and Kitsumkalum rivers. Zymoetz I and Lakelse rivers are already concluded in the June 13, 14 meeting notes.

Organization of sections

- The first subsection includes a table of the review and revision of the Management Elements. Items in the left hand and middle columns were mainly identified at the May 30, 31. At the June 13, 14 meeting some new elements were added. The right hand column in the table notes the comments and conclusions raised by the Working Group at the June 13, 14 meeting. This table was further reviewed and refined at the final meeting on June 27<sup>th</sup>.
- The second subsection highlights a summary of the final agreed upon list from which to analyze further with the consequence table process.
- The third subsection notes the consequence table ratings for each river.
- The fourth subsection notes the WG discussion about the ratings.
- The fifth and final subsection summarizes the recommended management alternative, or package of elements, supported by the WG.

### **4.1 Zymoetz I**

The following changes were suggested for Zymoetz I

- Change the extension of the Classified Waters season to make it consistent with the rest of the river: July 24 – Dec 31
- In the long term, add red flag for MoE to cap anglers at 500 rod days.
- Dustin on record as supporting Guide Only.

### **4.2 Zymoetz II**

#### ***Review and Revision of Management Elements***

<b>Zymoetz II Management Elements (agreed to at May meeting)</b>	<b>Management Element Details</b>	<b>Comments and conclusions from June 13, 14 meeting</b>
1. Status Quo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ This section of the Zymoetz River is a Class II Classified Water between September 1 and October 31. A Steelhead Stamp is required during these months.</li><li>▪ The river is subject to a year-round prohibition on the use of bait.</li></ul>	

<b>Zymoetz II Management Elements (agreed to at May meeting)</b>	<b>Management Element Details</b>	<b>Comments and conclusions from June 13, 14 meeting</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The licensed guiding activity is currently restricted to five angling guides who are allocated 117 rod-days. Schedule A of BC Regulation 125/90 establishes a maximum of five guides and 200 rod-days.</li> <li>There is no fishing allowed between the signs demarcating the Lower Zymoetz Canyon.</li> <li>The river is closed to angling above the five-kilometre mark at the Lower Canyon from January 1 to June 15 to protect over wintering summer steelhead.</li> </ul>	
2. a) Mandatory SH Stamp extension	Aug 1 – May 31	Remove from list
b) Mandatory SH Stamp extension	Aug 1 – Dec 31	Remove from list
c) Mandatory SH Stamp extension	<b>All year</b>	<b>Keep on list</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All users are affected</li> </ul> Why important <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reflects time when steelhead are in the river;</li> <li>Provides data for MOE</li> </ul>
3. a) Classified Water period extension	Aug 1 – May 31. and retain Class II status	Remove from list
b) Classified Water period extension	change to start on July 1	Remove from list
c) Classified Water period extension	change to start on Aug 1 – Dec 31	Remove from list
d) Classified Water period extension	<b>All year</b>	<b>Keep on list:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MOE: easily implementable</li> <li>Consultation Report: Supported</li> <li>Regulates and restricts non-residents and Guides;</li> <li>Requires management through Guide allocation.</li> <li>Costs more money for guided rod days</li> <li>Some impact on Chinook</li> <li>Mostly resident use; but some non-residents</li> </ul> Why important: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increases costs to non-residents</li> <li>More money due to fee increase</li> <li>Might spread people out; restricts growth of effort</li> <li>Currently unlimited Guiding; would put a cap</li> <li>Collect data on usage by non-residents and guides</li> </ul>
4. Boundary Change	Include Clore River with Z I classified waters	Removed from list <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MOE: legally and administratively difficult (increases Zymoetz I AMP complexity)</li> <li>Can do better under zoning</li> </ul>
5. Change to Class I	All year	Removed from list <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Phase II Consultation Report: suggested this option mostly because they thought fees could</li> </ul>

<b>Zymoetz II Management Elements (agreed to at May meeting)</b>	<b>Management Element Details</b>	<b>Comments and conclusions from June 13, 14 meeting</b>
		<p>not be changed so this was one way to raise fees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MOE: easily done but no wilderness values like Zymoetz I; it would make Zymoetz into a single class I water</li> <li>Fee changes would be a better way to do it</li> <li>unsure what it would do to angling pressure</li> <li>Increases guide fees.</li> </ul>
<b>6. a) Guide Restrictions</b>	<b>Maximum of 3 Assistant guides (groups) per Guide per day</b>	<p><b>Keep on list with 6 (b)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MOE: doable as per Zymoetz I;</li> <li>Focus is on Guided anglers and number of groups of anglers.</li> <li>Restricts Guides and NRAs</li> <li>Phase II Consultation Report: supported by all groups with mixed response from guides</li> </ul> <p>Why important</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distributes Guide effort and angling effort</li> <li>Reduces crowding</li> </ul>
<b>b) Guide Restrictions</b>	<b>Limit one group per Guide per day</b>	<p><b>Keep on list with 6 (a)</b></p> <p><b>See comments above in 6(a)</b></p>
c) Angler number restrictions	Limit 2 groups of anglers per Guide per day with max 3 angler per boat	<p>Removed from list</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
<b>d) Guide restrictions</b>	<b>Distribute Guide effort evenly throughout season, all year, as a condition of Guide license</b>	<p><b>Keep on list</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aim is to distribute evenly to avoid peak problem</li> <li>Phase II Consultation Report- some groups have indicated guides contributing to crowding at some times in some places</li> </ul>
7. Angler number restrictions	Allow up to 8 non guided non-resident anglers per day	Removed from list
8. Guide Regulations: Rod Day Quota	<p>Was originally discussed as: Increase current Guide allocation from 5 Guides and 117 Rod days to 267 Rod days (increasing by 30 rod days per guide) Group could not agree, thus became: <i>Increase Guide allocation of Rod days by "x" per Guide</i></p>	<p><b>Keep on list</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Phase II Consultation Report : only guides supported this option</li> <li>MOE: straightforward; fair allocation</li> </ul> <p>Why?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In response to extended Classified Waters season, to compensate for Classified Waters guides presently guiding in shoulders when waters are not classified</li> </ul>
9 a) Resident-only times	Weekends –2 days (Saturday and Sunday) - during classified periods	<p>Removed from list but changed; see 10(a)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MOE: doable</li> <li>Need to look at more tools</li> <li>Consider combination with 10: Guided non-residents Zone</li> </ul>
b) Resident-only times	One weekend day (Sat or Sun)	Removed from list
<b>10. a) Guided NRA/NRC Zone; and Resident only</b>	<b>RA-only time period (Saturday and Sunday) and</b>	<p><b>Newly added to the list</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where: whole river and guided zone (23 km</li> </ul>

<b>Zymoetz II Management Elements (agreed to at May meeting)</b>	<b>Management Element Details</b>	<b>Comments and conclusions from June 13, 14 meeting</b>
<b>weekends during Classified Waters period</b>	<b>Zone for guided non-residents to address/control NRA/NRC use</b>	<p>bridge at Matson Creek downstream to confluence of Skeena River)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ When: Saturday and Sunday</li> <li>▪ Guided zone easier to manage</li> <li>▪ Resident-only time period only restricts Guides and non-guided non-residents (except in the zone)</li> <li>▪ This original zone option was removed from the list at June 13, 14 meeting: open access downstream, 17km from lower canyon to Skeena IV confluence; restricted access upstream, 17km above lower canyon. Via e-licensing.</li> </ul> <p>Why important:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recognizes resident priority.</li> <li>▪ Seeks to address crowding.</li> </ul>
b) Seasonal No Non-resident Zone	Seasonal no non-resident zone during some portion of the season	Removed from list; see new package in 10(a) and 11 below.
<b>11. a) Guide only Designation: zone</b>	<b>Guide only for NRA - Zymoetz II</b>	<p><b>Keep on list</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Phase II Consultation Report did not support this element</li> <li>▪ Restricts guides and non-guided non-residents.</li> <li>▪ All year application.</li> <li>▪ Seen as way to regulate non-guided non-residents when lottery and limited-day licence options are not available.</li> </ul>
<b>b) Guide Only: season</b>	<b>Guide Only for NRA <del>Oct</del> August 15 – Nov 15</b>	<p><b>Keep on list as an option</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Seen as way to regulate non-guided non-residents when lottery and limited-day licence options are not available.</li> <li>▪ To restrict during a more focussed peak period.</li> <li>▪ NB: Group changed the date of Oct 5 at June 27<sup>th</sup> meeting: first to September 15 and then agreed on August 15.</li> </ul>
12. License Fee increase for NG NRA	Proposed to be consistent with guided angler fees.	<p>Removed from list.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MOE: good to suggest amount but more likely done at provincial level.</li> <li>▪ MOE will identify whether increase fees will be a disincentive to angling.</li> <li>▪ Would it really reduce numbers?</li> <li>▪ Actual costs: \$46/\$71 (if NGNR fees were equivalent to guide fees)</li> <li>▪ Money should be directed locally.</li> <li>▪ Carrying capacity driven caps for each user</li> <li>▪ Might stop the steelhead fishermen who do not add to the local economy or may reduce their stay.</li> <li>▪ Thus, move to watershed level or provincial</li> </ul>

<b>Zymoetz II Management Elements (agreed to at May meeting)</b>	<b>Management Element Details</b>	<b>Comments and conclusions from June 13, 14 meeting</b>
		level discussions.
<b>12. Limited day license and lottery for NG, NRA</b>	<b>Implement immediately for NG, NRAs with target of 267 angler days spread evenly over the Classified Waters period</b>	<b>Keep on list:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Consultation Report feedback shows that this option was not supported by non-residents and local business.</li> <li>▪ MOE: not resourced to deliver</li> <li>▪ Restricts non-residents</li> </ul> <b>Why:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Allows for greater quality of angling</li> <li>▪ To distribute angling effort</li> <li>▪ Allocate with carrying capacity</li> <li>▪ Provides certainty re: number of guides and number of non-residents.</li> <li>▪ Group desire to keep in the mix somehow; when funds and resources are in place, this option needs to be put in place.</li> </ul>

### ***Zymoetz II Final List of Management Elements***

1. Status Quo
2. Mandatory Steelhead stamp extension: all year
3. Classified Water period extension: all year
4. Guide restrictions:
  - a) limit of one group (of max 3 anglers) per guide per day;
  - b) distribute guide effort evenly throughout Classified Water season
5. Guide regulations - Rod day quota: increase rod days by “x” per guide
6. Resident-only weekends during Classified Water & Guided NRA/NRC Zone.
7. Guide-Only for non-residents
  - a. Whole Zymoetz II river, whole season
  - b. Whole Zymoetz II river, subset of the season: Oct 15 – Nov 15
8. Limited day licence - lottery for non-guided non-residents: long term strategy



**Zymoetz II Consequence Table**

Management Elements		ME 1	ME 2	ME 3	ME 4 (a)	ME 4 (b)	ME 5	ME 6	ME 7 (a)	ME 7 (b)	ME 8	ME #9
Objective (shortened)	Eval Criteria (1 is worst; 5 is best)	Status Quo (440 RD)	SS extend: Jul 24 – May 31r	CW period extend: Jul 24 – May 31	3 A / G / day; 1 group /G/ day	Distribute G effort evenly through CW season	Increase RD by x per G	RA Only w/end during CW and G Zone	Guide Only for NRA/NRC All Year	Guide Only for NRA - peak Aug 15 – Nov 15	Ltd day license & lottery for NGNR – Long Term	RA only w/end & Guide Only week Aug 15- Nov 15
1 Angling quality	very poor-1/ poor-2/ moderate-3/ good-4 /excellent-5	2	3	3	4	3-4	X	4	5	4-5	4-5	5
2 Resident angling opps	low-1/ med-low-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	5	5	5	5	5	X	5	5	5	5	5
3 Non-guided, non-resident opps	low-1/ med-low-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	5	5	5	5	5	X	3-4	1	1	3	1
4 Opps for guided anglers	low-1/ med-low-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	2	2	2	2	2	X	2	3-4	3-4	2	3-4/ 2
5 MOE costs	very high-1/ high-2/ moderate-3/ low-4/ very low-5	3	3	3	3	3	X	2	2	2	1	2
6 Regulatory complexity	very high-1/ high-2/ moderate-3/ low-4/ very low-5	4	4	4	4	4	X	2-3	3	3	1	3

## ***Zymoetz II Consequence Table Discussion***

The following are the discussion points from June 13, 14.

### ***ME #1: Status Quo***

- Obj 1: currently very poor; sometimes 1, sometimes 2.
- Obj 4: not enough opportunities for guided anglers.
- Obj 5: the current situation for MOE: moderate costs.
- Obj 6: currently, low regulatory complexity.

### ***ME #2: Extend Steelhead Stamp: all year***

- Obj 1: Still not necessarily achieving perfection.
- Obj 2: No change to status quo arises from this element on its own.
- Obj 3: Non Guided non-resident opportunities definitely go down because they are now regulated.
- Obj 4: Opportunities for guided anglers sees no change.
- Obj 5: Costs are around the same.
- Obj 6: Complexity remains the same.

### ***ME #3: Classified Waters period extension: all year***

- Obj 1: this element eliminates the issue of non-residents camping
- Obj 2: Resident angler opportunity sees no change from status quo.
- Obj 3: ditto
- Obj 4: ditto
- Obj 5/6: ditto

**NB:** For both ME's # 2 and 3: subsequent discussion changed the days to be scoped to July 24 to Dec 31: for consistency sake (ensure Zymoetz I and II are similar); and for impact to salmon fishery: July 24 was chosen as this is the day after the Chinook fishery closes and thus, it would accommodate salmon anglers.

### ***ME #4(a): Guide restrictions: 1 group of max 3 anglers per guide per day***

- Obj 1: Quality would increase because spreading out effort and fewer non-residents fishing in groups.
- Obj 2: Resident angler opportunity remains the same.
- Obj 3: Non Guided non-resident opportunity remains the same.
- Obj 4: Guided angler opportunities are still the same.
- Obj 5: Costs are the same as for a Steelhead stamp extension.
- Obj 6: Regulations are not that complex.

### ***ME #4(b): Distribute guide effort evenly throughout Classified Waters period.***

- Obj 1: Quality increases due to spread out of angling effort.
- Obj 2: Resident anglers have same opportunity as status quo.

- Obj 3: Non Guided non-resident opportunity is the same as status quo.
- Obj 4: Guided anglers have the same opportunities; fewer of them in a group but all this element does is spread out the angling effort.
- Obj 5: Costs are relatively straightforward.
- Obj 6: Regulations not very complex.
- Question of what is meant by distributing guide effort ‘evenly.’ The Working Group did not identify a percentage.

### ***Zymoetz II Discussion Continued at Meeting Held on June 27***

Below are the discussion points on the ratings provided for management elements #5 onwards in the Zymoetz II consequence table.

#### ***ME #5: Rod Day Quota***

The Working Group was not able to rate this element due to inability to agree on a particular rod day figure. It was left outside of the consequence table rating exercise. The following are summary points of the discussion.

- Concern that current allocation was not fair to guides.
- Impact on quality of experience depends on number of increased rod days
- Guides are only a small part of the angling effort (crowding) relative to the total users on the Zymoetz II river (small percentage).
- The Draft AMP suggested 150 rod days. Some consider 150 days to be low; others consider it to be high.
- Paddy: Rod day historical use: guides are not using their full allocation in the Classified Waters period. They are using them in the shoulders too.
- Increase in non-resident numbers is reflective of growth in demand during other months (August, etc.)
- If there is a moderate increase in rod day numbers, Objective 1 could be said to be a ‘3’ because a moderate number of guided days would be allocated over the formerly unclassified period. So resident anglers would benefit. Others said rating of ‘1’ due to more anglers on the water.
- This management element means that the existing guide use could become the allocated level for the new Classified Waters period – reflecting current use. July 24 – May 31.
- Any new rod days become leased days for 20 years or less, not forever.
- The existing 117 rod days are forever days. New formerly “shoulder” days are in the new Classified Waters period. 381 days formerly used outside of old Classified Waters period – includes all of July less 75 days = 310 guided days.
- 2008 use - 117 (Sept – Oct).
- 310: July 24 – Aug 31; Nov 1 – May 31.
- Working Group members expressed a concern about potential stacking of days in 2008 because of this AMP process.
- One calculation: Total max usage (high): entire season: 4475 total angler days for the river; entire season. Aug 1 – Apr 30.
  - Maximum figures:
  - 69% - 2870 to BC Residents
  - 22% - 963 guides
  - 15% - 642 Non Residents

- While these are stated to be “maximum figures,” these last two figures were stated as being lower percentages than anywhere else.
- Assumes: 0.75 anglers/kilometre and that the river is fishable 75% of the time.

Proposed Guided Rod Day Quotas on Zymoetz II (4 were proposed). All proposals were in consideration of a longer classified waters period.

**Proposal 1: 600 guided rod days**

- Pro: still less than non-guided non-resident use during Sept/Oct
- Pro: fewer anglers if it was Guide Only; or significant reduction through a lottery.
- Concerns: limited amount of fishable water on this river. Decreases angling experience quality.

**Proposal 2: 400-450 guided rod days**

- This was based upon base use (shoulder period + CW period) with an increase (10-20%) allowed for growth in the guide opportunity

**Proposal 3: 356 (Existing Use = 2008) guided rod days**

- This rod day number is to grandfather existing use during the current classified waters period and the shoulder seasons.
- September-October (existing CW period) = 117 rod days
- July 24-August 31 + November 1-December 1 (shoulder season) = 239 rod days
- Total = 117 + 239 = 356 rod days

Pros:

- No one is taking away anything from Guides as it incorporates the existing shoulder period use.
- Guides would keep existing days
- One person noted that he was counting on no guiding [?] only otherwise his vote would change from 356 to 600 RD [Not sure what was meant by this comment]

Cons

- Losing potential for growth in a guiding business on the river.

**Proposal 4: 267**

- NB: request that whatever the final number for Guide rod day allocation; ensure non-residents cannot exceed the number; and if it does occur, then go to limited day license and lottery.

Discussion: Average between the maximum figures and Jim’s numbers:

- 600 angler days for Guides; acceptable if Zymoetz II is classified all year and includes the Chinook salmon fishery.
- 1990 reports: 450.
- Average 2006-2008 days (MOE): not including Sept/Oct = 239 days + 117 (Sept/Oct) = 356. This compares with 310 in 2008.
- Consultation Report does not support higher numbers; not a strong appetite to increase rod days.
- To increase the angler experience, we would need to recommend “Guide only” if rod days were to be increased.
- NB: 68.8% of resident respondents were from Skeena Region; 32% were from elsewhere in BC.

- Minority report: Rod day allocation for new Classified Waters period.

*ME #6: Resident Angler Only Weekend during Classified Waters and Guided Non-resident Zone for non-residents*

- Obj 1: goes up because there are fewer anglers on Zymoetz II; even guided angler quality improves.
- Obj 3: rating for non guided non-residents goes down to 3-4; though non guided non-residents can still fish 5 days per week.
- Obj 4: opportunities for guided anglers stays the same;
  - one view was that there would be slightly less opportunity; quality slightly down;
  - other members felt there would be fewer people on Zymoetz II and therefore opportunities would increase and so would the quality of the experience.
- Obj 5: Costs would go up with this element; just a little, not much.

*ME #7A – Guide Only for NRC/NRA all year*

- Obj 4: opportunity increases; depends on rod day allocation; there will still be a limit and cap. Unlimited access would be a 5.
- Obj 5: MOE costs much greater; more enforcement needed to manage non residents. Costs of more people on the river to enforce.
- Obj 6: this rating drops because it costs more to change the regulations.

*ME # 7B – Guide Only for NRC/NRA during peak: Aug 15 – Nov 15*

- Obj 1: goes up because spreading effort over Zymoetz II temporarily. Focuses on a time when the steelhead are in season
- Obj 2: Resident anglers have the same opportunity so rating stays the same.
- Obj 3: Non-guided NRA/NRC opportunity goes down to ‘1’; there is a potential impact on Chinook fishery; a growing area.
- Obj 4: opportunities for an increase in guided anglers because guided anglers are capped per day as a condition of license.
- Obj 5 and 6: same as for 7A: costs increase due to more people on Zymoetz II requiring enforcement; costs more to change the regulations.

*ME #8: Ltd Day License and Lottery*

- Obj 1: this is the Cadillac version of our management elements. Acknowledges that all concede a little bit. A compromise for all.
- Quality compromised if non residents are on the water practicing poor etiquette.
- Quality also depends on the cap number.
- Important to talk about acceptable pressure vs. who is on the river.
- Fairest option to all user groups. Everyone gets improved experience. Everyone takes a small “hit.”
- Still a lot of opportunity for those with money.
- Obj 4: rating stays the same as status quo but assumes no increase in angler days.
- Obj 5 and 6: both ratings go down even more than status quo to ‘1’ due to major increase in costs and to the complexity of regulations.

- When this is implemented, allocate non-residents at approximately the same level as guides (or 1 –2 % less).

*ME #9: New Package - Resident Only Weekend and Guide Weeks Aug 15 – Nov 15*

- First Discussion on this new element:
  - Restricting number of guests per guide (3/guide) as a condition of license
  - Leave Classified Waters period at current dates
  - Regulate Guides all year
- Concern about restricting guides without restricting non-residents
- Would need to partner with other elements
  - #6 – Resident-only weekends and Guided non-resident Zone;
  - #7A – Guide Only for non-residents on Zymoetz II;
  - #7B – Guide Only for non-residents, Oct 15\* –Nov 15. (*\* later changed to Aug 15*)
- Concern about number of anglers during unclassified period (e.g., June, July, August, and November).
- Current number, 117, works out to 15 anglers / day @ 3 per guide.
- Some considered it important to extend the Classified Waters period on Zymoetz II: June – Dec and Mar/ April.
- Strong desire to maintain the quality of the angling experience.
- Desire for a fair allocation.
- Working Group members also expressed a desire for a distribution of angling effort.
- July appears to have a high concentration of effort below the canyon.
- Further refinement of Management Element No 9:
  - What: maintain current Classified Waters period
  - Suggestion to package this management element in concert with ME #6 – Resident Only weekends during Classified Waters and Guided non-resident Zone; and ME # 7A - Guide Only for non-residents on Zymoetz II. After some discussion: Guide only feature changed to time period: Aug 15 – Nov 15 (ME #7B)
  - Guide restrictions 4A are included: 3 anglers per guide; 1 group per day
  - Who: restricts guides
  - When: peak period: Aug 15 – Nov 15
  - Where: Whole River (Zymoetz II)
  - Why: maintains quality of experience; distributes effort all year; ensures guided effort does not peak; disperses effort
- Extending to resident only weekends reduces number of guided rod days.
- Resident only weekend also improves quality of angling for guides during the week.
- August effort – probably much of this is below the Canyon; 220 days would be too much here.
- This contributes to the “zoo” effect on Zymoetz II; community hates this concentration.
- Could make a condition of license: limit the number of days in August below the canyon.
- Concern however re: how days would be allocated for shoulder season.
- This management element is predicated on the Classified Waters period being extended to July 24 – Dec 31.
- Discussion of when crowding occurs – which months.

- Steelhead season should reflect when steelhead are in the river. July 24 – May 31.
- It would be best if there were monthly caps.
- Respects salmon fishery.
- Zymoetz II Consequence Table Discussion:
  - Obj 1: rating improves from status quo
  - Obj 2: Resident anglers have same opportunity as status quo; no change.
  - Obj 3: Non-guided non-resident angler opportunities go down from current status quo of ‘5’ to ‘1’ due to restriction on non residents.
  - Obj 4: a rating increase of 3-4 if there is an increase in rod days; a rating of 2 if the number of rod days stays the same.
  - Obj 5: costs for management and enforcement are slightly higher than status quo.
  - Obj 6: regulatory complexity is slightly more with this ME package.

#### *ME # 10 – Alternative package*

- What: 3 non-resident days (consecutive or spaced out – e.g., Tues, Wed, Thurs)
- Who: NRC/NRA – not guided
- When: guiding Mon – Fri, Sat (zone)
- When: Residents all week. Sunday is resident only.
- Where: entire Z II river
- Why: allows non-residents access to Zymoetz II. Can fish elsewhere on other days.
- Was not analysed in the consequence table.

#### *ME #11 – New alternative package*

- What: Resident only weekends. Includes elements of # 6, 9 and 10
- Guiding allowed zone on Saturday.
- Non-residents get unfettered access on Tues, Wed, Thurs.
- Where: Guided zone: Skeena III to Matson Creek bridge (23 km)  
-- RA only for Sat/Sunday.
- When: new Classified Waters period (July 24 – May 31).
- Was not analysed in the consequence table however strong support for this element.

#### *Regional consideration*

- Need to stagger non-resident days (*and/or resident-only days*) to maintain other opportunities to fish.

#### ***Zyometz II Recommended Management Alternative***

- ME # 2 – Mandatory steelhead stamp: July 24 – May 31
- ME # 3 - Extend Classified Waters period: July 24 – May 31
- ME # 4A – Guide Restriction: 3 anglers/guide; 1 group/guide/day
- ME # 4B – Guide Restrictions: distribute effort evenly.

- Some working group members want guides to be required to use less than 30 % of their rod days per month (+/- 5%) because the season is approximately 3.5 months long. This would allow for more guiding during the peak months (Sept and October)
- Some working group members want current guided rod day levels maintained in Sept/Oct; Any new allocated rod days should be allocated in the former shoulder periods (not Sept/Oct).
- ME #5 – Rod Day Quota for 5 guides (from Sunday rod day Discussion)
  - Range from 600 - 400-450 – 356 – 267 and no consensus was obtained.
  - More support for 356; some support for 600; less for other options.
- ME #8: Limited day license and reservation system for the long term.
- ME # 11– Resident only weekend and Guide Only Zone
  - Saturday and Sunday for residents only (i.e., no zone).
  - Guiding Zone on Saturdays: Skeena III confluence upstream to Matson Creek Bridge crossing (23 km).
  - Allowing for some controlled opportunity for non residents.
  - Unrestricted access by non-residents to the entire Class II section: Tues, Wed, Thurs. of each week

### **4.3 Skeena IV - Below the Kitwanga Bridge**

#### **Review and Revision of Management Elements**

<b>Skeena IV (Below Kit Bridge) Management Elements (agreed to at May meeting)</b>	<b>Management Element Details</b>	<b>Comments and conclusions from this meeting</b>
1. Status Quo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Schedule A of BC Regulation 125/90 establishes a maximum allocation of 1,000 angler-days and a maximum of 10 angling guides for all of Skeena IV Classified Water.</li> <li>▪ The current allocation is 414 angler-days distributed among nine guides spread out over 375 kilometres of river (from just upstream of the Zymoetz confluence to headwaters).</li> <li>▪ The period of classification is from July 1 to October 31 and a Steelhead Stamp is only required when angling for steelhead.</li> <li>▪ The Skeena River main stem (above Cedarvale) is closed to angling from January 1 to May 31 to protect overwintering and spawning steelhead</li> </ul>	
2 a) Classified Water period extension:	Class 1 all year	Removed from list <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Too many complexities as Skeena IV is now being managed as 2 waters with 2 planning groups</li> </ul>
b) Classified Water period extension:	Aug 1 – May 31	Remove from list <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Phase II Consultation Report: did not support this element</li> <li>▪ Wilderness kind of river despite highway and railway</li> </ul>



<b>Skeena IV (Below Kit Bridge) Management Elements (agreed to at May meeting)</b>	<b>Management Element Details</b>	<b>Comments and conclusions from this meeting</b>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need to be consistent with Central WG</li> <li>Concern for protection from development; Class I is hoped to protect in some ways.</li> </ul>
c) Classified Water period extension:	All year – full river (SK IV, below Kitwanga Bridge)	Remove from list <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Modified to Status quo to match with Steelhead stamp option.</li> </ul>
<b>d) Added</b>	<b>July 1 – Dec 31</b>	<b>Keep on list:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Added to match with Steelhead stamp and to be consistent with other rivers.</li> <li>This represents in extension of CW period by 2 months (Nov/Dec)</li> </ul>
3. a) Steelhead Stamp mandatory and extension of period	Status quo only: stamp required only when angling for steelhead: July 1 – Oct 31	Removed from list – see (e)
b) Steelhead Stamp mandatory and extension of period	Aug 1 – May 31	Removed from list <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Option captures the longest time that steelhead are present in this section of Skeena River.</li> <li>Portion of this reach of Skeena River is closed to angling upstream of Cedarvale Jan 1-May 31 which complicates this option.</li> </ul>
c) NEW	Sept 1 – Dec 31	Remove from list <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Added this element to harmonize with Central group</li> <li>Mostly steelhead anglers; few or none</li> </ul>
d) Steelhead Stamp mandatory and extension of period	All year	Remove from list <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Modified to: July 1 to Dec 31</li> </ul>
<b>e) Added</b>	<b>July 1 – Dec 31</b>	<b>Keep on list</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dec 31 suggested as not many people fishing after this date</li> <li>It is consistent with other rivers and the closure upstream Cedarvale (see 3b).</li> </ul>
4. a) Guide restrictions:	No guiding zone from Kitselas Canyon downstream to Skeena IV lower boundary (1.5km upstream from the Zymoetz River confluence)	Removed from list <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggested alternative to make a resident only zone from Kitselas Canyon downstream to Skeena IV lower boundary</li> <li>Does not follow QWS because non-guided non-residents can still fish (hierarchy of exclusion)</li> </ul>

<b>Skeena IV (Below Kit Bridge) Management Elements (agreed to at May meeting)</b>	<b>Management Element Details</b>	<b>Comments and conclusions from this meeting</b>
b) Guide restrictions:	No Guiding (entire section)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Removed from list for same reason</li> <li>Very restrictive to guide industry</li> </ul>
c) Guide restrictions:	Open to Guides if reclassify	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Removed from list because not reclassifying</li> </ul>
d) Guide only for non-residents		<p>Removed from list</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not necessary given current level of use.</li> <li>Not great enough negative impact on angling quality to warrant this management action</li> </ul>
<b>5.a) Guide regulations:</b>	<b>Increase RD for the x guides by x RD (due to #2 above)</b>	<p><b>Keep on list as a concept</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>X guides and X rod days each</li> <li>Phase II Consultation Report: no groups supported this element</li> <li>MOE: implementable</li> <li>Should be increased;</li> <li>Number should be as decided before</li> </ul> <p>Why important:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Underutilized rod days. Current guides not using all allocated days now.</li> <li>By increasing Skeena IV opportunity it was suggested that it could alleviate guide crowding around Terrace, especially in Skeena III (unclassified section)</li> <li>QWS says guides should have more opportunity because non-guided residents are not restricted</li> <li>QWS 2005 refers to fine print around exclusion.</li> <li>Focus on solutions for hot spots.</li> <li>Extension of Classified Waters period.</li> </ul>
b) <b>Guide regulations:</b>	Increase Existing Skeena IV guides allocation by 30 new rod days	<p>Removed from list and go with 5 (a)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WG should not do the Ministry's job; Task of WG to recommend increase or decrease in "x" days and then allow Ministry to allocate rod days according to process described in BC Reg 125/90</li> <li>BC Reg 125/90 directs new rod days to be allocated by sealed tender process: a) written proposal, b) sealed bid, or c) both.</li> <li>WG should identify total rod days and the recommended number of existing and/or new guides</li> </ul>

<b>Skeena IV (Below Kit Bridge) Management Elements (agreed to at May meeting)</b>	<b>Management Element Details</b>	<b>Comments and conclusions from this meeting</b>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Let ESD Regional Manager of MOE identify allocation of those days</li> </ul>
6.a) Resident only times	Immediate implementation of resident only designation full time for entire section of Skeena IV	<p>Removed from list: (a) to (d)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Don't want to restrict too many rivers</li> <li>Tourism will take a hit</li> <li>Sends a bad message</li> <li>Prefer spatial to temporal resident only proposals</li> </ul>
b) Resident only times	Resident only on Saturday	
c) Resident only times	Resident only on Sundays	
d) Resident only times	Resident only all weekend	
<b>e) Two New Resident Only Zones</b>	<p><b>Zone 2: Usk Ferry Crossing downstream to Skeena IV lower boundary (1.5 km upstream from Zymoetz confluence)</b></p> <p><b>Zone 1: Flint Creek confluence upstream to Shandilla Creek confluence.</b></p>	<p><b>Keep on list</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Added as new suggestion to help create more resident priority.</li> <li>At June 27<sup>th</sup> meeting, this element was further refined (<i>see below under "Consequence Table Discussion"</i>)</li> </ul>
<b>7. Limited Day Licence for non-guided non-residents</b>	<b>Trigger for when more than 1000 angling days 2 out of 3 years</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Leave for long term "park it out back"</b></li> <li><b>Important to reduce crowding</b></li> </ul>
8. Licence Fee change	To be reviewed but directed at NGNR anglers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional level discussion</li> </ul>
9. Boundary Change for Skeena IV lower boundary	Move lower boundary upstream to lower margin of Kitselas Canyon and add that section to unclassified section known as Skeena III	<p>Remove from list.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guides view as negative impact as their opportunity would be reduced</li> </ul>

### ***Skeena IV Final List of Management Elements***

1. Status quo
2. Classified water extension: July 1 – Dec 31
3. Steelhead stamp extension: July 1 – Dec 31
4. Guide Regulations: "x" new guide opportunities with x new RD each
5. Resident-only involving two zones: Zone 1: from Usk Ferry to Skeena IV lower boundary; Zone 2: Flint Creek to Shandala Creek
6. Limited-day licence (target non-guided NRA and NRCs).  
Long term strategy: trigger of 1000 angler-days two out of three years.

### Skeena IV Consequence Table

[did not finish completing table at meeting]

Management Objective (shortened)	Eval Criteria (1 is worst; 5 is best)	ME 1 Status Quo	ME 2 SS extend: Jul 1- Dec 31	ME 3 CW period extend Jul 1 – Dec 31	ME 4 Guided RD Quota	ME 5 RA Zoning (5 zones)	ME 6 Ltd day license with trigger Long Term	ME 7A RA Only @ Kitwanga NRC/NRA 3 days No G all week	ME 7B RA Only @ Kitwanga RA only w/e No G NRC/NRA	ME 8 RA Only Chindema sh to lower bdry		
1 Angling quality	very poor- 1/ poor-2/ moderate- 3/ good-4 /excellent- 5	4	4	4								
2 Resident angling opps	low-1/ med-low- 2/ medium-3/ med-high- 4/ high-5	5	5	5								
3 Non-guided, non-resident opps	low-1/ med-low- 2/ medium-3/ med-high- 4/ high-5	5	5	5								
4 Opps for guided anglers	low-1/ med-low- 2/ medium-3/ med-high- 4/ high-5	2	2	2								
5 MOE costs	very high- 1/ high-2/ moderate- 3/ low-4/ very low-5	4	4	4								
6 Regulatory complexity	very high- 1/ high-2/ moderate- 3/ low-4/ very low-5	4	4	4								

## ***Skeena IV Consequence Table Discussion***

Below are the discussion points on the ratings provided on June 27<sup>th</sup>.

### *ME #1: Status Quo*

- Obj 4: opportunities exist for guided anglers – rating of ‘2’ because 414 days is low

### *ME #2: Extend Classified Waters period: Jul 1 – Dec 31*

- Obj 1: Adding Nov/Dec with low use means little or no change in the quality of the experience.
- Obj 4: Guided opportunity stays the same as there is little demand for guiding in Nov/Dec.

### *ME #3: Extend Steelhead Stamp: Jul 1-Dec 31*

- All ratings are the same as status quo.

### *ME #4: Guided Rod Day Quota*

- This element was not rated as consensus could not be reached on a suitable rod day quota (see Sunday discussion on rod day quotas)

### *ME #5: RA Zoning*

- This management element was changed from the version in June 13/14 to 5 zones during June 27 discussions. This management element was further refined and crossed off the list to become ME # 7A and 7B below.
- What: 5 Resident Angler-only zones were proposed with some allowance for non resident angling.
- Where: These would be at identified “hot spots” on Skeena IV; easy to find. Hot spots were defined as areas of localized crowding.
  - Zone 1: Mouth of Kitwanga River: zone bounded by Shandilla Creek downstream to Boulder Creek or Sedan Creek confluence.
  - Zone 2: Cedarvale Area: zone bounded by 1 km up and 1 km down from community of Cedarvale
  - Zone 3: Homestead Run: zone bounded by 1 km upstream and 1 km downstream from Fiddler Creek confluence
  - Zone 4: Skeena West Bridge Crossing: zone bounded by 200m downstream of bridge to 1 km upstream of bridge.
  - Zone 5: Kitselas Bar: zone bounded by Chindemash Creek confluence downstream to Skeena IV downstream boundary (1.5 km upstream from Zymoetz R confluence).
- Optional package (Resident Only Weekends; 2 days/week):
  - Resident-only weekends for these zones to reduce complexity
  - Particularly for Zone 1 (Shandilla Creek to Coyote Creek) and Zone 5 (Sand Creek to existing boundary).
- Optional package (Resident Only 4 days/week + Unrestricted NGNR access 3 days/week):
  - Open to non-guided non-residents for 3 days/week
  - Resident anglers get 4 days/week
  - More restrictive for NGNRs
  - No guiding

- Why this element is important:
  - To reduce crowding at localized areas.
  - Desire to maintain some access for NRC/NRAs completely. Don't want to shut down NRC/NRAs. Want to maintain some access for non residents, even though there is not that much non resident effort overall. Thus possibly open to them 3 days/week.
  - Need to have some opportunity for NRs as it must recognize weekend restrictions proposed for other rivers.
  - Not much guiding here; mostly in boats.
  - Could potentially (indirectly) address camping issues at Kitwanga mouth by non-residents.
  - Skeena is a river that can support less restrictions to non-residents
- Desire raised by WG to keep this management element simple.
- Opportunity/necessity to harmonize regulations with Central Working Group:
  - CWG has proposed resident only zones:
    - Kitwanga Bridge upstream to Salmon River confluence: Resident only weekend with guiding allowed
    - Minority report: Resident only Saturday in 2 zones: Shegunia River confluence downstream to 4 Mile Bridge crossing; and Bulkley River confluence downstream to Kitwanga Bridge crossing.
- Considerations:
  - Could do the same as Central group from Coyote Creek to Salmon River.
  - Concern about long term camping by non-residents at Kitwanga River.
  - Weekend closure assists non-residents with access during rest of week.
- Group Option
  - Mirror Central Working Group
  - What: Resident only weekend with guiding
  - Where: Coyote Creek (83 km) to Salmon River (32 km)
- Considerations:
  - Pro:
    - Desire to address long term camping at mouth of Kitwanga.
    - Skeena IV still has lots of access points.
  - Cons:
    - Challenge for MOE in maintaining some rivers where non-residents can fish on weekends (still leaves 45 km)
    - Intrusive measures: potential for outcry from hotels/businesses.
    - Other rivers may be more appropriate for resident-only weekends; potentially bigger gains to be found elsewhere.
- As a result of these discussions, only 2 of 5 original Resident Only Zones were proposed—for Resident only designation:
  - Zone 1: Mouth of Kitwanga: Bounded from Shandilla Creek confluence downstream to Boulder Creek/Sedan Creek confluence. This evolved into ME #7 and variants.
  - Zone 2: Kitselas Bar: Bounded from Chindemash Creek confluence downstream to existing lower boundary of Skeena IV. This evolved into ME #8 and variants.
  - See discussion of ME #7 and ME #8

*ME #6: Limited day license for NGNR with trigger – Long Term*

*ME #7A: Resident Only Zone @ Kitwanga, [Non-Guided Non-Residents 3 days per week, & No Guiding all week]*

Consensus to address Kitwanga River mouth issues: camping at mouth of river. Restrict NGNRs to 3 days/week.

- Potential to leave rest of Skeena IV open for NGNRs and encourage anglers to look elsewhere for lesser crowding.
- Zone bounded by Shandilla Creek downstream to Boulder/Sedan Creek confluence. Issue for MOE as the upper boundary is in CWG area.
- When: resident -only zone during the CW period (4 days/week)
- Who: Restricts guides and non-guided non-residents
- The rest of the reach stays status quo until a target is met
- Why: Believed it may address long term campers.
- Options:
  - 7A. Resident only at Kitwanga Mouth (4 days/week). Non-residents have 3 days. No guides all week
    - This allows for more resident priority.
  - 7B. Resident only weekend at Kitwanga Mouth (2 days/week). Resident only during weekend days. No guides during weekends. NGNRs have unrestricted access 5 days/week.
    - Open to all users during weekdays. (see ME #7B below).
- Summary: Original ME #5 changed to 5 zones and then changed to this new set of ME #7A and 7B.

*ME #7B: Resident only Zone @ Kitwanga, resident only weekend & No guided non-residents*

- Resident only weekend at Kitwanga (Shandilla Creek to Boulder/Sedan Creek).
- Resident only during weekend generally (no guiding of NR).
- No guides during weekends.
- Non-residents 5 days/week unrestricted access
- Open to all users during weekdays.

*ME #8: Resident only Zone Chindemash Creek downstream to existing lower boundary*

- Retains resident angler priority (4 days/week).
- Non-residents get 3 days/week unrestricted access
- No guiding all week.
- What: Resident only weekends. Resident only zone.

Implementation:

- Suggestion to put other 3 zones on a trigger.
- 2000 angler days for new Classified Waters period (for NRC/NRA).
- Trigger number to revert to resident only zone (for whole Classified Waters period).

Considerations:

- Which areas to keep open to non-residents in light of weekend resident only closure on other rivers.

- A place to make concession for non residents.
- Currently quality angling experience scores a '4' and this is pretty good.
- Phase 1 trigger was 1000 days.

*Optional ME #9: Resident only zone: Chindemash Creek downstream to existing lower boundary for Classified Waters period.*

- Restricts guides and non-residents
- MOE review non-resident effort over time for Skeena IV down to Chindemash Creek and implement a trigger of 1000-2000 (or say 1500) days to consider and implement an 8 day license and lottery.
- Concern:
  - If this is the concession to NRC/NRA, then make the trigger higher than the range above.

### ***Skeena IV Recommended Management Alternative***

- ME # 2 – Extend Classified Waters period: July 1 – Dec 31
- ME # 3 – Extend mandatory steelhead stamp: July 1 – Dec 31
- ME #4: Rod Day Quota (decided by WG on Sunday June 28).
  - Increase rod day quota by 586 days - but these new days can only be fished in a new guide zone
  - New Guide Zone bounded by Flint Creek confluence downstream to Chindemash Creek confluence.
    - Works out to an additional 7 angler days per day.
    - These new opportunities would be restricted to a maximum of 50 days per guide (avoids monopoly).
    - Additional restriction is that these guides would be restricted to 1 group/day.
    - Deduct these new 586 days from the existing unallocated Skeena II rod day quota as this is suggested to eliminate unused potential rod days on an already oversubscribed section of the Skeena River. Challenge to implement this for MOE is recognized.
  - Maintain 414 status quo rod day in rest of Skeena IV for the existing Skeena IV guides
  - Existing Skeena IV guides will operate as normal.
- ME #7A: Resident Only Zone 1: (Mouth of Kitwanga River): Bounded by Shandilla Creek confluence downstream to Boulder/Sedan Creek confluence. Non-residents (NGNR) get 3 days unrestricted access per week. No guiding allowed in this zone.
- ME #8: Resident Only Zone 2: (Kitselas Bar): Bounded by Chindemash Creek confluence downstream to existing downstream boundary (1.5 km upstream of Zymoetz River confluence. Non-residents (NGNR) get 3 days unrestricted access per week. No guiding allowed.
- Red Flag: MOE review of non-resident effort over time for this zone(s) and when “x” days are reached (1000-2000 non-resident angler days (for example, 1500) request MOE to return the use to Resident Angler Only. When those “x” days are reached a trigger would be launched for an 8 day license and reservation system.



## 4.4 Kitsumkalum

### Review and Revision of Management Elements

Skeena IV (Below Kit Bridge) Management Elements (agreed to at May meeting)	Management Element Details	Comments and conclusions from this meeting
1. Status Quo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kitsumkalum River (and its tributary streams) is a Class II Classified Water year round.</li> <li>A Steelhead Stamp is required between December 1 and May 31.</li> <li>The river is subject to a prohibition on the use of bait between January 1 and March 15.</li> <li>The licensed guiding activity is currently restricted to 11 angling guides who are allocated 959 rod-days. Schedule A of BC Regulation 125/90 establishes a maximum of 13 guides and 959 rod-days between March 16 and October 15. There is no guiding between October 16 and March 15. G restricted for ½ year.</li> </ul>	
2. Extend Mandatory Steelhead Stamp:	<p>Aug 1 – May 31 → But this was <b>changed at meeting to Aug 7 – May 31</b></p>	<p><b>Keep on list</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extend time when Steelhead stamp required.</li> <li>Phase II Consultation Report: supportable</li> <li>MOE: doable</li> </ul> <p>Why important?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reflects time when steelhead in river.</li> <li>Same as other waters; some Chinook salmon anglers may be affected,.</li> <li>Chinook anglers may be upset about having to purchase a steelhead stamp.</li> <li>Chinook retention fishery closes on Aug 6, so it was proposed to begin on Aug 7</li> </ul>
3. a) Resident-Only Day	On Sundays	<p>Remove from list</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When: Classified Waters period.</li> <li>Where: Entire river</li> <li>Who: Restricts both NRC/NRA and guides.</li> <li>Phase II Consultation Report: mixed support</li> <li>MOE: doable</li> <li>Concern that this would push effort to other waters</li> <li>Sunday better day for rest</li> <li>Alternate between Saturday and Sunday was proposed –but rejected as too complex</li> <li>Sunday is OK on appropriate rivers</li> <li></li> </ul>
3 b) Resident Only Time Period (Restrict NGNRs and no guiding)	Initial proposal November 15 – March 15	<p><b>Keep on list</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggestion comes from Phase II</li> </ul>

<b>Skeena IV (Below Kit Bridge) Management Elements (agreed to at May meeting)</b>	<b>Management Element Details</b>	<b>Comments and conclusions from this meeting</b>
allowed)	- but it was subsequently changed: <b>October 15 – Mar 15</b>	<p>Consultation Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ MOE: implementable but increases costs and complexity.</li> <li>▪ Group moved start date to Oct 15</li> <li>▪ Harmonize date with no guiding season; hence desire for Oct 15-March 15 period</li> <li>▪ Who: restricts guides and non-residents (NGNRs)</li> <li>▪ Conflicts with need to make up guided rod days if resident only.</li> <li>▪ Restricts non-residents</li> <li>▪ Harmonizes with Phase II Consultation Report.</li> </ul>
<b>4. a) Guide Restrictions</b>	<b>Restrict the number of groups per guide: 1 group/guide/day in upper and 1 group/guide/day in lower on any day</b>	<p><b>Keep on list</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ What 1 group per guide per day in upper and lower river.</li> <li>▪ Upper and lower needs defining? Boundary is the lower canyon which is not navigable by boat. The canyon is located approximately 13.3 km upstream from the Skeena confluence and it is approximately 4.2 km in length.</li> <li>▪ Distributes guided effort.</li> </ul>
b) Guide Restrictions	Maximum 4 guided anglers per group/day	This option was removed
c) Guide Restrictions	Maximum 3 guided anglers per group/day	Keep on list Consistent with other rivers
d) Guide Restrictions	Maximum 2 groups per day per guide license	Remove as now addressed through 4(a) and (c)
e) Guide Restrictions (Seasonal):	No guiding on Sundays	Dealt with under resident-only management element
f) Guide Restrictions	Open to guiding all year	Remove from list ▪ Other options are better supported in CR
<b>5. Resident Only Time and Zone:</b>	<b>Zone bounded by Glacier Creek confluence upstream to Outlet of Kitsumkalum Lake (approximately 11 km section) on Saturdays (No Guiding and no NGNRs)</b>	<p><b>Keep on list</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ What: Resident only Zone</li> <li>▪ Who: restricts guides and non-residents</li> <li>▪ When: Saturdays</li> <li>▪ Where: Glacier Creek to Kalum Lake</li> <li>▪ Why: Resident angler priority</li> </ul>
<b>6. Guide Regulations</b>	<b>Reduce number of guides from 13 to 11 (See BC Reg. 125/90 Schedule A for Kitsumkalum River)</b>	<p><b>Keep on list</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Who: Guides</li> <li>▪ When: Classified Waters period</li> </ul>

<b>Skeena IV (Below Kit Bridge) Management Elements (agreed to at May meeting)</b>	<b>Management Element Details</b>	<b>Comments and conclusions from this meeting</b>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where: river</li> <li>Why: maintain current guided effort</li> </ul> <p>If 11 guides are maintained and if ME 4a and 4c are enacted then maximum number of guided groups per day is 22 and maximum guided anglers per day is 66. These would be higher if there were 13 guide licenses available.</p>
7. a) Guided Only for non-residents	For the entire river.	<p>Remove from list</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not a lot of non-guided non-residents effort during the Steelhead season</li> <li>Was done as a preventative measure for future possible problems if non-resident effort increases</li> <li>Complicated by fact that the river has a no guiding period during the winter months.</li> <li>Very intrusive management action.</li> </ul>
b) Guided Only Zone for non-residents	Zone delineated as waters upstream of the lower canyon	<p>Remove from list</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Canyon closed during Steelhead season.</li> <li>Seen as to intrusive.</li> </ul>

### ***Kalum Final List of Management Elements***

1. Status Quo
2. Mandatory Steelhead Stamp Aug 7 – May 31
3. Resident-only:  
Sundays  
Oct 15 – Mar 15
4. Guide restrictions: max. 3 clients per group; 1 group per guide per day in upper and lower.
5. Resident-only time and zone: Glacier Creek to Kitsumkalum Lake on Saturday.
6. Guide regulations: reduce number of Guides in 125/90 to 11.

**Kitsumkalum Consequence Table**

Management Elements		ME 1	ME 2	ME 3A	ME 3B	ME 4	ME 5	ME 6	ME 7
Objective (shortened)	Eval Criteria (1 is worst; 5 is best)	Status Quo	SS extend: Aug 7-May 31	RA Only Sunday (river) CW period	RA Only Time: Oct 15 – Mar 15	Guide Restrictions: 3/guide/1 group/day upper and lower river	RA only time and zone on Sat	Guide Regs: Reduce # Guides	Extend G into Nov (no change in quota)
<b>1 Angling quality</b>	very poor-1/ poor-2/ moderate-3/ good-4 /excellent-5	<b>3-4</b>	<b>3-4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4-5</b>	<b>Not scored</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2 Resident angling opps</b>	low-1/ med-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>		<b>5</b>
<b>3 Non-guided, non-resident opps</b>	low-1/ med-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>		<b>5</b>
<b>4 Opps for guided anglers</b>	low-1/ med-2/ medium-3/ med-high-4/ high-5	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2-3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2-3</b>		<b>4</b>
<b>5 MOE costs</b>	very high-1/ high-2/ moderate-3/ low-4/ very low-5	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>3</b>
<b>6 Regulatory Complexity</b>	very high-1/ high-2/ moderate-3/ low-4/ very low-5	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>4</b>

## ***Kitsumkalum Consequence Table Discussion***

*ME # 3A – RA only Sunday (Classified Waters period – year round)*

- Obj 1: Higher score because it's the whole river and not just a zone – rating of '5'

*ME #6 – Guide Regulations: Reduce number of Guides in Schedule A of BC Reg 125/90*

- No difference from status quo because the 2 licenses aren't active (have not been allocated).
- Administrative detail to be addressed by MOE.

*ME #7 Extend the guiding allowed period from March 16-October 15 into November*

- Extend guiding into November; no change in quota.
- Given Sundays are taken away from Guides for the season, request that Guides be allowed to guide in November.
  - Main reason: Potential to reduce crowding.
  - There is a need for compromise to balance Resident anglers request for Resident Only Sunday against the guides request to extend the guiding allowed period to accommodate the loss of the Sunday guiding day.
- Nov 15- Mar 15 still a BC resident only season.
- Resident angler concerns about changing the status quo. Longstanding practice of exclusion of guides.
- Tough weather at that time of year (into November).
- Feeling that residents have achieved a lot through other management elements.
- Very few residents would be impacted by extension of guiding into November because of relatively low effort by residents at that time.
- Concern with current experience of “racing guys to holes” – having to deal with competition.
- Still have resident only for whole winter. Would like to see a concession to guides.

*Kalum Consequence Table*

- Obj 1: quality goes down because of addition of guides.
- Obj 5: relatively easy to change. Thus similar scores.
- Jim Culp wants his name listed as someone who does not support any change to the guide closure.
- Another perspective: Resident angler support for extension of guide period into November because of guide concessions elsewhere.
- Very few guides will use the November time. Possibly 2 people.

## ***Kitsumkalum Recommended Management Alternative***

*ME #2: Mandatory Steelhead Stamp: Aug 7 – May 31*

*ME #3A: Resident only time (Sunday) Year round for entire river.*

*ME #3B: Resident only time (no guiding period): Working Group decided on “winter season”*

- Three options were proposed and Minority Report resulted as no consensus was reached:
- Option A: Oct 15 – Mar 15 (status quo): supported by some resident anglers
- Option B: Nov 15 – Mar 15 (assuming Sundays are Resident Only): supported by guides.

- Option C: Nov 1 – Apr 1 -- compromise option.
  - The options have implications for the guide season suggested in ME #7 (extending guiding into Nov)
  - Options for dates: this is an optics issue; travelling non-residents are primarily here in Sept/Oct.

ME #4: Guide restriction: One group per guide in the upper river and one group per guide in the lower river per day; Maximum 3 anglers per group

ME # 5: Resident Only Time and Zone: Resident only on Saturday in a zone bounded by Glacier Creek confluence upstream to the outlet of Kitsumkalum Lake).

ME #6: Reduce the number of guides in Schedule A of BC Reg. 125/90 from 13 to 11.

- Distribution of Guide Effort: Cannot use more than 40% of allocated rod days during any one of these periods: [this was suggested and generally agreed to by the group]
  - Mar 15- May 24
  - May 24 – Aug 7
  - Aug 7 – Oct 15 [ nb: Suggestion that this period may have to change if the guiding allowed period is extended.]

## **4.5 Rod Day Discussion, Sunday June 28,**

### **Zymoetz I**

100 rod days, increase of 42

Pro:

- Allows for growth and adjustments
- Recognizes present shoulder guiding
- Past three seasons 10 permit days per guide from Regional Manager
- No adverse issues around this; no negative feedback.

Cons

- Status quo on number of guides
- No limitation on when used
- Not accepted in Consultation Report by all groups.

### **Zymoetz II**

- As per discussion above under ME #5: Rod Day Quota (see page 13).
- 600 (some support)
  - Pro: still less than non-residents use during Sept/Oct
  - Pro: fewer anglers if it was Guide Only; or significant reduction through a lottery.
  - Concerns: limited amount of fishable water on this river. Decreases angling experience quality.
- 400-450
- 356 (average use 2006-2008) (more support)

Pros:

- No one is taking away anything from guides from the former stakeholder shoulder period.

➤ They keep existing days

Concerns: Losing potential to grow a guiding business on the river.

267

Overall:

- Pro: Consolidates present number of guides in future.
- Con: “Stacking” that took place in 2008

### ***Skeena IV***

- Guiding zone – new rod days
- Chindemash Creek – Flint Creek: 7 rod days/day = 586 during Classified Waters season.
- Maintain 414 status quo rod days in rest of Skeena IV
- Doable by government? Problem with transfer. Better to take from those in regulations for Skeena IV
- Recommendation to government to reduce Skeena II.
- No more than 50 rod days/guide, so no monopoly.
- Open to all guides; maximum 12 guides.

# **Final Meeting Notes**

## **Smithers AMP Meeting 2009 Terrace (West) Working Group Notes**

*Saturday, May 30 - Sunday, May 31, 2009*



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>PROCESS OVERVIEW.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>AGREED UPON RULES OF CONDUCT FOR WG PROCESS .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>OBJECTIVES AND EVALUATION CRITERIA .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>GENERAL FEEDBACK.....</b>	<b>5</b>
5.1	PHASE II CONSULTATION REPORT GENERAL FEEDBACK .....	5
5.2	WORKING GROUP DISCUSSION .....	5
5.3	REASONS FOR STRAYING FROM THE PHASE II CONSULTATION REPORT .....	6
<b>6</b>	<b>ZYMOETZ I.....</b>	<b>7</b>
6.1	PHASE II CONSULTATION REPORT FEEDBACK .....	7
6.2	NEW SUGGESTIONS FROM THE PHASE II CONSULTATION REPORT.....	8
6.3	WORKING GROUP DISCUSSION OF FEEDBACK .....	8
6.4	LIST OF NEW DRAFT MANAGEMENT ELEMENTS.....	11
<b>7</b>	<b>ZYMOETZ II .....</b>	<b>12</b>
7.1	PHASE II CONSULTATION REPORT FEEDBACK .....	12
7.2	NEW SUGGESTIONS FROM THE PHASE II CONSULTATION REPORT.....	13
7.3	WORKING GROUP DISCUSSION OF FEEDBACK .....	13
7.4	LIST OF NEW DRAFT MANAGEMENT ELEMENTS.....	15
<b>8</b>	<b>LAKELSE RIVER.....</b>	<b>16</b>
8.1	PHASE II CONSULTATION REPORT FEEDBACK .....	16
8.2	NEW SUGGESTIONS FROM THE PHASE II CONSULTATION REPORT.....	16
8.3	WORKING GROUP DISCUSSION OF FEEDBACK .....	17
8.4	LIST OF NEW DRAFT MANAGEMENT ELEMENTS.....	18
<b>9</b>	<b>KITSUMKALUM .....</b>	<b>19</b>
9.1	PHASE II CONSULTATION REPORT FEEDBACK .....	19
9.2	NEW SUGGESTIONS FROM THE PHASE II CONSULTATION REPORT.....	19
9.3	WORKING GROUP DISCUSSION OF FEEDBACK .....	20
9.4	LIST OF NEW DRAFT MANAGEMENT ELEMENTS .....	20
<b>10</b>	<b>SKEENA IV DOWNSTREAM FROM KITWANGA BRIDGE.....</b>	<b>21</b>
10.1	PHASE II CONSULTATION REPORT FEEDBACK .....	21
10.2	NEW SUGGESTIONS FROM THE PHASE II CONSULTATION REPORT .....	21
10.3	WORKING GROUP DISCUSSION OF FEEDBACK .....	22
10.4	LIST OF NEW DRAFT MANAGEMENT ELEMENTS .....	23
10.5	NON REGULATORY TOOLS.....	24
<b>11</b>	<b>END OF MEETING DISCUSSION .....</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>NEXT STEPS JUNE 13, 14 2008 .....</b>	<b>24</b>

# West Working Group AMP Process, May 30, 31, 2009

## Working Group members in attendance

- **Resident anglers:** Jason Ouellet, Chris Culp s.22 , Jim Culp, Rob Brown, Brian Kean
- **Guides:** Dan Daigle, Andrew Rushton, Dustin Kovacovich
- **Guide Alternate:** Randy Dozzi
- **Tourism:** s.22
- **Business:** Glenn Kelly
- **MOE:** Dana Atagi, MOE Coordinator

## Guests:

- Andrew Wilson, Manager, Fish and Wildlife, MOE, Victoria
- Tom Bell, Regional Manager, Skeena Region, MOE, Skeena Region

**Facilitator:** Sandra Bicego, Alan Dolan & Associates

## 1 INTRODUCTION

This document outlines a summary of the discussions of the West Working Group AMP meeting held in Smithers on May 30 and 31, 2009. Notes are presented in list form and not in priority order, nor necessarily in the order of the meeting agenda. The purpose of the draft notes is to provide a summary record of the discussions and serve as input to the development of the Angling Management Plan.

## 2 PROCESS OVERVIEW

The West Working Group discussion process involved:

- Reviewing and agreeing to rules of conduct;
- Review and confirmation of the process objectives and evaluation criteria to be used in making decisions;
- Review and discussion of the general and river-specific feedback from the Phase II Consultation Report;
- Review and discussion of the Working Group's original recommended alternatives for each river in the draft AMP; and,
- Creation of a new list of suggested management elements which will be comprehensively deliberated upon at meeting #2 in June.

During the discussion sessions, the West Working Group produced a draft list of new management elements. See sections 6.4, 7.4, 8.4, 9.4, and 10.4. These lists are in no way a final nor agreed upon list. These are brainstormed lists, or considerations, based on the consultation report feedback, new

membership perspectives and application of the tool box. The Working Group agreed that these river-specific lists of draft management elements are to be systematically reviewed, discussed, clarified, and confirmed at the next West Working Group meeting on June 13, 14, 2009 before the WG will commence with the process of evaluating the lists with the Consequence Table. The facilitator suggested that the Working Group systematically review the draft list of management elements using the following framework:

- Issue: what is the issue/concern being addressed?
- Who: which user is being targeted?
- What: what is the proposed management element?
- Where: where would the element apply?
- When: for what period would the element apply?

### **3 AGREED UPON RULES OF CONDUCT FOR WG PROCESS**

See Alan's Approach document.

### **4 OBJECTIVES AND EVALUATION CRITERIA**

See Alan's Approach document.

## 5 GENERAL FEEDBACK

### 5.1 Phase II Consultation Report General Feedback

Draft AMP Mgmt Alt	River-specific Mgmt Alts	Local Business	NRA	NRC	Guides	RA
1. Limited-day licence lottery for NG, NRA	- ZII  Trigger system for: - Lakelse	☹	☹	☹	☹/☺ (some rivers but not Lakelse)	☺☺ (ZII, Lakelse)
2. Limited-day licence only for non guided, NRA		☺	☺	☺	☺	☺
3. Resident-only spatial zones	Kitsumkalum – Glacier Creek to Kitsumkalum Lake for Saturdays	☹/☺	☹	☹	☹/☺	☺☺
4. Resident-only times or days	Z II – Sat and Sun Kitsumkalum – Sunday Lakelse – Mar 1-May 31	☹/☺ (exc Lakelse)	☹ (exc w/e day; ok)	☹ (exc w/e day; ok)	☹	☺☺
5. Mandatory Steelhead Stamp extension	Z I, Z II	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺
6. Classified Water period extension/designation change	Z I, Z II, Lakelse (all year)	☺	☹	☹	☹/☺	☺
7. Guide restrictions		☺	☺	☺	☹/☺	☺
8. Guide regulations	Increase to number of guided RD	☹	☹	☹	☺ (exp Sk IV)	☹
9. Ministry review of Guided rod-day allocations	None of our rivers	☹	☹	☹	☹	☺
10. Guided only for non-residents	Kitsumkalum  Z I	☹☹	☹☹	☹☹	☹/☺	☺☺

### 5.2 Working Group Discussion

#### Negative feedback

- It was noted that local business responses were quite negative.

- It was felt that businesses may have responded according to own business considerations rather than considering the wider community.
- A WG member read the business responses in the Phase II consultation report and felt that he was quite sure that the business responses are biased/skewed. Concern was that the respondents did not represent the business constituent.
- Another concern raised was that Guides are getting squeezed in this process and that the WG needs to be aware of this.

#### **Broader perspective for the WG deliberations**

- Concern was noted that at the beginning of this process, the focus was on improving angling quality and that since then the focus had broadened to include: economic interests, cultural and social interests; thus the WG now has to consider a wider perspective.

#### **Illegal guiding issues**

- Illegal guiding is taking place out of motels and B&Bs, particularly during the salmon fishing season where people stay for about a week. Motels are offering information and possibly more. This was considered illegal guiding and it has to be dealt with.

#### **Limited day license**

- The group was concerned that the feedback is biased and invalid

#### **Increase in Guide RD**

- The WG asked why local businesses responded with lack of support. It was discussed that the feedback results are a snapshot and one needs to take the results with a grain of salt.

#### **Guide Only**

- Again, the group was not sure why local business was against this option.

#### **Non Regulatory Suggestions**

- River Guardian Program
- Public education
- Improving access
- Illegal camping, and camping generally

#### **Lobbying Victoria**

- The WG will organize to lobby Victoria to discuss the need to direct angling license revenues/funds into the Skeena watershed rather than the general coffer.

### ***5.3 Reasons for Straying from the Phase II Consultation Report***

The WG discussed why it added and changed its Draft AMP Management Elements even despite support or lack of support from the consultation process. The following are the main reasons that were raised:






1. We read the report and these are our own ideas that resonated with us.
2. Our ideas stemmed from the feedback.
3. We felt we were rushed in 2008.
4. In particular, we felt we were rushed with Skeena IV, and needed to revisit it.
5. The draft is a draft; and we are trying to make it the best plan.
6. The process has been iterative and with each iteration, the plan is improving.
7. The toolbox was modified – what was in and out changed over time, affecting our choices for options.
8. Some members were not at the last meeting.
9. We have new members.
10. We do not believe or trust all of the feedback and question the level or lack of support in regards to some of the recommended management alternatives in the Draft AMP.
11. Now we have to consider a wider set of interests - business and tourism - and this adjusted our considerations.

## 6 ZYMOETZ I

### 6.1 Phase II Consultation Report Feedback

The following illustrates the feedback from the Phase II Public Consultation process on the West Working Group's draft list of management elements in the Draft AMP.

Draft AMP Mgmt Element	Specific Recommended Mgmt Alt	Local Business	NRA	NRC	Guides	RA
1. Mandatory Steelhead Stamp extension	33. From Aug 1- Dec 31	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
2. Classified Water period extension	34. Begin on Aug 1 to Dec 31	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
3. Guide restrictions	35, 3 guides one boat/G/day	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
	36. 3 G max 3 A/boat	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
4. Guided-only for non-residents	37. all NRA/NRC must be guided	😞	😞	😞	😊	😊
5. Guide regulations	38. increase RD by 10 to each of the 3 existing G to accommodate increase	😞	😞	😞	😞	😞

Draft AMP Mgmt Element	Specific Recommended Mgmt Alt	Local Business	NRA	NRC	Guides	RA
	demand due to NR Guiding in (37)					
<b>6. Trigger: resident restricted if carrying capacity exceeded over set period of time</b>	Mgmt Alt was not in response form					

## 6.2 New Suggestions from the Phase II Consultation Report

- Change boundary between Z I and Z II to downstream of the Clore River confluence and make Clore River part of Z I
- Consider resident only on Saturdays
- Monitor and regulate helicopter use.

## 6.3 Working Group Discussion of Feedback

The following sets out the brainstormed draft list of new management elements that the Working Group discussed. This is not a final nor agreed upon list, as already noted.

### Re: Change boundary between ZI and Z II to downstream of the Clore and make Clore part of ZI

- The group discussed the change to the boundary between the Z I and Z II as suggested in the public consultation report.
- The MOE Representative noted that this would be a difficult legal/administrative change.
- Moving the boundary would affect guides both in upper and lower river, operationally: main concern is that Z II guides would lose access to a very productive portion of the Z II tenure; i.e., Class II Guides would lose access to Clore River.
- It was noted that Clore River does have wilderness values that should be appreciated.
- There was some discussion about existing tenure holders requiring some compensation and again this was noted to be administratively difficult for MOE.
- General agreement that this option posed significant challenges and it would not be considered further.

### **Re: Considering Resident Only on Saturdays**

The group discussed this feature for ZI that was suggested in the consultation report; the group decided to leave it in as an option and to add in two other options: Resident Only: Sundays and Resident Only all weekend.

### **Re: Monitor and regulate helicopter use**

- Key issue is access to remote sections of the river.
- How to regulate? MOE cannot monitor nor regulate helicopters.
- The WG noted that having a Guide Only for NR management element would help address this issue (Management element #4 from Draft AMP, as noted in table above).
- The group discussed this action item and felt that more discussion is needed on this issue.

### **Re: Mandatory Steelhead Stamp → Change to All Year full river: Z I and Z II**

- WG members reached full consensus on making this change to their original draft Management Element; the reason was that they felt this change would simplify all the regulations.
- The downside was that this would infringe on salmon fishing in late June and July.
- MOE rep reminded the group that this process is to focus on the summer steelhead fishery and that this all year change may be problematic.
- Residents would likely be ok with this because buy their stamp in July or September, it would not matter.
- Are these negative aspects critical? It was felt that this change would affect about a dozen people.
- It was noted that this change would apply to ZII

### **Re: Classified Waters Extension → All Year, full river – Z I and Z II**

- It was noted that the original option for classified waters was from Aug 1 – Dec 31 and that it received full support (☺) from all interest groups in the Phase II Consultation Report. The WG stated that it would leave the original Management Element on the list as an option.
- However, the WG wanted to add a change to this management element for consideration in order to harmonize it with the Steelhead Stamp: To make it a full river classified water period.
- Concern was for negative impact to Guides because they would lose some guiding opportunities.
- This would also impact on salmon anglers in June and July (Zymoetz II)
- The Guide representative was not in favour of this suggestion, stating it was not a necessary addition because there is no Guide fishing in July.
- Key points raised in the deliberations included:
  - A resident angler representative stated that he would be in favour of this option because it follows the migration patterns of the steelhead. The fish are in the river in early July.
  - Several of the guide representatives on the WG stated that they would be in favour if: can accommodate Guides that are negatively impacted; about 5 businesses would be impacted.
  - In particular, several of the guide representatives stated that they would be in favour if increase RD for Guides in this option.
  - It was also noted that the WG needs to explore carrying capacity for a fair allocation of days and cannot look at history on its own.



- In the end the WG agreed not to agree on this suggested change and instead stated that this would be added to the list for consideration at the next meeting.

**Re: Classified Waters Extension → July – August (Unspecified end date)**

- A July – Aug extension was also suggested and deliberated.
- Guide reps stated they'd support this idea if there was an increase in rod days for guides. Other WG members seemed to possibly agree with this but there was no decision.
- A suggested allocation was provided: 211 RD on the river during the period; approx 3 anglers per day.
- MOE was asked to provide numbers on NG NR effort for the river in order to help identify what RD allocations may be [correct?] This query is not really relevant as we have no specific estimates for NGNR in July/August in Zymoetz I as it is unclassified and there is no CW license requirement. Therefore there are no effort estimates available.

**Re: Negative support from NRAs and Local Business Respondents for Guide-Only**

- One of the WG members noted that some NRAs like Guide only and some hate this option.
- Why was local business against this management element? Several WG members felt there was a misunderstanding by the public about this question, and particularly by the local business respondents. There were various venues for respondents to offer opinions (e.g. websites). It was felt that there was a fair amount of misinformation that may have biased local business perspectives. As one member noted, surely local businesses would be supportive of guiding non residents as NRAs would need such things as gear, food and supplies as well as accommodation services from the community.
- Overall, the WG wanted it noted that they had reservations about the apparent lack of support and opposition by NRAs and local business in the Phase II Consultation Report towards this management element.
- One solution for negative views by local businesses: education of local businesses to relate them more directly with angling management plans. Who could do this? Anglers and Chambers of Commerce.

**Re: Resident angler trigger (ME #6)**

- Most members of the group felt that the need to restrict the access of resident anglers to Zymoetz I would not be necessary but it could be addressed if the resident priority principle as described in the QWS Resource Document is adhered to. The WG stated that all members supported resident angler priority.
- The trigger feature was deleted as the group thought that a 'resident only' day(s) proposal (Saturday or Sunday or all weekend) would be a better alternative.
- The group questioned the local business and non-resident non-support feedback. It was felt that perhaps the local business did not understand the issue here and instead, should have been supportive. Some members of the group discounted the local business feedback.
- Resident priority was discussed and a 'first on last off' approach was seen an important, resident-only day options were viewed a viable alternative.

## 6.4 List of New Draft Management Elements

Management Element	Details
1 Status quo	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Class I Classified Water – September 1 – October 31</li> <li>2. Closed to angling January 1 – June 15</li> <li>3. Guided fishing occurs from early August to the end of November</li> <li>4. A maximum of 250 guided rod-days is available. A total of 58 rod-days are currently allocated</li> <li>5. There are three licensed guides, which is the number allowed under BC Regulation 125/90; one from Smithers; two from Terrace</li> <li>6. Bait ban is in place year-round</li> </ol>
2 a) Mandatory Steelhead Stamp extension	Aug 1 – Dec 31
b)	all year – full river (proposed for both Z I and Z II)
3 a) Classified Water extension:	Aug 1 – Dec 31
b)	All year – full river (proposed for both Z I and Z II)
4. a) Guide restrictions:	3 existing guides, 1 boat per guide/day
b)	3 existing guides, 3 anglers per boat
5. Guided-only for NRA	
6. Guide regulations:	increase RD for the 3 guides by 20 RD (due to #3 above)
7.a) Resident only days	resident only on Saturday
b)	resident only on Sundays
c)	resident only all weekend

### Non Regulatory Tools

- Defer to next meeting.

## 7 ZYMOETZ II

### 7.1 Phase II Consultation Report Feedback

The following illustrates the feedback from the Phase II Public Consultation process on the West Working Group's draft list of management elements in the Draft AMP.

Draft AMP Mgmt Element	Specific Recommended Mgmt Alt	Local Business	NRA	NRC	Guides	RA
<b>1. Limited-day licence lottery for NG, NRA</b>	47. implement ltd-day lic lottery immediately for NG, NRAs with target of 267 angler days spread evenly over the CW period	☹	☹	☹	😊	😊
<b>2. Mandatory Steelhead Stamp extension</b>	41. required	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
<b>3. a) Classified Water period extension</b>	40. extend Aug 1 – May 31. retain Cl II status	😊	☹/😊	😊	☹/😊	😊
<b>3 b)</b>	42 Include Clore River with Z II classified waters	😊	☹/😊	😊	😊	😊
<b>4. a) Guide restrictions</b>	44. Max 3 A/G per day	😊	😊	😊	😊	😊
<b>4. b) Zoning for guide effort</b>	45. distribute G effort evenly throughout season by changing the condition of G lic	😊	☹/😊	😊	☹	😊
<b>5. Guide regulations</b>	46. increase current G allocation from 5 G and 117 RD to 267 RD (incr 30 RD /G)	☹	☹	☹	😊	☹
<b>6. Resident-only times</b>	43. Weekends – during classified periods	☹/😊	☹	☹	☹	😊😊

## ***7.2 New Suggestions from the Phase II Consultation Report***

- Change boundary between ZI and Z II to downstream of the Clore and make Clore part of ZI
- Classified waters:
  - change to start on July 1
  - change to start on Aug 1 – Dec 31
- Mandatory SH stamp: Aug 1 – Dec 31
- Guide restrictions:
  - limit one boat per day
  - allow 2 groups of anglers per guide per day to a maximum of 3 anglers per guided group
- Zoning to address Non resident aliens (NRA):
  - open access downstream, 17km from lower canyon to SK IV confluence
  - restricted access upstream, 17km above lower canyon.
  - Via e-licensing
  - Allow up to 8 non guided anglers per day
- Resident only: on one weekend day.

## ***7.3 Working Group Discussion of Feedback***

The following sets out the brainstormed draft list of new management elements that the Working Group discussed. This is not a final nor agreed upon list, as already noted.

### **Re: Change boundary between ZI and Z II to downstream of the Clore and make Clore part of ZI**

See comments above under section 6.3

### **Re: Mandatory Steelhead Stamp → Change to All Year**

- WG members felt this would simplify all the regulations (only if it applies to both Zymoetz I and II)
- The downside was that this would infringe on salmon fishing in late June and July. Note that MOE concerned that this plan is focussed on steelhead fisheries.
- Residents may be ok with this because they will need to buy their stamp later in the salmon season anyway (i.e. in July, August or September), it would not matter.
- Are these negative aspects critical? It was felt that this change would affect about a dozen people.
- It was noted that this change would apply to Z I

### **Re: Zoning 17km Downstream and Upstream of Lower Canyon**

- Group found this zoning suggestion in the consultation report unclear but worth keeping on the list to be deliberated at the next meeting. Essentially the WG felt that they could discuss the issue of open access above some point and restricted access below a point on the river. The basis of this zoning would be seasonal and spatial.

## **RD Data**

- Information on RD from River Guardian data provides total angling effort from Aug 15 to Nov 20, 1999. The WG discussed that this info will be used at next meeting.

## **Re: Guide Only Options**

### *1. Guide Only for NRAs– Whole river*

- The WG discussed a guided-only option for the whole river during the classified waters period.
- It was pointed out by a working group member that this option could affect NRAs, and the accommodation and restaurant sectors. There would be business community impacts.
- Why was this an important option for consideration? It was seen by some WG members as the only way to limit uncontrolled NRA angling effort without using a lottery-type system or tool.

### *2. Guide Only Season*

- Another option proposed was to have a guide-only season: from Oct 15 to Nov 15. Are these dates correct?
  - Reason: to decrease pressure in peak times, and to offset the 30 lost weekend days, if the Resident Only weekend element is agreed to.
  - Who would this affect? Resident anglers because it increases access by Guides.

## **Re: NG NRA Daily Fee**

- The WG suggested that if lotteries cannot be used in the near future then a daily fee change should be considered for NG NRA. The issue is that G fees are significantly higher than NG NRA license fees. To enable a more equal system, and address increase in NRA effort in the Skeena region, the suggestion was to raise the CW license fees so that the NG NRA are equivalent to the fees paid by angling guides.

## **Re: Zoning for Guide Effort**

The WG discussed a condition of an angling guide license that would distribute Guide days through the season by using a % of days per unit of time (week or month). The main objective is to distribute guide effort throughout the season and move it away from the peak. It was mentioned that Resident Anglers would be supportive as this places a higher priority on resident anglers.

## **Re: Limited-Day Licence Lottery**

- It was recognized that this option may not be possible and thus it was left on the list but the next option was posed as an alternative.

## **If Lotteries are Not Possible: Seasonal No NRA Zone**

- The Phase II Consultation Report discussed opening and closing access at some point on the river. In particular, the suggestion was for:
  - Open Access Section, Skeena IV confluence upstream to a point located at 17 km from lower canyon

- Restricted Access Section, 17 km above lower canyon upstream to the Zymoetz II and Zymoetz I boundary (Limonite Creek confluence)
- The WG proposed another option: a Seasonal No Non Resident Angler Zone during some portion of the season along the river. The group did not discuss when this seasonal no go zone would take place nor where exactly or if it would encompass the whole Z II river section.

#### **7.4 List of New Draft Management Elements**

<b>Management elements</b>	<b>Details</b>
1. Status quo	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. This section of the Zymoetz River is a Class II Classified Water between September 1 and October 31. A Steelhead Stamp is required during these months.</li> <li>2. The river is subject to a year-round prohibition on the use of bait.</li> <li>3. The licensed guiding activity is currently restricted to five angling guides who are allocated 117 rod-days. Schedule A of BC Regulation 125/90 establishes a maximum of five guides and 200 rod-days.</li> <li>4. There is no fishing allowed between the signs demarcating the Lower Zymoetz Canyon.</li> <li>5. The river is closed to angling above the five-kilometre mark at the Lower Canyon from January 1 to June 15 to protect overwintering summer steelhead.</li> </ol>
2. Limited-day licence lottery for NG, NRA	Implement immediately for NG, NRAs with target of 267 angler days spread evenly over the CW period
3. a) Mandatory Steelhead Stamp extension	Aug 1 – May 31
b)	Aug 1 – Dec 31
c)	All year
4. a) Classified Water period extension	Aug 1 – May 31. and retain CI II status
b)	July 1 (end date not specified)
c)	August 1 – Dec 31
d)	All year
e) Boundary change	Include Clore River with Z I classified waters
5.	change to Class 1 all year
6. a) Guide restrictions	Max 3 anglers per guide per day
b) Boat restriction	Limit one boat per day per AG
c) Angler number restrictions	Allow 2 groups of anglers per guide per day to a maximum of 3 anglers per guided group
d) Zoning for guided effort	Distribute guided effort evenly throughout season by changing the condition of guide license
7. Angler number restrictions	Allow up to 8 non guided anglers per day
8. Guide regulations	Increase current G allocation from 5 G and 117 RD to 267 RD (incr 30 RD /G)
9. a) Resident-only times	Weekends – during classified periods
b)	One weekend day (Sat or Sun)

Management elements	Details
10. a) Zoning to address non-resident aliens (NRA)	open access downstream, 17km from lower canyon to SK IV confluence restricted access upstream, 17km above lower canyon. Via e-licensing
b) Seasonal No NR Zone	Seasonal no NR zone during some portion of the season
11. a) Guide only Designation: spatial	NRA must be guided in Zymoetz II
b) Guide only seasonal	Oct 15 – Nov 15 (NRA mandatory guided)
12. Non-guided NRA licence fee	Increase to be equivalent with current Guide fees.

### Non Regulatory Tools

River Guardian program

- The WG noted that this program would be important for monitoring on the river.

Camping

## 8 LAKELSE RIVER

### 8.1 Phase II Consultation Report Feedback

Draft AMP Mgmt Alt	Specific Recommended Mgmt Alt (ref to Draft AMP)	Local Business	NRA	NRC	Guides	RA
1. Classified Water period extension	57. Change to Class I classified water all year long	😊/😞	😞	😞	😊	😊
2. Mandatory Steelhead Stamp extension	58. Sept 1 – May 31 (ext from Dec 1 – May 31)	😊		😊	😊	😊
3. Resident-only times	59. Resi only Mar 1 – May 31 entire river; NR access Jun 1 – Feb 28	😊/😞	😞	😞	😊/😞	😊
4. Limited-day licence lottery for NG, NRA	Triggerd if NGNR exceed 100 AD 2 out of 3 yrs	😞	😞	😞	😞	😊

### 8.2 New Suggestions from the Phase II Consultation Report

- Mandatory steelhead stamp: Sept 1 – June 1

- Resident only zone:
  - all year
  - NR Guide Only
- Non-regulatory: no steelhead fishing from CNR Bridge upstream to outlet of Lakelse Lake: Jan 1 – May 31.

### ***8.3 Working Group Discussion of Feedback***

#### **Re: Suggestion for a Mandatory Steelhead Stamp: Sept 1 – June 1**

- The WG wanted to take this suggestion off the list, stating that this option did not differ substantively from the dates proposed in the Draft AMP (Sept 1-May 31). However, after some discussion, they decided to keep it on the list since it reflects a period of time when steelhead are present in the river.

#### **Re: New Suggestion for NR Guide Only**

- The WG agreed that the suggestion for a NR Guide Only zone would not be considered further. Rationale is that currently under BC Reg. 125/90, Lakelse River does not allow for any guiding. The objective was that this river should remain unguided.

#### **Re: Resident Only all Year**

- Several members of the WG stated that no one would mind having this river designated as Resident Only all year.
- However one of the WG members said that gear restrictions may be a better alternative. This was noted as outside the tool box. The MOE representative also noted that gear restrictions are difficult enact and to enforce. Any gear restrictions should be brought forward to the MOE Skeena Fisheries Advisory Committee (SFAC) regulations review process for consideration. .

#### **Re: Resident Only Zone: Power Line Crossing – Outlet of Lakelse Lake**

- It was suggested by a member that the river could be zoned as Resident Only from the power line crossing upstream to the outlet of Lakelse lake.
- This option would limit NR access to stretches of river that are highly used by resident anglers. It was noted by several members that this sends a negative message to the community about NRAs.
- Impact could be significant as NR mostly fish above the power line where there are a number of popular coho fishing sites.
- Impact to local business: it was felt that local businesses would not be greatly affected by this designation since it has mainly been a resident fishery to date.

#### **Re: Classified Water Extension (Draft Management Alternative 3(a))**

- Some members of the WG noted that a Class 1 is not necessary if a change to the boundary is to take place (or zoning). However, it was not discussed whether to take this off the list.



### Re: Lottery for NG NRA

- The WG agreed to leave this on the list and some felt this was the only way to address the issue of increasing use by NG NRA anglers. This was still viewed as a priority tool
- The group agreed to suggest this tool as one that should be explored in the future particularly in the zone below the powerlines.

### Re: No Steelhead Fishing

- The group discussed the option of a no steelhead fishing zone in the upper river to protect overwintering and spawning steelhead during the winter and spring months. MOE representative reminded WG that this is beyond the scope of the AMP process and any regulations proposals should be forwarded to the MOE SFAC process.

## 8.4 List of New Draft Management Elements

Management Elements	Details
1. Status quo	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The Lakelse is a Class II Classified Water all year long.</li><li>2. It is one of six non-guided rivers in the region.</li><li>3. A Steelhead Stamp is required between December 1 and May 31.</li><li>4. There is a fly-fishing only section downstream from the lake outlet to the CNR Bridge (nine kilometres upstream from its confluence with the Skeena River) from March 1 to May 31.</li><li>5. A bait ban is in place year round.</li><li>6. There is a powerboat restriction (no motorized boats) in place due to its small size and resulting safety hazard.</li><li>7. There is a cutthroat trout catch and release (non-retention) fishery from March 1 to April 30. The boundary for this fishery is from the lake outlet downstream to the CNR Bridge.</li><li>8. No coho fishing allowed above the CNR bridge crossing.</li></ol>
2. Classified Waters designation	Change to Class I classified water all year long
3. a) Mandatory Steelhead Stamp extension	Sept 1 – May 31 (ext from Dec 1 – May 31)
b)	Mandatory steelhead stamp: Sept 1 – June 1
4. a) Resident only times	Mar 1 – May 31 entire river; NR access allowed between Jun 1 – Feb 28
b) Resident-only times	All Year
c) Resident-only zone	From Power Line crossing upstream to outlet of Lakelse lake
5. Limited-day licence lottery for NG, NRA	Triggered if NGNR exceed 100 AD 2 out of 3 yrs

### Non Regulatory Tools

1. No Steelhead fishing from CNR bridge to Lakelse Lake: Jan 1 – May 31.
2. Camping – a MOF responsibility
3. ATV – MOF enforcement and access are two key issues.
4. Signage: educational role.

## 9 KITSUMKALUM

### 9.1 Phase II Consultation Report Feedback

Draft AMP Mgmt Alt	Specific Recommended Mgmt Alt	Local Business	NRA	NRC	Guides	RA
1. Resident-only times	On Sundays	☹️/😊	☹️	☹️	☹️	😊
2. a) Guide restrictions	50. limit G 1 boat in upper and 1 boat in lower on any day	😊	☹️	😊	☹️	😊
b)	51. 4 GA per boat	😊	😊	😊	☹️/😊	😊
c) Seasonal	52. no G on Sundays	😊	☹️/😊	☹️/😊	☹️	😊
d) Spatial	53. No G from Glacier Creek to Kitsumkalum Lake on Sat.	😊	☹️/😊	☹️/😊	☹️	😊
3. Guide regulations	54. Reduce number of G to 11 (reg allows 13)	😊	☹️/😊	😊	☹️	😊
4. Guided-only for non residents	MA # 49	☹️☹️	☹️☹️	☹️☹️	😊	😊

### 9.2 New Suggestions from the Phase II Consultation Report

1. Mandatory Steelhead Stamp: Aug 1 – June 1

2. Guide Restrictions:

- a) 2 groups per day per guide license
- b) 3 guided anglers per boat
- c) Open to guiding all year

3. Guided-only for NR

- a) above lower canyon

3. Resident Only:

- a) Sundays
- b) Nov 15 – Mar 15

### 9.3 Working Group Discussion of Feedback

The WG stated that the original list plus the suggestions from the consultation report should move forward for further deliberation at the next meeting.

### 9.4 List of new Draft Management Elements

Management Elements	Details
1. Status quo	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Kitsumkalum River (and its tributary streams) is a Class II Classified Water year round. A Steelhead Stamp is required between December 1 and May 31.</li><li>2. The river is subject to a prohibition on the use of bait between January 1 and March 15.</li><li>3. The licensed guiding activity is currently restricted to 11 angling guides who are allocated 959 rod-days. Schedule A of BC Regulation 125/90 establishes a maximum of 13 guides and 959 rod-days between March 16 and October 15. There is no guiding between October 16 and March 15.</li></ol>
2. Mandatory Steelhead Stamp	Aug 1 – June 1
3. a) Resident-only days	Sunday
b) Resident-only period	Nov 15 – Mar 15
4. a) Guide restrictions	limit G 1 boat in upper and 1 boat in lower on any day
b)	4 guided anglers per boat
c)	3 guided anglers per boat
d)	2 groups per day per guide license
e) Seasonal	No Guiding on Sundays
f)	open to guiding all year
g) Spatial	No Guiding from Glacier Creek to Kitsumkalum Lake on Sat.
5. Guide regulations	54. Reduce number of Guides in Schedule A to 11 (BC Reg. 125/90 allows 13)
6. a) Guided-only for NR	
b)	above lower canyon

#### Non Regulatory Tools

Access restrictions: power boats and boat launches

- The WG suggested that restricting the use of powerboats during certain periods would be a way to manage crowding, address safety issues; and increase the quality angling experience.
- The federal Department of Transport (DOT) is responsible for the management of boating on navigable waters in Canada. The WG noted that they would like to see more of a role in restricting powerboats by MOE. Perhaps a coordinated effort between MOE and DOT could be developed?
- MOE rep clarified that DOT restricts powerboats for the sole purpose of public safety.

Boat launch:

- it was noted that there is no public boat launch in the upper river and in the lower river, the boat launch needs upgrading.
- Responsibility for upgrading is uncertain and therefore was a concern to the WG. Thus the WG wanted to see a boat launch secured in the upper river and the upgrading of the lower river launch site.
- More discussion is needed.

River Guardian Program

- This was mentioned as a key program for the river.

Signage

- Educational signage is needed along the river

## 10 SKEENA IV DOWNSTREAM FROM KITWANGA BRIDGE

### 10.1 Phase II Consultation Report Feedback

Draft AMP Mgmt Alt	Specific Recommended Mgmt Alt	Local Business	NRA	NRC	Guides	RA
1. Classified Water period extension	Class 1 all year: fr Cl II July 31 – Oct 31	☺/☹	☹	☹	☹	☺
2. Mandatory Steelhead Stamp extension	Status quo to minimize impact to salmon anglers	☺/☹	☺/☹	☺/☹	☹	☺
3. Guide restrictions	If reclassify, then open to guides	☺/☹	☺/☹	☺/☹	☺/☹	☺/☹
4. a) Guide regulations	4 new G opportunities x 20 RD = 80 RD	☹	☹	☹	☺/☹	☹
b)	Existing Sk IV Guides get 30 additional RD x 5 Guides	☹	☹	☹	☹	☹
5. Limited-day licence only for non guided, NRA	Trigger: If NG NR effort exceeds 1000 AD two out of three years	☹	☹	☹	☺	☺

### 10.2 New Suggestions from the Phase II consultation Report

1. Mandatory Steelhead stamp: Aug 1 – June 1
2. Boundary Change: lower boundary move to lower Kitselas Canyon
3. Guide Restriction – Zoning
  - a. No Guiding from Kitselas Canyon to lower boundary of Skeena IV

### ***10.3 Working Group Discussion of Feedback***

#### **Mistakes and clarification**

Q raised from a WG member that the Draft AMP may have had some mistakes:

- Did we not agree to 30 additional RD to Terrace Guides?
- Kitselas Canyon to lower boundary on Sk IV: was it not agreed last year to be a No Guiding Zone?

#### **Local business responses**

- Concern was raised over negative responses from business; it is felt that their responses are not valid.

#### **Re: Localized Areas of Crowding on the Skeena IV**

- It was stated by a WG member that last year our group did not have the time to deal with “hot spots” on the Skeena IV and that this river plan had been rushed in time.
- One hot spot is at the mouth of the Kitwanga River.
  - Key issues include: crowding, camping and access via Gitanyow First Nations Reserve.
  - It was agreed that by regulating fishing some of the camping issues may be addressed
  - Crowding occurs during the Chinook salmon fishery and later in the season when steelhead are passing
- Fiddler Creek Lodge is on a hot spot area. Key issue here is illegal guiding.
  - What tools can address this? The WG felt that limited day license lotteries would address illegal guiding.
  - MOE Rep cautioned that it is inappropriate to single out a specific lodge when discussing the illegal guiding issue. These are just allegations at this time.

#### **Re: Mandatory Steelhead Stamp from Aug 1 to June 1**

- It was noted that there would be resistance from locals to this. This will infringe upon anglers fishing for salmon (coho and sockeye) in this reach of the river.

#### **Re: Guide regulations**

- In regards to the guide regulation management elements in the draft AMP, it was noted by a WG member that numbers (i.e. number of guide opportunities and rod day allocations) still need to be agreed to.

#### **Re: Guide only for NR**

- This option was also added to the list and targeted at existing Guides on the Skeena IV below the Kitwanga Bridge. An additional condition was: that guides be limited to 1 group per day.

#### **Re: No guiding**

- This option was added to the list; no discussion took place on this option.
- One suggestion was: No Guiding Zone: from Kitselas Canyon downstream to the lower boundary of Skeena IV (1.5 km upstream from the confluence of Zymoetz and Skeena rivers)

**Re: License Fees need to be reviewed**

- No discussion, this was added to the list for deliberation at the next meeting in June.

**Re: Resident-only**

This was added as a new element to the list. Two options were added to the list:

- Resident-only on weekends (Saturday/Sunday - both days)
- Resident-only full time

**10.4 List of new Draft Management Elements**

<b>Skeena IV (Below Kit Bridge) Management Elements</b>	<b>Management Element Details</b>
1. Status Quo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Schedule A of BC Regulation 125/90 establishes a maximum allocation of 1,000 angler-days and a maximum of 10 angling guides for all of Skeena IV Classified Water.</li> <li>▪ The current allocation is 414 angler-days distributed among nine guides spread out over 375 kilometres of river (from just upstream of the Zymoetz confluence to headwaters).</li> <li>▪ The period of classification is from July 1 to October 31 and a Steelhead Stamp is only required when angling for steelhead.</li> <li>▪ The Skeena River main stem (above Cedarvale) is closed to angling from January 1 to May 31 to protect overwintering and spawning steelhead</li> </ul>
2 a) Classified Water period extension:	Class 1 all year
b)	Aug 1 – May 31
c)	All year – full river - Z I and Z II
3. a) S. S mandatory	Status quo only when angling for SH: July 1 – Oct 31
b)	Aug 1 – May 31
c)	all year – full river (Z I and Z II)
4. a) Guide restrictions:	No Guiding from Kitselas Canyon – Sk IV lower boundary
b)	No Guiding
c)	Open to Guides if reclassify river to Class 1
d) Guide only for NR	Condition on license: 1 group/day
5.a) Guide regulations:	4 new G opportunities x 20 RD = 80 RD

<b>Skeena IV (Below Kit Bridge) Management Elements</b>	<b>Management Element Details</b>
b)	Existing Skeena IV G get 30 new RD x 5 Guides
6.a) Resident only Full time	Delete trigger; should be resident only designation full time
b) Resident only	on Saturday
c) Resident only	on Sundays
d) Resident only	all weekend
e) New Resident Only zone	Usk Ferry to Sk IV lower boundary Flint Creek to Shandala Creek.
7. Limited Day Licence for NG NR	Trigger: If NG NR effort exceeds 1000 AD two out of three years
8. Licence Fee change	To be reviewed
9. Boundary Change	Move lower boundary to lower Kitselas Canyon and classify as SK III

### ***10.5 Non Regulatory Tools***

- Signage needed
- FN traditional inland fishing sites – a concern because of potential closure to angling at specific sites to protect traditional harvesting opportunities.

## **11 END OF MEETING DISCUSSION**

- The WG reminded that it is not going to rush through its deliberations; one WG member noted: “our decisions are too important to rush.”
- Possible pre-meeting of the WG in regards to guiding on the Copper River.
- Possible initiative to harmonize resident-only designation at a Skeena-wide level: it seems that other Working Groups are agreeing to: weekend resident only; guides allowed – essentially a NG NRA free day.

## **12 NEXT STEPS JUNE 13, 14 2008**

### **To the Working Group:**

- Read these notes and be prepared to discuss them.

- Take a look at the lists of Management Elements for each river and review their level of support in the Phase II Consultation Report and review their level of support with respect to the Ministry's presentation at Meeting 1.
- Then take a look at the elements and ensure they are worded in a completely clear and consistent manner. Ask of each element:
  - Issue: what is the issue/concern being addressed?
  - Who: which user is being targeted?
  - What: what is the proposed management element?
  - Where: where would the element apply?
  - When: for what period would the element apply?



# **Final Notes**

## **Terrace AMP Meeting: Terrace (West) Working Group** *Saturday May 10 - Sunday May 11, 2008*

# Table of Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1	WORKING GROUP HOMEWORK.....	3
1.2	ACRONYMS .....	4
1.3	PARKING LOT.....	4
1.4	TASKS FOR MOE REPRESENTATIVE .....	4
<b>2</b>	<b>GENERAL MEETING DISCUSSIONS.....</b>	<b>5</b>
2.1	ERRORS AND OMISSIONS IN APRIL 20, 21 DRAFT MEETING NOTES.....	5
2.2	PROCESS FOR ADDRESSING CORRESPONDENCE FROM OUTSIDE THE WORKING GROUPS.....	5
2.3	COLLABORATING WITH CENTRAL WORKING GROUP.....	5
2.4	COMPARISONS WITH OTHER WORK GROUP OUTCOMES .....	5
2.5	REVIEW OF CONSULTATION REPORT .....	5
2.6	RE: CARRYING CAPACITY .....	6
2.7	GENERAL ZONING PROPOSAL .....	6
<b>3</b>	<b>SITUATION ANALYSIS .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>ISSUES, PROBLEMS, MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>THE KALUM.....</b>	<b>7</b>
5.1	ISSUES AND PROBLEMS .....	7
5.2	MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES.....	8
<b>6</b>	<b>SKEENA IV.....</b>	<b>8</b>
6.1	ISSUES AND PROBLEMS .....	8
6.2	MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES.....	9
<b>7</b>	<b>ZYMOETZ I.....</b>	<b>9</b>
7.1	GENERAL DISCUSSION .....	9
7.2	ISSUES AND PROBLEMS .....	10
7.3	MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES.....	10
7.4	CARRYING CAPACITY .....	10
<b>8</b>	<b>ZYMOETZ II .....</b>	<b>11</b>
8.1	ISSUES AND PROBLEMS .....	11
8.2	MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES.....	11
8.3	CARRYING CAPACITY .....	12
<b>9</b>	<b>CLORE RIVER – AS A KEY TRIBUTARY TO ZYMOETZ II.....</b>	<b>12</b>
9.1	ISSUES AND PROBLEMS .....	12
9.2	MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES.....	13
9.3	CARRYING CAPACITY .....	13
<b>10</b>	<b>LAKELSE RIVER.....</b>	<b>13</b>
10.1	ISSUES AND PROBLEMS .....	13
10.2	MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES.....	13
10.3	PRELIMINARY EVALUATION OF MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES FOR LAKELSE .....	14
10.3.1	Discussion about Option #6 → Limit NRA licenses, Class 1; extend steelhead stamp to Sept 1 .....	14
10.3.2	Discussion about Option #10 → Restrict BCR anglers in the future if trigger is reached.....	17
10.3.3	Discussion about Option #11 → No NRA .....	17

## **Working Group members in attendance**

**Resident anglers:** Jason Ouellet, Chris Culp, Jim Culp, Rob Brown,

**Resident Angler Alternate:** Michael Johnston

**Guides:** Dan Daigle, Dustin Kovacvish, Andrew Rushton

**Guide Alternate:** Randy Dozzi

**MOE:** Dana Atagi, MoE Coordinator

**Guests:** none

**Observers:** none

**Facilitator:** Sandra Bicego, Alan Dolan & Associates

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

These draft meeting notes provide a summary of the discussions of the Terrace (West) Working Group AMP meetings held in Terrace, May 10-11, 2008. Notes are presented in list form and not in priority order, nor necessarily in the order of the meeting agenda. The purpose of these draft notes is to provide a summary record of the discussions on May 10-11 and serve as input to the June 7-8 meetings.

Part 1 lays out the Work Group Homework – with a focus on the May 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting. It also provides a list of items for consideration that are beyond the scope of this AMP process. Tasks for the MOE representative are noted.

Part 2 lays out the general meeting discussions.

Part 3 refers to the situation analysis which is in a separate draft report.

Part 4 sets out the discussion context for each river.

Parts 5 – 10 lays out the Working Group brainstorm of issues and problems as well as management alternatives for each river. The list of management alternatives are essentially a list of options or regulatory tools that can be considered as pieces of a larger package for the June meeting when the Working Group begins to develop a more refined set of management alternatives. The listed items under the management alternatives are not in order of priority.

### **1.1 Working Group Homework**

The Working Group will be holding an internal meeting on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. The suggested objectives of the meeting are:

- To review the April 19, 20 Draft Meeting Notes.
- To review the May 10, 11 West Working Group Draft Meeting Notes and check for errors and omissions. To send comments back to the facilitator via email for corrections where needed.
- To consider and agree on the best management alternatives for each river and the reasons for those alternatives (pros/cons) in order to be able to discuss these options in more detail at the June 7/8 Working Group meeting.
- To identify the carrying capacity for each river (a particular figure, range of numbers)

The group agreed that it is important to consider other interests in the discussions such as economic interests and NRAs.

- s.22 will not be able to attend the next meeting and will thus send his comments about the draft notes rying capacity etc... to Randy Dozzi. Randy will forward comments to the facilitator.

## **1.2 Acronyms**

BCRA– B.C. resident anglers

NGNRA – Non guided, non resident alien anglers

NR – Non resident anglers

NRA - Non-resident alien anglers (outside Canada)

NRC - Non-resident Canadian anglers (outside B.C.)

## **1.3 Parking Lot**

The Working Group identified the following issues as items to be discussed which are beyond the scope of the AMP process.

- Habitat management is important to consider in this process, although beyond the scope of an AMP.
- Need to address use of boats for transportation; discuss this issue with Transportation Canada
- Clarify and further refine definition of ‘guiding’
- Option of a grand pass that offers a one lump sum fee; can be used anywhere except in a lottery situation. Funds can support River Guardians. It is recommended that MOE review/explore this option for NGNRA.
- Use of helicopter access: in hunting, no helicopters are allowed to assist in hunting in any way; why can this not be applied to angling?
- One participant mentioned that at the 14 mile boat launch on the Kalum River, the parking area for vehicles and boat trailers becomes over crowded when guiding is at its peak.

## **1.4 Tasks for MOE representative**

Some of the main tasks for the MORE representative are:

- Skeena IV: Identify unfishable spots and the numbers on the Skeena IV [needs clarification; Was this just MOE rep or also Working Group to discuss?.
- Z II: MOE rep to identify information regarding carrying capacity for ZII [ditto]
- Lakelse:
  - Working Group has suggested for Lakesle to cap NRCs with limit on # of days and yearly allotment. Need to identify realistic options.
  - MOE to identify #of rod days / km and suggest appropriate trigger for option #10 (restrict BCR based on trigger).

## **2 GENERAL MEETING DISCUSSIONS**

At the start of the meeting, on Saturday and on Sunday, the Working Group addressed various general topics which are summarized below.

### **2.1 Errors and Omissions in April 20, 21 Draft Meeting Notes**

*Mistake in reference to 8 guided NRAs on Upper Copper:* The group confirmed that the April 20-21 Draft Meeting Notes contained a mistake in reference to 8 NRA being seen with a guide on the upper Copper River. The Working Group confirmed that in fact, they had been discussing a Tarantino film being shot on the Copper and there had been 8 NGNRA sited making a film. There was no reference to a guide. The error in typing was made on the part of the facilitator's note taking during this discussion. Sincere apologies will be passed on to s.22 to avoid the misperception that this discussion was in reference to his guiding practice.

*Correction required on p 6. under section 5.54 "What else...." - edit the fourth bullet to "no logging in watershed after September 1." This is because it is a special management zone.*

### **2.2 Process for Addressing Correspondence from outside the Working Groups**

- The Working Group discussed the issue of what to do with input and commentary provided by others outside the Working Group.
- The participants agreed that input from others will be provided to the lead facilitator of the Working Group.
- The lead facilitator will decide how best to address the correspondence with the Working Group. The lead facilitator will also share the information with the other Working Group lead facilitators, who in turn will pass the information on with the group.

### **2.3 Collaborating with Central Working Group**

Outcomes identified by the Terrace (West) Working Group about SK IV will be discussed with the Central Group to ensure consistency among the two groups on this river.

### **2.4 Comparisons with other Work Group outcomes**

The Working Group will compare their decisions about what to do about illegal guiding and crowding with those of other Working Groups

### **2.5 Review of Consultation Report**

The key issues raised in the consultant report were reviewed, including Appendix G. The Working Group agreed that their issues were consistent. Some of the top issues included:

- guiding in some rivers
- too many NGNR

- need for balance in the local economy
- illegal guiding
- increased access by boats adding to overcrowding

## **2.6 RE: Carrying Capacity**

- MOE TASK: MOE will identify data and report it to the Working Group per water where possible.
- Overall Working Group experience and knowledge will help, especially on the Skeena IV river.
- Smither's process of identifying carrying capacity can help our group.
- Can consider extrapolating from lower Bulkley
- Less than 80 km is fishable.
- See s.22 notes below [x refce] where he identifies fishable waters on Zymoetz I and II.
- Tas what other working Groups are doing for the identification of carrying capacity.
- The group discussed that where data is sketchy, hard decisions will have to be made.

## **2.7 General Zoning Proposal**

A Working Group member suggested a colour-coded zoning system that could be considered when discussing zoning as a management tool.

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| ➤ Blue   | ➤ BC resident anglers                         |
| ➤ Green  | ➤ Guided only                                 |
| ➤ Yellow | ➤ Guiding allowed and limited NGNRA access    |
| ➤ Red    | ➤ Guiding allowed and unlimited NGNRA access. |

Mechanism for informing about zoning could include: signage, website, printed in the Synopsis.

## **3 SITUATION ANALYSIS**

After the general discussions were completed on Saturday, the Working Group worked on maps and added further information such as their local knowledge on access, features and any non fishable areas. This information is summarized in a separate set of Notes (title to be added).

## **4 ISSUES, PROBLEMS, MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES**

After the situation analysis was conducted, the meeting focused on clarifying the key issues and problems by river. The Working Group then turned to identifying management alternatives. The Working Group brainstormed alternatives for each river based on the issues and problems being faced. The Discussion began with a presentation by the MOE representative on the toolkit.

The toolkit offers four types of regulatory tools that can be managed by MOE: Water designation, angler use regulations, angler access and guide use restrictions.

Below, sections 5 to 10 summarize the discussion points on the issues and problems and management alternatives organized by river.

The Working Group was able to conduct a preliminary evaluation of Lakelse which is described in part 10.5 along with a discussion of the impacts of the alternatives in parts 10.5.1 – 10.5.3

## **5 THE KALUM**

### ***5.1 Issues and Problems***

- Illegal poaching in Cedar and Beaver Rivers. Poaching means breaking the regulations. “Poaching” means angling for fish in waters that are closed to angling, or for species which are closed to angling,
- Increased angling effort and crowding in all classes:
  - Particularly during Sept, Oct, April, May; and,
  - Some localized areas by residents: at Lake outlet at high water, particularly September to October
- High guide pressure, Sept, October, April, May
- More crowding by NGNRAs
- Boat use: more angler pressure from use of boats on the whole river, and
  - particularly on the lower river
  - Sept, Oct and April, May
- Conservation concerns arising from increased steelhead angling effort – particularly fishing during winter months when the fish are overwintering.
- Illegal guiding: B&Bs offering what would otherwise be ‘illegal guiding’ services without a license (e.g. shuttle service).
- Easy access and a lot of local use
  - near Glacier Creek to Alice Creek
  - lower Canyon to Deep Creek
  - 3 km mark, on West Kalum Rd.
- Shift in guided effort from chinook salmon to steelhead - due to:
  - better quality fishing on Skeena for chinook salmon;
  - at mouth of Kalum, the nature of the spot does not hold as much chinook as used to
  - demand shifted from salmon to steelhead due to fly fishing; increased demand to fly fish
  - transfer of licenses to new guides coincides with shift in focus on steelhead.
- Decaying access:
  - FN reserve lands: Access is through W. Kalum FSR through Kitsumkalum Reserve Lands.
  - Less public access with lodges appearing at or near hot spots; particularly at lower take out point on upper river near private property
  - Decaying access affects RA and NGNRA
- Enforcement

## **5.2 Management Alternatives**

1. Allocation of steelhead guided days to salmon guided days.
2. Buy back guide days.
3. No guiding on Weekends in certain zones.
4. Restrict guided groups of anglers; one group per guide on upper river; one group per guide on lower.
5. Restrict clients to 3 per guide operation on a given day.
6. Upper Canyon and above: guide only for NRA – this helps address illegal guiding.
7. Guide only for NRAs for whole river, for whole guiding season.
8. Extend guiding season from April 1<sup>st</sup> to Nov 1<sup>st</sup> (2 week shift).
9. Extend guide season from Mar 15 to Nov 15.
10. Guide leasing left over rod days.
11. NGNRA restriction - especially if no guiding permitted during season; this includes out of guiding season
12. Use of guide boats: Every 2<sup>nd</sup> day, alternate between upper and lower river
13. Change to Class 1 especially upper river and tributaries above lake.
14. Steelhead stamp requirement extended to all year.

## **6 SKEENA IV**

### **6.1 Issues and Problems**

- Extend boundary above bridge? Where cannot go through with boat? Yet hard to do; especially for guiding and license restrictions. Features do help. Could say “10 or x km above Hwy 37 bridge”
- Need for an upstream boundary change.
- Not as much fishable water in certain sections.
- TASK: Working Group can work beyond the meeting to identify a suitable boundary.
- Illegal guiding going on; hard to address this issue; need to redefine and clarify the term “guiding.”
- Crowding at mouth of Kitwanga River
- First Nations access at 2 sites – Kitwanga and Hells Bells; can lead to restrictions across their reserve lands.
- Crowding/increased angling effort on Kitwanga steelhead stocks at mouth.
- Local resident angler crowding occurring at Skeena West logging bridge
- Conflict at Kitselas Canyon between Resident Anglers and Guides. Pressure to increase guiding.
- Lower reach to Kitselas Canyon boundary: there is a traditional local resident fishing area.
- Spey lodge: should it have guiding days?
- Lodge 55 km East of Terrace s.22 possible illegal guiding.
- What is the fair way to allocate rod days?



## **6.2 Management Alternatives**

1. Allocation of existing rod days to guides.
2. Working Group proposes to review 10 guides and 1000 days in Schedule 25
3. Zoning within this SK IV section; mouths are problem areas; do not want to constrict guides.
4. Restricting NRAs, NRC and Guides: could be by zone for certain areas
5. Boating restrictions – no fishing from boats
6. Lottery
7. Guiding only in key areas
8. Resident only areas
9. Make steelhead stamp mandatory for SK IV during classified period or at least August 1<sup>st</sup> to Dec 31<sup>st</sup>
10. NGNRAs and NRCs – require 8 day licence limit per season
11. Upgrade to Class 1

## **7 ZYMOETZ I**

### **7.1 General Discussion**

- Non residents should be regulated. Seems we are there.
- Concern about the need to prevent illegal guiding and crowding
- Lottery [suggestion to put a cap at 1.1 angler /day on Classified waters].
- Counterfoil classified water census data shows: 2003-2006: NRC = 20 days for class license; NRAs at 90 days; 110 rod days most in class 1 section
  - Hard to suggest putting limits on non residents;
  - becomes 1.1 anglers/day on classified waters.
- There are 58 rod days given to guides. 2007 figures will be higher. Total rod days are 168.
- Recognize that this makes the resource more valuable
- Cap at 100 rod days max for NGNRAs and NGNRCAs.
- Guide only may be the best tool to control increasing pressure, care for the resource and address illegal guiding;
  - Other Working Groups are also talking about this tool.
  - Guiding is a business.
  - It is not about a monopoly – we recognize that the local economy is important. However, ‘guide only’ is also important for the above reasons.
  - Government concern with the need to be balanced.
  - Elevate status of steelhead.
  - NGNRA can still fish other sections of the river (lower).
  - Will just cost more money. NRAs will just have to pay more money for a high quality fishery
  - Denies access to steelhead anglers who would have otherwise stayed longer.
- Suggestion to check against what other Working Groups are deciding. However, the Working Group felt it is important to remain true to our decision making process.

- Note that after the public meeting in the fall, there could be blowback to the Working Group if the public and/or the government feels the alternatives are too restrictive.

## **7.2 Issues and Problems**

- More and more NRAs are finding out about the area leading to crowding issues. There are more NRAs fishing up in this part of the river; seem to be getting local information.
- It is a low capacity river, despite increasing angling trend.
- There is more access due to more roads, hiking, camping, helicopter used privately and for commercial purposes.
- Access is decaying due to reduced logging activity; spur roads are growing over with vegetation, main road is poorly maintained; some work has been undertaken but it is not that effective; the trend is for the roads to get worse due to less forestry work in the area.
- Some illegal guiding taking place;
  - It is increasing because anglers know about it; there are several websites, such as an Italian website that talks about the river.
  - Again, need to define better what is meant by the term 'guiding.'
- Guide allocation: More guiding days on Class 1. Key issue is that 250 days may be too much under current law. What is the right number?
  - Need to define an appropriate number of guide days.
- Increased use of private helicopter.
- Increased use of commercial helicopter by NG residents, NGNRAs.
- Hard to check upper Cooper for license evaders.

## **7.3 Management Alternatives**

1. Remain as Class 1, to ensure wilderness attribute.
2. Guiding only to control NR use: for NRCs and NRAs. Guiding only addresses heli drops by NRAs.
3. Extend Class period to mirror Zymoetz II.
4. SH stamp to mirror Zymoetz II.
5. No fishing from boats.
6. Add trigger: Restrict BCRA's when carrying capacity is surpassed. (e.g., level of angling reaches x.... X could be 300-500; see Lakelse trigger mechanism)
7. Lottery for non residents.
8. Restriction on number of clients and number of boats per guide .

## **7.4 Carrying Capacity**

### (D. Kovacevic proposal)

- Geographic features - 4 put ins 4 pullouts all of them difficult. 50 km of river.
- 140 fishable hours of potential group use.
- Each pool fished once every four days.

- few fish therefore 25% = 32 = 4 groups per day from August 15 – Nov. 15.
- 4 groups of 8 anglers per day.
- These are the areas of highest use--Treasure Creek (one km above, 1 km below), 3 km below the lower boundary below MacDonnell Lake, 56 km, 46 km, Bridge at the Rum Hole, pocket water above Limonite Creek..
- For all the guides 168 days divided between all the three guides = 37 more rod days per guide
- Guides can only take one group of anglers per day.
- Cap on BCR 300-400 days.
- MOE data sets highest use at 140 days.
- Day allocation for guides:
  - 
  - s. 22
  -
- W 0.2 anglers / km.

## 8 ZYMOETZ II

### 8.1 Issues and Problems

- Illegal guiding
- Increasing access
- Boating traffic has increased from boats being used for transportation and fishing by all classes
- August and November are unclassified; guiding is unregulated.
- There are approximately 25- 30 rod days in November, weather permitting.
- Crowding and overuse by all class of anglers
  - Shoulder season: August, November
  - September, October by NRAs, NRBCAs, local anglers
- More NRAs with greater knowledge
- Remaining too long at an area of river by both local and NRAs. Some stay for entire seasons – months. E.g., 60 rod days for one person. The new reality is there are more anglers with more time and money.
- Lower carrying capacity than historical due to geomorphology/climate (e.g., floods).

### 8.2 Management Alternatives

1. Lottery system
2. Cap on # clients per guide (e.g., cap on # of guided anglers per day per operation)
  - volatile nature of river makes it easier to manage than lottery
3. Zoning - (see General Zoning proposal in part 2.7 above)
  - temporal
  - spatial
  - Note: tough sell for whole river; no problem with zoning sections

4. Guide only for NRCs and NRAs
  - Q: how to distribute days? An MOE issue? The Working Group will decide allocation number.
5. Extend classified waters period - Extend the steelhead stamp
  - Will decrease existing guide days
  - Guide days available during July and August
  - Nov and Dec opportunity there but regulating it
  - Guide hierarchy is key
  - Economic benefits to consider
6. Require NRA to buy daily licenses: i.e., limit the # of days NGNRA can buy a license – e.g., 2-4 days max; avoids camping issue
7. Limit the max. # of days that NGNRA & NRC can fish for a season per river – 8 or less days? Reduces time NGNRA can spend on the river
8. Boating restrictions: e.g., no angling from boats; drifting is too effective.

### **8.3 Carrying capacity**

- Canyon to confluence 6 km = 23 hrs fishing time
- PNG access rd to pullout at lower canyon = 18hrs fishable
- 20km Copper Slide to 16 km = 21 hrs
- 24 to 22 km = 10 hrs.
- 28 to 24 = 16 hours
- 32km 28 km = 27 hours
- 35 to 32 = 9 km
- 39 to 35 = 19 hrs
- Limonite Creek to 39 = 11 hours
- Total of fishing time = 144
- =18 groups = 36 anglers
- = 18 groups or 36 anglers or 10 guided NRA or NRC, 10 non guided NRA, NRC and 16 BCR = 0.4 rod days per km.

## **9 CLORE RIVER – AS A KEY TRIBUTARY TO ZYMOETZ II**

### **9.1 Issues and Problems**

- Hard to manage separately from Z II.
- Very small fishable river with low carrying capacity and low numbers of fish (small population)
- Very little access and decaying access (spur roads overgrowth). Need knowledge to raft; you have to know what you are doing.
- Changes in river morphology are also reducing carrying capacity; above Thomas Creek or second canyon.

- More NGNRA interest.

## **9.2 Management Alternatives**

- Could zone

## **9.3 Carrying capacity**

### Dustin's presentation

- From Kayak Club put in to Canyon below Thomas Creek based on guiding two people with a raft (does not count down time) 14 hours of fishable water. 8 rod days per day. .4 anglers per km
- Thomas Creek to 4km = 39 hours of fishing water
- 4 km to Trapline Creek. 6 hours
- below bridge 2 hours
- total 61 hrs of fishing with 2 people
- max. carrying capacity 6 BCR 2 guided NR 0 NRA
- Suggestion: Separate Management Zone Required. Few fish, small stream, wilderness values.

## **10 LAKELSE RIVER**

### **10.1 Issues and Problems**

- Note overlap in fall with salmon fishery; will constrain or influence our AMP process
- Illegal guiding
- Increase in NRA use – B&Bs and tackle shops handing out maps; service is not illegal but not regulated/managed.
- Impacts on spawning steelhead
- More anglers targeting spawning steelhead in spring

### **10.2 Management Alternatives**

1. Status quo
2. Zoning
3. Time periods for steelhead stamp. Increase from status quo to Nov 1 to June 1<sup>st</sup>
4. Increase time period from Sept 1 to May 31 – avoid overlap with coho
5. Increase time period from Oct 1 to May 31
6. Limit NRA licenses (capping NRA addresses illegal guiding); change to class 1; extend steelhead stamp to Sept 1
7. Mandatory guiding for NRA
8. Lottery for NRA

9. Increase fees and change to Class 1 designation – however change of fees is determined at political level; MOE cannot increase fees. Focus on Change to Class 1. (Note that #6 incorporates this)
10. Restrict BCR anglers in the future if trigger is reached: angler effort based on SHA. Suggested #: in 2 or 3 years, if see 20 anglers per day for 160 days – about 3200 – 3500
11. Restrict NRA from river

The group discussed the list of management alternatives and decided: #7, #8 and #9 are incorporated in #6.

### 10.3 Preliminary Evaluation of Management Alternatives for Lakelse

- **LEGEND**
- + positive impact
- — negative impact
- O no impact

The Working Group did not go through all the management alternatives raised above. Just the first six were evaluated as the other options were subsumed or the Working Group gave them a lower priority. Zoning - Option #2, was not evaluated. General Working Group discussion below the table.

➤ Overall Issues and problems	➤ MA 1	➤ MA 3	➤ MA 4	➤ MA 5	➤ MA 6
➤ Reduced quality of angling experience	➤ O / —	➤ O / +	➤ O / +	➤ O / +	➤ +
➤ Concerns around allocation	➤ —	➤ O / +	➤ O / +	➤ O / +	➤ +/ —
➤ Illegal guiding	➤ —	➤ O	➤ O	➤ O	➤ +++++
➤ Poor angler etiquette	➤ O / +	➤ O	➤ O / +	➤ O / +	➤ +
➤ Local economy depends on non-resident anglers	➤ +	➤ O	➤ —	➤ —	➤ —
➤ Limited MOE budget, unlikely to increase	➤ O	➤ +	➤ ++	➤ ++	➤ —
➤ Success of new regulations	➤ O	➤ O	➤ O	➤ O	➤ +
➤ Public skepticism, lack of buy-in		➤ —	➤ —	➤ —	➤
a) RA	➤ —	➤	➤	➤	➤ +
b) Guides	—				➤ O
c) Local business	+				➤ —

d) NRCs	+					➤ 0
e) NRAs	+					➤ -
➤ Too many regulations, confusing	➤ 0	➤ 0	➤ 0	➤ 0	➤	
➤ QWS overarching principle is to use least intrusive regulations	➤ +	➤ 0	➤ 0	➤ 0	➤	

### **10.3.1 Discussion about Option #6 → Limit NRA licenses, Class 1; extend steelhead stamp to Sept 1**

#### ***RE: restriction***

- Restricts non locals: Canadians and non Canadians. Main issue is with NRC anglers; BC residents are not an issue. Anglers have been seen from AB, Ontario, Italy, Germany have been seen here.
- SHA data extrapolates number from '80s; reports that # of Canadian anglers up to 66 for 300 days.
- SHA shows 1989 data – 4641 days of all Canadian residents, highest was 333 days
- Counterfoil data includes salmon fishery; peak # of anglers at 235 in 2002.
- Q is: will this grow? What is the trigger? Possible cap in #s?
  - From resident's perspective: is the Canadian element in or out?
  - One suggestion not to ban other Canadians; perhaps guide only?
  - Cap/limit at 200, then limit NRC - non residents of B.C.; this still gives Canadians an opportunity. General agreement with cap.
- Consider passport or license # for registration - For BCR and other Canadians (NRCs), anglers from other countries (NRAs). Canada can put the pressure on because we still have the best fishery.
- Our fishery is good but could potentially get into trouble due to increasing pressure even from NRCs.
- Daily limits: e.g., # of anglers /day – 4 anglers / day;
- Monthly limits: e.g., 3 days per angler per month
- Most pressure: Sept – Oct and Spring time due to coho runs.
- 3 days reasonable time to spend on water vs 8 days – 8 days wont' address our crowding issues here; majority of people come for a week.
- Important to add 'monitoring' to plan.
- In summary: suggestion to consider capping NRCs at 200 with limit on # of days per river at 3 per angler per year.
- Could be first come, first serve
- Managing daily; anglers will pick their days
- Suggestion to allow: 4 NRC/day; each get 3 days/year

#### ***Re: Illegal guiding***

- With 3 days/ year, makes it harder.
- With No NRA, no illegal guiding possible.

### ***Re: Budget features***

- overall negative impact because loss of \$10 000 in foreign fees
- high management costs
- how can we offset this loss? Change to Class 1 to offset.
  - Criteria are important to change class – wilderness designation. May get pushback?
  - Need to clarify
- Move steelhead date to Oct 1 vs Sept 1? Group decided on Sept 1 because this is a special river; a blue ribbon river that captures the extent of a steelhead run; concerns also arise with coho salmon fishery though the fishery seems ok.
- Sum: net loss with budget due to increased management costs.
- Group felt that money cannot dictate the decisions to be made

### ***Re: reduced quality of angling experience***

- Because less people then less angler density thus, a positive impact for this issue.

### ***Re: Allocation***

- Impact depends on sector; positive if NRAs are off the river; negative because NRCs are on river with no guides.

### ***Re: success of new regulations***

- Impact is positive

### ***RE: Public scepticism – local business***

- Note that the Working Group defined “pubic skepticism” as “public response.” It is based on the immediate reaction of the public.
- Local businesses would be upset!
- But proposed alternative #6 has the effect of increasing the quality of the river; elevates category of river; this may be good for business!
  - It increases the quality of the angling experience
  - Elevates status of the watershed
  - A community based project that addresses community concerns

### ***Re: Public scepticism – NRC scepticism***

- Some may be supportive vs feeling it is a money grab.
- Overall for public scepticism – no change because there is a neutralization between positive, negative and no change.

### ***Re: Public scepticism – NRAs***

- Negative impact because do not get to fish.

### ***Re: Principle of least intrusive regulations***

- Negative impact because there are more regulations; it is a regulated river.



***Re: local economic support***

- On the one hand, this option has a negative impact on the local economy due to restrictions; not many economic benefits flowing.
- In the long term, option #6 could be a positive impact.
- In the case of this river however, the local economy it does not depend on NRAs.

***10.3.2 Discussion about Option #10 → Restrict BCR anglers in the future if trigger is reached***

- Trigger is based on SHA data: '86 – '97 peak resident fishery; recently, '03: 2150 days.
- Consider long season on this river – Sept to May.

***10.3.3 Discussion about Option #11 → No NRA***

- Addresses poaching, ethical issues key; usually out of country folks
- Taking away opportunity from NRC re: salmon fishery?
  - A concern; be mindful; yet, may not be an issue because other rivers available
- Appearing balanced is key;
- Consider: limit of 200 days for NRC with deadline to Jan or etc.? Balance of days to NRAs
- NGNRA fishing: ok to make it a non guided river. Then perhaps Skeena IV can be a guided river to balance?

## Final Meeting Notes: Plenary Sessions

### Angling Management Plan Working Groups Skeena Quality Waters Strategy April 19 – 20, Terrace, BC

#### Objectives:

- To orient working group members on the roles, responsibilities and code of conduct for all
- To ensure working group members understand the scope of work to be completed by June 2008
- To ensure working group members understand the process to be used to complete this task, including decision-making and the use of multi-criteria analysis.
- To ensure working group members understand the background information and context for the task
- To gain agreement on communications between the working group and the broader public
- To clarify next steps including additional information needs, homework and agendas for subsequent meetings.

#### Saturday April 19 am

- Introduction of all participants
- Tom Bell, Regional Manager, Skeena Region MOE - Welcome
- Process information and decisions (Alan)
  - **Conduct and responsibility** (PowerPoint)
    - What's said in room, stays in room
    - Respect everyone's right to be heard
    - Respect everyone's views
    - Seek common ground
    - Use plain language
    - Respect the time available
  - **Members' role**
    - Why are you here?
      - Understanding of waters
      - Knowledge of steelhead
      - Angling experience
      - History with fishing, management, and consultation processes
    - Represent all interests
    - Part of community, not representative
    - Issues and interests, not positions
    - Note on alternates
    - Produce recommendations that work!
  - **Role of MOE representatives**
    - Technical knowledge
    - Background / resource material
    - Assistance with toolkit
    - Keep on QWS / AMP track
  - **Alan's role**
    - Independent and neutral
    - Inclusivity - providing opportunities for all to participate

- On task and on time
- Managing the agenda
- Traffic cop!
- **Consensus Decision Making AGREED**
  - General agreement where all parties accept a decision that was reached through a consensus process
  - Cooperative development of decision
  - Everyone is equal
  - All ideas taken into account
  - Recognizes differences
  - Full participation
  - All about attitude
    - Agreement seeking
    - Mutual understanding and respect
    - Respecting diversity

### How can we engage the public?

- ALAN to be media spokesperson – AGREED
- Proposal: Public come to May 10-11 meeting Saturday at 4:00 to make short (3-5 minutes) presentations on ideas or interests that have not already been expressed in the Consultation Report. People to be notified of this opportunity via stakeholder and public email database. To email Alan if they want to present. First come, first served basis. - AGREED
- **Presentation: QWS and AMP Framework** - Dana Atagi, Section Head, Fish and Wildlife, Skeena Region MOE (PowerPoint available on request)
- **Presentation: AMPs in Cariboo Region** (Horsefly and Dean Rivers) Mike Ramsay - , Section Head, Fish and Wildlife, Cariboo Region MOE (PowerPoint available on request)

### Saturday April 19 pm

- **Presentation: Phase 1 Public and Stakeholder Consultation** - Alan Dolan, Senior Facilitator (PowerPoint available on request; full report on the website)
  - Reviews the objectives and method of the Public and Stakeholder consultation
  - Highlights the issues that resonated across the watershed (noting variation where important)
  - Highlights the suite of recommendations and solutions offered by participants and respondents
  - Explains how the information will be used by the working groups

### Working Groups Breakout Session 1

#### 3:30 pm Plenary: How we are going to develop the AMPs?

Our task:

*To develop Angling Management Plans that manage angler use for a quality steelhead fishing experience*

- Draft AMP objectives

- Draft evaluation criteria
- Building consequences table – use tables to show simple application of method
- Making trade-offs: Introduction to Multi-Criteria Analysis
- Why are we doing it like this?

**DRAFT SQWS - AMP Consequence Table (modified from original handout)**

<b>Issue/Problem</b>	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>	<b>Mgmt Alternative 1</b>	<b>Mgmt Alternative 2 ...</b>
Reduced quality of angling experience	<b>1. To maximize the quality of the angling experience</b>	Change in angler density		
Concerns around allocation	<b>2. To distribute angling opportunities consistent with the Quality Waters Strategy (resident angler &gt; guided angler &gt; non-resident angler)</b>	Change in opportunity scale OR days/angler group (resident, guided, non-resident)		
Illegal guiding	<b>3. To minimize illegal guiding</b>	Decrease/minor decrease/no change/minor increase/major increase		
Poor angler etiquette	<b>4. To improve angler etiquette</b>	Same as 3		
Local economy depends on non-resident anglers	<b>5. To maximize regional economic benefits</b>	Decrease/minor decrease/no change/minor increase/major increase OR approximate \$ to economy		
Limited MOE budget, unlikely to increase	<b>6. To minimize ministry management costs</b>	Management costs		
Success of new regulations	<b>7. To maximize the ministry's ability to monitor effectiveness of AMPs and enforce regulations</b>	Poor/moderate/good/excellent		
Public skepticism, lack of buy-in	<b>8. To maximize the support of the public</b> a. Resident anglers b. Guides c. Local business d. Non-Resident Canadians e. Non-Resident Aliens	Response Form results		
Too many regulations, confusing	<b>9. To minimize regulatory complexity</b>	Point system for layers of complexity		

Issue/Problem	Objective	Evaluation Criteria	Mgmt Alternative 1	Mgmt Alternative 2 ...
QWS overarching principle is to use least intrusive regulations	<b>10. To minimize level of regulatory intrusion</b>	less/more scale		

## Discussion

- Too many regulations could be a problem
- Less complicated is better (KISS principle) — for management, enforcement
- Add objective for “least intrusive tool” (10)
- Should have same standardized group of objectives across the whole watershed (three Working Groups)
- Which regulation is easiest to use for addressing crowding?
- Enforcement will always be a part of CO work — Need to run options by COs and get input
- Some regs will work better than others
- Want to ensure ideas are realistic and doable
- Re: complexity — easy to follow, but effective (i.e., zoning)
- But don’t do away with an option just because it’s complex or difficult
- Toolbox applies to all 13 waters
- Need to define issue better in 10
- This is a draft consequence table; it is still open to changes and improvements
- What about access? — difficult because MOE does not manage
- Changes to regional economic benefits objective wording — “to maintain and enhance regional economic benefits”?
- Some objectives will be weighted more than others
- All objectives are important within the context of the overall goal — To maintain quality angling
- Importance of MOE having \$ to do the monitoring and enforcement
- Would like money to stay in our region
- **Information exchange between Working Groups very important**

**Sunday April 20, 2008 am**

**Presentation: Review of angling use data** - Paddy Hirshfield, Quality Waters Biologist, Skeena Region, MOE (PowerPoint available on request)

- How is data developed?
- What does it mean?
- How can it be used

**10:30 am Working Groups Breakout Session 2**

**Sunday April 20, 2008 pm**

**1:00 pm Working Groups Breakout Session 3 (until 2:15 pm)**

## **Plenary 2:15 pm**

### **Information needs**

- Maps – 1:50,000
- Guiding data (names?, allocated rod-days, regulated rod-days)
- Tool Kit excerpt from QWS document
- 2006 data (SHA, counterfoil, etc.)
- Clarification of Skeena IV data
- Google Earth Maps – probably not
- Previous AUPs
- PowerPoint's to Gene, Tony and Jim
- Circulate meeting notes (facilitators)

Saturday and Sunday night summaries to be shared with other Working Groups – AGREED

Look at possibility of third meeting together in June – AGREED

Comfortable with planning objectives; all issues/problems appear to be addressed - AGREED

### **Homework**

- Read Consultation Report, particularly:
  - From beginning to Discussion
  - Notes (stakeholder and public meetings, from Response Forms, phone and emails)
- Review Angler Use data
- Familiarize yourselves with Tool Box (in QWS 2005 document)
- Think about carrying capacity of your waters
- River-specific creels
- Brief
  - s.22 for West
  - East (actually whole group is meeting)
  - for Central (actually no one to brief here now)

### **Evaluation**

- Positive
  - Mike Ramsay's presentation
  - Facilitation team
  - Good outline of the process
  - Good summary of history as to how we got here
- To be improved
  - More cookies
  - Tight room, too narrow and too small
  - More time in small groups

**3:00 pm      Adjourned**

## Final Notes – Skeena AMP Meeting

**Saturday June 27 – Sunday June 28, 2009**

### **Sunday Plenary Session – Feedback on Recommended Management Alternatives**

**Note: Comments are grouped by topic rather than in the order they were mentioned**

#### ***Insufficient resident-angler days on the Babine (and Bulkley and Morice)***

- E.g. No weekend RA-only day or weekend on the Babine
- East WG Considerations:
  - Physical characteristics limit access on the Babine River
  - Anglers need knowledge and skill to go down to the lower end of the Babine
  - The upper end of the Babine (smolt counting fence to the Nilkitkwa River) has been left open to resident-only for the season – a resident-only zone has been recommended
- Other concerns:
  - During September to mid-October, there are still sockeye and chinook and not many steelhead (majority of steelhead are below Nilkitkwa until later in the season)
  - Resident anglers love the area below Nilkitkwa River
  - Upper river is accessible to resident anglers (10 km by foot and 16 km by boat)
  - 1,108 guided rod-days on Babine
- Suggested changes:
  - Have the two upper river guides sit out their change days to give RA and NRC/NRA a free day twice a week on the Babine
    - Central WG has recommended that guides take one day off on their change day, whenever that occurs – this is a potential option for the Babine
    - East WG – Babine guide on lower river already has only self-guiding on changeover days because there are walkable areas
    - How would we ensure that everyone is aware of changeover days
      - Many resident anglers know about changeover days and go to areas on those days normally used by guides
      - Some don't see the need to advertise changeover days, and others want to ensure that all residents know when changeover days occur (concrete, visual, available information)

- Two-day RA-only zone would be too intrusive, but changeover day is a good step to increase angler access to the river; this would have a smaller impact on guide business
  - Notion of concurrent changeover days on the weekend
  - Concern about impact on flight schedules (concentration of arrival and departure of guided anglers) if schedules are concurrent on weekends on all rivers
  - Desire to keep flexibility in the system because of challenges with bookings – therefore can't harmonize changeover days across the system
  - Make information re: changeover days available on an annual basis so that all anglers can be aware of these days
  - Utilizing changeover days is less intrusive – it is already the practice – just need to make sure that people know about these days
  - Acknowledge access limitations on the Babine in concert with number of guided rod-days
  - Consideration: it is easier to implement this changeover day on the Babine (lodge-based operation) than with other guides
  - Bulkley guides – rotating change days each year (different days) – changeover days are staggered
  - Too many restricted guide changeover days will be restricting to guests that fish more than one river and need to sit out various days. Some clients only purchase a three-day trip
  - West WG chose resident-only days rather than changeover days so that RA would know when and where these areas are available
- Suggestion by one participant to make the Babine RA zone larger (below Nilkitkwa River) or have a weekend RA-only zone for the larger accessible area (10-16 km)
    - Zymoetz I has similar access challenges as the Babine – motivated anglers will still hike to fish in those areas – need skill and experience to access this river by boat

### ***Limited-day licences***

- West WG – did not include 8-day licences
- West WG participant appreciated the self-regulatory element of this proposal
- Suggestion:
  - That the length of limited-day licences be river-specific (smaller rivers need smaller number of days) – some discussion on this

### ***Resident-only days and weekends***

- Variation in RA-only Saturdays, Sunday and weekends
- Some have guided angling as well



- East WG – chose Saturday because retail is open, so there are other things to do
- Central WG – Majority chose to keep RA-only weekends because of loss of the immediate limited entry fishery as a management option. Central also has a minority option for resident-only Saturdays
- West WG – chose Sunday because Saturdays are generally busier days for families whereas Sundays tend to be more leisurely – more opportunity for RA to go fishing
- Question: is there a need for harmonization on RA-only days?
  - NRC/NRA can drive elsewhere to fish
  - Concurrent weekend days would result in an increased investment in the local economy (due to shopping, etc.)
- East WG and Central WG simplified their plans away from zones because of cautions from the ministry regarding regulatory complexity associated with zones – therefore primarily focused on resident-only times instead
- West WG considered which rivers should be resident-only Saturday or Sunday because of the potential for blow-outs of rivers
  - Chose simplicity vs. efficacy
- Central WG – loss of option to recommend a lottery for immediate implementation led to a focus on RA-fishery; also, there are other fishable waters in the region
- Ministry acknowledges the need to analyze recommendations before they can answer whether full harmonization is needed/necessary
- Conclusion: harmonization of resident-only fisheries is probably not possible across the system
- One participant suggested that there should be no non-residents on small rivers – that these should be zoned as resident-only

### ***Harmonization of Kispiox and Bulkley resident-only days***

- Currently have a majority recommendation for a two-day resident-only days on the Kispiox (minority option for one day) and only one day on the Bulkley. There is a potential for transfer of non-resident effort to the Bulkley on the one day, which could result in less-than-desirable angling quality.
- Suggestion: East WG consider making the Lower Bulkley (Moricetown to the mouth) a weekend resident-only zone to coordinate with the Kispiox

### ***Skeena Steelhead Stamp***

- Central WG – Rationale for supporting the Skeena Steelhead Stamp included raising funding for local management of the resource as well as dispersing effort from the peak period (Sept 15 – Oct 15) (addressing the “peak” of angling pressure)
- Concerns:
  - Different peak periods
    - If this is to be used as a regional tool, need to extend the time period to Sept 1 – Oct 31 to address the longer seasons in the west

- Suggestion of different time periods for upper and lower waters – but this would remove the potential benefit of distributing effort onto the shoulders
- Option of length-dependent pricing for Skeena Steelhead Stamp (as with the Sturgeon Stamp) – e.g., 1 day, 8 day or annual fee
- Desire that revenues from this Stamp be a dedicated tax; desire for revenues to return to the region
- Concern about cumulative increase of licences for NRC/NRA
  - Becomes a concern for guide businesses – potential for loss of business

### ***Rod-day Booking System***

- High level of support for the idea of a rod-day booking system in the long-term
- Need local tourism organizations, Chambers of Commerce and local councils to talk with MOE and express willingness to work together to find the funds for this (for improvements to the e-licensing system to manage a rod-day booking system)

### ***Other concerns/ feedback***

- Insufficient dedicated time for RA on Bulkley and Morice
- Concern about backlash from public to “hodge podge”, patchwork regional system rather than a lottery or reservation system (and potential loss of investment by NRC/NRA as a result)
- Like the \$1 per angler fee
- Desire for Lakelse, Kitwanga, Kitsequecla, Suskwa and Telkwa a resident-only. These are small waters and such a designation would not have a big impact on business. Making these resident-only would make other “resident-light” recommendations more saleable to the broader public

## **SUNDAY AFTERNOON PLENARY**

### **Limited-Day Licence (on its own, hence individual angler restricted but no restriction on total number of anglers)**

- Desire for flexibility to tailor the number of days of a limited-day licence
  - Smaller rivers – fewer (e.g., 5-6)
  - Larger rivers – more
  - 8 days would not help distribute effort on smaller rivers
- Suggest that signage be used to help anglers know the different lengths between different rivers
  - E.g., 8 days – Skeena, Bulkley
  - Fewer – Kitsumkalum, Zymoetz, Kispiox
  - One day – Kitwanga, Kitsequecla, Suskwa

- Eight days – this time period has been used elsewhere (it is already in the legislation). It is also the average length of stay on the Kispiox
- Acknowledge that limited-day licences would be complementary to the other elements (i.e., other recommended management alternatives would still be in effect)
- Some participants supported the limited-day licence as an interim step to the Rod-Day Booking System. The limited-day licence would be implemented in conjunction with resident angler and guide-only days
- Benefit of e-licensing system: e-licence sales will help to determine the average length of stay. Ministry can then revisit the length of the cap (limit) on the limited-day licences and adjust them accordingly
- Recognize the need for monitoring to determine that the length of the limited licence is appropriate and is addressing the problems and issues on these rivers; a monitoring component is key for all management alternatives
- Concern that the focus of WWG recommendations are on limiting NRC/NRA – as an added restriction, this (limited-day licence) will be a harder sell
- Desire for assurance that residents won't be "stuck with" a limited-day licence forever as this is intended to be an interim measure in advance of a rod-day booking system

### **Consensus Agreement on Limited-day Licences**

Recommend that ministry implement an eight-day limited-day licence (cumulative) for NRC/NRA on all 13 waters as a starting point, track use over time, and change the number of days accordingly in response to need. – AGREED

### **Skeena Steelhead Stamp**

- Looking for region/watershed-wide implementation
- Goals:
  - Directed revenue stream for local management of the resource
  - Disperse effort away from the peak period (secondary goal)
  - Opportunity to reflect the value of the resource
- Dates for stamp
  - Acknowledge the difficulty with varying lengths of time that this stamp would apply (different peak periods)
  - August 15 – November 31 would cover all peak periods
  - Challenge to implement Skeena Steelhead Stamp across a region with different peak periods – concern that lack of concurrence of dates renders this non-implementable
  - Having a longer time period (Aug 15 – Oct 31) still values the resource in this area even if it doesn't help to disperse effort away from the peak period
- Cost of stamp and use of revenue
  - Notion of 1 day, 3 day or annual stamp (with varying numbers of days that the stamp is valid for, and therefore different costs)

- Sturgeon Stamp is a model where funding is dedicated and not sent to general revenue
- Anglers don't mind paying additional fees if they see money coming back to the region (vs. disappearing into a black hole). Otherwise it will be difficult to achieve buy-in to an additional stamp
- Concern about disparity of licence requirements for steelhead vs. salmon fishing
- Concern about lack of parity of licence fees for guided and non-guided NRC/NRA – one participant would like to see increased cost of licences for non-guided NRC/NRA to equalize licence costs
- All users need to pay more to reflect the value of the resource
- Rough cost estimate: \$100 – 200 for NRC/NRA and \$10 for residents
  - East WG – concern about fairness
  - Central WG – looked at total cost for NRC/NRA and using the above numbers the daily costs for an average stay were still under what an angler would pay for world-class fishing elsewhere
- Concern about marginalizing more residents out of this fishery (due to increased cost)
- General agreement that we undervalue this resource (relative to day of golfing or skiing)
- Value of this stamp as a revenue-generating tool is important
- Recommend market research to determine appropriate pricing of the Skeena Steelhead Stamp
- Of the three purposes (revenue-generating, distribution of effort and valuing the resource), valuing the resource is the key reason. Steelhead fishing in the Skeena Region is a high-value activity and this should be obvious to the rest of the world
- Fear that we still only look to (rely on) fees as the main tool to manage the resource
- Which waters best fit a Skeena Steelhead Stamp for Sept 15 – Oct 15?
  - Zymoetz I & II are the best fits from West WG
  - Also Skeena system upstream of Kitwanga Bridge
  - Skeena River should be included too because of the value of the resource
- Concerns:
  - There would be little or no value in a Skeena Steelhead Stamp on the Kitsumkalum
  - Question of need for guided NRC/NRA to have to pay for a Skeena Steelhead Stamp as well
    - Need to treat guided and non-guided NRC/NRA equally
  - If the Skeena Steelhead Stamp is meant to reflect the value of the resource, then residents should pay as well
    - Look at the comparative cost of steelhead fishing elsewhere in the world – it is relatively inexpensive here given the quality of the fishing

- Certain unclassified waters in the region may also require the Skeena Steelhead Stamp
- General message that this is a strong tool for our region.
- Strong conceptual support for inclusion of this tool in our plan

### **Consensus Agreement on Skeena Steelhead Stamp**

- Recommend Skeena Steelhead Stamp be implemented August 15 – October 31 for the 13 Classified Waters in the region.
- Ministry of Environment to decide on appropriate cost of stamp.
- 1 day, 8 day and annual stamp to be made available
- Request that funds be directed to management of the resource in the region
- AGREED

### **Rod-day Booking System**

- Elements – participants liked the elements and benefits of the Rod-day Booking System as described in the East WG meeting notes
- Application
  - Suggest that 50-75% of days be available on a first-come, first-served basis
  - Provide “day of” opportunities for at least 25% (for “rubber tire” traffic)
- Value of this system
  - Appreciate that this tool recognizes potential resident effort too
  - Appreciate how this system values the resource as well
  - Appreciate the flexibility of this system and the ability to adjust caps from year to year
  - Opportunity to capture valuable data regarding timing and location of angling effort by river
- Concerns:
  - A key element will be determining the carrying capacities for these rivers
  - Application to residents
    - Concern that this system requires that residents “plan ahead” (the encumbrance of a resident being required to book ahead) – would prefer that NRC/NRA be targeted first
    - Concern also about the time in the future when resident effort would be managed (when a cap for resident effort would be set)
    - Acknowledge the need for careful wording regarding the treatment of residents (in the short-term and long-term)
    - The system needs to be built first before it can be applied to residents

### **Consensus agreement on a Rod-Day Booking System**

Agreement that in the long-term, the Rod-Day Booking System should be developed and applied to NRC and NRA first, and not applied to residents until levels of effort warrant it. AGREED

### **TOM BELL'S CLOSING REMARKS – rough notes only**

- Next Steps
- Write up recommendations over the next couple of months (July – Aug)
- Take product to Working Groups and public in mid-September
- Mid-September – mid-November – internal analysis
- Mid-November – another Working Group meeting
  - Tom Ethier would meet with WGs
  - Discuss product with Working Groups, and ministry's response to recommendations from Working Groups
- First Nations – government will continue First Nations consultations
  - No final date
  - Parallel to this process

### **Q&A**

Q: How to harmonize issues that remain outstanding?

A: We'll capture recommendations of Working Groups

- Between Aug – mid-November, MOE will do analysis and provide answers to those
- Some questions can be answered by mid-November

Q: Who makes the final decision? MOE? Or the Working Groups in the fall? (If it is MOE, was our weekend time wasted?)

A: Yes, some decisions may end up like that. MOE will make the decisions. Some questions may be put back to the Working Groups.

Q: Any dialogue with Ministry of Tourism?

A: No meetings have been set yet. Ministry of Tourism was interested in the first draft and we may have similar discussions, and they may be more in-depth

Last comments from Tom:

- We'll post recommendations from the Working Groups
- There are no plans for a formal public comment period
- Participants can submit feedback and it will be considered
- Updates on the website will still take place over the next several months
- Regional Committee for QWS will continue to monitor and help drive the plan forward – I encourage Working Group members to work with the Regional Committee (Note: there are vacant positions available on the Regional Committee that Working Group members might consider applying for)