

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

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**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 16, 2017 8:06 PM  
**To:** s.22

**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Hunting/Access regulation changes Region 3.  
**Attachments:** Thompson\_reg\_changes\_2018.pdf

Hi All;

I received this from Francis. Please forward to anyone I may have missed.....and see attached. I have asked and access to traplines will not be impacted. That being said if you have an affected line its best to get confirmation from FLNRO and if you carry a rifle that may be used for both fur or deer it may be good to get clarification as to whether there are any restrictions. to carry on your ATV.



Also we chatted about Oct 21 ( Saturday) as a full day first meeting. The alternative would be a evening meeting the following week to kick off the 2017/18 season....any suggestions/comments? We can firm this up early Oct.


Cheers

H s.22

Please find attached a table of proposed Hunting & Trapping Regulation changes for Region 3 for the 2018 season. Can you please distribute to your membership for discussion and comment?

Decisions on whether to move forward with the proposals will occur in the fall/early winter 2017. The deadline for submission to Victoria is early October 2017 so if there are questions, comments and/or concerns, please respond no later than October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017. Questions, comments and/or concerns can be submitted to the Regional office by phone or email. Please contact either myself at Francis Iredale at (250)

371-6241  (Francis.Iredale@gov.bc.ca), Chris Procter at (250) 371-6250  (Chris.Procter@gov.bc.ca), or

Gerad Hales at (250) 371-4457  (Gerad.Hales@gov.bc.ca).

At the provincial level you are reminded that opportunities to review and comment on proposed regulations for each region are afforded through the public Angling, Hunting and Trapping Engagement Website: <http://apps.nrs.gov.bc.ca/pub/ahte/>. Proposed regulation changes will be posted to this website in the early fall.

You will note a proposed change to implement an ATV closure for the purposes **of hunting** in the Bonaparte Population Unit (3-28, 29, and 30). ATV restrictions have been our radar for a couple of years given the level of hunting pressure Region 3 is experiencing combined with the high, and ever increasing, road densities in the region. The large Elephant Hill fire and subsequent vulnerability of game animals in the burn area has spurred this proposal in advance of a more comprehensive regional strategy to manage off-road vehicle use for hunting purposes in the region, which will be happening in the near future. At this time, there is a relatively high probability that there could be an emergency implementation of this regulation for this coming fall to address immediate issues around ungulate vulnerability in the burn area and areas adjacent. As such, we are interested in comments, questions and concerns on this proposed change as soon as possible.

Cheers,

Fran

Francis J. Iredale, *RPBio*

Wildlife Biologist

Fish and Wildlife Branch, Resource Stewardship Division

Ministry of Forests Lands and Natural Resource Operations

Thompson-Okanagan Region



Work: (250) 371-6241

<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wildlife/wsi/index.htm>

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**From:** s.22

**Sent:** May 15, 2017 8:21 PM

s.22

**Subject:** Fwd: Updated Sandy Reports: May 15, 2017

**From:** s.22

**Sent:** May-15-17 5:43 PM

**Subject:** Fwd: FW: Updated s.22 Reports: May 15, 2017

FYI

Dave

Dear subscribers,

As noted earlier, the s.22 Reports newsletter sent out earlier today contained incorrect information from the recent NAFA auctions.



Please find attached the updated newsletter with all correct sales results.

My sincere apologies for conveying incorrect information.

Thank you.

s.22

## Proposed Hunting & Trapping Regulation Changes for Region 3 for 2018

| Species   | Proposed Regulation Change  | Rationale  | Main Contact  |
|-----------|---|--|---|
| Moose     | Reduce Spike/Fork Bull Moose General Open Season in MU 3-39 to Nov. 1 – 15.   | Proposed change to harmonize the Spike/Fork bull moose GOS in 3-39 with adjacent Management Units to the south. We restricted the GOS in 2014 to a post-rut hunt Nov. 1 - 15 in the majority of Management Units around Kamloops to reduce bull harvest. MU 3-39 was left as is at the time, mostly due to high bull ratios, which has caused a significant transfer of hunting pressure. Prior to 2014, hunter numbers averaged ~250 and average hunter numbers since have been 345. In 2015, bull ratios were approximately 50% lower than that observed in previous surveys, mostly due to lower recruitment rates but increased pressure under the GOS may exacerbate declining bull numbers. Complaints of hunter crowding have been significant in recent years.   | Chris Procter<br><a href="mailto:Chris.Procter@gov.bc.ca">Chris.Procter@gov.bc.ca</a><br>250-371-6250 |
| Moose     | Implement Compulsory Inspection for Spike/Fork bull moose for Region 3  | Accurate harvest data for spike/fork bull moose killed under the GOS is required to provide confidence in bull allocations to resident hunters and non-resident hunters. Variable trends in Spike/Fork bull harvests are being observed in Region 3 in recent years and it's difficult to determine whether the trends are real or an artifact of the current Hunter Sample survey.  | Chris Procter<br><a href="mailto:Chris.Procter@gov.bc.ca">Chris.Procter@gov.bc.ca</a><br>250-371-6250 |
| Mule Deer | Reduce Region 3 Regional Bag Limit to <b>one</b> mule deer (currently 2) and reduce Provincial Bag Limit to <b>one</b> mule deer buck from Regions 3, 4, 5, 6, 7A, 7B, and 8 combined | <p>Hunting pressure for mule deer in Regions 3 and 8 has increased ~25% between 2011 and 2015 (2015: ~ 18,500 hunters in Region 3, ~12,700 hunters in Region 8). This increased hunting pressure combined with predation, increasing road density and reduced habitat quality has resulted in declining buck ratios and buck ratios below the provincial performance measure (i.e., 20 bucks/100 does post-hunt) in some areas. Currently, Regions 3 and 8 support ~67% of interior mule deer hunters and ~70% of the interior mule deer harvest. Large areas in Regions 3 and 8 are currently very near or below provincial buck/doe objectives and proactive approaches are necessary to maintain current levels of hunter opportunity in the regions.</p> <p>A Provincial bag limit of 1 mule deer buck is expected to reduce mule deer buck harvest in both Regions 3 and 8 by 5-15% of current buck harvests and are expected to reduce and distribute hunting pressure as well. Alternative measures, such as restricted seasons (e.g. shortened Any Buck seasons, November closures, rut closures, etc.) are not the preferred way of addressing this issue as they will significantly restrict</p> | Chris Procter<br><a href="mailto:Chris.Procter@gov.bc.ca">Chris.Procter@gov.bc.ca</a><br>250-371-6250 |

|   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
|   |  | hunter opportunity or further concentrate hunters in shorter timeframes, increase pressure and have little effect on harvests and buck ratios. They would also cause increased restrictions in all regions and potentially shift harvest pressure to other areas. Reducing the Regional Bag Limit to 1 mule deer from 2 is also expected to reduce buck harvests further.   |   |
| Clinton Creek Watershed – Motor Vehicle Closure | Exempt trapper from section 89 of the <i>Wildlife Act</i> Motor Vehicle Prohibition Schedule 1.  | For the purpose of wildlife management the intent of this amendment is to grandfather in an exemption for the trapper to use a portion of the access road into the Clinton Creek Watershed.   | Francis Iredale<br><a href="mailto:Francis.Iredale@gov.bc.ca">Francis.Iredale@gov.bc.ca</a><br>250-371-6241 |
| Bonaparte-ATV Hunting Closure                   | Prohibit the use of ATV for the purpose of hunting within MU's 3-28, 3-29 and 3-30, from Sept 1 to Dec 10, <i>Wildlife Act</i> Motor Vehicle Prohibition Schedule 6. | <p>The size and intensity of the Elephant Hill wildfire has resulted in significant challenges with respect to suppression efforts by the BC Wildfire Service. Regional Wildlife Biologists are concerned about the cumulative effects of increased hunter access points through established guards, existing side roads/trails and open terrain into important deer and moose seasonal habitats. Prior to the Elephant Hill wildfire, road densities within these MUs were calculated at 2.5km of road per square kilometer for MUs 3-29/3-30 and 3.5-4km of road per square kilometer for MU 3-28. Vulnerability of animals to harvest is expected to be high as they recolonize the burn prior to the establishment of adequate cover. Increasing hunting pressure within these MUs in consideration of increased access poses long-term conservation challenges for the maintenance of sustainable hunting opportunities (Refer to attached map).</p> <p>This ATV closure will be applied to the Bonaparte Population Unit in an effort to minimize the transfer of ATV use to adjacent areas that feature high road density and hunter effort.</p> | Francis Iredale<br><a href="mailto:Francis.Iredale@gov.bc.ca">Francis.Iredale@gov.bc.ca</a><br>250-371-6241 |

## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** Hales, Gerad S FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 16, 2017 10:00 AM  
**To:** Zimmerman, Ted FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Hales, Gerad S FLNR:EX; Iredale, Francis FLNR:EX; Procter, Chris FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: RTS\_3360\_2018 Hunting & Trapping Regulations - Westbank First Nation - RSP LTR: Consent Letter  
**Attachments:** Regulation Submission Form 2018- Spike-fork moose \_CI\_FINAL.doc; Regulation Submission Form 2018- Clinton\_Ck\_Trapper\_Exempt\_FINAL.doc; Regulation Submission Form 2018- DEMU\_regional\_bag\_limit\_FINAL.doc; Regulation Submission Form 2018- MU339\_sf\_moose\_amend\_FINAL.doc

Hi Ted. Please find attached the updated regulation change submission forms for the Thompson Region. I have updated the First Nation consultation section on each form to reflect the responses received from different First Nation organizations on the proposed changes. Since we sent out the proposed changes in a batch, the consultation information on each of the proposed regulation change forms is the same.

If you support the proposed changes, please send me back an email approval, and I will forward the changes on the Victoria, again, so they can post the proposed changes to the web in the near future for public consultation.

GH

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**From:** Hales, Gerad S FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 16, 2017 9:30 AM  
**To:** Zimmerman, Ted FLNR:EX; Walker, Andrew FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Hales, Gerad S FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: RTS\_3360\_2018 Hunting & Trapping Regulations - Westbank First Nation - RSP LTR: Consent Letter

On this, Branch is still looking for final RM approval of the proposed regulation changes, so they can post the proposed changes to the public engagement website towards the end of the month. They have stated that they will accept a batch email approval from you, Ted.

To that end, I'll review the final documents and provide my recommendations to you, Ted. If you agree with them, please send me your email approval of the proposed changes, and I'll get them in to Branch for processing. Does that work?

Cheers! GH

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**From:** Zimmerman, Ted FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 15, 2017 1:27 PM  
**To:** Walker, Andrew FLNR:EX; Hales, Gerad S FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Re: RTS\_3360\_2018 Hunting & Trapping Regulations - Westbank First Nation - RSP LTR: Consent Letter

OK thanks for the heads up Andrew.

**Ted Zimmerman**  
*Director, Resource Management*  
Thompson Okanagan Region

On Nov 15, 2017, at 12:03 PM, Walker, Andrew FLNR:EX <[Andrew.Walker@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Andrew.Walker@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Hi Ted and Gerad,

These are the only responses we have received from First Nations regarding the proposed hunting season changes for Region 8. PIB is requesting a referral fee and extension but they do for everything. I will reply with a formed response that Rob Purdy drafted. Craig and I had a phone call with Splatsin regarding hunting regulations in general but there wasn't much discussed regarding our specific proposals other than I am hoping to get a letter of support for the Joss-Tsuius-Mabel MVC.

I will add this to the consultation summary for sign-off today.

Sincerely,

**Andrew Walker**, Wildlife Biologist

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations; 102 Industrial Pl, Penticton BC, V2A 7C8

O: 250-490-8200; [Andrew.Walker@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Andrew.Walker@gov.bc.ca)

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**From:** Stephanie Paul [<mailto:spaul@wfn.ca>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, November 8, 2017 10:23 AM

**To:** Walker, Andrew FLNR:EX

**Subject:** RTS\_3360\_2018 Hunting & Trapping Regulations - Westbank First Nation - RSP LTR: Consent Letter

Andrew

Westbank First Nation acknowledges receipt of your referral dated September 25, 2017. After carefully considering all of the information you have provided as part of the above referral we have attached a response for your review.

To discuss this matter in further detail, please contact Raf DeGuevara by email at [rdeguevara@wfn.ca](mailto:rdeguevara@wfn.ca) or by telephone at (250)769-2440.

Regards,

**STEPHANIE PAUL**

Referrals Officer

**Westbank First Nation**

301-515 Highway 97 South


Kelowna, BC V1Z 3J2

T 250 769 2440 ext 1420

F 250 769-2036 [www.wfn.ca](http://www.wfn.ca)

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## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

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**From:** Iredale, Francis FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 12, 2017 10:46 AM  
**To:** s.22  
**Cc:** Hales, Gerad S FLNR:EX; Procter, Chris FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Proposed Regulation Changes for the Thompson Region  
**Attachments:** Thompson\_reg\_changes\_2018.pdf

Hi s.22

Please find attached a table of proposed Hunting & Trapping Regulation changes for Region 3 for the 2018 season. Can you please distribute to your membership for discussion and comment?

Decisions on whether to move forward with the proposals will occur in the fall/early winter 2017. The deadline for submission to Victoria is early October 2017 so if there are questions, comments and/or concerns, please respond no later than October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017. Questions, comments and/or concerns can be submitted to the Regional office by phone or email. Please contact either myself at Francis Iredale at (250) 371-6241 ([Francis.Iredale@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Francis.Iredale@gov.bc.ca)), Chris Procter at (250) 371-6250 ([Chris.Procter@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Procter@gov.bc.ca)), or Gerad Hales at (250) 371-4457 ([Gerad.Hales@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Gerad.Hales@gov.bc.ca)).

At the provincial level you are reminded that opportunities to review and comment on proposed regulations for each region are afforded through the public Angling, Hunting and Trapping Engagement Website:

<http://apps.nrs.gov.bc.ca/pub/ahte/>. Proposed regulation changes will be posted to this website in the early fall.

You will note a proposed change to implement an ATV closure for the purposes **of hunting** in the Bonaparte Population Unit (3-28, 29, and 30). ATV restrictions have been our radar for a couple of years given the level of hunting pressure Region 3 is experiencing combined with the high, and ever increasing, road densities in the region. The large Elephant Hill fire and subsequent vulnerability of game animals in the burn area has spurred this proposal in advance of a more comprehensive regional strategy to manage off-road vehicle use for hunting purposes in the region, which will be happening in the near future. At this time, there is a relatively high probability that there could be an emergency implementation of this regulation for this coming fall to address immediate issues around ungulate vulnerability in the burn area and areas adjacent. As such, we are interested in comments, questions and concerns on this proposed change as soon as possible.

Cheers,  
Fran

Francis J. Iredale, *RPBio*  
Wildlife Biologist  
Fish and Wildlife Branch, Resource Stewardship Division  
Ministry of Forests Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Thompson-Okanagan Region  
Work: (250) 371-6241  
<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wildlife/wsi/index.htm>





## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

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**From:** Iredale, Francis FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 26, 2016 1:35 PM  
**To:** s.22  
**Cc:** : Hales, Gerard S FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Extension of bobcat season in Region 3

s.22

Thank-you for articulating your rationale for a season extension of the bobcat/lynx season for the Thompson Region for consideration. Although listed as secure population by the Conservation Data Centre we are to be reminded that Bobcat and Lynx are listed as CITES species so we have to be careful with respect to any extensions on seasons as structured within southern British Columbia. As you are aware the Thompson Region features one of the most liberal season for bobcat and lynx in North America. In consideration of these species being listed as CITES management plans were drafted with input from local trappers. The plan states the following: 1) Unless ecological justified seasons amongst regions are to be harmonized. 2) Without monitoring information (e.g. demographic, or density estimate) on population and consideration of habitat change it is difficult to assess merits of season extension in regards to conservation. As you know, current seasons are set for pelt primness and to avoid the breeding period for bobcats (which starts near the end of February).

I have also looked at the average trapper harvest of bobcat for the Thompson Region (2000-2013). For those trappers who paid royalty on bobcats for the Thompson Region we have an average harvest of 3 cats per line (calendar year) (Median is 4 bobcats). Considering the deer season closes on Dec 10<sup>th</sup> (R3) and the bobcat season ends on Feb 15<sup>th</sup>, trappers have 70 days (rounded) to harvest bobcats without the presence of deer hunters. I feel the season as currently structured affords trappers the necessary time to trap bobcats in consideration of the regional average/median. I have not heard of other trappers conveying this scenario to our attention, in fact, talking to random trappers on the phone today, who do harvest bobcats, they suggest the window for pelt primness is decreasing as later in February we are seeing warming temperatures.

I do agree that bobcat and lynx should be species on Compulsory Reporting, especially if regulation changes make it mandatory to report. We would capture number of days trapped. I welcome the support from the local BCTA if we were to propose this regulation for CR reporting- another recommendation from the Bobcat and Lynx plans. I also suggest that we discuss implementing recommendations within the Bobcat and Lynx management plan (e.g. trapper questionnaire (time period TBA) etc that can help us collect additional information that will inform management.

Season changes are generally considered every 2 years (you will note the latest regs came into effect July 1, 2016), however, I welcome opportunities to discuss ideas anytime for consideration.

Respectfully,

Fran

Francis J. Iredale, *RPBio*  
Wildlife Biologist  
Fish and Wildlife Branch, Resource Stewardship Division  
Ministry of Forests Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Thompson-Okanagan Region  
Work: (250) 371-6241  
<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wildlife/wsi/index.htm>



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From: s.22  
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2016 9:09 AM  
To: Iredale, Francis FLNR:EX  
Cc: s.22  
Subject: Extension of bobcat season in Region 3

Hi Francis;

As we discussed, I have interest in extending the bobcat (and lynx) season to February 28/29th in Region 3. The rationale behind this request is that increase in resident hunter use of key bobcat winter habitat in Region 3 has increased and milder winters have resulted in heavy hunter use well into early December. This has resulted in a logistical impediment to conducting trapping activities, particularly in areas that are well known to Lower Mainland hunters. To mitigate for this impact, I would request a season extension to be considered, provided there is no conservation concern to the bobcat and lynx population from adding the extra two weeks to the season. Including compulsory reporting to initially evaluate the extended season would be an action that can be used to monitor harvest and ensure there are no conservation concerns.

I look forward to discussing this further, and hopefully we can include a more detailed discussion at our next BCTA local meeting.

Cheers

| Species    | MUs     | Proposal  | Suggested by    | Lead | Priorit | Proponent's rationale  | Ministry response   | Comments   |
|------------|---------|---|-----------------|------|---------|--|---|--|
| Bobcat     | Region  | Request for a bobcat mgmt review, not a reg change                            | EKTA            | LD   | N/A     | Kootenay region has the highest bobcat harvest levels it has ever experienced. Bobcat populations are based on elevation and available habitat. Reference Kootenay Bobcat study C. Apps / T Kinley Bobcats and Bluebirds. It is felt that in order for an over harvest not to occur we need to understand the science related to bobcat and habitat. This is not a proposed regulation change but we would like it to remain a high priority for management. |   | Not a regulation change. Trapper harvest increased significantly from 2012 to present. |
| Furbearers | Region  | Option for trappers to post (signs?) by bait stations for public awareness.   | EKTA            | LD   | Low     | Trapper bait stations take a lot of time and money to construct. Bait stations are used year after year in the same location. If posted it would make the public aware of activity and provide protection for both the public and trappers. Trappers benefit by no site contamination. This would increase trapper opportunity to harvest canines (wolf/coyote).   | This does not require a regulation change. Trapper's are welcome to post signs now. |  |
| Moose      | Region  | Align seasons with moose enhancement objectives (no reg changes at this time) | Southern guides | PS   | No      |  |   | Highlights data needs (archery, spike-fork)  |
| Moose      | 408/409 | Increase LEH permits for moose where warranted                                | Trail/WKBG TA   | PS   | N/A     | Increase hunting opportunity   | Not a regulation change   |  |

| Species    | MUs    | Proposal                           | Suggested by | Lead | Priority | Proponent's rationale   | Ministry response | Data needs | Comments |
|------------|--------|------------------------------------|--------------|------|----------|---|-------------------|------------|----------|
| Goat       | 422    | Create AMA in Sulphur Creek        | Irene/Allana | IT   | High     | new logging and road construction has resulted in motorized access into sensitive habitats; restrict snowmobiling to above xx m             |                   |            |          |
| Furbearers | Region | Trapper exemption to existing AMAs | Mike K       | MK   | High     | To be consistent with current AMA exemptions in regulation re: for the purpose of access to traplines for legitimate trapping purposes only |                   |            |          |
|            |        |                                    |              |      |          |   |                   |            |          |

# Background information for 2018 regulation changes: Kootenay Region

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## Preamble for meeting

- Ask reps to focus on their organization's perspective.
- Focus on objectives and what science tells us about how to meet objectives.
- Provincial proposals should be raised through provincial organizations to the PHTAT table.
- Every group pick top 3 priority proposals to discuss (could extend to top 5 if time).
- Will revise table after discussions and send to group; each organization will be asked to indicate whether they support, do not support or are neutral on each proposal.
- 

## All species

### Bighorn sheep

Irene has print-outs: Bull River and Galtons

Syringa sheep at very low population numbers: close LEH season (introduced population)

### Black bear

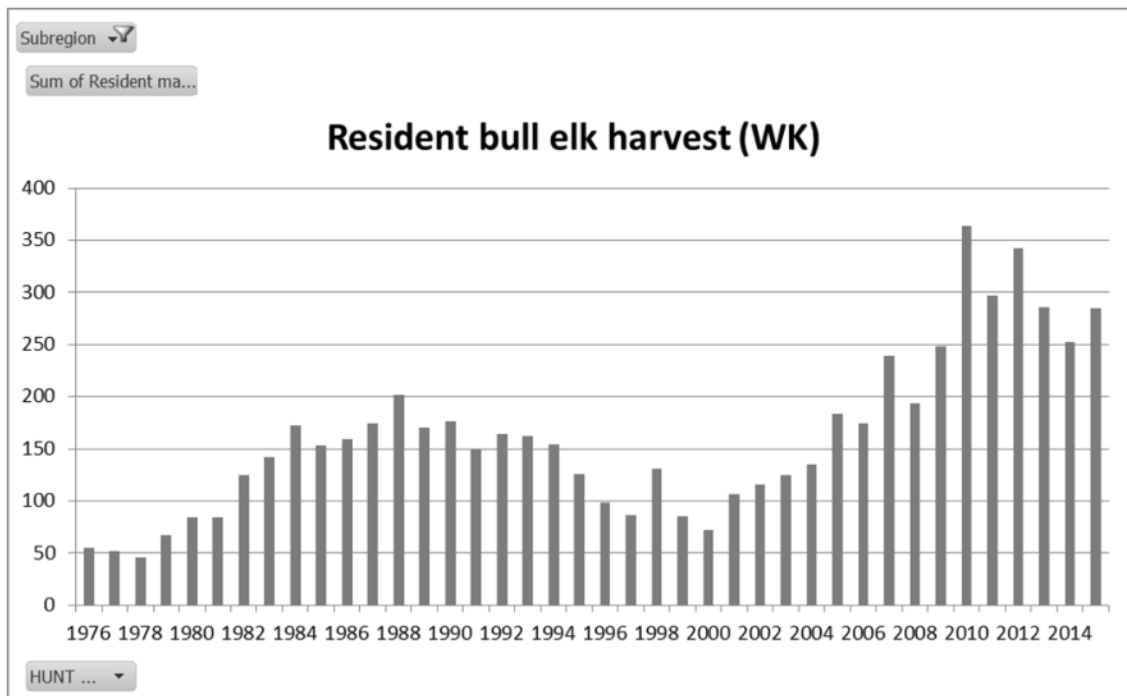
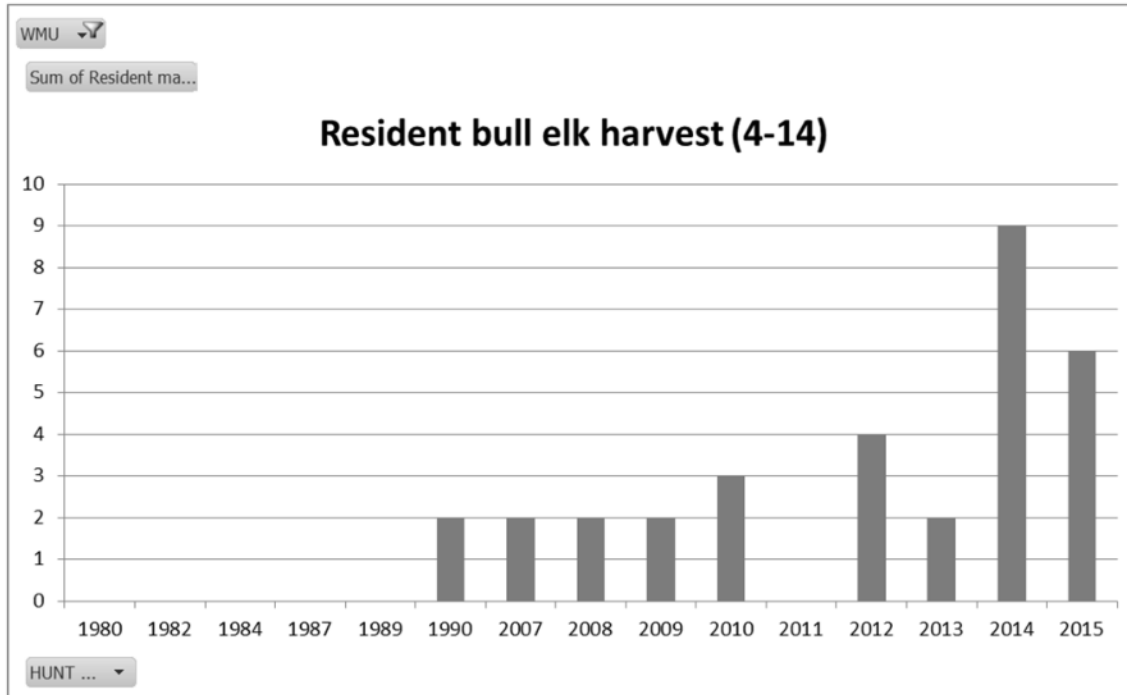
### Bobcat

### Cougar

## Elk

### West Kootenay elk

Harvest data to 2015:



### Timing of bull harvest:

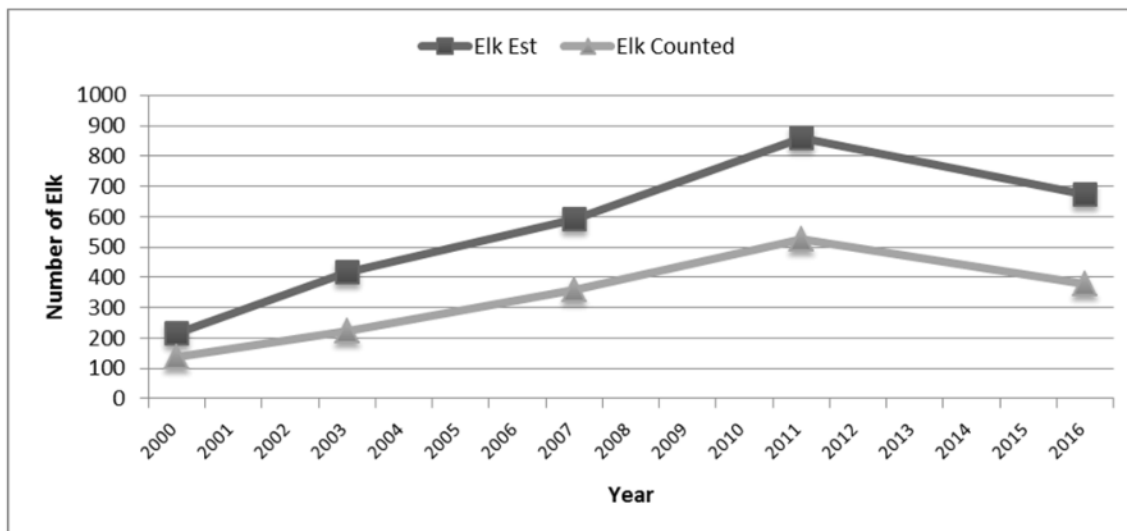
| Date range      | Bull elk killed |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Sept 1 - 9      | 11%             |
| Sept 10 - Oct 5 | 72%             |
| Oct 6 - 20      | 17%             |

| Date range   | Bull elk killed |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Sept 1 - 9   | 11%             |
| Sept 10 - 30 | 68%             |
| Oct 1 - 20   | 22%             |

- Closing the season earlier (Oct 5) will likely reduce the harvest moderately (17%). Opening the season later (Oct 1) will likely reduce the harvest substantially (68% or 79% if bow season is closed as well). However, predicting change in harvest is challenging because of changes in hunter behaviour.

### South Selkirk Ungulate Survey:

- Conducted in February 2016.
- Elk population estimate was 672 - down compared to 2011 but higher than previous surveys.
- Low calf to cow ratios (10:100).
- Bull to cow ratios above target (45:100).



### West Kootenay composition survey report:

Summary of West Kootenay elk ratio data from surveys conducted between 2004 and 2017. Data were corrected for incomplete sightability using the Hiller 12-e elk model in the program Aerial Survey. Data from survey units have been combined at 90% Confidence Intervals (CI).

| Ratio              | 2004      | 2007     | 2011       | 2012       | 2013       | 2016       | 2017       |
|--------------------|-----------|----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| <b>Calves:</b>     | 12 (6-13) |          | 28 (21-34) | 25 (23-27) | 26 (22-29) | 45 (4-86)  | 29 (14-43) |
| <b>100 cows</b>    |           |          | Slocan     |            |            |            | Slocan     |
|                    |           |          | 21 (17-25) |            |            |            | 34 (18-50) |
|                    |           |          | Salmo      |            |            |            | Salmo      |
|                    |           |          | 24 (20-29) |            |            |            | 28 (21-36) |
|                    |           |          | L. Arrow   |            |            |            | L. Arrow   |
| <b>Bulls: 100</b>  | 80        | 101      | 42 (33-50) | 35 (24-46) | 31 (23-38) | 43 (10-76) | 21 (10-31) |
| <b>cows</b>        | (47-113)  | (71-132) | Slocan     |            |            |            | Slocan     |
|                    |           |          | 58 (47-70) |            |            |            | 32 (12-52) |
|                    |           |          | Salmo      |            |            |            | Salmo      |
|                    |           |          | 56 (44-68) |            |            |            | 9 (0-20)   |
|                    |           |          | L. Arrow   |            |            |            | L. Arrow   |
| <b>≥ 6-points:</b> |           |          | 26         | 15         | 14         | 13         | 6          |
| <b>100 cows</b>    |           |          | (16-36)    | (8-22)     | (9-19)     | (10-16)    | (0-17)     |

## Turkey

Increasing complaints mostly from rural residents on private land; increasing requests for “kill permits” (2 b ii) on private land; species introduced to many areas of BC; translocations not supported; use similar habitats to native grouse species; Washington and Montana have liberal seasons similar to proposed Preliminary Proposal: Spring: males only: April 15 to May 31 (to align more with Montana and Washington) Fall: either sex: Sept 1 to Dec 31. Bow or shot only (to align more with Montana and Washington)

Requesting input from group

## Wolf

BC wolf management plan - [http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/fw/wildlife/management-issues/docs/grey\\_wolf\\_management\\_plan.pdf](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/fw/wildlife/management-issues/docs/grey_wolf_management_plan.pdf)



## Wolverine

Annual wolverine harvest – Region 4

| Row Labels   | Resident hunter | Trapper | Unknown | Grand Total |
|--------------|-----------------|---------|---------|-------------|
| 2000         |                 | 15      |         | 15          |
| 2001         |                 | 11      | 1       | 12          |
| 2002         |                 | 5       | 1       | 6           |
| 2003         |                 | 7       |         | 7           |
| 2004         | 1               | 6       |         | 7           |
| 2005         | 1               | 20      |         | 21          |
| 2006         | 1               | 16      |         | 17          |
| 2007         |                 | 10      |         | 10          |
| 2008         |                 | 4       |         | 4           |
| 2009         |                 | 29      |         | 29          |
| 2010         |                 | 7       |         | 7           |
| 2011         |                 | 8       |         | 8           |
| 2012         |                 | 18      |         | 18          |
| 2013         |                 | 8       |         | 8           |
| 2014         |                 | 8       |         | 8           |
| 2015         |                 | 23      |         | 23          |
| 2016         |                 | 6       |         | 6           |
| Grand Total  | 3               | 201     | 2       | 206         |
| 17 year mean | 0.2             | 11.8    | 0.1     |             |

## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** Szkorupa, Tara D FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, August 11, 2017 12:19 PM  
**To:** DeGroot, Leo FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Teske, Irene FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Wolverine trapping season

s.13

Tara Szkorupa, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone: 250-489-8553 [Tara.Szkorupa@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tara.Szkorupa@gov.bc.ca)

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**From:** DeGroot, Leo FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 10, 2017 5:25 PM  
**To:** Szkorupa, Tara D FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Teske, Irene FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Wolverine trapping season

s.13



Leo

---

**From:** Szkorupa, Tara D FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 8, 2017 12:49 PM  
**To:** DeGroot, Leo FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Teske, Irene FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Wolverine trapping season

Hi Leo. Could you have a look through the trapping file and scan/sent me a copy of a letter that Irene sent to trappers about 10 years ago asking them to voluntarily reduce their harvest? Irene has a history with this file and is willing to take the lead on a reg change to shorten the season, so just trying to gather all the background information. Thanks so much!  
Tara

Tara Szkorupa, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone: 250-489-8553 [Tara.Szkorupa@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tara.Szkorupa@gov.bc.ca)

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**From:** Teske, Irene FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 8, 2017 11:03 AM  
**To:** Szkorupa, Tara D FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Wolverine trapping season

Hi Tara

Sorry could not find that wolverine letter to trappers. I know it is in the trapper files. Leo could scan it to you. The one I have attached is another one I sent. Briefing note provides good info too.

I will work on this.

Irene

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**From:** Szkorupa, Tara D FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 8, 2017 9:16 AM  
**To:** Teske, Irene FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Wolverine trapping season

Hi Irene. Because Garth's analyses aren't ready yet, we're thinking of sending a letter to trappers asking them to voluntarily reduce their harvest, and if they don't then close the season s.13 Do you have the letter that you sent before and if so can you send it to me? Thank you! Tara

Tara Szkorupa, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone: 250-489-8553 Tara.Szkorupa@gov.bc.ca

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**From:** Mowat, Garth FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, August 4, 2017 12:04 PM  
**To:** Szkorupa, Tara D FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** DeGroot, Leo FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Wolverine trapping season

We have the harvest data summarized on the old drive. My guess is that it is quite random and the better thing would be to ask for trappers to voluntarily reduce their kill s.13

s.13 Most of the kill is from a few trappers  
who regularly kill >1 per year.

Garth Mowat, PhD  
Head-Natural Resource Science Section  
Resource Stewardship Division - Kootenay-Boundary Region  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Suite 401, 333 Victoria St., Nelson  
British Columbia, V1L 4K3, Canada  
Ph. (250) 354 6142 FAX (250) 354-6332  
Email: [garth.mowat@gov.bc.ca](mailto:garth.mowat@gov.bc.ca)

---

**From:** Szkorupa, Tara D FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, August 4, 2017 10:36 AM  
**To:** Mowat, Garth FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** DeGroot, Leo FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Wolverine trapping season

Hi Garth. We met with KWHAC yesterday, and as expected the trappers were concerned with closing the wolverine season. They were, however, open to shortening the season. Have you looked at timing of harvest? Assuming we would want to close the latter part of the season if we were to shorten s.13

s.13 Tara

Tara Szkorupa, Wildlife Biologist  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
205 Industrial Road G, Cranbrook, BC V1C 7G5  
Phone: 250-489-8553 Fax: 250-489-8506



## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

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**From:** Szkorupa, Tara D FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 7, 2016 7:40 AM  
**To:** DeGroot, Leo FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Lynx

No ☺. What was the season before? It was shorter right? I think the lynx harvest did go up with the season change so would be good to look at the data and assess this.

Tara Szkorupa, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone: 250-489-8553 Tara.Szkorupa@gov.bc.ca

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**From:** DeGroot, Leo FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 24, 2016 12:52 PM  
**To:** Szkorupa, Tara D FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Lynx

OK, it is on the list. I don't understand how shifting the season two weeks later will help. Do you?

☺

---

**From:** Szkorupa, Tara D FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 24, 2016 7:21 AM  
**To:** DeGroot, Leo FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Lynx

Hi Leo. Can you add this fun one to the reg change list for 2018? File is [here](#). Thank you! Tara

Tara Szkorupa, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone: 250-489-8553 Tara.Szkorupa@gov.bc.ca

---

**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2016 2:37 PM  
**To:** Szkorupa, Tara D FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Lynx

Hi Tara this past weekend I was in the Moyie river and Lamb creek looks like again the hound hunter are taking full advantage of the Lynx season . I again would like to express the need to curb the harvest in MU 4-05 ,4-04, 4-03 ,4-20 , we as trapper's have guide lines we follow and can not afford to see an over harvest occur . Another point I would like to make is that the increase in pressure due to many hounds men is changing travel patterns of animals such as wolves that we are expected to harvest in order to keep a balance between predator and prey . I, am hoping we can find a solution this season so this does not continue and I hope we can deal with this at a local level as our membership would rather we changed direction with it . I would like to suggest that there is options available s.13

Thank you s.22  
E.K.T. A.

Sent from Windows Mail

## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** Szkorupa, Tara D FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 8, 2017 12:49 PM  
**To:** DeGroot, Leo FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Teske, Irene FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Wolverine trapping season  
**Attachments:** wolverine trap.doc; wolverine briefing note1.doc

Hi Leo. Could you have a look through the trapping file and scan/sent me a copy of a letter that Irene sent to trappers about 10 years ago asking them to voluntarily reduce their harvest? Irene has a history with this file and is willing to take the lead on a reg change to shorten the season, so just trying to gather all the background information. Thanks so much!  
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Phone: 250-489-8553 Tara.Szkorupa@gov.bc.ca

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who regularly kill >1 per year.

Garth Mowat, PhD  
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Resource Stewardship Division - Kootenay-Boundary Region  
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Tara Szkorupa, Wildlife Biologist  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
205 Industrial Road G, Cranbrook, BC V1C 7G5  
Phone: 250-489-8553 Fax: 250-489-8506  
[Tara.Szkorupa@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tara.Szkorupa@gov.bc.ca)



October 22, 2004

Your File:

Our File:

Attention:

Dear :

**Re: Wolverine trapping harvest in MU 4-20.**

Trappers in MU 4-20 have been managing their traplines very well for wolverine as very few females have been harvested and trapping harvest has been sustainable. However, since 2000, a total of 8 wolverine have been harvested from MU 4-20. This slight increase in harvest represents a potential over-harvest of 2 wolverine over this 4 year period. Prior to 2000, trapping harvest of wolverine in MU 4-20 was 1.6 annually or 5 over 3 years. A trapping harvest of 1.5 annually is considered sustainable for this management unit according to habitat quality.

Please re-adjust your harvest of wolverine to the level it was prior to 2000, by reducing harvest to a 3 year maximum total of 5 for this management unit. Please manage your wolverine harvest by communicating with neighbouring trappers. The number of wolverine that should be harvested by each trapper will depend on how many trappers actively trap wolverine. If all trappers actively trapping wolverine in MU 4-20 not exceed the MU total of 5 wolverine over 3 years, it would be greatly appreciated. For your information, I have attached the Furbearer Management Guidelines for Wolverine.

Sincerely,

Irene Teske, RPBio  
Wildlife Biologist

cc: Dave Dunbar

# MINISTRY OF WATER, LAND AND AIR PROTECTION

## INFORMATION NOTE

Date: February 6, 2004  
Date of previous note: N/A  
File:  
CLIFF/tracking #:

### **I. PREPARED FOR: Al Martin, Director of Environmental Stewardship Division**

Note has been prepared due to discord with East Kootenay Trappers Association regarding proposed methods to resolve local over harvest of wolverines in Region 4.

### **II. ISSUE:**

**Localized over harvest of wolverine in Region 4 and proposed closure of MUs with an estimated population of less than 10 wolverine.**

### **III. BACKGROUND:**

Wolverine are blue-listed in B.C. (vulnerable) and are listed as a “species of special concern” under COSEWIC . The most vulnerable western populations are those of the southern mountains of Alberta, British Columbia, Vancouver Island and Ontario-Manitoba (Slough, B.G. 2002). Many pelts used locally are not included in official statistics, and harvest levels may be underreported (COSEWIC). This species is widely distributed at low densities (approximately 4.6 – 6.1/1000km<sup>2</sup> in high quality habitat). In addition,. the reproductive rate is low at <1 kit per adult female per year (Copeland 1996). A provincial population estimate of 2100 - 3600 wolverine was determined through research which was conducted in northern BC and West Kootenays (pers. comm. Krebs; pers. comm. Lofroth). From this research, a population estimate for the Kootenays was calculated at between 275 – 450 wolverine; at a recommended annual harvest rate of 6%, the annual sustainable harvest would be between 16.5 and 27.0 wolverine. The harvest rate over a 17 year period for the Kootenays is 19.6 wolverine/year.

Biodiversity Branch provided information regarding over harvest of wolverine in specific management units (i.e. 4-01, 4-02, 4-20, 4-21, 4-22, 4-23, 4-34). In addition, Biodiversity Branch recommended that Region 4 close the harvesting of wolverine in MU 4-03, 4-04, 4-07, 4-08, 4-09, 4-14 due to small estimated population size (i.e. less than 10 wolverines). After reviewing harvest data from 1997 to 2003, it was determined that 27% of the harvest was females and that 72% of the females were harvested in January. According to research, females tend to travel longer distances in late January and February (pers.comm. J. Krebs, E. Lofroth; Hatler and Beale 2003) Slightly more than half of the wolverine harvest in the Kootenays occurs in January.

This data was presented to four representatives of the East Kootenay Trappers Association (EKTA) on January 27, 2004. They were opposed on principle to closing the wolverine season

in the above mentioned units. When presented the proposal of a shortened wolverine season (Nov 1 – Jan 15) they would only accept the proposal if the lynx season was lengthened from Nov 15 – Dec 31 to Nov 15 – Jan 15. If the lynx season was lengthened, the trappers would then support a reduced wolverine season and cooperatively write a letter with WLAP requesting trappers to reduce their harvest of wolverine in specific MUs. After discussions with lynx biologists C. Apps, G. Mowat and K. Poole, their recommendations were to not lengthen the lynx season due to conservation concerns. In general the Kootenays does not contain much highly suitable lynx habitat, and lynx primarily occur in pockets of good habitat such as the Elk Valley. Lynx are also an endangered species in the US.

#### IV. DISCUSSION:

The localized over harvest of wolverine should be addressed to maintain or improve the conservation status of the species. The following options exist:

- **Shorten wolverine season and write Ministry letter requesting trappers to reduce harvest.** Trappers would not support reduced wolverine season without increased lynx season and EKTA would not cooperatively write letter to trappers. May not get compliance to letter request to reduced local harvests without EKTA support.
- **Close wolverine season in southern MUs, shorten wolverine season.** Trappers may continue localized over harvest and may increase trapper effort during shortened season. May not result in a reduced harvest of wolverine. MUs with low population estimates would be closed to harvest of wolverine. Trappers will be unsupportive.
- **shorten wolverine season, lengthen lynx season, write cooperative letter with EKTA to trappers requesting reduced wolverine harvest.** May result in reduced harvest of wolverine but increased harvest of lynx. Trappers will be supportive.
- **close wolverine season in Region 4.** Trappers will be unsupportive and vocal. Wolverine would be protected from harvest.
- **status quo and Ministry write letters to trappers to voluntarily reduce harvests.** May obtain trappers support. May also result in writing a cooperative letter with EKTA. Other more stringent changes can be applied if compliance to letter is not obtained.

#### V. MINISTRY POSITION:

Regional recommendations are:

**Contact:**  
*ADM: Nancy Wilkin*  
*Div: Environmental*

**Alternate Contact:**  
*Name: Dave Dunbar,*  
*FWSA Section Head*  
*Div/Region/Branch:*

**Prepared by:**  
*Name: Irene Teske, Wildlife*  
*Biologist*  
*Branch/Region: FWSA Section,*

*Stewardship*

*Phone: 250-356-0121*

*Environmental  
Stewardship, FWSA  
Section*

*Phone: 250-489-8547*

*Region 4: Kootenay*

*Phone: 250-489-8551*

| <b>Approved</b> | <b>Initials</b> | <b>Date</b> |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| DM              |                 |             |
| ADM             |                 |             |
| Dir./Mgr.       |                 |             |
| Author          |                 |             |

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Szkorupa, Tara D FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 24, 2016 7:21 AM  
**To:** DeGroot, Leo FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Lynx

Hi Leo. Can you add this fun one to the reg change list for 2018? File is [here](#). Thank you! Tara

Tara Szkorupa, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone: 250-489-8553 [Tara.Szkorupa@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tara.Szkorupa@gov.bc.ca)

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**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2016 2:37 PM  
**To:** Szkorupa, Tara D FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Lynx

Hi Tara this past weekend I was in the Moyie river and Lamb creek looks like again the hound hunter are taking full advantage of the Lynx season . I again would like to express the need to curb the harvest in MU 4-05 ,4-04, 4-03 ,4-20 , we as trapper's have guide lines we follow and can not afford to see an over harvest occur . Another point I would like to make is that the increase in pressure due to many hounds men is changing travel patterns of animals such as wolves that we are expected to harvest in order to keep a balance between predator and prey . I, am hoping we can find a solution this season so this does not continue and I hope we can deal with this at a local level as our membership would rather we changed direction with it . I would like to suggest that there is options available s.13

s.13  
Thank you s.22  
E.K.T. A.

Sent from Windows Mail

## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** Szkorupa, Tara D FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, June 16, 2017 10:57 AM  
**To:** Mowat, Garth FLNR:EX; DeGroot, Leo FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Gray, Sarah FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Furbearer lit review

Hi Garth and Leo. Sarah is working on a furbearer lit review and there are a few reports that we're not able to find.

Do you have these:

- Estimates of Black Bear Population Size using DNA based mark recapture 1999-1998 Upper Columbia River (Boulanger 2003)
- Wolverine population and habitat assessment in the Kootenay Region, 2012 Field Season Report (Kortello & Hausleitner 2012)
- Abundance and Distribution of Wolverine in the Kootenay Region, 2015 Field Season Report: Valhalla and South Monashee mountains (Kortello & Hausleitner 2015)

Thanks! Tara

Tara Szkorupa, Wildlife Biologist  
Fish and Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
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[Tara.Szkorupa@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tara.Szkorupa@gov.bc.ca)

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

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**From:** Szkorupa, Tara D FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 15, 2017 10:32 AM  
**To:** Stent, Patrick FLNR:EX; Teske, Irene FLNR:EX; DeGroot, Leo FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Bohm, Holger FLNR:EX; Chirico, Albert ENV:EX  
**Subject:** Final prep for KWHAC meeting

Hi guys.

I'll make copies of background info for the KWHAC meeting (to hand out to the members) and the spreadsheet for us to reference (won't hand this out). Please make sure you have everything you want in these by tomorrow late afternoon.

Also, think about which regs you'd like to discuss with the group, so we can put forward our priorities as well. I highlighted the "priority" ranking for the ones I think we should discuss. Didn't include provincial-level ones since these should be elevated at the provincial level. Here's my initial list of priorities:

| #  | Species           | Area                | Proposal |
|----|-------------------|---------------------|----------|
| 3  | Bighorn sheep     | 402, 422            | s.13     |
| 7  | Cougar            | East side of Trench |          |
| 9  | Elk               | 414                 |          |
| 10 | Elk               | WK                  |          |
| 24 | Lynx              | 403-405, 420        |          |
| 28 | Turkey            | Region              |          |
| 31 | White-tailed deer | Region              |          |
| 40 | Wolverine         | Region              |          |

Background info is here – s.15

s.15

Spreadsheet is here - s.15

s.15

Tara

Tara Szkorupa, Wildlife Biologist  
Fish and Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
205 Industrial Road G, Cranbrook, BC V1C 7G5  
Phone: 250-489-8553 Fax: 250-489-8506  
Tara.Szkorupa@gov.bc.ca



## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Hansen, Inge-Jean FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 13, 2018 2:59 PM  
**To:** Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** TRIM: RE: NEW FOI FNR-2018-81726 FEE ESTIMATE DUE MARCH 15, 2018  
**Attachments:** FurbearerComanagement\_-\_Seed\_2018.docx; FurbearerComanagement\_-\_Seed\_2018\_Fig1.docx; FurbearerComanagement\_-\_Seed\_2018\_Fig2.docx; Review of DrCJohnson expert report IJH.docx; Review of Keith Simpson expert report.docx

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**HP TRIM Record Number:** D10587018F

Hi Ruth,

s.13,s.14

I have also attached a seed grant proposal that Rich Weir and I submitted to HCTF in October 2017 that looks to explore the idea of co-management between the BC government and trappers (as is stated in our regulations).

This request will have taken 30 minutes to complete.

Thank you,  
Inge-Jean

---

**From:** Lavallee, Michel FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 13, 2018 1:53 PM  
**To:** Bridger, Michael C FLNR:EX; Elsner, Rick FLNR:EX; Gagne-Delorme, Audrey FLNR:EX; Hansen, Inge-Jean FLNR:EX; Strong, Justin FLNR:EX; White, Katelyn FLNR:EX; Flagg, Hannah FLNR:EX; Harvey, Kerry FLNR:EX; Jones, Courtney N FLNR:EX; Schilds, Scott FLNR:EX; Takahashi, Linda FLNR:EX; Watters, Megan FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Scheck, Joelle L FLNR:EX; Addison, Christopher FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: NEW FOI FNR-2018-81726 FEE ESTIMATE DUE MARCH 15, 2018

Please let me know if you have any responsive records for this FOI request.

Michel

---

**From:** Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 13, 2018 1:50 PM  
**To:** Malt, Joshua FLNR:EX; Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX; Hales, Gerad S FLNR:EX; Bohm, Holger FLNR:EX; Reedman, Dave FLNR:EX; Larden, Troy P FLNR:EX; FrontCounter BC FLNR:EX; Lavallee, Michel FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Blackburn, Ian FLNR:EX; Barrett, Scott FLNR:EX; Starinieri, Rhonda FLNR:EX; Hamod, Wendy D FLNR:EX; Barr, Larry FLNR:EX; Zimmerman, Ted FLNR:EX; Stackhouse, Marsha G FLNR:EX; Krebs, John A FLNR:EX; Thom, Lisa M FLNR:EX; Scott-Joe, Tia D FLNR:EX; Johnson, Tiffany FLNR:EX; Exshaw, Linda FLNR:EX; Stewart, Rodger W FLNR:EX; Skerik, David FLNR:EX; Hirshfield, Paddy FLNR:EX; Unruh, Dana FLNR:EX; Parkinson, Yvonne M FLNR:EX; Strasdin, Aline

FLNR:EX; Pillipow, Ray FLNR:EX; Brown, Jeff D FLNR:EX; Pollard, Breanna FLNR:EX; Addison, Christopher FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** NEW FOI FNR-2018-81726 FEE ESTIMATE DUE MARCH 15, 2018

Hello,

The Ministry received a formal FOI request made under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* from an interest group

**Request Wording:** *Communications, emails, notes, letters, formal and informal between the offices of the Minister, the staff of the Ministry and municipalities in BC in regards to fur-bearing animal trapping regulations and requests or questions on municipal by-laws related to trapping. (Date Range for Record Search: From 08/01/2016 To 03/09/2018) – Date Format: MM/DD/YYYY*

This request is assigned to DMO/MO, F&W and all regions

If the request should be directed to another program in your Ministry or another public body, please reply to me with details; **do not** redirect the FOI request elsewhere.

Fee estimate due: March 15, 2018

Records due: March 23, 2018

**DO NOT PRODUCE RECORDS – FEE ESTIMATE ONLY IS REQUIRED**

If applicable, please respond to the following as soon as possible:

- Does the request require clarification?
- Can the records be directly released from the program area? No harms associated?
- Are responsive records publicly available, e.g. Government websites/publications?
- Will responsive records be published within 60 days?
- Are there suggestions to narrow/focus the request?

If your program **holds responsive records** please proceed as follows:

- If a fee estimate is not required, i.e., a records search will take less than 3 hours and total pages will be less than 200, advise me via email by the above noted due date and wait for further instructions.

If your program **does not hold responsive records** please complete Section 1 of the attached Call for Records form and return it to me via email.\* Ministry Search Responsibility and Accountability information.

The following guides are available to assist you:

- [What is a Record? Managing government Records – Module 2](#)
- [How to Complete a Call For Records Form](#)
- [Conducting and Documenting Search Activities](#)
- [How to Complete a Fee Estimate](#)
- [Harms Assessment - Quick Guide to Exceptions to Disclosure](#)

Thank you for your assistance. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

**Ruth Fernandes** | FOI Coordinator |

Deputy Minister's Office | Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development

# HCTF Enhancement Proposal 2018-19

## Seed Project: Co-management of furbearers: a strategy for collaboration

This worksheet is provided to give you an opportunity to compose your application offline. You may cut and paste directly from this document to the online form. Be aware that the online form might not accept certain formatting, so best to format once you have pasted in the content. ***Please refer to the 2018 Proposal Writing Instructions for details on content, word restrictions, and more.***

### Proponent Information

**Author of Proposal:** Inge-Jean Hansen

**Project Leader:** Inge-Jean Hansen

**Title:** Wildlife Biologist

**Organization:** Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD)

**Address:** 9000 17<sup>th</sup> Street

**City:** Dawson Creek                      **Province:** British Columbia                      **Postal Code:** V1G 4A4

**Phone:** 250-784-1297                      **Cell:** 250-467-3282

**Email Address:** IngeJean.Hansen@gov.bc.ca

**Additional Proponents:** Richard Weir, Carnivore Conservation Specialist, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (MoECCS), Rich.Weir@gov.bc.ca

**Proponent Qualifications:** Inge-Jean Hansen is a regional Wildlife Biologist for the Northeast region of BC with FLNRORD. She has studied furbearers as a grad student, independent researcher, consulting biologist and now government biologist for 12 years.

Rich Weir is the Carnivore Conservation Specialist for the MoECCS and is one of North America's experts on fishers and other furbearers. With over 20 years of experience on fishers, wolverines and marten, Rich will provide active research on this proposed seed program as well as expert oversight.

**Comment [UH1]:** Change as you see fit.

### Project Overview

**Project Description:** This program aims to develop strategic objectives for the Northeast Region of BC that will build a better fur management relationship between the government and trappers as well as identify programs and methods for co-management of fur resources.

**Project Category:** Wildlife

**Project Location:** The Northeast region of British Columbia (resource management region 7B – see Figure 1 attached)

**Project Map Location: 56.769018, -120.745969**

**Species Enhanced: Marten, Fisher, Lynx, Beaver, Mink**

**HCTF project #:**

**Have you discussed this project with the regional Ministry Fish/Wildlife/Habitat Biologist?: YES**

**Please provide the name of this person and any relevant comments:**

The program has been discussed with Michel Lavallee, Section Head for Fish and Wildlife for the Northeast Region of FLNRORD, as well as Chris Addison, Director of Resource Management for the Northeast Region of FLNRORD. It is recognized by both Chris and Michel that the region needs to begin to better manage for furbearers and engaging in co-management of fur resources with trappers is what the province is supposed to do, as discussed in the trapping regulations. Both are very supportive of this proposal.

## Issue/Rational

### Issue:

The trapping regulations in BC state that furbearers are managed by the trappers that harvest them via the trapline tenure system, and/or by co-management with the region (see figure 2 attached). The trapped species are managed by home range size and sensitivity and are divided into Class 1, 2, and 3 species. Class 1 species, such as marten, are managed on individual traplines by the trappers, while Class 2 species, such as lynx and fisher are expected to move among traplines and thus are managed via coordination between and amongst trappers and the region. With little inventory and little to no efforts at co-management that we are aware of, Class 1 and 2 species are at risk of overharvesting, especially as the landscape within traplines changes with cumulative disturbance, habitat loss, and climate change.

Furbearers are important to many other communities and stakeholders as well. First Nations within northeastern BC identify furbearers, especially fisher and marten, as priority wildlife species in need of improved management and increased data collection to determine populations and trends.

Additionally, the respective roles of FLNRORD and MoECCS in furbearer management could use clarification, and a collaborative program with government is likely warranted.

### Rational for submitting a seed proposal:

This seed proposal is necessary to provide the impetus and time/expenses for travel to review the issue more fully and identify strategic routes for FLNRORD and MoECCS to become more involved in fur management. We will use the strategies identified in this seed program to increase collaboration and build and implement plans. These extensions will come from successful full proposals to the HCTF aimed at improving our knowledge of and techniques for furbearer management in BC. While the focus is on northeastern BC, the issue is province wide and it is hoped that the achievements of this seed proposal can be applied on a broader scale.

## Objectives, Activities, Measures and Timelines

### Overall Project Objective:

The overall project objective is to identify strategies and research needs to enable effective

collaborative management for class 1 and 2 furbearers in the northeast region of BC. Once completed, the seed grant will focus future programs and full proposals on identified research and monitoring gaps for target species, such as marten. Guidance is needed to build co-management, even amongst government ministries, and this seed proposal aims to improve the future of furbearers in northeastern BC by improving how we manage for them.

The seed project objectives are numbered below with associated methods (numbered to match the objectives to which they refer). The activities that build the budget are only associated with travel and accommodations as all time is in-kind.

### **Seed project objectives and methods:**

**Objective 1:** Review of co-management tools in existence, including the 2003 fur management guidelines for the 10 Class 1 and 2 species, available on FLNRORD's website (<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/fw/wildlife/trapping/guidelines.html>) and cited within the current trapping regulations.

#### **Methods 1:**

- Review conducted by FLNRORD and MoECCS to determine what efforts at co-management or inventory to ensure trapline management is occurring sustainably have occurred to date and what has been successful/unsuccessful.
- Literature review to determine management practices and identify co-management strategies in other boreal forest countries such as Norway, Sweden and Russia.

**Objective 2:** Identification of gaps in furbearer knowledge specific to Northeastern BC and BC in general. The identification of knowledge gaps will focus on the data pertinent to managing a harvested species, such as annual harvest, population size and trends, productivity, survival, recruitment and sensitivity to disturbance.

#### **Methods 2:**

- Compile Rich and Inge-Jean databases of literature on furbearers and conduct a literature search for relevant (provincial and regional) publications and reports on Class 1 and 2 furbearers,
- Identify which species have had sufficient targeted studies in northeastern BC that could aid management (e.g. inventories, habitat use investigations) and which species are lacking information. This will identify research and co-management needs for future full proposals

**Objective 3:** Identification of roles and gaps in roles between ministries (FLNRORD and MoECCS)

#### **Methods 3:**

- Conduct regular and focussed meetings between project proponents, Rich Weir and Inge-Jean Hansen.
- In addition, Rich Weir and Inge-Jean Hansen will meet with managers within their respective ministries to identify gaps and identify research needs appropriate to the mandates of each ministry

**Objective 4:** identification of gaps in current trapper management of fur harvest

#### **Methods 4:**

- review the current management methods of time-based and area-based trapline harvest management
- Review fur management plans to determine use and adherence to the plans
- Review the current and planned fur harvest reporting system and identify gaps and potential solutions

**Objective 5:** Identification of gaps in management from the trapper's perspective.

**Methods 5:**

- targeted meetings with active trappers in Northeastern BC, trapper education instructors, trapper regional representatives, and talks during regular regional trapper meetings.
- Active trappers will be determined from fur harvest records and then the snowball method of or referral methods of sampling will be employed (snowball sampling is an effective technique where existing interview subjects identify other suitable recruits from among their acquaintances or personal knowledge.
- A booth/poster display at the BC Trappers annual convention in Kamloops, April 20-22 2018, will allow for open communication with trappers throughout BC where all issues and ideas will be recorded and incorporated into the seed project summary.

**Budget****Budget Section 1: HCTF Seed grant request**

| Activity   | Budget    |
|--|-----------|
| Travel and accommodation to meet with trappers throughout northeastern BC (regional reps, active trappers, Trapper education instructors               | \$2000.00 |
| Airfare for Rich Weir (Victoria to Kamloops) For Annual trappers AGM, April 20-22 2018   | \$500.00  |
| Airfare for Inge-Jean Hansen (Fort St John to Kamloops) For Annual trappers AGM, April 20-22 2018  | \$500.00  |
| Accommodations for Rich Weir and Inge-Jean Hansen in Prince George For annual trappers AGM   | \$700.00  |
| Airfare for Rich Weir (Victoria to Fort St. John) to co-present seed Proposal findings and research needs To regional managers in the northeast Region | \$600.00  |
|  | \$0.00    |
|  | \$0.00    |
|  | \$0.00    |

**Budget Section 2: Please list any partnership funding (cash or inkind) for seed activities**

All time spent by Inge-Jean Hansen and Rich Weir will be in-kind from their respective ministries, an estimate of which is found below:

- Inge-Jean Hansen
  - 23 days research, travel and reporting
- Rich Weir
  - \_\_\_ days research, travel and reporting @ \_\_\_/day = \$

s.13

**Comment [JH4]:** Rich, can you fill this part in.

Travel by truck/car to meet with trappers in the northeast region will be provided in-kind by FLNRORD with an estimated cost of \$2000.00

All office space and printing will be provided in-kind by FLNRORD and MoECCS.

## Attachments

### Map **Description:**

#### **Description of File Attachments:**

Figure 2. (attached) is an excerpt from the BC Hunting and Trapping regulations synopsis, 2016-2018 describing the difference between Class 1, 2, and 3 furbearers and the general management terms of the BC fur management program.

**Comment [IH5]:** Rich, you don't happen to have a ready made map of all the traplines outlined in Northeastern BC.

## BC FUR MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

► In British Columbia, some 3,500 trappers actively manage 17 furbearing animal species, following standards, legislation and regulations developed by Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations. About half of the province's trappers are Aboriginal.

- The Fur Management Program includes:
- The BC Trappers Association's (BCTA) Trapper Education Program courses for new and experienced trappers.
- The "Furbearer Management Guidelines" available for muskrat, beaver, mink, marten, fisher, weasel, wolverine, otter, bobcat, lynx, fox, coyote, and wolf. These guidelines outline the role that trappers can play in the wise management of these species. The guidelines can be found on the F&W Branch website at: [www.gov.bc.ca/hunting](http://www.gov.bc.ca/hunting).

## Regulating Harvest

► In general, appropriate trapping seasons have been developed by considering a variety of criteria including pelt primeness, relative vulnerability of age and sex classes to harvesting, abundance and capture technology.

► The registered trapline system continues to be the primary system for setting harvest guidelines and managing furbearing animals. Harvest levels are guided by species management strategies, with furbearers being divided into three classes:

**Class 1 Species** - can be managed on individual traplines. This class includes beaver, fox, marten, mink, muskrat, raccoon, skunk, squirrel and weasel.

**Class 2 Species** - move between and among traplines and thus are not manageable on individual traplines. Harvests will be regulated regionally, in consultation with local trappers. This class includes lynx, bobcat, wolverine, fisher and otter.

**Class 3 Species** - also move between and among traplines, but generally are not vulnerable to over-trapping. This class includes the wolf and coyote. Trappers will be encouraged to trap these species, especially in areas of chronic animal damage control problems.

Figure 2. Excerpt from the hunting and trapping regulations synopsis for BC, 2016-2018





Page 10 to/à Page 12

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.14;s.13

## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** Hansen, Inge-Jean FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 13, 2018 3:06 PM  
**To:** Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** TRIM: FW: review of Keith Simpson expert report  
**Attachments:** Review of Keith Simpson expert report.docx

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**HP TRIM Record Number:** D10587118F

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**From:** Hansen, Inge-Jean FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 24, 2017 10:14 AM  
**To:** Weir, Rich ENV:EX; Addison, Christopher FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** review of Keith Simpson expert report

s.13,s.14

Talk soon,  
I-J

Page 14 to/à Page 18

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.14;s.13

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

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**From:** Hansen, Inge-Jean FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 13, 2018 3:08 PM  
**To:** Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** TRIM: FW: Furbearer co-management seed grant proposal  
**Attachments:** FurbearerComanagement\_-\_Seed\_2018.docx; FurbearerComanagement\_-\_Seed\_2018\_Fig2.docx

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**HP TRIM Record Number:** D10587518F

---

**From:** Hansen, Inge-Jean FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 1, 2017 12:47 PM  
**To:** Weir, Rich ENV:EX  
**Subject:** Furbearer co-management seed grant proposal

Hey there,

Attached is the draft of the proposal as well as one of the figures I will attach. Some sections could use some more fleshing out I think. Feel free to add to or change using track changes (I have already input this draft into the online version, so as long as you track your changes, I can easily update sections).

s.13

Oh well. Anyways, if you see a different direction I should head with this, let me know. s.22

s.22 so I am kind of pulling a split shift and will be working away on this stuff again at 6-7:30. I will also have time to review tomorrow morning until 1pm.

Thanks and talk soon,  
I-J

# HCTF Enhancement Proposal 2018-19

## Seed Project: Co-management of furbearers: a strategy for collaboration

This worksheet is provided to give you an opportunity to compose your application offline. You may cut and paste directly from this document to the online form. Be aware that the online form might not accept certain formatting, so best to format once you have pasted in the content. ***Please refer to the 2018 Proposal Writing Instructions for details on content, word restrictions, and more.***

### Proponent Information

**Author of Proposal:** Inge-Jean Hansen

**Project Leader:** Inge-Jean Hansen

**Title:** Wildlife Biologist

**Organization:** Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD)

**Address:** 9000 17<sup>th</sup> Street

**City:** Dawson Creek                      **Province:** British Columbia                      **Postal Code:** V1G 4A4

**Phone:** 250-784-1297                      **Cell:** 250-467-3282

**Email Address:** IngeJean.Hansen@gov.bc.ca

**Additional Proponents:** Richard Weir, Carnivore Conservation Specialist, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (MoECCS), Rich.Weir@gov.bc.ca

**Proponent Qualifications:** Inge-Jean Hansen is a regional Wildlife Biologist for the Northeast region of BC with FLNRORD. She has studied furbearers as a grad student, independent researcher, consulting biologist and now government biologist for 12 years.

Rich Weir is the Carnivore Conservation Specialist for the MoECCS and is one of North America's experts on fishers and other furbearers. With over 20 years of experience on fishers, wolverines and marten, Rich will provide active research on this proposed seed program as well as expert oversight.

**Comment [JH1]:** Change as you see fit.

### Project Overview

**Project Description:** This program aims to develop strategic objectives for the Northeast Region of BC that will build a better fur management relationship between the government and trappers as well as identify programs and methods for co-management of fur resources.

**Project Category:** Wildlife

**Project Location:** The Northeast region of British Columbia (resource management region 7B – see Figure 1 attached)

**Project Map Location: 56.769018, -120.745969**

**Species Enhanced: Marten, Fisher, Lynx, Beaver, Mink**

**HCTF project #:**

**Have you discussed this project with the regional Ministry Fish/Wildlife/Habitat Biologist?: YES**

**Please provide the name of this person and any relevant comments:**

The program has been discussed with Michel Lavallee, Section Head for Fish and Wildlife for the Northeast Region of FLNRORD, as well as Chris Addison, Director of Resource Management for the Northeast Region of FLNRORD. It is recognized by both Chris and Michel that the region needs to begin to better manage for furbearers and engaging in co-management of fur resources with trappers is what the province is supposed to do, as discussed in the trapping regulations. Both are very supportive of this proposal.

## Issue/Rational

### Issue:

The trapping regulations in BC state that furbearers are managed by the trappers that harvest them via the trapline tenure system, and/or by co-management with the region (see figure 2 attached). The trapped species are managed by home range size and sensitivity and are divided into Class 1, 2, and 3 species. Class 1 species, such as marten, are managed on individual traplines by the trappers, while Class 2 species, such as lynx and fisher are expected to move among traplines and thus are managed via coordination between and amongst trappers and the region. With little inventory and little to no efforts at co-management that we are aware of, Class 1 and 2 species are at risk of overharvesting, especially as the landscape within traplines changes with cumulative disturbance, habitat loss, and climate change.

Furbearers are important to many other communities and stakeholders as well. First Nations within northeastern BC identify furbearers, especially fisher and marten, as priority wildlife species in need of improved management and increased data collection to determine populations and trends.

Additionally, the respective roles of FLNRORD and MoECCS in furbearer management could use clarification, and a collaborative program with government is likely warranted.

### Rational for submitting a seed proposal:

This seed proposal is necessary to provide the impetus and time/expenses for travel to review the issue more fully and identify strategic routes for FLNRORD and MoECCS to become more involved in fur management. We will use the strategies identified in this seed program to increase collaboration and build and implement plans. These extensions will come from successful full proposals to the HCTF aimed at improving our knowledge of and techniques for furbearer management in BC. While the focus is on northeastern BC, the issue is province wide and it is hoped that the achievements of this seed proposal can be applied on a broader scale.

## Objectives, Activities, Measures and Timelines

### Overall Project Objective:

The overall project objective is to identify strategies and research needs to enable effective

collaborative management for class 1 and 2 furbearers in the northeast region of BC. Once completed, the seed grant will focus future programs and full proposals on identified research and monitoring gaps for target species, such as marten. Guidance is needed to build co-management, even amongst government ministries, and this seed proposal aims to improve the future of furbearers in northeastern BC by improving how we manage for them.

The seed project objectives are numbered below with associated methods (numbered to match the objectives to which they refer). The activities that build the budget are only associated with travel and accommodations as all time is in-kind.

### **Seed project objectives and methods:**

**Objective 1:** Review of co-management tools in existence, including the 2003 fur management guidelines for the 10 Class 1 and 2 species, available on FLNRORD's website (<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/fw/wildlife/trapping/guidelines.html>) and cited within the current trapping regulations.

#### **Methods 1:**

- Review conducted by FLNRORD and MoECCS to determine what efforts at co-management or inventory to ensure trapline management is occurring sustainably have occurred to date and what has been successful/unsuccessful.
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**Objective 2:** Identification of gaps in furbearer knowledge specific to Northeastern BC and BC in general. The identification of knowledge gaps will focus on the data pertinent to managing a harvested species, such as annual harvest, population size and trends, productivity, survival, recruitment and sensitivity to disturbance.

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**Objective 3:** Identification of roles and gaps in roles between ministries (FLNRORD and MoECCS)

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**Objective 4:** identification of gaps in current trapper management of fur harvest

#### **Methods 4:**

- review the current management methods of time-based and area-based trapline harvest management
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**Objective 5:** Identification of gaps in management from the trapper's perspective.



**Methods 5:**

- targeted meetings with active trappers in Northeastern BC, trapper education instructors, trapper regional representatives, and talks during regular regional trapper meetings.
- Active trappers will be determined from fur harvest records and then the snowball method of or referral methods of sampling will be employed (snowball sampling is an effective technique where existing interview subjects identify other suitable recruits from among their acquaintances or personal knowledge.
- A booth/poster display at the BC Trappers annual convention in Kamloops, April 20-22 2018, will allow for open communication with trappers throughout BC where all issues and ideas will be recorded and incorporated into the seed project summary.

s.13

**Budget****Budget Section 1: HCTF Seed grant request**

| Activity   | Budget    |
|--|-----------|
| Travel and accommodation to meet with trappers throughout northeastern BC (regional reps, active trappers, Trapper education instructors               | \$2000.00 |
| Airfare for Rich Weir (Victoria to Kamloops) For Annual trappers AGM, April 20-22 2018   | \$500.00  |
| Airfare for Inge-Jean Hansen (Fort St John to Kamloops) For Annual trappers AGM, April 20-22 2018  | \$500.00  |
| Accommodations for Rich Weir and Inge-Jean Hansen in Prince George For annual trappers AGM   | \$700.00  |
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|  | \$0.00    |
|  | \$0.00    |
|  | \$0.00    |

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  - 23 days research, travel and reporting
- Rich Weir
  - \_\_\_ days research, travel and reporting @ \_\_\_/day = \$

**Comment [JH4]:** Rich, can you fill this part in.

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All office space and printing will be provided in-kind by FLNRORD and MoECCS.

## Attachments

### Map **Description:**

#### **Description of File Attachments:**

Figure 2. (attached) is an excerpt from the BC Hunting and Trapping regulations synopsis, 2016-2018 describing the difference between Class 1, 2, and 3 furbearers and the general management terms of the BC fur management program.

**Comment [IH5]:** Rich, you don't happen to have a ready made map of all the traplines outlined in Northeastern BC.

## BC FUR MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

▶ In British Columbia, some 3,500 trappers actively manage 17 furbearing animal species, following standards, legislation and regulations developed by Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations. About half of the province's trappers are Aboriginal.

- ▶ The Fur Management Program includes:
- The BC Trappers Association's (BCTA) Trapper Education Program courses for new and experienced trappers.
- The "Furbearer Management Guidelines" available for muskrat, beaver, mink, marten, fisher, weasel, wolverine, otter, bobcat, lynx, fox, coyote, and wolf. These guidelines outline the role that trappers can play in the wise management of these species. The guidelines can be found on the F&W Branch website at: [www.gov.bc.ca/hunting](http://www.gov.bc.ca/hunting).

## Regulating Harvest

▶ In general, appropriate trapping seasons have been developed by considering a variety of criteria including pelt primeness, relative vulnerability of age and sex classes to harvesting, abundance and capture technology.

▶ The registered trapline system continues to be the primary system for setting harvest guidelines and managing furbearing animals. Harvest levels are guided by species management strategies, with furbearers being divided into three classes:

**Class 1 Species** - can be managed on individual traplines. This class includes beaver, fox, marten, mink, muskrat, raccoon, skunk, squirrel and weasel.

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Figure 2. Excerpt from the hunting and trapping regulations synopsis for BC, 2016-2018

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Hansen, Inge-Jean FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 13, 2018 3:09 PM  
**To:** Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** TRIM: FW: Furbearer co-management seed grant proposal  
**Attachments:** FurbearerComanagement\_-\_Seed\_2018\_RW.docx

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**HP TRIM Record Number:** D10587718F

Hi Ruth. I think this is the last email I have with respect to furbearer regulations. I will do a quick search in my other folders in case I mis-filed something.

Inge-Jean

---

**From:** Weir, Rich ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 1, 2017 2:14 PM  
**To:** Hansen, Inge-Jean FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Furbearer co-management seed grant proposal

Ok, did a very quick review (I've got 3 other proposals on the go!). Looks good overall, I think. I added some words for the issue to hopefully help clarify the issue.

s.13

Good luck!

R

---

**From:** Hansen, Inge-Jean FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 1, 2017 12:47 PM  
**To:** Weir, Rich ENV:EX  
**Subject:** Furbearer co-management seed grant proposal

Hey there,

Attached is the draft of the proposal as well as one of the figures I will attach. Some sections could use some more fleshing out I think. Feel free to add to or change using track changes (I have already input this draft into the online version, so as long as you track your changes, I can easily update sections).

s.13

Oh well. Anyways, if you see a different direction I should head with this, let me know. s.22  
s.22 so I am kind of pulling a split shift and will be working away on this stuff again at 6-7:30. I will also have time to review tomorrow morning until 1pm.

Thanks and talk soon,  
I-J

# HCTF Enhancement Proposal 2018-19

**Seed Project:** Building a strategy for cCo-management of furbearers: a strategy for collaboration

This worksheet is provided to give you an opportunity to compose your application offline. You may cut and paste directly from this document to the online form. Be aware that the online form might not accept certain formatting, so best to format once you have pasted in the content. *Please refer to the 2018 Proposal Writing Instructions for details on content, word restrictions, and more.*

## Proponent Information

**Author of Proposal:** Inge-Jean Hansen

**Project Leader:** Inge-Jean Hansen

**Title:** Wildlife Biologist

**Organization:** Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD)

**Address:** 9000 17<sup>th</sup> Street

**City:** Dawson Creek

**Province:** British Columbia

**Postal Code:** V1G 4A4

**Phone:** 250-784-1297

**Cell:** 250-467-3282

**Email Address:** IngeJean.Hansen@gov.bc.ca

**Additional Proponents:** Richard Weir, Carnivore Conservation Specialist, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (MoECCS), Rich.Weir@gov.bc.ca

**Proponent Qualifications:** Inge-Jean Hansen is a regional Wildlife Biologist for the Northeast region of BC with FLNRORD. She has studied furbearers as a grad student, independent researcher, consulting biologist and now government biologist for 12 years.

Rich Weir is the Carnivore Conservation Specialist for the MoECCS and is one of North America's experts on fishers and other furbearers. With over 20 years of experience on fishers, wolverines and marten, Rich will provide active research on this proposed seed program as well as expert oversight.

**Comment [JH1]:** Change as you see fit.

## Project Overview

**Project Description:** This program aims to develop strategic objectives for the Northeast Region of BC ~~partnerships to that will~~ build a better fur management relationship between the government and trappers as well as identify programs and methods for co-management of fur resources.

**Project Category:** Wildlife

**Project Location:** The Northeast region of British Columbia (resource management region 7B – see Figure 1 attached)

**Project Map Location: 56.769018, -120.745969**

**Species Enhanced: Marten, Fisher, Lynx, Beaver, Mink**

**HCTF project #:**

**Have you discussed this project with the regional Ministry Fish/Wildlife/Habitat Biologist?: YES**

**Please provide the name of this person and any relevant comments:**

The program has been discussed with Michel Lavallee, Section Head for Fish and Wildlife for the Northeast Region of FLNRORD, as well as Chris Addison, Director of Resource Management for the Northeast Region of FLNRORD. It is recognized by both Chris and Michel that the region needs to begin to better manage for furbearers and engaging in co-management of fur resources with trappers is what the province is supposed to do, as discussed in the trapping regulations. Both are very supportive of this proposal.

## Issue/Rational

### Issue:

In British Columbia, trappers have the exclusive right to harvest furbearing animals on their respective traplines and it is clearly in the best interests of a trapline owner to harvest furbearer populations sustainably. As the Province only regulates fur harvests currently by changing the length of seasons for each species, decisions with respect to harvest rates fall exclusively to the trapline owner. This process works well for species for which sufficient number occur within the confines of a trapline (called Class 1 species), such as American martens. However, for species that have larger home ranges or occur at low densities such that a "population" cannot be managed on any specific trapline (called Class 2 species), the ability of any one trapper to harvest sustainably depends on the harvest of trappers on surrounding traplines. s.13

s.13

\_\_\_\_ Class 1 species, such as marten, are managed on individual traplines by the trappers, while Class 2 species, such as lynx and fisher are expected to move among traplines and thus are managed via coordination between and amongst trappers and the region. With little inventory and little to no efforts at cooperative management that we are aware of, Class 1 and 2 species are potentially at risk of overharvesting, especially as the landscape within traplines changes with cumulative disturbance, habitat loss, and climate change.

Furbearers are important to many other communities and stakeholders as well. First Nations within northeastern BC identify furbearers, especially fisher and marten, as priority wildlife species in need of improved management and increased data collection to determine populations and trends.

Additionally, the respective roles of FLNRORD and MoECCS in furbearer management could use clarification, and a collaborative program with government is likely warranted.

### Rational for submitting a seed proposal:

This seed proposal is necessary to provide the impetus and time/expenses for travel to review the issue more fully and, identify strategic routes for FLNRORD and MoECCS to work with trappers in NE BC, and engage trappers towards developing and implementing a cohesive plan for co-operative management

of the fur resource become more involved in fur management. We will use the strategies identified in this seed program to increase collaboration and build and implement plans. These extensions will come from successful full proposals to the HCTF aimed at improving our knowledge of and techniques for furbearer management in BC. While the focus is on northeastern BC, the issue is ~~province-province-~~wide and it is hoped that the achievements of this seed proposal can be applied on a broader scale.

## Objectives, Activities, Measures and Timelines

### Overall Project Objective:

The overall project objective is to identify strategies and research needs to enable effective collaborative management for class 1 and 2 furbearers in the northeast region of BC. Once completed, the seed grant will focus future programs and full proposals on identified research and monitoring gaps for target species, such as marten. Guidance is needed to build co-operative management, even amongst government ministries, and this seed proposal aims to improve the future of furbearers in northeastern BC by improving how we manage for them.

The seed project objectives are numbered below with associated methods (numbered to match the objectives to which they refer). The activities that build the budget are only associated with travel and accommodations as all time is in-kind.

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#### Methods 1:

- Review conducted by FLNRORD and MoECCS to determine what efforts at co-management or inventory to ensure trapline management is occurring sustainably -have occurred to date and what has been successful/unsuccessful.
- Literature review to determine management practices and identify co-management strategies in other boreal forest countries such as Norway, Sweden and Russia.

**Objective 2:** Identification of gaps in furbearer knowledge specific to Northeastern BC and BC in general. The identification of knowledge gaps will focus on the data pertinent to managing a harvested species, such as annual harvest, population size and trends, productivity, survival, recruitment and sensitivity to disturbance.

#### Methods 2:

- Compile Rich and Inge-Jean databases of literature on furbearers and conduct a literature search for relevant (provincial and regional) publications and reports on Class 1 and 2 furbearers,
- Identify which species have had sufficient targeted studies in northeastern BC that could aid management (e.g. inventories, habitat use investigations) and which species are lacking information. This will identify research and co-management needs for future full proposals

**Objective 3:** Identification of roles and gaps in roles between ministries (FLNRORD and MoECCS)

#### Methods 3:

- Conduct regular and focussed meetings between project proponents, Rich Weir and Inge-Jean Hansen.
- In addition, Rich Weir and Inge-Jean Hansen will meet with managers within their respective ministries to identify gaps and identify research needs appropriate to the mandates of each ministry

**Objective 4:** identification of other gaps in current trapper management of fur harvest



**Methods 4:**

- review the current management methods of time-based and area-based trapline harvest management
- collect and compile input from trappers about the fur management system, paying specific attention to opportunities for improvement or change
- Review fur management plans to determine use and adherence to the plans
- Review the current and planned fur harvest reporting system and identify gaps and potential solutions

**Objective 5:** Identification of gaps in management from the trapper's perspective.

**Methods 5:**

- targeted meetings with active trappers in Northeastern BC, trapper education instructors, trapper regional representatives, and talks during regular regional trapper meetings.
- Active trappers will be determined from fur harvest records and then the snowball method of or referral methods of sampling will be employed (snowball sampling is an effective technique where existing interview subjects identify other suitable recruits from among their acquaintances or personal knowledge.
- A booth/poster display at the BC Trappers annual convention in Kamloops, April 20-22 2018, will allow for open communication with trappers throughout BC where all issues and ideas will be recorded and incorporated into the seed project summary.

**Budget****Budget Section 1: HCTF Seed grant request**

| Activity   | Budget    |
|--|-----------|
| Travel and accommodation to meet with trappers throughout northeastern BC (regional reps, active trappers, Trapper education instructors               | \$2000.00 |
| Airfare for Rich Weir (Victoria to Kamloops) For Annual trappers AGM, April 20-22 2018   | \$500.00  |
| Airfare for Inge-Jean Hansen (Fort St John to Kamloops) For Annual trappers AGM, April 20-22 2018  | \$500.00  |
| Accommodations for Rich Weir and Inge-Jean Hansen in Prince George/Kamloops For annual trappers AGM  | \$700.00  |
| Airfare for Rich Weir (Victoria to Fort St. John) to co-present seed Proposal findings and research needs To regional managers in the northeast Region | \$600.00  |
|  | \$0.00    |

s.13

\$0.00

\$0.00

**Budget Section 2: Please list any partnership funding (cash or inkind) for seed activities**

All time spent by Inge-Jean Hansen and Rich Weir will be in-kind from their respective ministries, an estimate of which is found below:

- Inge-Jean Hansen
  - 23 days research, travel and reporting **s.13**
- Rich Weir
  - ~~23~~ 10 days research, travel and reporting **s.13**

Travel by truck/car to meet with trappers in the northeast region will be provided in-kind by FLNRORD with an estimated cost of \$2000.00

All office space and printing will be provided in-kind by FLNRORD and MoECCS.

## Attachments

**Map Description:**

**Description of File Attachments:**

Figure 2. (attached) is an excerpt from the BC Hunting and Trapping regulations synopsis, 2016-2018 describing the difference between Class 1, 2, and 3 furbearers and the general management terms of the BC fur management program.

**Comment [IH5]:** Rich, you don't happen to have a ready made map of all the traplines outlined in Northeastern BC.

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Hansen, Inge-Jean FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 13, 2018 3:14 PM  
**To:** Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Updated hunting regs proposed changes

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I found one other.

This is in respect to my request to managers to have more reporting on fisher in the regulations.

Inge-Jean

---

**From:** Hansen, Inge-Jean FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 5, 2017 3:32 PM  
**To:** Addison, Christopher FLNR:EX; Bridger, Michael C FLNR:EX; Gagne-Delorme, Audrey FLNR:EX; White, Katelyn FLNR:EX; Lavallee, Michel FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Updated hunting regs proposed changes

Hey there,

Not really surprising that no royalty was paid. Most wolverine pelts are sold privately. And there are probably a few fur-traders out there (incl. taxidermists) that underreport their royalty collections.

I wouldn't say that voluntary submission is going to replace any reporting mechanisms, it is just going to complement and support analysis of the harvest.

I-J

---

**From:** Addison, Christopher FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 5, 2017 2:40 PM  
**To:** Hansen, Inge-Jean FLNR:EX; Bridger, Michael C FLNR:EX; Gagne-Delorme, Audrey FLNR:EX; White, Katelyn FLNR:EX; Lavallee, Michel FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Updated hunting regs proposed changes

So my question then would be why we think compulsory submission would get a better response than reporting?

s.13

I struggle with the idea that no royalty was paid, as that is often done at the point of sale (by the buyer) than annually.

Chris Addison  
Director of Resource Management, Northeast  
(250) 787-3285

---

**From:** Hansen, Inge-Jean FLNR:EX

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 5, 2017 2:30 PM

**To:** Addison, Christopher FLNR:EX; Bridger, Michael C FLNR:EX; Gagne-Delorme, Audrey FLNR:EX; White, Katelyn FLNR:EX; Lavallee, Michel FLNR:EX

**Subject:** RE: Updated hunting regs proposed changes

Hi there.

s.13

Let me know what you think, Chris, and others. And did you mean onerous for me/other staff, or onerous for trappers?

Thanks,

I-J

---

**From:** Addison, Christopher FLNR:EX

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 5, 2017 10:27 AM

**To:** Bridger, Michael C FLNR:EX; Hansen, Inge-Jean FLNR:EX; Gagne-Delorme, Audrey FLNR:EX; White, Katelyn FLNR:EX; Lavallee, Michel FLNR:EX

**Subject:** RE: Updated hunting regs proposed changes

I had some other thoughts to put forward and I'll do my best to remember them before Friday if we can meet then. That's probably the best day for me.

Chris Addison  
Director of Resource Management, Northeast  
(250) 787-3285

---

**From:** Bridger, Michael C FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 5, 2017 10:19 AM  
**To:** Hansen, Inge-Jean FLNR:EX; Gagne-Delorme, Audrey FLNR:EX; White, Katelyn FLNR:EX; Lavallee, Michel FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Addison, Christopher FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Updated hunting regs proposed changes

Right on. I'll have to go back through and do some editing of the ones that I had written as well. Sounds like they're still in development, and we can be expecting a letter from the Rod and Gun Club outlining their thoughts on the proposals... so that might change a couple of things.

We hadn't included citations in the past, but I know it was a recommendation out of the PAC meeting. It's not a bad idea. There will be some information that we've written down as rationale that we just won't be able to include citations for though.

FYI, I've attached a copy of the Regulation Submission form. So once we've finalized out proposals, they must be submitted to Branch in this document. There is a section in the form where it asks for any attachments, so that could be the place where we include any pertinent references.

**Mike Bridger**  
**Regional Wildlife Biologist, FLNRO**  
**Fort St. John**  
**Phone: (250)787-3294**

---

**From:** Hansen, Inge-Jean FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 4, 2017 5:11 PM  
**To:** Bridger, Michael C FLNR:EX; Gagne-Delorme, Audrey FLNR:EX; White, Katelyn FLNR:EX; Lavallee, Michel FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Addison, Christopher FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Updated hunting regs proposed changes

Hi there.

I just wanted to let you know that I updated my proposed changes to the hunting regs today. I just changed the master document here:

I did not update the PDF version.

My only other question was, do we include citations for any statements we make in the version that goes out for consultation? I can add citations if required but haven't done so yet (just don't know the usual format.

Thanks,  
Inge-Jean

**Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

---

**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2016 11:20 AM  
**To:** Kelly, John FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Re: Trapping question

so I don't need the nuisance permit within the seasons on my line...

Thank you

Any chance the transfer paperwork for me has come across your desk yet ?

s.22

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

----- Original message -----

**From:** "Kelly, John FLNR:EX" <[John.Kelly@gov.bc.ca](mailto:John.Kelly@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** 2016-11-29 11:02 AM (GMT-08:00)  
**To:** s.22  
**Subject:** RE: Trapping question

Hi s.22

You are allowed to trap w/in the boundary of your trapline. If there is private property w/in your trapline, you would require written permission from the landowner(s) to trap and you would need to be mindful of any laws around where one can and cannot set traps (i.e., distance to buildings etc.,) and the type of traps that can be lawfully used. It would also be very wise to pay attention to any bylaws that may exist with respect to trapping if you are w/in a city/town/regional district. All of your trapping is to be confined to the open season as stated in the current version of the Hunting and Trapping Synopsis.

Thanks,

John

---

**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2016 8:52 AM  
**To:** Kelly, John FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Trapping question

Morning John,

A friend is telling me that I can't trap the small farms or within the city/crown land without a nuisance permit....even though my lines in the City.

I'm totally confused, I'm told too that without a doubt the someone already probably has a permit there and I won't get one....

Please can you help me understand this. ...

s.22

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.



## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 31, 2018 7:22 AM  
**To:** Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Wolf trapping

R: BCSPCA More info on the hunting/trapping guidelines. This advice says late June.

I will ask MDD again if he wants to wait that long.

Tristan

---

**From:** Hiltner, Clementine FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 2:36 PM  
**To:** Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Wolf trapping

Hi Tristan, I hope this helps.



**Clementine Hiltner**  
**Manager, Executive Issues**  
Deputy Minister's Office  
Cell: (778) 584-1315  
**Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development**

---

**From:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 2:35 PM  
**To:** Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX  
**Cc:** Hiltner, Clementine FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Wolf trapping

Hi Dawn,

We are hoping to get in from of the Minister on this proposal sometime in May, but there are many variables that can effect that. A meeting for late June would be appropriate, by that point the new regulations will be online and in the hands of license vendors throughout the province..

Cheers,

**Stephen MacIver** | Regulations and Policy Analyst | Fish & Wildlife Branch | Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations, and Rural Development | Phone (778) 698-9112 | Email: [stephen.maciver@gov.bc.ca](mailto:stephen.maciver@gov.bc.ca)

---

**From:** Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 9:53 AM

**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Hiltner, Clementine FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Wolf trapping  
**Importance:** High

Hi Steve,

Just wondering if you might be able to provide some information on the timeline of proposed regulation changes following the public review and comment period.

MDD has a meeting request from BCSPCA, but does not want to schedule it until after revised hunting/trapping regulations have been announced.

Do we have a date for this?

Thanks!

**Dawn Makarowski**  
Public Affairs Officer  
250-356-5261  
[Dawn.Makarowski@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Dawn.Makarowski@gov.bc.ca)

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 780 Blanshard Street  
Victoria, BC V8W 9V1

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

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**From:** Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 4:01 PM  
**To:** Purdy, Sandra FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Fwd: 236045 Wolves  
**Attachments:** IN\_Vancouver Island Wolf Trapping Regulations\_draft3.docx; ATT00001.htm

Hi Sandra can you print this off and give it to minister is for his meeting tomorrow morning

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Munroe, Ryan FLNR:EX" <[Ryan.Munroe@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Ryan.Munroe@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** January 30, 2018 at 3:57:49 PM PST  
**To:** "Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX" <[Lisa.Silverio@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lisa.Silverio@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** 236045 Wolves

For MDD's meeting with Tom tomorrow on wolves on Vancouver Island.

---

**From:** McCulloch, Alexandra FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 3:57 PM  
**To:** Munroe, Ryan FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX; Di Georgio, Alexis FLNR:EX; Christensen, Tracy E FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** MDD Note: 236045 Wolves

Ryan,

Approved by Tom for MDD's mtg on wolves tomorrow.

Thanks,

**Alexandra McCulloch**  
Executive Administrative Assistant  
Resource Stewardship Division  
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development  
780 Blanshard Street, Victoria  
Ph: 250.356.0972

**MINISTRY OF FORESTS, LANDS, NATURAL RESOURCE OPERATIONS AND  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
INFORMATION NOTE**

Date: January 30, 2018  
File: 280-20  
CLIFF: 236045

**PREPARED FOR:** Honourable Minister Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

**ISSUE:** Public interest in a proposal to lengthen wolf trapping seasons on Vancouver Island.

**BACKGROUND:**

There is a regulatory proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island by 51 days this year. The current season runs from November 1 to June 30. The proposal suggests moving the season's start date to September 10 and this has recently garnered media and public attention.

This proposal is part of a regular two-year review of hunting and trapping regulations. They are typically submitted following consultation with local stakeholders and First Nations. Fish and Wildlife staff also consider input received from the public through a hunting and trapping engagement site before finalizing a regulation proposal and making a recommendation to the Minister.

On Vancouver Island, 65% of commercial traplines are registered to First Nations. When trapping for food, social, and ceremonial purposes, First Nations would not require a licence or change to the season. However, if First Nations desire to sell any furs harvested on a registered trapline a licence is needed and season dates must be followed. Licenced and First Nation trappers may also gain permission from landowners to trap on private property; in these cases no registered trapline is needed.

The ministry estimates there are about 250 wolves on Vancouver Island at this time and the population is increasing. Trapping will occur by licensed trappers or by First Nations. Most trapping occurs on central or northern Vancouver Island.

There is no conservation concern with wolf populations on Vancouver Island.

**DISCUSSION:**

Vancouver Island First Nations have expressed concern to Fish and Wildlife staff that increased wolf populations are impacting Roosevelt elk and black-tailed deer.

First Nations have also been making arrangements for licenced trappers to come into First Nations' territories (with permission of trapline holders); however, late start dates have hampered some requests for fall trapping due to weather generated freeze/thaw events that affect trap efficacy.

Licensed hunters (both residents and guide outfitters) are anticipated to support the regulation as any reduction in wolf populations is likely to have a positive impact on deer and elk populations.

Several groups and individuals have indicated opposition to the increased trapping season and the practice of trapping generally.

Efforts have been taken to ensure the proposed extension is consistent, humane and measured:

- The proposal mirrors start dates on the South Coast but is more conservative than most other regions. Some other regions have areas with no closed season or no bag limits.
- On Vancouver Island, the primary trap utilized for wolves are modified leg-hold traps. These traps are humane, and are the same design used in collaring studies throughout the province enabling wolves, and any non-target species to be released without injury.
- No wolves were trapped in 2016/17. Conditions in the previous five years were milder, and the yearly average has been seven wolves total for the entire Vancouver Island. We do not expect there to be a significant difference in the number of wolves trapped annually but the change would allow trappers to better work around environmental conditions (freeze/thaw events).

In recent years, environmental organizations have claimed that coastal wolves are genetically unique and should be designated as such. In Canada, the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) is able to apply a Designatable Unit (DU) status where there is sufficient information and need to warrant assessing at a sub-species level. At this time, COSEWIC has not considered the available information adequate to identify coastal wolf populations as a separate DU.

There have also been claims suggesting increasing hunting pressure on wolves can cause stress levels to rise, triggering increased breeding. This research is relatively new and many unknowns remain. Modest increases to trapping seasons are not expected to have a significant impact, but regulations are periodically reviewed and can be adjusted if new information warrants.

A Roosevelt elk management plan sets target population objectives for each elk population unit. First Nations, the Province of BC, and user groups on Vancouver Island all work together in an advanced, unique, and collaborative approach which includes sharing of elk, sharing of harvest information, and joint revitalization projects. Elk translocation is a tool used to move elk from areas of high abundance to areas of low abundance to augment recovery efforts. Failure to take some action with respect to wolves could impact First Nations support for these innovative programs.

First Nations who have an abundance of elk in their territories are only interested in allowing elk to be translocated to areas where there are no concerns with local predator populations. In some areas on the north of Vancouver Island, hunting seasons are closing in response to declining deer and elk populations. In others, populations are not growing and so hunts cannot be created. Predation is often a major factor in recovery of these populations.

Spring transect surveys and summer classification surveys are used to monitor deer populations on Vancouver Island and there is a 60 year data set established for much of the island. Management Unit (MU) 1-11 (south of Port McNeill) is illustrative of wolf-deer population interactions (Appendix 1). Wolf numbers in MU 1-11 increased dramatically across the region in 1976-77. Wolf reduction occurred in the 1980s and early 2000s in MU 1-11 resulting in a rebound of deer numbers in subsequent years.

## **SUMMARY:**

- As part of the 2018-2020 update to the Hunting and Trapping Regulation Synopsis, the ministry is considering about 80 proposed regulation changes. The public review and comment period closed January 19, 2018.
- The ministry is proposing to lengthen the current wolf trapping season by 51 days to provide sustainable trapping opportunities and help elk conservation efforts on north Vancouver Island.

- First Nations, who are key partners in these conservation efforts, have expressed concern with wolf predation, at the same time other recovery efforts are underway for Roosevelt Elk.
- Hunters and trappers are required to report their harvest so the province can closely monitor harvest levels.
- The proposed trapping approach is considered humane.

**Attachment:** Appendix 1: Deer population survey data from 1968-2017 (MU 1-11)

**Contact:**

Jennifer Psyllakis  
Resource Stewardship Division  
250-387-5657

**Alternate Contact:**

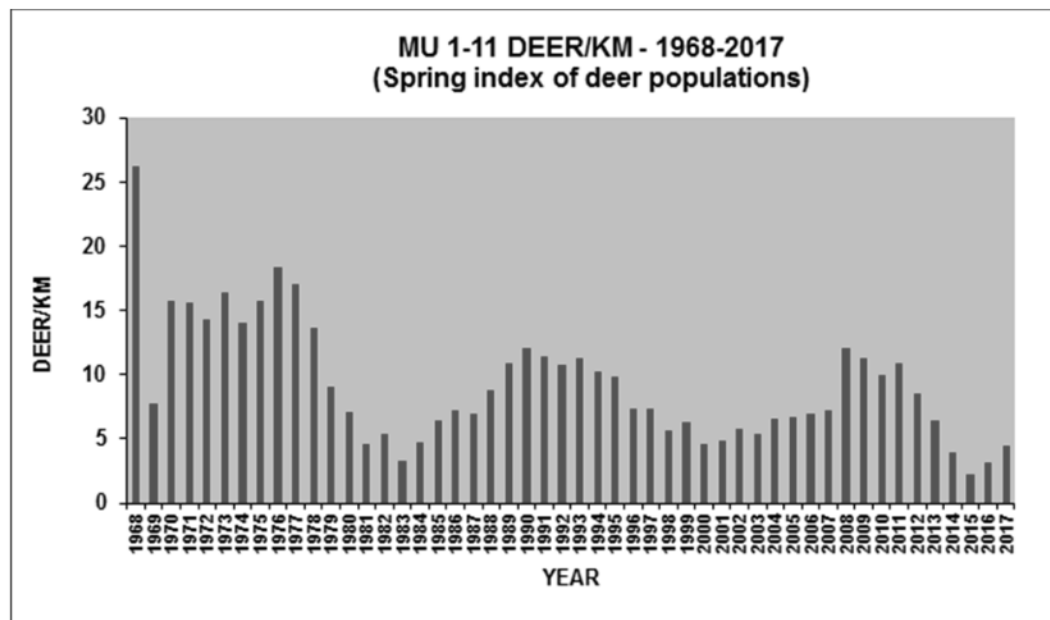
Michael Burwash/Mike Stalberg  
Fish and Wildlife  
250-371-6269/250-751-3109

**Prepared by:**

Logan Wenham  
Fish and Wildlife Branch  
778-698-9221

| Reviewed by | Initials | Date             |
|-------------|----------|------------------|
| ADM         | TE       | January 30, 2018 |
| Director    | JP       | January 30, 2018 |
| Author      | LW       | January 29, 2018 |

Appendix 1. Deer population survey data from 1968-2017 (MU 1-11)



## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 1, 2018 2:44 PM  
**To:** Donaldson, Doug FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX; McLaren, Kenn FLNR:EX; Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Materials Feb 2nd  
**Attachments:** 1115am Ted Mowatt February 2.docx; 9am IBN MDD Cheslatta meeting Feb. 9 2018.docx; 930am Steelehead and minister meeting with BCWF.docx; 1015am DN - A Framework for Enhancements to the HCA.pdf

Minister,  
Materials attached for meetings tomorrow.



Lisa Silverio  
Administrative Coordinator to the  
**Honourable Doug Donaldson**  
Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development  
t 250.356.6211 f 250.387.1040

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**MINISTRY OF FORESTS, LANDS, NATURAL RESOURCE OPERATIONS AND  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
INFORMATION NOTE**

Date: January 29, 2018

File: 280-20

Cliff: 235929

**PREPARED FOR:**    **Honourable Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural  
Resource Operations and Rural Development**

**ISSUE:**    Meeting with Chief Djogaslee (Ted Mowatt) and house members on issues impacting  
traditional lands

**BACKGROUND:**

Ted Mowatt holds the title of Chief Djogaslee for the Xsu Gwil Gwalgit, Sagat, and Xsi Luu Biiyoosxwit Gitxsan traditional territories. With the absence of a Gitxsan nation-level representative body, consultation and engagement on land and resource activities is conducted at the house or territory level. Chief Djogaslee has been active in these engagements, s.13,s.16

s.13,s.16

He

has also regularly expressed interest in acquiring a woodlot or other form of forest tenure. Gitxsan have been experiencing significant governance challenges for many years. Chief Djogaslee's territories are not in dispute by other chiefs and he does not support the Gitxsan Treaty Society.

**ISSUES:**

1. Logging pressure in Djogaslee territories:

The territories held by Chief Djogaslee, principally in the Sagat and Xsu Gwil Gwalgit territories, have higher forest harvest possibilities than others in the area. British Columbia Timber Sales (BCTS) and Gitxsan Forest Incorporated (GFI) are currently the principle entities with development interests in this area, although no harvesting has yet been activated. For the Sagat territory, GFI has conducted timber cruising to develop multiple cutblocks totaling approximately 40-50 hectare (ha) in the Luna Creek area. Cutting permits have not been submitted for this harvest. s.13,s.16

s.13,s.16

s.13,s.16

2. Trapping and Hunting:

Chief Djogaslee has raised several questions related to trapping and hunting on his territories. Ministry staff met with Chief Djogaslee on January 30 to provide information on registered traplines and guide outfitter overlaps on his northern territories (Tsetsaut skii km lax ha overlap).



3. Mining activity:

An unclear map and consultation error resulted in Chief Djogaslee being advised of a possible mine exploration (French peak property) in Xsu Gwil Gwalgit territory. The exploration activities proposed are located in the adjacent Madii Lii territory, not Xsu Gwil Gwalgit. A map showing the correct location of the application relative to Chief Djogaslee's territories has been provided

s.13,s.16

s.13,s.16

4. Cat and Heli-skiing activities:

Skeena Cat and Heli-skiing (SCH) has submitted an application to the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD) for a 30-year licence of occupation to support their operations, including two intensive use areas for a camp and a staging area. While SCH's operating area is outside of Chief Djogaslee's House Territory, the road accessing the tenure is within. s.13,s.16

s.13,s.16

s.13,s.16 SCH has had ongoing contact with hereditary chiefs, including Chief Djogaslee, to discuss their activities and development s.13,s.16

s.13,s.16

5. Babine Watershed:

Chief Djogaslee actively participates in the Babine watershed Strategic Engagement Agreement (SEA) pilot undertaken by the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR) and FLNRORD. The SEA pilot covers Xsu Gwil Gwalgit portion of his territory. s.13,s.16

s.13,s.16

6. Licence to cut offer:

A 150m<sup>3</sup> licence to cut offer was provided as an accommodation to Chief Djogaslee in relation to a recent *Land Act* decision. The provision of a timber harvest opportunity as an accommodation for a *Land Act* decision is not normal practice but was made due to the unique circumstances of this file. s.13,s.16

s.13,s.16

7. Benefit from activities:

Chief Djogaslee has seen little benefit from land and resource use decisions in his territory. s.13,s.16

s.13,s.16

The SEA pilot, if successful at achieving its objectives, may provide an opportunity to pursue watershed level revenue sharing or forest tenure opportunities.

## SUGGESTED RESPONSES:

- It is important for ministry staff to hear from you with regard to land and resource activities on your territory. I will ask Jevan Hanchard, District Manager for the Skeena Region, to arrange a follow up meeting to ensure that your concerns and suggestions are heard.
- I encourage your continued involvement in the Babine watershed SEA pilot. I know your leadership will play a key role in bringing different house chiefs together under the watershed SEA pilot concept. Through it I am hopeful for a better relationship between FLNRORD and the chiefs, and for a more effective dialogue on activities in your territories. I hope that through that process you will start to see greater benefits in your territory.
- The chiefs' assistance in responding to house representation disputes will be critical to the stability of the Province's relationship with the Gitksan, and to the success of benefit agreement opportunities.

**Contact:**

*Kevin Kriese  
ADMNorth Area  
Phone: (250) 847-7789*

**Alternate Contact:**

*Eamon O'Donoghue  
Regional Executive Director  
Phone: (250) 847-7495*

**Prepared by:**

*Jevan Hanchard  
District Manager  
Phone: (250) 847-6305*

| Reviewed by | Initials | Date       |
|-------------|----------|------------|
| DM          | TS       | 18-02-01   |
| DMO         | RM       | 18-02-01   |
| ADM North   | KK       | 2018-01-31 |
| RED         | E O'D    | 2018-01-31 |

## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

---

**From:** Munroe, Ryan FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, March 5, 2018 11:38 AM  
**To:** McLaren, Kenn FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Green caucus VI wolf #'s  
**Attachments:** MWC Letter of Support for Extension to VI Wolf Trapping Season-V2 Jan. 2....docx;  
Wolf trapping MLA Weaver Feb 26 follow up.docx

**Importance:** High

Hey Kenn, please see below email from Ward Trotter regarding the green's briefing last week. Additional materials for the green's are attached.

---

**From:** Trotter, Ward FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, March 5, 2018 11:36 AM  
**To:** Munroe, Ryan FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Larkin, Brenda FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: VI wolf #'s  
**Importance:** High

Hi Ryan.

Here is the information that Kenn is looking for from us (Jen and ) that was requested by the Greens during the briefing on the proposed VI wolf regulation changes. Can you forward this along to Kenn.

If you have questions let us know.

thanks

ward

---

**From:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, March 5, 2018 10:25 AM  
**To:** Trotter, Ward FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Di Georgio, Alexis FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: VI wolf #'s  
**Importance:** High

Hi Ward,

I had recorded a few actions from the briefing with the Greens. Link to management plan, letter of support from the wildlife council, key messages for correspondence, stats to support population estimate and harvest stats for licenced hunting (provided them for trapping). Attached as noted with updated harvest statistics for both licenced hunting and trapping. Can you please forward to Kenn as requested, or let me know if you would like me to do that.

Thanks in advance.

Jen

---

**From:** McLaren, Kenn FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 1, 2018 5:59 PM  
**To:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Trotter, Ward FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** VI wolf #'s

Hi Jennifer;

Just a reminder to shoot over the Vancouver Island wolf population #'s when you get a chance. I will forward them on to the Greens.

Not urgent.

Thanks,

Kenn

Kenn McLaren

Ministerial Assistant | Honourable Doug Donaldson

Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

o- 250-387-6240 c – 250-953-7231

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## MAA-NULTH WILDLIFE COUNCIL

5091 Tsuma-as Drive Port Alberni V9P 8X9

Phone: (250) 724-1802 ♦ Fax: (250) 724-1852

Website: [www.maanulth.ca](http://www.maanulth.ca)

January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

PO Box 9041 Stn. Prov. Govt.

Parliament Buildings

Victoria BC V8W 9E1

Via e-mail: [FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

**ATTN: HONOURABLE DOUG DONALDSON-MINISTER**

**RE: EXTENSION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND REGION 1 WOLF TRAPPING SEASON.**

Minister Donaldson:

The Maa-nulth Wildlife Council supports the Region 1, Vancouver Island changes to the B.C. Hunting and Trapping Regulations to "Extend the Wolf Trapping Season" and recommend further research and field investigations into the state of Vancouver Island Wolf populations and their habitats.

The Maa-nulth Nations live in a beautiful, rugged and remote location on the Westcoast of Vancouver Island where our citizens are strongly connected to, and take pride in being stewards of the resources within our Hahoulth (Territory). We rely on these resources today as we have since time immemorial for sustenance, community cultural practices and ceremonies, as well as to provide economic opportunities.

Wolves are a highly revered species and an integral part of the Maa-nulth culture and history. With that said, a basic principle of our Nations' culture is to manage according to Hishuk-is-tsawalk, meaning "everything is one". It is critically important to manage for all species, not just ungulates (deer and elk). If we manage any species, then we must manage all species.

Managing wildlife habitat and populations involves more than just harvesting animals. The Maa-nulth Wildlife Council emphasizes that it is critically important that the MFLNRORD Wildlife Branch focus management resources on assessing and field inventorying wolves and their habitat, and consulting with Maa-nulth First Nations in order that informed, considered and scientific and



huu ay aht  
ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND



Huu-ay-aht First Nations | Ka'yu:k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nations  
Toquaht Nation | Uchucklesaht Tribe | Yuułu?if?ath

traditional knowledge-based management decisions may be made in any wolf management decisions.

For the past decade or more, wolves have preyed heavily on deer and elk populations in our Maa-nulth Hahoulth (territory). This, along with other factors, has resulted in historically low deer numbers and is currently impacting the behavior and numbers of elk. Both of these species are an important source of food for our Maa-nulthaht (Maa-nulth members).

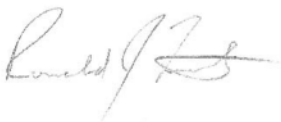
Our Maa-nulth Nations have all passed 'Orders of the Director' restricting harvesting of female deer (does) and limiting the harvest of male deer (bucks) to times of the year when there are visible antlers. This is an extreme measure and one which we did not make without considerable deliberation.

In order to manage for deer, elk and wolves, Maa-nulth needs some assistance in managing wolf and other ungulate predator populations to allow for recovery of our deer and elk populations. We have always worked cooperatively with trappers in our Territories and currently lack adequate capacity to achieve much-needed wolf management and bring predator and ungulate populations to a balanced state.

Maa-nulthaht are the guardians of our Hahoulth. Maa-nulth encourages the Government of B.C. to adopt a co-management approach with our Treaty Nations in which we are genuinely part of the decision-making process that impacts our territory, our resources and our citizens. As a Treaty Nation, we have a say in our destiny and future which must be respected. We look forward to further Consultation with the B.C. Government on this important matter.

Accordingly, the Maa-nulth Wildlife Council supports the proposed Vancouver Island Region 1 extension to the Wolf Trapping Season in the suite of proposed Regulatory Changes under consideration in 2018.

Sincerely,



Ronald J. Frank

Maa-nulth Wildlife Council Chair

cc. Director of Wildlife Jennifer Psyllakis  
Mike Stalberg—Region 1, Section Head, Fish and Wildlife  
Chuck Poschenrieder-- Maa-nulth Treaty Society Administrator



**Link to Grey Wolf Management Plan:**

[http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/fw/wildlife/management-issues/docs/grey\\_wolf\\_management\\_plan.pdf](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/fw/wildlife/management-issues/docs/grey_wolf_management_plan.pdf)

The goal of wolf management in B.C. is to ensure a self-sustaining population throughout the species' range and to ensure that, within the biological limits of the species, wolves are available in sufficient abundance to fulfill their ecological role, and to meet the cultural, recreational, and economic needs of society.

The objectives of wolf management are:

1. to ensure a self-sustaining population throughout the species' range that fulfills the role of wolves as a top predator in B.C.'s diverse ecosystems;
2. to provide opportunities for economic, cultural, and recreational uses of wolves consistent with Ministry program plans;
3. to minimize impacts on livestock caused by wolves in a manner that does not jeopardize conservation objectives; and
4. to manage specific packs or individuals where predation is likely preventing the recovery of wildlife populations threatened by wolf predation.

Predator control to enhance ungulate populations for hunting is not supported by policy.

**Key Messages regarding the proposed regulation:**

- As part of the 2018-2020 update to the Hunting and Trapping Regulation Synopsis, the ministry is considering about 80 proposed regulation changes. The public review and comment period closed Jan. 19.
- The ministry is proposing to lengthen the current wolf trapping season on north Vancouver Island by 51 days.
- It is estimated that there are between about 200 and 600 wolves on Vancouver Island. There is no conservation concern with this population so sustainable harvest opportunities are provided to both hunters and trappers. This is not a species control action, but there may be added benefits to Roosevelt Elk populations that are currently being re-introduced into areas of historic range and deer populations that are currently low relative to the last 10 years.
- All wolf harvests are closely monitored and hunters and trappers are required to report all animals harvested.
- It's worth noting that no wolves were trapped during the fiscal year of 2016-17 as there was significant snowfall and freezing temperatures last winter.

**Population Estimate for Vancouver Island**

(Note: most references can be found in the management plan)

Taking into consideration a range of estimate techniques, the wolf population on Vancouver Island ranges between 217-620 wolves (250 is used as a conservative number to support management decisions).



Supporting detail: Estimation of wolf populations in any jurisdiction is difficult. Wolves have large home ranges, are very adaptable and elusive on the land scape. This makes them very difficult to census. Inventory in a coastal rainforest compounds the issue further. The West Coast region has been looking at wolf-deer/elk interactions for many years and the following summarizes how we currently estimate wolf densities and populations based on the past scientific literature and projects conducted over the past 30 years.

On Vancouver Island, Scott and Shackleton (1980) estimated a density of 59 wolves/1000 km<sup>2</sup> in the Adam River watershed, Atkinson and Janz' (1994) estimated the density in the Nimpkish Valley at 43 wolves per 1000 km<sup>2</sup>. More recently, Darimont and Paquet (2000) used a density of 30–35 wolves per 1000 km<sup>2</sup> to estimate the population in their study area on the central coast. Darimont and Paquet based their estimates on those presented by Person (1997) for Prince of Wales Island, Alaska. Kuzyk and Hatter (2014) used the Ungulate Biomass Index (UBI) model for estimating wolf densities and calculated that Region 1 would have a mean of 307 (95% CI 218-404) wolves present based on the UBI present at the time. It should be noted that the ungulate densities calculated to not consider elk in the calculation thereby underestimating the UBI present in recent years.

In all cases it has been acknowledged that density estimates tend to be high in small study areas because researchers are more likely to study abundant populations (Smallwood and Shonewald 1996); therefore, extrapolating these densities over very large areas would have a tendency to inflate population estimates. With this being said the West Coast Region has taken a very conservative approach to estimating wolf numbers on the island. For example: using the lowest published density estimate for wolves of 7-10/1000km<sup>2</sup> (Kuzyk and Hatter 2014), and assuming the habitat on Vancouver Island is uniform across the land base of 31,000 km<sup>2</sup>, the estimated population of wolves would be conservatively 217- 310. The habitat on the land base is not uniform however. Based on the Provincial Wolf Management Plan and the assumption that the west and north half of the island is considered to be higher density 10-30 wolves/100km<sup>2</sup> and the east and southern portions are low 2-5 wolves/1000km<sup>2</sup> the estimate for the island would be between 155 and 465 for the north and between 62 and 155 for the south respectively. All combined the island estimate would be in the range of 217-620 wolves with a conservative minimum estimate of 250. This does not take into consideration the elevated ungulate numbers of the east and southern portion of the island which would increase the UBI substantially since 2012 when the Management Plan was written. It is recognized that the areas referenced above (Nimpkish and Adam river valleys) likely sustain higher densities of wolves on the landscape and act as a source for wolves dispersing to other areas of the island based on the elevated UBI present.

### **Harvest statistics for wolves on Vancouver Island.**

Over the last five years, there has been an average of 7 wolves trapped by licences trappers and 20 by licenced hunter (both resident and non-resident) On Vancouver Island. This would equate to a high of 12 % to a low of 4% harvest rate depending on which population estimate is used, 217-620 respectively, well within the sustainable harvest rate estimate of >30%.

## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

---

**From:** Donison, Sonia FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, February 5, 2018 11:22 AM  
**To:** Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX; Munroe, Ryan FLNR:EX; Correspondence Serv. Sectn, FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** mtg  
**Attachments:** Re: Trapline Registrations; Re: Trapline Registrations; Re: Thank you for writing; Re: Trapline Registrations  
  
**Importance:** High

Hi! attached a number of emails, but one is asking for a mtg with MDD, I suggest we leave with staff to handle directly, but maybe an email back to Sterritt advising of such?

Thank you—Di Bohja!

Sonia Donison  
Manager  
Correspondence Services  
250 356-9638

**Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

---

**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** Friday, February 2, 2018 9:44 PM  
**To:** Crystal, Danica FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Skerik, David FLNR:EX; Minister, IRR IRR:EX; Minister, FLNR FLNR:EX; Hirshfield, Roxy L FLNR:EX; Oliemans, Fred IRR:EX  
**Subject:** Re: Trapline Registrations

Danica,

I was also wondering if a person can hold more than one trapline registration at a time.

I was doing some research and a Skiikemlaxha Traditional Use Study claims that s.22 is the registered owner of TR0617T013. Refer to Appendix 30-B Ski Km Lax Ha Traditional Knowledge And Use Research Project 2013.

[https://www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca/050/documents\\_staticpost/49262/89282/Chapter\\_30\\_Appendices/Appendix\\_30-B\\_Skii\\_km\\_Lax\\_Ha\\_TK\\_Report.pdf](https://www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca/050/documents_staticpost/49262/89282/Chapter_30_Appendices/Appendix_30-B_Skii_km_Lax_Ha_TK_Report.pdf)

Thank you

s.22

On Feb 2, 2018, at 4:34 PM s.22

wrote:

Danica and others!

I want to provide some clarification. This trapline was registered by previous Xhliiyemlaxha's probably around 1920, These were Chiefs within our house group and also some family members. The intention was to secure the area as part of the traditional territory, many nations did it and Gitanyow is one of the nations that actually registered their entire territory in the names of their membership. The members of Xhliiyemlaxha did the same as did other Gitxsan Houses across the Gitxsan Territory. The BC government has records of this!

I have been working to determine who the registrants were and whether anyone remain alive so that we could update the registration to current members of Wilps Xhliiyemlaxha, when I finally was able to contact you, then I find out that s.22 who is not a member of the Gitxsan Nation and is non-native has approached

s.22 to transfer to him. s.22 has no business transferring that trapline to s.22 as it was meant to stay within our House Group.

To be more clear, I am insisting that the current transfer application from s.22 be suspended and that we begin a consultation process to restore this trapline to the rightful trapline holders.

Also with regards to your clarification re. Aboriginal rights to trap and the requirement for a registered trapline. As illustrated above the Gitxsan members did register there traplines which incorporated most of not all of their traditional territories. If you overlay a map of the trapline in question (TR0617T007) You will see that a majority of this trapline follows the traditional territory of Xhliiyemlaxha exactly. There was a purpose to doing this and this trapline is directly linked to our Aboriginal Rights and Title and the traditional territory in question. Thus the transfer of this trapline to anyone other than a current Xhliiyemlaxha and the members of the Wilp is a direct impact to our Aboriginal Rights and Title and Interests in the area.

Thank you and we look forward to further engagement.

s.22

On Feb 2, 2018, at 3:08 PM, s.22 wrote:

Danica,

As explained this trapline was registered to members of our Wilp and through the years it was lost and I am working to restore it to the rightful trapline holders which is members of Wilps Xhliiyemlaxha.

s.22 s not an member of the Gitxsan Nation, he is non native and has been working to undermine our Aboriginal Rights and Title to the area in question.

Wilps Xhliiyemlaxha expects a full and meaningful consultation process on this application and requests an immediate cease to the current application from Roddie Kale to George Simpson.

I would like to arrange a meeting to discuss and ensure this trapline is registered in our name and recommend that we have a discussion next week.

s.22

On Feb 2, 2018, at 2:41 PM, Crystal, Danica FLNR:EX <[Danica.Crystal@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Danica.Crystal@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Good afternoon s.22

As a follow up to our phone call yesterday morning, I looked into the trapline you had questions about (TR0617T007). You were correct that there is only one remaining living person s.22 ) registered on this trapline, and I learned in looking it up that the Province has recently received an application to transfer the trapline from s.22 s.22 The Province is awaiting additional information before processing this application. Once a decision is made on this application, additional people can be registered on the trapline as long as those already registered agree. This can be done either through the FronCounter BC website (<http://www.frontcounterbc.gov.bc.ca/guides/fish-wildlife/trapline-transfer-registration/overview/>) or by contacting our office.

I'd also like to clarify that the purpose of a registered trapline is to regulate commercial trapping of furbearers, which is separate from an Aboriginal right to trap. Registration on a trapline is not required for a Gitksan trapper to trap on his or her traditional territory.

Thanks and let me know if you have any further questions,  
Danica

<image002.jpg>**Danica Crystal**  
Advisor, First Nations Relations  
Skeena Region  
Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development  
250-847-7525  
[Danica.Crystal@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Danica.Crystal@gov.bc.ca)

---

**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** Friday, January 26, 2018 11:37 AM  
**To:** Crystal, Danica FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Fwd: Trapline Registrations

Hi Danica,

Just sent this email below to Andrea and found out she is out of the office. Are you available to discuss?

s.22

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** s.22

**Subject:** Trapline Registrations

**Date:** January 26, 2018 at 11:36:01 AM PST

**To:** "Follett, Andrea Flnr:Ex" <[Andrea.Follett@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Andrea.Follett@gov.bc.ca)>

Hi Andrea,

I hope this email finds you well and I am emailing as I was hoping to get some information on a trapline registration and the process to populate names on the trapline.

Are you available to discuss?

s.22

## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

---

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**Sent:** Friday, February 2, 2018 4:34 PM  
**To:** Crystal, Danica FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Skerik, David FLNR:EX; Minister, IRR IRR:EX; Minister, FLNR FLNR:EX; Hirshfield, Roxy L FLNR:EX; Oliemans, Fred IRR:EX  
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Thanks and let me know if you have any further questions,  
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<image002.jpg> **Danica Crystal**  
Advisor, First Nations Relations



Skeena Region  
Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development  
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[Danica.Crystal@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Danica.Crystal@gov.bc.ca)

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Are you available to discuss?

s.22



**Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

---

**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** Friday, February 2, 2018 3:13 PM  
**To:** Minister, FLNR FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Re: Thank you for writing

Hi Doug,

I know you are busy, but I am wondering if we can have a quick telephone call as soon as possible. I need to talk to you regarding the trapline from the previous email. My number is below.

Thanks

s.22

On Feb 2, 2018, at 3:08 PM, Minister, FLNR FLNR:EX <[FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Thank you for taking the time to write. This is an automated response to let you know your email has been received and will be reviewed at the earliest opportunity.

For further information on recent initiatives undertaken by the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, please visit our website at <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content?id=A90244BA9C1B4BC6A63304C413DB75EA>

Sincerely,

Doug Donaldson  
Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

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**To:** Crystal, Danica FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Skerik, David FLNR:EX; Minister, IRR IRR:EX; Minister, FLNR FLNR:EX; Hirshfield, Roxy L FLNR:EX; Oliemans, Fred IRR:EX  
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Skeena Region  
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Are you available to discuss?

s.22

## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

---

**From:** Munroe, Ryan FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, March 5, 2018 11:38 AM  
**To:** McLaren, Kenn FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Green caucus VI wolf #'s  
**Attachments:** MWC Letter of Support for Extension to VI Wolf Trapping Season-V2 Jan. 2....docx; Wolf trapping MLA Weaver Feb 26 follow up.docx

**Importance:** High

Hey Kenn, please see below email from Ward Trotter regarding the green's briefing last week. Additional materials for the green's are attached.

---

**From:** Trotter, Ward FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, March 5, 2018 11:36 AM  
**To:** Munroe, Ryan FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Larkin, Brenda FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: VI wolf #'s  
**Importance:** High

Hi Ryan.

Here is the information that Kenn is looking for from us (Jen and ) that was requested by the Greens during the briefing on the proposed VI wolf regulation changes. Can you forward this along to Kenn.

If you have questions let us know.

thanks

ward

---

**From:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, March 5, 2018 10:25 AM  
**To:** Trotter, Ward FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Di Georgio, Alexis FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: VI wolf #'s  
**Importance:** High

Hi Ward,

I had recorded a few actions from the briefing with the Greens. Link to management plan, letter of support from the wildlife council, key messages for correspondence, stats to support population estimate and harvest stats for licenced hunting (provided them for trapping). Attached as noted with updated harvest statistics for both licenced hunting and trapping. Can you please forward to Kenn as requested, or let me know if you would like me to do that.

Thanks in advance.

Jen

---

**From:** McLaren, Kenn FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 1, 2018 5:59 PM  
**To:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Trotter, Ward FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** VI wolf #'s

Hi Jennifer;

Just a reminder to shoot over the Vancouver Island wolf population #'s when you get a chance. I will forward them on to the Greens.

Not urgent.

Thanks,

Kenn

Kenn McLaren

Ministerial Assistant | Honourable Doug Donaldson

Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

o- 250-387-6240 c – 250-953-7231

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**Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 8, 2018 9:55 AM  
**To:** McLaren, Kenn FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Trapping warning signs  
**Attachments:** Issues Scan Kelowna Feb 8\_draft 2.docx

Hi! Re-sending the issues scan that Jeremy sent yesterday that includes info on deer and trapping.

---

**From:** McLaren, Kenn FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 8, 2018 9:54 AM  
**To:** Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** Trapping warning signs

Hi;  
Some time today, could you please send an issue sheet on trapping warning signs on and off private lands.  
Thanks

Kenn McLaren  
Ministerial Assistant  
Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, Rural Development  
[Kenn.McLaren@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kenn.McLaren@gov.bc.ca) | c-250-893-7231  
Sent from my iPhone

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

---

**From:** McLaren, Kenn FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 15, 2018 3:22 PM  
**To:** Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** RE: PJH tomorrow

Thanks Vivian,  
Kenn

---

**From:** Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 15, 2018 2:58 PM  
**To:** McLaren, Kenn FLNR:EX; MacDonald, Alex GCPE:EX  
**Cc:** Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX; Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: PJH tomorrow

Kenn, Alex,

As requested.

Cheers,

Vivian

---

**From:** McLaren, Kenn FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 15, 2018 1:30 PM  
**To:** Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX  
**Cc:** Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX; Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** PJH tomorrow

Hi;

PJH is doing a wide ranging interview tomorrow afternoon with the press gallery. Alex came by looking for FLNRORD issues that might come up. These are suggestions, I thought

- After Action Review
  - George Abbott and Chief Chapman have been getting briefings. They will be launching online public engagement and start holding community engagement sessions in February. They now have a website [www.bcfloodfirereview.ca](http://www.bcfloodfirereview.ca)
- Salvage timber to mills – do we have an estimate of burnt timber, eg, how much may be expected in mills, (locations?)
  - Ministry of Forests District Managers continue to expedite the approval of cutting permits. To date, over 1.3 million cubic metres of timber has been salvaged.

| DISTRICT          | Volume Harvested M3 |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Cariboo Chilcotin | 441,879             |
| 100 Mile House    | 14,075              |
| Quesnel           | 78,357              |
| Rocky Mountain    | 453,000             |
| Cascades          | 103,098             |
| Selkirk           | 172,740             |
| Thompson Rivers   | 5,746               |
| Okanagan Shuswap  | 52,207              |

- **Pulp duty/SLA**
  - See attached notes.
- **Reg change to trapping wolves – Jack Knox article**
  - As part of 2018-2020 update to the Hunting and Trapping Regulations Synopsis, ministry staff are considering up to 80 regulation proposals, which are currently available for public review and comment until Jan. 19, 2018.
  - The province is proposing to lengthen the current wolf trapping season to help elk conservation efforts on northern Vancouver Island.
- Wolf trapping is used to try and increase elk populations in the area which are currently too small to be hunted and show no signs of increasing.
  - Wolf harvests are closely monitored and hunters and trappers are required to report their harvest so the province can closely monitor the wolf population.
  - It's worth noting that no wolves were trapped during the fiscal year of 2016-17. As there was significant snowfall and freezing temperatures last winter.
- **Grizzly Bears**
- We are ending the hunting of grizzly bears because we've listened to what British Columbians had to say about this issue. During the consultation process on the proposed regulation changes in the fall, 78% of respondents recommended the grizzly bear hunt be ended entirely.
- At the same time, as a government, we recognize the important hunting heritage in this province and continue to support hunting for other wildlife.
- *(if asked)* Minister Donaldson and his ministry are working with guide outfitters on transition measures for those guides affected by the end of the grizzly hunt.

Kenn McLaren

Ministerial Assistant | Honourable Doug Donaldson

Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

o- 250-387-6240 c – 250-953-7231

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## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 13, 2018 4:16 PM  
**To:** Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Wolf trapping

Minister wanted more information as to what they wanted to address at the meeting. I have just found the original letter, will update him and get back to you.

Tristan

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**From:** Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 13, 2018 2:20 PM  
**To:** Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Wolf trapping

Any updates on this one?

---

**From:** Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 31, 2018 7:22 AM  
**To:** Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Wolf trapping

R: BCSPCA More info on the hunting/trapping guidelines. This advice says late June.

I will ask MDD again if he wants to wait that long.

Tristan

---

**From:** Hiltner, Clementine FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 2:36 PM  
**To:** Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Wolf trapping

Hi Tristan, I hope this helps.



**Clementine Hiltner**  
**Manager, Executive Issues**  
Deputy Minister's Office  
Cell: (778) 584-1315  
**Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development**

---

**From:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 2:35 PM  
**To:** Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX

Cc: Hiltner, Clementine FLNR:EX

Subject: RE: Wolf trapping

Hi Dawn,

We are hoping to get in from of the Minister on this proposal sometime in May, but there are many variables that can effect that. A meeting for late June would be appropriate, by that point the new regulations will be online and in the hands of license vendors throughout the province..

Cheers,

**Stephen MacIver** | Regulations and Policy Analyst | Fish & Wildlife Branch | Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations, and Rural Development | Phone (778) 698-9112 | Email: [stephen.maciver@gov.bc.ca](mailto:stephen.maciver@gov.bc.ca)

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**From:** Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 9:53 AM  
**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Hiltner, Clementine FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Wolf trapping  
**Importance:** High

Hi Steve,

Just wondering if you might be able to provide some information on the timeline of proposed regulation changes following the public review and comment period.

MDD has a meeting request from BCSPCA, but does not want to schedule it until after revised hunting/trapping regulations have been announced.

Do we have a date for this?

Thanks!

**Dawn Makarowski**  
Public Affairs Officer  
250-356-5261  
[Dawn.Makarowski@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Dawn.Makarowski@gov.bc.ca)

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 780 Blanshard Street  
Victoria, BC V8W 9V1

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

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**From:** Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 6, 2018 1:19 PM  
**To:** Vasilev, Susan LASS:EX  
**Subject:** RE: leg-hold trap guidelines

Hi Susan,

I have sent the request to staff, but have not heard back yet. I have prompted them again. I will get back to as soon as possible.

Tristan

---

**From:** Vasilev, Susan [mailto:[Susan.Vasilev@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Susan.Vasilev@leg.bc.ca)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 6, 2018 10:24 AM  
**To:** Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** leg-hold trap guidelines

Hi Tristan –can you find me something for CAs to respond to emails like the one further below from David Eby's constituent, Dawn Wood.

**From:** Anderson, Dulcy  
**Sent:** Friday, February 23, 2018 1:59 PM  
**To:** Vasilev, Susan <[Susan.Vasilev@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Susan.Vasilev@leg.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** FW: Please protect families by requiring trap warning signs

Susan,

Any chance you have new talking points about this issue? I found that the attached notes were hard to put into a message that responds to the question raised here—there was a phone # to report traps in violation of regulations and then a reference to pages in the hunting and trapping regulation guidelines?

**From:** S.22 [mailto:[info@thefurbearers.com](mailto:info@thefurbearers.com)]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 16, 2018 3:00 PM  
**To:** Eby.MLA, David <[David.Eby.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:David.Eby.MLA@leg.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Please protect families by requiring trap warning signs

Dear David Eby,

I understand from the Fur Bearers Association that every year dogs and cats are injured and killed by legally placed traps across Canada. Leg-hold, Conibear-type, body-gripping, and snare traps are legal in every province and territory, yet there are no requirements for warning signs to be placed to advise pet owners and families.

These traps are inherently dangerous, and are unable to differentiate between target species, non-target species like domestic dogs or cats, or even children. As more non-consumptive users are visiting natural places for recreation, including hiking, dog walking, wildlife photography, and other activities, it is vital that common sense upgrades be made

to provincial and territorial trapping policies.

I ask that you work with your counterparts in the appropriate environment and wildlife agencies to create a required warning sign policy for trappers that would advise all other users of natural spaces and abutting private property that traps are active and set in the area, and pose a risk to domestic animals as well as children.

More information on this issue can be found at [TheFurBearers.com](http://TheFurBearers.com), and the team at The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals (The Fur-Bearers) would be happy to discuss this with you further.

I greatly appreciate that you have taken the time to read this.

Sincerely,

s.22

**From:** Vasilev, Susan

**Sent:** Thursday, February 8, 2018 2:01 PM

**To:** NDP Constituency Assistants <[NDPConstituencyAssistants@leg.bc.ca](mailto:NDPConstituencyAssistants@leg.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** leg-hold trap guidelines

Here is some language (and a phone number if people suspect violation of the guidelines) you can incorporate into responses on this issue.

---

**Susan Vasilev** | Internal Communications Manager | New Democrat BC Government Caucus | t: 250.952-7637  
[Susan.Vasilev@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Susan.Vasilev@leg.bc.ca) | [www.bcndpcaucus.ca](http://www.bcndpcaucus.ca) | [www.facebook.com/johnhorganbc](https://www.facebook.com/johnhorganbc)

**From:** s.22 [<mailto:info@thefurbearers.com>]

**Sent:** Sunday, February 4, 2018 1:44 PM

**To:** Sims.MLA, Jinny <[Jinny.Sims.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Jinny.Sims.MLA@leg.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** Please protect families by requiring trap warning signs

Every year dogs and cats are injured and killed by legally placed traps across Canada. Leg-hold, Conibear-type, body-gripping, and snare traps are legal in every province and territory, yet there are no requirements for warning signs to be placed to advise pet owners and families.

These traps are inherently dangerous, and are unable to differentiate between target species, non-target species like domestic dogs or cats, or even children. As more non-consumptive users are visiting natural places for recreation, including hiking, dog walking, wildlife photography, and other activities, it is vital that common sense upgrades be made to provincial and territorial trapping policies.

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More information on this issue can be found at [TheFurBearers.com](http://TheFurBearers.com), and the team at The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals (The Fur-Bearers) would be happy to discuss this with you further.





## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** Vasilev, Susan LASS:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, February 23, 2018 2:15 PM  
**To:** Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: leg-hold trap guidelines  
**Attachments:** Issues Scan Kelowna Feb 8\_draft 2.docx

Hi Tristan – I shared this attachment with CAs, but please see one's note below – can you find us something that is more usable for them to respond to emails like the one further below from David Eby's constituent, s.22

If you can get me something more than this issues scan that Kenn sent to me, I can then send it to all CAs.

Thank you, Susan

**From:** Anderson, Dulcy  
**Sent:** Friday, February 23, 2018 1:59 PM  
**To:** Vasilev, Susan  
**Subject:** FW: Please protect families by requiring trap warning signs

Susan,

Any chance you have new talking points about this issue? I found that the attached notes were hard to put into a message that responds to the question raised here—there was a phone # to report traps in violation of regulations and then a reference to pages in the hunting and trapping regulation guidelines?

**From** s.22 <mailto:info@thefurbearers.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 16, 2018 3:00 PM  
**To:** Eby.MLA, David <[David.Eby.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:David.Eby.MLA@leg.bc.ca)>  
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I ask that you work with your counterparts in the appropriate environment and wildlife agencies to create a required warning sign policy for trappers that would advise all other users of natural spaces and abutting private property that traps are active and set in the area, and pose a risk to domestic animals as well as children.

More information on this issue can be found at [TheFurBearers.com](http://TheFurBearers.com), and the team at The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals (The Fur-Bearers) would be happy to discuss this with you further.

I greatly appreciate that you have taken the time to read this.

Sincerely,

s.22

---

**From:** Vasilev, Susan  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 8, 2018 2:01 PM  
**To:** NDP Constituency Assistants <[NDPConstituencyAssistants@leg.bc.ca](mailto:NDPConstituencyAssistants@leg.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** leg-hold trap guidelines

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---

**Susan Vasilev** | Internal Communications Manager | New Democrat BC Government Caucus | t: 250.952-7637  
[Susan.Vasilev@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Susan.Vasilev@leg.bc.ca) | [www.bcndpcaucus.ca](http://www.bcndpcaucus.ca) | [www.facebook.com/johnhorganbc](https://www.facebook.com/johnhorganbc)

**From:** s.22 [<mailto:info@thefurbearers.com>]  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 4, 2018 1:44 PM  
**To:** Sims.MLA, Jinny <[Jinny.Sims.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Jinny.Sims.MLA@leg.bc.ca)>  
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More information on this issue can be found at [TheFurBearers.com](http://TheFurBearers.com), and the team at The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals (The Fur-Bearers) would be happy to discuss this with you further.

s.22

## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, February 19, 2018 4:03 PM  
**To:** Correspondence Serv. Sectn, FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: constituent s.22



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**From:** Correspondence Serv. Sectn, FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, February 19, 2018 4:03 PM  
**To:** Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Correspondence Serv. Sectn, FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: constituent s.22

Hi Tristan,

We've received 100+ of those and have started a count batch for them. Others are writing in individually and we are drafting a response to those ones.

Thanks,

**Eleni Gibson**

A/ Correspondence Coordinator, Correspondence Services Section  
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development  
E: [FLNR.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FLNR.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca) | [Eleni.Gibson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Eleni.Gibson@gov.bc.ca)  
T: 250-387-5888

---

**From:** Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, February 19, 2018 3:54 PM  
**To:** Correspondence Serv. Sectn, FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: constituent s.22

Another form letter campaign?

Tristan

---

**From:** Tegart.MLA, Jackie [<mailto:Jackie.Tegart.MLA@leg.bc.ca>]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 19, 2018 12:34 PM  
**To:** Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** constituent s.22

Hi Tristan,

We received this letter below from constituent s.22 about wild life traps set in our riding. It looks this letter was sent by the non-profit society The Fur Bearers. Hope you're having a good start to your week.

Cheers,



**Monika Walker**

Constituency Assistant  
to MLA Jackie Tegart  
Fraser Nicola  
405 Railway Avenue, PO Box 279  
Ashcroft, British Columbia V0K 1A0  
Office: (250) 453-9726  
Toll Free : 1 (877) 378-4802

**From:** s.22 [mailto:info@thefurbearers.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 16, 2018 7:04 PM  
**To:** Tegart.MLA, Jackie <Jackie.Tegart.MLA@leg.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Please protect families by requiring trap warning signs

Dangerous traps are putting dogs, cats, and families at risk across British Columbia, and a simple policy change could prevent regular injuries and tragedies from taking place.

Several dogs and cats were injured or killed in common traps, often set legally, throughout the province in 2018. In some of these communities, it isn't the first time a dog was killed, or a cat maimed; yet, residents remain unaware of the dangers surrounding them as they enjoy outdoor spaces.

By implementing required, consistent signage whenever traps are set, residents can make informed decisions: dogs can be kept on leash, or on shorter leashes; cats can be kept indoors or confined to property through humane means; and, families can make sure children know to stay away from the devices and remain on trails.

From 2003 to 2012, the Ministry knew that 85 pets were reported caught, injured, or killed by traps (eight per year, as per documents obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request). Municipalities including Nanaimo, Surrey, White Rock, Sechelt, and Vernon have attempted to create by-laws or requested changes to trapping regulations to protect their residents, and the province has not provided options. For several years, The Fur-Bearers petitioned the Ministry to institute warning signs, increase set backs from publicly accessible trails, and require internal trapper ID tags to ensure enforcement standards, and the province has not made any significant changes.

While all of this suffering occurred, the last government refused to take action.

Now the ball is in your court, Minister Donaldson. Will you listen only to those who set the traps, or will you listen to the scores of nature loving British Columbians who are at risk, and take action to protect dogs, cats, and families of British Columbia from dangerous traps by instituting common sense policies?

s.22

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, February 19, 2018 3:54 PM  
**To:** Correspondence Serv. Sectn, FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: constituent s.22

Another form letter campaign?

Tristan

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**Sent:** Monday, February 19, 2018 12:34 PM  
**To:** Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** constituent s.22

Hi Tristan,

We received this letter below from constituent s.22 about wild life traps set in our riding. It looks this letter was sent by the non-profit society The Fur Bearers. Hope you're having a good start to your week.

Cheers,



**Monika Walker**

Constituency Assistant  
to MLA Jackie Tegart  
Fraser Nicola  
405 Railway Avenue, PO Box 279  
Ashcroft, British Columbia V0K 1A0  
Office: (250) 453-9726  
Toll Free : 1 (877) 378-4802

**From:** s.22 [<mailto:info@thefurbearers.com>]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 16, 2018 7:04 PM  
**To:** Tegart.MLA, Jackie  
**Subject:** Please protect families by requiring trap warning signs

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s.22

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 13, 2018 8:16 AM  
**To:** Purdy, Sandra FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX; McLaren, Kenn FLNR:EX; Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Issues Notes  
**Attachments:** IN\_Wolf\_Trapping\_Feb 9.docx; IN Eagle Pass cabin\_08Feb2018.docx; IN wildfire freshet strategic review Feb 8 2018 final.docx; IN wildfire recovery reforestation Feb 9 2018 final.docx; IN\_BCTS\_Haida Gwaii\_Jan 26.docx; IN\_Caribou\_Wolves\_Jan 19.doc; IN\_SARA\_Caribou\_Federal\_Govt.docx; IN\_Seven Sisters\_Jan 30.docx; KM\_Rural Dividend\_Jan 28.docx; IN\_BCTS\_Schmidt Creek\_Jan 22.docx; IN\_Fraser\_Human Rights Tribunal\_Jan22.docx; IN 2017 wildfire invoices Feb 2 2018 FINAL.docx

Hi Sandra,  
Can you please print all of these for MDD, thanks.

---

**From:** Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, February 9, 2018 4:50 PM  
**To:** McLaren, Kenn FLNR:EX; Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX; Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Purdy, Sandra FLNR:EX; Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Issues Notes

Hi! here's some updated issues notes, in prep for House sitting again. I've also saved them to sharepoint:

s.15

there's a few more that we're still finalizing updates on and will have to you Monday or Tuesday.

Cheers,

Vivian

## ADVICE TO MINISTER

### CONFIDENTIAL ISSUES NOTE

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource  
Operations, and Rural Development

Update: Feb. 9, 2018

Minister Responsible: Hon. Doug Donaldson

## Wolf Trapping Season - Lengthening

### ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- There has been an increase in wolf populations on northern Vancouver Island.
- Wolf trapping is used to try and increase elk populations in the area which are currently too small to be hunted and show no signs of increasing.
- The province is proposing to lengthen the current wolf trapping season to help elk conservation efforts on Vancouver Island.
- Wolf harvests are closely monitored and hunters and trappers are required to report their harvest so the province can closely monitor the wolf population.
- It's worth noting that no wolves were trapped during the fiscal year of 2016-17.

### KEY FACTS REGARDING THE ISSUE:

On Jan. 13, 2018, the Times-Colonist, published a story stating that most people are not aware of the province's practice of trapping wolves on Vancouver Island and that there is a plan to lengthen the trapping season by 51 days this year. Currently it begins Nov. 1 and ends June 30. The proposed beginning date is Sept. 10.

The proposed regulation change was available for public review and comment until Jan. 19, 2018. Public input is considered before regulation proposals are forwarded to the Minister for final decision. This is one of 80 regulation proposals being considered as part of the update to the 2018 to 2020 Hunting and Trapping Regulation Synopsis, which comes into effect July 1, 2018.

The ministry estimates there are about 250 wolves on Vancouver Island at this time and the population is increasing. Given that no wolves were captured by trappers in the previous fiscal year, the number of wolves trapped in the proposed extended season would be minimal. In the previous five years, where conditions were milder for setting traps, the average has been seven wolves total for the entire Vancouver Island region per fiscal year. Trapping will occur by licensed trappers or by First Nations. It is expected most trapping to occur on central or northern Vancouver Island.

|                         |                             |              |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Communications Contact: | Dawn Makarowski             | 250 356-5261 |
| Program Area Contact:   | Mike Stalberg/Steve MacIver |              |

Wildlife\2018\Hunting\Regulation Proposals



## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** McLaren, Kenn FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, March 5, 2018 11:39 AM  
**To:** Munroe, Ryan FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Green caucus VI wolf #'s

Super, thanks Ryan.  
kenn

---

**From:** Munroe, Ryan FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, March 5, 2018 11:38 AM  
**To:** McLaren, Kenn FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Green caucus VI wolf #'s  
**Importance:** High

Hey Kenn, please see below email from Ward Trotter regarding the green's briefing last week. Additional materials for the green's are attached.

---

**From:** Trotter, Ward FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, March 5, 2018 11:36 AM  
**To:** Munroe, Ryan FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Larkin, Brenda FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: VI wolf #'s  
**Importance:** High

Hi Ryan.

Here is the information that Kenn is looking for from us (Jen and ) that was requested by the Greens during the briefing on the proposed VI wolf regulation changes. Can you forward this along to Kenn.  
If you have questions let us know.  
thanks  
ward

---

**From:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, March 5, 2018 10:25 AM  
**To:** Trotter, Ward FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Di Georgio, Alexis FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: VI wolf #'s  
**Importance:** High

Hi Ward,  
I had recorded a few actions from the briefing with the Greens. Link to management plan, letter of support from the wildlife council, key messages for correspondence, stats to support population estimate and harvest stats for licenced hunting (provided them for trapping). Attached as noted with updated harvest statistics for both licenced hunting and trapping. Can you please forward to Kenn as requested, or let me know if you would like me to do that.  
Thanks in advance.  
Jen

---

**From:** McLaren, Kenn FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 1, 2018 5:59 PM  
**To:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Trotter, Ward FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** VI wolf #'s

Hi Jennifer;

Just a reminder to shoot over the Vancouver Island wolf population #'s when you get a chance. I will forward them on to the Greens.

Not urgent.

Thanks,

Kenn

Kenn McLaren

Ministerial Assistant | Honourable Doug Donaldson

Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

o- 250-387-6240 c – 250-953-7231

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**Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, February 5, 2018 11:23 AM  
**To:** Munroe, Ryan FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: mtg  
**Attachments:** Re: Trapline Registrations; Re: Trapline Registrations; Re: Thank you for writing; Re: Trapline Registrations  
  
**Importance:** High

Will let you defer this one to staff to handle.

---

**From:** Donison, Sonia FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, February 5, 2018 11:22 AM  
**To:** Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX; Munroe, Ryan FLNR:EX; Correspondence Serv. Sectn, FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** mtg  
**Importance:** High

Hi! attached a number of emails, but one is asking for a mtg with MDD, I suggest we leave with staff to handle directly, but maybe an email back to Sterritt advising of such?

Thank you—Di Bohja!

Sonia Donison  
Manager  
Correspondence Services  
250 356-9638

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

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**From:** McLaren, Kenn FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 7, 2018 9:55 PM  
**To:** Donaldson, Doug FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Fwd: Kelowna media avail  
**Attachments:** Issues Scan Kelowna Feb 8\_draft 2.docx; ATT00001.htm

FYI

Kenn McLaren  
Ministerial Assistant  
Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, Rural Development  
[Kenn.McLaren@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kenn.McLaren@gov.bc.ca) | c-250-893-7231  
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Uppenborn, Jeremy GCPE:EX" <[Jeremy.Uppenborn@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jeremy.Uppenborn@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** February 7, 2018 at 5:34:47 PM PST  
**To:** "Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX" <[Brett.Lowther@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Brett.Lowther@gov.bc.ca)>, "McLaren, Kenn FLNR:EX" <[Kenn.McLaren@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kenn.McLaren@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** "Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX" <[Lisa.Silverio@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Lisa.Silverio@gov.bc.ca)>, "Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX" <[Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tim.Renneberg@gov.bc.ca)>, "Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX" <[Vivian.Thomas@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Vivian.Thomas@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Kelowna media avail

With updates on deer and leg-hold trap messaging.

---

**From:** Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 7, 2018 2:46 PM  
**To:** McLaren, Kenn FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX; Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX; Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX; Uppenborn, Jeremy GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Kelowna media avail

We have pitched it to local media as simply an opportunity for them to ask the minister about forestry-related issues, but always difficult to predict what they will actually ask. However, attached is an issues scan for Kelowna on things he might get asked about with response points included.

Brett

---

**From:** McLaren, Kenn FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 7, 2018 2:39 PM  
**To:** Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX  
**Cc:** Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX; Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX; Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** Re: Kelowna media avail

Do we have a layout for the avail? Is it Forestry tied to community as per the Prem's TLA words with the convention as the backdrop? Tie in RD, and possibly some RDiv announcements, as per Dave Peterson's mention?

Regardless, I am sure the Q's may involve wine, minimum wage and floods.  
Kenn

Kenn McLaren  
Ministerial Assistant  
Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, Rural Development  
[Kenn.McLaren@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Kenn.McLaren@gov.bc.ca) | c-250-893-7231  
Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 7, 2018, at 10:54 AM, Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX <[Brett.Lowther@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Brett.Lowther@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Hi - I have now talked to hotel Manager Dale Sivucha and he is fine with the media avail in the lobby at 1:00 pm.  
brett

**Feb. 7, 2018**

**MEDIA ADVISORY – Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development – Kelowna**

**KELOWNA – Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development will be available to talk to local Kelowna media during the Western Forestry Contractor's Association Conference.**

**Event Date: Thursday, Feb. 8, 2017**  
**Time: 1:00 p.m.**  
**Location: Lobby of the Coast Capri Hotel**  
**1171 Harvey Ave.**  
**Kelowna, B.C.**

Media Contact:  
Media Relations  
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource  
Operations and Rural Development  
250 356-7506

---

**From:** Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 6, 2018 4:26 PM  
**To:** McLaren, Kenn FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX; Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX; Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Kelowna media avail

Have now chatted with John Betts and he said the minister could do a media avail in the lobby of the Coast Capri hotel. The conference itself will going on in the ballroom.  
What time would the minister want to make himself available?

Brett

---

**From:** Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 6, 2018 3:55 PM  
**To:** McLaren, Kenn FLNR:EX; Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX  
**Cc:** Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX; Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Kelowna media avail

I have left a second voice message for John Betts but have not heard back. I let him know that we are trying to set up a media availability for the minister and need to choose a time and location.

Hopefully I will hear by end of day. If not, I will have to call the hotel directly in the morning.

Brett

---

**From:** Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 6, 2018 11:25 AM  
**To:** McLaren, Kenn FLNR:EX; Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX  
**Cc:** Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX; Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Kelowna media avail

Hi – I've left a message for John Betts to give me a call, but according to the Thursday schedule below, the window for the media avail with MDD would likely work best in the 1:5 hour lunch break. I will seek John's advice on best location.

Brett

- **Thursday, February 8th, 2018 (continued) 10:45 am to Noon Plenary Panel Continued - Discussion with Audience**
- **Noon to 1:30 pm Buffet Lunch & Tradeshow - Sponsored by BC Timber Sales & Forest Nursery Association of BC**
- **1:30 pm - 2:10 pm Review 2017 Wild Fire Season—Operational Perspective: Ian Meier Director, Wildfire Operations BC Wildfire Service**
- **2:10 pm - 2:50 pm The Ripple-down Effects of the Softwood Lumber Dispute: likely impacts along the supply**

---

**From:** McLaren, Kenn FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 6, 2018 9:55 AM  
**To:** Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX; Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX  
**Cc:** Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX; Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Kelowna media avail

Hi;

The people at Gorman Brothers mill said no to a media avail with the mill as back drop. Should we go to another location such as the Capri Hotel or do we have an office there?

I suppose it is in Vernon?

Kenn

Kenn McLaren  
Ministerial Assistant | Honourable Doug Donaldson  
Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

o- 250-387-6240 c – 250-953-7231

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## **Issues Scan: Kelowna**

### **Minister's Tour – Feb. 8, 2018**

**Kelowna** (Contact: Bob Warner 250-462 8887)

#### **Okanagan Lake Levels/Potential for flooding**

After historic levels of flooding in 2017, local media and residents are wondering what the outlook is for flooding for spring 2018.

#### **Suggested Response:**

- Maureen Chapman and George Abbott are co-leading a strategic review of 2017's historic wildfires and flooding.
- Their report is due April 30<sup>th</sup>, and we look forward to evaluating their recommendations.
- It's too early to tell what lake levels will look like this year. However, preliminary, water levels are closer to historic norms, but this may change over the remainder of the winter and spring months.
- Staff are monitoring the elevated snow levels and making adjustments to flows out of the lake as required.
- While the preliminary February 1 snowpack is at 131% of normal for that time of year, we have managed the system in the past with these levels without flooding. The key is the absence or presence of significant spring rains like we saw in 2017..

#### **Dock Rebuilding as a result of 2017 Okanagan Lake flooding damage**

The historically high lake levels mentioned above also caused significant damage to approximately 1500 structures along the Lake.

#### **Suggested Response:**

- A flood recovery team was put in place last June to work with dock builders, local governments and dock owners to facilitate the anticipated large number of applicants.
- Additional staff have been hired and a front counter staff person in Kelowna are helping get through the large number of applicants.
- Increased presence on the Lake by C&E staff has helped educate and ensure compliance.
- An estimated 400 applications have come in to rebuild or perform works in the lake.

#### **“Take Back the Foreshore” Movement**

A group of citizens walked the foreshore from Kelowna's City Park to Gyro Beach in Kelowna last August to draw attention to illegal structures that are preventing public access along the foreshore of Okanagan Lake

#### **Suggested Response**

- When building a dock or other structure along the foreshore, the owner must provide access along the foreshore



- C&E had 40 boat patrol days in 2017. The 2018 Okanagan lake patrol season will start this month with a focus on active operations and ensuring structures are built according to their plan.
- An additional boat will arrive in March to help increase the number of patrols.

### **Fruit Growers Association resolution on a deer cull at AGM next week**

At their AGM next week, the BC Fruit Growers' Association have a resolution to seek support for a deer cull and other management options such as limited entry hunting for problem deer that are damaging orchards and damaging vehicles in collisions. The resolution claims that the urban deer population is a responsibility of the government but doesn't indicate what level of government.

### **Suggested Response:**

#### **General**

- Culling remains a regular method to reduce urban deer populations and is considered to be "operational".
- Regional wildlife biologists will take part in planning exercises to guide communities through the permitting process if urban deer populations pose a longer-term safety or nuisance issue and once local governments have developed community-based planning groups to quantify the problem, consider solutions and gauge public opinion.
- A research trial on translocation is underway in the Kootenay Region. However, as the success of the project has not yet been evaluated, we can't comment on whether translocation will be an approved operational method to reduce urban deer populations.
- Last fall, the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development invited local governments and First Nations communities to apply for funding to assist with deer management programs under the 2017-18 Provincial Urban Deer Cost-share Program. (Kelowna did not apply. <https://news.gov.bc.ca/15707>).

#### **Specific to the Okanagan**

- Last year, the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development began issuing specific limited entry draws for rural, agricultural, antlerless mule deer in the Okanagan to help control deer populations.
- The ministry is monitoring the uptake of licences and will adjust future intakes accordingly.
- The ministry recommends that orchardists proactively manage attractants with temporary or permanent fencing.
- Property owners have been encouraged to contact First Nation members of the Okanagan Nation Alliance who, under food, social and ceremonial rights, are not required to follow licenced hunting seasons or bag limits. First Nation harvesters are still governed by federal firearm restrictions, however bows and crossbows can be used for hunting if property owners wish and have granted access permission.
- Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development staff will be meeting with the Tree Fruit Growers in Vernon on March 1 to discuss options.

## **Pets caught in leg-hold traps**

The Conservation Officer Service receives approximately eight reports annually of pets being caught in traps. Recently, a cat was caught in a leg-hold trap in downtown Kelowna. In mid-December, a dog was caught in a snare near Penticton.

### **Suggested Response:**

- **With respect to the legality of leg-hold traps in an urban environment, it is correct that if they are least 200 metres from a residence, they can be used to control nuisance.**
- **It's currently an offence to trap within 200 metres of a residence. The 200-metre regulation has been sufficient in the past; however, we are open to review should there be emerging circumstances.**
- **All calls regarding suspected violations should go to the COS RAPP (Report All Poachers and Polluters) line: 1-877-952-7277 (RAPP)**

### **General trapping guidelines are as follows:**

- During regular trapping seasons, individual permits are not required beyond the usual trapping licence.
- However, the municipality/landowner needs to give their permission. The ministry suggests contacting the municipality in question if trapping occurred inside their municipal limits.
- If the traps are set outside municipal boundaries (i.e., Crown land), then the trapper must be licensed by the Province and comply with all applicable regulations.
- In June 2016, the Province released the 2016-18 Hunting and Trapping Regulations Synopsis, detailing the most up-to-date rules and regulations for hunters throughout British Columbia: <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/sports-culture/recreation/fishing-hunting/hunting/regulations-synopsis>
- The trapping regulations can be found on pages 90-96.

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Purdy, Sandra FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2017 4:35 PM  
**To:** Donaldson, Doug FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: IN Biennial Hunting Regulations 229803  
**Attachments:** 229803 Attachments.docx; 229803 Biennial Hunting Regulations\_Oct 18.docx

Hello Minister,

Please find attached and Information Note.

Thank you,



**Sandra Purdy**

Administrative Assistant to the

**Honourable Doug Donaldson**

Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

t 250.387-6240 f 250.387.1040

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Page 60 to/à Page 61

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**MINISTRY OF FORESTS, LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCE OPERATIONS  
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
INFORMATION NOTE**

Date: October 18, 2017

File: 280-20

**CLIFF: 229803**

**PREPARED FOR: Honourable Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development**

**ISSUE:** Biennial Hunting Regulations

**BACKGROUND:**

The Fish and Wildlife Branch (FWB) publishes the Hunting and Trapping Regulation Synopsis (HTRS) every other year. The next edition of the HTRS is scheduled to be effective from June 1, 2018 until July 31, 2020.

Leading up to the publication of the HTRS is the “biennial regulation cycle” which includes regulation changes that pertain to hunting (open seasons, bag limits, etc.), safety concerns related to firearms, motor vehicle prohibitions/restrictions, and trapping.

The amendments generally originate from regional offices, respond to the most current information available about sustainable use of wildlife populations, and are proposed for conservation of wildlife/habitat or to maintain/enhance recreational opportunities. Communication between regions occurs constantly as an amendment to regulations in one region can have consequences in others.

Consultation is a key component the biennial regulation cycle, and includes consultation with First Nations, hunting/trapping stakeholders, and the general public. Most First Nations and stakeholder consultation occurs at the regional level, and broader public consultation occurs through the Angling, Hunting, and Trapping Public Engagement (AHTE) website.

Consultation with First Nations is a legal requirement when a proposed regulation change has the potential to infringe on an aboriginal right (i.e., liberalisation of a hunting season). In cases where there is no anticipated infringement on an aboriginal right (i.e., more restrictive hunting season) there is no legal requirement to consult. However, First Nations bands in the area are notified of the proposed change and given opportunity to provide feedback. In some cases (e.g., Treaty 8, Tsilhqot'in) there are agreements in place that require a level of consultation on all proposals.

Regional staff submit regulation change proposals to FWB by early October. There are approximately 75 proposed regulation amendments under consideration, of which 25 are considered to be potentially controversial, or a few that may not be advanced, that are under further review by staff and senior management (see attachment).

During October, the FWB conducts a final review to ensure proposals are accurate, complete and are consistent with provincial policy.

Proposed regulation amendments are summarized by FWB, and in collaboration with Government Communications and Public Engagement, are posted on the AHTE website in late November for one

month. The AHTE website provides the public with an opportunity to provide feedback on proposed regulation amendments. This website can generate significant amounts of feedback from both the hunting and non-hunting public which is considered by FWB and regional staff. Feedback from the AHTE website has been useful in past regulation cycles as a tool to:

- inform and educate the public on wildlife management and hunting/trapping regulations,
- gauge the sensitivity or public interest in specific proposals,
- solicit and consider alternative options, and,
- further inform the statutory decision maker on public interests in proposed regulation amendments.

## **DISCUSSION:**

The authority to amend the majority of regulations associated with the biennial regulation cycle has been delegated to the Minister responsible for the *Wildlife Act* through a Ministerial Order. Once the Ministerial Order is tagged it is packaged with briefing material and forwarded to executive and the Minister for consideration.

FWB and regional staff are currently working out the details for each of the 75 proposed regulation amendments under consideration for this biennial regulation cycle. Certain proposals will be contentious to some First Nations, stakeholders and public (e.g., proposals to reduce moose hunting opportunities in the Skeena and Peace Regions are anticipated and likely to garner attention).

## **NEXT STEPS:**

In October, FWB and regional fish and wildlife staff will continue working with First Nations and stakeholders to develop proposals for regulation amendments with the goal to meet Government's objectives related to safety, conservation and opportunity.

In late November the proposals will be posted to the AHTE website for public comment.

In early 2018, Ministerial Order will be completed and Minister briefing will be scheduled.

### **Contact:**

*ADM: Tom Ethier  
Resource Stewardship Division  
Phone: 250-387-3637*

### **Alternate Contact:**

*Jennifer Psyllakis, Director  
Fish and Wildlife Branch, Victoria BC  
Phone: 250-387-3637*

### **Prepared by:**

*Steve MacIver  
Fish and Wildlife Branch, Victoria BC  
Phone: 250 387-9767*

## **Attachment:**

s.13

| Reviewed by      | Initials | Date       |
|------------------|----------|------------|
| DMO              | TS       | 2017-10-19 |
| ADM              | TE       | Oct 18/17  |
| Exec. Director   | RWT      | Oct 6/17   |
| PRGM A/Dir./Mgr. | JP       | Sept 25/17 |

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

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**From:** Purdy, Sandra FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, January 12, 2018 8:48 AM  
**To:** Donaldson, Doug FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX; McLaren, Kenn FLNR:EX; Jones, Tristan FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: 234849 - MDD Information Note RE Hunting Regulations  
**Attachments:** 234849-IN- wildlife Reg Update (Jan 9).docx; 234849 - Attachment- Hunting Regulation Proposals Jan 9.docx

Minister,

IN on Hunting Regulations for your review. Uploaded to SharePoint.

Thanks,  
Sandra



**Sandra Purdy**

Administrative Assistant to the

**Honourable Doug Donaldson**

Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

t 250.387-6240 f 250.387.1040

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**MINISTRY OF FORESTS, LANDS NATURAL RESOURCE OPERATIONS  
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
INFORMATION NOTE**

Date: January 9, 2018  
Date of previous note: October 18, 2017  
File: 280-20  
XRef: 229803  
**CLIFF: 234849**

**PREPARED FOR: Honourable Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development**

**ISSUE:** Biennial Hunting Regulations – Public Posting

**BACKGROUND:**

The Fish and Wildlife Branch (FWB) publishes the Hunting and Trapping Regulation Synopsis (HTRS) every other year. The next edition of the HTRS is scheduled to be effective from June 1, 2018 until July 31, 2020.

Leading up to the publication of the HTRS is the “biennial regulation cycle” which includes regulation changes that pertain to hunting (open seasons, bag limits, etc.), safety concerns related to firearms, motor vehicle prohibitions/restrictions and trapping.

The amendments generally originate from regional offices, respond to the most current information available about sustainable use of wildlife populations, and are proposed for conservation of wildlife/habitat or to maintain/enhance recreational opportunities. Communication among regions and FWB occurs constantly as an amendment to regulations in one region can have consequences in others.

Consultation is a key component of the biennial regulation cycle, and includes consultation with First Nations, hunting/trapping stakeholders, and the general public. Most First Nations and stakeholder consultation occurs at the regional level, and broader public consultation occurs through the Angling, Hunting, and Trapping Public Engagement (AHTE) website. Posting of the majority of proposed regulation amendments occurred on December 19, 2017, and will stay active for one month.

In past years the AHTE website has had functionality issues and a new website was developed to improve functionality. This is the first year that the new site will be used and there is some uncertainty how it will be received.

Consultation with First Nations is a legal requirement when a proposed regulation change has the potential to infringe on an aboriginal right (i.e., liberalisation of a hunting season). In cases where there is no anticipated infringement on an aboriginal right (i.e., more restrictive hunting season), there is no legal requirement to consult. However, First Nations bands in the area are notified of the proposed change and given opportunity to provide feedback. In some cases (e.g., Treaty 8, Tsilhqot'in) there are agreements in place that require a level of consultation on all proposals.



All regions submitted regulation change proposals to FWB by mid-November 2017. The FWB has conducted a final review to ensure proposals are accurate, complete and are consistent with provincial policy.

There are approximately 75 proposed regulation amendments under consideration, several of which are considered controversial and expected to draw attention when posted publically (see Attachment 1).

Proposed regulation amendments are summarized by FWB, and in collaboration with Government Communications and Public Engagement (GCPE), are posted on the AHTE website. As mentioned above, posting occurred on December 19, 2017, and will stay active for one month. Some proposals may be delayed to ensure policy responses and communications staff are fully prepared (see Attachment 1).

This website can generate significant amounts of feedback from both the hunting and non-hunting public which is considered by FWB and regional staff. Feedback from the AHTE website has been useful in past regulation cycles as a tool to:

- inform and educate the public on wildlife management and hunting/trapping regulations,
- gauge the sensitivity or public interest in specific proposals,
- solicit and consider alternative options, and
- further inform the statutory decision maker on public interests in proposed regulation amendments.

## CONCLUSION:

The authority to amend the majority of regulations associated with the biennial regulation cycle is delegated to the Minister responsible for the *Wildlife Act*. Once the Ministerial Order is tagged, it is packaged with briefing material and forwarded to executive and the Minister for consideration.

FWB, with cooperation from GCPE, posted details for each of the approximately 75 proposed regulation amendments for public comment starting on December 19, 2017 for one month. Certain proposals will be contentious to some First Nations, stakeholders and public.

In early 2018, a Ministerial Order will be drafted and a briefing for the Minister will be scheduled.

### Contact:

ADM: Tom Ethier  
Resource Stewardship Division  
Phone: 250-387-3637

### Alternate Contact:

Jennifer Psyllakis, Director  
Fish and Wildlife Branch  
Phone: 250-387-3637

### Prepared by:

Steve MacIver  
Fish and Wildlife Branch  
Phone: 250 387-9767

### Attachment:

s.13

| Reviewed by      | Initials | Date      |
|------------------|----------|-----------|
| DM               | JF       | Jan 11/17 |
| DMO              | RM       | Jan 10/17 |
| A/ADM            | AL       | Jan 5/17  |
| Exec. Director   | WT       | Dec 20/17 |
| PRGM A/Dir./Mgr. | JP       | Dec 11/17 |

Page 67 to/à Page 70

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## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 19, 2017 11:34 AM  
**To:** Donaldson, Doug FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Wildlife Stewardship Meeting 4pm Today 231090  
**Attachments:** 231090 IN Wildlife Stewardship Council.docx

Minister-materials for today at 4pm. Have printed off and left in your inbox.

---

**From:** Munroe, Ryan FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 19, 2017 10:11 AM  
**To:** Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Wildlife Stewardship Meeting 4pm Today 231090

Attached are materials for today's meeting with Wildlife Stewardship Council. Tim has not yet approved. I will revise and alert you if he makes any edits. Uploaded to SharePoint now.

**Ryan Munroe**  
Issues and Administrative Coordinator  
Deputy Minister's Office  
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development  
Phone: 250 387 1526

**MINISTRY OF FORESTS, LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCE OPERATIONS**  
**INFORMATION NOTE**

Date: September 18, 2017

File: 280-20

CLIFF: 231090

**PREPARED FOR: Honourable Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development**

**ISSUE:** Wildlife Stewardship Council Meeting

**BACKGROUND:**

Coastal British Columbia Guide Outfitters was formed in 2010 and rebranded as the Wildlife Stewardship Council (WSC) in 2014. The WSC is a registered society and focuses on guide outfitter and First Nations' interests regarding wildlife management on the coast and throughout BC.

**DISCUSSION:**

The WSC is interested in improving wildlife management and has long advocated for increased First Nations' involvement in that process. The WSC supports collaborative agreements for the management of wildlife, including the establishment of a 'natural resource roundtable' to discuss and collaborate on resource management issues.

The WSC (working through the First Nations Fisheries Council (FNFC)) has been undertaking outreach into First Nations communities to develop a provincial perspective on First Nations' wildlife issues while still recognizing that Aboriginal rights are held at the individual First Nation level.

\$50,000 in funding was provided by the province to support these discussions with First Nations throughout BC and the WSC has expressed concern that the present level of funding is insufficient to continue outreach activities and additional funding is required.

A final report on activities is due at the end of the fiscal year, and staff have encouraged the WSC to provide an interim report on progress as a means to help assess future steps.

The WSC has also raised several management concerns regarding provincial moose populations, predator / prey dynamics of deer, wolf and cougar on Vancouver Island and the provincial initiative to end trophy hunting with regards to grizzly bear.

Moose: Inventory work conducted by wildlife biologists over the past three years indicate that moose densities in some areas of B.C.'s Interior have declined (notably the Cariboo, central Omineca and North Thompson), while remaining stable in other areas. WSC has supported the efforts to implement moose enhancement and recovery activities. They have also advocated changing the Limited Entry Hunt from one that increases the number of authorizations based on trend in hunter success to a simple formula of one authorization to each available animal.

Vancouver Island deer and predators: Deer populations on Vancouver Island are down relative to the 1970s. Populations at that time were not naturally self-sustaining, but were considered artificially high due to both wolf poisoning (long-since discontinued) and logging operations that created new forage in key areas. The current population estimate for deer on Vancouver Island is 44,000 to 65,000. The WSC is concerned that high wolf and cougar populations are impacting deer populations.

Grizzly: The WSC does not support the ban on trophy hunting of grizzly bears coming into effect on November 30, 2017 and have noted that a number of First Nations have purchased guide outfitter territories with the expectation to guide clients for grizzly bear hunting. The ban significantly impacts the value of these hunts and the economic value of the territory.

## **MINISTRY RESPONSE:**

The province values First Nations input on wildlife management and is looking forward to strengthening those relationships. The province looks forward to receiving the interim WSC report on outreach activities, which will help inform next steps and the possibility of additional funding. An interim report would be useful as there are strong alignments with the broader consultation process for improving wildlife management and habitat conservation, which will be initiated soon. While details for engagement and consultation are still being finalized, there will be meetings with the key stakeholder groups and First Nations leadership groups. The province will welcome the opportunity to discuss WSC's advice and options for support.

Moose: Overall, moose are not considered a conservation risk but the province recognizes their social and cultural significance to both First Nations and licensed hunters. The ministry has a provincial moose management framework and has expanded a comprehensive moose study to investigate the declines and targeted moose enhancement activities. Hunter success is monitored carefully as are moose populations in most areas of the province. Limited Entry Hunting (LEH) authorizations are calculated based on hunter success to ensure harvest targets are met. If hunter success is higher than expected, LEH authorizations can be reduced in subsequent years.

Deer/Wolf/Cougar: While deer populations in the region are currently down compared to 35 years ago, those populations were not sustainable at that time and there isn't a conservation concern. There are opportunities to propose regulation changes through the regional Wildlife Regulations Advisory Committee process and it is understood that there is a regulation to lengthen the trapping season for wolves under consideration. With respect to cougar, the ministry is currently in year 2 of a 3 year DNA study that will provide improved information on cougar populations and their impacts.

Grizzly: The Government is fulfilling its election commitment to put an end to the grizzly trophy hunt. The ministry is working to ensure the cultural needs of First Nations will be met despite the possible end to trophy hunting. WSC can expect to hear more about the specific details in the near future.

### **Contact:**

*Tom Ethier, ADM  
Resource Stewardship Division  
Phone: (250) 356-0972*

### **Alternate Contact:**

*Jennifer Psyllakis, Director  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Phone: (250) 387-3637*

### **Prepared by:**

*Logan Wenham, Policy Lead  
Fish and Wildlife Branch  
Phone: (250) 387-3974*

| <b>Reviewed by</b> | <b>Initials</b> | <b>Date</b> |
|--------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| DM                 |                 |             |
| DMO                | RM              | 2017-09-19  |
| ADM                | TE              | 2017-09-19  |
| Exec Director      | WT              | 2017-09-19  |
| Director           | JP              | 2017-09-19  |
| Author             | LW              | 2017-09-18  |

**Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** XT:Van Loon, Josh FLNR:IN  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 7, 2017 1:16 PM  
**To:** XT:Van Loon, Josh FLNR:IN  
**Cc:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** second call on trapping with FLNRO

Hello,

Thank you for your interest in participating in a second discussion with staff at the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations on trapping.

Based on the results of the poll, we have scheduled the call for 10 am on Friday March 17. Call-in information will be confirmed once available. The discussion is anticipated to take approximately 1-1.5 hours.

Feel free to contact me if you need any further information.

Best,

Josh van Loon  
Senior Policy Analyst  
Union of British Columbia Municipalities  
Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 110

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

---

**From:** XT:Van Loon, Josh FLNR:IN  
**Sent:** Friday, January 6, 2017 2:46 PM  
**To:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Re: trapping article in Compass newsletter

Hi Mindy,

That should be fine -the other groups are not members of UBCM but since they do represent certain local governments on this issue, I might try to get in touch with contacts from the local governments they represent to see if they would be interested in participating directly. The only issue is that that may take a little bit longer. Is that ok with you? Feel free to call me if you'd like to discuss this further, otherwise I'll proceed.

Best,

Josh

Josh van Loon  
Senior Policy Analyst  
Union of British Columbia Municipalities  
Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 110

---

**From:** "Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX" <[Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at 4:46 PM  
**To:** Josh <[jvloon@ubcm.ca](mailto:jvloon@ubcm.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: trapping article in Compass newsletter

Thanks Josh

I am hoping to have the conversation with member municipalities, without any special interest groups at this time. Is that possible? Are the SPCA and the Defenders of Fur-Bearers members of UBCM?

I plan on having discussions with the broader community, as well.<sup>s.13</sup>  
s.13

---

**From:** Josh van Loon [<mailto:jvloon@ubcm.ca>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 4, 2017 4:13 PM  
**To:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Re: trapping article in Compass newsletter

Hi Mindy,

To answer your questions:

-there were no new resolutions in 2016

-you are correct – the last resolution on the topic was 2013

-past resolutions such as the 2011-2013 resolutions relating to trapping (reattached for your reference) remain in effect

Regarding the discussion, I've now heard back from:

-representatives from 4 municipalities

-the BCSPCA

-and the Fur-Bearers

The BCSPCA and Fur-Bearers have asked to participate on behalf of municipalities that they have worked with or are currently representing.

Maybe as a next step you could suggest 4/5 possible time slots for a call that I can poll interested parties on – does that work for you?

Best,

Josh

Josh van Loon

Senior Policy Analyst

Union of British Columbia Municipalities

Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 110

---

**From:** "Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX" <[Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca)>

**Date:** Tuesday, January 3, 2017 at 1:43 PM

**To:** Josh <[jvlooon@ubcm.ca](mailto:jvlooon@ubcm.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: trapping article in Compass newsletter

Hi Josh

Hope you do not mind me asking a few questions: Was there any new resolutions on the topic in 2016? If not, am I correct that the last resolution on the topic of trapping was in 2013? According to UMBC's policies, what is the status of past resolutions?

Looking forward to having the discussion with the interested members. Please let me know if you need anything more in advance of setting up the discussion.

Mindy

---

**From:** Josh van Loon [<mailto:jvlooon@ubcm.ca>]

**Sent:** Thursday, December 22, 2016 2:16 PM

**To:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX

**Subject:** Re: trapping article in Compass newsletter

Hi Mindy,

I've just received 3 more requests in recent days, so this may not be an issue. But our Committees meet quarterly – the next meeting will be in mid February. I'll connect with you early in the new year to discuss further and possibly schedule the call with interested parties. Will you be around in the first couple of weeks of January?

Happy holidays,

Josh van Loon

Senior Policy Analyst

Union of British Columbia Municipalities

Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 110

---

**From:** "Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX" <[Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca)>

**Date:** Tuesday, December 20, 2016 at 4:31 PM

**To:** Josh <[jvlooon@ubcm.ca](mailto:jvlooon@ubcm.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: trapping article in Compass newsletter

Josh

Thank you for letting me know. When would the next opportunity be to meet with the committee, if there are not many responses to the article?

---

**From:** Josh van Loon [<mailto:jvlooon@ubcm.ca>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 20, 2016 4:10 PM

**To:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX

**Subject:** Re: trapping article in Compass newsletter

Hi Mindy,

Sorry for the delayed response – I was away – but yes, I did send this out just before s.22. Unfortunately I've only heard back from one local government representative so far. I might recirculate the article or send it to some specific potentially interested parties if I still haven't heard back from others by the new year.

Best,

Josh van Loon

Senior Policy Analyst

Union of British Columbia Municipalities

Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 110



---

**From:** "Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX" <[Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca)>

**Date:** Thursday, December 15, 2016 at 12:05 PM

**To:** Josh <[jvlooon@ubcm.ca](mailto:jvlooon@ubcm.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: trapping article in Compass newsletter

Hi Josh

Were you able to present the topic in the weekly newsletter? If so, what is the level of response or follow up plan?

Mindy

---

**From:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX

**Sent:** Thursday, November 17, 2016 11:55 AM

**To:** 'Josh van Loon'

**Subject:** RE: trapping article in Compass newsletter

Hi Josh

Thank you for getting back to me. It is reasonable to present the UBCM issue raised in the past and offer to arrange a meeting with FLNRO (me, at least). I look forward to learning of the responses and getting an idea of the level of interest.

Let me know how it goes.

Regards,

Mindy

---

**From:** Josh van Loon [<mailto:jvlooon@ubcm.ca>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, November 16, 2016 9:46 AM

**To:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX

**Subject:** trapping article in Compass newsletter

Hi Mindy,

Following up on our call the other day, I've had a chance to discuss the idea of doing an article in our weekly newsletter to gauge interest from members in having a discussion with you on trapping, and can now confirm that I will proceed with this (assuming you are still interested).

In brief, I'll present an outline of issues raised in member resolutions addressing trapping in the past for context, and then ask that members interested in discussing the issues with FLNRO contact me. Then, assuming there is adequate interest, you/we can organize a conference call to have this discussion.

Realistically, this article will go out to members on Wed Nov 30.

Please let me know if this works for you, and I'll proceed.

Best,

Josh

Josh van Loon

Senior Policy Analyst

Environment & Healthy Communities Committees

Union of British Columbia Municipalities

Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 110

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

---

**From:** XT:Van Loon, Josh FLNR:IN  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2016 2:17 PM  
**To:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Re: options for approach trapping issue -follow-up from call  
**Attachments:** UBCM Trapping Resolutions[1].pdf

Hi Mindy,

Thanks for your note. Since our July Environment Committee meeting has passed, we'll likely have to wait until the next Environment Committee meeting in November to formally review any proposals that you have with the Committee. But in the interim I can provide some initial comments on your suggested options:

### 1. Signage

- UBCM policy supports trapping signage (resolution 2011-B171, 2012-B124). I would emphasize the importance of signage in order to protect people and pets from injury, so any flexibility in signage requirements should be weighed carefully against safety considerations.

### 2. Training

- UBCM policy also supports training that highlights the importance of signage (2011-B171), in addition to education programs on alternatives to trapping (resolution 2012-B124). It isn't clear from the description you provide whether the proposed training would address these issues.

More broadly, I would also note that our members support limitations on trapping, including:

- a prohibition on the sale of wildlife traps to individuals without a trapping permit or license (resolution 2012-B124),
- the investigation of ways to prevent domestic animals from being injured in traps (resolution 2013-B62), and
- not allowing trap lines in recreational areas close to residential areas (2013-B62).

We would also want to know whether there are financial implications for local governments regarding either of these proposals (e.g. who would be responsible for administering signage?).

I've reattached our resolutions on trapping for your reference. Please do keep me updated on this as you proceed, and we can continue to provide input as the options are further developed.

Best,

Josh van Loon  
Senior Policy Analyst  
Environment & Healthy Communities Committee  
Union of British Columbia Municipalities  
Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 110

---

**From:** "Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX" <[Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 20, 2016 at 9:51 AM  
**To:** Josh <[jvloon@ubcm.ca](mailto:jvloon@ubcm.ca)>  
**Cc:** Jared Wright <[jwright@ubcm.ca](mailto:jwright@ubcm.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: options for approach trapping issue -follow-up from call

Hi Josh

Sorry for not responding sooner. I am still in conversation with stakeholders and working on identifying avenues for moving on the concepts discussed. Though this is still very early in the process, it would be good to know what level of support there is from UMBC.

The question of signage is how to ensure signage is placed so that it provides the best practice of warning the public about traps and at the same time allow for trapping to continue, especially where fur bearers are causing safety issues or property damage in populated areas. Signage could be required at road access points and trail access where the public frequents areas for recreational purposes. Yet, we need to also make sure that the requirements are achievable. The training concept is to ensure that those engaged in trapping within municipalities are properly trained to be much more sensitive to the type and setting of traps. There would be a new course specifically designed for urban wildlife conflict trapping. This is to ensure safe and discrete trapping within urban areas, especially within municipalities. I understand that the BC Trappers Association has attended the UBCM conventions for the past few years to explain their plan for such a course. I am interested to know what UBCM's reaction to the BC Trappers Association's idea is. There are many details that need to be considered, if the concepts are to move toward implementation. Thank you for taking the time to have the discussion. I really appreciate your willingness to meet.

Mindy Richter

Director, Strategic Projects

Resource Stewardship Division, FLNRO

250-356-9247

---

**From:** Josh [<mailto:jvlooon@ubcm.ca>]

**Sent:** Friday, June 24, 2016 2:03 PM

**To:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX

**Cc:** Jared Wright

**Subject:** options for approach trapping issue -follow-up from call

Hi Mindy,

Thank you very much for the call today- that was a very useful discussion, and we're happy to hear that you are looking into options for addressing local government (and other stakeholder) concerns regarding trapping.

In moving forward on this on our end, it would be useful if you could provide a brief description of the issue in addition to summarizing the signage and training approaches you were considering. We understand this is a very tentative conversation about tentative options, and we're not looking for anything particularly detailed, just a summary of what you mentioned on the call to ensure that we have the details correct.

I've attached for your reference the resolutions that we discussed on the call.

Best,

Josh van Loon

Senior Policy Analyst

Environment & Healthy Communities Committee

Union of British Columbia Municipalities

Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 110

## **2011 B171 TRAPPING REGULATIONS**

**Sunshine Coast RD**

WHEREAS regional districts do not have the authority to regulate trapping;

AND WHEREAS the use of leg hold traps within urban interface areas pose an unacceptable risk for injuries to humans and pets;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations be encouraged to develop and promote educational programs on the importance of trapping signage, particularly within urban interface areas in order to protect humans and pets from unnecessary injury.

CONVENTION DECISION: NOT CONSIDERED - AUTOMATIC REFERRAL TO EXECUTIVE

EXECUTIVE DECISION: REFERRED TO ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE DECISION: ENDORSED AS AMENDED

## **2012 B124 WILDLIFE TRAPPING**

**Vernon**

WHEREAS local governments do not have the authority to regulate trapping;

AND WHEREAS the use of body and leg hold traps within urban areas pose an unacceptable risk for injuries to humans and pets;

AND WHEREAS the sale of traps to individuals not licensed as trappers is not restricted:

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CONVENTION DECISION: ENDORSED

WHEREAS trapping is legal in rural BC without any signage or notification of the presence of trap lines, meaning that in areas shared by the general public and their pets off leash there have been cases of death or severe harm to pets due to trap lines, and concerns raised for the health and safety of the general public:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to investigate and legislate ways to prevent domestic animals from being further injured in traps such as Conibear;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that trap lines not be allowed in recreational areas close to communities, rural area developments and residential clusters.

CONVENTION DECISION:           ENDORSED

## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

---

**From:** XT:Van Loon, Josh FLNR:IN  
**Sent:** Monday, February 27, 2017 2:11 PM  
**To:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** scheduling 2nd trapping call

Hi Mindy,

I don't seem to be getting any more responses on the latest call-time poll, so here are the two options that stand out:

- Fri the 17th at 10am – 5 people available total, including 2 that didn't previously participate
- Fri the 10th at 10am – 6 people available total, but only 1 that didn't previously participate

Please let me know if these are sufficient numbers from your perspective, and if so, which date you'd like to go ahead with.

Best,

Josh

Josh van Loon  
Senior Policy Analyst  
Union of British Columbia Municipalities  
Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 110

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

---

**From:** XT:Van Loon, Josh FLNR:IN  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 4, 2017 4:13 PM  
**To:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Re: trapping article in Compass newsletter  
**Attachments:** UBCM Trapping Resolutions.pdf

Hi Mindy,

To answer your questions:

- there were no new resolutions in 2016
- you are correct – the last resolution on the topic was 2013
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Regarding the discussion, I've now heard back from:

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The BCSPCA and Fur-Bearers have asked to participate on behalf of municipalities that they have worked with or are currently representing.

Maybe as a next step you could suggest 4/5 possible time slots for a call that I can poll interested parties on – does that work for you?

Best,

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Josh van Loon  
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Union of British Columbia Municipalities  
Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 110

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**From:** "Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX" <[Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 3, 2017 at 1:43 PM  
**To:** Josh <[jvlooon@ubcm.ca](mailto:jvlooon@ubcm.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: trapping article in Compass newsletter

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Happy holidays,

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Senior Policy Analyst

Union of British Columbia Municipalities

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Best,

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Union of British Columbia Municipalities

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Josh

Josh van Loon

Senior Policy Analyst

Environment & Healthy Communities Committees

Union of British Columbia Municipalities

Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 110

## **2011 B171 TRAPPING REGULATIONS**

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EXECUTIVE DECISION: REFERRED TO ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE DECISION: ENDORSED AS AMENDED

## **2012 B124 WILDLIFE TRAPPING**

**Vernon**

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AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that trap lines not be allowed in recreational areas close to communities, rural area developments and residential clusters.

CONVENTION DECISION:           ENDORSED

# Trapping in BC

Presented July 13, 2017 to UBCM  
Environment Committee



# Purpose of Trapping

- \* Trapping is an activity that contributes to the management of a variety of wildlife populations.
- \* Trapping of fur-bearers is a profession that provides supplemental income and a unique experience of living in the wilderness, with the animals.
- \* Trapping is used in wildlife recovery programs, species at risk recovery or livestock protection.
- \* Trapping is used to resolve and prevent conflicts with humans to ensure health, safety and integrity of infrastructures.

# Who

- \* First nations and members
- \* BC fur trappers
- \* BC fur traders
- \* Fur Institute of Canada
- \* Pest control companies
- \* Industry (forestry, mining, roads) Utilities, Universities, golf clubs, property owners
- \* Environmental groups (ENGOS)
- \* Animal rights groups
- \* Members of the Public (pet owners, parents, animal rights)
- \* Fish and Wildlife Agencies (BC, Canada, N. America)
- \* Municipalities

# Management of Trapping

- \* The Province determines trapline areas for trapping fur-bearers.
- \* Trappers must take a Trappers Education Course in order to trap in BC.
- \* Regional managers issue trapping licences.
- \* Trappers must adhere to the regulations on trapping seasons and type of traps permitted by species and location.

# Municipalities

- \* Traplines for trapping for pelts can include Crown land situated within a municipality.
- \* Densification of human population where trapping and other human activity co-exist.
- \* Increased human development encroaching on fur-bearer habitats.
- \* As animals adapt to development there is an increased need to manage wildlife/human conflicts.



# Issues

1. Health and Safety of people
2. Safety of pets
3. Protection of Personal Infrastructure
4. Business and Economic Benefits
5. Protection of Business Assets
6. Environmental Integrity
7. Safety for Untargeted Wildlife
8. Humane Methods
9. Illegal Trapping

# Tracking Issues

| Municipality | Human/wildlife Conflict     |                |                              | Business and Economic Benefits |                      | Environmental           | Animal Rights                  |                |
|--------------|-----------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
|              | Health and Safety of People | Safety of Pets | Protection of Infrastructure | Direct Business Activities     | Protection of Assets | Environmental Integrity | Safety for Untargeted Wildlife | Humane Methods |
|              |                             |                |                              |                                |                      |                         |                                |                |
|              |                             |                |                              |                                |                      |                         |                                |                |
|              |                             |                |                              |                                |                      |                         |                                |                |

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

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**From:** XT:Van Loon, Josh FLNR:IN  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2017 1:05 PM  
**To:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Re: trapping call debrief

Hi Mindy,

Thanks for the update – and yes, this afternoon / tomorrow afternoon should work well.

Best,

Josh

Josh van Loon  
Senior Policy Analyst  
Union of British Columbia Municipalities  
Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 110

---

**From:** "Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX" <[Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 29, 2017 at 12:10 PM  
**To:** Josh <[jvloon@ubcm.ca](mailto:jvloon@ubcm.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: trapping call debrief

Hi Josh

Thank you for your efforts trying to get participation on the calls. Though only 10 municipalities participated, I want to keep the dialogue going with you and hopefully present to the Environment Committee.

I am working on identifying all the options I heard (from all interested parties), with analysis of possible beneficial gains and possible consequences. It might include recommendations. I have not put together any notes on the second call. I will try to call you later today or tomorrow. Does that work for you?

Regards,  
Mindy

---

**From:** Josh van Loon [<mailto:jvloon@ubcm.ca>]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 11:59 AM  
**To:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** trapping call debrief

Hi Mindy,

Could we have a quick chat, to follow up on the latest trapping discussion sometime? Alternately, we could just proceed as with the previous call – i.e. If you want to summarize the discussion, I'll have a look at your notes and add/edit based on my notes for distribution to interested local governments.

Although there continues to be substantial interest from those who have participated in the calls, I suspect you may not want to arrange additional calls for now, given the relatively low turnout?

Best,  
Josh  
Josh van Loon

Senior Policy Analyst  
Union of British Columbia Municipalities  
Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 110

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

---

**From:** XT:Van Loon, Josh FLNR:IN  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2017 3:00 PM  
**To:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Re: summary of call

Hi Mindy,

I sent a poll out with these dates/times. Will let you know shortly when I have sufficient responses. Feel free to check in if you haven't heard from me in a few days.

Thank you very much for having these discussions. This topic is clearly of great deal of interest to local governments.

Best,

Josh

Josh van Loon  
Senior Policy Analyst  
Union of British Columbia Municipalities  
Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 110

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**From:** "Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX" <[Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at 3:42 PM  
**To:** Josh <[jvloon@ubcm.ca](mailto:jvloon@ubcm.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: summary of call

Josh

Do any of the times below work?

March 8th, 9th or 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm

March 10<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> At 10:00am

I have just been booked for a 3 day meeting March 14, 15 & 16, so those days are out.

---

**From:** Josh van Loon [<mailto:jvloon@ubcm.ca>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2017 2:22 PM  
**To:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Re: summary of call

Thanks Mindy,

As you will have seen, I just circulated the notes. For purposes of scheduling the next call, please let me know when you have a chance some specific time slots between March 8 & 17th, that I can poll people on.

Best,

Josh

Josh van Loon  
Senior Policy Analyst  
Union of British Columbia Municipalities  
Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 110

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**From:** "Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX" <[Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at 11:50 AM

**To:** Josh <jvlooon@ubcm.ca>

**Subject:** RE: summary of call

Hi Josh

I fixed a few typos.

Find the my answers to your questions below.

---

**From:** Josh van Loon [mailto:jvlooon@ubcm.ca]

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 14, 2017 4:13 PM

**To:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX

**Subject:** Re: summary of call

Hi Mindy,

Please find attached for your review- an updated version of the call notes. I mostly just tidied these up a bit – not too much in terms of substantive changes as I feel you captured the major issues well. If you could have a quick look and let me know if you are fine with it, I can circulate to all those interested.

A few follow-up questions:

1. are you fine with me copying you on the email to circulate this? We had discussed this before, but you weren't sure whether you wanted that -it is up to you. Yes. You can include me and my contact info.
2. I had made a note that you might send something along to me to pass along to Richmond – re: rabbits – did you have anything that you would like me to convey? Fish and Wildlife Branch is looking at developing new policy. Nothing new at this time, as this will take some time to work out.
3. Can I indicate that you will consider a second call and/or if you are interested, perhaps I should just go ahead and poll for interest in this? Yes and the call would have to be sometime between March 8-17.

Best,

Josh van Loon

Senior Policy Analyst

Union of British Columbia Municipalities

Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 110

---

**From:** "Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX" <Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca>

**Date:** Friday, February 3, 2017 at 5:20 PM

**To:** Josh <jvlooon@ubcm.ca>

**Subject:** summary of call

Josh,

Attached is my draft summary of what I heard on the call of January 26<sup>th</sup>, with you and representatives of nine municipalities.

I was not taking minutes, so please review for accuracy. As I remember you were tasked with providing notes to the UBCM members. My notes are rough and I would appreciate having a chance to comment on what you plan to send out prior to participants receiving your message.

Have a great weekend and enjoy the snow.

Mindy Richter

Director, Strategic Projects

Resource Stewardship Division, FLNRO

250-356-9247

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

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**From:** XT:Van Loon, Josh FLNR:IN  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 22, 2016 2:16 PM  
**To:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Re: trapping article in Compass newsletter

Hi Mindy,

I've just received 3 more requests in recent days, so this may not be an issue. But our Committees meet quarterly – the next meeting will be in mid February. I'll connect with you early in the new year to discuss further and possibly schedule the call with interested parties. Will you be around in the first couple of weeks of January?

Happy holidays,

Josh van Loon  
Senior Policy Analyst  
Union of British Columbia Municipalities  
Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 110

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**From:** "Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX" <[Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 20, 2016 at 4:31 PM  
**To:** Josh <[jvloon@ubcm.ca](mailto:jvloon@ubcm.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: trapping article in Compass newsletter

Josh

Thank you for letting me know. When would the next opportunity be to meet with the committee, if there are not many responses to the article?

---

**From:** Josh van Loon [<mailto:jvloon@ubcm.ca>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 20, 2016 4:10 PM  
**To:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Re: trapping article in Compass newsletter

Hi Mindy,

Sorry for the delayed response – I was away – but yes, I did send this out just before s.22. Unfortunately I've only heard back from one local government representative so far. I might recirculate the article or send it to some specific potentially interested parties if I still haven't heard back from others by the new year.

Best,

Josh van Loon  
Senior Policy Analyst  
Union of British Columbia Municipalities  
Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 110

---

**From:** "Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX" <[Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** Thursday, December 15, 2016 at 12:05 PM  
**To:** Josh <[jvloon@ubcm.ca](mailto:jvloon@ubcm.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: trapping article in Compass newsletter

Hi Josh

Were you able to present the topic in the weekly newsletter? If so, what is the level of response or follow up plan?

Mindy

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**From:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 17, 2016 11:55 AM  
**To:** 'Josh van Loon'  
**Subject:** RE: trapping article in Compass newsletter

Hi Josh

Thank you for getting back to me. It is reasonable to present the UBCM issue raised in the past and offer to arrange a meeting with FLNRO (me, at least). I look forward to learning of the responses and getting an idea of the level of interest.

Let me know how it goes.

Regards,

Mindy

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**From:** Josh van Loon [<mailto:jvlooon@ubcm.ca>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 16, 2016 9:46 AM  
**To:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** trapping article in Compass newsletter

Hi Mindy,

Following up on our call the other day, I've had a chance to discuss the idea of doing an article in our weekly newsletter to gauge interest from members in having a discussion with you on trapping, and can now confirm that I will proceed with this (assuming you are still interested).

In brief, I'll present an outline of issues raised in member resolutions addressing trapping in the past for context, and then ask that members interested in discussing the issues with FLNRO contact me. Then, assuming there is adequate interest, you/we can organize a conference call to have this discussion.

Realistically, this article will go out to members on Wed Nov 30.

Please let me know if this works for you, and I'll proceed.

Best,

Josh

Josh van Loon  
Senior Policy Analyst  
Environment & Healthy Communities Committees  
Union of British Columbia Municipalities  
Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 110



## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

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**From:** Marylyn Chiang <mchiang@ubcm.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 12, 2017 10:38 AM  
**To:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Re: Delegation at UBCM Env. Committee meeting

There will be 4 board members, and 2 UBCM staff.

---

**From:** "Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX" <Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca>  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 12, 2017 at 10:21 AM  
**To:** Marylyn <mchiang@ubcm.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Delegation at UBCM Env. Committee meeting

Thanks Marylyn,  
How many people will be there?

---

**From:** Marylyn Chiang [mailto:mchiang@ubcm.ca]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 12, 2017 10:11 AM  
**To:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Re: Delegation at UBCM Env. Committee meeting

Hi there,

Received the presentation thanks.

The delegation will be in room 525, at the Fairmont Vancouver Airport Hotel.

Please wait on the 5th floor in the seating area by the elevators. I will come out to get you and Cole at 3pm for your delegation.

If you have any problems, my cell is s.22

See you tomorrow,

Marylyn

---

**From:** "Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX" <Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca>  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 11, 2017 at 4:19 PM  
**To:** Marylyn <mchiang@ubcm.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: Delegation at UBCM Env. Committee meeting

Hi Marylyn,

Attached is my PP presentation. I will speak to the rest of the presentation without additional slides, based on the questions and discussion. Cole Winegarden will attend to speak to questions, as well.

Mindy Richter

Director, Strategic Projects

Resource Stewardship Division, FLNRO

250-356-9247

---

**From:** Marylyn Chiang [mailto:mchiang@ubcm.ca]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 4, 2017 8:21 AM  
**To:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Re: Delegation at UBCM Env. Committee meeting

Hi Mindy,

If you can provide a powerpoint that would be best, as setting up your own computer will eat into the presentation and q&a period. (The Committee meeting begins at 2:30pm. We will be discussing other issues and at 3:00pm, we will open the doors and invite you in).

If you would like to bring your own flip chart, you're welcome to do that.

The Committee has received a report and summary on the teleconference call (not the actual notes).

Thanks

Marylyn

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**From:** "Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX" <[Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca)>

**Date:** Friday, June 30, 2017 at 3:13 PM

**To:** Marylyn <[mchiang@ubcm.ca](mailto:mchiang@ubcm.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Delegation at UBCM Env. Committee meeting

Hi Marylyn,

I have not heard anything new and as far as I know I and Cole will still be attending. I am away next week, but will let you know asap if I hear differently.

I normally use my computer or a stick when presenting, but if you require that I use the equipment there, I can provide the PP to you prior to the 12<sup>th</sup>. The situation is that I have prepared an 11 slide powerpoint, but will only be presenting 7 of the slides, unless a discussion takes me into a different direction.

Is it possible to have a flip chart as well? I might want to demonstrate by drawing or write down some points during the presentation.

Will the participants be receiving the notes of the teleconference call, which Josh said he would distribute to the municipalities in the newsletter?

Mindy

---

**From:** Marylyn Chiang [<mailto:mchiang@ubcm.ca>]

**Sent:** Friday, June 30, 2017 12:43 PM

**To:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX

**Subject:** Delegation at UBCM Env. Committee meeting

Hi Mindy,

We are finalizing reports to send to our Environment Committee for their meeting on July 13.

Just wanted to check in with you and see if the delegation is still a go from your side. If anything has changed, please let me know.

If you do plan on coming, please provide me with your powerpoint by July 12 at the latest, so I can have it uploaded and ready for you at the meeting.

Thanks

Marylyn

---

**From:** "Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX" <[Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca)>

**Date:** Tuesday, June 13, 2017 at 8:32 AM

**To:** Marylyn <[mchiang@ubcm.ca](mailto:mchiang@ubcm.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: Delegation at UBCM environment committee meeting

Hi Marilyn

Yes, I and one other colleague are planning to present, and hopefully receive some comments, at the Environment Committee meeting. I understand the meeting is in Fairmont Airport Hotel, July 13<sup>th</sup>.

Mindy

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**From:** Marylyn [<mailto:mchiang@ubcm.ca>]

**Sent:** Thursday, June 8, 2017 1:50 PM

**To:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX

**Subject:** Delegation at UBCM environment committee meeting

Hi Mindy,

I am the lead on the Environment portfolio at UBCM, and I understand you have been in contact with my maternity leave replacement (Josh) that you are interested in having a delegation at the July UBCM Environment Committee meeting to discuss trapping.

I wanted to check with you to see if you are still interested in doing this delegation for July.

Please let me know and we can arrange details.

Thanks

Marylyn

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

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**From:** XT:Van Loon, Josh FLNR:IN  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 8:45 AM  
**To:** XT:Van Loon, Josh FLNR:IN  
**Cc:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** information for discussion on trapping, 10am today  
**Attachments:** UBCM Trapping Resolutions[1].pdf; UBCM March 17 2017 call agenda.docx

Good morning,

Call in information for the discussion on trapping at 10 am today is as follows:

**1-877-353-9184**

**Participant** <sup>s.15</sup>

I have also attached the following for your reference:

- UBCM resolutions on trapping, and
- an agenda (Mindy – please let me know if you have any updates).

Best,

Josh

Josh van Loon  
Senior Policy Analyst  
Union of British Columbia Municipalities  
Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 110

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**From:** Josh <jvlooon@ubcm.ca>  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at 2:15 PM  
**To:** Josh <jvlooon@ubcm.ca>  
**Cc:** "Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX" <mindy.richter@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** second call on trapping with FLNRO

Hello,

Thank you for your interest in participating in a second discussion with staff at the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations on trapping.

Based on the results of the poll, we have scheduled the call for 10 am on Friday March 17. Call-in information will be confirmed once available. The discussion is anticipated to take approximately 1-1.5 hours.

Feel free to contact me if you need any further information.

Best,

Josh van Loon  
Senior Policy Analyst



## **2011 B171 TRAPPING REGULATIONS**

**Sunshine Coast RD**

WHEREAS regional districts do not have the authority to regulate trapping;

AND WHEREAS the use of leg hold traps within urban interface areas pose an unacceptable risk for injuries to humans and pets;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations be encouraged to develop and promote educational programs on the importance of trapping signage, particularly within urban interface areas in order to protect humans and pets from unnecessary injury.

CONVENTION DECISION: NOT CONSIDERED - AUTOMATIC REFERRAL TO EXECUTIVE

EXECUTIVE DECISION: REFERRED TO ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE DECISION: ENDORSED AS AMENDED

## **2012 B124 WILDLIFE TRAPPING**

**Vernon**

WHEREAS local governments do not have the authority to regulate trapping;

AND WHEREAS the use of body and leg hold traps within urban areas pose an unacceptable risk for injuries to humans and pets;

AND WHEREAS the sale of traps to individuals not licensed as trappers is not restricted:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations be encouraged to prohibit the sale of wildlife traps to individuals without a trapping permit or license;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations be encouraged to develop and promote educational programs on alternatives to trapping wildlife and the importance of signage, particularly within urban areas in order to protect humans and pets from unnecessary injury.

CONVENTION DECISION: ENDORSED

WHEREAS trapping is legal in rural BC without any signage or notification of the presence of trap lines, meaning that in areas shared by the general public and their pets off leash there have been cases of death or severe harm to pets due to trap lines, and concerns raised for the health and safety of the general public:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to investigate and legislate ways to prevent domestic animals from being further injured in traps such as Conibear;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that trap lines not be allowed in recreational areas close to communities, rural area developments and residential clusters.

CONVENTION DECISION:           ENDORSED

**UBCM – FLNRO  
Trapping  
Conference Call – 10am, Friday March 17, 2017  
Agenda**

**Participants**

Mindy Richter – FLNRO  
Josh Van Loon – UBCM  
Local Government participants

1-877-353-9184  
Participant ID s.15

**Agenda**

1. Introductions
2. Round table of Issues and Concerns
3. Review of UBCM resolutions
4. Management of fur-bearers
5. Review of known stakeholder positions
6. Ideas/recommendations
7. Next Steps
8. Conclusion

## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** XT:Van Loon, Josh FLNR:IN  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 15, 2017 1:58 PM  
**To:** XT:Van Loon, Josh FLNR:IN  
**Cc:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Summary Notes from Initial Call on Trapping  
**Attachments:** UBCM-FLNRO January 26 2017 Trapping Discussion -call summary.docx

Hello,

I've attached for your reference summary notes from the initial discussion with Mindy Richter at the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations regarding trapping, held on January 26. Feel free to provide feedback on which of the issues identified resonate or are most important to you, and also if the summary is missing anything.

Because there was interest in further discussion on this topic and since not everyone could make the first call, Mindy has offered to hold another discussion on trapping, sometime between March 8 and 17. I will send a doodle poll around shortly to confirm availability.

You have been included on this e-mail because you have expressed interest in the topic. Please let me know if you don't want to be included in future correspondence.

Best,

Josh van Loon  
Senior Policy Analyst  
Union of British Columbia Municipalities  
Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 110



# **UBCM – FLNRO Trapping Conference Call**

Thursday January 26, 2017

## **Call Summary**

### **Participants:**

Mindy Richter – FLNRO  
Josh Van Loon – UBCM  
Brenda Parkinson – District of Sooke  
Blair Stewart – City of Kelowna  
Kim Marosevich – City of Surrey  
Robin MacNair – City of Maple Ridge

Tim Hautzinger – City of Port Alberni  
Warren Waycheshen – District of Kitimat  
Marie Fenwick – City of Richmond  
James Nyhus – City of White Rock  
Kevin Brydges – City of Nanaimo

### **For more information:**

Mindy Richter  
Director, Strategic Projects  
Resource Stewardship Division, FLNRO  
250-356-9247

Josh van Loon  
Senior Policy Analyst  
Union of British Columbia Municipalities  
Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 110

### **Agenda:**

1. Introductions
2. Roundtable of Issues and Concerns
3. Review of UBCM resolutions
4. Management of fur-bearers
5. Review of known stakeholder positions
6. Ideas/recommendations
7. Next Steps
8. Conclusion

## Summary by Agenda Item:

### 2. Roundtable of Issues and Concerns

- Some municipalities s.13,s.16 receiving calls regarding safety of pet, no public warning notice of where trap are, and traps located in areas used for recreation. More specially there are issues with the use of non-lethal foot snares or lethal body grip traps). Increased calls regarding safety as the population grows and settlement becomes more densified (a change in land use issue)
- Some municipalities s.13,s.16 have few or no calls complaining about traps, but have issues with controlling wildlife, such as feral pet rabbits, marmots, beavers, racoons, and geese. This includes issues of animals shelters being burdened with too many rabbits as they are trapped live and brought into the animal shelter.
- Some municipalities have both calls complaining about trapping and the issues of controlling wildlife species or methods used to attempt to control the wildlife. There are complaints about live trapping and releasing onto public parkland or trapping on private lands used by the public for recreation s.13,s.16 . Animals are trapped and released only to become someone else's problem.
- Reports of unregulated trapping by s.13 communities using snares and leg-hold traps for rabbits and racoons, requiring removal and investigation.
- Some of the wildlife causing issues (e.g. European rabbits, geese and deer) not related to trapping of fur-bearing animals.
- Use of, whether permitted or in trespass, private lands by the public has caused conflicts when trapping is taking place on the private land.

### 3. Review of UBCM Resolutions

In 2011, 2012 and 2013 UBCM members endorsed the following resolutions addressing trapping:

#### **2011 B171 - WILDLIFE TRAPPING (Vernon)**

WHEREAS local governments do not have the authority to regulate trapping;  
AND WHEREAS the use of body and leg hold traps within urban areas pose an unacceptable risk for injuries to humans and pets;  
AND WHEREAS the sale of traps to individuals not licensed as trappers is not restricted:  
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations be encouraged to prohibit the sale of wildlife traps to individuals without a trapping permit or license;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations be encouraged to develop and promote educational programs on alternatives to trapping wildlife and the importance of signage, particularly within urban areas in order to protect humans and pets from unnecessary injury.

**2012 B124 - TRAPPING OF ANIMALS (Central Kootenay RD)**

WHEREAS trapping is legal in rural BC without any signage or notification of the presence of trap lines, meaning that in areas shared by the general public and their pets off leash there have been cases of death or severe harm to pets due to trap lines, and concerns raised for the health and safety of the general public:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to investigate and legislate ways to prevent domestic animals from being further injured in traps such as Conibear;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that trap lines not be allowed in recreational areas close to communities, rural area developments and residential clusters.

**2013 B62 - TRAPPING OF ANIMALS (Central Kootenay RD)**

WHEREAS trapping is legal in rural BC without any signage or notification of the presence of trap lines, meaning that in areas shared by the general public and their pets off leash there have been cases of death or severe harm to pets due to trap lines, and concerns raised for the health and safety of the general public:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to investigate and legislate ways to prevent domestic animals from being further injured in traps such as Conibear;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that trap lines not be allowed in recreational areas close to communities, rural area developments and residential clusters.

**4. Management of Fur-bearers**

Fur-bearers are wildlife and managed by the Ministry of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations in accordance with the *Wildlife Act* and regulations. Trapping is considered a legitimate use of our natural resources. Trapping for fur is normally conducted in the winter months of November-February. However, open seasons vary by species throughout the province.

Permits are also issued for the trapping out-of-season to control nuisance wildlife. Requests for permits are driven by needs of municipalities, regional districts, schools and universities, private property owners and land based companies, such as public utilities, forest industry, golf courses and pest control companies, etc. A trapper's education course is generally required to trap. Licence, permit and course requirements vary by species and circumstance.

Bringing potentially illegal trapping activities to the attention of the Conservation Office may result in an investigation.

## 5. Review of known stakeholder positions

Several stakeholders have expressed interests in how trapping is regulated within municipal boundaries. They include the BC Trapper's Association, Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals, SPCA, and Structural Pest Management Association of BC (SPMABC).

The interest of each group is different with respect to trapping, however, they have all expressed an interest in ensuring that pets are safe from traps.

## 6. Ideas and Recommendations

| Suggestions  | Potential Challenges highlighted by FLNRO  |
|--|--|
| <b>1. Require identification tags on traps to know whose trap it is</b>  | Identification tags require discrete info for safety reasons, such to avoid opportunities for misuse of contact information. Enforcement may be challenging.   |
| <b>2. Use signs to warn people of traps</b>  | Signage could not indicate exact location of the traps. This is to avoid illegal and dangerous tampering with traps. Need to consider where signage could be safe and most effective. Vandalism or stealing of signs could create new issues for safety, enforcement and liability. Though signage provides a warning for safety reasons, user conflicts may not diminish. |
| <b>3. Require registration of traps with the municipality</b>  | For registration of traps there needs to be consideration of the number of traps in use, method of registration, whether there is an efficient way to store and retrieve the information in a timely manner.   |
| <b>4. Have municipalities regulate since different local governments in different parts of the Province have unique challenges</b> | To have municipalities regulate trapping potentially creates a patchwork of regulations, making it more difficult to manage the wildlife and trappers, and enforce regulations throughout the province in a consistent manner. If municipalities restrict trapping the issues of controlling nuisance wildlife could become more difficult and very costly.                |

| Suggestions   | Potential Challenges highlighted by FLNRO   |
|---|---|
| <b>5. Better education for trappers in urban areas, including when trapping for nuisance wildlife</b>                           | Better education for trappers trapping in urban areas requires a specified course that would be effective and address as many of the stakeholder issues as possible. BCTA has developed a course that they may wish to present to UBCM.                                 |
| <b>6. Restrict trapping in identified areas, such as places of recreation or by proximity to trails or other specified area</b> | To restrict trapping in identified areas such as recreation areas there needs to be consideration of the use of the area for economic or business purposes, land ownership, nuisance wildlife issues current or in the future, a trapper's livelihood, and enforcement. |
| <b>7. Work on enforcement issues (?)</b>  |   |

## 7. Next Steps and Conclusion

More time is required to discuss ideas more thoroughly. Additional calls may be arranged. Some municipalities will contact others with experiences in the issues of geese or rabbits.

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

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**From:** XT:Van Loon, Josh FLNR:IN  
**Sent:** Monday, October 24, 2016 2:04 PM  
**To:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Re: options for approach trapping issue -follow-up from call

Hi Mindy,

In speaking with my colleague about the below, I realize that our next committee meeting may not be the best venue to discuss this in. We have newly elected members and much of the meeting will be spent on general orientation/background. I'll follow-up with you shortly to consider how best to get feedback from our members on the issues/ideas you are considering.

Best,

Josh

Josh van Loon  
Senior Policy Analyst  
Environment & Healthy Communities Committee  
Union of British Columbia Municipalities  
Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 110

---

**From:** "Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX" <[Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** Friday, October 7, 2016 at 2:24 PM  
**To:** Josh <[jvlooon@ubcm.ca](mailto:jvlooon@ubcm.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: options for approach trapping issue -follow-up from call

Hi Josh

I would like to attend if possible. My preference is to have a discussion about the issues. I can present the issues as I know them and some ideas that have been floating around – some from specific interest groups. It would be great if I could get a better idea of the issues for the municipalities and a discussion on the ideas/options. Thank you for getting back to me.

Mindy

---

**From:** Josh van Loon [<mailto:jvlooon@ubcm.ca>]  
**Sent:** Friday, October 7, 2016 11:52 AM  
**To:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Re: options for approach trapping issue -follow-up from call

Hi Mindy,

We have another Environment Committee meeting coming up (Nov 17/18) and I was wondering if you have any updates related to trapping that you'd like to convey. E.g. If you have some more specifics about the options you are considering, I might be able to convey those to the committee. Alternately, if you might be interested in presenting at the committee, I could discuss that possibility with Jared who co-organizes the committee to see if we have room on the agenda.

Best,

Josh

Josh van Loon  
Senior Policy Analyst  
Environment & Healthy Communities Committee  
Union of British Columbia Municipalities  
Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 110

---

**From:** "Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX" <[Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca)>

**Date:** Tuesday, August 9, 2016 at 3:04 PM

**To:** Josh <[jvlooon@ubcm.ca](mailto:jvlooon@ubcm.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: options for approach trapping issue -follow-up from call

Thank you Josh, for your message. I was just turning to my computer to write you a message inquiring on whether you received my e-mail of July 20th and whether you had any comments. Perfect timing.

Your message is very much appreciated and helpful as I continue to investigate ways to protect people and prevent domestic animals from being injured in traps.

Signage is most important for the fall/winter fur trapping in areas populated by people.

The proposed wildlife conflict training for dealing with nuisance wildlife normally trapped out of season covers methods of "coaxing" nuisance animals out of buildings, live trapping and release, and safe humane lethal methods where non-lethal methods cannot remedy the health, safety or property damage issues created by the nuisance wildlife.

Both signage and training should go a long way to protect the public and their pets.

Details as to who administered the signage still need to be worked out. An option is for the trappers to post signs. There are issues related to including contact phone numbers, potential defacing or removal of signs by the public and enforcement that need to be considered.

Regards,

Mindy

---

**From:** Josh van Loon [<mailto:jvlooon@ubcm.ca>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 9, 2016 2:17 PM

**To:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX

**Subject:** Re: options for approach trapping issue -follow-up from call

Hi Mindy,

Thanks for your note. Since our July Environment Committee meeting has passed, we'll likely have to wait until the next Environment Committee meeting in November to formally review any proposals that you have with the Committee. But in the interim I can provide some initial comments on your suggested options:

#### 1. Signage

- UBCM policy supports trapping signage (resolution 2011-B171, 2012-B124). I would emphasize the importance of signage in order to protect people and pets from injury, so any flexibility in signage requirements should be weighed carefully against safety considerations.

#### 2. Training

- UBCM policy also supports training that highlights the importance of signage (2011-B171), in addition to education programs on alternatives to trapping (resolution 2012-B124). It isn't clear from the description you provide whether the proposed training would address these issues.

More broadly, I would also note that our members support limitations on trapping, including:

- a prohibition on the sale of wildlife traps to individuals without a trapping permit or license (resolution 2012-B124),
- the investigation of ways to prevent domestic animals from being injured in traps (resolution 2013-B62), and
- not allowing trap lines in recreational areas close to residential areas (2013-B62).

We would also want to know whether there are financial implications for local governments regarding either of these proposals (e.g. who would be responsible for administering signage?).

I've reattached our resolutions on trapping for your reference. Please do keep me updated on this as you proceed, and we can continue to provide input as the options are further developed.

Best,

Josh van Loon

Senior Policy Analyst

Environment & Healthy Communities Committee

Union of British Columbia Municipalities

Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 110

---

**From:** "Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX" <[Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 20, 2016 at 9:51 AM  
**To:** Josh <[jvlooon@ubcm.ca](mailto:jvlooon@ubcm.ca)>  
**Cc:** Jared Wright <[jwright@ubcm.ca](mailto:jwright@ubcm.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: options for approach trapping issue -follow-up from call

Hi Josh

Sorry for not responding sooner. I am still in conversation with stakeholders and working on identifying avenues for moving on the concepts discussed. Though this is still very early in the process, it would be good to know what level of support there is from UMBC.

The question of signage is how to ensure signage is placed so that it provides the best practice of warning the public about traps and at the same time allow for trapping to continue, especially where fur bearers are causing safety issues or property damage in populated areas. Signage could be required at road access points and trail access where the public frequents areas for recreational purposes. Yet, we need to also make sure that the requirements are achievable. The training concept is to ensure that those engaged in trapping within municipalities are properly trained to be much more sensitive to the type and setting of traps. There would be a new course specifically designed for urban wildlife conflict trapping. This is to ensure safe and discrete trapping within urban areas, especially within municipalities. I understand that the BC Trappers Association has attended the UBCM conventions for the past few years to explain their plan for such a course. I am interested to know what UBCM's reaction to the BC Trappers Association's idea is. There are many details that need to be considered, if the concepts are to move toward implementation. Thank you for taking the time to have the discussion. I really appreciate your willingness to meet.

Mindy Richter

Director, Strategic Projects

Resource Stewardship Division, FLNRO

250-356-9247

---

**From:** Josh [<mailto:jvlooon@ubcm.ca>]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 24, 2016 2:03 PM  
**To:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Jared Wright  
**Subject:** options for approach trapping issue -follow-up from call

Hi Mindy,

Thank you very much for the call today- that was a very useful discussion, and we're happy to hear that you are looking into options for addressing local government (and other stakeholder) concerns regarding trapping.

In moving forward on this on our end, it would be useful if you could provide a brief description of the issue in addition to summarizing the signage and training approaches you were considering. We understand this is a very tentative conversation about tentative options, and we're not looking for anything particularly detailed, just a summary of what you mentioned on the call to ensure that we have the details correct.

I've attached for your reference the resolutions that we discussed on the call.

Best,

Josh van Loon

Senior Policy Analyst

Environment & Healthy Communities Committee

Union of British Columbia Municipalities

Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 110



## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

---

**From:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, July 24, 2017 2:15 PM  
**To:** Winegarden, Cole FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** follow up from UBCM EC  
**Attachments:** proposed trapping licence w classes or prohibitions.docx

Cole

Thanks for attending the UBCM Envir Committee meeting. As the committee clearly agreed that they would be happy with signage and better training, and specified they did not want a hodgepodge of municipal bylaws (surprise), I put together the attached. I prefer the Director route rather than the regulation route.

Please have a look over and see whether you think the options are doable. s.13,s.14  
s.13,s.14

There will still be an issue, unless left to the RM discretion, of how to define an urban area if we try to expand the regime beyond municipal boundaries.

I welcome other ideas, as well.

Mindy Richter  
Director, Strategic Projects  
Resource Stewardship Division, FLNRO  
250-356-9247

Page 45 to/à Page 47

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.14;s.13

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 13, 2018 4:10 PM  
**To:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Wilton, William FLNR:EX; Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX; MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: MDD notes wolf request

Thanks everyone!



**Diana McNeill**

Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone 778-698-9169

---

**From:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 13, 2018 4:08 PM  
**To:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Wilton, William FLNR:EX; Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX; MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: MDD notes wolf request

I was just about to. This is what we have so far. We have highlighted in blue the sections that we think Branch needs to work on. The titles in yellow are what Region was working on and the associated text is our background.

Let me know if you need further information or clarification on anything.

Sean Pendergast RPBio  
Senior Wildlife Biologist | Fish & Wildlife Section

---

**From:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 13, 2018 3:24 PM  
**To:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: MDD notes wolf request

Sean,

Jen says not to worry about fine tuning this and to send whatever you have.



**Diana McNeill**

Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone 778-698-9169

---

**From:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 13, 2018 3:09 PM  
**To:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: MDD notes wolf request  
Hello! Any word?



**Diana McNeill**

Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone 778-698-9169

---

**From:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, February 9, 2018 4:27 PM  
**To:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: MDD notes wolf request

Ok – good. We set a date of today for ourselves but it just didn't pan out. Have a great weekend too!

Sean Pendergast RPBio  
Senior Wildlife Biologist | Fish & Wildlife Section

---

**From:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, February 9, 2018 4:27 PM  
**To:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: MDD notes wolf request  
Thanks Sean! That is just fine. I hope you have a relaxing weekend☺



**Diana McNeill**

Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone 778-698-9169

---

**From:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, February 9, 2018 4:25 PM  
**To:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** MDD notes wolf request

Hi Diana, I am not going to get that Wolf trapping doc to you today. still a bit of work to do on it and I got side tracked with Fallow deer, MLA requests and being the last man standing on a Friday afternoon so my phone won't stop ringing! All the info is there but I need to make it easier to follow. I am hoping that if I get it to you Tuesday morning that will be ok?

Thanks!

Sean



~~~~~  
**Sean Pendergast RPBio**

Senior Wildlife Biologist | Fish & Wildlife Section  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations | West Coast Region  
2080-A Labieux Road | Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9 | ☎ (250) 751-3225 | 📠 (250) 751-3103  
Switch board (250) 751-7220 | ✉ [Sean.Pendergast@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sean.Pendergast@gov.bc.ca)  
~~~~~

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 1, 2018 2:26 PM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: MDD notes re: wolf

Thanks for getting the ball rolling Mike. We just received notice that MGH will have a briefing on Feb 15<sup>th</sup>. Can we aim for this appendix by the 9<sup>th</sup> of Feb?  
Jen

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 1, 2018 10:11 AM  
**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: MDD notes re: wolf

Hi everyone,

I drew up a plan to address Jen's questions (in grey below) and made some suggestions about starting points. There is a mixture of Branch and Region items as well as a few items that will likely need collaborative discussion. Let's get started and aim to bring some answers forward by 3 pm Friday.

Thanks,

Mike

s.13

Page 004

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

[Branch]

---

**From:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 31, 2018 10:59 PM  
**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** MDD notes re: wolf

Hi Michael and Mike,

The meeting went well with MDD today. He was happy with the note and had several questions about population monitoring, data, hunting and trapping, etc. There may be a briefing with the Greens and MGH. If there is I offered to include an appendix to the briefing note that would provide additional detail re: wolf management, hunting and trapping.

Questions included:

s.13

Thanks for all your work on this.

Jen

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 10:34 AM  
**To:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX; Wilton, William FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH  
**Attachments:** points for Ministers\_wolf regulations\_R1\_Jan 2018.docx

Hi guys,

Can you please look at the attached: (1) for content, (2) for grammar, (3) for flow, and (4) completeness.

s.13

Thanks,  
Mike

---

**From:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 9:39 AM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

Hi Mike  
Do you have time to give this the once over?  
Thanks,  
Michael

---

**From:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 9:24 AM  
**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

Good morning,  
Just a reminder that a BN is due today, Thx,



**Diana McNeill**

Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations



---

**From:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 3:06 PM  
**To:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

Sorry,  
Here is the document they are referring to.

---

**From:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 2:56 PM  
**To:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

**Michael,**

Please have staff draft a note for this upcoming meeting with the Minister. ADMO wants this by January 29<sup>th</sup> at noon but Jen would still have to approve it. Any change we could have this by Jan 29<sup>th</sup> at 9am?

**Jen,**

Would should participate?



**Diana McNeill**

Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone 778-698-9169

---

**From:** Larkin, Brenda FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 2:31 PM  
**To:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** McCulloch, Alexandra FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: VI Wolf Trapping

Cliff #: 236045

---

**From:** Larkin, Brenda FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 1:29 PM  
**To:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** McCulloch, Alexandra FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** VI Wolf Trapping

Diana,

Can you please start a briefing note process on Vancouver Island Wolf Trapping

MDD Meeting scheduled  
DATE: January 31  
TIME: 1:00 – 1:30  
LTCN: MO Room 248

There have been recent articles on the news and MGH and the green caucus have asked for briefings. MO has requested that we brief MDD on the above date.

<http://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/jack-knox-why-province-wants-to-expand-wolf-trapping-1.23143877>

Attached is an IN from GCPE.

I will set up a cliff log, but wanted to provide you with a heads up.

Can we please have material on Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at noon.

Please identify staff that will be attending to support.

Any questions, please let me know.

Thank you

**Brenda Larkin**

A/Executive Coordinator

Resource Stewardship Division

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

780 Blanshard Street, Victoria

Ph: 250.356.5302 <sup>\*\*new\*\*</sup>

Page 009 to/à Page 012

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.16

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 13, 2018 3:24 PM  
**To:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: MDD notes wolf request

Sean,

Jen says not to worry about fine tuning this and to send whatever you have.



**Diana McNeill**

Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone 778-698-9169

---

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**Subject:** RE: MDD notes wolf request  
Hello! Any word?



**Diana McNeill**

Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone 778-698-9169

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**From:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
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Sean Pendergast RPBio  
Senior Wildlife Biologist | Fish & Wildlife Section

---

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**Diana McNeill**

Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone 778-698-9169

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**From:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
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Thanks!

Sean



~~~~~  
**Sean Pendergast RPBio**

Senior Wildlife Biologist | Fish & Wildlife Section

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations | West Coast Region

2080-A Labieux Road | Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9 | ☎ (250) 751-3225 | 📠 (250) 751-3103

Switch board (250) 751-7220 | ✉ [Sean.Pendergast@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sean.Pendergast@gov.bc.ca)  
~~~~~

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

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**Cc:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
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Jen

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Thanks,

Mike

s.13

Page 016

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s.13

[Branch]

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Questions included:

s.13

Thanks for all your work on this.

Jen



## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Wilton, William FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 11:32 AM  
**To:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH  
**Attachments:** Appendix3.pdf; Appendix1.pdf

Hi Sean,

I made a couple of minor edits, mostly to the flow, and added some references to the appendices. Appendix 1 and 3 are maps (attached) and I am looking for the list of nations (appendix 2). While you look through it I am going to dig up some examples/figures for deer.

Cheers,

Billy



**Billy Wilton**

Wildlife Biologist | Fish & Wildlife Section

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

(250) 751-3213

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 10:34 AM  
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**Subject:** FW: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

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Mike

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**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

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**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

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**Diana McNeill**

Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone 778-698-9169

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**From:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
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**To:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
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Would should participate?



**Diana McNeill**

Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone 778-698-9169

---

**From:** Larkin, Brenda FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 2:31 PM  
**To:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX

Cc: McCulloch, Alexandra FLNR:EX

Subject: RE: VI Wolf Trapping

Cliff #: 236045

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From: Larkin, Brenda FLNR:EX

Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2018 1:29 PM

To: McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX

Cc: McCulloch, Alexandra FLNR:EX

Subject: VI Wolf Trapping

Diana,

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MDD Meeting scheduled

DATE: January 31

TIME: 1:00 – 1:30

LTCN: MO Room 248

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**Brenda Larkin**

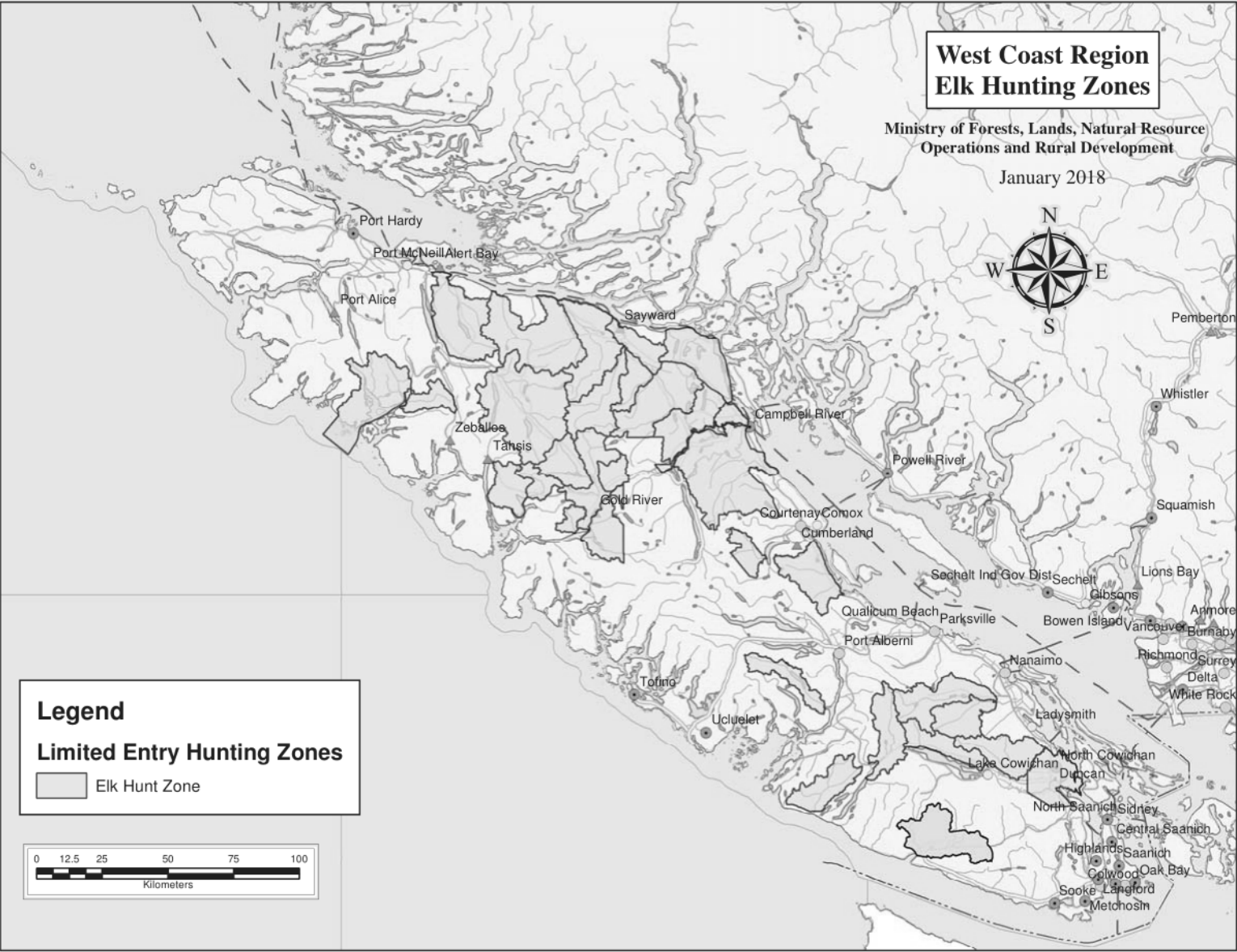
A/Executive Coordinator

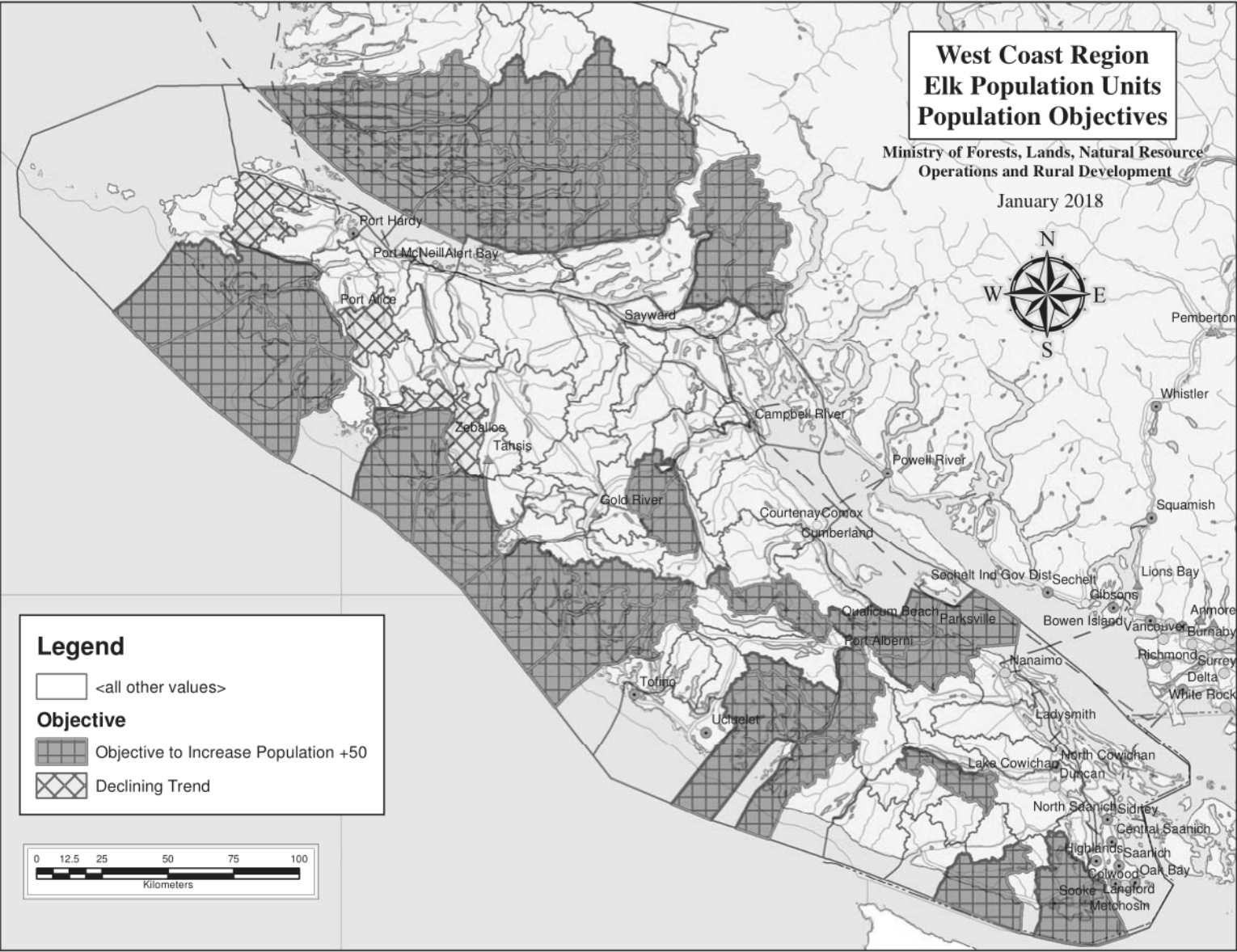
Resource Stewardship Division

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

780 Blanshard Street, Victoria

Ph: 250.356.5302 <sup>\*\*new\*\*</sup>





## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 13, 2018 3:09 PM  
**To:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: MDD notes wolf request

Hello! Any word?



**Diana McNeill**

Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone 778-698-9169

---

**From:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, February 9, 2018 4:27 PM  
**To:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: MDD notes wolf request

Ok – good. We set a date of today for ourselves but it just didn't pan out. Have a great weekend too!

Sean Pendergast RPBio  
Senior Wildlife Biologist | Fish & Wildlife Section

---

**From:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, February 9, 2018 4:27 PM  
**To:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: MDD notes wolf request

Thanks Sean! That is just fine. I hope you have a relaxing weekend😊



**Diana McNeill**

Office Manager  
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Thanks!

Sean

~~~~~



**Sean Pendergast RPBio**

Senior Wildlife Biologist | Fish & Wildlife Section  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations | West Coast Region  
2080-A Labieux Road | Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9 | ☎ (250) 751-3225 | 📠 (250) 751-3103  
Switch board (250) 751-7220 | ✉ [Sean.Pendergast@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sean.Pendergast@gov.bc.ca)

~~~~~

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 1, 2018 10:11 AM  
**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: MDD notes re: wolf

Hi everyone,

I drew up a plan to address Jen's questions (in grey below) and made some suggestions about starting points. There is a mixture of Branch and Region items as well as a few items that will likely need collaborative discussion. Let's get started and aim to bring some answers forward by 3 pm Friday.

Thanks,

Mike

s.13

Page 025

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13



[Branch]

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**From:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 31, 2018 10:59 PM  
**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** MDD notes re: wolf

Hi Michael and Mike,

The meeting went well with MDD today. He was happy with the note and had several questions about population monitoring, data, hunting and trapping, etc. There may be a briefing with the Greens and MGH. If there is I offered to include an appendix to the briefing note that would provide additional detail re: wolf management, hunting and trapping.

Questions included:  
s.13

Thanks for all your work on this.

Jen

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**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 10:34 AM  
**To:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX; Wilton, William FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH  
**Attachments:** points for Ministers\_wolf regulations\_R1\_Jan 2018.docx

Hi guys,

Can you please look at the attached: (1) for content, (2) for grammar, (3) for flow, and (4) completeness.

s.13

Thanks,  
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**From:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
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**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
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Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

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**From:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 3:06 PM  
**To:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

Sorry,  
Here is the document they are referring to.

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**From:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 2:56 PM  
**To:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

**Michael,**

Please have staff draft a note for this upcoming meeting with the Minister. ADMO wants this by January 29<sup>th</sup> at noon but Jen would still have to approve it. Any change we could have this by Jan 29<sup>th</sup> at 9am?

**Jen,**

Would should participate?



**Diana McNeill**

Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone 778-698-9169

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**From:** Larkin, Brenda FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 2:31 PM  
**To:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** McCulloch, Alexandra FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: VI Wolf Trapping

Cliff #: 236045

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**To:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** McCulloch, Alexandra FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** VI Wolf Trapping

Diana,

Can you please start a briefing note process on Vancouver Island Wolf Trapping

MDD Meeting scheduled  
DATE: January 31  
TIME: 1:00 – 1:30  
LTCN: MO Room 248

There have been recent articles on the news and MGH and the green caucus have asked for briefings. MO has requested that we brief MDD on the above date.

<http://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/jack-knox-why-province-wants-to-expand-wolf-trapping-1.23143877>

Attached is an IN from GCPE.

I will set up a cliff log, but wanted to provide you with a heads up.

Can we please have material on Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at noon.

Please identify staff that will be attending to support.

Any questions, please let me know.

Thank you

**Brenda Larkin**

A/Executive Coordinator

Resource Stewardship Division

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

780 Blanshard Street, Victoria

Ph: 250.356.5302 <sup>\*\*new\*\*</sup>

Page 030 to/à Page 033

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.16

**From:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, February 9, 2018 4:27 PM  
**To:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: MDD notes wolf request

Thanks Sean! That is just fine. I hope you have a relaxing weekend😊



**Diana McNeill**

Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone 778-698-9169

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Thanks!  
Sean



~~~~~  
**Sean Pendergast RPBio**

Senior Wildlife Biologist | Fish & Wildlife Section  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations | West Coast Region  
2080-A Labieux Road | Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9 | ☎ (250) 751-3225 | 📠 (250) 751-3103  
Switch board (250) 751-7220 | ✉ [Sean.Pendergast@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sean.Pendergast@gov.bc.ca)  
~~~~~

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Wilton, William FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 12:02 PM  
**To:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH  
**Attachments:** points for Ministers\_wolf regulations\_R1\_Jan 2018\_bwedits.docx

I added the figure but without the arrows. I also do not have a copy of the important dates that Jerry gave you.



**Billy Wilton**

Wildlife Biologist | Fish & Wildlife Section  
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development  
(250) 751-3213

---

**From:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 11:35 AM  
**To:** Wilton, William FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

Can you send me the Word Doc you were working on? May as well keep less copies floating around....

Sean Pendergast RPBio  
Senior Wildlife Biologist | Fish & Wildlife Section

---

**From:** Wilton, William FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 11:32 AM  
**To:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

Hi Sean,

I made a couple of minor edits, mostly to the flow, and added some references to the appendices. Appendix 1 and 3 are maps (attached) and I am looking for the list of nations (appendix 2). While you look through it I am going to dig up some examples/figures for deer.

Cheers,  
Billy



**Billy Wilton**

Wildlife Biologist | Fish & Wildlife Section  
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development  
(250) 751-3213

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**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 10:34 AM  
**To:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX; Wilton, William FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

Hi guys,

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s.13

Thanks,  
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Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone 778-698-9169

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**To:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

**Michael,**

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**Jen,**

Would should participate?



**Diana McNeill**

Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone 778-698-9169

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**From:** Larkin, Brenda FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 2:31 PM  
**To:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** McCulloch, Alexandra FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: VI Wolf Trapping

Cliff #: 236045

---

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**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 1:29 PM  
**To:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
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**Subject:** VI Wolf Trapping

Diana,

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TIME: 1:00 – 1:30  
LTCN: MO Room 248

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Any questions, please let me know.

Thank you

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Resource Stewardship Division

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

780 Blanshard Street, Victoria

Ph: 250.356.5302 <sup>\*\*new\*\*</sup>

Page 039 to/à Page 043

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, February 9, 2018 10:32 AM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX; Wilton, William FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: MDD notes re: wolf

Thanks all....sorry to be a nag☺



**Diana McNeill**

Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone 778-698-9169

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, February 9, 2018 10:15 AM  
**To:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX; Wilton, William FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: MDD notes re: wolf

Hi Diana,

The group has been gathering information all week. Sean and Billy are pulling things together today so that the material is coherent.

Thanks,  
Mike

---

**From:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, February 9, 2018 9:46 AM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: MDD notes re: wolf

Hi Mike!  
Just checking in on this request.



**Diana McNeill**

Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone 778-698-9169

---

**From:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, February 9, 2018 9:18 AM  
**To:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Fw: MDD notes re: wolf

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the TELUS network.

---

**From:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX <[Jennifer.Psyllakis@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jennifer.Psyllakis@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 1, 2018 2:25 PM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: MDD notes re: wolf

Thanks for getting the ball rolling Mike. We just received notice that MGH will have a briefing on Feb 15<sup>th</sup>. Can we aim for this appendix by the 9<sup>th</sup> of Feb?  
Jen

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
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**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
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s.13

Page 046

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s.13

[Branch]

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Questions included:

s.13

Thanks for all your work on this.

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**From:** Wilton, William FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 11:41 AM  
**To:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH  
**Attachments:** Appendix2.pdf

Appendix 2



**Billy Wilton**

Wildlife Biologist | Fish & Wildlife Section  
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development  
(250) 751-3213

---

**From:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
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Resource Stewardship Division

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780 Blanshard Street, Victoria

Ph: 250.356.5302 <sup>\*\*new\*\*</sup>

## Appendix 2

| <b>N First Nation</b>                    | <b>Affiliation/Treaty</b>                           |
|--|---|
| 1 Ahousaht First Nation                  |   |
| 2 Danaxdaxw/Awaetlala First Nation       | Kwakiutl District Council (9)                       |
| 3 Ditidaht First Nation                  |   |
| 4 Dzawadaenuxw First Nation              |   |
| 5 Ehattesaht Tribe                       |   |
| 6 Esquimalt Nation                       | Douglas Treaty (10)                                 |
| 7 GwaSala Nakwaxdaxw Nation              | Kwakiutl District Council (9)                       |
| 8 Gwawaenuk Tribe                        |   |
| 9 Hesquiaht First Nation                 |   |
| 10 Cowichan Tribes                       | Hulquminum Treaty Group (6)                         |
| 11 Halalt First Nations                  | Hulquminum Treaty Group (6)                         |
| 12 Lake Cowichan First Nation            | Hulquminum Treaty Group (6)                         |
| 13 Lyackson First Nation                 | Hulquminum Treaty Group (6)                         |
| 14 Penelakut First Nation                | Hulquminum Treaty Group (6)                         |
| 15 Stz'uminus First Nation               | Hulquminum Treaty Group (6)                         |
| 16 Hupacasath First Nation               |   |
| 17 Komoks First Nation                   | Kwakiutl District Council (9)                       |
| 18 Kwakiutl Indian Band*                 | Douglas Treaty (10) / Kwakiutl District Council (9) |
| 19 Kwiakah First Nation                  | Kwakiutl District Council (9)                       |
| 20 Kwikwasutinuxw Haxwamis First Nations |   |
| 21 Malahat First Nation*                 |   |
| 22 Mamalilikulla                         | Kwakiutl District Council (9)                       |
| 23 Huu-ay-aht First Nation               | Maa-nulth Treaty (5)                                |
| 24 Kyuquot/Checklesaht First Nation      | Maa-nulth Treaty (5)                                |
| 25 Toquat First Nation                   | Maa-nulth Treaty (5)                                |
| 26 Uckeucklesaht First Nation            | Maa-nulth Treaty (5)                                |
| 27 Ucluelet First Nation                 | Maa-nulth Treaty (5)                                |
| 28 Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation      |   |
| 29 Pauquachin First Nation*              | Douglas Treaty (10) / North Saanich Bands (4)       |
| 30 Tseycum First Nation*                 | Douglas Treaty (10) / North Saanich Bands (4)       |
| 31 Tsawout First Nation*                 | Douglas Treaty (10) / North Saanich Bands (4)       |
| 32 Tsartlip First Nation*                | Douglas Treaty (10) / North Saanich Bands (4)       |
| 33 Nuchatlaht First Nation               |   |
| 34 Pacheedaht First Nation               |   |
| 35 Qualicum First Nation                 |   |
| 36 Quatsino First Nation                 |   |
| 37 Scianew First Nation                  | Douglas Treaty (10)                                 |
| 38 SnawNawAs Nation                      |   |
| 39 Snuneymuxw First Nation               | Douglas Treaty (10)                                 |
| 40 Songhees Nation*                      | Douglas Treaty (10)                                 |
| 41 Tsou-ke First Nation                  | Douglas Treaty (10)                                 |
| 42 Tlaamin Nation Final Agreement Areas  |   |
| 43 Tlatlasikwala Nation                  | Kwakiutl District Council (9)                       |
| 44 Tseshaht First Nation                 |   |
| 45 We Wai Kai Nation                     | Kwakiutl District Council (9)                       |
| 46 Wei Wai Kum First Nation              | Kwakiutl District Council (9)                       |
| 47 Xwemalhwu (Homalco) First Nation      |   |

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 15, 2018 10:48 AM  
**To:** Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** Re: Media Request: CTV Vancouver Island - Wolf trapping

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

2 dogs caught; one released right away and one required somebody to help with releasing the dog. Apparently, dogs were checked by vet and were okay with some surface abrasions.

s.13

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 15, 2018, at 10:35 AM, Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX <[Brett.Lowther@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Brett.Lowther@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

What happened to the doggy's?

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 15, 2018 9:35 AM  
**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Uppenborn, Jeremy GCPE:EX; Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX; GCPE FLNR Media Requests GCPE:EX; Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX; Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** Re: Media Request: CTV Vancouver Island - Wolf trapping

Hi everyone,

CHECK ran a story on Saturday about a lady who was walking dogs and 2 got caught in wolf traps. Lady was a commercial dog walker and was walking on Timberwest land without permission. Timberwest has allowed (by written agreement) a First Nation trapper to trap on Timberwest land. A Fish & Wildlife staff was volunteering (on private time) to check traps on days when trapper could not. Two days prior to dogs being caught, a wolf killed an elk in the area; wolf was trapped the next day. Lady a dogs were fortunate that wolf was removed or they would have been at risk.

Thoughts on bullets

s.13

On Feb 15, 2018, at 8:48 AM, MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX <[Stephen.MacIver@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephen.MacIver@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Hi,  
Just wondering if Mike Stalberg has seen this?  
s.13  
Steve

---

**From:** Uppenborn, Jeremy GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 14, 2018 1:33 PM  
**To:** Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX  
**Cc:** GCPE FLNR Media Requests GCPE:EX; Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX; Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX; MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Media Request: CTV Vancouver Island - Wolf trapping  
Okay to send to reporter? Attributable to the Fish, Wildlife and Habitat Management Branch? I've included Brett's comments  
s.13

---

**From:** Jeremy Uppenborn [<mailto:Jeremy.Uppenborn@gov.bc.ca>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 14, 2018 12:37 PM  
**To:** Uppenborn, Jeremy GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** FLNR Media Request: Wolf trapping  
**Reporter**  
Scott Cunningham, Reporter  
CTV Vancouver Island - Victoria  
[scott.cunningham@bellmedia.ca](mailto:scott.cunningham@bellmedia.ca)  
250-414-6568 c: 250-661-8630

## **Deadline ASAP**

### **Request**

Couple questions about the proposed change to regulations on Vancouver Island wolf trapping: <https://apps.nrs.gov.bc.ca/ahte/content/lengthen-wolf-trapping-season-vancouver-island>

- 1- Is trapping the same as hunting? As in, would trapping a wolf result in its death, or could it simply be relocated.
- 2- Is this proposed change to regulations a direct result of human wolf conflict on Vancouver Island?
- 3- Where exactly are these conflicts taking place?
- 4- What is the increase in these conflicts?

### **Background**

### **Recommendation**

Here's some information about the regulation proposal to increase the trapping season for wolves on Vancouver Island. Any attribution should be to the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development.

- There has been an increase in wolf populations on northern Vancouver Island, particularly in the area around Port Hardy.
- Wolf trapping is used to try and increase elk populations, which are currently too small to be hunted and show no signs of increasing. The wolves are not relocated.
- Biologists have also noticed increased wolf signs (tracks or sightings) in the area during deer and elk inventory work.
- The Province is also closing three additional areas due to declining elk numbers.
- There also appears to be correlation between the areas with increased wolf sign and decreased ungulate populations. Although there are scientific inventories to monitor deer and elk populations, there have not been scientific surveys for monitoring wolves.
- However, the ministry estimates there are about 250 wolves on Vancouver Island at this time and the population is increasing.
- Hunters/trappers that harvest wolves must report the harvest to the Province.
- Ministry data show that no wolves were trapped during the fiscal year of 2016-17, as there was significant snowfall and freezing temperatures last winter.
- In the previous five years, where conditions were milder for setting traps, the average has been seven wolves total for the entire Vancouver Island region per fiscal year.
- The Province anticipates that harvest rates will remain similar to past years; however, there will be a greater ability for First Nations and trappers to collaborate to address site-specific concerns.
- Trapping will occur by licenced trappers or by status First Nations, mostly on central or northern Vancouver Island.
- Commercial trappers have Crown-registered trapline boundaries where they have the right to trap, and 65% of commercial traplines on Vancouver Island are registered to First Nations' members.
- As well, status First Nation trappers can trap within their traditional territory for food, social, or ceremonial purposes.
- Commercial trappers and status First Nation trappers may trap on private land with landowner permission.



**FLNR FOI FLNR:EX**

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**From:** Correspondence Serv. Sectn, FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 8, 2018 3:50 PM  
**To:** Regan, Kelly FLNR:EX; Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** de Bree, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Perzina, Vinka V FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** 236158 - reply direct by Feb 20  
**Attachments:** 236158 incoming 1.msg

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi Mike,

FW branch advised that this is your issue to respond to. Please reply direct to author by February 20th.

1. Please reply direct to the writer on behalf of Minister Doug Donaldson (MDD)
2. Ensure you copy MDD on response (cc: [FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca) if email response)
3. Add response as attachment in CLIFF log
4. Update log notes
5. Enter signed date
6. Enter sign by
7. Close log

Please notify CSS ([FLNR.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FLNR.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca)) if this is NOT your issue within 2-3 days.

Thanks,  
Eleni

**DM-CSS Referral Slip for ID:236158**

2018/02/08

|  |                                   |                               |
|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>Log Type:</i> <b>Letter via Email</b> | <i>Action:</i> <b>Draft Reply</b> | <i>Due:</i> <b>2018/02/20</b> |
| <i>Batch:</i>                            | <i>Sig Level:</i> <b>Staff</b>    |                               |

|   |                             |                       |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Author Type:</i> First Nation                          | <i>Written:</i> 2018/01/29  | <i>Resp Type:</i>     |
| Michael Tony Hansen, KCTN Director of Lands and Resources | <i>Received:</i> 2018/01/31 | <i>File No.:</i>      |
| Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7eth' First Nations              | <i>Due:</i> 2018/02/20      | <i>Entered By:</i> CS |
| General Delivery  | <i>Approved:</i>            | <i>Approved By:</i>   |
| Kyuquot, BC, V0P 1J0                                      | <i>Signed:</i>              | <i>Signed By:</i>     |
| <i>Phone:</i> (250) 332-5259                              | <i>Closed:</i>              |                       |

|                                       |                            |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Address To:</i> Minister Donaldson | <i>Copy To:</i>            |
| <i>Rsp Office:</i> CO-RWC             | <i>Issue:</i> Wolf control |
| <i>X-Ref:</i>                         | <i>Drafter:</i>            |
| <i>With BN:</i>                       |                            |

---

**Subject**

In support of extending Vancouver Island Region 1 wolf trapping season.

*Log Notes*

2018/02/08 CSS referring log to RWC (Mike Stalberg) to reply direct by Feb 20.

2018/02/08 Suzanne advise the region should respond and suggested it should go to Mike Stalberg VI

2018/02/06 sent to Suzanne for someone in policy to draft response.

2018/01/31 REPLY DIRECT on behalf of the Minister by Feb. 20, 2018:

1. Please reply direct to the writer on behalf of Minister Doug Donaldson (MDD)
2. Ensure you copy MDD on response (cc: [FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca) if email response)
3. Add response as attachment in CLIFF log
4. Update log notes
5. Enter signed date
6. Enter sign by
7. Close log

*Referral DM-CSS -> MO-Minister*

|                   |             |                   |            |                |           |                    |          |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|------------|----------------|-----------|--------------------|----------|
| <i>From:</i>      | DM-CSS      | <i>Sent:</i>      | 2018/01/31 | <i>Status:</i> | Completed | <i>Ref Action:</i> | FYI/File |
| <i>To:</i>        | MO-Minister | <i>Received:</i>  |            | <i>Reason:</i> |           | <i>Sig Level:</i>  |          |
| <i>Assign To:</i> |             | <i>Completed:</i> | 2018/01/31 | <i>Due:</i>    |           | <i>File No.:</i>   |          |

*Referral DM-CSS -> MO-Minister -> DM-CSS*

|                   |             |                   |            |                |            |                    |                     |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|------------|----------------|------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| <i>From:</i>      | MO-Minister | <i>Sent:</i>      | 2018/01/31 | <i>Status:</i> | Completed  | <i>Ref Action:</i> | Coordinate Response |
| <i>To:</i>        | DM-CSS      | <i>Received:</i>  |            | <i>Reason:</i> |            | <i>Sig Level:</i>  |                     |
| <i>Assign To:</i> |             | <i>Completed:</i> | 2018/01/31 | <i>Due:</i>    | 2018/02/16 | <i>File No.:</i>   |                     |

*Referral DM-CSS -> MO-Minister -> DM-CSS -> RS-Fish and Wildlife*

|                   |                      |                   |            |                |                                     |                    |              |
|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| <i>From:</i>      | DM-CSS               | <i>Sent:</i>      | 2018/01/31 | <i>Status:</i> | Rejected                            | <i>Ref Action:</i> | Reply Direct |
| <i>To:</i>        | RS-Fish and Wildlife | <i>Received:</i>  | 2018/02/06 | <i>Reason:</i> | sent to Vancouver Island to respond | <i>Sig Level:</i>  |              |
| <i>Assign To:</i> |                      | <i>Completed:</i> | 2018/02/08 | <i>Due:</i>    | 2018/02/20                          | <i>File No.:</i>   |              |

*Referral DM-CSS -> MO-Minister -> DM-CSS -> CO-RWC*

|                   |               |                   |            |                |                         |                    |              |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|------------|----------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| <i>From:</i>      | DM-CSS        | <i>Sent:</i>      | 2018/02/08 | <i>Status:</i> | Pending                 | <i>Ref Action:</i> | Reply Direct |
| <i>To:</i>        | CO-RWC        | <i>Received:</i>  |            | <i>Reason:</i> |                         | <i>Sig Level:</i>  |              |
| <i>Assign To:</i> | Mike Stalberg | <i>Completed:</i> |            | <i>Due:</i>    | 2018/02/20 (Active (8)) | <i>File No.:</i>   |              |

**Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** Ronald Frank s.22  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 11:47 AM  
**To:** Minister, FLNR FLNR:EX; Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** 236158 KCFN Letter of support for Extending Region 1 V.I. Wolf Trapping Season  
**Attachments:** KCFN Support for Extending the VI Wolf Trapping Season--January 29th, 2018.docx

Dear Minister Donaldson, and Director of Wildlife Psyllakis,  
Please accept the attached letter of support for changes to the Hunting and Trapping Regulations (2018) for Extension of the Wolf Trapping season on Vancouver Island.

Regards

Michael Tony Hansen

Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7eth' First Nations

Director of Lands and Resources



Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nations  
General Delivery, Kyuquot, BC V0P 1J0  
Phone: 1-250-332-5259 Fax: 250-332-5210

January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development  
PO Box 9041 Stn Prov Govt.

Parliament Buildings

Victoria BC V8W 9E1

**Via e-mail:** FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca

**ATTN: HONOURABLE DOUG DONALDSON-MINISTER**

**RE: EXTENSION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND REGION 1 WOLF TRAPPING SEASON.**

Minister Donaldson:

Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nations (KCFN), a Maa-nulth Treaty Nation, fully supports the Region 1, Vancouver Island changes to the B.C. Hunting and Trapping Regulations to "Extend the Wolf Trapping Season".

The KCFN community is in a beautiful, rugged and remote location on the Northwest Coast of Vancouver Island where citizens are strongly connected to, and take pride in being stewards of the resources within our Hahoulth (Territory). We rely on these resources today as we have since time immemorial for sustenance, community cultural practices and ceremonies, as well as to provide economic opportunities.

Wolves are a highly revered species and an integral part of the culture of the KCFN. With that said, a basic principle of our Nations' culture is to manage according to Hishuk-is-tsawalk, meaning "everything is one". It is critically important to manage for all species, not just ungulates (deer and elk). If we manage any species, then we must manage all species.

For the past decade or more, wolves have preyed heavily on deer and elk in our KCFN Hahoulth (territory). This has, along with other potential factors, resulted in historically low deer numbers and is currently impacting the behavior and numbers of elk. Both of these species are an important source of food for our KCFN members.

Our Director of Wildlife, Mr. Tony Hansen has passed an order restricting harvesting of female deer (does) and limiting the harvest of male deer (bucks) to times of the year when there are visible antlers. This is an extreme measure and one which we did not make without considerable deliberation.

In order to manage for deer and elk and wolves, KCFN needs some assistance in reducing wolf population levels to allow for recovery of our deer and elk populations. We have always worked cooperatively with trappers in our Territories and currently lack adequate KCFN capacity to achieve much-needed wolf management and bring wolf and ungulate populations to a balanced state.

KCFN are the guardians within our Hahoulth. KCFN encourages the Government of B.C. to adopt a co-management approach with our First Nations in which we are genuinely part of the decision-making process that impacts our territory, our resources and our citizens. As a Treaty Nation, we have a say in our destiny and future which must be respected. We look forward to further Consultation with the B.C. Government on this important matter.

Accordingly, the KCFN fully supports the proposed Vancouver Island Region 1 extension to the Wolf Trapping Season in the suite of proposed Regulatory Changes under consideration.

Sincerely,



Michael Tony Hansen

KCFN Director of Lands and Resources

Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nations

cc. Director of Wildlife Jennifer Psyllakis  
Mike Stalberg—Region 1, Section Head, Fish and Wildlife  
Chuck Poschenrieder-- Maa-nulth Treaty Society Administrator  
Ron Frank—Maa-nulth Wildlife Council Chair

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, February 2, 2018 11:14 AM  
**To:** York, Ben A ENV:EX  
**Subject:** FW: dogs on the run

**Importance:** High

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi Ben,  
s.13

Thanks,  
Mike

### WILDLIFE ACT

#### [RSBC 1996] CHAPTER 488

##### Interference with traps

**46** A person who knowingly damages or interferes with a lawfully set trap commits an offence.

---

**From:** MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, February 2, 2018 10:35 AM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: dogs on the run  
**Importance:** High

Hi Mike,  
s.13,s.22

Thank you,  
Jerry  
Jerry MacDermott RB Tech  
Wildlife Technician | Fish & Wildlife Section  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations | West Coast Region  
2080-A Labieux Road | Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9 | ☎ (250) 751-3229 | 📠 (250) 751-3103  
Switch board (250) 751-7220 | ✉ [Jerry.Macdermott@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jerry.Macdermott@gov.bc.ca)

---

**From** s.22  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 31, 2018 6:12 PM  
**To:** MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX  
**Subject:**

Hi Jerry,  
Thank you for the info. That will at least keep us safe from s.22 trap lines for now.

I will need to know what areas to avoid from now on. So if you have traps or snares out I'd appreciate knowing what areas to avoid.

To be truthful, I'm shocked you or s.22 did not tell me about the trap lines. You both know I'm out there every single day with unleashed dogs. I could have easily stepped in it myself. I'm beyond upset about it.

s.22 wants his traps back, he's going to have to contact me. You can pass along my number. I do not answer blocked calls.

s.22

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

---

**From:** MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX <[Jerry.Macdermott@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jerry.Macdermott@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 10:04:35 PM

**To:** s.22

**Subject:** Re: I need to know what areas the traps are

?Hi, sorry, I called you yesterday but nobody answered.

You should be good to go in M br., G br., C br. and C7.

The trapper took the ones out of deadwood/A branch and branch 2 as well.

Might as well give his traps to s.22

Thanks,

Jerry

---

**From:** s.22

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 8:10 AM

**To:** MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX

**Subject:** I need to know what areas the traps are

s.22

---

**From:** MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX <[Jerry.Macdermott@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jerry.Macdermott@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** Saturday, January 27, 2018 1:56:32 PM

**To:** s.22

**Subject:** Re: We need to talk about The Wolf traps ASAP.

s.22 , ok, sorry to hear about the dogs.

I've been away darting cougars quite a bit up island.

I know the trapper would like to get his traps back.

I will try to call Monday.

Thanks,

Jerry

---

From s.22

Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2018 6:01 PM

To: MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX

Subject: We need to talk about The Wolf traps ASAP.

s.22



## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Ronald Frank s.22  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 6:43 PM  
**To:** Minister, FLNR FLNR:EX; Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX; Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX; Chuck Poschenrieder  
**Subject:** Fwd: KCFN Letter of support for Extending Region 1 V.I. Wolf Trapping Season  
**Attachments:** MWC Letter of Support for Extension to VI Wolf Trapping Season-V2 Jan. 29, 2018.docx

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Ronald Frank s.22**  
**Date:** Tue, Jan 30, 2018 at 11:47 AM  
**Subject:** KCFN Letter of support for Extending Region 1 V.I. Wolf Trapping Season  
**To:** "Minister, FLNR FLNR:EX" <[FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca)>, [Jennifer.Psyllakis@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jennifer.Psyllakis@gov.bc.ca)

Dear Minister Donaldson, and Director of Wildlife Psyllakis,  
Please accept the attached letter of support for changes to the Hunting and Trapping Regulations (2018) for Extension of the Wolf Trapping season on Vancouver Island.  
Regards  
Ronald Frank  
Chair  
Maa-nulth Wildlife Council



## MAA-NULTH WILDLIFE COUNCIL

5091 Tsuma-as Drive Port Alberni V9P 8X9

Phone: (250) 724-1802 ♦ Fax: (250) 724-1852

Website: [www.maanulth.ca](http://www.maanulth.ca)

January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

PO Box 9041 Stn. Prov. Govt.

Parliament Buildings

Victoria BC V8W 9E1

Via e-mail: [FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

**ATTN: HONOURABLE DOUG DONALDSON-MINISTER**

**RE: EXTENSION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND REGION 1 WOLF TRAPPING SEASON.**

Minister Donaldson:

The Maa-nulth Wildlife Council supports the Region 1, Vancouver Island changes to the B.C. Hunting and Trapping Regulations to "Extend the Wolf Trapping Season" and recommend further research and field investigations into the state of Vancouver Island Wolf populations and their habitats.

The Maa-nulth Nations live in a beautiful, rugged and remote location on the Westcoast of Vancouver Island where our citizens are strongly connected to, and take pride in being stewards of the resources within our Hahoulth (Territory). We rely on these resources today as we have since time immemorial for sustenance, community cultural practices and ceremonies, as well as to provide economic opportunities.

Wolves are a highly revered species and an integral part of the Maa-nulth culture and history. With that said, a basic principle of our Nations' culture is to manage according to Hishuk-is-tsawalk, meaning "everything is one". It is critically important to manage for all species, not just ungulates (deer and elk). If we manage any species, then we must manage all species.

Managing wildlife habitat and populations involves more than just harvesting animals. The Maa-nulth Wildlife Council emphasizes that it is critically important that the MFLNRORD Wildlife Branch focus management resources on assessing and field inventorying wolves and their habitat, and consulting with Maa-nulth First Nations in order that informed, considered and scientific and



huu ay aht  
ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND



Huu-ay-aht First Nations | Ka:'yu:k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nations  
Toquaht Nation | Uchucklesaht Tribe | Yuułu?it?ath

traditional knowledge-based management decisions may be made in any wolf management decisions.

For the past decade or more, wolves have preyed heavily on deer and elk populations in our Maa-nulth Hahoulth (territory). This, along with other factors, has resulted in historically low deer numbers and is currently impacting the behavior and numbers of elk. Both of these species are an important source of food for our Maa-nulthaht (Maa-nulth members).

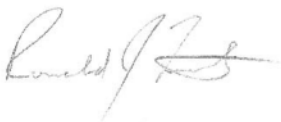
Our Maa-nulth Nations have all passed 'Orders of the Director' restricting harvesting of female deer (does) and limiting the harvest of male deer (bucks) to times of the year when there are visible antlers. This is an extreme measure and one which we did not make without considerable deliberation.

In order to manage for deer, elk and wolves, Maa-nulth needs some assistance in managing wolf and other ungulate predator populations to allow for recovery of our deer and elk populations. We have always worked cooperatively with trappers in our Territories and currently lack adequate capacity to achieve much-needed wolf management and bring predator and ungulate populations to a balanced state.

Maa-nulthaht are the guardians of our Hahoulth. Maa-nulth encourages the Government of B.C. to adopt a co-management approach with our Treaty Nations in which we are genuinely part of the decision-making process that impacts our territory, our resources and our citizens. As a Treaty Nation, we have a say in our destiny and future which must be respected. We look forward to further Consultation with the B.C. Government on this important matter.

Accordingly, the Maa-nulth Wildlife Council supports the proposed Vancouver Island Region 1 extension to the Wolf Trapping Season in the suite of proposed Regulatory Changes under consideration in 2018.

Sincerely,



Ronald J. Frank

Maa-nulth Wildlife Council Chair

cc. Director of Wildlife Jennifer Psyllakis  
Mike Stalberg—Region 1, Section Head, Fish and Wildlife  
Chuck Poschenrieder-- Maa-nulth Treaty Society Administrator



## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 10:09 AM  
**To:** Wenham, Logan FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: UPDATED: REVIEW/APPROVE: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH  
**Attachments:** IN\_Vancouver Island Wolf Trapping Regulations\_draft2 (mcs).docx

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi Logan,

Only one small correction. Third bullet, s.13  
s.13

s.13

Thanks,  
Mike

---

**From:** Wenham, Logan FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:24 AM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** UPDATED: REVIEW/APPROVE: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

Updated following a discussion with Mike B. This version adds back in Mike S.'s graph on deer, with an explanatory note,  
s.13

That is all in track changes.

What is not in track changes are small edits I made to tighten text and keep this on 3 pages and squeeze the graph onto page 2.

Mike B. – I edited the first para to make it easier to understand that the change is about increasing the front of the season.

Over to you guys.

Logan Wenham  
Fish and Wildlife Policy Lead  
Fish, Wildlife and Habitat Management  
Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone: 778-698-9221

*To live is to fly, low and high,  
So shake the dust off of your wings, and the sleep out of your eyes;*  
- Townes Van Zandt (To Live is to Fly)

---

**From:** Wenham, Logan FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 5:38 PM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** REVIEW/APPROVE: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

Hi Mike and Michael:

Here is my boil down of the two products for your review/approval. Glad to discuss in the a.m. Mike's maps were pretty handy visual aids so I included those as attachments **s.13**

Let me know what you think **s.13**

Cheers,

Logan Wenham  
Fish and Wildlife Policy Lead  
Fish, Wildlife and Habitat Management  
Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone: 778-698-9221

*To live is to fly, low and high,  
So shake the dust off of your wings, and the sleep out of your eyes;*  
- Townes Van Zandt (To Live is to Fly)

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 2:50 PM  
**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX; Wenham, Logan FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

Hi Michael,

Attached are some bullets.

Thanks,  
Mike

---

**From:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 9:39 AM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

Hi Mike  
Do you have time to give this the once over?  
Thanks,  
Michael

---

**From:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 9:24 AM

To: Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
Subject: FW: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

Good morning,  
Just a reminder that a BN is due today, Thx,



**Diana McNeill**

Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone 778-698-9169

---

From: McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2018 3:06 PM  
To: Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
Subject: RE: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

Sorry,  
Here is the document they are referring to.

---

From: McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2018 2:56 PM  
To: Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
Subject: FW: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

Michael,

Please have staff draft a note for this upcoming meeting with the Minister. ADMO wants this by January 29<sup>th</sup> at noon but Jen would still have to approve it. Any change we could have this by Jan 29<sup>th</sup> at 9am?

Jen,

Would should participate?



**Diana McNeill**

Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone 778-698-9169

---

From: Larkin, Brenda FLNR:EX  
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2018 2:31 PM  
To: McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
Cc: McCulloch, Alexandra FLNR:EX  
Subject: RE: VI Wolf Trapping

Cliff #: 236045

---

From: Larkin, Brenda FLNR:EX  
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2018 1:29 PM  
To: McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX

Cc: McCulloch, Alexandra FLNR:EX

Subject: VI Wolf Trapping

Diana,

Can you please start a briefing note process on Vancouver Island Wolf Trapping

MDD Meeting scheduled

DATE: January 31

TIME: 1:00 – 1:30

LTCN: MO Room 248

There have been recent articles on the news and MGH and the green caucus have asked for briefings. MO has requested that we brief MDD on the above date.

<http://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/jack-knox-why-province-wants-to-expand-wolf-trapping-1.23143877>

Attached is an IN from GCPE.

I will set up a cliff log, but wanted to provide you with a heads up.

Can we please have material on Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at noon.

Please identify staff that will be attending to support.

Any questions, please let me know.

Thank you

**Brenda Larkin**

A/Executive Coordinator

Resource Stewardship Division

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

780 Blanshard Street, Victoria

Ph: 250.356.5302 <sup>\*\*new\*\*</sup>



Page 073 to/à Page 075

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2018 10:29 AM  
**To:** s.22  
**Subject:** FW: Consultation with First Nations regarding regulation change prposals.  
**Attachments:** s.13,s.16

**Importance:** High

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi s.22

Below is the regulation change package sent to s.13,s.16 in the fall.

Thanks,

Mike

---

**From:** Wilton, William FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, January 12, 2018 11:06 AM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Consultation with First Nations regarding regulation change prposals.  
**Importance:** High  
Hi Mike,

Please find attached the information package that was sent to s.13,s.16 last year regarding regulation change proposals for 2018-2020. Unfortunately, the mail-merge resulted in a flaw in the numbered lists as you will see. As you have guessed, the list should have been numbered 1 to 13 not 118 to 130. It is my understanding that each First Nation with aboriginal interests on the north island received a similar package.

Please feel free to call or email me if you have further questions on this topic or other wildlife related topics.

Cheers,

Billy



~~~~~  
**Billy Wilton**

Wildlife Biologist | Fish & Wildlife Section  
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development | West Coast Region  
2080-A Labieux Road | Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9 | ☎ (250) 751-3213 | 📠 (250) 751-3103  
Switch board (250) 751-7220 | ✉ [William.Wilton@gov.bc.ca](mailto:William.Wilton@gov.bc.ca)  
~~~~~



October 4, 2017

File: s.13,s.16

REGISTERED MAIL

s.13,s.16

We would like to notify your First Nation that the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development is considering changes to the Hunting Regulation. A First Nation exercising an aboriginal right or a treaty right to hunt as described on page 7 of the Hunting and Trapping Synopsis (see attached) will not be subject to the proposed hunting regulations, should the regulations be approved.

The proposed changes are specifically related to licensed hunters in Region 1 and would take effect in the 2018 hunting season. The specific areas/Management Units (MUs) to which these regulation changes would apply are delineated in the enclosed map (attached).

The proposed changes to the regulations potentially overlapping with your traditional territory and affecting licensed hunters are as follows:

118. Closure of the Youth Only and Youth Bow Only season for Antlerless mule deer in MU 1-10;
119. Establishment of a late season shotgun and bow only season in the current "special areas only" hunt zones for mule deer Dec 11 to Dec 30;
120. Synchronize Bow Only season on Quadra Island in MU 1-15;
121. Establishment of a Turkey season in MUs 1-1 to 1-6, No Closed Season (NCS), No Bag Limit (NBL);

Page 1 of 3

**Ministry of Forests, Lands,  
Natural Resource Operations  
and Rural Development**

West Coast Region  
Resource Stewardship Division

Mailing Address:  
2080A Labieux Rd  
Nanaimo BC V9T 6J9

Telephone: 250 751-7220  
Facsimile: 250 751-7224  
Website: [www.gov.bc.ca/env](http://www.gov.bc.ca/env)

- 122. Removal of edible portion of cougar in Region 1 (MUs 1-1 to 1-15);
- 123. Change season start date for wolf trapping to September 10 (from November 1);
- 124. Additional Fallow deer season (Currently 1-1) in MUs 1-2 to 1-7, NCS, NBL;
- 125. Closure of the Limited Entry Hunting (LEH) Elk hunt in MU 1-12 Zone G;
- 126. Closure of the LEH Elk hunt in MU 1-13 Zone A;
- 127. Closure of the LEH Elk hunt in MU 1-13 Zone B;
- 128. Amalgamate the LEH Antlerless Elk seasons in MU 1-10 Zone D;
- 129. Amalgamate the LEH Antlerless Elk seasons in MU 1-10 Zone E;
- 130. Amalgamate the LEH Bull Elk seasons in MU 1-12 Zone B.

I have provided some background for each proposal as follows:

- 64. Closure of the Youth Only and Youth Bow Only Antlerless seasons in MU 1-10.  
Recent wildlife inventory surveys have documented that very low (0-4 deer/km) deer densities exist within portions of MU 1-10. There is government/stakeholder (First Nations, public, resident hunters, and guide outfitters) concern over low deer numbers in this area. Closure of this season will aid population recovery.
- 65. Establish late season deer hunting opportunities for licensed hunters in the current “special areas” only. The current season has not been effective at reducing deer numbers in this interface zone. Conflicts with agriculture and vehicles remains high. This new season would run from December 11 to December 30. Hunting methods would be restricted for shotgun and bow for safety reasons as current “special areas” overlap the urban and urban/rural interface zone on the east coast of Vancouver Island.
- 66. Synchronize the Bow Only Season for deer on Quadra Island in MU 1-15 (see attached MU map). Currently the Quadra Island bow only season for antlerless deer is from Aug 20-Aug 31. For consistency with the rest of Region 1 the season should reflect Aug 25 – Sept 9.
- 67. Establish a turkey season in MUs 1-1 to 1-6 (see attached MU map). In recent years feral turkeys have been seen in many of these MUs. They have become a nuisance in many areas and having been causing damage to properties. The proposed season would be open year round with no bag limit to prevent turkeys from spreading further in the region.
- 68. Removal of edible portions of cougar. Most hunters currently remove cougar meat from each cougar harvested however it is not required. West Coast Region feels that this should be a requirement and we will be requesting this change.
- 69. Change in season start date for wolf trapping from November 1 to September 10. This change would synchronize trapping seasons in the Coast Area. Trappers would be able to trap wolves on their lines while trapping conditions are more favorable.

70. Fallow deer hunting expansion to include MUs 1-2 to 1-7 (see attached MU map). Currently Fallow deer are abundant on some islands in MU 1-1. Periodic reports are received from Black Creek and Port Alberni about feral fallow deer. By allowing hunters to harvest them in other MUs we hope prevent them from becoming established elsewhere.
8. Closure of LEH Elk hunt zones 1-12G, 1-13A and 1-13B. Inventory efforts over the last five years have shown these populations are performing below expectations and likely indicate a declining trend in these population units. The population estimates have fallen below the thresholds for sustainable harvest opportunities. These trends have been corroborated through discussions with First Nations and interested parties including resident hunters and guide outfitters. The exact cause of these declines are not known although a combination of unregulated harvest, predation and habitat changes resulting in reduced security are thought to be contributing factors.
11. Amalgamate LEH elk hunting seasons within specific hunt zones including MU 1-10 antlerless elk zone D, MU 1-10 antlerless elk zone E, and MU 1-12 bull elk zone B. In areas where the desired elk harvest is low for conservation purposes, reducing the number of seasons in a zone provides wildlife managers the flexibility to decrease the number of authorizations to avoid over harvest.

We are interested in soliciting any comments from your First Nation regarding these proposed changes. I would also like to reiterate that a First Nation exercising an aboriginal right to hunt will not be subject to the proposed hunting regulations, should the regulations be approved.

While the proposed changes would not take effect until the 2018 hunting season, we ask that we receive any information you wish to provide on these proposals by November 4, 2017, in order to allow the required time to facilitate the changes.

Please contact Jerry MacDermott, William Wilton, or me at (250) 751-7220 if you wish to discuss these proposed regulation changes or require any further information.

Yours truly,



Sean Pendergast  
Senior Wildlife Biologist

Attachments

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

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**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** Friday, January 12, 2018 11:06 AM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Re: Angling Hunting Trapping Engagement (AHTE) website

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Thanks Mike

On Fri, Jan 12, 2018 at 10:36 AM, Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX <[Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Hi s.22

Attached is a link to the Angling Hunting Trapping Engagement (AHTE) website. This allows members of the public to view and to view and provided comment on proposed regulation changes (hunting and trapping this year). First Nations were directly sent proposed changes, I will send you one of these packages.

<https://apps.nrs.gov.bc.ca/ahte/>

Below is the information posted on the account. I will look for a copy of information that was sent to First Nations and this to you later today.

Thanks,

Mike

**Regulation Number :**

2018-1-10

**Status:**

Proposed

**Region:**

Region 1 - Vancouver Island

**Regulation Type:**

Trapping

**Species:**

Wolf

**Closing Date:**

**Decision Statement:**

Pending

**Current Regulations:**

The current trapping season for wolves in Region 1 (Vancouver Island) is November 1 to June 30.

**Proposed Regulations:**

This proposal seeks to lengthen the wolf trapping season to September 10 to June 30.

**Rationale:**

Inventory and monitoring of wolf populations is costly and difficult, survey methodologies generally consist of aerial snow-tracking, radio-telemetry, or a combination of aerial snow-tracking and radio-telemetry. Aerial based inventory methods do not work because wolves are elusive and can be difficult to see from the air, especially in timber. Because of the high costs and challenges with wolf inventory, and their low conservation concern status, limited wolf inventory has been conducted in B.C. The most comprehensive wolf population monitoring in B.C. has occurred in the Nimpkish Valley on northern Vancouver Island (Atkinson and Janz 1994), north of Revelstoke in southern B.C. (Serrouya 2013) and in the Muskwa-Kechika area of northeastern B.C. (Elliott 1984a, 1984b). Currently, there is limited inventory or monitoring of wolves other than some woodland caribou recovery areas in B.C. Much of the information the province's wildlife managers obtain regarding wolf populations is anecdotal, with a reliance on public sightings and observations.

Anecdotal sightings/observations from numerous First Nations, trappers, resident hunters and guide outfitters regarding increased wolf population and a lack of ungulates (primarily deer) in many northern and west coast MUs in Region 1. Regional staff have witnessed increased sightings/scats/tracks while conducting aerial and ground based ungulate inventory.

There have been decreased trends in deer population index (0-5 deer/km) in northern management units since the increased wolf sightings/sign have been observed.

**Additional Information:**

On June 1, 1999, the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards (AIHTS, or the "Agreement") came into effect. Signed by the Government of Canada, the European Community, and the Government of the Russian Federation, the Agreement serves to protect Canada's access to the European fur market and thus protects the wild fur industry in Canada.

The AIHTS sets performance thresholds on traps for specific species. Those traps that meet the performance thresholds are then eligible for certification. In order to comply with the Agreement, BC has made numerous regulatory changes and will make further regulatory changes to ensure that only certified traps will be legal for those species listed in the AIHTS.

The Agreement applies to most furbearers trapped in BC, including beaver, bobcat, coyote, ermine, fisher, lynx, marten, muskrat, otter, raccoon and wolf for the following purposes:

1. for wildlife management purposes, including wildlife conflict control;

2. to obtain furs, skins or meat;

3. for conservation purposes.

#### Objectives of the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards:

1. To meet a requirement of EU Regulation 3254/91

2. To pursue an international standard that scientifically addresses animal welfare related to trapping furbearers. This reduces the ability to force legislation based on political lobbying efforts

3. To enlist signatories to address the issue of animal welfare related to trapping, regardless of the reason the animals are trapped. Whether it is for pest control, research, disease control, wildlife management or the commercial fur trade, the AIHTS is designed to ensure that the same scientifically validated standards apply in all three jurisdictions.

4. To maintain access to the European wild fur market. As the world's fashion centre, the European Union remains an important market for North American wild fur

As the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards is a dynamic treaty, it provides opportunity for continuing the improvement of animal welfare related to trapping as new technology and scientific knowledge emerges.



**From:** Wilton, William FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 23, 2017 11:10 AM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX; Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Sea otters

Hi Mike,

The only direct mention of sea otters in the Act is in Schedule D (Threatened) under the Designation and Exemption Regulations (below). Only 1 species in BC is currently designated as threatened under *the Act*. I have compiled excerpts from the Wildlife Act and Regulations below. Sea otters are not listed as Furbearers.

### ***Wildlife Act***

#### **Definitions:**

**"threatened species"** means a species of animal that is designated as a threatened species, but does not include a controlled alien species;

ASIDE:

**Species at Risk Act (Canada)** - Special Concern because of characteristics that make it is particularly sensitive to human activities or natural events.

**Provincial Conservation Status S3 (2015)** – blue listed (Special Concern). 3 = special concern, vulnerable to extirpation or extinction

#### **"wildlife"**

(a) means raptors, threatened species, endangered species, game and other species of vertebrates prescribed by regulation, and

(b) for the purposes of sections 3 to 5, 7, 8, 84 (6.1) to (6.4), 97.1 to 98.1 and 108 (2) (v), includes fish, but does not include controlled alien species;

#### **Endangered and threatened species**

6 (1) If the Lieutenant Governor in Council considers that a species of wildlife is threatened with imminent extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range in British Columbia because of the action of humans, the Lieutenant Governor in Council may, by regulation, designate the species as an endangered species.

(2) If the Lieutenant Governor in Council considers that a species of wildlife is likely to become endangered in British Columbia if the factors affecting its vulnerability are not reversed, the Lieutenant Governor in Council may, by regulation, designate the species as a threatened species.

#### **Regulations by Lieutenant Governor in Council**

**108** (1) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations referred to in section 41 of the *Interpretation Act*.

(2) Without limiting subsection (1), the Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations as follows:

- (a) respecting threatened species or endangered species;

## DESIGNATION AND EXEMPTION REGULATION

### Threatened and endangered species

**13** (1) The species listed in Schedule D are designated as threatened species.

### Schedule D

[en. B.C. Reg. 253/2000, App. 2, s. 9.]

(section 13 (1))

**1** Mammals of the following species:

- (a) *Enhydra lutris* — sea otter.

### Exemption from section 33 (2) of the Act for treaty first nations

**9.2** (1) In this section, "wildlife harvesting right" means the right of a treaty first nation to harvest wildlife under the treaty first nation's final agreement.

(2) The following persons are exempt from section 33 (2) of the *Wildlife Act* in relation to the possession of dead wildlife, or parts of wildlife, that was lawfully harvested in accordance with the wildlife harvesting right of a treaty first nation:

- (a) a treaty first nation member of the treaty first nation that has the wildlife harvesting right;
- (b) a member of a first nation that has an agreement with the treaty first nation that has the wildlife harvesting right, which agreement authorizes the first nation to exercise the treaty first nation's wildlife harvesting right;
- (c) an aboriginal person to whom a treaty first nation member of the treaty first nation that has the wildlife harvesting right traded or bartered the wildlife or parts in accordance with the treaty first nation's final agreement;
- (d) a person who is designated, in accordance with the final agreement of the treaty first nation that has the wildlife harvesting right, to exercise the wildlife harvesting right on behalf of a treaty first nation member of the treaty first nation who is unable to do so.

[en. B.C. Reg. 56/2011; am. B.C. Regs. 32/2014, s. 6; 22/2016.]

### *Wildlife Act*

#### Possession of wildlife

- 33 (2)** A person commits an offence if the person has dead wildlife or a part of any wildlife in his or her possession except as authorized under a licence or permit or as provided by regulation.

DFO Webpage

## Further Information

The sea otter was protected in 1911 under the International Fur Seal Treaty signed by the United States, Russia, Japan, and Great Britain for Canada. Today, the otter is protected under the federal Species at Risk Act (SARA). The otter is also protected under the federal *Fisheries Act* and the *British Columbia Wildlife Act*.

Once extinct from Canada, the sea otter has successfully been reintroduced to British Columbia. Subsequent population growth and range expansion enabled the Government of Canada to change the listing of the species from threatened to special concern in 2009, as recommended by COSEWIC.

A Recovery Strategy for the sea otter has been finalized. However, due to the re-assessment and change in listing under SARA to Special Concern, a management plan is currently being developed.

For more information, please visit the [SARA regional consultations website](#) or the [Species at Risk \(SARA\) Public Registry Profile](#).



**Billy Wilton**

Wildlife Biologist | Fish & Wildlife Section

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development  
(250) 751-3213

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 23, 2017 10:34 AM  
**To:** Wilton, William FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Fwd: Sea otters

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX" <[Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** November 23, 2017 at 10:12:44 AM PST  
**To:** "MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX" <[Jerry.Macdermott@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jerry.Macdermott@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** "Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX" <[Sean.Pendergast@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sean.Pendergast@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** **Re: Sea otters**

By the way, need as much as we can pull together by 1 pm

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 23, 2017, at 9:56 AM, Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX <[Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Hi Jerry,

Can you send me a quick summary of Wildlife Act sections that relate to sea otters. s.13,s.16 are interested in trapping/harvesting.

Is a commercial licence the only way to sell fur?

Can there be an ocean trapline?

There may be a committee to work on this s.13,s.16

Thanks,  
Mike

Sent from my iPhone

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

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**From:** Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 15, 2018 10:35 AM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX; MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Uppenborn, Jeremy GCPE:EX; Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX; Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Media Request: CTV Vancouver Island - Wolf trapping

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

s.13

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 15, 2018 9:35 AM  
**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Uppenborn, Jeremy GCPE:EX; Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX; GCPE FLNR Media Requests GCPE:EX; Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX; Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** Re: Media Request: CTV Vancouver Island - Wolf trapping

Hi everyone,

CHECK ran a story on Saturday about a lady who was walking dogs and 2 got caught in wolf traps. Lady was a commercial dog walker and was walking on Timberwest land without permission. Timberwest has allowed (by written agreement) a First Nation trapper to trap on Timberwest land. A Fish & Wildlife staff was volunteering (on private time) to check traps on days when trapper could not. Two days prior to dogs being caught, a wolf killed an elk in the area; wolf was trapped the next day. Lady a dogs were fortunate that wolf was removed or they would have been at risk.

Thoughts on bullets

s.13

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 15, 2018, at 8:48 AM, MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX <[Stephen.MacIver@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephen.MacIver@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Hi,

Just wondering if Mike Stalberg has seen this?  
s.13

Steve

---

**From:** Uppenborn, Jeremy GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 14, 2018 1:33 PM  
**To:** Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX  
**Cc:** GCPE FLNR Media Requests GCPE:EX; Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX; Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX; MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Media Request: CTV Vancouver Island - Wolf trapping

Okay to send to reporter? Attributable to the Fish, Wildlife and Habitat Management Branch?  
s.13

---

**From:** Jeremy Uppenborn [<mailto:Jeremy.Uppenborn@gov.bc.ca>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 14, 2018 12:37 PM  
**To:** Uppenborn, Jeremy GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** FLNR Media Request: Wolf trapping

**Reporter**

Scott Cunningham, Reporter  
CTV Vancouver Island - Victoria  
[scott.cunningham@bellmedia.ca](mailto:scott.cunningham@bellmedia.ca)  
250-414-6568 c: 250-661-8630

**Deadline** ASAP

**Request**

Couple questions about the proposed change to regulations on Vancouver Island wolf trapping:  
<https://apps.nrs.gov.bc.ca/ahte/content/lengthen-wolf-trapping-season-vancouver-island>

- 1- Is trapping the same as hunting? As in, would trapping a wolf result in its death, or could it simply be relocated.
- 2- Is this proposed change to regulations a direct result of human wolf conflict on Vancouver Island?
- 3- Where exactly are these conflicts taking place?
- 4- What is the increase in these conflicts?

**Background**

**Recommendation**

Here's some information about the regulation proposal to increase the trapping season for wolves on Vancouver Island. Any attribution should be to the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development.

- There has been an increase in wolf populations on northern Vancouver Island, particularly in the area around Port Hardy.
- Wolf trapping is used to try and increase elk populations, which are currently too small to be hunted and show no signs of increasing. The wolves are not relocated.
- Biologists have also noticed increased wolf signs (tracks or sightings) in the area during deer and elk inventory work.
- The Province is also closing three additional areas due to declining elk numbers.
- There also appears to be correlation between the areas with increased wolf sign and decreased ungulate populations. Although there are scientific inventories to monitor deer and elk populations, there have not been scientific surveys for monitoring wolves.
- However, the ministry estimates there are about 250 wolves on Vancouver Island at this time and the population is increasing.
- Hunters/trappers that harvest wolves must report the harvest to the Province.
- Ministry data show that no wolves were trapped during the fiscal year of 2016-17, as there was significant snowfall and freezing temperatures last winter.
- In the previous five years, where conditions were milder for setting traps, the average has been seven wolves total for the entire Vancouver Island region per fiscal year.
- The Province anticipates that harvest rates will remain similar to past years; however, there will be a greater ability for First Nations and trappers to collaborate to address site-specific concerns.
- Trapping will occur by licenced trappers or by status First Nations, mostly on central or northern Vancouver Island.
- Commercial trappers have Crown-registered trapline boundaries where they have the right to trap, and 65% of commercial traplines on Vancouver Island are registered to First Nations' members.
- As well, status First Nation trappers can trap within their traditional territory for food, social, or ceremonial purposes.
- Commercial trappers and status First Nation trappers may trap on private land with landowner permission.

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

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**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, February 9, 2018 10:15 AM  
**To:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX; Wilton, William FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: MDD notes re: wolf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi Diana,

The group has been gathering information all week. Sean and Billy are pulling things together today so that the material is coherent.

Thanks,  
Mike

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**From:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, February 9, 2018 9:46 AM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: MDD notes re: wolf

Hi Mike!  
Just checking in on this request.



**Diana McNeill**

Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone 778-698-9169

---

**From:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, February 9, 2018 9:18 AM  
**To:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Fw: MDD notes re: wolf

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the TELUS network.

---

**From:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX <[Jennifer.Psyllakis@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jennifer.Psyllakis@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 1, 2018 2:25 PM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: MDD notes re: wolf

Thanks for getting the ball rolling Mike. We just received notice that MGH will have a briefing on Feb 15<sup>th</sup>. Can we aim for this appendix by the 9<sup>th</sup> of Feb?



Jen

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 1, 2018 10:11 AM  
**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: MDD notes re: wolf

Hi everyone,

I drew up a plan to address Jen's questions (in grey below) and made some suggestions about starting points. There is a mixture of Branch and Region items as well as a few items that will likely need collaborative discussion. Let's get started and aim to bring some answers forward by 3 pm Friday.

Thanks,

Mike

s.13

Page 092

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

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**From:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 31, 2018 10:59 PM  
**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** MDD notes re: wolf

Hi Michael and Mike,

The meeting went well with MDD today. He was happy with the note and had several questions about population monitoring, data, hunting and trapping, etc. There may be a briefing with the Greens and MGH. If there is I offered to include an appendix to the briefing note that would provide additional detail re: wolf management, hunting and trapping.

Questions included:  
s.13

Thanks for all your work on this.

Jen

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Smith, Kelly B FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 7, 2018 1:25 PM  
**To:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX; Wilton, William FLNR:EX; Kelly, John FLNR:EX; Reynolds, Darryl M FLNR:EX; Teske, Irene FLNR:EX; White, Shane FLNR:EX; Hold - 180307 - Wong, Mark M FLNR:EX; Thiessen, Conrad D FLNR:EX; Dixon, Krystal FLNR:EX; Marshall, Shelley FLNR:EX; Bridger, Michael C FLNR:EX; McLean, Craig A FLNR:EX; Reid, Aaron FLNR:EX; Iredale, Francis FLNR:EX; Knapik, Mike B FLNR:EX; Dielman, Pat W FLNR:EX; Campbell, Jocelyn FLNR:EX; Lavallee, Michel FLNR:EX; Walker, Andrew FLNR:EX; MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX; Procter, Chris FLNR:EX; Szkorupa, Tara D FLNR:EX; Stent, Patrick FLNR:EX; DeGroot, Leo FLNR:EX; Schindler, Heidi FLNR:EX; Gagne-Delorme, Audrey FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX; Hales, Gerad S FLNR:EX; Bohm, Holger FLNR:EX; Reedman, Dave FLNR:EX; Larden, Troy P FLNR:EX; Pillipow, Ray FLNR:EX; Addison, Christopher FLNR:EX; MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FOR YOUR INFORMATION: AHTE public comments  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good afternoon,

Attached is a summary of the comments that were posted on the AHTE website, as well as comments sent to the F&W general e-mail, for the 80+ proposed regulations. There were 4 late proposals (3 from Skeena and 1 multi-regional) that were posted on the AHTE website at the end of January and are not included in the attached spreadsheet as the comment period is opened until February 16<sup>th</sup>.



All H&W communications  
from regional offices...

There were roughly 3000+ comments posted in total.

I have separated each regulation by region and rows highlighted in grey indicate possible letter writing campaign.

Please note that the voting results may not be an accurate reflection of the actual votes as it is not mandatory for a person to vote on a proposed regulation if they leave a comment; they can leave a comment and not vote.

In regions the comments can be used for whatever purposes you see fit. If there is something compelling that makes you consider revising or pulling a specific proposal our expectation is that you'd talk about it internally within the region and get the Section Head or Regional Manager to make the request to Steve and me.

Feel free to pass this onto anybody I may have missed in my internal distribution.

Regards,



Kelly Smith

**Fish & Wildlife Regulations Officer**

Fish and Wildlife Branch

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

**Confidentiality warning:** The information transmitted is intended only for the person to whom it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any review, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any action in reliance upon, this information by persons other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you receive this in error, please contact the sender and delete your record of this material.

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, February 2, 2018 10:35 AM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: dogs on the run

**Importance:** High

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi Mike,  
s.13,s.22

I thank you,  
Jerry  
Jerry MacDermott RB Tech  
Wildlife Technician | Fish & Wildlife Section  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations | West Coast Region  
2080-A Labieux Road | Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9 | ☎ (250) 751-3229 | 📠 (250) 751-3103  
Switch board (250) 751-7220 | 📧 [Jerry.Macdermott@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jerry.Macdermott@gov.bc.ca)

---

**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 31, 2018 6:12 PM  
**To:** MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX  
**Subject:**

Hi Jerry,  
Thank you for the info. That will at least keep us safe from s.22 trap lines for now.

I will need to know what areas to avoid from now on. So if you have traps or snares out I'd appreciate knowing what areas to avoid.

To be truthful, I'm shocked you or s.22 did not tell me about the trap lines. You both know I'm out there every single day with unleashed dogs. I could have easily stepped in it myself. I'm beyond upset about it.

s.22 wants his traps back, he's going to have to contact me. You can pass along my number. I do not answer blocked calls.

s.22

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

---

**From:** MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX <[Jerry.Macdermott@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jerry.Macdermott@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 10:04:35 PM

To: s.22

Subject: Re: I need to know what areas the traps are  
?Hi, sorry, I called you yesterday but nobody answered.

You should be good to go in M br., G br., C br. and C7.

The trapper took the ones out of deadwood/A branch and branch 2 as well.

Might as well give his traps to s.22

Thanks,

Jerry

---

From s.22

Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 8:10 AM

To: MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX

Subject: I need to know what areas the traps are

s.22

---

From: MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX <[Jerry.Macdermott@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jerry.Macdermott@gov.bc.ca)>

Sent: Saturday, January 27, 2018 1:56:32 PM

To: s.22

Subject: Re: We need to talk about The Wolf traps ASAP.

s.22                   ok, sorry to hear about the dogs.

I've been away darting cougars quite a bit up island.

I know the trapper would like to get his traps back.

I will try to call Monday.

Thanks,

Jerry

---

From s.22

Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2018 6:01 PM

To: MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX

Subject: We need to talk about The Wolf traps ASAP.

s.22

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Wenham, Logan FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 10:35 AM  
**To:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** URGENT: 236045 IN ready to move  
**Attachments:** IN\_Vancouver Island Wolf Trapping Regulations\_draft3.docx

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Here is the IN on wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. I have added your CLIFF #. This version is approved by both Mikes and is ready to move to Jen.

Cheers,

Logan Wenham  
Fish and Wildlife Policy Lead  
Fish, Wildlife and Habitat Management  
Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone: 778-698-9221

*To live is to fly, low and high,  
So shake the dust off of your wings, and the sleep out of your eyes;*  
- Townes Van Zandt (To Live is to Fly)



**MINISTRY OF FORESTS, LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCE OPERATIONS  
INFORMATION NOTE**

Date: January 29, 2018

File:

CLIFF/tracking #: 236045

REF:

**PREPARED FOR: Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development**

**ISSUE:** Public interest in a proposal to lengthen wolf trapping seasons on Vancouver Island.

**SUMMARY:**

There is a regulatory proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island by 51 days this year. The current season runs from Nov. 1 to June 30, and it is proposed to move the beginning date to Sept. 10. The proposal has garnered some media and public attention in recent weeks.

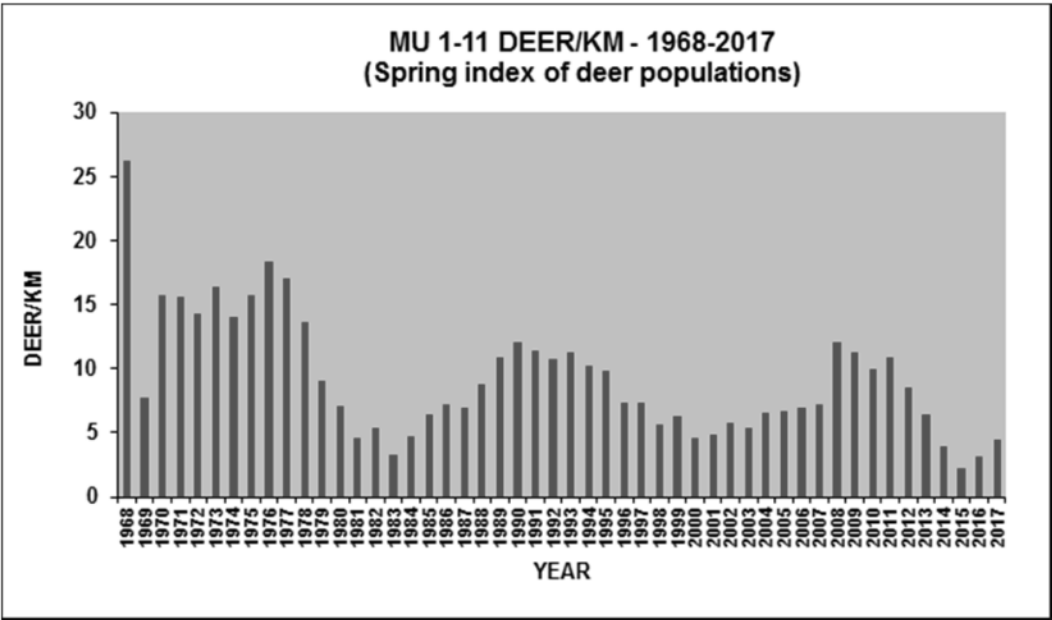
This proposal is part of a regular two-year review of hunting and trapping regulations. They are typically submitted following consultation with local stakeholders and First Nations. Fish and wildlife staff also consider input received from the public through a hunting and trapping engagement site before finalizing a regulation proposal and making a recommendation to the Minister.

65% of commercial traplines on Vancouver Island are registered to First Nations. When trapping for food, social, and ceremonial purposes, First Nations would not require a licence or change to the season. However, if First Nations desire to sell any furs harvested on a registered trapline a licence is needed and season dates must be followed. Licenced and First Nation trappers may also gain permission from landowners to trap private property. In these cases no registered trapline is needed.

The ministry estimates there are about 250 wolves on Vancouver Island at this time and the population is increasing. Trapping will occur by licensed trappers or by First Nations. Most trapping occurs on central or northern Vancouver Island.

**DISCUSSION**

s.16



## TALKING POINTS

- As part of the 2018-2020 update to the Hunting and Trapping Regulation Synopsis, the ministry is considering about 80 proposed regulation changes. The public review and comment period closed Jan. 19.
- There has been an increase in wolf populations on northern Vancouver Island.
- The ministry is proposing to lengthen the current wolf trapping season by 51 days to help elk conservation efforts on north Vancouver Island.
- First Nations, who are key partners in these conservation efforts, have also expressed concern with wolf predation.
- Hunters and trappers are required to report their harvest so the province can closely monitor harvest levels.
- The approach is a measured response to increased wolf populations and is being pursued in a humane manner.

## ATTACHMENTS

- Appendix 1: Map of West Coast Region Elk Population Units Population Objectives
- Appendix 2: Map of West Coast Region Elk Hunting Zones

**Contact:**

Jennifer Psyllakis  
Resource Stewardship Division  
250-387-5657

**Alternate Contact:**

Michael Burwash/Mike Stalberg  
Fish and Wildlife  
250-371-6269/250-751-3109

**Prepared by:**

Logan Wenham  
Fish and Wildlife Branch  
778-698-9221

| Reviewed by        | Initials | Date             |
|--------------------|----------|------------------|
| ADM                |          |                  |
| Executive Director |          |                  |
| Director           |          |                  |
| Manager            |          |                  |
| Author             | LW       | January 29, 2018 |

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 2:49 PM  
**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX; Wenham, Logan FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH  
**Attachments:** points for Ministers\_wolf regulations\_R1\_Jan 2018\_mcs.docx; Appendix2.pdf; Appendix3.pdf; Appendix1.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi Michael,

Attached are some bullets.

Thanks,  
Mike

---

**From:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 9:39 AM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

Hi Mike  
Do you have time to give this the once over?  
Thanks,  
Michael

---

**From:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 9:24 AM  
**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

Good morning,  
Just a reminder that a BN is due today, Thx,



**Diana McNeill**

Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone 778-698-9169

---

**From:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 3:06 PM  
**To:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

Sorry,  
Here is the document they are referring to.

---

**From:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 2:56 PM  
**To:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

**Michael,**

Please have staff draft a note for this upcoming meeting with the Minister. ADMO wants this by January 29<sup>th</sup> at noon but Jen would still have to approve it. Any change we could have this by Jan 29<sup>th</sup> at 9am?

**Jen,**

Would should participate?



**Diana McNeill**

Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone 778-698-9169

---

**From:** Larkin, Brenda FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 2:31 PM  
**To:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** McCulloch, Alexandra FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: VI Wolf Trapping

Cliff #: 236045

---

**From:** Larkin, Brenda FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 1:29 PM  
**To:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** McCulloch, Alexandra FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** VI Wolf Trapping

Diana,

Can you please start a briefing note process on Vancouver Island Wolf Trapping

MDD Meeting scheduled  
DATE: January 31  
TIME: 1:00 – 1:30  
LTCN: MO Room 248

There have been recent articles on the news and MGH and the green caucus have asked for briefings. MO has requested that we brief MDD on the above date.

<http://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/jack-knox-why-province-wants-to-expand-wolf-trapping-1.23143877>

Attached is an IN from GCPE.

I will set up a cliff log, but wanted to provide you with a heads up.

Can we please have material on Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at noon.

Please identify staff that will be attending to support.

Any questions, please let me know.

Thank you

**Brenda Larkin**

A/Executive Coordinator

Resource Stewardship Division

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

780 Blanshard Street, Victoria

Ph: 250.356.5302 <sup>\*\*new\*\*</sup>

Page 105 to/à Page 108

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

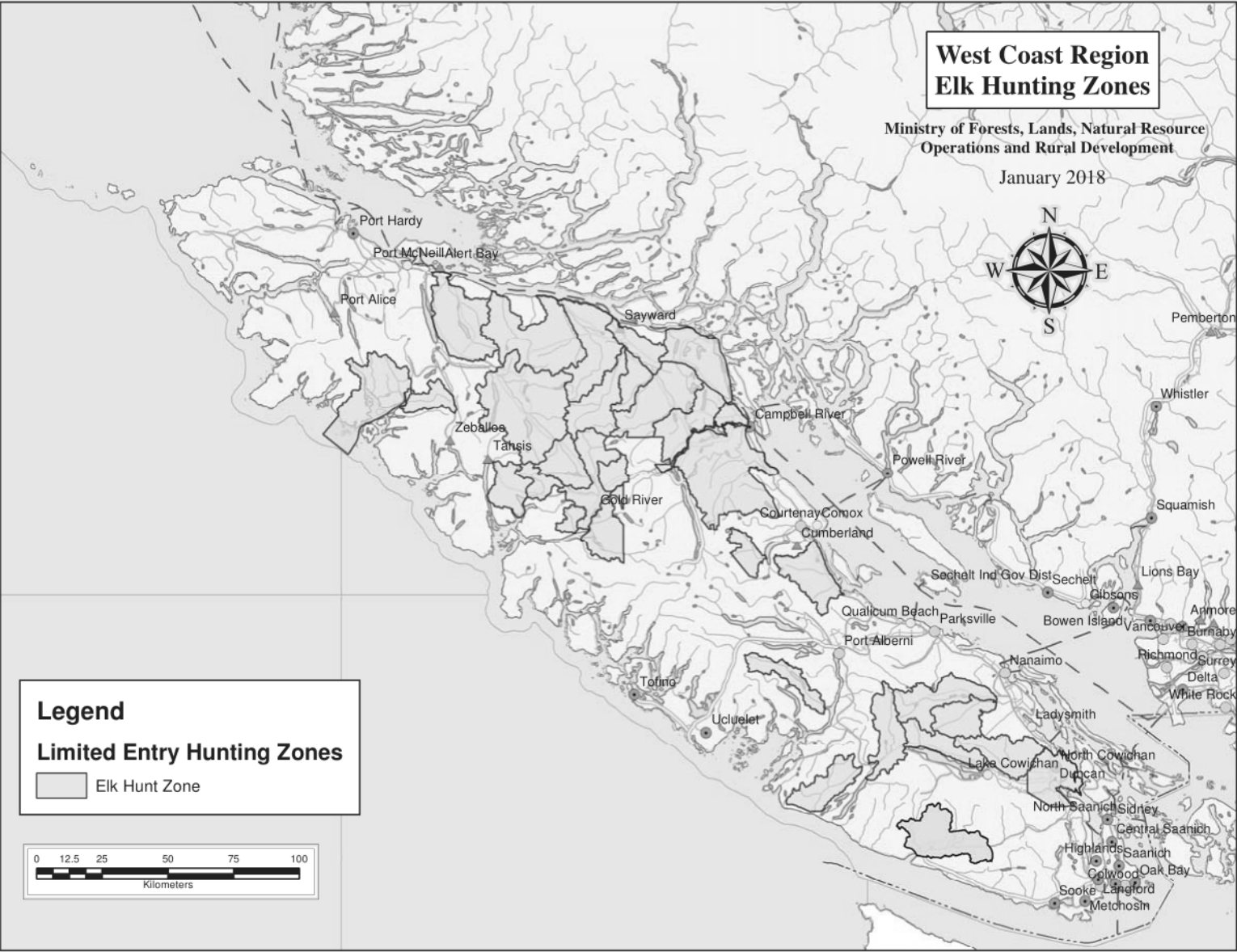
s.16





## Appendix 2

| <b>N First Nation</b>                    | <b>Affiliation/Treaty</b>                           |
|--|---|
| 1 Ahousaht First Nation                  |   |
| 2 Danaxdaxw/Awaetlala First Nation       | Kwakiutl District Council (9)                       |
| 3 Ditidaht First Nation                  |   |
| 4 Dzawadaenuxw First Nation              |   |
| 5 Ehattesaht Tribe                       |   |
| 6 Esquimalt Nation                       | Douglas Treaty (10)                                 |
| 7 GwaSala Nakwaxdaxw Nation              | Kwakiutl District Council (9)                       |
| 8 Gwawaenuk Tribe                        |   |
| 9 Hesquiaht First Nation                 |   |
| 10 Cowichan Tribes                       | Hulquminum Treaty Group (6)                         |
| 11 Halalt First Nations                  | Hulquminum Treaty Group (6)                         |
| 12 Lake Cowichan First Nation            | Hulquminum Treaty Group (6)                         |
| 13 Lyackson First Nation                 | Hulquminum Treaty Group (6)                         |
| 14 Penelakut First Nation                | Hulquminum Treaty Group (6)                         |
| 15 Stz'uminus First Nation               | Hulquminum Treaty Group (6)                         |
| 16 Hupacasath First Nation               |   |
| 17 Komoks First Nation                   | Kwakiutl District Council (9)                       |
| 18 Kwakiutl Indian Band*                 | Douglas Treaty (10) / Kwakiutl District Council (9) |
| 19 Kwiakah First Nation                  | Kwakiutl District Council (9)                       |
| 20 Kwikwasutinuxw Haxwamis First Nations |   |
| 21 Malahat First Nation*                 |   |
| 22 Mamalilikulla                         | Kwakiutl District Council (9)                       |
| 23 Huu-ay-aht First Nation               | Maa-nulth Treaty (5)                                |
| 24 Kyuquot/Checklesaht First Nation      | Maa-nulth Treaty (5)                                |
| 25 Toquat First Nation                   | Maa-nulth Treaty (5)                                |
| 26 Uckeucklesaht First Nation            | Maa-nulth Treaty (5)                                |
| 27 Ucluelet First Nation                 | Maa-nulth Treaty (5)                                |
| 28 Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation      |   |
| 29 Pauquachin First Nation*              | Douglas Treaty (10) / North Saanich Bands (4)       |
| 30 Tseycum First Nation*                 | Douglas Treaty (10) / North Saanich Bands (4)       |
| 31 Tsawout First Nation*                 | Douglas Treaty (10) / North Saanich Bands (4)       |
| 32 Tsartlip First Nation*                | Douglas Treaty (10) / North Saanich Bands (4)       |
| 33 Nuchatlaht First Nation               |   |
| 34 Pacheedaht First Nation               |   |
| 35 Qualicum First Nation                 |   |
| 36 Quatsino First Nation                 |   |
| 37 Scianew First Nation                  | Douglas Treaty (10)                                 |
| 38 SnawNawAs Nation                      |   |
| 39 Snuneymuxw First Nation               | Douglas Treaty (10)                                 |
| 40 Songhees Nation*                      | Douglas Treaty (10)                                 |
| 41 Tsou-ke First Nation                  | Douglas Treaty (10)                                 |
| 42 Tlaamin Nation Final Agreement Areas  |   |
| 43 Tlatlasikwala Nation                  | Kwakiutl District Council (9)                       |
| 44 Tseshaht First Nation                 |   |
| 45 We Wai Kai Nation                     | Kwakiutl District Council (9)                       |
| 46 Wei Wai Kum First Nation              | Kwakiutl District Council (9)                       |
| 47 Xwemalhwu (Homalco) First Nation      |   |



# West Coast Region Elk Population Units Population Objectives

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource  
Operations and Rural Development

January 2018



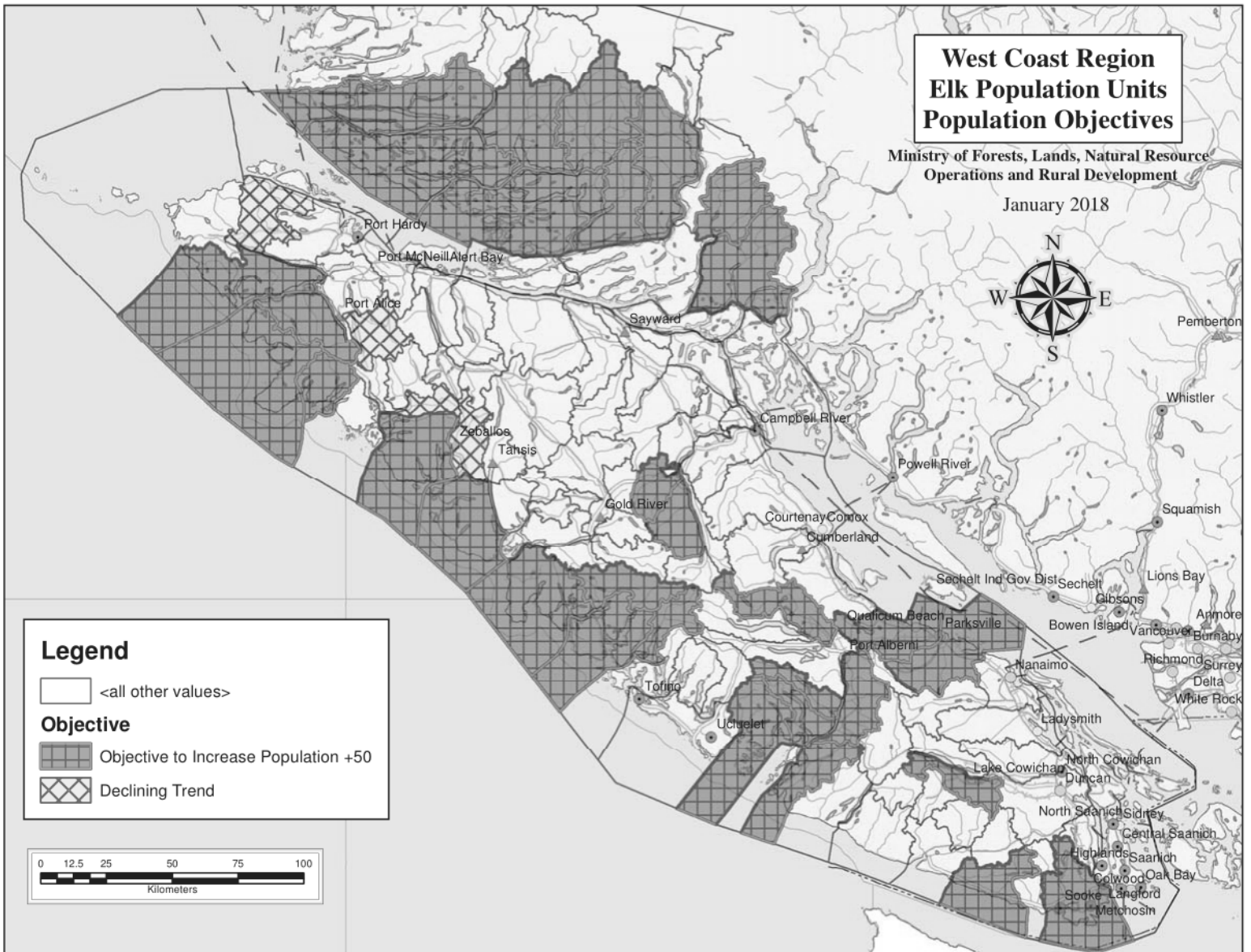
## Legend

<all other values>

## Objective

Objective to Increase Population +50

Declining Trend



## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Casavant, Bryce FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 15, 2018 3:47 PM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Bastarache, Paul FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Internal Consultation List

Hi Mike,

Can you flip me the relevant policies referenced in your email so I can discuss with, first, our field level supervisory leadership, and second, with Paul, that would be great. Cheers.

No need to blow up Paul's email just yet. I'll bring it all forward for consideration after I figure a few things out and have a chat with the field supervisor team. I'll cc Paul here so he knows and just to close the loop. But, let's do some back and forth and have a quick phone call this week, if you can, so we can sort a couple prelim questions out.

Regards,

Bryce

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 15, 2018 3:36 PM  
**To:** Casavant, Bryce FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Bastarache, Paul FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Internal Consultation List

Hi Bryce,

We haven't spoken for a while; I hope you are doing well.

I understand that the Compliance and Enforcement Branch is interested in being involved with the development of angling, hunting, and trapping regulations. Off the top of my head, I think the process for Compliance and Enforcement Branch to request involvement would look like this:

s.13

s.13

The West Coast Region has 2 processes to work on regulations: (1) Wildlife Regulations Advisory Committee (WRAC) for hunting and trapping regulations, and (2) Freshwater Fisheries Regulations Advisory Committee (FFRAC).

Thanks,  
Mike

---

**From:** Casavant, Bryce FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 8, 2018 12:39 PM  
**To:** Anderson, Brendan FLNR:EX; Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Internal Consultation List

Hi guys,

When you have a minute I'm hoping to touch base with you Re: proposed reg change 2018-1-10 "*Lengthen Wolf Trapping Season on Vancouver Island*"

s.13

My understanding is that the public consultation process closes on January 19<sup>th</sup> 2018 and that government will be finalizing recommendations following a short review of information received. If you could please contact me upon your return and prior to January 19<sup>th</sup> 2018 that would be greatly appreciated.

Regards,

*Bryce Casavant, CMAS, MA*

Senior Compliance and Enforcement Specialist  
West Coast Region  
Compliance and Enforcement Branch  
Ministry of Forests Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Province of British Columbia



## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, January 12, 2018 10:36 AM  
**To:** s.22  
**Subject:** Angling Hunting Trapping Engagement (AHTE) website

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi s.22

Attached is a link to the Angling Hunting Trapping Engagement (AHTE) website. This allows members of the public to view and to view and provided comment on proposed regulation changes (hunting and trapping this year). First Nations were directly sent proposed changes, I will send you one of these packages.

<https://apps.nrs.gov.bc.ca/ahte/>

Below is the information posted on the account. I will look for a copy of information that was sent to First Nations and this to you later today.

Thanks,  
Mike

**Regulation Number :**  
2018-1-10  
**Status:**  
Proposed  
**Region:**  
Region 1 - Vancouver Island  
**Regulation Type:**  
Trapping  
**Species:**  
Wolf  
**Closing Date:**  
Friday, January 19, 2018  
**Decision Statement:**

Pending  
**Current Regulations:**

The current trapping season for wolves in Region 1 (Vancouver Island) is November 1 to June 30.  
**Proposed Regulations:**

This proposal seeks to lengthen the wolf trapping season to September 10 to June 30.  
**Rationale:**

Inventory and monitoring of wolf populations is costly and difficult, survey methodologies generally consist of aerial snow-tracking, radio-telemetry, or a combination of aerial snow-tracking and radio-telemetry. Aerial based inventory methods do not work because wolves are elusive and can be difficult to see from the air, especially in timber. Because of the high costs and challenges with wolf inventory, and their low conservation concern status, limited wolf inventory has been conducted in B.C. The most comprehensive wolf population monitoring in B.C. has occurred in the Nimpkish Valley on northern Vancouver Island (Atkinson and Janz 1994), north of Revelstoke in southern B.C. (Serrouya 2013) and in the Muskwa-Kechika area of northeastern B.C. (Elliott 1984a, 1984b). Currently, there is limited inventory

or monitoring of wolves other than some woodland caribou recovery areas in B.C. Much of the information the province's wildlife managers obtain regarding wolf populations is anecdotal, with a reliance on public sightings and observations.

Anecdotal sightings/observations from numerous First Nations, trappers, resident hunters and guide outfitters regarding increased wolf population and a lack of ungulates (primarily deer) in many northern and west coast MUs in Region 1. Regional staff have witnessed increased sightings/scats/tracks while conducting aerial and ground based ungulate inventory.

There have been decreased trends in deer population index (0-5 deer/km) in northern management units since the increased wolf sightings/sign have been observed.

**Additional Information:**

On June 1, 1999, the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards (AIHTS, or the "Agreement") came into effect. Signed by the Government of Canada, the European Community, and the Government of the Russian Federation, the Agreement serves to protect Canada's access to the European fur market and thus protects the wild fur industry in Canada.

The AIHTS sets performance thresholds on traps for specific species. Those traps that meet the performance thresholds are then eligible for certification. In order to comply with the Agreement, BC has made numerous regulatory changes and will make further regulatory changes to ensure that only certified traps will be legal for those species listed in the AIHTS.

The Agreement applies to most furbearers trapped in BC, including beaver, bobcat, coyote, ermine, fisher, lynx, marten, muskrat, otter, raccoon and wolf for the following purposes:

1. for wildlife management purposes, including wildlife conflict control;
2. to obtain furs, skins or meat;
3. for conservation purposes.

**Objectives of the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards:**

1. To meet a requirement of EU Regulation 3254/91
2. To pursue an international standard that scientifically addresses animal welfare related to trapping furbearers. This reduces the ability to force legislation based on political lobbying efforts
3. To enlist signatories to address the issue of animal welfare related to trapping, regardless of the reason the animals are trapped. Whether it is for pest control, research, disease control, wildlife management or the commercial fur trade, the AIHTS is designed to ensure that the same scientifically validated standards apply in all three jurisdictions.
4. To maintain access to the European wild fur market. As the world's fashion centre, the European Union remains an important market for North American wild fur

As the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards is a dynamic treaty, it provides opportunity for continuing the improvement of animal welfare related to trapping as new technology and scientific knowledge emerges.

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Cadsand, Becky FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 22, 2017 4:36 PM  
**To:** Soles, Jasmine FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX; Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Trapline Guidance

Thanks Jazzy!

This helps me wrap my head around some of it for sure.

Cheers!

Becky

---

**From:** Soles, Jasmine FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 22, 2017 4:28 PM  
**To:** Cadsand, Becky FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX; Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Trapline Guidance

Hi Becky,

This is the chain that was going on earlier this year re: marten project/traplines in Gwaii Haanas.

I'm not sure if this is exactly what you were looking for but my understanding is that the traplines were essentially grandfathered into the park.

Thanks!

-Jazzy

---

**From:** Soles, Jasmine FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2017 8:08 AM  
**To:** 'tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca'  
**Cc:** Ruskin, Jessica FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Trapline Guidance

Good Morning Tyler,

I just wanted to follow up about potential permitting requirements. I had reached out to Mike Stalberg (Section Head, F&W) for some guidance on whether provincial wildlife permits are required for federal government activities on federal lands.

Below is the response I received from Mike (he also sent the attached document for reference):

s.13



Thanks,  
Mike”

Let me know if you’d like any more information on transfer, possession or export permits moving forward.

Thanks Tyler!  
-Jazzy

**From:** [tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca](mailto:tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca) [<mailto:tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca>]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2017 2:31 PM  
**To:** Soles, Jasmine FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** [ernie.gladstone@pc.gc.ca](mailto:ernie.gladstone@pc.gc.ca); Ruskin, Jessica FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Re: Trapline Guidance

Hi Jasmine.  
Thanks for this. Just what we were looking for.

---

**Tyler Peet | Resource Conservation Manager | Gestionnaire de la Conservation des Ressources**  
Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve, National Marine Conservation Area Reserve, and Haida Heritage Site  
Réserve de parc national, réserve d'aire marine nationale de conservation, et site du patrimoine haïda Gwaii Haanas  
Parks Canada | Parcs Canada | t (250) 559-6312 **s.22**

From: "Soles, Jasmine FLNR:EX" <[Jasmine.Soles@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jasmine.Soles@gov.bc.ca)>  
To: "mary.hart@pc.gc.ca" <[mary.hart@pc.gc.ca](mailto:mary.hart@pc.gc.ca)>, "tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca" <[tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca](mailto:tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca)>  
Cc: "Ruskin, Jessica FLNR:EX" <[Jessica.Ruskin@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jessica.Ruskin@gov.bc.ca)>  
Date: 28/09/2017 02:15 PM  
Subject: Trapline Guidance

---

Hi Tyler and Mary,  
Jessica had forwarded your query on to myself Tyler, it seemed that Mary Hart was chasing some similar information – I’ve included the chain below in hopes that its helpful to you both (mapping is provided in this string Mary).  
Mary – I did ask around and it turns out the ‘going rate’ is about \$30-40 a marten pelt for Haida Gwaii.

f

!

;

D

s.13

There is definitely some records keeping management that needs to be updated but a lot of it, is a lot easier said, than done, given the different factors and licencing requirements at play.

One can check the fur harvest data base in Victoria for historic/recent activity on a trapline as well.

There is wording in the *Wildlife Act* on usage of a trapline etc and what is required. However, then comes the debate...who do you chase non-status or status trappers?

s.13,s.14


s.13,s.16

s.13,s.16

s.13

s.13

Thank you, and please give us a shout if you have further questions.

|   |  |
|---|--|
|  | <p><b>Jasmine Soles</b><br/><b>Natural Resource Authorizations Officer</b><br/>FrontCounter BC Haida Gwaii   Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development<br/>1229 Oceanview Drive   Queen Charlotte, B.C. V0T1S0<br/>Tel: 250-559-6210   Fax: 250-559-8342</p> <p><a href="#">FrontCounter BC Website</a>   Toll-Free Contact Centre: 1-877-855-3222<br/>Tell us about your experience with FrontCounter BC: <a href="#">Complete an Online Comment Card</a></p> |
|---|--|

From: [tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca](mailto:tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca) [mailto:[tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca](mailto:tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca)]

Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2017 4:40 PM

To: Ruskin, Jessica FLNR:EX

Subject: Re: FW: trapline guidance...

Hi Jessica.

Thanks for this...it's been helpful in getting the discussion on track. Would it be possible to get a map indicating where the traplines are (were), and also, to talk to your staff about what criteria get weighed in the balance when determining whether a transfer of a trapline license might be allowed? I've taken a look at the guidelines and there's not much info there from that perspective...

Thanks,  
tyler

---

**Tyler Peet | Resource Conservation Manager | Gestionnaire de la Conservation des Ressources**

Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve, National Marine Conservation Area Reserve, and Haida Heritage Site

Réserve de parc national, réserve d'aire marine nationale de conservation, et site du patrimoine haïda Gwaii Haanas

Parks Canada | Parcs Canada | t (250) 559-6312 s.22

---

From: "Ruskin, Jessica FLNR:EX" <[Jessica.Ruskin@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jessica.Ruskin@gov.bc.ca)>

To: "tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca" <[tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca](mailto:tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca)>, "camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca" <[camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca](mailto:camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca)>

Cc: "david.argument@pc.gc.ca" <[david.argument@pc.gc.ca](mailto:david.argument@pc.gc.ca)>, "Duncan, Sheena FLNR:EX" <[Sheena.Duncan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sheena.Duncan@gov.bc.ca)>, "Haida Gwaii District Office, Forests FLNR:EX" <[FrontCounterHaidaGwaii@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FrontCounterHaidaGwaii@gov.bc.ca)>, "Soles, Jasmine FLNR:EX" <[Jasmine.Soles@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jasmine.Soles@gov.bc.ca)>

Date: 01/09/2017 01:25 PM

Subject: FW: trapline guidance...

---

Hi Camille and Tyler;

Please find attached a spreadsheet Sheena, our GIS Analyst, put together based on our spatial data. Sheena also provided a screenshot of the trapline polygons below. We can create a separate map for you if that is helpful – please let us know. Note that there are three discrepancies in named trapline holders between your records and ours, though we're unsure which are the most recent/correct records.

The general process for transferring traplines is briefly outlined in the following hyperlink and involves obtaining trapline consent forms from both the current registered trapline holder and the prospective new trapline holder:

<http://www.frontcounterbc.ca/guides/fish-wildlife/trapline-transfer-registration/overview/>

If you have more specific questions regarding the internal process, let me know and I will follow up with our Fish and Wildlife folk.

I hope this helps!

Jessica

**Jessica Ruskin, MSc** | Resource Manager

**Haida Gwaii Natural Resource District** | West Coast Region

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development

Phone: 250-559-6203 | Fax: 250-559-8342 | e-mail: [Jessica.Ruskin@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jessica.Ruskin@gov.bc.ca)

**From:** Duncan, Sheena FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2017 2:43 PM  
**To:** Ruskin, Jessica FLNR:EX; Mosca, Olga FLNR:EX; Fyles, Linnaea K FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: trapline guidance...

Hello Jessica

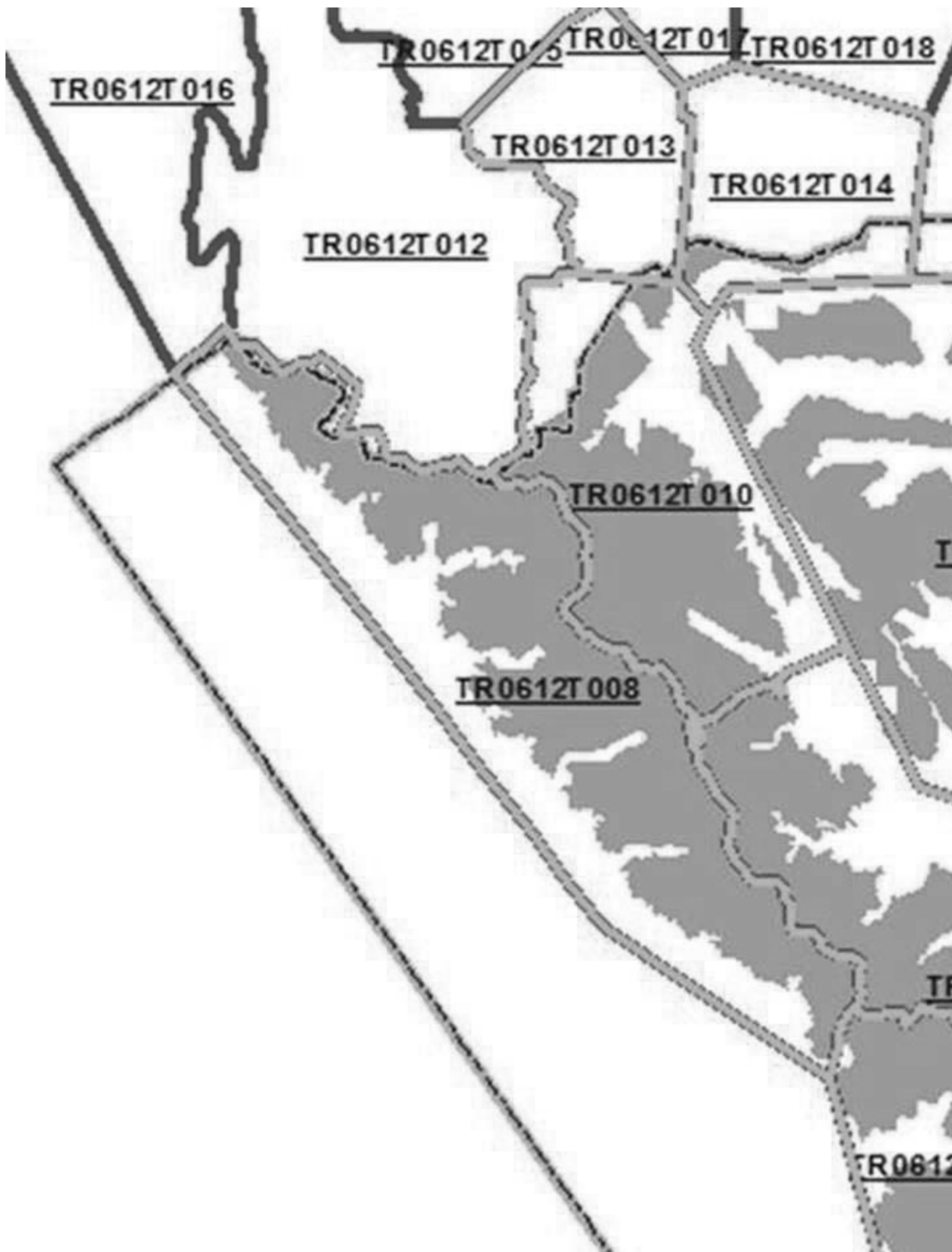
I found a few moments to look at this one today. I have attached the table I generated from the spatial trapline layer I have.

As you can see I have all the same trapline numbers overlapping GH however in three cases I have different names associated with those numbers.

This data comes from a layer that Doug managed locally and unfortunately I don't know the update cycle or history of it.

Please let me know if I can be of any further help with this.

Below is a quick snip of what I see spatially. I can provide you with a proper map if it would be helpful.



## *Sheena Duncan*

GIS Analyst  
Haida Gwaii Natural Resource District  
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development  
Email: [Sheena.Duncan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sheena.Duncan@gov.bc.ca)  
Phone: 250-559-6226

**From:** Ruskin, Jessica FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2017 10:07 AM  
**To:** Mosca, Olga FLNR:EX; Fyles, Linnaea K FLNR:EX; Duncan, Sheena FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: trapline guidance...

Good morning ladies;

Would you be able to assist me with answering Gwaii Haanas' questions (highlighted below) regarding traplines?

Thank you!

**Jessica Ruskin, MSc** | Resource Manager  
**Haida Gwaii Natural Resource District** | West Coast Region  
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development  
Phone: 250-559-6203 | Fax: 250-559-8342 | e-mail: [Jessica.Ruskin@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jessica.Ruskin@gov.bc.ca)

**From:** [camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca](mailto:camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca) [<mailto:camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca>]  
**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2017 9:55 AM  
**To:** Ruskin, Jessica FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** [david.argument@pc.gc.ca](mailto:david.argument@pc.gc.ca); [tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca](mailto:tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca)  
**Subject:** RE: trapline guidance...

Hi Jessica,

No worries at all. Here is a list of the Trapline Permit Holders from the South Moresby Agreement, Annex B (p. 94)

PART

## TRAPLINE LICENCES

HOLDER

s.22

1 .

2 .

**3 .**

4 .

5 .

6 .



Thank you for your attention to this inquiry, if you need more information let me know.

Camille

**Camille Collinson**

**A/ Resource Conservation Manager | Cultural Resource Management Advisor**

Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve, National Marine Conservation Area Reserve & Haida Heritage Site |

Réserve de parc national, réserve d'aire marine nationale de conservation & site du patrimoine haida Gwaii Haanas

60 Second Beach Road, Skidegate BC | 60 rue Second Beach, Skidegate C-B

PO Box 37, Queen Charlotte BC V0T 1S0 | CP 37, Queen Charlotte C-B V0T 1S0

Telephone | Téléphone: 250-559-6320

Facsimile | Télécopieur: 250-559-8366

[camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca](mailto:camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca)

[www.parkscanada.gc.ca](http://www.parkscanada.gc.ca) | [www.parcscanada.gc.ca](http://www.parcscanada.gc.ca)

Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

*Gwaii Haanas: Cooperatively Managed by the Council of the Haida Nation and the Government of Canada*

From: "Ruskin, Jessica FLNR:EX" <[Jessica.Ruskin@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jessica.Ruskin@gov.bc.ca)>

To: "[camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca](mailto:camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca)" <[camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca](mailto:camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca)>

Cc: "[david.argument@pc.gc.ca](mailto:david.argument@pc.gc.ca)" <[david.argument@pc.gc.ca](mailto:david.argument@pc.gc.ca)>, "[tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca](mailto:tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca)" <[tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca](mailto:tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca)>

Date: 25/08/2017 09:10 AM

Subject: RE: trapline guidance...

---

Hi Camille;

My apologies for the delayed response. s.22 I will ensure your enquiry is addressed early next week. If you could provide me with the list of trapline folders, that would be extremely helpful.

Thank you for your patience. Have a great weekend!

Jessica

**Jessica Ruskin, MSc** | Resource Manager

**Haida Gwaii Natural Resource District** | West Coast Region

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development

Phone: 250-559-6203 | Fax: 250-559-8342 | e-mail: [Jessica.Ruskin@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jessica.Ruskin@gov.bc.ca)

**From:** [camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca](mailto:camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca) [<mailto:camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca>]

**Sent:** Thursday, August 24, 2017 2:16 PM

**To:** Ruskin, Jessica FLNR:EX

**Cc:** [david.argument@pc.gc.ca](mailto:david.argument@pc.gc.ca)

**Subject:** Fw: trapline guidance...

Hi Jessica,

I am filling in for Tyler s.22 and I am wanting to follow up on the correspondence below. Could you provide me with the status of this inquiry, if any.

Like Tyler said, if it is helpful, I can provide a list of names of trapline holders.

Haawa in advance for your attention to this matter,

Camille

----- Forwarded by David Argument/NOTES/PC/CA on 22/08/2017 02:20 PM -----

From: Tyler Peet/NOTES/PC/CA  
To: "Ruskin, Jessica FLNR:EX" <[Jessica.Ruskin@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jessica.Ruskin@gov.bc.ca)>  
Cc: David Argument/NOTES/PC/CA@PC  
Date: 15/08/2017 01:32 PM  
Subject: trapline guidance...

---

Hi Jessica. I've got a couple of questions that have come up I'm hoping you can help me with...

As part of the original establishment process of what would eventually become Gwaii Haanas, Canada and BC signed the South Moresby Agreement. That agreement stipulated (among MANY other things) that certain interests would be allowed to persist, including traplines. The agreement indemnifies BC from any responsibility related to the trapline licenses active at the time of establishment (they're listed in an appendix) and as far as I can tell, Parks Canada hasn't done much with them since.

Someone has come forward with a claim that their relative has bequeathed them one of those original licenses. We're not in the business of administering these (or at least, not since I've been here!) and we're at a loss regarding any information about them. I'm hoping you can help me with two things:

- 1) Identifying any license information (spatial and aspatial) WRT those licenses that existed inside the terrestrial portion of Gwaii Haanas at the time of the signing of the agreement (1988), and,
- 2) A general description of what the Provincial process regarding passing along the trapline might be. Is it possible to bequeath the license? If so, how would that work?

As I recall, managing the trapline licenses fell to a few folks there: Shay would ensure consultation occurred with trapline holders in the CP/RP context, geomatics identified them through spatial statusing, and Berry commented on the wildlife management aspect of things. Might be that the licenses themselves were adjudicated in Nanaimo or Smithers? If there is someone else I could be bothering with this, let me know...I can provide you with a list of the original trapline holder names if that's helpful.

Thanks,  
Tyler

---

**Tyler Peet | Resource Conservation Manager | Gestionnaire de la Conservation des Ressources**

Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve, National Marine Conservation Area Reserve, and Haida Heritage Site

Réserve de parc national, réserve d'aire marine nationale de conservation, et site du patrimoine haïda Gwaii Haanas

Parks Canada | Parcs Canada | t (250) 559-6312 | s.22

[attachment "GH\_TraplineAreas\_20170825.xlsx" deleted by Tyler Peet/NOTES/PC/CA]

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** York, Ben A ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 13, 2018 11:34 AM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Hitchcock, Gord ENV:EX  
**Subject:** RE: dogs on the run

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Mike,

s.13,s.22

**Sgt. Ben York** | Central Island Zone  
Conservation Officer Service | Ministry of Environment | 250-751-3163

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, February 2, 2018 11:14 AM  
**To:** York, Ben A ENV:EX  
**Subject:** FW: dogs on the run  
**Importance:** High

Hi Ben,

s.13

Thanks,  
Mike

**WILDLIFE ACT**

## Interference with traps

**46** A person who knowingly damages or interferes with a lawfully set trap commits an offence.

---

**From:** MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, February 2, 2018 10:35 AM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: dogs on the run  
**Importance:** High

Hi Mike,

s.13,s.22

Thank you,  
Jerry

**Jerry MacDermott RB Tech**  
Wildlife Technician | Fish & Wildlife Section  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations | West Coast Region  
2080-A Labieux Road | Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9 | ☎ (250) 751-3229 | 📠 (250) 751-3103  
Switch board (250) 751-7220 | ✉ [Jerry.Macdermott@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jerry.Macdermott@gov.bc.ca)

---

**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 31, 2018 6:12 PM  
**To:** MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX  
**Subject:**

Hi Jerry,

Thank you for the info. That will at least keep us safe from s.22 trap lines for now.

I will need to know what areas to avoid from now on. So if you have traps or snares out I'd appreciate knowing what areas to avoid.

To be truthful, I'm shocked you or s.22 did not tell me about the trap lines. You both know I'm out there every single day with unleashed dogs. I could have easily stepped in it myself. I'm beyond upset about it.

s.22 wants his traps back, he's going to have to contact me. You can pass along my number. I do not answer blocked calls.

s.22

s.22

---

**From:** MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX <[Jerry.Macdermott@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jerry.Macdermott@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 10:04:35 PM  
**To:** s.22  
**Subject:** Re: I need to know what areas the traps are

?Hi, sorry, I called you yesterday but nobody answered.

You should be good to go in M br., G br., C br. and C7.

The trapper took the ones out of deadwood/A branch and branch 2 as well.

Might as well give his traps to s.22

Thanks,

Jerry

---

**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 8:10 AM  
**To:** MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** I need to know what areas the traps are

s.22

---

**From:** MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX <[Jerry.Macdermott@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jerry.Macdermott@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 27, 2018 1:56:32 PM  
**To:** s.22  
**Subject:** Re: We need to talk about The Wolf traps ASAP.

s.22 . ok, sorry to hear about the dogs.

I've been away darting cougars quite a bit up island.

I know the trapper would like to get his traps back.

I will try to call Monday.

Thanks,

Jerry

---

**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 6:01 PM  
**To:** MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX

Subject: We need to talk about The Wolf traps ASAP.

s.22

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 8, 2018 4:33 PM  
**To:** Correspondence Serv. Sectn, FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** de Bree, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Perzina, Vinka V FLNR:EX; Regan, Kelly FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: 236158 - reply direct by Feb 20

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I can confirm this is a West Coast Region, Fish and Wildlife issue and we will work on response.

Thanks,  
Mike

**From:** [FLNR.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FLNR.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca) [mailto:[FLNR.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FLNR.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca)]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 8, 2018 3:50 PM  
**To:** Regan, Kelly FLNR:EX; Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** de Bree, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Perzina, Vinka V FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** 236158 - reply direct by Feb 20

Hi Mike,

FW branch advised that this is your issue to respond to. Please reply direct to author by February 20th.

1. Please reply direct to the writer on behalf of Minister Doug Donaldson (MDD)
2. Ensure you copy MDD on response (cc: [FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca) if email response)
3. Add response as attachment in CLIFF log
4. Update log notes
5. Enter signed date
6. Enter sign by
7. Close log

Please notify CSS ([FLNR.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FLNR.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca)) if this is NOT your issue within 2-3 days.

Thanks,  
Eleni

### DM-CSS Referral Slip for ID:236158

2018/02/08

|                                   |                            |                        |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Log Type:</i> Letter via Email | <i>Action:</i> Draft Reply | <i>Due:</i> 2018/02/20 |
| <i>Batch:</i>                     | <i>Sig Level:</i> Staff    |                        |

*Author Type:* First Nation  
Michael Tony Hansen, KCTN Director of Lands and Resources  
Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7eth' First Nations  
General Delivery

*Written:* 2018/01/29 *Resp Type:*  
*Received:* 2018/01/31 *File No.:*  
*Due:* 2018/02/20 *Entered By:* CS  
*Approved:* *Approved* S

Kyuquot, BC, V0P 1J0

Phone: (250) 332-5259

Signed:

Closed:

By:

Signed

By:

Address To: Minister Donaldson Copy To:  
Rsp Office: CO-RWC Issue: Wolf control  
X-Ref: Drafter:  
With BN:

**Subject**

In support of extending Vancouver Island Region 1 wolf trapping season.

**Log Notes**

2018/02/08 CSS referring log to RWC (Mike Stalberg) to reply direct by Feb 20.  
2018/02/08 Suzanne advise the region should respond and suggested it should go to Mike Stalberg VI  
2018/02/06 sent to Suzanne for someone in policy to draft response.  
2018/01/31 REPLY DIRECT on behalf of the Minister by Feb. 20, 2018:  
1. Please reply direct to the writer on behalf of Minister Doug Donaldson (MDD)  
2. Ensure you copy MDD on response (cc: [FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca) if email response)  
3. Add response as attachment in CLIFF log  
4. Update log notes  
5. Enter signed date  
6. Enter sign by  
7. Close log

**Referral DM-CSS -> MO-Minister**

|            |             |            |            |         |           |             |          |
|------------|-------------|------------|------------|---------|-----------|-------------|----------|
| From:      | DM-CSS      | Sent:      | 2018/01/31 | Status: | Completed | Ref Action: | FYI/File |
| To:        | MO-Minister | Received:  |            | Reason: |           | Sig Level:  |          |
| Assign To: |             | Completed: | 2018/01/31 | Due:    |           | File No.:   |          |

**Referral DM-CSS -> MO-Minister -> DM-CSS**

|            |             |            |            |         |            |             |                     |
|------------|-------------|------------|------------|---------|------------|-------------|---------------------|
| From:      | MO-Minister | Sent:      | 2018/01/31 | Status: | Completed  | Ref Action: | Coordinate Response |
| To:        | DM-CSS      | Received:  |            | Reason: |            | Sig Level:  |                     |
| Assign To: |             | Completed: | 2018/01/31 | Due:    | 2018/02/16 | File No.:   |                     |

**Referral DM-CSS -> MO-Minister -> DM-CSS -> RS-Fish and Wildlife**

|            |                      |            |            |         |                                     |             |              |
|------------|----------------------|------------|------------|---------|-------------------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| From:      | DM-CSS               | Sent:      | 2018/01/31 | Status: | Rejected                            | Ref Action: | Reply Direct |
| To:        | RS-Fish and Wildlife | Received:  | 2018/02/06 | Reason: | sent to Vancouver Island to respond | Sig Level:  |              |
| Assign To: |                      | Completed: | 2018/02/08 | Due:    | 2018/02/20                          | File No.:   |              |



*Referral DM-CSS -> MO-Minister -> DM-CSS -> CO-RWC*

|                   |               |                   |            |                |                         |                    |              |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|------------|----------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| <i>From:</i>      | DM-CSS        | <i>Sent:</i>      | 2018/02/08 | <i>Status:</i> | Pending                 | <i>Ref Action:</i> | Reply Direct |
| <i>To:</i>        | CO-RWC        | <i>Received:</i>  |            | <i>Reason:</i> |                         | <i>Sig Level:</i>  |              |
| <i>Assign To:</i> | Mike Stalberg | <i>Completed:</i> |            | <i>Due:</i>    | 2018/02/20 (Active (8)) | <i>File No.:</i>   |              |

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, February 5, 2018 10:08 AM  
**To:** Wilton, William FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: MDD notes re: wolf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Hi Billy,

This is the email that you never got.

Thanks,  
Mike

---

**From:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, February 2, 2018 3:38 PM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Fwd: MDD notes re: wolf

I added some notes below. I will work on it more on Monday...

Sean Pendergast  
Senior Wildlife Biologist  
West Coast Region

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX" <[Jennifer.Psullakis@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jennifer.Psullakis@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** February 1, 2018 at 2:25:57 PM PST  
**To:** "Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX" <[Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca)>, "Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX" <[Michael.Burwash@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Michael.Burwash@gov.bc.ca)>, "Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX" <[Sean.Pendergast@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sean.Pendergast@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** "McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX" <[Diana.McNeill@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Diana.McNeill@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: MDD notes re: wolf

Thanks for getting the ball rolling Mike. We just received notice that MGH will have a briefing on Feb 15<sup>th</sup>. Can we aim for this appendix by the 9<sup>th</sup> of Feb?  
Jen

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 1, 2018 10:11 AM  
**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: MDD notes re: wolf

Hi everyone,

I drew up a plan to address Jen's questions (in grey below) and made some suggestions about starting points. There is a mixture of Branch and Region items as well as a few items that will likely need collaborative discussion. Let's get started and aim to bring some answers forward by 3 pm Friday.

Thanks,

Mike

Page 137

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

[Branch]

---

**From:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 31, 2018 10:59 PM  
**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** MDD notes re: wolf

Hi Michael and Mike,

The meeting went well with MDD today. He was happy with the note and had several questions about population monitoring, data, hunting and trapping, etc. There may be a briefing with the Greens and MGH. If there is I offered to include an appendix to the briefing note that would provide additional detail re: wolf management, hunting and trapping.

Questions included:

Thanks for all your work on this.

Jen

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 1, 2018 10:11 AM  
**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: MDD notes re: wolf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi everyone,

I drew up a plan to address Jen's questions (in grey below) and made some suggestions about starting points. There is a mixture of Branch and Region items as well as a few items that will likely need collaborative discussion. Let's get started and aim to bring some answers forward by 3 pm Friday.

Thanks,

Mike

Page 141

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13



[Branch]

---

**From:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 31, 2018 10:59 PM  
**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** MDD notes re: wolf

Hi Michael and Mike,

The meeting went well with MDD today. He was happy with the note and had several questions about population monitoring, data, hunting and trapping, etc. There may be a briefing with the Greens and MGH. If there is I offered to include an appendix to the briefing note that would provide additional detail re: wolf management, hunting and trapping.

Questions included:

s.13

Thanks for all your work on this.

Jen

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 11:51 AM  
**To:** Wenham, Logan FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: KCFN Letter of support for Extending Region 1 V.I. Wolf Trapping Season  
**Attachments:** KCFN Support for Extending the VI Wolf Trapping Season--January 29th, 2018.docx

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi gents,

Letter from First Nations regarding wolf trapping.

Thanks,  
Mike

**From:** Ronald Frank s.22  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 11:47 AM  
**To:** Minister, FLNR FLNR:EX; Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** KCFN Letter of support for Extending Region 1 V.I. Wolf Trapping Season

Dear Minister Donaldson, and Director of Wildlife Psyllakis,  
Please accept the attached letter of support for changes to the Hunting and Trapping Regulations (2018) for Extension of the Wolf Trapping season on Vancouver Island.  
Regards  
Michael Tony Hansen  
Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7eth' First Nations  
Director of Lands and Resources

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Wenham, Logan FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 10:30 AM  
**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: UPDATED: REVIEW/APPROVE: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I will add in Mike's comments and send up in 5.

Logan Wenham  
Fish and Wildlife Policy Lead  
Fish, Wildlife and Habitat Management  
Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone: 778-698-9221

*To live is to fly, low and high,  
So shake the dust off of your wings, and the sleep out of your eyes;*  
- Townes Van Zandt (To Live is to Fly)

---

**From:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 10:26 AM  
**To:** Wenham, Logan FLNR:EX; Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: UPDATED: REVIEW/APPROVE: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

Don't need to see – great work all. Please ask Jen for quick review?

Michael

---

**From:** Wenham, Logan FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 10:14 AM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: UPDATED: REVIEW/APPROVE: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH  
**Importance:** High

I have some minor factual updates from Mike Stalberg to add to this note, but I am waiting for Mike's approval so we have version control now that Diana has CLIFFed it. Changes are:

s.13

Mike B. if you want to see these reflected in the document now, let me know.

Cheers,

Logan Wenham

Fish and Wildlife Policy Lead  
Fish, Wildlife and Habitat Management  
Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone: 778-698-9221

*To live is to fly, low and high,  
So shake the dust off of your wings, and the sleep out of your eyes;*  
- Townes Van Zandt (To Live is to Fly)

---

**From:** Wenham, Logan FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:24 AM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** UPDATED: REVIEW/APPROVE: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

Updated following a discussion with Mike B. This version adds back in Mike S.'s graph on deer, with an explanatory note,  
**s.13**  
That is all in track changes.

What is not in track changes are small edits I made to tighten text and keep this on 3 pages and squeeze the graph onto page 2.

Mike B. – I edited the first para to make it easier to understand that the change is about increasing the front of the season.

Over to you guys.

Logan Wenham  
Fish and Wildlife Policy Lead  
Fish, Wildlife and Habitat Management  
Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone: 778-698-9221

*To live is to fly, low and high,  
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---

**From:** Wenham, Logan FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 5:38 PM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** REVIEW/APPROVE: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

Hi Mike and Michael:

Here is my boil down of the two products for your review/approval. Glad to discuss in the a.m. Mike's maps were pretty handy visual aids so I included those as attachments.  
**s.13**

Let me know what you think **s.13**

Cheers,

Logan Wenham  
Fish and Wildlife Policy Lead  
Fish, Wildlife and Habitat Management  
Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone: 778-698-9221

*To live is to fly, low and high,  
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- Townes Van Zandt (To Live is to Fly)

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 2:50 PM  
**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX; Wenham, Logan FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

Hi Michael,

Attached are some bullets.

Thanks,  
Mike

---

**From:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 9:39 AM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

Hi Mike  
Do you have time to give this the once over?  
Thanks,  
Michael

---

**From:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 9:24 AM  
**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

Good morning,  
Just a reminder that a BN is due today, Thx,

 **Diana McNeill**

Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone 778-698-9169

---

**From:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 3:06 PM

To: Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
Subject: RE: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

Sorry,  
Here is the document they are referring to.

---

From: McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2018 2:56 PM  
To: Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
Subject: FW: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

Michael,

Please have staff draft a note for this upcoming meeting with the Minister. ADMO wants this by January 29<sup>th</sup> at noon but Jen would still have to approve it. Any change we could have this by Jan 29<sup>th</sup> at 9am?

Jen,

Would should participate?



**Diana McNeill**

Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone 778-698-9169

---

From: Larkin, Brenda FLNR:EX  
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2018 2:31 PM  
To: McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
Cc: McCulloch, Alexandra FLNR:EX  
Subject: RE: VI Wolf Trapping

Cliff #: 236045

---

From: Larkin, Brenda FLNR:EX  
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2018 1:29 PM  
To: McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
Cc: McCulloch, Alexandra FLNR:EX  
Subject: VI Wolf Trapping

Diana,

Can you please start a briefing note process on Vancouver Island Wolf Trapping

MDD Meeting scheduled  
DATE: January 31  
TIME: 1:00 – 1:30  
LTCN: MO Room 248

There have been recent articles on the news and MGH and the green caucus have asked for briefings. MO has requested that we brief MDD on the above date.

<http://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/jack-knox-why-province-wants-to-expand-wolf-trapping-1.23143877>

Attached is an IN from GCPE.

I will set up a cliff log, but wanted to provide you with a heads up.

Can we please have material on Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at noon.

Please identify staff that will be attending to support.

Any questions, please let me know.

Thank you

**Brenda Larkin**

A/Executive Coordinator

Resource Stewardship Division

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

780 Blanshard Street, Victoria

Ph: 250.356.5302 <sup>\*\*new\*\*</sup>

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 10:34 AM  
**To:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX; Wilton, William FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH  
**Attachments:** points for Ministers\_wolf regulations\_R1\_Jan 2018.docx

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi guys,

Can you please look at the attached: (1) for content, (2) for grammar, (3) for flow, and (4) completeness.

s.13

Thanks,  
Mike

---

**From:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 9:39 AM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

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Michael

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**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

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Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone 778-698-9169

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**To:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

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**From:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
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**Subject:** FW: VI Wolf Trapping - Cliff #: 236045 - RUSH

**Michael,**

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**Jen,**

Would should participate?



**Diana McNeill**

Office Manager  
Fish & Wildlife Branch  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Phone 778-698-9169

---

**From:** Larkin, Brenda FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 2:31 PM  
**To:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** McCulloch, Alexandra FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: VI Wolf Trapping

Cliff #: 236045

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**Cc:** McCulloch, Alexandra FLNR:EX  
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<http://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/jack-knox-why-province-wants-to-expand-wolf-trapping-1.23143877>

Attached is an IN from GCPE.

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Please identify staff that will be attending to support.

Any questions, please let me know.

Thank you

**Brenda Larkin**

A/Executive Coordinator

Resource Stewardship Division

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

780 Blanshard Street, Victoria

Ph: 250.356.5302 <sup>\*\*new\*\*</sup>

Page 152 to/à Page 155

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.16

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 15, 2018 3:36 PM  
**To:** Casavant, Bryce FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Bastarache, Paul FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Internal Consultation List

Hi Bryce,

We haven't spoken for a while; I hope you are doing well.

I understand that the Compliance and Enforcement Branch is interested in being involved with the development of angling, hunting, and trapping regulations. Off the top of my head, I think the process for Compliance and Enforcement Branch to request involvement would look like this:

s.13

The West Coast Region has 2 processes to work on regulations: (1) Wildlife Regulations Advisory Committee (WRAC) for hunting and trapping regulations, and (2) Freshwater Fisheries Regulations Advisory Committee (FFRAC).

Thanks,  
Mike

---

**From:** Casavant, Bryce FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 8, 2018 12:39 PM  
**To:** Anderson, Brendan FLNR:EX; Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Internal Consultation List

Hi guys,

When you have a minute I'm hoping to touch base with you Re: proposed reg change 2018-1-10 "*Lengthen Wolf Trapping Season on Vancouver Island*"

s.13

My understanding is that the public consultation process closes on January 19<sup>th</sup> 2018 and that government will be finalizing recommendations following a short review of information received. If you could please contact me upon your return and prior to January 19<sup>th</sup> 2018 that would be greatly appreciated.

Regards,

*Bryce Casavant, CMAS, MA*

Senior Compliance and Enforcement Specialist

West Coast Region

Compliance and Enforcement Branch

Ministry of Forests Lands and Natural Resource Operations

Province of British Columbia



## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Casavant, Bryce FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 8, 2018 12:39 PM  
**To:** Anderson, Brendan FLNR:EX; Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Internal Consultation List

Hi guys,

When you have a minute I'm hoping to touch base with you Re: proposed reg change 2018-1-10 "*Lengthen Wolf Trapping Season on Vancouver Island*"

s.13

My understanding is that the public consultation process closes on January 19<sup>th</sup> 2018 and that government will be finalizing recommendations following a short review of information received. If you could please contact me upon your return and prior to January 19<sup>th</sup> 2018 that would be greatly appreciated.

Regards,

*Bryce Casavant, CMAS, MA*

Senior Compliance and Enforcement Specialist  
West Coast Region  
Compliance and Enforcement Branch  
Ministry of Forests Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Province of British Columbia



**From:** Wilton, William FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 23, 2017 11:17 AM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX; MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Sea otters

I have not found an exemption to this one yet:

## **Wildlife Act**

### **Hunting, trapping and firearm prohibitions**

**26 (1)** A person commits an offence if the person hunts, takes, traps, wounds or kills wildlife  
(a) that is an endangered species or threatened species,

---

**From:** Wilton, William FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 23, 2017 11:10 AM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX; Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Sea otters

Hi Mike,

The only direct mention of sea otters in the Act is in Schedule D (Threatened) under the Designation and Exemption Regulations (below). Only 1 species in BC is currently designated as threatened under *the Act*. I have compiled excerpts from the Wildlife Act and Regulations below. Sea otters are not listed as Furbearers.

## ***Wildlife Act***

### **Definitions:**

**"threatened species"** means a species of animal that is designated as a threatened species, but does not include a controlled alien species;

ASIDE:

**Species at Risk Act (Canada)** - Special Concern because of characteristics that make it is particularly sensitive to human activities or natural events.

**Provincial Conservation Status S3 (2015)** – blue listed (Special Concern). 3 = special concern, vulnerable to extirpation or extinction

### **"wildlife"**

(a) means raptors, threatened species, endangered species, game and other species of vertebrates prescribed by regulation, and

(b) for the purposes of sections 3 to 5, 7, 8, 84 (6.1) to (6.4), 97.1 to 98.1 and 108 (2) (v), includes fish, but does not include controlled alien species;

## Endangered and threatened species

6 (1) If the Lieutenant Governor in Council considers that a species of wildlife is threatened with imminent extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range in British Columbia because of the action of humans, the Lieutenant Governor in Council may, by regulation, designate the species as an endangered species.

(2) If the Lieutenant Governor in Council considers that a species of wildlife is likely to become endangered in British Columbia if the factors affecting its vulnerability are not reversed, the Lieutenant Governor in Council may, by regulation, designate the species as a threatened species.

## Regulations by Lieutenant Governor in Council

108 (1) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations referred to in section 41 of the *Interpretation Act*.

(2) Without limiting subsection (1), the Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations as follows:

(a) respecting threatened species or endangered species;

## DESIGNATION AND EXEMPTION REGULATION

### Threatened and endangered species

13 (1) The species listed in Schedule D are designated as threatened species.

### Schedule D

[en. B.C. Reg. 253/2000, App. 2, s. 9.]

(section 13 (1))

1 Mammals of the following species:

(a) *Enhydra lutris* — sea otter.

### Exemption from section 33 (2) of the Act for treaty first nations

9.2 (1) In this section, "wildlife harvesting right" means the right of a treaty first nation to harvest wildlife under the treaty first nation's final agreement.

(2) The following persons are exempt from section 33 (2) of the *Wildlife Act* in relation to the possession of dead wildlife, or parts of wildlife, that was lawfully harvested in accordance with the wildlife harvesting right of a treaty first nation:

(a) a treaty first nation member of the treaty first nation that has the wildlife harvesting right;

(b) a member of a first nation that has an agreement with the treaty first nation that has the wildlife harvesting right, which agreement authorizes the first nation to exercise the treaty first nation's wildlife harvesting right;



- (c) an aboriginal person to whom a treaty first nation member of the treaty first nation that has the wildlife harvesting right traded or bartered the wildlife or parts in accordance with the treaty first nation's final agreement;
- (d) a person who is designated, in accordance with the final agreement of the treaty first nation that has the wildlife harvesting right, to exercise the wildlife harvesting right on behalf of a treaty first nation member of the treaty first nation who is unable to do so.

[en. B.C. Reg. 56/2011; am. B.C. Regs. 32/2014, s. 6; 22/2016.]

## **Wildlife Act**

### **Possession of wildlife**

- 33** (2) A person commits an offence if the person has dead wildlife or a part of any wildlife in his or her possession except as authorized under a licence or permit or as provided by regulation.

DFO Webpage

## **Further Information**

The sea otter was protected in 1911 under the International Fur Seal Treaty signed by the United States, Russia, Japan, and Great Britain for Canada. Today, the otter is protected under the federal Species at Risk Act (SARA). The otter is also protected under the federal *Fisheries Act* and the *British Columbia Wildlife Act*.

Once extinct from Canada, the sea otter has successfully been reintroduced to British Columbia. Subsequent population growth and range expansion enabled the Government of Canada to change the listing of the species from threatened to special concern in 2009, as recommended by COSEWIC.

A Recovery Strategy for the sea otter has been finalized. However, due to the re-assessment and change in listing under SARA to Special Concern, a management plan is currently being developed.

For more information, please visit the [SARA regional consultations website](#) or the [Species at Risk \(SARA\) Public Registry Profile](#).



**Billy Wilton**

Wildlife Biologist | Fish & Wildlife Section

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

(250) 751-3213

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 23, 2017 10:34 AM  
**To:** Wilton, William FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Fwd: Sea otters

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX" <[Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** November 23, 2017 at 10:12:44 AM PST  
**To:** "MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX" <[Jerry.Macdermott@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jerry.Macdermott@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** "Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX" <[Sean.Pendergast@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sean.Pendergast@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Re: Sea otters

By the way, need as much as we can pull together by 1 pm

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 23, 2017, at 9:56 AM, Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX <[Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mike.Stalberg@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Hi Jerry,

Can you send me a quick summary of Wildlife Act sections that relate to sea otters. s.13,s.16 are interested in trapping/harvesting.

Is a commercial licence the only way to sell fur?

Can there be an ocean trapline?

There may be a committee to work on this s.13,s.16

Thanks,  
Mike

Sent from my iPhone

## FLNR FOI FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Soles, Jasmine FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 22, 2017 4:28 PM  
**To:** Cadsand, Becky FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX; Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Trapline Guidance  
**Attachments:** National Parks Wildlife Regulations.docx

Hi Becky,

This is the chain that was going on earlier this year re: marten project/traplines in Gwaii Haanas.

I'm not sure if this is exactly what you were looking for but my understanding is that the traplines were essentially grandfathered into the park.

Thanks!

-Jazzy

---

**From:** Soles, Jasmine FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2017 8:08 AM  
**To:** 'tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca'  
**Cc:** Ruskin, Jessica FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Trapline Guidance

Good Morning Tyler,

I just wanted to follow up about potential permitting requirements. I had reached out to Mike Stalberg (Section Head, F&W) for some guidance on whether provincial wildlife permits are required for federal government activities on federal lands.

Below is the response I received from Mike (he also sent the attached document for reference):

s.13

Thanks,  
Mike"

Let me know if you'd like any more information on transfer, possession or export permits moving forward.

Thanks Tyler!

-Jazzy

**From:** [tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca](mailto:tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca) [<mailto:tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca>]

**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2017 2:31 PM

**To:** Soles, Jasmine FLNR:EX

**Cc:** [ernie.gladstone@pc.gc.ca](mailto:ernie.gladstone@pc.gc.ca); Ruskin, Jessica FLNR:EX

**Subject:** Re: Trapline Guidance

Hi Jasmine.

Thanks for this. Just what we were looking for.

---

**Tyler Peet | Resource Conservation Manager | Gestionnaire de la Conservation des Ressources**

Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve, National Marine Conservation Area Reserve, and Haida Heritage Site

Réserve de parc national, réserve d'aire marine nationale de conservation, et site du patrimoine haïda Gwaii Haanas

Parks Canada | Parcs Canada | t (250) 559-6312 | **s.22**

---

From: "Soles, Jasmine FLNR:EX" <[Jasmine.Soles@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jasmine.Soles@gov.bc.ca)>

To: "mary.hart@pc.gc.ca" <[mary.hart@pc.gc.ca](mailto:mary.hart@pc.gc.ca)>, "tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca" <[tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca](mailto:tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca)>

Cc: "Ruskin, Jessica FLNR:EX" <[Jessica.Ruskin@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jessica.Ruskin@gov.bc.ca)>

Date: 28/09/2017 02:15 PM

Subject: Trapline Guidance

---

Hi Tyler and Mary,

Jessica had forwarded your query on to myself Tyler, it seemed that Mary Hart was chasing some similar information – I've included the chain below in hopes that its helpful to you both (mapping is provided in this string Mary).

Mary – I did ask around and it turns out the 'going rate' is about \$30-40 a marten pelt for Haida Gwaii.

s.13

s.13

s.13

There is definitely some records keeping management that needs to be updated but a lot of it, is a lot easier said, than done, given the different factors and licencing requirements at play.

One can check the fur harvest data base in Victoria for historic/recent activity on a trapline as well.

There is wording in the *Wildlife Act* on usage of a trapline etc and what is required. However, then comes the debate...who do you chase non-status or status trappers?

s.13,s.14

s.13,s.16

s.13,s.16  
s.13

s.13

Thank you, and please give us a shout if you have further questions.

|   |   |
|---|---|
|  | <p><b>Jasmine Soles</b><br/><b>Natural Resource Authorizations Officer</b><br/>FrontCounter BC Haida Gwaii   Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development<br/>1229 Oceanview Drive   Queen Charlotte, B.C. V0T1S0<br/>Tel: 250-559-6210   Fax: 250-559-8342</p> <p><a href="#">FrontCounter BC Website</a>   Toll-Free Contact Centre: 1-877-855-3222<br/><i>Tell us about your experience with FrontCounter BC: <a href="#">Complete an Online Comment Card</a></i></p> |
|---|---|

**From:** [tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca](mailto:tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca) [<mailto:tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 12, 2017 4:40 PM  
**To:** Ruskin, Jessica FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Re: FW: trapline guidance...

Hi Jessica.

Thanks for this...it's been helpful in getting the discussion on track. Would it be possible to get a map indicating where the traplines are (were), and also, to talk to your staff about what criteria get weighed in the balance when determining whether a transfer of a trapline license might be allowed? I've taken a look at the guidelines and there's not much info there from that perspective...

Thanks,

tyler

**Tyler Peet | Resource Conservation Manager | Gestionnaire de la Conservation des Ressources**  
Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve, National Marine Conservation Area Reserve, and Haida Heritage Site  
Réserve de parc national, réserve d'aire marine nationale de conservation, et site du patrimoine haïda Gwaii Haanas  
Parks Canada | Parcs Canada | t (250) 559-6312 **s.22**

From: "Ruskin, Jessica FLNR:EX" <Jessica.Ruskin@gov.bc.ca>  
To: "tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca" <tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca>, "camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca" <camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca>  
Cc: "david.argument@pc.gc.ca" <david.argument@pc.gc.ca>, "Duncan, Sheena FLNR:EX" <Sheena.Duncan@gov.bc.ca>, "Haida Gwaii District Office, Forests FLNR:EX" <FrontCounterHaidaGwaii@gov.bc.ca>, "Soles, Jasmine FLNR:EX" <Jasmine.Soles@gov.bc.ca>  
Date: 01/09/2017 01:25 PM  
Subject: FW: trapline guidance...

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Hi Camille and Tyler;

Please find attached a spreadsheet Sheena, our GIS Analyst, put together based on our spatial data. Sheena also provided a screenshot of the trapline polygons below. We can create a separate map for you if that is helpful – please let us know. Note that there are three discrepancies in named trapline holders between your records and ours, though we're unsure which are the most recent/correct records.

The general process for transferring traplines is briefly outlined in the following hyperlink and involves obtaining trapline consent forms from both the current registered trapline holder and the prospective new trapline holder:  
<http://www.frontcounterbc.ca/guides/fish-wildlife/trapline-transfer-registration/overview/>

If you have more specific questions regarding the internal process, let me know and I will follow up with our Fish and Wildlife folk.

I hope this helps!

Jessica

**Jessica Ruskin, MSc** | Resource Manager  
**Haida Gwaii Natural Resource District** | West Coast Region  
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development  
Phone: 250-559-6203 | Fax: 250-559-8342 | e-mail: [Jessica.Ruskin@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jessica.Ruskin@gov.bc.ca)

**From:** Duncan, Sheena FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2017 2:43 PM  
**To:** Ruskin, Jessica FLNR:EX; Mosca, Olga FLNR:EX; Fyles, Linnaea K FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: trapline guidance...

Hello Jessica

I found a few moments to look at this one today. I have attached the table I generated from the spatial trapline layer I have.

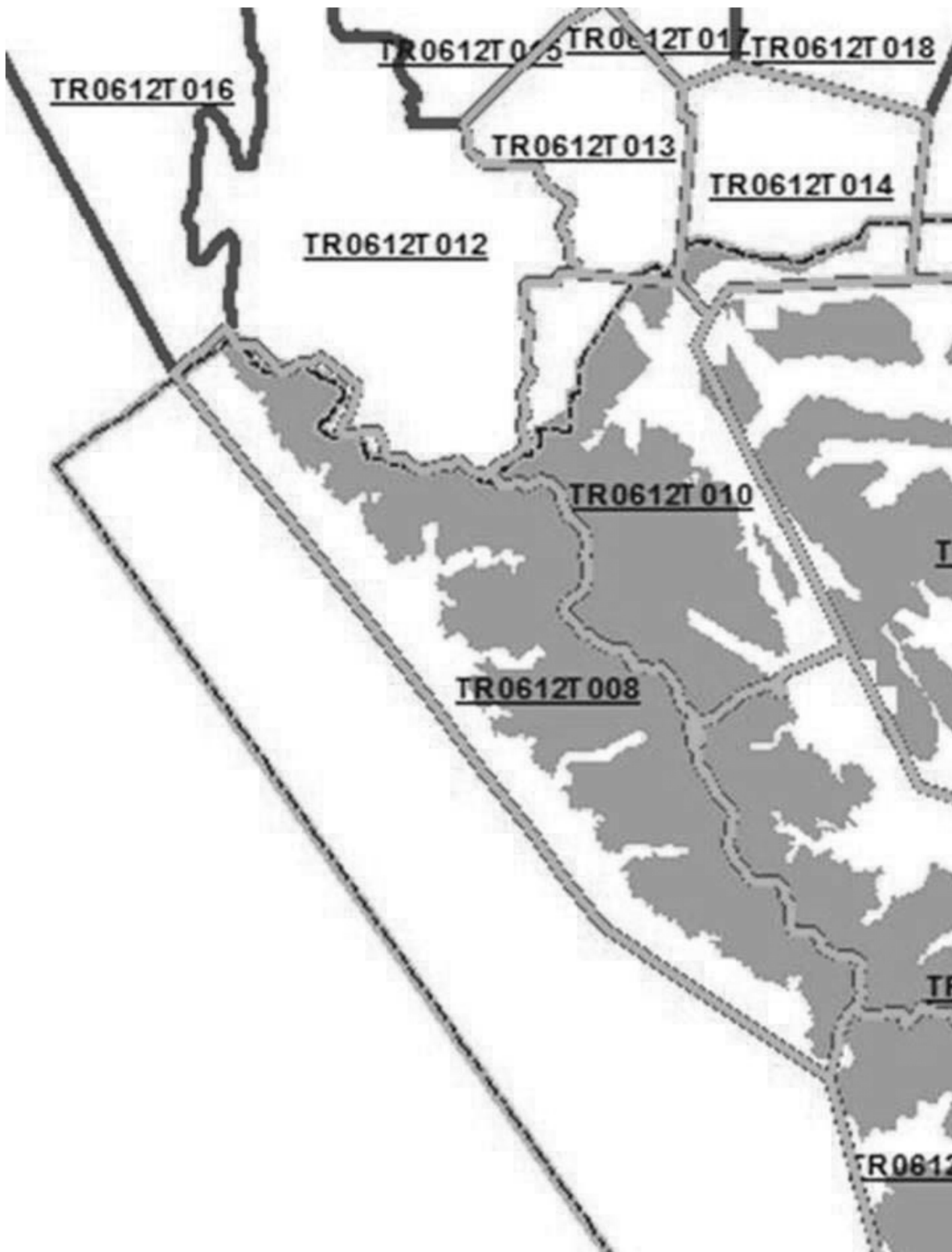
As you can see I have all the same trapline numbers overlapping GH however in three cases I have different names associated with those numbers.

This data comes from a layer that Doug managed locally and unfortunately I don't know the update cycle or history of it.

Please let me know if I can be of any further help with this.

Below is a quick snip of what I see spatially. I can provide you with a proper map if it would be helpful.





*Sheena Duncan*

GIS Analyst

Haida Gwaii Natural Resource District

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development

Email: [Sheena.Duncan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Sheena.Duncan@gov.bc.ca)

Phone: 250-559-6226

**From:** Ruskin, Jessica FLNR:EX

**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2017 10:07 AM

**To:** Mosca, Olga FLNR:EX; Fyles, Linnaea K FLNR:EX; Duncan, Sheena FLNR:EX

**Subject:** FW: trapline guidance...

Good morning ladies;

Would you be able to assist me with answering Gwaii Haanas' questions (highlighted below) regarding traplines?

Thank you!

**Jessica Ruskin, MSc** | Resource Manager

**Haida Gwaii Natural Resource District** | West Coast Region

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development

Phone: 250-559-6203 | Fax: 250-559-8342 | e-mail: [Jessica.Ruskin@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jessica.Ruskin@gov.bc.ca)

**From:** [camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca](mailto:camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca) [<mailto:camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca>]

**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2017 9:55 AM

**To:** Ruskin, Jessica FLNR:EX

**Cc:** [david.argument@pc.gc.ca](mailto:david.argument@pc.gc.ca); [tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca](mailto:tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca)

**Subject:** RE: trapline guidance...

Hi Jessica,

No worries at all. Here is a list of the Trapline Permit Holders from the South Moresby Agreement, Annex B (p. 94)

PART

## TRAPLINE LICENCES

HOLDER

s.22

1 .

2 .

**3 .**

4 .

5 .

6 .

Thank you for your attention to this inquiry, if you need more information let me know.

Camille

**Camille Collinson**

**A/ Resource Conservation Manager | Cultural Resource Management Advisor**

Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve, National Marine Conservation Area Reserve & Haida Heritage Site |

Réserve de parc national, réserve d'aire marine nationale de conservation & site du patrimoine haida Gwaii Haanas

60 Second Beach Road, Skidegate BC | 60 rue Second Beach, Skidegate C-B

PO Box 37, Queen Charlotte BC V0T 1S0 | CP 37, Queen Charlotte C-B V0T 1S0

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[camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca](mailto:camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca)

[www.parkscanada.gc.ca](http://www.parkscanada.gc.ca) | [www.parcscanada.gc.ca](http://www.parcscanada.gc.ca)

Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

*Gwaii Haanas: Cooperatively Managed by the Council of the Haida Nation and the Government of Canada*

From: "Ruskin, Jessica FLNR:EX" <[Jessica.Ruskin@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jessica.Ruskin@gov.bc.ca)>

To: "[camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca](mailto:camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca)" <[camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca](mailto:camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca)>

Cc: "[david.argument@pc.gc.ca](mailto:david.argument@pc.gc.ca)" <[david.argument@pc.gc.ca](mailto:david.argument@pc.gc.ca)>, "[tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca](mailto:tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca)" <[tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca](mailto:tyler.peet@pc.gc.ca)>

Date: 25/08/2017 09:10 AM

Subject: RE: trapline guidance...

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Hi Camille;

My apologies for the delayed response. **s.22** I will ensure your enquiry is addressed early next week. If you could provide me with the list of trapline folders, that would be extremely helpful.

Thank you for your patience. Have a great weekend!

Jessica

**Jessica Ruskin, MSc** | Resource Manager

**Haida Gwaii Natural Resource District** | West Coast Region

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development

Phone: 250-559-6203 | Fax: 250-559-8342 | e-mail: [Jessica.Ruskin@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jessica.Ruskin@gov.bc.ca)

**From:** [camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca](mailto:camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca) [<mailto:camille.collinson@pc.gc.ca>]

**Sent:** Thursday, August 24, 2017 2:16 PM

**To:** Ruskin, Jessica FLNR:EX

**Cc:** [david.argument@pc.gc.ca](mailto:david.argument@pc.gc.ca)

**Subject:** Fw: trapline guidance...

Hi Jessica,

I am filling in for Tyler **s.22** and I am wanting to follow up on the correspondence below. Could you provide me with the status of this inquiry, if any.

Like Tyler said, if it is helpful, I can provide a list of names of trapline holders.

Haawa in advance for your attention to this matter,

Camille

----- Forwarded by David Argument/NOTES/PC/CA on 22/08/2017 02:20 PM -----

From: Tyler Peet/NOTES/PC/CA  
To: "Ruskin, Jessica FLNR:EX" <[Jessica.Ruskin@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jessica.Ruskin@gov.bc.ca)>  
Cc: David Argument/NOTES/PC/CA@PC  
Date: 15/08/2017 01:32 PM  
Subject: trapline guidance...

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Hi Jessica. I've got a couple of questions that have come up I'm hoping you can help me with...

As part of the original establishment process of what would eventually become Gwaii Haanas, Canada and BC signed the South Moresby Agreement. That agreement stipulated (among MANY other things) that certain interests would be allowed to persist, including traplines. The agreement indemnifies BC from any responsibility related to the trapline licenses active at the time of establishment (they're listed in an appendix) and as far as I can tell, Parks Canada hasn't done much with them since.

Someone has come forward with a claim that their relative has bequeathed them one of those original licenses. We're not in the business of administering these (or at least, not since I've been here!) and we're at a loss regarding any information about them. I'm hoping you can help me with two things:

- 1) Identifying any license information (spatial and aspatial) WRT those licenses that existed inside the terrestrial portion of Gwaii Haanas at the time of the signing of the agreement (1988), and,
- 2) A general description of what the Provincial process regarding passing along the trapline might be. Is it possible to bequeath the license? If so, how would that work?

As I recall, managing the trapline licenses fell to a few folks there: Shay would ensure consultation occurred with trapline holders in the CP/RP context, geomatics identified them through spatial statusing, and Berry commented on the wildlife management aspect of things. Might be that the licenses themselves were adjudicated in Nanaimo or Smithers? If there is someone else I could be bothering with this, let me know...I can provide you with a list of the original trapline holder names if that's helpful.

Thanks,  
Tyler

---

**Tyler Peet | Resource Conservation Manager | Gestionnaire de la Conservation des Ressources**

Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve, National Marine Conservation Area Reserve, and Haida Heritage Site

Réserve de parc national, réserve d'aire marine nationale de conservation, et site du patrimoine haïda Gwaii Haanas

Parks Canada | Parcs Canada | t (250) 559-6312 | **s.22**

[attachment "GH\_TraplineAreas\_20170825.xlsx" deleted by Tyler Peet/NOTES/PC/CA]

# National Parks Wildlife Regulations

SOR/81-401

## CANADA NATIONAL PARKS ACT

**trap** means a structure, contrivance or device that is capable of capturing wildlife by affording entrance but not exit, and includes a snare; (*piège*)

## General Prohibitions

**4 (1)** Except as otherwise provided in these Regulations, no person shall

(a) hunt, disturb, hold in captivity or destroy any wildlife within, or remove any wildlife from, a park;

(c) in any park other than a park referred to in paragraph (b), or outside a park, be in possession of any wildlife killed or procured within a park, unless the wildlife is in that person's possession in accordance with subsection (4);

(4) A person may, in any park other than a park referred to in paragraph (1)(b), have in the person's possession any wildlife if

(a) subject to subsection (5), the person in possession of the wildlife produces, on the request of a park warden or other park officer,

(i) an export permit as issued pursuant to the *Game Export Act*,

(ii) a hunting licence or permit or a trapping licence or permit issued by the province in which the wildlife was procured,

(5) Subsection (4) does not apply to a person who is in possession of wildlife that the person is authorized under paragraph 15(1)(a) to remove, relocate or destroy.

**15 (1)** A superintendent may authorize

(a) the removal, relocation or destruction of wildlife for scientific purposes or park management purposes;

**GWAIH HAANAS AGREEMENT**

BETWEEN: THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA, represented by the Minister of the Environment  
AND: THE COUNCIL OF THE HAIDA NATION, for and on behalf of the Haida Nation and  
represented by the Vice President of the Council

4.2 In a spirit of full and frank disclosure, both parties agree that they will refer any step, activity, or development that affects the planning, operation and management of the Archipelago to the AMB for deliberation as described in section 5 below.

4.3 Matters to be addressed by the AMB will also include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (e) guidelines, including the application thereof on a case by case basis, for the care, protection and enjoyment of the Archipelago concerning, among other things,
  - (i) permits or licenses for commercial tour operations, research or other activities;

| Region 1 - Vancouver Island Regulation # 2018-1-09: LEH Elk Bull Only Closures - Voting Results = Support (12) / Neutral (1) / Oppose (4)  |                                      |      |
|--|--------------------------------------|------|
| If you want to close it for LEH then you better close these zones for guide outfitters too. Foreigners should not be taking these elk if residents aren't able   | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 16:15     | s.22 |
| seems reasonable to close hunting season if populations are truly that low.  | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 07:57   |      |
| Focus should be on poaching not restricting hunting opportunity.   | Tuesday, January 2, 2018 - 14:29     |      |
| Time to start an aggressive predator control program and police the roads at night to stop the poaching  | Thursday, December 21, 2017 - 14:52  |      |
| What has happened to the populations and other then hunt restrictions what is the recovery plan?   | Wednesday, December 20, 2017 - 14:13 |      |
| If this area is to be closed due to low numbers, it should be closed to all humans. FN included.   | Tuesday, December 19, 2017 - 20:35   |      |
| I concur   | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 13:16      |      |
| Cut first nation and guide outfitter allocations before resident hunters   | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 10:24     |      |
| I agree with a closure if populations have declined. As a hunter in these regions I have seen a dramatic rise in predator numbers on the north island 1-13 and 1-12. Primarily wolf sign is present now throughout.  | Friday, January 12, 2018 - 11:54     |      |
| Like I have said before you can not have a segment of the population in this day and age to be allowed to hunt 24/7 365 with no controls or reporting.   | Wednesday, December 20, 2017 - 00:52 |      |
| yes, we need the population is important, I have first nations friends in these MU's we must be accountable and have accuracy with these herds before we lose them.  | Wednesday, January 3, 2018 - 18:32   |      |
| Sad to hear about the state of these sub populations. I hope an emphasis on the cause of decline will result.  | Tuesday, December 19, 2017 - 21:22   |      |
| I believe in addressing the issues of predator control and habitat loss/access before shortening hunting seasons   | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 15:56     |      |
| Region 1 - Vancouver Island Regulation # 2018-1-10: Create New Antlerless-only Elk Hunting Opportunity - Voting Results = Support (17) / Neutral (1) / Oppose (7)  |                                      |      |
| Great to hear!   | Wednesday, December 20, 2017 - 12:32 | s.22 |
| Yes, worth doing if numbers support it.  | Tuesday, January 2, 2018 - 14:40     |      |
| Private land owned by corporations is illegally blocking access to public lands in contravention of agreements made when the land was sold by the BC government  | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 16:43     |      |
| do not allow shoot females   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 20:43   |      |
| I support this proposed regulation change.   | Tuesday, December 19, 2017 - 20:37   |      |
| I concur   | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 13:19      |      |
| money grab. Increase bull allocation.  | Tuesday, December 19, 2017 - 21:52   |      |
| Increase population.   | Wednesday, January 10, 2018 - 23:33  |      |
| Please do not open up more cow draws, we need them.  | Wednesday, January 3, 2018 - 18:41   |      |
| Happy to see more elk hunting opportunities in region 1, particularly in areas with good elk numbers   | Tuesday, December 19, 2017 - 21:49   |      |
| If the science supports it.  | Tuesday, December 19, 2017 - 21:25   | s.22 |
| I support a greater opportunity for elk hunting which is sustainable with population numbers.  | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 16:07  |      |
| agree with a smaller number of antlerless being offered  | Wednesday, December 20, 2017 - 17:15 |      |
| Unnecessary and potentially dangerous to others in the area  | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 16:04  |      |
| If the #'s are there opportunity should follow   | Wednesday, December 20, 2017 - 12:26 |      |
| Region 1 - Vancouver Island Regulation # 2018-1-10: Lengthen Wolf Trapping Season on Vancouver Island - Voting Results = Support (64) / Neutral (2) / Oppose (207)   |                                      |      |
| Thats ridiculous to lengthen the wolf season its already twice as long as it needs to be so why make it even longer now  | Saturday, January 13, 2018 - 16:51   | s.22 |
| please do not do this, there is nowhere near enough evidence to support such a drastic action and you could be inflicting a lot of unnecessary damage.   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 01:08   |      |
| From a conservation point of view, the lengthening of the trapping seasons for wolves makes no sense whatsoever. As described in your proposal, the estimates of wolf populations are at best, very rough. One cannot determine if a species is stable, decreasing or increasing simply by guessing population sizes. Furthermore, it is wrong to assume that deer populations are decreasing due to increased wolf predation as there are too many other variables that partake in population size determination. A decrease in deer populations and other large herbivores is not necessarily a bad thing either: before human influence nature existed in a balanced system and the decrease in deer populations may be the ecosystem trying to return to a balance state where deer are brought down to a sustainable population size. Unfortunately I am not knowledgeable enough to give a professional opinion on this subject. I do however feel that it's a real tragedy that wolves are still hunted and used as a scapegoat to allow humans to continue with their unsustainable environmental practices and for others to gain the sick pleasure of killing an innocent life. Might I add for what gain? The collapse of the natural realm due to our constant meddling? | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 14:07    |      |



|  |                                      |      |
|--|--------------------------------------|------|
| I spend a lot of time in the winter cougar hunting on Vancouver island and also working in the logging industry. over the last 5 years there has been a sharp increase in the number of wolves in the north island where I live and work. areas that used to have healthy deer populations are now devoid of game ie the white river drainage in the Sayward area. what was once a pack of 2-4 wolves is now 10-14 strong. I've noticed the same thing in the eve river and tsitika river areas. not only should the season be lengthened but pressure needs to be put on area trappers to target wolves   | Wednesday, January 10, 2018 - 20:04  | s.22 |
| Dear B.C. Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development's Angling, Hunting and Trapping Engagement, Please find below Humane Society International/Canada's submission regarding our concerns related to BC's Wolf Management Plan. Thank you again for your time on these important issues. We look forward to your response and we would be happy to discuss our submission with you further at your earliest convenience. Respectfully, Julie MacInnes Wildlife Campaign Manager Humane Society International/Canada ***** I. BC Wolf Management Plan: Conflicting Objectives The provincial Wolf Management Plan was updated in 2014, and the B.C. Liberal government ignored the vast majority of public comments on the draft that requested more emphasis on the inherent and ecological values of wolves in British Columbia. Our concerns generally stem from the conflict between the 1st and 4th objectives, which are as follows: (1) to ensure a self-sustaining population throughout the species' range that fulfills the role of wolves as a top predator in B.C.'s diverse ecosystems; (4) to manage specific packs or individuals where predation is likely preventing the recovery of wildlife populations threatened by wolf predation. II. Impacts of Persecution on Wolves Wolves are highly susceptible to persecution (Creel and Rotella 2010, Mallonee et al. 2011, Darimont et al. 2015, Creel et al. 2015, Ripple et al. 2016, Borg et al. 2016, Schmidt et al. 2017). Large-bodied carnivores are sparsely populated across vast areas, invest in few offspring, provide extended parental care to their young, females limit reproduction and social stability promotes their resiliency (Weaver et al. 1996, Stoner et al. 2006, Creel et al. 2015, Wallach et al. 2015). Human persecution affects their social structure and harms their persistence (Weaver et al. 1996, Stoner et al. 2006, Creel et al. 2015, Wallach et al. 2015). The effect of human persecution is super additive, meaning that kill rates on large carnivores has a multiplier effect on the ultimate increase in total mortality over what would occur in nature due to breeder loss, social disruption, and their indirect effects including increased infanticide and decreased recruitment of their young (Darimont et al. 2009, Estes et al. 2011, Ripple et al. 2014). Hunting wolves may have detrimental effects on the fitness of individuals, change packs' evolutionary potential, and increase the risk for local population extinction (Bryan et al. 2014). III. Predator-Prey Ecology: Killing Predators Doesn't Boost Prey Populations for the Long Term The best available science indicates that widespread elimination of bears, coyotes and wolves are unlikely to restore caribou or other ungulates (Bishop et al. 2009, Hurlley et al. 2011, Mitchell et al. 2015). As such, we recommend that the 4th objective of the BC Wolf Management Plan be eliminated. Prugh and Arthur (2015) found that wolf control in their Alaska study area led to the decline of Dall's sheep. With the loss of wolves, coyote numbers increased and they preyed upon young Dall's sheep. This phenomenon has been documented many times in several ecosystems. Top carnivores limit the population size of smaller carnivores, which reduces overall predation pressures (Crooks and Soule 1999, Ripple et al. 2014, Wallach et al. 2015), and this natural regulation is especially important for survival of neonate ungulates (Berger et al. 2008, Prugh and Arthur 2015). Mitchell et al. (2015) found that heavy persecution of both wolves and coyotes initially increased the number of Dall's sheep in their study area, but when the sheep population approached or exceeded the carrying capacity, which is a maximum population size set by the amount of forage available or K, a severe winter (with deep snows and heavy crusting) counteracted population increases. Meanwhile in the reference area (where no predator control measures were implemented), the Dall's sheep population remained constant. In other words, natural predation on Dall's sheep was compensatory, meaning it merely replaced mortality from weather and starvation. These biologists caution against predator control policies as a means of increasing prey herds. Mitchell et al. (2015) write (emphasis ours): We note that biologists have previously attempted to manipulate moose and caribou populations in central Alaska using harvest and predator control (Boertje et al. 1996, 2009), without considering K (Bowyer et al. 2005). This strategy had negative results, not only for moose populations and harvest, but also for agency credibility (Young and Boertje 2011). In Alaska, because of decades of wolf control, the Fortymile caribou herd grew beyond its carrying capacity and now the herd faces potential significant decline as a result of nutritional stress and lack of recruitment because of low fall calf weights and low birth rates (Boertje et al. 2009). Ndp should be embarrassed to promote the barbaric culture of hunting wolves when they felt the groundswell of opposition to grizzly hunting. Stop hunting wolves and cougars in BC wake up to your voters | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 13:16     |      |
| Decision should be made using science not emotion  | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 16:16      |      |
| Low density of deer is concerning. While I think inventories and population trends for wolves and deer should be ascertained scientifically, in the meantime I support an increased wolf trapping season.  | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 22:44    |      |
| Wolf populations are increasing across the province and trapping remains one of the only semi-reliable ways of killing wolves.   | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 23:03  |      |
| would be great to have open season all year long   | Tuesday, December 19, 2017 - 18:54   |      |
| I find it very disturbing and wrong to FURTHER allow the trapping of young wolves and pregnant wolves. Not only trapping is the most cruel way of hunting, but it is also the primary cause of the destruction of the natural food chain. Furthermore, the government openly admits that no scientific survey of the population has been done since 1994. They also admit the only reason is monetary. The planet and ecosystem are already deeply threatened by human activity and no amount of money should be too great to conserve the great canadian wildlife. The answer is simple: no law should be passed without evidence that the population went up. The ignorant decision of a minister without backing proof is not the right choice. Have you thought that these wolves come closer to human settlements because of too much hunting, therefore the disruption of the natural food chain? Correct measures need to be evaluated and taken instead of sudden, cruel and inefficient ones. I ask again : survey or do not pass this law. It is imperative that conservation comes first. Reconsider this decision and please listen to the population. Thank you.  | Wednesday, December 20, 2017 - 12:38 |      |
| I'm dismayed to learn that trapping of wolves is still allowed on Vancouver Island, given that there has been no peer-reviewed, scientifically collected data since 1994 (that's over 20 years ago!) to indicate this population is healthy and stable. Anecdotal data is NOT an acceptable basis for allowing the trapping of wolves - or increasing the length of the trapping season. Especially when that data may come from 'biased' sources. Finally, even the most humane traps are cruel, leaving an animal to starve to death or gnaw its leg off. With no scientific justification for this trapping, trapping of wolves should be outlawed, not increased.  | Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 03:08     |      |
|  | Friday, January 12, 2018 - 19:07     |      |

|   |                                     |      |
|---|-------------------------------------|------|
| Please do not make the devastating decision to allow BC wolves to be hunted 10 months of the year with crule methods like leg snares. These genetically unique wolves are misunderstood as main contributors to decreased deer/ carabou populations when they mainly feed on ocean critters. Maybe if habitat loss were addressed and wildlife corridors were established, the wolves wouldn't have to be a scapegoat for such ecological imbalances. Please don't allow these beautiful creatures to be more vulnerable than they already are. Thank you.  | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 16:39  | s.22 |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Ridiculous!  | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 07:46    |      |
| An increase in wolf population does not mean we should ramp up efforts to kill more of them. Healthy populations of top predators are crucial for maintaining healthy ecosystems, including healthy prey populations. Killing wolves can lead to serious ecological repercussions. There is abundant research showing that healthy ungulate populations go hand in hand with robust carnivore populations, including wolves. See for example the role of predators in preventing and limiting disease transfer for serious threats to ungulates such as Chronic Wasting Disease, see <a href="http://mountainjournal.org/predators-and-chronic-wasting-disease">http://mountainjournal.org/predators-and-chronic-wasting-disease</a> . Furthermore, neck killing snares do not meet standards for a humane death established by Canadian Council on Animal Care for a humane death. The irrational and unscientific killing of large numbers of wolves in the province must stop.   | Wednesday, January 10, 2018 - 20:14 |      |
| Firstly, how are you still so misguided that you still subscribe to the ideology that killing predators helps increase ungulate numbers in the long term? That is never the answer, and it will never properly solve the problem. These coastal wolves are a unique, cherished and vital part of the ecosystem. I very strongly oppose this proposal for a number of reasons - you simply don't know how many wolves there are. Your number counts are old and outdated and you are not basing your recent assessments on sound science. It is based on anecdotal reports that wolf numbers seem to be increasing, but there is no recent reliable, science-based population count of wolves on the island (the last population estimate is from 1994), nor any measurable data to suggest the population is in fact increasing. Even if wolf populations are confirmed scientifically to have increased, that alone does not justify lengthening the trapping season. Similarly, there is no reliable evidence to suggest that any decline in ungulates is necessarily due to wolf populations - any decline in ungulates must be researched in-depth. We also oppose lengthening the trapping season due to the increased risk of non-target species being caught in these traps, not to mention the safety issues facing the public and domestic animals. The provincial government has stated that they will be moving forward with a broader consultation process for a renewed wildlife management strategy for the province in 2018, but this one-off policy fails to align with the government's acknowledgements that a renewed strategy is needed. Instead, it seems more in-line with the previous government's tendency to scapegoat predators. In addition, the lack of reliable, measurable data surrounding this proposal is incredibly worrisome and dangerous. For these reasons, i'm calling on the provincial government to reject this proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season and instead move forward with the process of updating the province's wildlife management strategy so that it is <u>science-based, conservation-focused and aligned with the values of the vast majority of British Columbians</u> . I am 100% AGAINST lengthening the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. Wolves are a much needed species in order to keep the eco-system in balance. | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 18:29 |      |
| I support a lengthened trapping season on wolves in Region 1. I have noticed in the areas I hunt a large drop in ungulate populations and an astounding amount of wolf sign. Although I do not believe predators are only to blame for the decline of Deer on the the North Island ( CR North ), I do think that managing the predator population is more necessary than ever. Lets not forget the continuing loss of habitat and wintering grounds the deer are continually facing.  | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 19:38  |      |
| Our roads allow easy travel, the clear-cuts leave no cover for prey to hide, and our livestock provides easy meals. Humans caused this imbalance and thus wolves MUST be managed. However, I would like our biologists to review the science and make sure this is a properly sustainable method.   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 21:16  |      |
| I oppose this proposal due to a lack of sound research.   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 13:28  |      |
| If predator numbers are not managed how do people expect deer, elk, or moose to recover. The government is not interested in protecting habitat for ungulates, so we have to manage predators. Humans have a huge impact on the environment, our activities are already reducing ungulate numbers through habitat destruction and degradation. We are the ultimate apex predators, so we need to manage other predators of these species. There are also instances of wolves attacking dogs, while people have been walking near Tofino. How long until a wolf attacks a child or small person. Unfortunately, I am skeptical of this government, too much credence has been given to the uneducated, anti-hunting movement and their slick campaigns. Most people who are knowledgeable outdoorsmen, hunters and trappers, like myself, see animals for how they are, not as cuddly teddy bears, as these groups see them. The government needs to put emotions aside, and do the right thing once in a while, to protect deer, moose, elk, etc...numbers, and people for that matter, rather than listening to ridiculous polls. Polls on predator hunting are terribly unreliable as it is. Most animal activist groups, and anti-hunting groups have a huge social media presence, and funding and are really good at organizing their members to vote against hunting. They also tug at the heartstrings of the uneducated urbanites, who have no experience of the outdoors. Most hunters unfortunately, are not this organized, and we are not very good at getting our opinions heard, and getting people to look at the research that supports our stance, especially in the current media/government climate.   | Friday, January 12, 2018 - 08:17    |      |
|   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 01:18  |      |
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| I'm very skeptical about the provincial governments proposal to extend the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. The fact that this decision is being made based on anecdotal reports and not science-based information seems questionable. In some areas on the island there have been reports of decreased ungulate numbers and increased wolf sightings, but lets not jump to the conclusion that we need to kill more wolves. Increased industrial activity and more roads for logging means easier corridors for wolves to travel and hunt, and less habitat for ungulates to hide in. Just an example of how there could be many factors affecting the ungulate populations, and that alone needs to be studied further in depth before blaming only the wolves. The report states the last comprehensive wolf monitoring on the island was in 1994...24 years ago. Seems like that could be some outdated information. I believe the government needs to come up with a conservation plan that is more based on scientific facts of what is going on in our ecosystems rather than based off sightings, tracks and trends. | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 11:21 | s.22 |
| This is an appalling proposal. there is no justification for trapping more island wolves. If there are less deer on the island then do not allow hunting of this population until it recovers. This is just wrong. Trapping of these animals should not be allowed regardless of their numbers as this is a cruel method of killing.  | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 11:24 |      |
| Based on their relatively new arrival on the island and their proven consumption of ungulates and other wildlife, it is a certainty that wolves are contributing to recent ungulate population declines. I would strongly support this regulation change as I am sure based on their elusive behaviors, that very few are being removed currently. I choose to harvest my own meat, not buy it from a grocery store, and the wolf population is affecting our ability to do that. Management of predators is a proven method to increase ungulate populations and allow us the ability to harvest our food. Wildlife is a public resource for all of us to utilize in ways we feel is appropriate. I would like to keep it that way and resist any attempt at other user groups to limit my access. This is not a conservation concern, period. Lets keep emotion out of the policy making. Ultimately I would like to see more funding go into wildlife so we could monitor all animal species more closely.   | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 14:01    |      |
| I agree with the oppositions to this poorly devised plan. Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward. Sincerely s.22   | Wednesday, January 10, 2018 - 07:22 |      |
| The optics of this proposal are awful. First, the long awaited NDP government ignores environmentalist concerns by going ahead with Site C (bad), then you ban trophy grizzly hunting (good), now you extend wolf trapping season on the Island (bad). What next? To base such a fundamentally important decision on hearsay is pandering to squeaky wheels. The areas where wolves (still) exist are not generally home to many domestic animals which might be put at risk if deer populations are actually reduced somewhat. Predator/prey relationships are cyclical and need not be fiddled with, in my view. In addition, no matter how "humane" the trap, it is still a Bad Day for the wolf. We have much more important things to worry about, like salmon farms.  | Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 13:04    |      |
| It's inhumane and unnecessary!!   | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 21:30  |      |

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| <p>To whom it may concern, The proposed extended wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island is un-scientific, illogical, unethical and completely unjustified by the rationale statement. Decisions regarding the trapping or culling of apex predators should never be based upon anecdotal evidence. In this case, much research has shown that island populations of predatory mammals can be genetically distinct and often isolated from surrounding populations. This makes island populations of apex predators highly susceptible to genetic drift and allee effects. These basic and foundational concepts of wildlife management appear to be completely ignored in the proposed regulation, which is shortsighted and misguided. Below I will quote a recent article in the Times Colonist that accurately summarizes my concerns: ?As British Columbia?s Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development is proposing to extend wolf-killing season on Vancouver Island to 10 months from the current eight months, wolves on the Island could endure an additional two months each year of needless suffering. In B.C., hunters and trappers kill more than 1,200 wolves annually. Yet, the ministry admits ?much of the information the province?s wildlife managers obtain regarding wolf populations is anecdotal, with a reliance on public sightings and observations.? In other words, B.C.?s lethal exploitation of wolves is not based on science. Rather, the government relies on anachronistic seat-of-the-pants management rooted in an anti-predator ideology embedded in what its proponents ironically call the ?North American Model of Wildlife Conservation.? In line with its capricious approach to wolf management, the ministry?s stated rationale for extending the trapping season is centred on anecdotal sightings and observations of an ?increased wolf population and a lack of ungulates (primarily deer) in many northern and west coast management units on Vancouver Island.? The ministry says: ?Regional staff have witnessed increased [wolf] sightings/scats/tracks while conducting aerial and ground-based ungulate inventory.? Anecdotes and guesswork, however, are not scientific data, and when substituted for sound science, they contribute to poor reasoning and stunningly bad decisions. The ministry goes on to state: ?There have been decreased trends in deer population index in northern management units since the increased wolf sightings/sign have been observed,? implying a causal fallacy that wolf predation is the ultimate cause of deer decline on Vancouver Island. In addition to blatantly violating the elementary statistical principle of ?correlation does not imply causation,? the ministry?s reckless conjecture is contradicted by an abundance of scientific literature. The actions of humans coupled with a suite of natural forces affect deer abundance. Predators are only one factor in this dynamic. In fact, predator-prey interactions are influenced overwhelmingly by the altered landscape we have created through decades of widespread clearcut logging and industrial forestry. Forest fragmentation and associated habitat loss from clearcut logging adversely affect deer populations. Scientific studies by the U.S. Forest Service in the temperate rainforests of the Tongass National Forest in southeast Alaska have shown that ?short-rotation clearcut logging of old growth forests ? will reduce habitat capability for Sitka black-tailed deer. This conclusion is supported by an extensive body of research spanning 30 years on forest succession following logging, silvicultural practices, deer habitat relations and nutritional ecology of deer.? Although forage in early cutover areas might be temporarily abundant, typically it is of lesser nutritional value. In a few short years, when the second-growth plantation-forest canopy closes, there is next to no forage. Some understory plant species never reappear in areas subjected to the kind of short-rotation and even-age management that is dominant on Vancouver Island. What little forage persists is not available to deer during periods of deep snow because deer can neither travel efficiently nor access forage in snow that accumulates in clearcuts. Taken ?deer winter ranges? set amidst a sea of clearcuts provide a futile panacea. From the Tongass study: ?Within 30 years of clearcutting, regenerating conifers shade out most understory vegetation, creating poor habitat conditions for deer. These stands represent a serious problem for deer because the habitat is poor in all seasons, and these conditions persist for a long time (150 to 200 years).? This, too, describes Vancouver Island, where most of the Island?s old-growth forests have been transformed by clearcut logging and converted into biologically simplified tree plantations that are logged on short rotations, doing little to provide productive habitat for wildlife. Predation by wolves affects deer populations, just as all predators affect prey</p> | <p>Friday, January 19, 2018 - 16:24</p> |
| <p>There is no reliable, measurable count on wolves on Vancouver Island. There is no reliable, measurable data that would suggest changes in populations of wolves on Vancouver Island There is an implied connection between the alleged increase in wolf sightings and decrease in deer population, but no evidence given of a casual link, nor any further information on the deer populations ( such as a cause, research etc.) There is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target-species caught or killed by these traps and how many more wolves and other species the proposal would lead to being killed; and There is no rationale explaining why an increase of wolves, if there is one, requires an extended trapping season. The proposal also fails to acknowledge the trapping-related safety issues for domestic animals and humans alike. I am therefore calling on the government to drop this proposed regulatory change, and ensure that proper research is conducted prior to moving forward with other proposals. Regards s 22</p>   | <p>Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 13:29</p> |
| <p>Please do not lengthen the wolf trapping season. Stop it altogether!! It is grossly inhumane and disruptive to the ecosystem. If you're so worried about deer and elk populations, stop hunting by humans and focus on catching poachers. These beautiful, and important animals deserve better!!</p>  | <p>Friday, January 19, 2018 - 17:12</p> |

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| <p>This proposal to expand wolf trapping should be abandoned because it does not provide even the most basic information to support it. Specifically: -No recent count of wolves on Vancouver Island is provided. The proposal states that the last population count of a small section of the Island was done in 1994 ? twenty-three years ago ? and there is no data to suggest that the population of wolves on the Island has changed; -The proposal implies that there is a causal connection between an increase in anecdotal wolf sightings and a decrease in the deer population, but there is no research or evidence to support this; -No information on current wolf trapping numbers is given, non-target species caught or killed by these traps, and how many more wolves and other species the proposal could cause to be killed; and, -The proposal does not explain why an increase in wolves, if one exists at all, requires an extended trapping season. This proposal is shoddy and appalling. The proposal would expand the cruelty of trapping despite no evidence that there is a problem, and even if a problem did exist, this proposal offers no evidence that it would solve that problem. The government should reject this proposal in its entirety and refuse to consider any similar proposals unless they have some basis in fact and science. Thank you.</p>   | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 05:27   | s.22 |
| <p>This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.</p>   | Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 15:19    |      |
| <p>Please consider to save wolf population because this proposal is not based on accurate and up to date scientific and biological information (1994 is not up to date).</p>  | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 15:33  |      |
| <p>This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward. Please help protect these precious wolves and do not lengthen the hunting season!</p>   | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 19:51     |      |
| <p>proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.</p>  | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 15:33     |      |
| <p>Please do not extend the Wolf Trapping Season and rather find a more humane way of dealing with Wolves</p>   | Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 16:23    |      |
| <p>Hello, ☺☺ and I am from Australia. I have found this proposal to be a disgrace to all that humanity is. While I am not local or have any affiliations with Canada, I am instead someone who hopes to visit your country in the near future and bear witness to the incredibly diverse and pristine ecosystem that your nation so graciously has. As a child, the wolf was, and still is, my favourite animal. It is incredibly shy, it is social and they cover vast distances. To my understanding, the wolves on Vancouver Island are more distinct yet from the main continent. All animals are precious and they help keep deer populations in check, they are the great stabiliser. The sick and old are their source of nourishment while the strong preserve. The deer population will grow to counter the efforts of the wolves. They contribute in far more positive ways than they do negative. They ought to be protected, not trapped, injured, abused and slaughtered. They belong more to the land than we as humans are. It hurts me to think that when I next visit Vancouver Island, it could be the last time I'd ever see them. We do not need to use their furs, their meat, and we do not need to control their population. Instead, please look at alternative measures to the problems that exist in your precious ecosystem - humans and their nature. We can do better as people, and we need to care about the animals and the world we live in. I encourage you to do the same.</p> | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 15:42  |      |
| <p>This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.</p>   | Wednesday, January 10, 2018 - 07:01 |      |
| <p>As biologists have determined that due to falling ungulate populations and increased trapping is recommended please do what is right and listen to those proposals. It's their job to figure these things out and if a change is necessary then they also have the ability to change it again next year. Pandering to the wants of animal rights activists while ignoring our own scientists will only harm bc wildlife.</p>   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 20:35  |      |
| <p>Wolves are an integral part of our ecosystem. No where else on the world can you find wolves like the ones found along the BC coastline. There have been numerous studies that show that controlling wolf populations does not help with controlling deer (or other) populations. With the decline of deer populations, wolf packs grow smaller (they self regulate). Please listen to science and reason before making this horrible decision of extending the wolf trapping season. Look at the success of the wolves in Yellowstone NP. Wolves encourage diversity! Let the deer population be controlled in a more natural way</p>   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 21:36  |      |
| <p>It is ridiculous to me that lengthening the trapping season is the solution that the BC government chose to boost deer populations. This is basic second year university biology. Predator populations increase in cycles in response to abundant prey, then collapse as prey populations decrease. The fact that this is also being done with the lack of supporting data is very frustrating. I oppose the extension of wolf trapping season in Vancouver Island.</p>  | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 18:39  |      |

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| I write to express my concern over your proposal that wolf trapping be allowed for almost 2 additional months on Vancouver Island. This decision was not based on any valid scientific research, but merely on assumptions based on anecdotal research. You assume that deer populations have decreased due to increased predatory activity by wolves, but you have no actual proof of that. You also assume that wolf populations have increased, but again this assumption is based only on anecdotal evidence---no valid scientific research has been undertaken to verify these assumptions whatsoever. As a former resident of Vancouver Island, and a concerned citizen of Canada, I urge you to undertake the appropriate studies---however expensive or time-consuming they may be---before deciding to proceed with such risky decisions. The consequences of poor wildlife management policies on your part may be greater than you know. And certainly greater than the Canadian people are willing to accept.   | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 15:41    |
| I lived on the island for 10 years. now travel there regularly for hunting and fishing areas we used to see many deer and little to no wolf sign now see many wolf and sign and only little deer  | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 22:41    |
| Leave all wildlife alone Horgan! !!!!!  | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 21:19   |
| The wolves need to be managed , should be open all yr with no bag limit   | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 20:17   |
| Given that there is no scientific evidence for this extension or the scientifically proven need in for population management at all at this time, it seems prudent to not pursue this extension or even the trapping at all until there is valid, scientific proof, not anecdotal evidence from biased observers who profit from the decisions made. These biased observers profit from these decisions and make the entire exercise wholly unscientific. As a citizen of BC, I expect more when it comes to our wildlife.  | Sunday, January 7, 2018 - 16:41    |
| Too many wolves to sustain healthy ungulate numbers.  | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 19:53 |
| To whom it may concern, Please do not extend the wolf hunt. This cull is inhumane and unethical. Wolves are not inventory, they are sentient being crucial to the integrity of the environment they live in, refer to the reintroduction of wolves into Yellowstone park. The problem here is humans impeding into their territory. Human infringement is leading to easier access for the wolves to hunt caribou, they are only following the pathways humans have created. If the government is truly invested in saving wildlife they would penalize companies that are colonizing the lands these animals live in. Wolves should not be punished, actually, heinously slaughtered is better fitter here, for human impact on their home base. Shooting them from the air, poisoning them, using a Judas wolf to track other wolves.. the mental impact this is has on a sentient and highly intelligent animal is detrimental. If humans did this to other humans they would be locked up for life without parole. This cull expresses that the B.C government is run by a bunch of soulless cowards. I oppose this extension. We can do better than this. Prove that B.C wolves are loved and respected by nixing this proposal and ending this entire cull.   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 13:13 |
| It's already too long. Ridiculous justifications.   | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 19:27 |
| There is no definitive reason to extend the trapping season. No guidelines or compilation of information on the wolf population is available. Without a proper study this move is totally egregious. The public should be made aware of the lack of governmental observation and expert analysis before such a drastic change is suggested. The lack of responsibility is shocking.   | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 00:05   |
| Wolves should be protected and without any recent and accurate inventories, it seems inhumane and irresponsible to be extending the hunt.   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 18:52 |
| Should be all year long.  | Tuesday, January 2, 2018 - 14:42   |
| Deer and elk on Vancouver Island need this badly.. Not enough hunters out actively hunting wolves   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 20:10 |
| I am writing to express my opposition to the NDP government proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. Killing wolves by such inhumane and cruel methods is unjustifiable and should be banned. The proposed plan to increase the legal trapping season to 10 months out of the year means that wolf packs, many with young pups, will be indiscriminately killed causing significant disruption and suffering of one of the most socially-evolved animals in North America. In addition, by the B.C. government's own admission, this proposal is not based on science or peer reviewed data that would support the contention that wolves are causing a disproportionate decline in deer or other ungulates. There is no reliable evidence that wolf populations have risen to an unnatural level. Wolves are highly social animals which are integral to ecosystem function, in particular the wolves of Vancouver Island are genetically distinct and globally rare. These unique wolves have been subjected to too many government sponsored kill programs over the last one hundred years and were extirpated on most of Vancouver Island, California, Oregon and Washington in the early 20th century. Wolves deserve protection and should not be exterminated because the B.C. government has continually failed to protect and recover enough habitat for ungulates. Research cited in the Coastal Black-Tailed Deer Study (B.C. Ministry of Forests, 1996) makes clear that any increased wolf predation is directly linked to human-caused changes. These changes include forest harvesting and road building which isolates winter ranges, increasing resident deer (with a survival rate of 77%) and decreasing migratory deer (which typically have a high survival rate of 95%). The isolation of winter habitat may intensify predation and an overall loss of deer populations and resiliency. Therefore, intact old-growth forests should be set aside in order to rebuild deer populations (McNay and Voller, 1995) instead of using wolves as a scapegoat for inadequate habitat protection for ungulates. Societal values support protecting wolves for a number of reasons. Wildlife based tourism is the fastest growing sector of the tourism industry and B.C.'s international reputation is at stake. As other countries attempt to reintroduce and protect wolves, Canada continues to perpetuate, support and now expand the violence towards this species. People from around the world recently celebrated your decision to end the trophy hunting of grizzly bears and would expect that a similar policy direction would be evolving for wolves. This proposal clearly takes our societal values and the integrity of our natural ecosystems in the opposite direction. Yours sincerely, | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 17:26   |

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| Hunting is a crude barbaric activity. Inflicting pain, suffering, and death upon sentient beings for their fur is unnecessary and has no place in a civilized society. It is outrageous that wolves are deemed overpopulated based on the mere claims of the hunters whose own vested interests are obvious. It is so disgusting that in a progressive country like Canada the humane and ethical treatment of sentient nonhuman animals is a low priority for our government   | Wednesday, January 10, 2018 - 06:33 |
| As i s 22<br>that is interested in environmental law, I am concerned and frankly disappointed in the BC government's proposal to increase the length of the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. I hope that the opinions of the public will be considered when making this decision, and that my points will be taken into account. Trapping, particularly the use of leghold traps, is inhumane; even with the best efforts to check traps frequently, animals that are caught are still often subjected to broken bones, leg swelling, self-mutilation (from trying to escape), and exhaustion. <a href="http://spca.bc.ca/programs-services/leaders-in-our-field/position-statem...">http://spca.bc.ca/programs-services/leaders-in-our-field/position-statem...</a> Additionally, studies have proven that Vancouver Island wolves are a genetically distinct species of wolf - they are coastal wolves, uniquely different from the Lower Mainland's timber wolves. Coastal wolves live off a diet of mainly salmon, clams and shellfish, and do not frequently interbreed with timber wolves. By grouping the two species together, this would consequently artificially inflate the wolves' population numbers: but the two must be considered separately, and it is unjust not to do so. If they are as genetically distinct as studies seem to suggest, and the number of coastal wolves that occupy Vancouver Island is actually much lower than appears, then they warrant similar protections as other species such as the kermode bear (a genetically distinct species of black bear). <a href="http://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/wolves-on-b-c-s-islands-mainland-genet...">http://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/wolves-on-b-c-s-islands-mainland-genet...</a> <a href="https://bmcecol.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/1472-6785-14-11">https://bmcecol.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/1472-6785-14-11</a> - please see results: "Our results from 116 individuals suggest the presence of a genetic cline between mainland and island wolves." A decision such as this MUST also consider scientific studies and facts, and must consult experts in these fields - the government cannot just rely on anecdotal evidence provided visually by hunters/trappers/etc, and doing so would be a disservice to the species that are being affected, and to the public that does not agree with this proposal. Finally, BC's attempt to control the deer population by culling wolves is misguided, and this has been shown time and time again - it is an (unfortunate) bandaid to a much larger problem. Using wolves as a scapegoat to address the decline in the numbers of deer does not get to the root of the problem. The root of the problem, so to speak, is that the main cause of the declining population is habitat loss - deer populations need old-growth forests, and there are not enough of these areas in BC that have been cordoned off and protected from logging. <a href="https://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/british-columbia/documents-indicate...">https://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/british-columbia/documents-indicate...</a> It also must be pointed out that the coastal wolves being targeted by the cull in this proposal lead a coastal lifestyle! If their diet consists mainly of sea-related food (fish/clams/etc), this indicates that they are not active hunters of deer (unlike their mainland cousins) and are not threatening the population as much as the government has been led to believe. And if this is the case, then there must be another factor affecting populations (if they have declined) - like forestation issues. I call upon the government, as a member of the public and a citizen of BC, to reconsider this proposal. More scientific research needs to be conducted to determine the actual populations of the coastal wolves and the deer that are living on the island, before something like this is implemented so hastily. One cannot rely on anecdotal evidence alone. Thank you for your consideration of my opinion in this matter. | Friday, January 12, 2018 - 10:02    |
| The B.C. government is still not recognizing the coastal wolves of Vancouver Island as genetically distinct and globally rare, nor the highly social nature of these family groups or packs. Leg hold traps are inhumane, cruel and should be banned.   | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 15:07  |
| Let me get this straight: Those people who are supposed to be educated, and basing management decisions on actual "science", are saying "counting wolves is hard, but people tell us they are seeing lots of tracks, and we haven't really bothered to do any censuses on deer, but people are telling us there are fewer now, so we think people should go ahead and kill more wolves." Really, Ministry biologists? Really? What mail-order wildlife management degrees do you people actually have? Here's a suggestion for steps on how to proceed with regard to this issue: 1. Do "science". Perhaps Google that word first. Hint: This involves collecting "data". Google that word too if you need to. 2. Base your management decisions on above "scientific data". This "proposal" is an embarrassment, and whoever drafted it - and the supervisor who approved it - should lose their jobs, as they clearly haven't the slightest idea what wildlife management is actually about.  | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 19:09  |
| Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.  | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 21:16     |
| I think that this research fails to acknowledge that we are encroaching upon their territory and that there is a natural cycle of predator and prey populations effecting each other. Wolves are a necessary part of the ecological system, we should not be imposing our will upon their natural cycle as it will have negative consequence in other species not only amongst animals but also the health of forests. On the pacific rim wolves are a unique specie of wolf that needs to be recognized. Just because there will be a couple of seasons when the deer population will be low is not a big deal, it will turn around as the wolves natural die off due to lack of food. We need to learn how to live with wolves not manage them!   | Friday, January 12, 2018 - 07:12    |
| There is not enough evidence to justify lengthening the trapping season. Anecdotal is just not enough.  | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 16:01 |
| I can't believe that this is being proposed in this day and age. Your ?rationale? is out-dated and hardly scientific. It's been proven time after time after time that human ?management? of species does not work! Look at all the examples, look at the long term results, stop making the same devastatingly arrogant and ignorant mistake over and over again. Trapping is the cruelest form of hunting - it should be abolished completely, not extended!  | Friday, January 12, 2018 - 11:01    |
| Need to ban hunting wolves entirely   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 03:35  |

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| It is impossible and reckless to support this proposed regulatory change when it fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. How can you proceed with this when there is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers? Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.   | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 16:29    | s.22 |
| Please do not lengthen the trapping season of this coastal wolf, as the species is very valuable to the conservation of the ecosystem. There is not adequate scientific research to back that the wolf population is directly linked to the decline in the number of deer in the area. The traps that will be used are also inhumane and should not be allowed. This species of wolf could be decimated by lengthening the trapping season and this would be a tragic outcome for the surviving ecosystem. Please, please do not consider this proposal in order to satisfy the hunters and guides in the area.  | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 16:01 |      |
| this proposal itself says there is no objective rationale for increasing the hunt, it is anecdotal information, and to draw a conclusion to increase the hunting of wolves is irresponsible.   | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 22:09  |      |
| Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.   | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 16:43    |      |
| The wolf populations on Vancouver island has certainly increased. As i observed both the cervid population and small mammal populations are declining as a result. So, I support this proposal.  | Friday, January 12, 2018 - 18:07   |      |
| Please accept this submission as part of the consultation for the proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. I oppose this proposal for several reasons. It is based on completely unreliable reports that wolf populations are on the rise, however, the most recent population count done was a population estimate in 1994. There has been no scientific data on population number in over 20 years. We also have no concrete evidence proving that even with a rise in the wolf population, this is contributing to the decline in ungulates. To fully assess, we would need to have scientific data and studies on the ungulate populations, which seems like a better plan than to eliminate their predators based on a hunch. We (humans) are better than that. What about all the non-target species that could be caught in said traps? Public risk and domestic animal risk? Please note I am not suggesting other forms of killing the wolves, however trapping is completely brutal and causes unneeded suffering. The provincial government has stated that they will be moving forward with a broader consultation process for a renewed wildlife management strategy for the province in 2018, but this one-off policy fails to align with the government's acknowledgements that a renewed strategy is needed. Instead, it seems more in-line with the previous government's tendency to scapegoat predators. In addition, the lack of reliable, measurable data surrounding this proposal is incredibly worrisome and dangerous. For these reasons, we are calling on the provincial government to reject this proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season and instead move forward with the process of updating the province's wildlife management strategy so that it is science-based, conservation-focused and aligned with the values of the vast majority of Canadians. | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 14:42   |      |
| I and my family oppose the lengthening of the wolf trapping season. Thank you for considering our input.   | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 13:36    |      |
| I am opposed to the lengthening of the wolf hunting season for several reasons. Let me preface my arguments by saying I am neither an avid hunter (I have been hunting) or a Vegan/Vegetarian. Firstly, there is obviously a stark and empty collection effort of information on recent wolf populations, not only on the Island but the entire province. The lack of quantifiable information on the current wolf population calls into question how the "Least Concern" designation can even be close to verifiable. Second, the use of leg-hold traps is both inhumane and unnecessarily cruel for modern hunting. Increasing the timeframe in which our local megafauna could be exposed to this practice is not a viable choice. In my opinion as a tax-paying, law-abiding citizen of this province the sightings and anecdotal evidence provided for this proposition does not constitute a legitimate reason for increasing the wolf hunting season.   | Saturday, January 13, 2018 - 18:32 |      |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to lengthen the season for wolf-trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from anecdotal evidence given by consumptive users and there is no information on past or current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch of non-target species caught, injured or killed, or how the increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research or actual rationale to connect the alleged changes in wolf populations with the unexplained, possibly unrelated changes in deer populations. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research and answers before any similar proposals are considered.   | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 15:41    |      |



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| "Anecdotal sightings/observations from numerous First Nations, trappers, resident hunters and guide outfitters regarding increased wolf population and a lack of ungulates (primarily deer) in many northern and west coast MUs in Region 1." This is an unacceptable rationale to cull Vancouver Island wolves. Only those who stand to gain monetarily have a say in this life and death matter. With no outline of the costs and difficulty of an inventory of wolves, you are making it impossible for the public to make an informed decision regarding a claim of overpopulation by those who benefit from their deaths. Wildlife belongs to all British Columbians, not just to those who want to kill them. Based upon the information that you have presented here I think a moratorium on the trapping of wolves is imperative, until scientific data regarding these claims is available. We can not be hunting wolves anymore especially during breeding and pup rearing months   | Wednesday, January 10, 2018 - 09:13 |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.  | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 20:50  |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.  | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 08:07    |
| Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this proposal. Predator control in order to increase ungulate populations has not been conclusively proven to be effective. In fact, there are studies (including <a href="http://www.nrcresearchpress.com/doi/abs/10.1139/cjz-2014-0142#.Wl-9cDelblU">http://www.nrcresearchpress.com/doi/abs/10.1139/cjz-2014-0142#.Wl-9cDelblU</a> ) showing that while it may be effective in one case, it might not be in another. Without conclusive scientific evidence of efficacy, I feel that more attention should be directed to the other causes, such as habitat loss, particularly due to the intrusion of resource-based industry. Additionally, there are no scientific-based estimates of the wolf population in order to determine the effect of an increase in trapping - current estimates are largely anecdotal. Increased trapping also intensifies the risk of trapping non-target species, including domestic animals. And finally, there is no evidence that any decline in ungulate populations is due to wolf predation. | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 15:24 |
| Lengthening the season is important; Vancouver Island needs to keep its predatory species in check.   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 19:56  |
| Until such a time as more scientific studies can be conducted indicating that the wolf population is indeed increasing, the trapping season for these animals should not be lengthened.   | Saturday, January 13, 2018 - 11:59  |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.  | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 09:57    |
| I vehemently oppose the propose to lengthen the wolf trapping season. The BC government hasn't conduct an investigation to prove that the decrease of the populations has been cause by wolves. Also, the government has not conduct a wolf population study since 1994, which means that they are not tracking the trends of the wolf populations and defendeimg their importance in the ecosystem. We must learn from the Yellowstone experience and defend and preserve our small wolf populations. Not to say that trapping is cruel and should be banned once and for all.   | Monday, January 15, 2018 - 19:01    |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.   | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 22:36     |
| A) The "humane traps" are still anything but. We all know that. B) The wolves need to be exterminated because "it's difficult to monitor them"?? Not because they are any kind of a real danger that can't be dealt with any other way. C) There are several conservation groups willing to step up and provide monitoring and studies. D) These wolves are KNOWN for eating fish as their primary food source! It's laughable that you want to trap them for killing deer! Even though they also do kill deer SO WHAT...that's what they SHOULD be doing!! That's how ecosystems work. Ever seen what happened to Yellowstone National Park in the U.S. when they reintroduced wolves?? It thrived. E) Perhaps the deer are disappearing because they are being over-hunted?   | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 20:02    |

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| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward. Thank you.  | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 12:48    | s.22 |
| The ungulates need all of the help they can get.   | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 15:59     |      |
| Frankly, I am stunned to see a proposal coming from the BC Government which is based on ?anecdotal? observations. I would think that the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development would be embarrassed to undertake a change in policy to further decimate the coastal wolf population, based on ?public sightings and observations?. It is a shame that getting essential data is challenging and expensive. It is a shame that no one in the Ministry appears to have contemplated no explanation other than rampaging rapacious wolves, to be the cause of the reported ?decreased trends in [the] deer population index?. But it is inexcusable to have the stated rationale form the basis of a decision critical to the future existence of these animals. The trapping season for these rare, genetically distinct and highly social animals is eight months which is already too long and will likely result in the extinction of coastal wolves. To increase it by two months is inexcusable, as is the use of obscenely cruel trapping methods. This proposal smacks of a purely political maneuver, offered to placate hunters distressed by the NDP?s recent decision to ban grizzly hunting. The timing of that decision also appeared to be primarily a political decision to try to placate environmentalists distressed by the government?s unpopular Site C decision. I had such high hopes for this government. Please start living up to the wonderful expectations that so many BC residents had for you!   | Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 13:11    |      |
| To whom it may concern, I would like to voice my opposition to the lengthening of the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island for the following reasons: Just as wolf monitoring can be difficult, it appears the same rationale is applied to deer populations which lacks any real evidence for decreased populations other than anecdotal. Anecdotal evidence is argued against when it comes to wolves, so it seems the province is contradicting itself regarding inventory and monitoring and arbitrarily placing the welfare of deer before that of wolves. The province's rationale also states the ?low conservation concern status? of wolves, but the last monitoring effort was more than twenty years ago which leaves ample time for a decline in population numbers. There is no way to estimate population size without proper monitoring and data. The province should lead the field in evidence-based decision-making, but the current proposal does little to that effect. The populations that do exist on Vancouver Island are cut off from Mainland influxes of genetic diversity and therefore do not benefit from the existence of other populations in B.C. They must be considered separate when considering threat status. Coastal wolves are genetically distinct from interior wolves which makes them invaluable to maintain the evolutionary capacity of the species. If we allow the trapping season to be extended, we risk losing individuals who are important genetic resources for the health of the population. Extending the trapping period farther into their breeding season in order to trap more females and pups is inherently wrong. These animals (who are culturally and economically important) have a right to carry out their evolutionary roles on a landscape that thrives from their presence. They are important to their ecosystem and can regulate their own populations, just as deer are regulated by natural forces. | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 19:32  |      |
| Without proper scientific evidence to account for the number of wolves available is not enough to allow for an extension of the proposal seeking to lengthen the wolf trapping season to September 10 to June 30. Completely unjustifiable. Making assumptions and guess work are not proper measures to deem that there is a heighten population of wolves. It's a costly exercise to provide inventory and monitor the wolves population, Please rescind the proposal regulations.   | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 16:07     |      |
| What a step backwards it would be to allow the cruel killing of beautiful, intelligent candidos -- with the only rational being anecdotal at best. There is not a shred of concrete, empirical evidence to suggest that wolves are responsible for a net decrease in deer. Further, there is no empirical evidence to show an increase in wolves. Wildlife management needs to be based on reproducible research, not word of mouth and heresay. BC made the right decision regarding grizzly bears. Please, let's not take a huge step backwards on wolf management.  | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 11:13   |      |
| give her   | Saturday, December 23, 2017 - 21:00 |      |
| Don't kill the wolves. You know it's wrong..... look inside yourselves. I have faith you will make the right decision. We are all one on this planet - all beings just want to live. Let live.   | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 17:12    |      |
| Please acknowledge that the coastal wolves of Vancouver Island are genetically distinct and globally rare, and the highly social nature of these family groups or packs. Leg hold traps are inhumane, cruel and should be banned   | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 17:43  |      |
| There is no reliable, measurable count on wolves on Vancouver Island (the last population count of a small section of the island was in 1994, according to the proposal); There is no reliable, measurable data that would suggest changes in populations of wolves on Vancouver Island; There is an implied connection between the alleged increase in wolf sightings and decrease in deer population, but no evidence given of a causal link, nor any further information on the deer populations (such as cause, research, etc.); There is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed by these traps and how many more wolves and other species the proposal would lead to being killed; and, There is no rationale explaining why an increase of wolves, if there is one, requires an extended trapping season. The proposal also fails to acknowledge the trapping-related safety issues for domestic animals and people alike. I  | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 16:21     |      |

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| Please accept this submission as part of the consultation for the proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. I strongly oppose this proposal for a number of reasons - it is based on anecdotal reports that wolf numbers seem to be increasing, but there is no recent reliable, science-based population count of wolves on the island, nor any measurable data to suggest the population is in fact increasing. Even if wolf populations are confirmed scientifically to have increased, that alone does not justify lengthening the trapping season. Again there is no evidence to suggest that any decline in ungulates is necessarily due to wolf populations - any decline in ungulates must be researched in-depth. I also oppose lengthening the trapping season due to the increased risk of non-target species being caught in these traps, not to mention the safety issues facing the public and domestic animals. The provincial government has stated that they will be moving forward with a broader consultation process for a renewed wildlife management strategy for the province in 2018, but this one-off policy not only fails to align with such a renewed strategy, but the lack of reliable, measurable data surrounding this proposal is incredibly worrisome and dangerous. For these reasons, I am calling on the provincial government to reject this proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season and instead move forward with the process of updating the province's wildlife management strategy so that it is science-based, conservation-focused and aligned with the values of the vast majority of British Columbians.   | Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 14:21    |
| Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.  | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 16:29     |
| The war on wildlife must stop. Do NOT extend the already deplorable and far too long-lasting period for innocent, fur-bearing wildlife to be trapped. Maimed and murdered. Thank you.   | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 08:52 |
| Trapping of any animal is absurd and needs to end. Especially in this case. Do not extend the trapping season. Trapping of these wolves is inhuman and not sustainable. If the BC government is trying? to protect? the Caribou they need to cease logging operations that are destroying habitat for many species. Please do not go through with this proposed extension for wolf trapping season. Cease the BC wolf cull at once.   | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 21:27    |
| To whom it may concern, I am writing as a concerned professional and student at the University of Victoria. The rationale provided for a lengthened trapping season displays a lack of evidence-based decision-making, a bias towards prey species over predator despite the greater ecosystem services provided by the latter, an irresponsible management strategy for a genetically, culturally, and economically valuable population of wolves, and the state sanctioning of an inhumane (Proulx et al., 2015), publicly abhorrent trapping method. I strongly advocate that the trapping season NOT be extended.   | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 12:45    |
| Support   | Friday, January 12, 2018 - 13:19    |
| I am curious to the current group who is opposing the extension of the wolf trapping on Vancouver island. They ask for scientific data to be collected regarding wolf populations impacts of increased trapping and impacts on wildlife. But in the case of the grizzly hunt nothing of the sort mattered...? I understand this type of research requires a great deal of time and money. I would hope that some of the costs of such studies would/could be covered by donations from such groups. Seeing as these types of people generate very little revenue towards wildlife management and scientific study. I hope our govt can see past the group pressures, manage unbiased, manage in the best interests for our wildlife and make decisions based on the best scientific information available.  | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 09:28    |
| Anecdotal sightings/observations, this is really what you are basing this on? I haven't observed any more wolves, but I see lots of deer.   | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 16:43  |
| Please accept this submission as part of the consultation for the proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. As an animal lover and a friend of people from Wildlife Defence League I must submit this proposal. Please pay a close attention to all the reasons mentioned under. I strongly oppose this proposal for a number of reasons - it is based on anecdotal reports that wolf numbers seem to be increasing, but there is no recent reliable, science-based population count of wolves on the island (the last population estimate is from 1994), nor any measurable data to suggest the population is in fact increasing. Even if wolf populations are confirmed scientifically to have increased, that alone does not justify lengthening the trapping season. Similarly, there is no reliable evidence to suggest that any decline in ungulates is necessarily due to wolf populations - any decline in ungulates must be researched in-depth. I also oppose lengthening the trapping season due to the increased risk of non-target species being caught in these traps, not to mention the safety issues facing the public and domestic animals. The provincial government has stated that they will be moving forward with a broader consultation process for a renewed wildlife management strategy for the province in 2018, but this one-off policy fails to align with the government's acknowledgements that a renewed strategy is needed. Instead, it seems more in-line with the previous government's tendency to scapegoat predators. In addition, the lack of reliable, measurable data surrounding this proposal is incredibly worrisome and dangerous. For these reasons, I am calling on the provincial government to reject this proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season and instead move forward with the process of updating the province's wildlife management strategy so that it is science-based, conservation-focused and aligned with the values of the vast majority of British Columbians. | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 15:10    |
| I'm in favour of at least seeing what a reduction in wolf population will do to help bring back the ungulate population. The wolf population is not at risk and if we can trappers a bit more time to take wolves then I'm all for it.  | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 15:09     |
| The season should run all yr as the wolves r multiplying  | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 21:24    |
| Please consider not increasing the hunting season on these genetically diverse apex predator.   | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 18:23  |

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| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.  | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 08:42   |
| I find it absolutely ridiculous that a decision made on this in a province where environment is of utmost important for not only intrinsic value but also economic value is based on absolutely no science at all and just hearsay. Before you make a decision such as this, there should always be a scientific study that this will not negatively affect the ecosystems in BC. No matter if the studies may be expensive, it is obvious with the example of the wolves in Yellowstone that decisions like this should be taken lightly. I am greatly disturbed that the government could even think about doing this. Living in Victoria, I can tell you that the deer populations do not seem based on anecdotal evidence to be decreasing. Maybe you should be doing some actual scientific studying!  | Monday, January 15, 2018 - 10:16   |
| I vehemently oppose lengthening wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. It is necessary that government policies be based on science and evidence. Anecdotal evidence, such as what is cited above, is always insufficient but especially so when it is relied on by our Provincial Government. I am embarrassed that in our beautiful and ecologically diverse province we are considering a policy which is cruel, inhumane and based on anything less than sound empirical evidence. The wolf species targeted is unique and important in maintaining the integrity of the Vancouver Island ecosystem. Please take action to come up with a solution to protect these animals rather than harm them. I will no longer support a party that furthers policy which is ignorant of and uninformed by science. Please make us proud.   | Saturday, January 13, 2018 - 23:37 |
| I am in support of extension on wolf trapping .   | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 18:31    |
| Hi, I am strongly opposed to the proposed lengthening of the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. This proposal is based on anecdotal evidence from "First Nations, trappers, resident hunters and guide outfitters " who obviously would be biased to want an increase in trapping periods. There is no recent science to determine current populations of Vancouver Island wolves with the most recent data being quoted above as from 1994. This proposal does not recognise that the wolves on Vancouver Island are genetically distinct and globally rare. Neither does it recognise the complex social family groups that keep wolf packs stable; a stable wolf pack is much less likely to come into conflict with humans., These BC wolves in particular deserve greater protection and a reduction or outright ban on trapping not an increase.   | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 15:14 |
| Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island First of all I am opposed to all interference with wolves. This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly in-researched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward. I was hoping the new government would be more in tune with the environment than the past. Lets make it happen!   | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 16:18    |
| To Whom It May Concern: I am writing as a Wildlife Biologist to oppose the proposed lengthening of the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. The rationale provided for a lengthened trapping season displays a lack of evidence-based decision-making, a bias towards prey species over predator despite the greater ecosystem services provided by the latter, an irresponsible management strategy for a genetically, culturally, and economically valuable population of wolves, and the state sanctioning of an inhumane, publicly abhorrent trapping method. The lack of accurate, evidence-based population estimates for both deer and wolves on Vancouver Island is clearly admitted to in the provided rationale. A relative dearth of knowledge of population estimates of both species should not favor one species over another, unless there is an inherent bias towards the game species and an inherent prejudice against the predator species. A lack of recent abundance estimates for the Vancouver Island wolf population should recommend the use of the precautionary principle in the management of this potentially vulnerable population. The Vancouver Island wolf population is of conservation concern due to potential threats to genetic diversity, and the maintenance of evolutionary capacity. This island population, separated from mainland sources of genetic diversity by a highly trafficked body of water, is vulnerable to a loss of genetic diversity, an important component of a viable population. Coastal wolves, like those found on Vancouver Island, have also been found to have specific signatures of local adaptation to marine-subsidized environments. The perpetuation of these adaptations preserves the evolutionary capital of this island population, or the ability of these wolves to adapt to future changes in their environment. Wolves on Vancouver Island are not only intrinsically valuable, but have immense cultural, economic, and ecological importance. Overabundant deer populations are incredibly destructive to the natural structure of forest ecosystems, and are prone to increased disease transmission. Additionally, predators like wolves have been shown to decrease the transmission of zoonotic tick-borne diseases by reducing the number of highly mobile vectors like deer. The proposed lengthening of the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island would represent an irresponsible management of an important and vulnerable predator population and a breaking of a public trust in government to manage whole, healthy ecosystems that best serve their human and wildlife inhabitants. | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 20:14 |
| wish no trapping was allowed of innocent animals  | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 18:58 |

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| Using traps is inhumane and should be banned. Trapping any animal using leg traps is not an acceptable or humane form of population control. It is very disappointing that our government is allowing this in the first place much less proposing to increase the length of season to kill these beautiful and misunderstood animals   | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 21:08  |
| OPPOSED. Do not do this.   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 10:34  |
| Cruel , ill informed and unnecessary. Have you ever studied this issue instead of acting on the whims of the hunting/trapping lobby who wishes are to just kill. Check out what happened to the coyote populations after the idiotic attempts to exterminate them as vermin.   | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 09:49 |
| I support any amendment that will reduce wolf numbers on Vancouver Island. There are far too many wolves. They are adversely impacting deer numbers over much of the Island resulting in poor deer hunting, especially on the northern half of the Island.   | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 12:24   |
| I opposed the proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season.   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 20:40  |
| I am writing to express my opposition to the government proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. Killing wolves by such methods is unjustifiable and should be banned. The proposed plan to increase the legal trapping season to 10 months out of the year means that wolf packs, many with young pups, will be indiscriminately killed causing significant disruption to one of the most socially-evolved animals in North America. In addition, by the B.C. government's own admission, this proposal is not based on science or peer reviewed data that would support the contention that wolves are causing a disproportionate decline in deer or other ungulates. There is no reliable evidence that wolf populations have risen to an unnatural level. Wolves are highly social animals which are integral to ecosystem function, in particular the wolves of Vancouver Island are genetically distinct and globally rare. These unique wolves have been subjected to too many government sponsored kill programs over the last one hundred years and were extirpated on most of Vancouver Island, California, Oregon and Washington in the early 20th century. Wolves deserve protection and should not be exterminated because the B.C. government has continually failed to protect and recover enough habitat for ungulates. Research cited in the Coastal Black-Tailed Deer Study (B.C. Ministry of Forests, 1996) makes clear that any increased wolf predation is directly linked to human caused changes. These changes include forest harvesting and road building which isolates winter ranges, increasing resident deer (with a survival rate of 77%) and decreasing migratory deer (which typically have a high survival rate of 95%). The isolation of winter habitat may intensify predation and an overall loss of deer populations and resiliency. Therefore, intact old-growth forests should be set aside in order to rebuild deer populations (McNay and Voller, 1995) instead of using wolves as a scapegoat for inadequate habitat protection for ungulates. Societal values support protecting wolves for a number of reasons. Wildlife based tourism is the fastest growing sector of the tourism industry and B.C.'s international reputation is at stake. As other countries attempt to reintroduce and protect wolves, Canada continues to perpetuate, support and now expand the hunting season of this species. People from around the world recently celebrated your decision to end the trophy hunting of grizzly bears and would expect that a similar policy direction would be evolving for wolves. This proposal clearly takes our societal values and the integrity of our natural ecosystems in the opposite direction. | Monday, January 15, 2018 - 19:21    |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.   | Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 14:47    |
| I support this proposed regulation change.   | Tuesday, December 19, 2017 - 20:52  |
| I disagree with this extension   | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 20:14    |

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| <p>Last year, 108 wolves were culled in order to protect a declining population of caribou in interior British Columbia. Between 2015 and 2017, 227 wolves were shot by helicopter. The cull is planned to begin again this winter, and this plan should be cancelled immediately. Are caribou important? Yes, most certainly. However, there is no evidence to suggest that last years wolf cull has been effective in preventing the, admittedly, alarmingly low numbers of caribou. Experts such as Sadie Parr, who is the executive director of the advocacy group ?Wolf Awareness,? suggests that the the cause of the rapidly declining caribou populations is due to habitat loss, not predation. Humans are the source of the low numbers of caribou in British Columbia, not wolves. It is obvious that, yes, wolves play a part in population loss of BC caribou, as wolves are predators whom hunt caribou for sustenance. However, as previously stated, habitat loss is the primary source of the decline in caribou numbers. Thus, killing wolves in efforts to protect caribou numbers is, to put it eloquently, a band-aid solution. To put it frankly, it is a barbaric demonstration of a problematic mindset that is at the heart of both the current caribou populations, and also the entirety of the wolf cull operation: it is the choice to turn a blind eye to the future, the choice to take the easy way out. The choice to ignore major social issues that are buried, oh so shallowly, beneath a cruel, inhumane, unjust, fruitless excuse of a solution. Sadly, it is not only the wolves of interior BC that are being targeted and killed. There is currently a proposal to increase the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island, in order to preserve deer populations. This proposal is based on data that is neither scientific, nor reliable. There has been no population count of wolves since 1994, and whether or not the wolves are causing a decline in deer populations is undetermined. There has been little effort put into estimating the population of wolves on Vancouver Island, because it is expensive and challenging. This excuse is not only unacceptable, but it is entirely unjust to extend the legal trapping season to ten months out of the year without first knowing the population numbers. Coastal wolves of Vancouver Island are not only rare, but they are, according to Science Media Centre of Canada, genetically distinct from other kinds of wolves. Trapping animals is an inhumane, nonselective practice that causes many animals other than wolves to die or be injured. This includes family pets, and endangered species. The wolves whom are trapped often spend days in the trap before being killed. Is this time, they suffer from dehydration, starvation, and unimaginable pain. It is not uncommon for them to try to chew off their own trapped limb. This is truly disturbing, extremely unethical, and totally unacceptable. The fact that the proposition to lengthen the trapping season for an animal that is not only ecologically extremely important but also rare, is an extraordinarily irresponsible choice to make. It is particularly irresponsible to do this without first spending the time and money necessary to determine the current population of coastal wolves. In the perfect world of both mine and many other British Columbians, the NDP government would demonstrate humanity and compassion and put an end to both wolf trapping and also the wolf cull. At the very least, I ask that this government whom has been trusted with power by voters such as myself stop the wolf cull immediately, and reject</p> | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 15:43 | s.22 |
| <p>Oppose lengthening wolf trapping season. Cruel, painful, and inhumane practice of leg trapping with not good enough evidence to support lengthening trapping season. Not enough wolf population to warrant this type of culling. Humanely trap and relocate, if anything. Half of the problem is environmental loss and overhunting due to PEOPLE.</p>  | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 16:27 |      |
| <p>Killing of top predators in protection of prey species is a bandaid solution. Trapping is also entirely inhumane. I am strongly opposed to this proposal.</p>   | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 17:29 |      |
| <p>This is common sense decision making. Wolves take a heavy toll on ungulates and there is no other way of ensuring healthy deer and elk populations aside from culling wolves especially in an eco system that is so heavily impacted by humans. I support this proposal.</p>  | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 16:02   |      |
| <p>I understand people make a living trapping animals. What I don't understand is the inhumane way it is done. Why is the wolf trapping timeline being changed?</p>  | Friday, January 12, 2018 - 14:10   |      |
| <p>To whom it may concern, I am strongly opposed to the trapping and killing of wolves on Vancouver Island or elsewhere in BC, and this includes aerial culling. These are inhumane and outdated practices. I voted for the NDP government because I believed it would stop these kinds of senseless, cruel acts against wildlife and would instead protect them. The trapping and killing cause horrifying and untold suffering to the animals. In this modern day and age, why are we still allowing our wildlife to be wiped out in the name of the fur trade? This is so wrong on so many levels, words fail. Wolves are apex predators and they are critical to healthy ecosystems and wild habitats. Their impact is significantly positive. If you want the wolves to help contribute to the economy, why not encourage and support ecotourism in and around the areas/beaches that the wolves frequent? This would bring in ongoing and far greater \$\$\$ for the Province, than this continued archaic trapping and killing fur trade. Why not choose instead to be on the forefront of protecting these beautiful animals so that future generations are able to appreciate and laud your actions and continue to enjoy the wolves as we have done? Please, adopt sophisticated and progressive policies when it comes to protecting these animals. It is ridiculous that in this day and age, you, our government is allowing the trapping and killing of wolves when predator numbers worldwide continue to plummet and it has been repeatedly proven how important they are for healthy habitats and environments. We need these special wolf populations on Vancouver Island. Are we (BC) truly to be no better than Norway? Annihilating wolves for the betterment of the few (i.e. trappers)? (I believe many, many people are in opposition to policies such as what you are proposing, and I certainly hope they have written to you to make that clear. However, please know that it is very difficult to provide you with feedback via this website. This website is not user-friendly to say the least and, in my view, it does not provide for a fair public consultation process. I imagine many concerned citizens have given up attempting to provide feedback through sheer frustration of the process involved.) Please protect the wolves and stop allowing these horrifyingly inhumane trapping and killing practices to be perpetrated on these innocent and beautiful animals. Finally, rather than relying on anecdotal evidence to support your proposal, why not have your staff consult with expert wolf biologists? For more information, please see: <a href="https://www.yellowstone.org/what-we-do/wolf-project/">https://www.yellowstone.org/what-we-do/wolf-project/</a>. Or contact Doug Smith, Senior Wildlife Biologist, Yellowstone National Park (see: <a href="https://www.siliconrepublic.com/discovery/meet-doug-smith-wolf-watcher-y...">https://www.siliconrepublic.com/discovery/meet-doug-smith-wolf-watcher-y...</a>). If your staff were to conduct a thorough amount of research on this subject, which they admittedly have not, it would be extremely easy and obvious in terms of the benefits wolves have to the forest and the overall health of the environment when the line Research shows that the most of the healthy ungulate populations in North America also host healthy wolf (and other carnivore populations); thus preventing and limiting disease transfer for serious threats to ungulates such as Chronic Wasting Disease</p>  | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 19:55  |      |
| <p>Research shows that the most of the healthy ungulate populations in North America also host healthy wolf (and other carnivore populations); thus preventing and limiting disease transfer for serious threats to ungulates such as Chronic Wasting Disease</p>  | Saturday, January 13, 2018 - 19:59 |      |

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| I would like to state my objection to this new proposal. Why is this hidden from public view? I had to hear about it from a facebook post from a wildlife organization. Why is the government making this so difficult to comment on by requiring this extensive process of registering to write something to begin with. It certainly appears that this is being hidden from the public. Where is the science to support this action? The last count was done in 1994. The government is making a connection between the wolves and the decline in deer populations. Where is the science to show that the deer are being killed by wolves? How many non-target animals will be caught in these traps? Even if there is an increase in wolves how do you know this isn't a cyclical event? What would this casual information you are getting cause you to conclude that the trapping season should be extended? Are you just doing this to appease the deer hunters? This is a thinly veiled attempt to give licenses to trappers with no scientific basis. Before you do anything you should make this announcement to the general public and provide them with an easy way to comment. You are taking the easy, lazy route to justify the extended trapping period. | Friday, January 12, 2018 - 17:36    |
| The last cursory population estimate on wolves was in 1994. The B.C. government is still not recognizing the coastal wolves of Vancouver Island as genetically distinct and globally rare, nor the highly social nature of these family groups or packs. Leg hold traps are inhumane, cruel and should be banned. Until a full, official examination of wolf populations is done, there should be no lengthening of the trapping season, because anecdote and public sightings are not based in scientific evidence.  | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 19:08  |
| Not enough research.  | Saturday, January 13, 2018 - 17:21  |
| In reading the Rationale for this proposed change I find there is no supporting information in the following matters: - no reliable, measurable count on wolves on Vancouver Island -no reliable, measurable data on the changes in the population of wolves on Vancouver Island -no evidence regarding a possible link with deer population or information on deer population -no information on current wolf trapping numbers or of non-target species caught and/or killed in the traps -no rationale to explain why a possible increase in wolves requires an extended trapping season In addition, I do not see any acknowledgement of any trapping related safety issues for domestic animals and people. Therefore, I speak against this change in the trapping season for wolves on Vancouver Island and urge the government to pursue the important research as outlined in my comments.   | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 16:06     |
| I fully support the extended trapping days of wolves within the Vancouver island region as a means to manage their populations and thus allowing ungulate populations to thrive and prosper.  | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 23:25    |
| Totally opposed to this, we should NEVER be managing predators based on a supposed need to increase prey populations. If we need to increase prey populations, this should come in the form of more limited and restrictive human hunting opportunities for ungulates. Our wild animals should not be 'resources' that we allow to be marketed to the European wild fur market. That cheats me and my fellow British Columbians out of opportunities to see these magnificent animals in the wild.  | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 12:38   |
| Wolf population control is very important   | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 10:29    |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in the deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.  | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 16:24    |
| Wolf numbers are at an all time high and need to be managed accordingly. Especially considering that they are very hard if not impossible to eradicate through hunting and trapping.  | Wednesday, January 10, 2018 - 22:46 |
| I believe that wolves are not and should not be a concern in regards to the topic of deer population and management. It is incorrect data to blame these animals for their numbers, and that other forms of regulation should be explored. The action of trapping an animal, wolf or not, by its limb to die is both inhumane and cruel. It is not our obligation as humans to dictate the population of a species by making a choice to take its life.   | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 15:01  |
| Please accept this submission as part of the consultation for the proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. I strongly oppose the extending of the wolf trapping season for many reasons. Not only are the reports of the wolf population increasing not scientifically proven and fail to support with measurable data, it is not a justifiable solution or reasoning. Extending the season puts non-target species at risk (including the public and domestic animals) and poses as a major safety concern. For these reasons, I am calling on the provincial government to reject this proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season and instead move forward with the process of updating the province's wildlife management strategy so that it is science-based, conservation-focused and aligned with the values of the vast majority of British Columbians.  | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 21:07    |
| There is no reliable, measurable count on wolves on Vancouver Island (the last population count of a small section of the island was in 1994, according to the proposal); There is no reliable, measurable data that would suggest changes in populations of wolves on Vancouver Island; There is an implied connection between the alleged increase in wolf sightings and decrease in deer population, but no evidence given of a causal link, nor any further information on the deer populations (such as cause, research, etc.); There is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed by these traps and how many more wolves and other species the proposal would lead to being killed; and, There is no rationale explaining why an increase of wolves, if there is one, requires an extended trapping season. The proposal also fails to acknowledge the trapping-related safety issues for domestic animals and people alike.   | Wednesday, January 10, 2018 - 11:50 |

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| I am worried about this proposal coming without any background data on the actual wolf population numbers and actually trapping/killing numbers. How can we lengthen the kill season without having any way to assess how this will effect the wolf population. No real data is available for how wolf populations affect deer populations, either. Wolves are a really important ecological species. The lack of information is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.  | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 17:17    |
| Please do not lengthen the trapping season. Leg hold traps are cruel, unnecessary and should be banned. The fact that you are calling them humane is ridiculous. . The fur trade is antiquated and archaic and should not even be considered as one of these objectives. We need to continue to protect Mother Nature and all that she offers us. Please protect our wildlife.  | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 16:40 |
| I support the lengthening of the trapping season for wolves in all of British Columbia from Nov.1st - Jun. 30th .   | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 15:36   |
| I do not accept that the wolf trapping season should be extended - if anything it should be reduced. There are no recent scientific studies to support this extension - I believe the last study was in 1994 -23 years ago. The coastal wolves are almost certainly a different group and should be protected regardless. I and truly horrified at the news that this extension is being considered and I urge you to dismiss it as the public outcry from all over the world will be extremely bad publicity and will harm Canada's tourist industry and general standing as an enlightened nation   | Friday, January 12, 2018 - 03:51   |
| I strongly oppose the lengthening of the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island and am appalled this is even being considered under the guise of improving deer populations. Trapping is inhumane, unethical, and non-discriminant. It is time those responsible for making decisions about OUR wildlife focus on ways to mitigate the plethora of damage caused by humans, and stop using our predators as scapegoats for continued ignorance and poor management of our resources. Thank you.   | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 15:14 |
| Drop this proposed regulatory change, and ensure that proper research is conducted prior to moving forward with other proposals. The lack of science existing in tracking wolf numbers makes this move an unscientific change. Predator prey levels self regulate and human beings need to stop killing wolves for the skins and as a hobby.  | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 19:45    |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.  | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 19:46    |
| The practice of trapping should be stopped and not encouraged or given excuses to carry on. The same goes for the cowardly slaughtering of top predators from air craft. To extend the months allowing idiots to trap wolves by snares, conibear and leg traps is ridiculous in itself and clearly politically motivated by those who wish monetary gain. If anything, Vancouver, BC actually should be promoting itself as a province which promotes environmental and ecological tourism not the old and archaic nonsense of trapping for fur or trophy hunting. Promote "hunting" with a camera and the opportunity to observe top predators and wildlife in their natural state. You want to help the economy, promote ecotourism.  | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 04:22  |
| The proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.   | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 15:36    |
| The government needs to stop killing off predators while claiming to have a conservation agenda and start realizing that habitat loss, forest fragmentation, climate change among other anthropogenic stressors are the actual threat to biodiversity and decline in populations. Foot hold traps are cruel and should be banned in the first place. Second of all it looks like actually collecting data and scientific evidence on the wolf population is too much money and work for the B.C. government. So your proposal is really not about conservation efforts as that requires data and evidence to back up and more about the fur trade which is cruel in it itself, especially in 2018. Lets stop moving backward when it comes to conservation and start actually caring about biodiversity and this amazing province we are lucky to call home, and no that doesn't include hunting, trapping or killing. The only beings who are a threat to species population decline, species extinction and a disruption of the ecosystem equilibrium are humans, not wolves. | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 15:22 |
| This barbaric and archaic form of torture will be an embarrassment to BC and all of Canada if allowed to proceed as planned. I absolutely oppose and denounce this proposed agreement as a Canadian and British Columbian, and also as a human being with empathy and compassion for another species. You are to represent the citizens who have elected you to represent their ideas and perspectives on all topics. This has been so under the radar that it would appear the NDP are up to their old tricks again as it has not been brought to the table to even be discussed in the media or quietly at a town hall. Shame on you NDP for even considering such a heinous act. You are not doing the job you were hired to do.   | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 20:54   |
| Wolves need to be managed or we will have a total imbalance of wildlife on the island   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 20:18 |

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| <p>This proposed regulatory change provides anecdotes on wolf populations, and, it seems, is somewhat skewed towards hunters, trappers and guide outfitters. The government is not getting enough scientific data, which I believe would be required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. In other words, there is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. We do not know if the alleged lower ungulate numbers are because of more kills by hunters, from more competition from wolves, or weather conditions. There is an observation that the deer population is showing a decreased trend at the same time that there has been an increase in wolf sightings, but there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information in this proposal makes me somewhat uncomfortable as to whether hunting lobby groups are perhaps having undue influence on government. Ultimately, I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.</p>  | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 15:11     | s.22 |
| Protect our wolves!  | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 20:05  |      |
| Excessive and unnecessary. Learn from Yellowstone. They culled the wolves and eventually had to reintroduce the wolves in order to create a natural balance. Humans need to stop playing God and stop messing with nature.   | Friday, January 12, 2018 - 14:48    |      |
| "Anecdotal sightings/observations from numerous First Nations, trappers, resident hunters and guide outfitters regarding increased wolf population and a lack of ungulates (primarily deer) in many northern and west coast MUs in Region 1." This is an unacceptable rationale to cull Vancouver Island wolves. Only those who stand to gain monetarily have a say in this life and death matter. With no outline of the costs and difficulty of an inventory of wolves, you are making it impossible for the public to make an informed decision regarding a claim of overpopulation by those who benefit from their deaths. Wildlife belongs to all British Columbians, not just to those who want to kill them. Based upon the information that you have presented here I think a moratorium on the trapping of wolves is imperative, until scientific data regarding these claims is available.   | Sunday, January 7, 2018 - 13:55     |      |
| Feedback on Reg. # 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season Please accept this submission as part of the consultation for the proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. I strongly oppose this proposal for a number of reasons - it is based on anecdotal reports that wolf numbers seem to be increasing, but there is no recent reliable, science-based population count of wolves on the island (the last population estimate is from 1994), nor any measurable data to suggest the population is in fact increasing. Even if wolf populations are confirmed scientifically to have increased, that alone does not justify lengthening the trapping season. Similarly, there is no reliable evidence to suggest that any decline in ungulates is necessarily due to wolf populations - any decline in ungulates must be researched in-depth. I also oppose lengthening the trapping season due to the increased risk of non-target species being caught in these traps, not to mention the safety issues facing the public and domestic animals. The provincial government has stated that they will be moving forward with a broader consultation process for a renewed wildlife management strategy for the province in 2018, but this one-off policy fails to align with the government's acknowledgements that a renewed strategy is needed. Instead, it seems more in-line with the previous government's tendency to scapegoat predators. In addition, the lack of reliable, measurable data surrounding this proposal is incredibly worrisome and dangerous. For these reasons, I am calling on the provincial government to reject this proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season and instead move forward with the process of updating the province's wildlife management strategy so that it is science-based, conservation-focused and aligned with the values of the vast majority of British Columbians. | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 10:37 |      |
| Completely asinine! The coastal wolves of Vancouver Island are genetically distinct and globally rare. AND LEG HOLD TRAPS?!? They are inhumane and should be BANNED!   | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 21:01  |      |
| I categorically oppose the proposal to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. There is copious amounts of scientific evidence that proves that the hunting of wolves is detrimental to the ecosystems in which they live and raise their young. The idea serves no purpose other than to satisfy the blood lust of crazed hunters.   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 11:36  |      |
| Wolves play an important role in the ecosystems and life. They are a rare species and so many animals are already going extinct due to humans lack of empathy for animals as creatures that deserve to live and walk the earth and play a part in the natural cycle of life without threat of unfair death. We need to consider the interconnectedness we share with these beautiful wolves.   | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 20:26  |      |

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| <p>It seems once again that the government is using pseudo-science ? that is, vague numbers - to try to justify killing members of another species simply because they exist, or at the very most try to generate a revenue source via a means that is becoming extinct. ie: the fashion industry ? Much of the information the province's wildlife managers obtain regarding wolf populations is anecdotal, with a reliance on public sightings and observations?. Yes, that is scientific. Someone thinks they saw the ?big bad wolf? - nature must be getting out of balance - can we kill it? And now what's worst, is you call a population of animals an ?inventory?. ?Inventory?? What?! An inventory like they are boxes of parts in a factory. ?There have been decreased trends in deer population index (0-5 deer/km) in northern management units since the increased wolf sightings/sign have been observed?. Are there that many starving people on Vancouver Island that feel threatened by wolves taking away their food supply? Or do we just have a small contingent of society that feels the need to kill, that feel somehow entitled to take something because they pay a fee, and then disguise that lust for killing as ?conservation?? Wolves are only a few genes apart from our domesticated dogs. We, as a society would be absolutely outraged if someone were to go about trapping dogs with wire neck snares and other equally gruesome methods. This would be considered animal cruelty and the perpetrators would be charged. What right do we have as a species, to ignore the needs of other species simply to satisfy the egos of a small minority of our own species ? and then try to disguise this as ?management?, science, or ?good for the economy?. What right do we have, to kill members of other species ? in the most gruesome ways ? can you even begin to imagine what it would be like to be trapped in a neck snare? - simply because they exist? Elected leaders, policy/decision makers should be absolutely ashamed that they allow, support, and condone such animal cruelty ? and perhaps should be charged ? but try to disguise it with euphemisms ? ?management?, ?population control?, ?science?, and best of all, ?humane?. It is long past time to discard the out-dated, nineteenth century ?model of wildlife farming? and begin to implement policies that include updated, known science ? that is, animals of many species live in strong family units with strong social bonds. They feel fear, pain, joy, happiness and even grief. The new policies must put the NEEDS of wildlife above the WANTS of humans. Once again can you imagine ? just stop for a few minutes to think about what it would feel like lying out in the freezing cold, gasping for air as a wire tightens around your neck. This is 2018, not the eighteenth century. <del>Times and traditions have changed. Killing other species for any reason is not necessary.</del> wolf populations have stood the test of time and have been proven a very robust species. I support this initiative as trapping is a cost effective means of controlling predator populations, wildlife/livestock predation, and human conflict issues. Decisions of this nature must be driven by best available science, not anti hunting trapping lobby efforts and political agendas. I fear that the AHTE site has become more of an anti hunting tool than a consultation process for users of the resource and question the legitimacy of a process cloaked in secrecy and anonymity.</p> | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 12:10  |
| Decreasing population of caribou is largely attributed to displaced habitats. Inhumanely killing wolves will not stop the caribou from going extinct. Protect caribou and wolf habitats so they can thrive in BC.  | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 12:03  |
| Hi there I am concerned that not all the facts have been considered. When was the last time a population study of the deer or the wolves been completed? Perhaps the hunting season of the deer could be shortened? Are these wolves not genetically different then mainland wolves and therefore should be considered as their own species? Rather than trying to manage the predators why not try to manage the prey and increase their populations. Please make sure all the facts and recent data are being used in this decision!   | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 18:05  |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.   | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 17:32     |
| Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.   | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 13:55     |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.   | Saturday, January 13, 2018 - 09:42  |
| Need to increase wolf opportunity wherever possible  | Saturday, January 13, 2018 - 10:57  |
| I think we should be working to protect our wolves, not kill more. Please don't do this.   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 15:41  |
| God, how many times have I just had the overwhelming desire to rip the skin off a wolf on Halloween! It's so fitting- you've got your terror, gore, horror, and it's just so much more FUN than wearing some dumb plastic mask and eating candy. I could even wear the face of the last wolf whose head I tore off while I do it! Oh, right *ahem* "humanely". Of course.  | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 22:54 |

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| The fact is that the last cursory population estimate on wolves was in 1994. The B.C. government is still not recognizing the coastal wolves of Vancouver Island as genetically distinct and globally rare, nor the highly social nature of these family groups or packs. Leg hold traps are inhumane, cruel and should be banned.   | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 11:03    |
| No reliable inventory count for wolves currently on the island. Last pop estimate was small/1994! There is an implied connection between the alleged increase in wolf sightings and decrease in deer population, but no evidence given of a causal link, nor any further information on the deer populations (such as cause, research, etc.) There is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed by these traps and how many more wolves and other species the proposal would lead to being killed. There is no rationale explaining why an increase of wolves, if there is one, requires an extended trapping season.  | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 15:44    |
| Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward. Sincerely, s 22   | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 15:23     |
| What is the government spending money on this for? This is popular and necessary as the grizzly bear hunt. The B.C. Wolf Management Plan is in desperate need of an overhaul, and the wolf cull program is arguably its most ecologically, economically, and ethically offensive element. Wolves are social animals which are integral to ecosystem function. It is my view that they deserve protection and should not be exterminated because the B.C. government has continually failed to protect and recover enough habitat for caribou (on the mainland). The trapping season on Vancouver Island in a misguided attempt to preserve deer populations. The proposal states that that they are basing the decision on anecdotal information and not on science or any reliable data. Lets show some progressive action on taking care of our wildlife. These are not times to kill animals, these are times that need people to protect and preserve our dwindling natural spaces.  | Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 12:14    |
| I am completely opposed to this proposal. I have carefully reviewed the stated reasons for instituting this extension and they are not valid. Killing wolves by such inhumane and cruel methods is unjustifiable and should be banned. The proposed plan to increase the legal trapping season to 10 months out of the year means that wolf packs, many with young pups, will be indiscriminately killed causing significant disruption and suffering of one of the most socially-evolved animals in North America. In addition, by the B.C. government's own admission, this proposal is not based on science or peer reviewed data that would support the contention that wolves are causing a disproportionate decline in deer or other ungulates. There is no reliable evidence that wolf populations have risen to an unnatural level. Wolves are highly social animals which are integral to ecosystem function, in particular the wolves of Vancouver Island are genetically distinct and globally rare. These unique wolves have been subjected to too many government sponsored kill programs over the last one hundred years and were extirpated on most of Vancouver Island, California, Oregon and Washington in the early 20th century. Wolves deserve protection and should not be exterminated because the B.C. government has continually failed to protect and recover enough habitat for ungulates. Research cited in the Coastal Black-Tailed Deer Study (B.C. Ministry of Forests, 1996) makes clear that any increased wolf predation is directly linked to human-caused changes. These changes include forest harvesting and road building which isolates winter ranges, increasing resident deer (with a survival rate of 77%) and decreasing migratory deer (which typically have a high survival rate of 95%). The isolation of winter habitat may intensify predation and an overall loss of deer populations and resiliency. Therefore, intact old-growth forests should be set aside in order to rebuild deer populations (McNay and Voller, 1995) instead of using wolves as a scapegoat for inadequate habitat protection for ungulates. Societal values support protecting wolves for a number of reasons. Wildlife based tourism is the fastest growing sector of the tourism industry and B.C.'s international reputation is at stake. As other countries attempt to reintroduce and protect wolves, Canada continues to perpetuate, support and now expand the violence towards this species. People from around the world recently celebrated your decision to end the trophy hunting of grizzly bears and would expect that a similar policy direction would be making for wolves. This proposal clearly takes our societal values and the integrity of our natural ecosystems in the opposite direction. Science proves the environment's need for wolves. Please show us that you have evolved with science and humanity has evolved with empathy. | Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 07:04    |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.   | Wednesday, January 10, 2018 - 14:35 |
| I am opposed to the proposed extension of wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. In my opinion, all trapping and killing of wolves in BC is anathema to any conservation efforts, as it is systematically destroying the few surviving wolf colonies in BC. There is no worthwhile reason to allow the trapping of wolves in this day and age - it is an antiquated form of torture that needs to be abolished once and for all.   | Saturday, January 13, 2018 - 08:40  |
| This proposal is based in greed, not science.  | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 20:04     |
|  | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 18:36    |

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| <p>This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.</p>  | <p>Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 19:13</p>                                       |
| <p>I find it disgusting trapping and killing creatures for such barbaric things as fur when it is possible using other material which didn't cause suffering to animals!!! I find also hypocritical talking about trapping and animal welfare in the same sentence!!!! I am overwhelmed disgusted by this association purpose for the lack of humanity, compassion and also scientific evidence of what are up saying!!!! there is no bond between human "management" and wildlife conflicts!!! The only reason is clearly money and for this you are even willing to cause useless pain and suffering!!!! I completely disagree and boycott every product from your region and I will do advise against your purpose as many people as I can not to visit or buy anything from your region</p>  | <p>Friday, January 12, 2018 - 01:15</p>   |
| <p>I am writing in response to the proposed changes to trapping regulations for wolves in Region 1 on Vancouver Island. The rationale for the extension of the trapping season from November 1st to June 30th to September 10th to June 30th does not reflect commitments outlined in the "Management Plan for the Grey Wolf (Canis lupus) in British Columbia" (MFLNRO, 2014). According to the released statement, the BC GOV would like to: 1. Increase wolf trapping in response to decreasing trends in deer populations (black-tailed deer), within an unspecified number of northern management units. This is in response to anecdotal information, which is known to be biased and unreliable for predicting wolf population estimates. The proposal fails to provide basic wolf trapping statistics and annual hunting take for region 1 to indicate a legitimate need for increased hunting/trapping pressure. Additionally, there is no indication that human-quotas for black tailed deer have been scaled back in response to reduced deer abundance, or that natural phenomena have been ruled out. By natural phenomena, I refer to naturally occurring predator-prey dynamics and or impacts that are weather/disease/habitat related. Page 5 of the management plan clearly states: "Predator control to enhance ungulate populations for hunting is not supported by policy." (MFLNRO, 2014). The current proposal is in defiance of this promise. The proposal is clearly tailored to enhance deer populations strictly through wolf control for increased hunting opportunity. Currently, public opinion is in favour of wolf management that reflects best-practices, and not traditional anti-predator approaches typically associated with the previous liberal government. A second commitment from the management plan states: "wolves are available in sufficient abundance to fulfill their ecological role" (MFLNRO, 2014, 5). This ecological role can encompass: predator-prey dynamics within diverse ecosystems and the biological needs for social cohesion and reproduction. The current trapping timeframe arguably does not meet the biological needs of wolves. Trapping clearly occurs during the pupping season, which is generally regarded as unethical management. Changes to increase trapping would mean that wolves can be killed 10 months of the year, which is excessive. Alternatively, optimal wolf management would see a reduction in trapping pressure to ensure that compensatory breeding is reduced and that wolves can full-fill their biological needs as set out in the management plan. MFLNRO states in the proposal that wolves in British Columbia have a low conservation concern status. This statement fails to recognize that the Vancouver Island Wolf is a coastal subspecies with lower population estimates. Wolves on Vancouver Island are known to have different diets and behaviours than mainland wolves as they have adapted to smaller pack sizes and smaller prey bases. Research conducted by Pacific Rim National Park showed that wolves diets consisted primarily of sea-life and small mammals. A precautionary approach should be taken for managing a unique and highly valued population of wolves which are critically under-studied. I would like to urge the government to not expand the trapping season, and instead employ responsible wolf management practices by upholding commitments outlined in the current wolf management plan. Concerns regarding the decreasing population estimates for black-tailed deer on Vancouver Island can be addressed through: 1. Lowering hunting quotas until populations rebound 2. Determine if the current decreasing trends are the result of a natural fluctuations in deer population 3. Validate anecdotal information regarding wolf sightings by developing a rigorous protocol 4. Increase public education about wolf biology and conservation, and predator-prey dynamics in hunting communities to foster sustainable and responsible hunting practices. 5. Work with the logging industry to increase the productivity of ungulate habitats in northern parts of Vancouver Island.</p> | <p>Sunday, January 7, 2018 - 16:57</p>  |
| <p>I am strongly opposed to the culling of wolves as a method of wildlife management. I strongly oppose this proposal for a number of reasons - it is based on anecdotal reports that wolf numbers seem to be increasing, but there is no recent reliable, science-based population count of wolves on the island (the last population estimate is from 1994), nor any measurable data to suggest the population is in fact increasing. Even if wolf populations are confirmed scientifically to have increased, that alone does not justify lengthening the trapping season. Similarly, there is no reliable evidence to suggest that any decline in ungulates is necessarily due to wolf populations - any decline in ungulates must be researched in-depth. I also oppose lengthening the trapping season due to the increased risk of non-target species being caught in these traps, not to mention the safety issues facing the public and domestic animals. Trapping causes prolonged physical and mental suffering, and is inhumane in any circumstance. The provincial government has stated that they will be moving forward with a broader consultation process for a renewed wildlife management strategy for the province in 2018, but this one-off policy fails to align with the government's acknowledgements that a renewed strategy is needed. Instead, it seems more in-line with the previous government's tendency to scapegoat predators. In addition, the lack of reliable, measurable data surrounding this proposal is incredibly worrisome and dangerous. For these reasons, I hope the provincial government will reject this proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season.</p>  | <p>Friday, January 19, 2018 - 15:13<br/>Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 21:53</p> |

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| I am completely opposed to this. It is contradictory in that there is no real of accurate data and it is based on anecdotal evidence. There is no sound reason for this and it puts coastal wolves at risk. Enough with all the trapping and killing which serves only the greedy mankind. Live and let live.  | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 15:33  | s.22 |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward. The fact is that the last cursory population estimate on wolves was in 1994. The B.C. government is still not recognizing the coastal wolves of Vancouver Island as genetically distinct and globally rare, nor the highly social nature of these family groups or packs. Leg hold traps are inhumane, cruel and should be banned.  | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 18:13    |      |
| I'm shocked and horrified that a civilised country such as Canada would practice such an inhumane practice in the first place, let alone expand this. Please do the right thing and put an end to this horrid practice that gives BC a terrible name.  | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 23:17    |      |
| The last cursory population estimate on wolves was in 1994. The B.C. government is still not recognizing the coastal wolves of Vancouver Island as genetically distinct and globally rare, nor the highly social nature of these family groups or packs. Leg hold traps are inhumane, cruel and should be banned altogether.   | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 18:06    |      |
| Feedback on Reg. # 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season Please accept this submission as part of the consultation for the proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. We strongly oppose this proposal for a number of reasons - it is based on anecdotal reports that wolf numbers seem to be increasing, but there is no recent reliable, science-based population count of wolves on the island (the last population estimate is from 1994), nor any measurable data to suggest the population is in fact increasing. Even if wolf populations are confirmed scientifically to have increased, that alone does not justify lengthening the trapping season. Similarly, there is no reliable evidence to suggest that any decline in ungulates is necessarily due to wolf populations - any decline in ungulates must be researched in-depth. We also oppose lengthening the trapping season due to the increased risk of non-target species being caught in these traps, not to mention the safety issues facing the public and domestic animals. The provincial government has stated that they will be moving forward with a broader consultation process for a renewed wildlife management strategy for the province in 2018, but this one-off policy fails to align with the government's acknowledgements that a renewed strategy is needed. Instead, it seems more in-line with the previous government's tendency to scapegoat predators. In addition, the lack of reliable, measurable data surrounding this proposal is incredibly worrisome and dangerous. For these reasons, we are calling on the provincial government to reject this proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season and instead move forward with the process of updating the province's wildlife management strategy so that it is science-based, conservation-focused and aligned with the values of the vast majority of British Columbians. | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 20:41 |      |
| Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers.   | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 12:54    |      |
| Please accept this submission as part of the consultation for the proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. We strongly oppose this proposal for a number of reasons - it is based on anecdotal reports that wolf numbers seem to be increasing, but there is no recent reliable, science-based population count of wolves on the island (the last population estimate is from 1994), nor any measurable data to suggest the population is in fact increasing. Even if wolf populations are confirmed scientifically to have increased, that alone does not justify lengthening the trapping season. Similarly, there is no reliable evidence to suggest that any decline in ungulates is necessarily due to wolf populations - any decline in ungulates must be researched in-depth. We also oppose lengthening the trapping season due to the increased risk of non-target species being caught in these traps, not to mention the safety issues facing the public and domestic animals. The provincial government has stated that they will be moving forward with a broader consultation process for a renewed wildlife management strategy for the province in 2018, but this one-off policy fails to align with the government's acknowledgements that a renewed strategy is needed. Instead, it seems more in-line with the previous government's tendency to scapegoat predators. In addition, the lack of reliable, measurable data surrounding this proposal is incredibly worrisome and dangerous. For these reasons, we are calling on the provincial government to reject this proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season and instead move forward with the process of updating the province's wildlife management strategy so that it is science-based, conservation-focused and aligned with the values of the vast majority of British Columbians. I strongly support this for ungulate management.              | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 09:44 |      |
| To allow legal hunting of wolves on Vancouver Island almost year round via a leg trap is inhumane and an insult to science. Time and time again science has proved KEEPING wolf populations up helps keep the vegetation and landscape in check. Look at Yellowstone. Wolves were practically eradicated and they brought them back in 1994. Since then it has completely changed the course of rivers and vegetation. It has kept other animals in check, created firm river banks, allowed beavers to come back, and many other species found their home again. On top of that the wolves on Vancouver Island are rare! They are highly social and aren't found anywhere else. The public outcry AGAINST this is large. Canada sets an example for the rest of us on so many issues but something like this just falls in line with what is going on in the United States. Ignore the facts, ignore the public, and ignore what's best in the big long term picture. Don't fall in line.. be the example.  | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 18:40  |      |

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| Research has shown that the wolf populations are not the primary cause of caribou decline. The decline is more attributed to human disturbance and anthropogenic landscape change. It is thus imperative that we focus on preserving the biodiversity and habitat on the island first to help caribou numbers recover (e.g. caribou can exist in lower density and hide better in large forested areas).   | Friday, January 12, 2018 - 19:45    |
| Glad to hear of this proposal. Wolf populations seem to be on the rise across the province. Hopefully this helps to keep the pred/prey balance a little more even. They are amazing creatures but like all wildlife, need to be managed.   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 19:34  |
| This proposal to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island is not based on any hard evidence. There is no data on current or recent wolf populations and no information on current wolf trapping numbers. There is also no data on by-catch of non-target species or how this increased season would impact those animals. Furthermore, the proposed change only assumes the reduction in the deer population is due to an increase in the population of wolves; there is no evidence of that. The BC government should reject this proposal because it is not evidence-based. Clear, supporting concrete data needs to be obtained before any such proposal can be brought forward.  | Monday, January 15, 2018 - 20:23    |
| Wolves are too important and social to put them at further risk. If ungulate populations are down focus on that problem. Human encroachment, road ways, etc. I oppose this proposal. Thank you.  | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 19:08    |
| I urge you to ban all leg hold traps, as it's painful and barbaric. I can't believe that in 2018 that these traps are legal. I urge you to not lengthen the time that these cruel traps and these precious animals can be legally killed. Please, do not pass this proposal! I expected better from the NDP government!  | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 17:46    |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.   | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 18:57     |
| It is incredibly disheartening to read the rationale of the BC government's proposal to lengthen the trapping season for the Vancouver Island wolf population. As with many wildlife issues within the province, it appears to come down to money once again. After reading the audit of grizzly bear management in BC, I no longer have confidence that funds provided through hunting operations are being properly allocated. Important wildlife management decisions should not be made without adequate scientific research, we know better than this. Without having an understanding of the predator-prey dynamic between the wolves and the deer they prey on, we cannot predict the outcome of lengthening the trapping season. With less wolves, surely we will see a significant increase in the deer population which could mean a detrimental impact on their ecosystem, which may lead to further problems. Please reconsider and allow time for proper research, there is funding available and aspiring Master's students willing to do the work. Thank you.   | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 17:21    |
| I oppose the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. Trapping is inhumane and an archaic practice and we should not be trapping wolves. Leg hold traps are cruel and should be banned. Saving the last of our old growth forests in which the wildlife thrive should be our main priority. The Ndp are very misguided in their attempt to preserve deer populations by trapping wolves. Thank you.   | Friday, January 12, 2018 - 09:39    |
| Please accept this submission as part of the consultation for the proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. We strongly oppose this proposal for a number of reasons - it is based on anecdotal reports that wolf numbers seem to be increasing, but there is no recent reliable, science-based population count of wolves on the island (the last population estimate is from 1994), nor any measurable data to suggest the population is in fact increasing. Even if wolf populations are confirmed scientifically to have increased, that alone does not justify lengthening the trapping season. Similarly, there is no reliable evidence to suggest that any decline in ungulates is necessarily due to wolf populations - any decline in ungulates must be researched in-depth. We also oppose lengthening the trapping season due to the increased risk of non-target species being caught in these traps, not to mention the safety issues facing the public and domestic animals. The provincial government has stated that they will be moving forward with a broader consultation process for a renewed wildlife management strategy for the province in 2018, but this one-off policy fails to align with the government's acknowledgements that a renewed strategy is needed. Instead, it seems more in-line with the previous government's tendency to scapegoat predators. In addition, the lack of reliable, measurable data surrounding this proposal is incredibly worrisome and dangerous. For these reasons, we are calling on the provincial government to reject this proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season and instead move forward with the process of updating the province's wildlife management strategy so that it is science-based, conservation-focused and aligned with the values of the vast majority of British Columbians. | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 10:10 |
| "I am against instituting a longer trapping season for wolves in Vancouver Island. The only information being used to justify the extension is anecdotal. Unless it can be scientifically proven that wolves are causing a significant, long-term decline in deer populations, there is no reasonable justification for extending the trapping season from September through June. Ethically, it should also be noted that this trapping season includes months when wolves are pregnant, giving birth, and caring for young pups (which may themselves be trapped). This is not sound wildlife management. Thank you."  | Friday, January 12, 2018 - 18:27    |
| I too have seen the wolf population on the WCVI increase and become significantly more bold in their behaviour. Have seen Wolves in Bamfield walk through the town, and along the beaches of Tofino. These animals are only engaging in this behaviour due to the reduction in prey species. It will only be a matter of time until someone is critically injured or killed. I suspect that NOT expanding the trapping season would be seen as a liability on the part of the MFLNRO. Based on your studies on Blacktail deer densities, and increased circumstantial evidence of the increased population of wolves, I fully support the expansion of the trapping season. As a matter for the record, I have no affiliations with trapping or with anyone who is a trapper. Thank you.   | Wednesday, January 10, 2018 - 07:28 |

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| Wolf trapping and culling are cruel practices that cause these intelligent, familial, and sentient animals to suffer greatly under the completely false pretenses of conservation. Stop this barbaric slaughter!!!   | Saturday, January 13, 2018 - 14:25  |
| I am writing to voice my opposition to the proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. The decision to increase the length of wolf trapping on Vancouver Island is based on nothing more than the word of people who have a vested interest in wolves being eliminated, hunters and guide outfitters. There is no data to support this decision nor has there been any research to justify this proposal therefore this proposal should not even be considered. If in fact there is a declining deer population being seen in northern management units rather than extending a trapping season for wolves ? along with increasing the number of non-targeted animals killed ? the government should along with data and research, look at habitat protection for deer and better enforcement of hunting activities (more conservation officers). This would also be an important first step in helping curb poaching along with hunters taking more than their bag limit. Surveying how many deer First Nations are taking should also be taken into consideration when looking at a declining deer population. Until the number of wolves is known on Vancouver Island, along with the data, research and other considerations that may be factors into a possible declining deer population an increase in the wolf trapping season should not even be considered.                                     | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 21:42  |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward. Thank you for your consideration on the invalidity of the application of this bill based on the lack of information.  | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 04:10    |
| How dare you use my tax dollars to pay for the slaughter of innocent beings. The rational behind the so-called wolf ?cull? is appalling and nonsensical. The deer populations are on decline due to human expansions and human wildlife conflict. Killing one animal does not protect or ?save?anothers and anyone that supports human intervention in nature is uneducated. We have seen though multiple wolf cull campaigns that do not work.. Look at Yellowstone national park and Banff national park where wolf culls were unsuccessful and had terrible impacts on the entire ecosystem of the national parks. Furthermore, there is discussion surrounding the fur trade for the fashion industry. Again this is completely misguided as many of the major fashion designers are turning away from real fur because their customers are demanding a change. The trapping of wolves in BC is only continued so that people can make money. Simple. And I for one as a tax payer have had enough. This is not the last time you will hear from me and I will encourage everyone I know to stand up again the current government to put an end to this horrific slaughter once and for all. Shame on all of you.  | Sunday, January 7, 2018 - 17:00     |
| There is no need to manage nature - it does a better job on its own. It is a joke to assume that we can do a better job. Wolves are valuable to the ecosystem -look at Yellowstone Park to see how the reintroduction of wolves improved the diversity of the ecosystems/flora/florna. Trapping animals is very cruel and unnecessary. Fur is a disgusting material that should be made illegal, as much as ivory is. Eco tourism is a much more ethical and lucrative industry than fur. It is shameful that in this modern world Canada still allows this barbaric practice to go on for the like of the fashion industry to profit from such pain. It is a disgrace. Once people have access and practice in harming animals, they may go on to do the same thing to people. Murder is wrong. Why do we think it is OK to do this to other sentient beings? Only psychopaths can find this enjoyable and people shouldn't be forced to do this for work. First nations hunted to survive, but now we do it to make money. That shows complete disrespect to these beings. Yet, First Nations kept this land pristine for 10,000 years. Soon there will be nothing left. We have to save the planet right now and show kindness to every person, animal and plant, on land and in the sea. Governments need to lead the way and bring about the change which everybody is craving and needs. Killing wolves is not the answer. | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 21:37 |
| It's alarming to me that the strongest justification for a wolf cull is anecdotal sightings by hunters who have a vested interest in an unbalanced ecosystem weighing more heavily on the side of ungulate population. Justifying a cull simply because of logistical issues with conducting a survey is an embarrassment. All wildlife agencies with any moticum of self respect should strive to do all that can be done within their power to conduct accurate unbiased surveys before condoning a cull that will threaten unique populations of wolves as well as unbalance the ecosystem therein. Please do better.   | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 22:53    |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward. I do not believe that we humans have any right managing (mismanaging) nature. What happens next when deer populations get too high because wolves were killed? Then will deer be culled in an endless cycle of killing both species? It seems pretty basic and clear that we must stop interfering and let nature balance itself.   | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 17:43    |

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| <p>I fully support the extension of wolf trapping season to support the recovery of ungulates in our area. As a resident, hunter and a past trapper such an increase in populations in my experience. Deer are almost non existent and in our local small community of s?? wolves have often appeared on the fringes of the town. We frequently hear them call during the night and with any snowfall their tracks are easy to find. Recently (last summer)DFO towed in the carcass of a humpback whale to a Holberg Inlet bay. It was a feeding place for wolfs for months after as local pilots observed making their approach to our town. I support diversified wildlife populations, but with human impacts, ie roads everywhere, predators have a vastly increased advantage.</p> <p>I strongly oppose this proposal. If the wolf population is increasing, it does not justify extending the trapping season. The evidence presented does not provide a clear connection between a decrease in ungulate population and the wolf population. The ungulate population decrease should be investigated fully before making an irrational decision to destroy wolves. I also lengthening the trapping season due to the increased risk to domestic animals and other non-target species being caught in these traps. It is an inhumane way of causing unnecessary pain to animals. The people of British Columbia do not support or want this. Your strategy should be science-based and conservation-focused.</p>   | <p>I have never witnessed s??</p> | Friday, January 12, 2018 - 12:19  | s.22 |
| <p>Wildlife is suffering from wolf predation making it beneficial to lengthen the trapping season.</p> <p>Scientific studies to show that wolf populations are increasing have not been done. Instead anecdotal information is obtained from possibly biased sources who may have ulterior motives such as the increase of deer for their own hunting needs. It is understood that scientific studies are expensive, but that is not a good reason to propose a policy change based on unreliable anecdotal data. Public policy cannot be changed without some type of study that is scientific and neutral. This policy change should not go ahead. Furthermore, a more extensive public input process is needed as most people are not aware of the BCeID process.</p> <p>Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.</p> <p>Against this proposal to lengthen brutal wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island, instead, trapping should be prohibited! There is NO reliable, measurable count on Wolves on Vancouver Island (the last population count of a small section of the island was in 1994, according to the proposal); There is no reliable, measurable data that would suggest changes in populations of wolves on Vancouver Island; There is an implied connection between the alleged increase in wolf sightings and decrease in deer population, but no evidence given of a causal link, nor any further information on the deer populations (such as cause, research, etc.); There is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed by these traps and how many more wolves and other species the proposal would lead to being killed; and, There is no rationale explaining why an increase of wolves, if there is one, requires an extended trapping season. The proposal also fails to acknowledge the trapping-related safety issues for domestic animals and people alike. The AHTE site requires login to the BCeID system, and it does not appear that significant effort was made to include all stakeholders in the process. Please do NOT prolong brutal trapping season which causes so many animals to suffer!</p> |                                   | <p>Friday, January 12, 2018 - 20:29</p> <p>Friday, January 19, 2018 - 15:58</p>   |      |
| <p>This is by far, one of the most BOGUS plans that shows zero real scientific proof that this helps with any sort of ?deer? populations. More deer are hit by cars a year then killed by wolves (specifically coastal wolves). I don?t know why the government can?t see the ecological importance these creatures have on our eco-system. The fact that you use cruel methods to slaughter them is on an entirely other level. I will do everything in my personal power to spread awareness and stop this pathetic attempt to satisfy some sort of political or financial motive. If this is what the BC wildlife agency is putting their efforts in, then they all deserve to be fired and a formal investigation done on this sector of government to find out what kind of corruption they are into.</p> <p>This decision to lengthen the trapping season is not based on science or any reliable data. Leg traps are inhumane and should not be used. Rather than cull wolves to boost caribou numbers humans instead should make changes. We should be working at protecting caribou woodland by minimizing out impact on the environment.</p> <p>This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward. Furthermore, trapping - and indeed the fur industry as a whole - is an inherently cruel and unnecessary industry which has no place in modern society; every effort should be being made to eradicate this repugnant practice rather than expanding its despicable reach. Trapping has been illegal in the UK since the 50's - when will Canada catch up with the rest of the world and stop defining itself with cruelty?</p>   |                                   | <p>Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 16:09</p> <p>Friday, January 12, 2018 - 10:16</p> <p>Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 13:22</p> |      |



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| With a background as an s?? and treeplanter among other jobs, this proposal seems to cater to primary desires of our own species, rather than reflect on what species were present in large numbers historically hundreds of years ago. A missing area of exploration in the science presented here would be to acknowledge the primary land area use across North America, which is undoubtedly habitat loss due to various crop complexes. There are many journals and papers on the topic and proposed solutions. There would be greater quantity and varied animal species if there were more appropriate habitat to support these animals, not to mention it would make a huge dent in climate change. Don't believe me; just ask the experts who may have nothing to gain directly, depending on who you ask of course.  | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 20:45   | s.22 |
| We represent hundreds of thousands of supporters both in British Columbia and abroad and remain completely opposed to the inhumane and cruel trapping proposal for wolves on Vancouver Island. There is no peer-reviewed data or field-based science to support such a policy change and we would request a copy of all the anecdotal information that this policy change is being based on. To be clear killing highly social animals such as wolves by such inhumane methods should be banned. If this proposal goes forward it will be against the wishes and values of the majority of British Columbia residents while causing negative economic impacts by reduced wildlife based tourism.   | Saturday, January 13, 2018 - 09:51 |      |
| I oppose the lengthening of the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. The coastal wolves of Vancouver Island are genetically distinct and globally rare. The highly social nature of these family groups or packs is severely disrupted when one member of the pack is lost. From the rational posted on the government website the decision to lengthen the trapping season is purely based on anecdotal information. Is there proof that the lower deer population is due to the wolves? What is the actual trend in the deer population, is it actually lower? How much of the wolf's diet consists of deer? Has any research been done to verify how many deer have been taken by Hunters in the last 5 or 10 years? My belief is that the deer population is down due to over hunting and perhaps the number of deer tags issued to hunters in that region should be reduced so that the wolves have a better chance of surviving. I am a hunter and I support limited hunting where it is necessary and based on reliable field data. The biggest population of predators in the forest these days are hunters. Please reconsider the decision to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island until you have verifiable information to make a sound decision with. | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 19:28   |      |
| I would like to voice my extreme displeasure of this extension . Anecdotal evidence is not science and those giving this evidence are biased and will profit from a longer season. The cruelty here no longer has a place in our province and I expect better decisions from a modern government.  | Monday, January 15, 2018 - 18:15   |      |
| On what scientifically researched basis are you supporting this decision other than anecdotal?   | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 17:30 |      |
| More studies need to be done before culling such high apex predators. Anyone remember first year biology ? Wolves are highly social animals which are integral to ecosystem function, in particular the wolves of Vancouver Island are genetically distinct and globally rare. This needs more science-backed research to be viable.   | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 17:31   |      |
| Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.   | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 13:06   |      |
| I am opposed to this.  | Monday, January 15, 2018 - 18:14   |      |
| There is no reliable, measurable count on wolves on Vancouver Island (the last population count of a small section of the island was in 1994, according to the proposal); There is no reliable, measurable data that would suggest changes in populations of wolves on Vancouver Island; There is an implied connection between the alleged increase in wolf sightings and decrease in deer population, but no evidence given of a causal link, nor any further information on the deer populations (such as cause, research, etc.); There is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed by these traps and how many more wolves and other species the proposal would lead to being killed; and, There is no rationale explaining why an increase of wolves, if there is one, requires an extended trapping season. The proposal also fails to acknowledge the trapping-related safety issues for domestic animals and people alike. The AHTE site requires login to the BCeID system, and it does not appear that significant effort was made to include all stakeholders in the process.  | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 13:25   |      |

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| <p>The Rationale for this proposed change clearly states that the Ministry does not have any recent or reliable data on Vancouver Island wolf populations. The wolf is well-known as an elusive species and one for whom anecdotal observation does not present a reliable picture of its health as a population. Furthermore, the Ministry proposes to act based on the information provided by "trappers, resident hunters and guide outfitters". These are not neutral parties. These are people who have a vested interest in killing more wolves. This is not sound data on which to increase the trapping season for wolves. The Ministry has an obligation to the public to take a conservative stance with respect to authorizing the organized killing of wildlife. It should act only based on population estimates carried out in a methodologically sound fashion by neutral parties. If the government is not willing to fund such research, the government must not expand the trapping season in its absence. I am a resident of northern Vancouver Island and spend a lot of time in backcountry areas that are known to be populated by wolves. It is rare to see definitive wolf signs and rarer still to see actual wolves. I strongly question the anecdotal evidence provided by guide-outfitters and trappers - who, again, have a clear profit motive - with regard to increased wolf populations. Furthermore, with respect to ungulate populations, it would irresponsible to conflate reduced ungulate density with greater wolf populations in the absence of credible evidence of increased mortality to predation. Prime habitat on the North Island, for wolves and large ungulates, continues to be threatened by logging activity including the construction of new resource roads. Additionally, the Ministry appears to have insufficient data to recognize the distinct sub-populations of wolves that exist throughout Vancouver Island and ensure that trapping activity does not unduly impact any one specific sub-population. Therefore, given the absence of any credible data to suggest that the population of wolves on Vancouver Island is able to sustain increased trapping, I oppose this proposal.</p> <p>I oppose the proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season in Region 1</p>  | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 14:30 | s.22 |
| <p>This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.</p>  | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 18:59   |      |
| <p>I am 100% opposed to increasing the length of wolf trapping season in Region 1 or any Region in BC. In addition, I do not support any intention nor efforts to maintain an economy for Canada based upon fur trade with other countries (ie. "... European wild fur market. As the world's fashion centre, the European Union remains an important market for North American wild fur"). The rationale behind the proposed increase in trapping outlines that the evidence regarding wolf population increases is anecdotal. Although the deer population may have been recorded to have gone down, predator prey numbers fluctuate and are not static. It makes sense that the wolf population is rebounding and recovering from previous efforts to eradicate them if their numbers are indeed increasing. Regardless, an increase in population does not authorise nor necessitate increased killing. Furthermore, scientific evidence has shown that indiscriminately killing wild canids can lead to increased density, and a break down in social structure and ecological functioning. Smaller packs and dispersing individuals also kill more per capita than larger packs. Killing wolves can also lead to serious ecological repercussions, such as a release in primary prey or mesopredators. Of important note, research continues to show that the most of the healthy ungulate populations in North America also host healthy wolf (and other carnivore populations); thus preventing and limiting disease transfer for serious threats to ungulates such as Chronic Wasting Disease, see <a href="http://mountainjournal.org/predators-and-chronic-wasting-disease">http://mountainjournal.org/predators-and-chronic-wasting-disease</a>. Furthermore, neck killing snares do not meet AIHTS standards; nor the standards set forward by the Canadian Council on Animal Care for a humane death; the musculature and trachea of wolves leaves victims suffering in great pain and distress for several hours. In addition, more baited snares equates to more non-target deaths as well. Snares do not discriminate. Not only will wolves die and suffer, so too will myriad other animals, eg. <a href="http://calgaryherald.com/news/local-news/snares-meant-for-wolves-catch-a...">http://calgaryherald.com/news/local-news/snares-meant-for-wolves-catch-a...</a> Increasing snares on the landscape in BC is irresponsible, unwarranted, and unethical. Far too many wolves are trapped and killed in BC each year as it is, using inhumane methods. I believe we need to focus efforts on learning to co-exist and prevent conflicts, not just absently kill the animals that share our amazing province and country.</p> | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 18:34   |      |
| <p>Coastal wolves are among some of the most unique wildlife on Earth. They have adapted to their environmental challenges living along the coast leading to unique behaviors and characteristics different than the typical wolf. Trapping these wolves has no scientific support in defending the assumption that deer populations will increase. In fact, most similar studies have shown that predators are essential to balancing the ecosystem and ensuring the long term survival of the species they prey upon. This extension is short sighted and it would be an atrocity to see these wolves lost to trapping. I for one am willing to pay big money to travel to Vancouver island and area to see these wolves alive, not on someones wall or clothing.</p>  | Sunday, January 7, 2018 - 16:41    |      |
| <p>I do not support this at all. Why are wolves considered low conservation concern status when limited inventorying has been done? It is illogical to base policy like this on anecdotal evidence. The coastal wolves of Vancouver Island are genetically distinct and globally rare, and should be studied, not killed. Leg hold traps are inhumane, cruel and should be banned. It's a barbaric practice that has no place in our province.</p>   | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 17:27   |      |
|  | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 16:44 |      |

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| There is no reliable, measurable count on wolves on Vancouver Island (the last population count of a small section of the island was in 1994, according to the proposal). What is shocking is the rationale: you're not sure how many wolves there are (because finding out properly is ?costly and difficult?) Also, The proposal also fails to acknowledge the trapping-related safety issues for domestic animals and people alike. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward. Side Note: I don't know how the cruel trapping of any animal in this day and age is acceptable in any way shape or form. I do not support the fur industry because it just plain cruel and I for one would like to see the end of it. It is so very cruel to do that to any living being and I don't know where we have any right to subject any animal to such a sadistic death.   | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 21:15     | s.22 |
| Please do not lengthen wolf hunting season. There is NO SCIENCE to back up a decision to do that. Please ban leg hold traps. Give your heads a shake, think for a moment, and if you have any questions, ASK A BIOLOGIST!  | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 13:19    |      |
| I am outraged at the suggestion of this and am completely against this as a resident of Vancouver Island.  | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 20:40  |      |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.   | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 14:02    |      |
| Increases in wolf population, increase trapper season. Makes sense.  | Tuesday, December 19, 2017 - 15:25  |      |
| I'm sure there will be several political comments here. I support scientific management of wildlife and Wildlife managers.   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 09:46  |      |
| As a BC resident, born and raised, I strongly oppose this trapping regulation. It is incredibly short-sighted and completely overlooks the importance of the wolves as a keystone species on our coast. Using deer population control as reasoning for the regulation is ludicrous- deer are overrun on the island! Do as you have done to protect the grizzly and protect the wolf populations- they are equally as important to coastal marine habitat. We have the world's only temperate coastal rainforest of its kind and it's limited in protection as it is. Please do not pass this regulation!   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 15:04  |      |
| This seems an unnecessary and, certainly as articulated, currently insupportable regulatory change. This proposed change appears to be lacking the basic data required to support such a drastic alteration. There is no confirmed current or even recent data on wolf populations and no peer-reviewed research. There is no explanation, cited/linked research, or serious and supportable rationale offered to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained and unsupported supposition of a change in deer population. The proposal appears to rest on anecdotal statements presented as evidence from consumptive-users, an obviously vested special interest group that is overly represented. The proposal is therefore clearly lacking in scientific justification. The lack of real evidence, serious and clearly cited scientific research, and general information regarding these assertions is alarming, given the consequences and impacts on a wild species, at a time of anthropogenic environmental upheaval, such a regulatory change would have. Given the weakness of this proposal, and the lack of data and research to support its suppositions and speculations, I expect and encourage the government to reject it and demand peer-reviewed and independent research before any similar proposals are brought forward. Additionally, I expect and encourage the government to require a much broader representation of interests be included in any such future proposals and their consideration, including a balance between those engaged in independent scientific research, those engaged in wildlife conservation and environmental protection, and those with vested financial interests advocating such proposals. | Monday, January 15, 2018 - 10:07    |      |
| Keep the wolves wild. Leave them be.   | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 16:57  |      |
| Do not let this barbaric practice continue. I am firstly dismayed that leg hold trapping continues but in addition you are considering lengthening the season in which this incredible animal could be exposed to this horrendous practice. This is not about wildlife management but rather sadistic, lazy bureaucrats taking the easy way out. Shame on you for not protecting a Canadian legacy. Do the right thing and stop this insanity.   | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 17:56  |      |
| Support implementation for deer recovery.  | Wednesday, January 10, 2018 - 10:58 |      |
| Please do not extend the season for such an already inhumane process of trapping   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 16:08  |      |
| I am strongly opposed to the wolf hunt on Vancouver Island. If there was data to support the need for this, I might not have as strong objections but to do this without the data is just short-sighted, naive and objectionable on so many levels. The 40 or so wolves s.22 a couple years back when the government thought there was a need there was disgusting. I realize ranchers are put out by the occasional wolf killing their cattle but that is a cost of business?not a reason to sacrifice beautiful animals that for the most part keep to themselves.   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 18:39  |      |
| Should be open all year round as they are to blame for the low deer numbers up in 1-10   | Saturday, January 13, 2018 - 10:01  |      |

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| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.   | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 05:19    |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.   | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 05:57    |
| Please protect our wolves and do not allow them to be inhumanely trapped and hunted. How are snares and leg hold traps possibly humane? Is "maintaining access to the EU wild fur market" really a justifiable reason to inhumanely kill Canada's wildlife? You state that limited wolf inventory has been conducted so how can insufficient research be used as facts for an argument when comparing with ungulate numbers? This seems like an untested bandaid fix for a much bigger problem. Howabout we spend more time on dealing with bigger issues such as habitat loss, instead of a quick and unresearched "fix" as lengthening an inhumane hunting season.   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 17:08  |
| With no evidence of benefit and strong public opposition from citizens across Canada, I lend my voice to the call to NOT extend the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. Vancouver Island wolves are a unique population and should not be threatened, targeted and subject to inhumane hunting and culling practices. It is a shame that any level of Canadian government encourages the purposeful destruction of wildlife. Please do not extend wolf trapping on Vancouver Island, and please look to ban inhumane hunting practices like leg trapping.  | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 20:21  |
| universal predator control is good for ungulate populations  | Monday, January 15, 2018 - 15:55    |
| agree that increase measures to control wolf population on Vancouver Island is warranted.  | Tuesday, December 19, 2017 - 21:48  |
| Keeping predators in check will help improve the ungulate populations  | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 16:10 |
| Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward. | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 15:54     |
| I am against instituting a longer trapping season for wolves in Vancouver Island. The only information being used to justify the increase is anecdotal. Until it can be scientifically proven that wolves are causing a significant, long-term decline in deer populations, there is no reasonable justification for extending the trapping season from September through June. Ethically, it should also be noted that this trapping season includes months when wolves are pregnant, give birth, and caring for young pups (which may themselves be trapped). This is not sound wildlife management. Thank you.  | Friday, January 12, 2018 - 11:42    |
| Do not lengthen trapping of wolves. This is an inhumane, cruel and disgusting mistake decided and carried through by weak individuals. This must stop.   | Monday, January 15, 2018 - 21:08    |
| Hi, I am an avid outdoors man, born and raised on Vancouver Island. Wolves have long since been eradicated or pushed out of the majority of Vancouver island. To extend the trapping season here could pose a serious threat to the health of the Vancouver Island Wolf population as well as many other species. What gives a select few the right to inhumanly kill something that I and many others hold so close to our hearts. What gives you the right to authorize an extension of this trapping season based on ?anecdotal? evidence provided by potentially biased interest groups. The fur trade should be an industry of the past because the world no longer supports an abundance of fur bearing animals. The Vancouver Island Wolf is the heart and soul of our most wild places. Please do not extend the trapping season for the wolves here and please re-assess the cultural and environmental costs related to the hunting and trapping of wolves.  | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 22:00  |
| Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward. | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 13:30    |
| This is an inhumane, unethical, and belligerent "solution" to the problem. This is also only a temporary and insufficient idea to eradicate the issue.   | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 22:07  |


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| I oppose wolf trapping entirely. It is extremely inhumane. In addition, wolves are integral to ecosystems and we really have no idea of the ramifications. Look at what happened to Yellowstone when they reintroduced wolves there. All previously missing parts of the ecosystem that us humans didn't even think about came back and nature balanced itself.<br><a href="https://www.nationalgeographic.org/media/wolves-yellowstone/">https://www.nationalgeographic.org/media/wolves-yellowstone/</a>   | Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 12:25     |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.   | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 18:35      |
| Please change the and drop the regulatory trapping of wolves. Ensure proper research is conducted before the trapping is done.   | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 16:09      |
| Please do not extend the length of wolf trapping season. The data you are using to propose this issue is outdated and inaccurate when used to make decision in current day. Please see the positive benefits noted when Yellowstone park reinstated wolves to the park. Nothing but positive impacts on the biosphere. This continent culled wolves many times in the past with nothing but negative impacts on the environment, guilt, and regret. We live in an era in which we should be cleaning up our mistakes from the past and not repeating them. Wolf populations are no where near the levels they have been in British Columbia in the past and extending trapping season will just be putting more unnecessary anguish on their already difficult existence. Never have problems been properly solved by allowing more deaths on the wild animals we, as Canadians, are so lucky to share our home with. The beautiful ecosystems of British Columbia can self regulate themselves so perfectly as they have been for millions of years, the only time we see problems are when we think we should step in and interfere. | Friday, January 12, 2018 - 08:10     |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.   | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 16:51      |
| There is no science or field research to support such a misguided decision and there is no ethical consideration of committing a highly social animal to such extreme cruelty. Leg hold traps are inhumane and should be banned. Stop using wolves as a scapegoat for inadequate habitat protection for Elk and other animal populations.  | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 21:11     |
| I fully support this, also any vacant or non utilized traplines need to be used or sold to new trappers.   | Wednesday, December 20, 2017 - 07:04 |
| To whom this may concern, I have hunted the Nimpkish Valley for 25 years. In that time I have seen hardly any wolf sign. Also, I might add, that I was a contractor for the BC Forestry service. Also, I was employed by the BC Forestry service. In the years that I was employed, there was never a wolf problem. I am opposed to the current regulations on the trapping and hunting of all Vancouver Island wolves. The First Nations do not condone the trapping and hunting of the wolf. The First Nations see the wolf as sacred. I would suggest that the powers to be end this draconian mentality.   | Monday, January 15, 2018 - 11:09     |
| As a Vancouver island resident, and avid outdoor user I fully support extending the trapping season for wolves.  | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 16:43     |
| The government of BC should be protecting our unique local wildlife, not putting forward legislation contributing to the decline of these species. Please do not extend the wolf trapping season in British Columbia.  | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 16:01   |
| The Vancouver Humane Society opposes the proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island for several reasons. The proposal itself relies on anecdotal reports suggesting that wolf populations are on the rise, instead of utilizing reliable, science-based measures. There is also no recent science-based wolf inventory for the area, with the last population estimate being done in 1994. Research has shown that any increased wolf predation is the result of human-caused changes to habitat. Therefore, the government should further investigate any declines in ungulate populations and focus efforts on habitat protection/restoration, rather than scapegoating wolves through predator management tactics. Ultimately, leg-hold traps are inhumane and should be banned. Both target and non-target species caught in these traps suffer greatly and these traps also pose a safety risk to the public and domestic animals.   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 15:56   |
| This is completely unacceptable, inhumane and unscientific approach to dealing with wild animals. There is wast amount of research that wolfs not only do not pose harm to deer but make the species even stronger by eliminating weak and sick animals. Not only we shouldn't extend wolf trapping season but we should completely ban killing wolves altogether. It is shameful that the new BC government is catering to small group of lobbyists instead of following reason and being ethical. We are living in 21st century, if you are concerned about deer, focus on protecting its habitat and decrease negative human impact. I'm utterly dissapointed and shoked that BC government would even consider such a proposal. Ban wolf trapping and hunting altogether!!!  | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 22:30     |
| I support  | Wednesday, December 20, 2017 - 05:44 |

s.22

s.2

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| I am completely shocked by the explanation for the extension of wolf trapping. How does something with 0 basis pass through this government. This is obnoxiously lazy and alarming. This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.  | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 15:19     | s.22 |
| Although predator control is an important aspect in any environment, I strongly disagree with the way this would control the wolf population in B.C. By allowing hunters to hunt wolves 10 months out of the year would have a devastating effect on this wolf population. Another aspect is the allowance of trapping of these beautiful creatures. Snares, leg hold traps are incredibly cruel as they do not allow the quick death of the wolf. If the hunter has forgotten or has lost where he/she has set the trap, the wolf caught in these traps could suffer for days on end and suffer a horrendous and slow death if not found. Please do not allow these wolves to be shamelessly killed in such a cruel fashion, and protect the wolves so that future generations would get to see and experience one of B.C. most adaptable and beautiful predators.   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 14:54  |      |
| I believe in addressing the issues of predator control and habitat loss/access before shortening hunting seasons  | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 15:58    | s.22 |
| Stop trapping. Stop killing. Stop GPS tracking to wipe out pack families. Less than 2% of our biomass is free. Hunting is a thing of the past. We have a problem with the populations of our deer? Then find alternatives. Start taking responsibility for the fact that humans are at fault for this and leave the innocent (wolves) out of your "conflict resolution"   | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 15:11  |      |
| Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.  | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 10:32    | s.22 |
| This is not acceptable, wolves are nearing extinction. Also, trapping is cruel and barbaric. Humans need to save the wolves, they are an important part of the eco system.  | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 17:45     |      |
| There should be no extension to this wolf hunting season on Vancouver Island. I don't believe there should be a hunting season on this island at all. I believe this to be true. Please accept this submission as part of the consultation for the proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. We strongly oppose this proposal for a number of reasons - it is based on anecdotal reports that wolf numbers seem to be increasing, but there is no recent reliable, science-based population count of wolves on the island (the last population estimate is from 1994), nor any measurable data to suggest the population is in fact increasing. Even if wolf populations are confirmed scientifically to have increased, that alone does not justify lengthening the trapping season. Similarly, there is no reliable evidence to suggest that any decline in ungulates is necessarily due to wolf populations - any decline in ungulates must be researched in-depth. We also oppose lengthening the trapping season due to the increased risk of non-target species being caught in these traps, not to mention the safety issues facing the public and domestic animals. The provincial government has stated that they will be moving forward with a broader consultation process for a renewed wildlife management strategy for the province in 2018, but this one-off policy fails to align with the government's acknowledgements that a renewed strategy is needed. Instead, it seems more in-line with the previous government's tendency to scapegoat predators. In addition, the lack of reliable, measurable data surrounding this proposal is incredibly worrisome and dangerous. For these reasons, we are calling on the provincial government to reject this proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season and instead move forward with the process of updating the province's wildlife management strategy so that it is science-based, conservation-focused and aligned with the values of the vast majority of British Columbians. I do not believe that serious studies have been made on this topic or species counting. Hunters of wolves need to stop this slaughter. Fur markets should be banned worldwide. There are better ways to deter problem populations in the environment. <u>decimation is not an option for healthy environments and animal populations. Thank you.</u> Trapping is inhumane and cruel. Wolves are an important part of the ecosystem and should be left alone | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 20:06 | s.22 |
| Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.  | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 16:51 |      |
| Let the wolves be   | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 16:21     | s.22 |
|   | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 15:38  |      |
| Region 1 - Vancouver Island Regulation # 2018-1-11: Allow Shooting and Hunting on Mayne Island - Voting Results = Support (34) / Neutral (1) / Oppose (26)  |                                     | s.22 |
| makes sense. Island is over run with deer!  | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 13:03    |      |

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| I oppose the proposal to create a new hunting opportunity for mountain goats.<br>If the poulation has grown enough to allow some hunting, good idea to allow more opportunity with LEH<br>not sustainable, not necessary<br>Dear Sir/Madam I am writing to express my opposition to the hunting of mountain goats. The funding for the aerial surveys attesting to the population of mountain goats was provided by partisan, pro-hunting sources. We may as well survey foxes as to the safety of hen houses. In any case, even according to the pro-hunting sources, there are still not very many mountain goats in the region. These goats present no threat to other species of wildlife and are iconic animals in the area, beloved by tourists and locals alike. It would be incredibly short-sighted to allow their slaughter for no discernible environmental reason, other than the desire of a tiny minority of trophy hunters who kill for sport and ego.   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 11:46<br>Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 08:35<br>Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 16:20<br>Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 19:53  | s.22 |
| Awesome! Make it happen<br>Thompson Rivers Animal Advocacy ?  is a student club dedicated to providing a forum for education, advocacy, and scholarship aimed at protecting the lives and advancing the interests of animals through the legal system, and raising the profile of the field of animal law. Currently, there is no Mountain Goat Limited Entry Hunting opportunities for this hunt zone. As human activity has wiped out many animal predators, government hunting programs are viewed as a natural way to cull the herds of prey animals that exist beyond the environment's carrying capacity in the eyes of the government. Although there are arguments that have been advanced in support of population control, there does not seem to be practical considerations in the case before us; at present time the population hovers around 123 animals. TALA holds that the size of this very small population alone does not justify the need for creating a hunting opportunity where one has never existed. As a starting point, animal advocates view hunting as unethical, arguing that it is morally wrong to kill animals, regardless of practical considerations. Hunting causes immense suffering to individual wild animal and methods used to kill the animals are rarely humane. Often the animal is tracked down because of the blood trail they leave, with the terrified animal running and fighting for his or her life. They may even inflict mortal wounds that cause much suffering and agony but not a swift death. Further, despite claims that hunting keeps wildlife populations in balance, there is considerable evidence demonstrating that such activity often results in the loss of biological diversity, genetic integrity and ecological balance in addition to a myriad of problems. Thus, even if the population numbers supported considering such an opportunity (under traditional methods of assessment), there is much evidence to suggest that hunting for purposes of wildlife control does not achieve its ultimate objective and resultantly, causes unnecessary suffering. | Friday, January 12, 2018 - 11:08<br>Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 14:01  |      |
| Support increase in hunting opportunity and it adheres to management plan.<br>Oppose<br>WHY NOT??? THEY THRIVE IN THIS AREA! MORE MONEY FOR CONSERVATION AND GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS BETTER OPPORTUNITES FOR HUNTERS!<br>Excellent use of most up to date information and HCTF money to assess a population and manage accordingly.<br>Agree<br>Any new hunting opportunity where sustainable are an excellent suggestion to our management units.  | Wednesday, January 10, 2018 - 10:37<br>Monday, January 8, 2018 - 13:52<br>Friday, January 5, 2018 - 20:47<br>Thursday, December 28, 2017 - 14:16<br>Friday, December 22, 2017 - 20:44<br>Tuesday, December 19, 2017 - 17:30 |      |
| <b>Region 3 - Thompson Regulation # 2018-3-05: Trapper Exemption for the Clinton Creek Motor Vehicle Closed Area - Voting Results = Support (6) / Neutral (1) / Oppose (4)</b>  |   |      |
| allow trappers to access their lines with motor vehicles<br>There is no reason to make this occupation more difficult.<br>The proposed regulation opens more area than is specified as desirable to be grandfathered in the Rationale.<br>I oppose this proposal to allow trapping exemptions on motor vehicle closed areas. Vehicle prohibitions should apply to ALL backcountry users equally - the research is clear in that motor vehicle usage has a negative impact on sensitive wildlife. Not only should this proposal be denied, but current exemptions elsewhere should also be revoked.  | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 08:44<br>Friday, January 19, 2018 - 16:45<br>Friday, January 19, 2018 - 12:11<br>Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 08:36  | s.22 |
| no vehicles should be exempt. it defeats the whole purpose of a road closure. disabled persons should also be banned from operating vehicles in a road closure. going soft for certain groups on road closures shows holes in the system. if logging and habitat destruction continue at the current pace, road closures will be the only option in the future, going soft on them now, will make it harder for road closures to succeed in general.<br>This is a common sense regulation.  | Sunday, January 7, 2018 - 09:36<br>Wednesday, January 10, 2018 - 10:41  |      |
| <b>Region 4 - Kootenay Regulation # 2018-4-01: Bull River Bighorn Sheep General Open Season Amendment - Voting Results = Support (21) / Neutral (4) / Oppose (20)</b>   |   |      |
| It appears you are taking rams away from resident hunters and giving them to outfitters. Unless there is a fair an equitable distribution of tags I do not support this. Furthermore, the surrounding area is overgrazed by cattle, infested with weeds ( a result of cattle grazing) and tracked with multiple roads. Asking resident hunters to bear the brunt while failing to address root causes is a mistake. I would rather see a complete closure of bighorn hunting.<br>support conservative harvests and regs<br>I support this change. Why not take it a step further and introduce an LEH?  | Tuesday, December 26, 2017 - 10:06<br>Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 11:22<br>Thursdays, December 21, 2017 - 08:35   | s.22 |

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| An LEH any bull hunt would result in the harvest over a broader age class instead of focusing the pressure on the best breeding bulls. It would also allow sustenance hunters a choice of a younger more tender meat and lessen the chance of wrongful ID & kills. Younger bulls are also more susceptible to predation and winter kills so this could reduce that mortality.   | Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 11:59     | s.22 |
| I agree with the shortened season but still wonder if a "fair" limited entry season would give greater control to the number of bulls harvested.  | Tuesday, January 2, 2018 - 16:40     |      |
| Bulls are now climbing higher than 20:100. Not many people hunt elk any more in the 4-14 to 4-19 areas. Young hunters are less and less, old hunters are to old for elk hunting.  | Tuesday, December 19, 2017 - 15:09   |      |
| I am on board 100%. Should allow bow season for more hunter opportunities but still low harvest rate  | Wednesday, December 20, 2017 - 20:50 |      |
| <b>Region 4 - Kootenay Regulation # 2018-4-05: Shorten Kootenay Wolverine Trapping Season - Voting Results = Support (34) / Neutral (2) / Oppose (6)</b>  |                                      |      |
| Very little is known about their population any steps to increase their numbers must be done ASAP   | Saturday, January 13, 2018 - 17:03   | s.22 |
| makes sense   | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 11:27    |      |
| Given that the analysis isn't completed, and that preliminary results indicate that the average of 13 wolverine trapped per year is too many, and the population in various management units of Region 4 is estimated at being ONLY 10 wolverines, trapping of wolverines should be halted completely until the analysis is completed.  | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 23:49  |      |
| I support this change   | Thursday, December 21, 2017 - 08:37  |      |
| shorter season may reduce overall wolverine harvest to some extent, though some incidental take is likely after the season is closed. not sure how this will be practically enforced  | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 08:49   |      |
| When's the last time anyone saw a wolverine? Absolutely shorten the trapping season and get enforcement officers hired to make sure people are not trapping out of season.  | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 22:10   |      |
| Since it has been established that the current wolverine hunt is unsustainable reducing the time of the hunt is a small step in the right direction, but a better step would be to stop the hunt until sufficient objective and quality information about the population's status can be established. When in doubt about sustainability, we need to stop and reevaluate our impact on the species rather than persist until it is too late.  | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 21:58    |      |
| support   | Monday, January 8, 2018 - 13:53      |      |
| Wolverines are solitary animals with huge ranges and they are sensitive to human activity. The wolverine population in the Kootenays is low. Studies are ongoing, but leading researchers suggest that wolverines should not be trapped at all in many parts of the Kootenays. The proposed trapping regulations would shorten the wolverine trapping season and this is a good start towards improving wolverine populations by reducing the number of wolverines killed.  | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 23:34   |      |
| With the precipitous population declines, the trapping season should be further reduced. This is a start only. The modification should be monitored after one year.   | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 14:13     |      |
| Maintain current season.  | Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 08:55     |      |
| As a backcountry user that frequents this area, I support this proposal to shorten the wolverine trapping season. But more importantly, I support ending the trapping of wolverines. This is a species that is especially sensitive to human activity, with large home ranges - meaning there likely isn't very many individuals in the Kootenays to begin with. To effectively protect this species in the long-term, the Ministry should end the trapping of wolverines entirely.   | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 19:43    |      |
| Yes shorten it. Humans have cause enough imbalance in nature and should not be given any more time to do more damage. it should be shortened even more  | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 14:15    |      |
| I support this regulation. It is necessary to keep the wolverine population healthy. Would love to see the hunt end completely.   | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 07:42  |      |
| the data shows that the same season has been going on since 1993 and the harvest average is 13 wolverine. There is no reason to change the season as the harvest is totally sustainable.  | Monday, January 15, 2018 - 18:10     |      |
| More data is needed. It would be nice to see the ministry use data to make changes to regulations   | Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 19:29     |      |
| I would like to see a ban on all lynx and wolverine hunting   | Saturday, January 13, 2018 - 15:11   |      |
| I support a total ban on wolverine hunting and trapping.  | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 19:05  |      |
| Taken from the British Columbia furbearer guidelines - "However, wolverines naturally occur at low density, have a relatively low reproductive potential, and are believed to have the lowest resilience to harvesting pressure of all the province's furbearers." "Since 1994, the wolverine has also been included on the provincial ?Blue List,? a rating indicating that it is considered vulnerable and of high managment priority." With the quotes posted above - I don't understand how the wolverine is being trapped in certain areas of BC at all. The hunting of wolverine was closed in Kootenay region 4 for 2016-2018 season. I think the season should be reduced or eliminated completely but this is a step in the right direction. | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 09:04   |      |
| As a trapper I would still support that as an alternative to closing the season as it still provides an opportunity for the trapper take the species, but in a more managed way.  | Monday, January 15, 2018 - 12:59     |      |
| definitely reduce the hunting season. It is critical we retain the wolverine and our claim "Beautiful British Columbia" These animals are suffering habitat loss, and are disappearing across the country. It is imperative we retain the wolverines here in BC.  | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 18:07    |      |
| I definitely support shortening the season. With the numbers in doubt and how large their territories are there should be NO season until scientific numbers can be verified.   | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 15:01    |      |



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| I don't think any wolverines should be harvested.  | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 13:51    | s.22 |
| I support this. cancel the wolverine hunt altogether. there are far fewer wolverines than there are grizzly bears.   | Wednesday, December 20, 2017 - 19:19 |      |
| Strongly support.  | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 13:11    |      |
| I support the proposal to reduce the number of wolverines trapped.   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 11:31   |      |
| Do not believe shortening the season will impact harvest   | Friday, January 12, 2018 - 09:19     |      |
| Where is the science that allows killing wolverines? What are you people doing to our wildlife and province?   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 17:02   |      |
| Wolverines are solitary and rare animals in our region. Like all wildlife they are subject to pressure from development and human incursion into their habitat. I strongly oppose all trapping of wolverines! This activity should be banned. If we want to preserve this species we need to take strong action now, not wait until it is too late.  | Saturday, January 13, 2018 - 13:32   |      |
| You estimate there may be only 10 wolverines left in the region and you still allow a hunt...this is madness!! End this hunt!!   | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 09:54  |      |
| Seems to address a legitimate concern.   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 10:29   |      |
| I support shortening the season, but really eliminating the barbaric hunt altogether is what I am ultimately hoping for. What does the killing a wolverine accomplish exactly? It is not killed for food, it is a trophy hunt. Any and all trophy hunting must be banned. It's a dated practice that serves no purpose. There are so very few wolverines, can we please leave them alone?  | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 07:06  |      |
| Strongly agree with shortening season  | Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 17:05     |      |
| Wolverines are a keystone predator and are an indicator of healthy intact ecosystems. Wildsight is supportive of the shortening of the wolverine trapping season. However, there should be an outright ban on wolverine trapping in most/or all MU7s until there is data that supports a sustainable harvest of the species. There is limited information on wolverines across the Kootenay Boundary and there is a lack of science-based data to inform decision making on wolverine trapping. The impact of trapping wolverines could be affecting the future wolverine viability and connectivity of wolverines across the region. We know that wolverines exist at relatively low density in our region, are solitary animals with huge ranges, and are extremely sensitive to human activity. The government numbers justify that an unsustainable harvest is continuing. 10 percent of recorded wolverine mortality is due to trapping - double the calculated sustainable rate. A substantial overharvest of wolverines is likely occurring in the Kootenay Boundary region. Cleavanger et al 2016 observed that wolverine populations in the BC Southern Rockies exist at densities than were lower than previously thought. Similar studies in the Purcells and Selkirk suggest that wolverine populations and detections were lower than expected (Kortello et al 2014). An overharvest (both historic and current) could account for this low wolverine population. Areas like the South Purcells, where wolverines are believed to exist at low density could be particularly susceptible to overharvest (Lofroth and Ott 2007). An outright ban on trapping in most or all MU7s in Kootenay-Boundary would likely allow wolverines populations to recover in the mid to short term. | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 12:45     |      |
| This message is in regards to the Wolverine open season for trapping. BC Ministry wants to shorten the season. I disagree because of the simple fact bears are still active during the first week in December. Any baiting will attract them. As it stands now I don't put traps out until the first week in December because of bears in region 4. This may differ in other provinces or areas but this fact is true in this region. I only utilize 6 or 7 weeks of trapping at the present time. Therefore I strongly disagree to any changes to The Wolverine season dates. Sincerely   | Monday, January 15, 2018 - 18:24     |      |
| s.22<br>While reducing the hunt is a step in the right direction, I feel that hunting of wolverines should be banned altogether.   | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 13:16    |      |
| An estimated 13 wolverines per year have been trapped over the past two decades, with as many as 23 wolverines trapped in 2015. Wolverine are solitary animals with huge ranges, who are sensitive to human activity, so there aren't very many in the Kootenays. The province estimates that on average more than 10% of the total population in the Kootenay Boundary are killed by trappers every year. Studies are ongoing, but leading researchers tell us that wolverines shouldn't be trapped in many parts of the Kootenays. The proposed trapping regulations shorten the wolverine trapping season to reduce the number of wolverines killed, but I believe a ban on wolverine trapping is the most reasonable long-term solution.   | Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 15:31     |      |
| Any shortening of trapping seasons is a positive move towards protecting BC's wildlife   | Saturday, January 13, 2018 - 13:55   |      |
| Wolverine populations are always on the brink, being such a sensitive animal to human activity. There should be a complete moratorium on trapping wolverines.  | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 14:54  |      |
| The proposed trapping regulations shorten the wolverine trapping season to reduce the number of wolverines killed, this is a step in the right direction, but in my opinion a ban on wolverine trapping is the most reasonable long-term solution.   | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 12:04  |      |
| I spent two winters working on wolverine surveys in the South Rockies in BC (from Mount Assiniboine Provincial Park south to the Montana border). These surveys made it very clear that the wolverine population in this area of the Kootenays is not doing well. Outside of the Elk Lakes and Height of the Rockies Provincial Parks and a few other fairly inaccessible areas, wolverines were nearly nonexistent. Wolverine have a low reproductive rate, low population density, and large home range. What I saw in the South Rockies was very alarming and I feel very strongly that wolverine trapping needs to be fully banned if we are going to have any hope of recovering and maintaining a healthy population.  | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 11:35    |      |
| I think wolverine hunting should be closed completely until we are sure the species has recovered sufficiently to ensure its sustainable survival. We don't need to hunt these animals for any good reason (food or pelt, as we have many other alternatives).   | Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 10:52     |      |
| Region 4 - Kootenay Regulation # 2018-4-06: Kootenay Wolf Trapping Method Restrictions - Voting Results = Support (16) / Neutral (3) / Oppose (13)   |                                      |      |

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| makes sense   | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 11:31    |
| I support this change. Snare traps are unnecessary. Need to increase hunter participation in wolf hunting/culling.  | Thursday, December 21, 2017 - 08:38  |
| simplifying and aligning regulations is a good thing  | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 08:51   |
| There should be no closed season for wolves in any MU's regardless of elevation. Hunters could contribute to wolf control if they had unlimited season in alpine areas.   | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 21:45     |
| Snares are a particularly hideous method of hunting. They should be banned entirely. This revised proposal provides no restrictions on bait use. This proposal is unacceptable. Wolves are intelligent and highly social animals. Given that the government has noted numerous increases in the size of ungulate populations, such that increases in numbers hunted are recommended, now is the time to stop hunting wolves and other predators.  | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 12:17     |
| Wolf's are destroying ungulate populations. If anything there should be a bounty put on them. Oppose this proposal 100 % !!!!   | Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 08:59     |
| the use of killing snares is critical to wolf harvest and to shorten the use of them by 6 weeks is not necessary. the pelts are fully prime after October 15th and at times the trapper has a limited time when they are able to target the pack due to pack movement following the migration of they prey. with regards to domestic dogs the ministry need to do a MUCH better job at relaying to the public their responsibility at keeping their pets on leash and under control.  | Monday, January 15, 2018 - 18:21     |
| On my line we typically do not notice bear sign after Nov 15th. I don't set snares until I am confident we will not have any bears in the area of our bait station. I strongly disagree with shortening the season!!!   | Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 19:21     |
| I support a total ban on all methods of killing wolves.   | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 19:06  |
| Ill informed ,cruel and unnecessary.  | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 09:41  |
| Not in favor of limiting tools in the trappers tool chest when targeting wolves. Not a conservation concern with bears and trapping of domestic pets is not a common occurrence (not suppose to be off-leash on crown land anyway).   | Thursday, December 28, 2017 - 14:19  |
| Agree with time frame for baiting/snaring of wolves for trappers  | Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 13:56     |
| We need more wolf trapping not less   | Tuesday, January 9, 2018 - 10:27     |
| Do not support any restriction that has possibility of killing less wolves. Govt should be flying and killing wolves all across B.C.!   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 22:48   |
| This is a reasonable change to prevent non targeted species (bears) from being caught in a wolf snare. I wish to point out that most trapper use breakaway devices which is designed to hold a wolf but breakaway on larger species such as bears. In regards to the risk of dogs I believe trappers in general set in a manner as to prevent catching a dog. There is onus on dog owners to be cognizant that there are tapping seasons and to maintain control of their dogs. Irresponsible dog owners that choose to allow their dogs to run wild take on the risk of them being unintentionally caught. | Wednesday, January 10, 2018 - 15:53  |
| Need the opportunity to bait before December 1st, wolves are gone by then   | Friday, January 12, 2018 - 09:23     |
| agree   | Tuesday, December 19, 2017 - 21:42   |
| do not support restricting predator management tools in an area where wolf numbers are on a rise. Trapping is not occurring in enough quantity to be a conservation concern.  | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 23:44     |
| You have no idea of the population numbers in the kootenays, you aerial cull them and allow trapping and dont have one person in the area doing accurate scientific accounts of the wolf population...this is irresponsible management.   | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 09:51  |
| I agree with the proposed change  | Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 17:07     |
| Leave the wolves alone! I have just seen them return here in the Slocan area several years ago, but not recently. They are an important part of the ecosystem. Stop trapping them. Leg hold traps are inhumane.   | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 14:57  |
| Makes sense   | Wednesday, December 20, 2017 - 08:33 |
| I support this proposed regulation to reduce the number of injured grizzly bears from snares during this very active time of year for bears.  | Sunday, January 7, 2018 - 21:37      |
| I am a little confused on this one. Just how big do you think wolves are in the Kootenays? You are afraid of trapping bears in a wolf trap? "reduces the risk of killing non target species, primarily bears" or trappers using bear traps to catch wolves? I don't get it.   | Tuesday, December 19, 2017 - 15:15   |

s.22

| Region 4 - Kootenay Regulation # 2018-4-07: Close Syringa Park Limited Entry Hunting Bighorn Sheep Opportunity - Voting Results = Support (27) / Neutral (3) / Oppose (7)   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Sounds like there should be an increase wolf and cougar bag limits in correlation to this.  | Wednesday, December 20, 2017 - 13:14 |
| Typical example of what the re-introduction of wolves and lack of hounds men to kill Cougars has done to a great hunting opportunity. Really bad management from the authorities.   | Thursday, December 21, 2017 - 20:36  |
| makes sense   | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 11:31    |
| Should have never had a hunting season until the population was strong enough to support it. Access to area is incredibly easy. Unsure of past LEH success rate, but I would guess high until impossible to find a full curl ram in later years. Close season and look for options for re-introduction. | Thursday, December 21, 2017 - 08:49  |
| if the population is too low to support a LEH hunt, close it down until the situation improves  | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 08:54   |

s.22

|   |                                     |      |
|---|-------------------------------------|------|
| As a wildlife stewardship volunteer who has monitored road mortality of amphibians, I know the impact roads have on seasonal migrations. This seasonal motor vehicle prohibition is critical for the success of the Northern Leopard Frog and other at-risk species in the Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area. It is an embarrassment that BC has not implemented this prohibition sooner, given migration data if this at-risk species has been available for over 17 years. I wholly support this road closure and strongly suggest BC more actively implement wildlife protection measures across the province. Sincerely, s.22   | Tuesday, January 2, 2018 - 11:59    | s.22 |
| I recognize the need to protect Northern Leopard Frog, an endangered species. I agree with prohibiting vehicles on the dyke AT NIGHT. There must be some way to close off the dyke at night: a solar powered automatic gate on a timer to open at 6 am and close at 6 pm. You would need some way that people going in near closing time could get out. You would also need a big sign saying they have to get out by 6 pm or be trapped. Alternatively, maybe a group like the Creston Field Naturalists could be given a key to open and close the gate. I am a member of this group, and would be willing to go out periodically to do this. I am concerned about the economic impact of this closure on the Creston Valley and the province. So many people come here specifically to see waterfowl during migration - the same periods for which you are proposing the closure. There must be a way for both the frogs and birders to be satisfied! Please consider alternatives to just closing off the area for such a long period. Thank you s.22 | Friday, December 22, 2017 - 10:38   |      |
| Should be no need to go as late as Oct. 15. End of Sept. should be good enough  | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 08:51 |      |
| this road closure is long overdue.  | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 19:50    |      |

| Region 4 - Kootenay Regulation # 2018-4-12: Trapper Exemptions on existing Kootenay Region Motor Vehicle Closed Areas - Voting Results = Support (19) / Neutral (1) / Oppose (30)  |                                     |      |
|--|-------------------------------------|------|
| Thats insane these areas were set up for protection. Why do trappers have more rights then wildlife photographers. That tiny income they generate is not worth the demise of wildlife populations that are clearly being overharvested   | Saturday, January 13, 2018 - 17:00  | s.22 |
| I have concerns about the impact of snowmobile trails in these areas improving predator access to wintering ungulates. Furthermore I am worried about the lack of regulatory control an exemption would create. Requiring industrial and commercial users to acquire a permit allows habitat staff the ability to place conditions on the access which is critical in high value habitat. Issuing the permit for a 5 year period and waiving the processing fee would be a better move than eliminating government oversight.  | Wednesday, January 10, 2018 - 12:28 |      |
| Given that AMA's are designed to help protect wildlife, and that AMA's cover only a paltry few percent of the back-country roads in BC, it hardly makes sense to reduce those protections even further for the purpose of allowing trappers to more efficiently access and kill the wildlife in those areas. Everyone in the province benefits from the protection of our wildlife, which makes us a tourist destination. Access Management Areas should apply to all back-country users equally. Instead of giving trappers motorized access to new areas, we should be rescinding their option to use motorized access in those AMA's where they are currently allowed.  | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 23:40 |      |
| exemption for trappers was overlooked - this will rectify the situation  | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 09:27  |      |
| Trapper support is needed in this Province. Predator numbers are way too high, so trappers require easier access to help to the situation.   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 19:52  |      |
| Access Management Areas should apply to all backcountry users equally.   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 22:07  |      |
| Across the Kootenays, a few percent of our backcountry roads have some level of motorized access restriction. These restrictions are in place to maintain important wildlife habitat. The research on backcountry roads is clear: the more roads and the more people there are using those roads, the harder life is for wildlife. For sensitive species like wolverines, caribou or grizzly bears, space to roam free of humans, their traps and their motorized vehicles is crucial. Allowing motor vehicle access to these areas for the purpose of trapping would present an "unnecessary burden" to the animals resident therein. Exemptions for trappers in other AMAs already make it harder to keep other motorized users out and create confusion. Existing exemptions should also be revoked. Access Management Areas should apply to all backcountry users equally. | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 00:24 |      |
| Support.   | Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 09:07    |      |
| As a BC resident who frequents some of these areas, I oppose this proposal to allow trapping exemptions on motor vehicle closed areas. Access Management Areas should apply to ALL backcountry users equally - the research is clear in that motor vehicle usage has a negative impact on sensitive wildlife. Not only should this proposal be denied, but current exemptions elsewhere should also be revoked.  | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 19:30   |      |
| NO. People have enough advantage on the wild ones as it is. Also the noise will disturb all the wildlife. Humans have caused enough imbalance to the natural world we cannot have any more unfair advantages we have more than enough and we do not respect nature enough to be given any further advantage. NO NO NO  | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 14:16   |      |
| The only "unnecessary burden" here would be the damage, noise, and destruction to the land and its natural inhabitants caused by the admittance of motor vehicles into these areas. I voted for the NDP because you promised to end the Grizzly hunt. You did that, and I thank you. However I hope you're now not opening all these loopholes in hunting regulations just to appease the groups and donors who were angered by the grizzly ban. Please don't be that kind of government.  | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 07:40 |      |
| it is critical that trappers have this access as explained in the rational and also they are a vital tool with wolf management.  | Monday, January 15, 2018 - 17:57    |      |
| Support. However, this proposal was not on the KWHAC short list and subsequently was not discussed by Regional stakeholders prior to being submitted.  | Wednesday, January 3, 2018 - 10:22  |      |
| Why limit trappers range????   | Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 19:23    |      |
| If it helps get some wolves trapped I'm all for it.  | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 19:18  |      |
| Closed areas should remain closed to motor vehicle use by trappers as all motor vehicle use affects wildlife adversely   | Saturday, January 13, 2018 - 15:15  |      |

|   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| I am strongly opposed to this exemption. We live in district 4-23. At the current time there is a HUGE amount of logging and industrial activity in this area. By allowing trappers motorized access in closed vehicle areas you are giving the animals almost no safe areas to go. With the amount of logging roads that have been cut into this area there is pretty well no where that is non-accessible at this point in time. I understand that may change as time passes however with no trees to block access to certain areas, they will be able to easier access these areas anyways. The fur bearing animal population has been greatly reduced in this area as it is ( I have lived here for 22 and spend a large amount of time in the bush). The large game animal and predator population has also been affected over the past years by increased / continued hunting pressure. I do not feel that giving trappers the right to access their portions of trapline in closed areas by motorized vehicle will be beneficial at all. | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 08:01  |
| Definitely support this. The trapper has perhaps chosen that trapline to purchase as it may fit his needs in size and he has paid a certain amount based on the value of area he has to access and the fur that the total area can support being removed.   | Monday, January 15, 2018 - 12:55    |
| strongly oppose the use of motorized vehicles for trappers, they consistently say it is a heritage thing, so they should walk anyway. If the reason for banning motorized traffic to the public is to lessen impact on wildlife, what has a larger impact than trappers? Bait, traps and motorized vehicles should NOT be allowed   | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 15:04   |
| For the sake of all wildlife these wilderness areas should be free of motor vehicles.   | Saturday, January 13, 2018 - 19:12  |
| i do not support vehicle use in road closures. whether they are trappers or disabled persons. do not support this.  | Sunday, January 7, 2018 - 09:41     |
| Trappers should be under the exact same regulations as everyone else, if not more stringent access regulations.   | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 12:39   |
| Strongly oppose. I can't understand why and how trapping of wolverines...or trapping of any wildlife is still considered a humane and acceptable practice.  | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 13:10   |
| Support this change.  | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 22:57  |
| consistent  | Friday, January 12, 2018 - 09:29    |
| I strongly oppose allowing trappers to use motor vehicle access in closed areas. The more motor vehicles of any type, the more disturbance to wildlife. We are not talking about extremely remote areas or trappers who are dependent on trapping for their livelihood. Instead, this allows for more vehicles in areas that should be protected for wildlife. It is wrong!   | Saturday, January 13, 2018 - 13:37  |
| Unnecessary burden?? Depends on your point of view. Why make life easier for a trapper? It's a barbaric, dated practice that serves no purpose. Please do not make it easier, let the trapper have a challenge at least!  | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 07:50 |
| Strongly agree with trapper exemptions in AMA's trappers need to be able to access there trapping area. Some AMA's will encompass a trappers entire trapping area. There will be minimal impact from vehicle use as we are talking about maybe 2 vehicles at a time. Trappers will not abuse this exemption as it is required to conduct there trapping business, not to mention the commercial rights and legal obligations  | Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 17:13    |
| Please do not exempt trappers in ANY of the closed areas in the Kootenays. Trapping is a barbaric, inhumane occupation and should not be allowed AT ALL. Most trappers do not do this to make a living, but just do it as a pastime. In particular, rare and probably endangered wolverines and lynx should not be trapped. Records might show that only a few are trapped each year, but how many pull out of a trap and wander off to die? Thanks for your consideration of this important matter.  | Saturday, January 13, 2018 - 14:19  |
| Wildsight is opposed to granting trappers exclusive access management exemptions for the Upper Elk Valley AMA, the Galton AMA, Alexander Creek, and the Holt and Lang restrictions. Across the Kootenays, access management areas are in place to maintain important wildlife habitat and limit motorized access. The proposed regulations would open up access closures to motorized use by trappers resulting in increased harvest pressure and stress on wildlife. This exemption is contrary to maintaining important wildlife habitat and limiting motorized usage.  | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 12:43    |
| Strongly disagree that "they do not impact the values the AMA is intended to protect". Any motorized access does exactly that. By allowing this you start an entitlement to anyone else who sees tracks into these AMAs. You're unfairly putting one user group ahead of others and the values of the AMA. By allowing this you're allowing traffic into critical goat, sheep, etc. winter range at critical periods. I.E. should a trapper be allowed to sled up onto Abbey Ridge, Mount Bleasdale, or Deadmans pass and stress goats/sheep for the purpose of a martin set? Ridiculous, please reconsider. Nobody traps here as a means of income. They have dealt with this restriction until now and can continue to do so.   | Sunday, January 7, 2018 - 09:58     |
| Walk like everybody else.What did they do before these roads where built.Opens it up for hunting abuse by trappers and their friends.   | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 08:54 |
| I strongly oppose exempting trappers from the subject area motor vehicle closed area regulation. Although trappers have commercial rights in these areas to trap animals they do not own the land, nor do they "own" the wildlife in that area. By allowing them access via motorized vehicle we are encouraging unnatural rates of trapping and potentially increasing the concern around ethical methods for harvesting our wildlife. There is little to no data to defend increasing trapping rates (which this would ultimately do) in these areas.   | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 17:36    |
| Trappers should not be given exemptions to access restricted areas by motor vehicle in the Galton Range, Upper Elk Valley, Alexander Creek, Holt Creek and Lang Creek AMAs  | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 13:21   |

s.22

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| Across the Kootenays, a few percent of our backcountry roads have some level of motorized access restriction. These restrictions are in place to maintain important wildlife habitat. The research on backcountry roads is clear: the more roads and the more people there are using those roads, the harder life is for our wildlife. For sensitive species like wolverines, caribou or grizzly bears, space to roam without humans and their motorized vehicles is crucial. The proposed regulations would open up access closures to motorized use by trappers, including the Upper Elk Valley, the Galton Range slopes on the east side of Kootenay, Alexander Creek north of Crowsnest Pass and the Holt and Lang Creek Valleys just east of Glacier National Park. For most trappers in the Kootenays, trapping is a recreational pursuit that provides a bit of income, the opportunity to have a backcountry cabin and some tax write-offs. Trappers in the Kootenays don't need special exemptions. Exemptions for trappers in other AMAs already make it harder to keep other motorized users out and create confusion so existing exemptions should be revoked as well. Access Management Areas should apply to all backcountry users equally.  | Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 15:29   |
| There is no reason to give exemption from an initiative that clearly had a reason for it in the first place. Not allowed is not allowed. These people already have too many liberties, and more and more people think killing, and for sport in particular, is not how the people of BC want to be seen, nor is it good role modeling for children. As a teacher, I can tell you children are horrified when they find out what actually goes on. The people of BC are becoming aware of the suffering inflicted on animals by hunters, particularly when trapping is used, and which is increasingly becoming banned in other countries due to the fact it inflicts prolonged suffering on animals. Humans already stress out populations enough without barbaric practices like these. We are not a province of rednecks and the law should demonstrate that.  | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 13:04   |
| I feel obliged to comment after reading the misleading article that was released by Wildsight. I support the thoughtful inclusion of AMA exemptions of Trappers in Region 4, as this change proposes. I agree that the Trapper has a different role to play in the Backcountry, and therefore should have a different set of rules in order to carry out their role. The impact of a Trapper utilizing backcountry roads is different than that of hunters and recreational users, and the regulations governing their activity should reflect that. The rationale currently offered by the Ministry staff, supporting this change is sound, and it would sadden me to see this opportunity be missed because we have a lot of emotional and ill-informed individuals being herded by Wildsight to "voice their opposition" to these changes.<br>The oversight should be dealt with.   | Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 04:33   |
| I am opposed to this regulation proposal for the following reasons. The above rationale is biased. Guide Outfitters have exclusive commercial rights and are not exempt, and guide outfitting is a far bigger business. Allowing motorized vehicles in AMA's does in fact impact the values that the AMA was intended to protect. Many of the roads within AMA's are very old and returning to nature without motorized traffic, and allowing trappers on them will open them back up. This could lead to trappers using atv's in the summer and fall to prepare their trap lines. This would have a very negative impact on other users that go to AMA's to get away from motorized activity, as well as disturb wildlife that uses these areas in spring/summer/fall. The upper elk valley AMA was put in place to protect wildlife values, as well as maintain a landscape that is not impacted by motorized vehicles allowing for a wilderness type experience. Exempting trappers compromises conservation, and negatively impacts hikers, horse enthusiasts, hunters, fishermen, and outfitters. ATV's are also spread invasive weeds, cause soil erosion, noise pollution etc. Snowmobile tracks in winter create highways for wolves, and have a negative impact on wintering moose populations. As the guide outfitter<br>I find the rationale "In addition, the licensed trapper has exclusive commercial rights, and legal obligations, to trap in the area and limiting motor vehicle access to the trapper would be an unnecessary burden." a joke. The trapper can meet their legal obligation by trapping from the road interface. I operate in AMA and park, and as such have a large string of horses that costs thousands of dollars a year to feed and maintain, not to mention my time. But this is what you do to operate in a place that has motorized restriction, so I am unsympathetic to the reference of unnecessary burden. Trapping for the most part, and I know specifically in the elk valley, is a hobby and pastime, not a sole method of making a living. It is commercial only in the sense that they sell a couple hundred dollars on the fur market each winter. To allow one person's pastime to threaten the integrity of an AMA, disturb wildlife and impact other user groups is absurd. | Wednesday, January 10, 2018 - 10:56<br>Saturday, January 6, 2018 - 07:47 |
| If a trapper needs to conduct motorized activities within an AMA he should be required to acquire a permit which limits where he can use a motor vehicle. Trappers seem to think they can cut an ATV trail wherever they want within their trapping territory and use it when ever they want. I have witnessed far too many abuses from trappers accessing their trap line for the purpose of trapping during hunting season creating conflict with non-motorized hunters. Also, this development is at a detriment to the values the AMA's were intended to protect. Also, there are drainages in the north Elk Valley which fall with the Upper Elk AMA which also have Non-Motorized Rec. Trail designations under FRPA. Trappers require a special use permit from BC Sites & Trails to conduct trapping activities on registered rec trails. Aldridge and Weary Creeks are two examples. Giving trappers full motorized reign within AMA's will lead to habitat degradation, industrial development for personal gain, conflict with solitude seekers and non-motorized hunters, spread of noxious weeds and motorized development of wildlands. This is not what AMA's were intended for. Make the permits free of charge, but for the sake of the AMA, require a permit!  | Sunday, January 7, 2018 - 21:34  |
| Across the Kootenays, a few percent of the backcountry roads have some level of motorized access restriction. These restrictions are to maintain important wildlife habitat. The research on backcountry roads is clear: the more roads and the more people there are using those roads, the harder life is for wildlife. For sensitive species like wolverines, caribou or grizzly bears, space to roam without humans and their motorized vehicles is crucial.   | Wednesday, January 17, 2018 - 11:58                                      |
| Trappers should not be given exemptions in any AMAs and current trapper exemptions should be revoked. AMAs are in place to protect important wildlife habitat. We already have a problem with non-compliance by members of the public within existing AMAs. Allowing trappers to enter AMAs will further encourage others to illegally enter these areas and will further degrade these important wildlife habitats and put extra pressure on sensitive species. Access Management Areas should apply to everyone.   | Monday, January 15, 2018 - 19:54   |

s.22

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|--|--------------------------------------|------|
| Trappers should also be exempt on all Forestry trails also. As Trapping was here long before these trails were established. I'm glad we are finally have the exemptions like all the rest of the BC Trappers have had. There should be no closures any where's in BC for Trappers as they have the rights to be trapping & maintaining their respective Traplines. I still would like to hear that Trappers are also exempt from these Forestry Trails also. Please look at getting it taken care of too.  | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 09:09   | s.22 |
| We [the public and the government we elect] need to do a much better job of protecting our wildlife, and must create a land use plan in the Kootenays that restricts all human access to certain areas to ensure animals have the space they require to ensure a sustainable population. For most trappers in the Kootenays, trapping is a recreational pursuit that provides a bit of income, the opportunity to have a backcountry cabin and likely for some, some tax write-offs. Trappers in the Kootenays don't need special exemptions. Exemptions for trappers in other AMAs already make it harder to keep other motorized users out and create confusion ? so existing exemptions should be revoked as well. Access Management Areas should apply to all backcountry users equally. There must be areas that no humans can access, except in case of emergencies such as forest fires, etc. Please, please, create a land use plan for wildlife, non-motorized access, and motorized access areas, that apply equally to all.   | Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 10:57     |      |
| <b>Region 5 - Cariboo Regulation # 2018-5-01: Re-establish Taseko Lake Bighorn Sheep General Open Season - Voting Results = Support (36) / Neutral (1) / Oppose (6)</b>  |                                      |      |
| Keep it full curl.   | Wednesday, December 20, 2017 - 12:15 | s.22 |
| As the inventory is favourable we see no reason not to provide this hunting opportunity. We trust this hunt will be monitored.   | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 14:11     |      |
| I am all for increased hunting opportunities in this area. A friend of mine has seen a large group of large rams in this m.u. a few years ago while out with his father. I didn't even know there were sheep in this area until I had talked to him. We need to ensure predator numbers are controlled as well in this region to ensure ongoing healthy ungulate population numbers.   | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 00:53   |      |
| if population levels have returned to normal, re-open the season and monitor - as suggested  | Thursday, January 18, 2018 - 08:07   |      |
| nice to see !  | Thursday, December 21, 2017 - 09:19  |      |
| Nice to c some opportunities for these?rams  | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 20:34     |      |
| Increasing or decreasing opportunities for hunting of all species should be based on good science and based on accurate data - support if strong commitment to collect population data.  | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 12:39     |      |
| I highly support this proposal.  | Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 20:44   |      |
| I support this decision, here is why: 1) The full curl harvest is a population "fail safe" management strategy. Even if every mature ram (>6 yrs) was harvested, this would have little impact on recruitment. The uwe's will still be bred. Unlike with goats, there is likely zero accidental female harvest with sheep. 2) This location is remote (no road access) so even under GOS I doubt there would be tonnes of pressure. If pressure is a concern, I would perhaps implement an LEH season instead. Problem with LEH for sheep it is really to the benefit of the GO. If there is a GO in this area, you can assure they will be suggesting to open only an LEH season. 3) This population is California bighorns, and many of the existing mature rams will be broomed below full curl. This will ensure these rams are not harvested. I would not be as supportive of a 3/4 curl (initially), however, given the remoteness of the region even that might not be a big issue. 4) This location is beautiful, anyone who committed to a sheep hunt in this area would have an incredible time regardless of if they harvested or not. Sheep hunting is not about harvesting sheep and the geography of this area would make for an incredible hunt. There is lots of other wildlife in this area. Mule deer, Grizzly Bears etc. For sheep hunting in general (across BC), I think you really need to put some thought into ways to control sheep poaching. By poaching, I mean the harvest of "short" sheep (undersize) and the illegal bending of horns. This is challenging. Maybe having a full curl x age class is the answer?? To be legal the sheep would have to be full curl and a minimum of 7 or maybe even 8 years old? There would be a couple years with reduced harvest, there would be some angry sheep hunters and it even more promotes a "trophy mentality". Bending of horns is happening, I suspect particularly by GO's who are under incredible pressure to maintain high success rates. It is something that needs to be on your radar and something you need to develop a plan to mitigate. It is too difficult to enforce in the field. Thank You for taking the time to read our comments. Feel free to call or email if you want more details | Wednesday, December 20, 2017 - 08:48 | s.22 |
| There has been a continual erosion of sheep opportunity within B.C. Last year Nemiah was recently added to the list of forbidden sheep areas, as First Nations are forbidding any hunting opportunity in the there Title area. If the sheep numbers can support it let's open it up  | Thursday, December 21, 2017 - 20:44  |      |
| Why not start with a LEH system to open the area? Then you can manage the harvest accurately and not allow the harvest of more than the population can sustain in a single season and then have to close it down like what happened in the past. Time, money, people is what is needed to do this properly.  | Tuesday, January 16, 2018 - 10:52    |      |
| This would be a great idea since the sheep population has rebounded so well. Compulsory inspection of all harvested rams as well as continued yearly winter counts to ensure the sheep numbers remain healthy  | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 18:26     |      |
| There are several problems with this proposal. First, no rationale is provided for opening this species to hunting other than the data that the numbers might support it. Permission should be sought from the Tsilhqot'in Nation prior to considering changes in regulation, even if much of the proposed hunting area is outside of title lands. Last, five years is far too long to begin monitoring. It took over two decades for the population to rebound.   | Friday, January 19, 2018 - 11:37     |      |
| Support 100%..   | Sunday, January 14, 2018 - 08:43     |      |
| I support this season but also support and would love to see archery seasons for Sheep in British Columbia.  | Thursday, December 28, 2017 - 14:57  |      |

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

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**From:** Smith, Kelly B FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 25, 2018 3:32 PM  
**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** AHTE comments (Jan 22).xlsx

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** Important

Hello,

Attached is the spreadsheet containing all comments that were posted on the AHTE website for the 80 or so proposals. I deleted the "no comment" and duplicated ones (one person commented the same remarks 5 times on a single regulation, several times).



AHTE comments  
(Jan 22).xlsx

This spreadsheet also contains comments that were emailed to the F&W general inbox but have put them under a separate tab.

Comments highlighted in gray indicate letter writing campaigns.

Regards,



Kelly Smith

**Fish & Wildlife Regulations Officer**

Fish and Wildlife Branch

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

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**Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** Pierre Canac-Marquis <fic.canac@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 17, 2017 9:22 AM  
**To:** dave.kay@gov.ab.ca, s.22

**Subject:** AIHTS Certified Traps list -Update November 15 2017 / Liste des pièges certifiés ANIPSC au 15 novembre 2017  
**Attachments:** Certified Traps List FIC NOV 15 2017 Eng 8½ X 14.pdf; Certified Traps List FIC Nov 15 2017 FR 8 X 14.pdf

For your information please find attached a November 15 2017 update of the AIHTS certified traps list by Canada.

You can also find this info at:

<http://fur.ca/certified-traps/>

Sincerely

*Pour votre information, veuillez trouver ci-joint une mise à jour en date du 15 novembre 2017 de la liste des pièges certifiés ANIPSC par le Canada.*

*Vous pouvez également trouver cette information au:*

*<http://fur.ca/fr/liste-de-piege-certifie/>*

*Cordialement*

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***Pierre Canac-Marquis***

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## Pièges certifiés – Mise en oeuvre de l'ANIPSC au Canada

Liste mise à jour le 15 novembre 2017

(Nouveaux ajouts surlignés et identifiés en gras)

Les directeurs de la faune du Canada, autorités compétentes pour la mise en œuvre de l'Accord sur les normes internationales de piégeage sans cruauté (ANIPSC), ont approuvé un processus en deux phases visant la mise en œuvre de l'ANIPSC au Canada. La liste suivante explique les deux phases de la réglementation des pièges en fonction de l'espèce : (1) les pièges **certifiés** actuellement réglementés pour des espèces en particulier; (2) les pièges **certifiés** qui ne sont pas réglementés à l'heure actuelle. Les pièges énumérés par leur nom ont tous été certifiés par une autorité compétente canadienne conforme à l'ANIPSC en fonction de l'espèce. Consultez votre gouvernement provincial ou territorial afin de confirmer la réglementation sur l'utilisation de pièges, applicable à votre territoire de piégeage



### PHASE 1- PIÈGES MORTELS – Pièges certifiés par espèce dont l'utilisation est actuellement obligatoire

| ESPÈCE  |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| <b>CASTOR</b>   | -Bélisle Classique 330<br>-Bélisle Super X 280<br>-Bélisle Super X 330<br>-B.M.I. 280 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I. 330 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I. BT 300  | -Bridger 330<br>-Duke 330<br>-LDL C280<br>-LDL C280 Magnum<br>-LDL C330   | -LDL C330 Magnum<br>-Rudy 280<br>-Rudy 330<br>-Sauvageau 1000-11F<br>-Sauvageau 2001-8<br>-Sauvageau 2001-11   | -Sauvageau 2001-12<br>-Species-Specific 330 Dislocator Half Mag<br>-Species-Specific 440 Dislocator Half Mag<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 280<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330                             |
| <b>LOUTRE</b>   | -Bélisle Super X 220<br>-Bélisle Super X 280<br>-Bélisle Super X 330<br>-LDL C220<br>-LDL C220 Magnum<br>-LDL C280 Magnum   | -Rudy 220 Plus<br>-Rudy 280<br>-Rudy 330<br>-Sauvageau 2001-8<br>-Sauvageau 2001-11<br>-Sauvageau 2001-12   | -Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 220<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 280<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330                                   |  |
| <b>LYNX DU CANADA</b>   | -Bélisle Super X 280<br>-Bélisle Super X 330<br>-B.M.I. 220 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I. 280 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I. 220 Magnum Body Gripper   | -B.M.I. 280 Magnum Body Gripper<br>-Bridger 220<br>-Bridger 280 Mag. Bodygripper  | -LDL C220<br>-LDL C220 Magnum<br>-LDL C280 Magnum<br>-LDL C330<br>-LDL C330 Magnum   | -Rudy 330<br>-Sauvageau 2001-8<br>-Sauvageau 2001-11<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330   |
| <b>PÉKAN</b>  | -Bélisle Super X 120<br>-Bélisle Super X 160<br>-Bélisle Super X 220  | -Koro no 2<br>-LDL C160 Magnum<br>-LDL C220 Magnum  | -Rudy 120 Magnum<br>-Rudy 160 Plus<br>-Rudy 220 Plus<br>-Sauvageau 2001-5  | -Sauvageau 2001-6<br>-Sauvageau 2001-7<br>-Sauvageau 2001-8  |
| <b>MARTRE</b><br><i>M. americana</i><br><i>M. martes</i><br><i>M. zibellina</i> | -Bélisle Super X 120<br>-Bélisle Super X 160<br>-B.M.I. 126 Magnum Body Gripper   | -LDL B120 Magnum<br>-LDL C160 Magnum<br>-Koro no 1<br>-Koro no 2  | -Northwoods 155<br>-Rudy 120 Magnum<br>-Rudy 160 Plus<br>-Sauvageau C120 Magnum  | -Sauvageau 2001-5<br>-Sauvageau 2001-6<br>-KP120 (Russia)<br>-Kleiner Schwanenhals (Germany)<br>-Eiabzugseisen (Germany)   |
| <b>RAT MUSQUÉ</b><br>Sur terre  | -Bélisle Super X 110<br>-Bélisle Super X 120<br>-B.M.I. 120 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I. 120 Body Gripper Magnum<br>-B.M.I. 126 Body Gripper Magnum<br>-Bridger 120<br>-Bridger 120 Mag. Bodygripper                       | Bridger 155 Mag. Bodygripper<br><b>-CONV 110 CAN (Hollande)</b><br>-Duke 120<br><b>-FMB 110 SS (Hollande)</b><br><b>-FMB 150 SS (Hollande)</b>                                    | -Koro Muskrat Trap<br>-Koro Large Rodent Double spring<br>-LDL B120<br>-LDL B120 Magnum<br>-Oneida Victor 120 Stainless Steel<br>-Ouell 411-180<br>-Ouell RM | -Rudy 110<br>-Rudy 120<br>-Rudy 120 Magnum<br>-Sauvageau 2001-5<br>-Sauvageau C120 Magnum<br>-Sauvageau C120 "Reverse Bend"<br>-Triple M<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 110<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 120 |
| <b>RAT MUSQUÉ</b><br>Sous l'eau   | Tout type de piège à mâchoires (mortel ou à patte) qui exerce une force de serrage sur un rat musqué et installé pour le maintenir sous l'eau.  |   |  |  |
| <b>RATON LAVEUR</b>   | -Bélisle Classique 220<br>-Bélisle Super X 160<br>-Bélisle Super X 220<br>-Bélisle Super X 280<br>-B.M.I. 160 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I. 220 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I. 280 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I. 280 Magnum Body Gripper | -Bridger 160<br>-Bridger 220<br>-Bridger 280 Mag Body Gripper<br>-Duke 160<br>-Duke 220<br>-Koro no 2<br>-LDL C160<br>-LDL C160 Magnum<br>-LDL C220                               | -LDL C220 Magnum<br>-LDL C280 Magnum<br>-Northwoods 155<br>-Rudy 160<br>-Rudy 160 Plus<br>-Rudy 220<br>-Rudy 220 Plus  | -Sauvageau 2001-6<br>-Sauvageau 2001-7<br>-Sauvageau 2001-8<br>-Species-Specific 220 Dislocator Half Mag<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 160<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 220                                 |
| <b>HERMINE ET BELETTES</b>  | -Bélisle Super X 110<br>-Bélisle Super X 120<br>-B.M.I. #60<br>-B.M.I. 120 Body Gripper Magnum<br>-B.M.I. 126 Body Gripper Magnum   | -Bridger 120<br>-Bridger 120 Mag. Bodygripper<br>-Bridger 155 Mag. Bodygripper<br>-Koro Muskrat Trap<br>-Koro Rodent Trap<br>-Koro Large Rodent Double spring<br>-LDL B120 Magnum | -Ouell 411-180<br>-Ouell 3-10<br>-Ouell RM<br>-Rudy 120 Magnum<br>-Sauvageau C120 Magnum<br>-Sauvageau C120 "Reverse Bend"                                   | -Sauvageau 2001-5<br>-Triple M<br>-Victor Rat Trap<br>-WCS Tube Trap Int'l<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 110<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 120   |

### PHASE 1- PIÈGES A CAPTURE VIVANTE – Pièges certifiés par espèce dont l'utilisation est actuellement obligatoire

| ESPÈCE                |  |  |  |   |
|-----------------------|--|--|--|---|
| <b>LYNX DU CANADA</b> | -Bélisle Lacet #6<br>-Bélisle Sélectif | -Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch muni de 2 ressorts à boudin | -Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch muni de 4 ressorts à boudin | -Oneida Victor #3 muni de mâchoires d'acier non décalées d'au moins 8 mm d'épaisseur, de 4 ressorts à boudin et d'une virole d'attache au centre de la barre du châssis |

**Phase 2. ANNÉE D'APPLICATION À DÉTERMINER -**

Bien que les pièges énumérés dans la Phase 2 soient certifiés pour les espèces et les catégories de piège suivantes, l'année d'entrée en vigueur de l'obligation de n'utiliser que les pièges certifiés en vertu de l'ANIPSC **n'a pas encore été déterminée**. Cette date, qui pourrait varier d'une espèce à l'autre, sera connue au moins trois ans d'avance.

**Pour toutes les juridictions canadiennes;**

- L'utilisation des pièges mortels et à capture vivante pour le lynx roux deviendra obligatoire (Phase 1) à l'automne 2018.
- **L'utilisation des pièges à capture vivante pour le loup et le castor (cages) deviendra obligatoire (Phase 1) à l'automne 2020**

Consultez votre gouvernement provincial ou territorial afin de confirmer la réglementation sur l'utilisation de pièges, applicable à votre territoire de piégeage

**PHASE 2- PIÈGES MORTELS – Pièges certifiés par espèce mais dont l'utilisation n'est pas encore obligatoire**

| ESPÈCE           |  |   |  |  |
|------------------|--|---|--|--|
| <b>LYNX ROUX</b> | -Béliste Super X 280<br>-Béliste Super X 330<br>-B.M.I 220 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I 280 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I 220 Magnum Body Gripper | -B.M.I 280 Magnum Body Gripper<br>-Bridger 220<br>-Bridger 280 Mag. Bodygripper | -LDL C220<br>-LDL C220 Magnum<br>-LDL C280 Magnum<br>-LDL C330<br>-LDL C330 Magnum | -Rudy 330<br>-Sauvageau 2001-8<br>-Sauvageau 2001-11<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330 |

**PHASE 2- PIÈGES A CAPTURE VIVANTE – Pièges certifiés par espèce mais dont l'utilisation n'est pas encore obligatoire (\*1)**

| ESPÈCE                              |   |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>COYOTE</b>                       | -Béliste Lacet # 6<br>-Béliste Sélectif<br>-Duke No 3 Rubber Jaws avec une virole d'attache située au centre de la barre du châssis.<br>-Oneida Victor #1.5 Soft Catch avec 2 ressorts à boudin<br>-Oneida Victor #1.5 Soft Catch avec 4 ressorts à boudin<br>-Oneida Victor 1.75 avec mâchoires décalées de 3/16 de pouce munies de double laminations métalliques rondes (3/16 de pouce par-dessus et ¼ de pouce en dessous) et 4 ressorts à boudin<br>-Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch muni de 2 ressorts à boudin<br>-Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch muni de 4 ressorts à boudin | -Oneida Victor # 3 avec mâchoires décalées de 3/16 de pouce munies de double laminations métalliques rondes (3/16 de pouce par-dessus et ¼ de pouce en dessous) avec 2 ressorts à boudin.<br>-Oneida Victor # 3 avec mâchoires décalées de 3/16 de pouce munies de double laminations métalliques rondes (3/16 de pouce par-dessus et ¼ de pouce en dessous) avec 4 ressorts à boudin.<br>-Bridger #3 avec mâchoires décalées de 5/16 de pouce munies de doubles laminations métalliques ronde (3/16 de pouce par-dessus et ¼ de pouce en-dessous), de 4 ressorts à boudin et muni d'une virole d'attache située au centre de la barre du châssis.<br>-MB 550 Rubber Jaws avec 4 ressorts à boudin. |
| <b>CASTOR Cages</b>                 | -Comstock 12 X 18 X 39 Swin Through Beaver Cage<br>-Breathe Easy Live Beaver Trap<br>-Ezee Set Live Beaver Trap   | -Hancock Live Beaver Trap<br>-Koro "Klam" Live Beaver Trap  |
| <b>LOUP</b>                         | -Béliste Lacet #8<br>-Bridger Alaskan #5 Offset and Laminated Jaws<br>-Bridger Alaskan #5 Rubber Jaws<br>-Rudy Red Wolf 4 ½<br>-MB 750 Alaskan OS (3/8")  | -Livestock Protection EZ Grip No. 7<br>-Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch avec 4 ressorts à boudin, une barre de châssis d'au moins 8mm d'épaisseur et une virole d'attache fixée au centre de cette barre<br>-Bridger Brawn no 9 Rubber Jaws   |
| <b>LYNX ROUX</b>                    | -Béliste Lacet #6<br>-Béliste Sélectif<br>-Oneida Victor #1.5 Soft Catch avec 4 ressorts à boudin<br>-Oneida Victor #1.75, avec 2 ressorts à boudin et équipé de mâchoires décalées et laminées   | -Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch avec 2 ressorts à boudin<br>-Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch avec 4 ressorts à boudin<br>-Oneida Victor #3 avec mâchoires décalées de 3/16 de pouce munies de double laminations métalliques rondes (3/16 de pouce par-dessus et ¼ de pouce en dessous) avec 2 ressorts à boudin.  |
| <b>RATON LAVEUR Cages et boîtes</b> | -Ramconct DURA-POLY Box Trap<br>-Havahart Cage Trap 1079<br>-Havahart Cage Trap 1081<br>-Havahart Cage Trap 1085<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 108<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 108.1<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 108.5<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 108F<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 108SS<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 108.2SS   | -Tomahawk Cage Trap 1010<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 1010F<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 1010SS<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 1010SS-F<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 608<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 608.1<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 608.5<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 608F<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 608SS<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 608.2SS<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 6010<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 6010F<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 6010SS   |
| <b>RATON LAVEUR (*1)</b>            | -Duffer<br>-Bridger T3<br>-Egg Trap   | -Lil' Grizz Get'rz<br>-Duke DP Coon Trap  |

(\*1): L'utilisation exclusive de ces pièges certifiés est actuellement obligatoire seulement en Ontario, au Québec et au N.B.

## Certified Traps – AIHTS Implementation in Canada

### Updated November 15 2017

(New additions to this list are highlighted and marked in Bold)

The Canadian Wildlife Directors, Competent Authorities for implementation of the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards (AIHTS) have approved a 2-phase process for implementing the AIHTS in Canada. The following list shows the two phases for regulating species-specific traps: (1) **the certified traps currently regulated for specific species**; (2) **certified traps that are not regulated at this time**. The traps listed by name have all been certified by a governing competent authority as meeting the requirements of the AIHTS for specific species.

Check with your provincial or territorial government to confirm regulations related to trap uses applicable in your trapping area.



#### PHASE 1 - KILLING TRAPS - Certified traps currently regulated for use per species

| SPECIES   |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| <b>BEAVER</b>   | -Bélisle Classique 330<br>-Bélisle Super X 280<br>-Bélisle Super X 330<br>-B.M.I. 280 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I. 330 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I. BT 300  | -Bridger 330<br>-Duke 330<br>-LDL C280<br>-LDL C280 Magnum<br>-LDL C330   | -LDL C330 Magnum<br>-Rudy 280<br>-Rudy 330<br>-Sauvageau 1000-11F<br>-Sauvageau 2001-8<br>-Sauvageau 2001-11   | -Sauvageau 2001-12<br>-Species-Specific 330 Dislocator Half Mag<br>-Species-Specific 440 Dislocator Half Mag<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 280<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330                             |
| <b>CANADA LYNX</b>  | -Bélisle Super X 280<br>-Bélisle Super X 330<br>-B.M.I. 220 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I. 280 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I. 220 Magnum Body Gripper   | -B.M.I. 280 Magnum Body Gripper<br>-Bridger 220<br>-Bridger 280 Mag. Bodygripper  | -LDL C220<br>-LDL C220 Magnum<br>-LDL C280 Magnum<br>-LDL C330<br>-LDL C330 Magnum   | -Rudy 330<br>-Sauvageau 2001-8<br>-Sauvageau 2001-11<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330   |
| <b>FISHER</b>   | -Bélisle Super X 120<br>-Bélisle Super X 160<br>-Bélisle Super X 220  | -Koro no 2<br>-LDL C160 Magnum<br>-LDL C220 Magnum  | -Rudy 120 Magnum<br>-Rudy 160 Plus<br>-Rudy 220 Plus<br>-Sauvageau 2001-5  | -Sauvageau 2001-6<br>-Sauvageau 2001-7<br>-Sauvageau 2001-8  |
| <b>MARTEN</b><br><i>Martes americana</i><br><i>Martes martes</i><br><i>Martes zibellina</i> | -Bélisle Super X 120<br>-Bélisle Super X 160<br>-B.M.I. 126 Magnum Body Gripper   | -LDL B120 Magnum<br>-LDL C160 Magnum<br>-Koro no 1<br>-Koro no 2  | -Northwoods 155<br>-Rudy 120 Magnum<br>-Rudy 160 Plus<br>-Sauvageau C120 Magnum  | -Sauvageau 2001-5<br>-Sauvageau 2001-6<br>-KP120 (Russia)<br>-Kleiner Schwanenhals (Germany)<br>-Eiabzugseisen (Germany)   |
| <b>MUSKRAT</b><br>On Land   | -Bélisle Super X 110<br>-Bélisle Super X 120<br>-B.M.I. 120 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I. 120 Body Gripper Magnum<br>-B.M.I. 126 Body Gripper Magnum<br>-Bridger 120<br>-Bridger 120 Mag. Bodygripper                       | Bridger 155 Mag. Bodygripper<br><b>-CONV 110 CAN (Holland)</b><br>-Duke 120<br><b>-FMB 110 SS (Holland)</b><br><b>-FMB 150 SS (Holland)</b>                                     | -Koro Muskrat Trap<br>-Koro Large Rodent Double spring<br>-LDL B120<br>-LDL B120 Magnum<br>-Oneida Victor 120 Stainless Steel<br>-Ouell 411-180<br>-Ouell RM | -Rudy 110<br>-Rudy 120<br>-Rudy 120 Magnum<br>-Sauvageau 2001-5<br>-Sauvageau C120 Magnum<br>-Sauvageau C120 "Reverse Bend"<br>-Triple M<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 110<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 120 |
| <b>MUSKRAT</b><br>Underwater  | Any jaw type trap (body gripping or leghold) set as a submersion set that exerts clamping force on a muskrat and that maintains this animal underwater.   |   |  |  |
| <b>OTTER</b>  | -Bélisle Super X 220<br>-Bélisle Super X 280<br>-Bélisle Super X 330<br>-LDL C220<br>-LDL C220 Magnum<br>-LDL C280 Magnum   | -Rudy 220 Plus<br>-Rudy 280<br>-Rudy 330<br>-Sauvageau 2001-8<br>-Sauvageau 2001-11<br>-Sauvageau 2001-12   | -Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 220<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 280<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330                                   |  |
| <b>RACCOON</b>  | -Bélisle Classique 220<br>-Bélisle Super X 160<br>-Bélisle Super X 220<br>-Bélisle Super X 280<br>-B.M.I. 160 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I. 220 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I. 280 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I. 280 Magnum Body Gripper | -Bridger 160<br>-Bridger 220<br>-Bridger 280 Mag Bodygripper<br>-Duke 160<br>-Duke 220<br>-Koro no 2<br>-LDL C160<br>-LDL C160 Magnum   | -LDL C220<br>-LDL C220 Magnum<br>-LDL C280 Magnum<br>-Northwoods 155<br>-Rudy 160<br>-Rudy 160 Plus<br>-Rudy 220<br>-Rudy 220 Plus                           | -Sauvageau 2001-6<br>-Sauvageau 2001-7<br>-Sauvageau 2001-8<br>-Species-Specific 220 Dislocator Half Mag<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 160<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 220                                 |
| <b>WEASELS</b>  | -Bélisle Super X 110<br>-Bélisle Super X 120<br>-B.M.I. #60<br>-B.M.I. 120 Body Gripper Magnum<br>-B.M.I. 126 Body Gripper Magnum   | -Bridger 120<br>-Bridger 120 Mag Bodygripper<br>-Bridger 155 Mag Bodygripper<br>-Koro Muskrat Trap<br>-Koro Rodent Trap<br>-Koro Large Rodent Double Spring<br>-LDL B120 Magnum | -Ouell 411-180<br>-Ouell 3-10<br>-Ouell RM<br>-Rudy 120 Magnum<br>-Sauvageau C120 Magnum<br>-Sauvageau C120 "Reverse Bend"                                   | -Sauvageau 2001-5<br>-Triple M<br>-Victor Rat Trap<br>-WCS Tube Trap Int'l<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 110<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 120   |

#### PHASE 1 - RESTRAINING TRAPS - Certified traps currently regulated for use per species

| SPECIES            |  |   |   |  |
|--------------------|--|---|---|--|
| <b>CANADA LYNX</b> | -Bélisle Footsnare #6<br>-Bélisle Sélectif | -Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch equipped with 2 coil springs | -Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch equipped with 4 coil springs | -Oneida Victor #3 equipped with at least 8mm thick, non-offset steel jaws, 4 coil springs and an anchoring swivel centre mounted on a base plate |

**Phase 2. YEAR OF IMPLEMENTATION TO BE DETERMINED**

Although the traps listed in Phase 2 are certified for the following species and trap categories, the year of entry into force of the obligation to use only AIHTS Certified traps has not yet been determined. This date, which could vary from one species to another, will be known at least 3 years in advance. *Until then, traps that are currently legally permitted can still be used.*

**For all Canadian jurisdictions;**

-Use of certified bobcat restraining and killing traps will become mandatory (Phase 1) in the fall of 2018.

**-Use of certified restraining traps will become mandatory for wolf and beaver (cages) in the fall of 2020.**

Check with your provincial or territorial government to confirm regulations related to trap uses applicable in your trapping area.

**PHASE 2 - KILLING TRAPS – Traps certified per species but not yet mandatory**

| SPECIES       |   |   |  |  |
|---------------|---|---|--|--|
| <b>BOBCAT</b> | -Bélisle Super X 280<br>-Bélisle Super X 330<br>-B.M.I 220 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I 280 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I 220 Magnum<br>Body Gripper | -B.M.I 280 Magnum<br>Body Gripper<br>-Bridger 220<br>-Bridger 280 Mag.<br>Bodygripper | -LDL C220<br>-LDL C220 Magnum<br>-LDL C280 Magnum<br>-LDL C330<br>-LDL C330 Magnum | -Rudy 330<br>-Sauvageau 2001-8<br>-Sauvageau 2001-11<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330 |

**PHASE 2 - RESTRAINING TRAPS – Traps certified per species but not yet mandatory (see Note 1 below)**

| SPECIES                                       |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <b>COYOTE</b>                                 | -Bélisle Footsnare #6<br>-Bélisle Sélectif<br>-Duke No 3 Rubber Jaws with an anchoring swivel centre mounted on the base plate<br>-Oneida Victor #1.5 Soft Catch equipped with 2 coil spring<br>-Oneida Victor #1.5 Soft Catch equipped with 4 coil spring<br>-Oneida Victor 1.75 equipped with 3/16-inch offset, double rounded steel jaw laminations (3/16-inch on top side of jaw and 1/4-inch on underside of jaws), with a 4 coil springs<br>-Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch equipped with 2 coil spring<br>-Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch equipped with 4 coil springs | -Oneida Victor #3 equipped with 3/16-inch offset, double rounded steel jaw laminations (3/16-inch on top side of jaw and 1/4-inch on underside of jaws), with 2 coil springs<br>-Oneida Victor #3 equipped with 3/16-inch offset, double rounded steel jaw laminations (3/16-inch on top side of jaw and 1/4-inch on underside of jaws), with 4 coil springs.<br>-Bridger #3 equipped with 5/16-inch offset, double rounded steel jaw laminations (3/16-inch on top side of jaw and 1/4-inch on underside of jaws), with 4 coil springs and an anchoring swivel centre mounted on a base plate.<br>-MB 550 Rubber Jaws equipped with 4 coil springs |
| <b>BEAVER<br/>Cages</b>                       | -Comstock 12 X 18 X 39 Swin Through Beaver Cage<br>-Breathe Easy Live Beaver trap<br>-Ezee Set Live Beaver Trap   | -Hancock Live Beaver Trap<br>-Koro "Klam" Live Beaver Trap  |
| <b>WOLF</b>                                   | -Bélisle Footsnare #8<br>-Bridger Alaskan #5 Offset and Laminated Jaws<br>-Bridger Alaskan #5 Rubber Jaws<br>-Livestock Protection EZ Grip No. 7<br>-MB 750 Alaskan OS (3/8')   | -Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch equipped with 4 coil springs, a minimum 8mm thick base plate and an anchoring swivel mounted on this base plate<br>-Rudy Red Wolf 4 1/2<br>-Bridger Brawn no 9 Rubber Jaws   |
| <b>BOBCAT</b>                                 | -Bélisle Footsnare #6<br>-Bélisle Sélectif<br>-Oneida Victor #1.5 Soft Catch equipped with 4 coil springs<br>-Oneida Victor #1.75, offset, laminated jaws equipped with 2 coil springs  | -Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch equipped with 2 coil springs<br>-Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch equipped with 4 coil springs<br>-Oneida Victor #3 equipped with 3/16-inch offset, double rounded steel jaw laminations (3/16-inch on top side of jaw and 1/4-inch on underside of jaws), with 2 coil springs  |
| <b>RACCOON<br/>(CAGE &amp; BOX<br/>TRAPS)</b> | -Ramconct DURA-POLY Box Trap<br>-Havahart Cage Trap 1079<br>-Havahart Cage Trap 1081<br>-Havahart Cage Trap 1085<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 108<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 108.1<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 108.5<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 108F<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 108SS<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 108.2SS   | -Tomahawk Cage Trap 1010<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 1010F<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 1010SS<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 1010SS-F<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 608<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 608.1<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 608.5<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 608F<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 608SS<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 608.2SS<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 6010<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 6010F<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 6010SS   |
| <b>RACCOON<br/>Note 1</b>                     | -Duffer<br>-Bridger T3<br>-Egg Trap   | -Li'l' Grizz Get'r<br>-Duke DP Coon Trap  |

**Note 1: The exclusive use of these certified traps is currently mandatory only in Ontario, Québec, New Brunswick**

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

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**From:** Smith, Kelly B FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 7, 2018 1:25 PM  
**To:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX; Wilton, William FLNR:EX; Kelly, John FLNR:EX; Reynolds, Darryl M FLNR:EX; Teske, Irene FLNR:EX; White, Shane FLNR:EX; Wong, Mark M FLNR:EX; Thiessen, Conrad D FLNR:EX; Dixon, Krystal FLNR:EX; Marshall, Shelley FLNR:EX; Bridger, Michael C FLNR:EX; McLean, Craig A FLNR:EX; Reid, Aaron FLNR:EX; Iredale, Francis FLNR:EX; Knapik, Mike B FLNR:EX; Dielman, Pat W FLNR:EX; Campbell, Jocelyn FLNR:EX; Lavallee, Michel FLNR:EX; Walker, Andrew FLNR:EX; MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX; Procter, Chris FLNR:EX; Szkorupa, Tara D FLNR:EX; Stent, Patrick FLNR:EX; DeGroot, Leo FLNR:EX; Schindler, Heidi FLNR:EX; Gagne-Delorme, Audrey FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX; Hales, Gerad S FLNR:EX; Bohm, Holger FLNR:EX; Reedman, Dave FLNR:EX; Larden, Troy P FLNR:EX; Pillipow, Ray FLNR:EX; Addison, Christopher FLNR:EX; MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FOR YOUR INFORMATION: AHTE public comments

Good afternoon,

Attached is a summary of the comments that were posted on the AHTE website, as well as comments sent to the F&W general e-mail, for the 80+ proposed regulations. There were 4 late proposals (3 from Skeena and 1 multi-regional) that were posted on the AHTE website at the end of January and are not included in the attached spreadsheet as the comment period is opened until February 16<sup>th</sup>.



There were roughly 3000+ comments posted in total.

I have separated each regulation by region and rows highlighted in grey indicate possible letter writing campaign.

Please note that the voting results may not be an accurate reflection of the actual votes as it is not mandatory for a person to vote on a proposed regulation if they leave a comment; they can leave a comment and not vote.

In regions the comments can be used for whatever purposes you see fit. If there is something compelling that makes you consider revising or pulling a specific proposal our expectation is that you'd talk about it internally within the region and get the Section Head or Regional Manager to make the request to Steve and me.

Feel free to pass this onto anybody I may have missed in my internal distribution.

Regards,



Kelly Smith

Fish & Wildlife Regulations Officer

Fish and Wildlife Branch

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

**Confidentiality warning:** The information transmitted is intended only for the person to whom it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any review, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any action in reliance upon, this information by persons other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you receive this in error, please contact the sender and delete your record of this material.

|  |
|--|
| Increase population.   |
| Please do not open up more cow draws, we need them.  |
| Happy to see more elk hunting opportunities in region 1, particularly in areas with good elk numbers |
| If the science supports it.  |
| I support a greater opportunity for elk hunting which is sustainable with population numbers.        |
| agree with a smaller number of antlerless being offered  |
| Unnecessary and potentially dangerous to others in the area  |
| If the #'s are there opportunity should follow   |

| <div> <div> Region 1 - Vancouver Island Regulation # 2018-1-10: Lengthen Wolf Trapping Season on Vancouver Island </div> <div> Ahte Vote Count = 273 (multiple entries by users on this specific regulation = 42): SUPPORT = 64 / NEUTRAL = 1 / OPPOSE = 207 (Res. = 162 / NR = 60 / NRA = 23) </div> </div>   |
|--|
| Thats ridiculous to lengthen the wolf season its already twice as long as it needs to be so why make it even longer now  |
| please do not do this. there is nowhere near enough evidence to support such a drastic action and you could be inflicting a lot of unnecessary damage.   |
| From a conservation point of view, the lengthening of the trapping seasons for wolves makes no sense whatsoever. As described in your proposal, the estimates of wolf populations are at best, very rough. One cannot determine if a species is stable, decreasing or increasing simply by guessing population sizes. Furthermore, it is wrong to assume that deer populations are decreasing due to increased wolf predation as there are too many other variables that partake in population size determination. A decrease in deer populations and other large herbivores is not necessarily a bad thing either: before human influence nature existed in a balanced system and the decrease in deer populations may be the ecosystem trying to return to a balance state where deer are brought down to a sustainable population size. Unfortunately I am not knowledgeable enough to give a professional opinion on this subject. I do however feel that it's a real tragedy that wolves are still hunted and used as a scapegoat to allow humans to continue with their unsustainable environmental practices and for others to gain the sick pleasure of killing an innocent life. Might I add for what gain? The collapse of the natural realm due to our constant meddling? |
| I spend a lot of time in the winter cougar hunting on Vancouver island and also working in the logging industry. over the last 5 years there has been a sharp increase in the number of wolves in the north island were I live and work. areas that used to have healthy deer populations are now devoid of game ie the white river drainage in the Sayward area. what was once a pack of 2-4 wolves is now 10-14 strong. I've noticed the same thing in the eve river and tsitika river areas. not only should the season be lengthened but pressure needs to be put on area trappers to target wolves  |

s.22



Dear B.C. Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development's Angling, Hunting and Trapping Engagement, Please find below Humane Society International/Canada's submission regarding our concerns related to BC's Wolf Management Plan. Thank you again for your time on these important issues. We look forward to your response and we would be happy to discuss our submission with you further at your earliest convenience. Respectfully, Julie MacInnes Wildlife Campaign Manager Humane Society International/Canada \*\*\*\*\* I. BC Wolf Management Plan: Conflicting Objectives The provincial Wolf Management Plan was updated in 2014, and the B.C. Liberal government ignored the vast majority of public comments on the draft that requested more emphasis on the inherent and ecological values of wolves in British Columbia. Our concerns generally stem from the conflict between the 1st and 4th objectives, which are as follows: (1) to ensure a self-sustaining population throughout the species? range that fulfills the role of wolves as a top predator in B.C.'s diverse ecosystems; (4) to manage specific packs or individuals where predation is likely preventing the recovery of wildlife populations threatened by wolf predation. II. Impacts of Persecution on Wolves Wolves are highly susceptible to persecution (Creel and Rotella 2010, Mallonee et al. 2011, Darimont et al. 2015, Creel et al. 2015, Ripple et al. 2016, Borg et al. 2016, Schmidt et al. 2017). Large-bodied carnivores are sparsely populated across vast areas, invest in few offspring, provide extended parental care to their young, females limit reproduction and social stability promotes their resiliency (Weaver et al. 1996, Stoner et al. 2006, Creel et al. 2015, Wallach et al. 2015). Human persecution affects their social structure and harms their persistence (Weaver et al. 1996, Stoner et al. 2006, Creel et al. 2015, Wallach et al. 2015). The effect of human persecution is ?super additive,? meaning that kill rates on large carnivores has a multiplier effect on the ultimate increase in total mortality over what would occur in nature due to breeder loss, social disruption, and their indirect effects including increased infanticide and decreased recruitment of their young (Darimont et al. 2009, Estes et al. 2011, Ripple et al. 2014). Hunting wolves may have detrimental effects on the fitness of individuals, change packs? evolutionary potential, and increase the risk for local population extinction (Bryan et al. 2014). III. Predator-Prey Ecology: Killing Predators Doesn't Boost Prey Populations for the Long Term The best available science indicates that widespread elimination of bears, coyotes and wolves are unlikely to restore caribou or other ungulates (Bishop et al. 2009, Hurley et al. 2011, Mitchell et al. 2015). As such, we recommend that the 4th objective of the BC Wolf Management Plan be eliminated. Prugh and Arthur (2015) found that wolf control in their Alaska study area led to the decline of Dall's sheep. With the loss of wolves, coyote numbers increased and they preyed upon young Dall's sheep. This phenomenon has been documented many times in several ecosystems. Top carnivores limit the population size of smaller carnivores, which reduces overall predation pressures (Crooks and Soule 1999, Ripple et al. 2014, Wallach et al. 2015), and this natural regulation is especially important for survival of neonate ungulates (Berger et al. 2008, Prugh and Arthur 2015). Mitchell et al. (2015) found that heavy persecution of both wolves and coyotes initially increased the number of Dall's sheep in their study area, but when the sheep population approached or exceeded the carrying capacity, which is a maximum population size set by the amount of forage available or ?K?, a severe winter (with deep snows and heavy crusting) counteracted population increases. Meanwhile in the reference area (where no predator control measures were implemented), the Dall's sheep population remained constant. In other words, natural predation on Dall's sheep was ?compensatory,? meaning it merely replaced mortality from weather and starvation. These biologists caution against predator control policies as a means of increasing prey herds. Mitchell et al. (2015) write (emphasis ours): We note that biologists have previously attempted to manipulate moose and caribou populations in central Alaska using harvest and predator control (Boertje et al. 1996, 2009), without considering K (Bowyer et al. 2005). This strategy had negative results, not only for moose populations and harvest, but also for agency credibility (Young and Boertje 2011). In Alaska, because of decades of wolf control, the Fortymile caribou herd grew beyond its carrying capacity and now the herd faces potential significant decline as a result of nutritional stress and lack of recruitment because of low fall calf weights and low birth rates (Boertje et al. 2017). The scientific consensus for the last several decades has generally concluded that carnivores modulate prey populations and make them more vigorous (Murie 1940, Leopold 1949, Peckarsky et al. 2008, Callan et al. 2013, Mitchell et al. 2015, Boertje et al. 2017), including removing the sick and weak animals which would die of other natural causes anyway, which is why predator-control schemes are an unreliable way to increase the abundance of ungulates (Mech 2007, Bishop et al. 2009, Krumm et al. 2009, Hurley et al. 2011, Monteith et al. 2014, Boertje et al. 2017). References Berger, K.M., E. Gese, and J. Berger. "Indirect Effects and Traditional Trophic Cascades: A Test Involving Wolves, Coyotes, and Pronghorn." Ecology 89, no. 3 (2008): 818-28. Bishop, C. J., G. C. White, D. J. Freddy, B. E. Watkins, and T. R. Stephenson. "Effect of Enhanced Nutrition on Mule Deer Population Rate of Change." Wildlife Monographs, no. 172 (Jul 2009): 1-28. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2193/2008-107>. Boertje, R. D., C. L. Gardner, M. M. Ellis, T. W. Bentzen, and J. A. Gross. "Demography of an Increasing Caribou Herd with Restricted Wolf Control." Journal of Wildlife Management 81, no. 3 (Apr 2017): 429-48. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/jwmg.21209>. Borg, Bridget L., Stephen M. Arthur, Nicholas A. Broman, Kira A. Cassidy, Rick McIntyre, Douglas W. Smith, and Laura R. Prugh. "Implications of Harvest on the Boundaries of Protected Areas for Large Carnivore Viewing Opportunities." PLOS ONE 11, no. 4 (2016): e0153808. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0153808>. Callan, R., N. P. Nibbelink, T. P. Rooney, J. E. Wiedenhoef, and A. P. Wydeven. "Recolonizing Wolves Trigger a Trophic Cascade in Ndp should embarrassed to promote the barbaric culture of hunting wolves when they felt the groundswell of opposition to grizzly hunting. Stop hunting wolves and cougars in BC wake up to your voters

Decision should be made using science not emotion

Low density of deer is concerning. While I think inventories and population trends for wolves and deer should be ascertained scientifically, in the meantime I support an increased wolf trapping season.

Wolf populations are increasing across the province and trapping remains one of the only semi-reliable ways of killing wolves.

would be great to have open season all year long

I find it very disturbing and wrong to FURTHER allow the trapping of young wolves and pregnant wolves. Not only trapping is the most cruel way of hunting, but it is also the primary cause of the destruction of the natural food chain. Furthermore, the government openly admits that no scientific survey of the population has been done since 1994. They also admit the only reason is monetary. The planet and ecosystem are already deeply threatened by human activity and no amount of money should be too great to conserve the great canadian wildlife. The answer is simple: no law should be passed without evidence that the population went up. The ignorant decision of a minister without backing proof is not the right choice. Have you thought that these wolves come closer to human settlements because of too much hunting, therefore the disruption of the natural food chain? Correct measures need to be evaluated and taken instead of sudden, cruel and inefficient ones. I ask again : survey or do not pass this law. It is imperative that conservation comes first. Reconsider this decision and please listen to the population. Thank you.

I'm dismayed to learn that trapping of wolves is still allowed on Vancouver Island, given that there has been no peer-reviewed, scientifically collected data since 1994 (that's over 20 years ago!) to indicate this population is healthy and stable. Anecdotal data is NOT an acceptable basis for allowing the trapping of wolves - or increasing the length of the trapping season. Especially when that data may come from 'biased' sources. Finally, even the most humane traps are cruel, leaving an animal to starve to death or gnaw its leg off. With no scientific justification for this trapping, trapping of wolves should be outlawed, not increased.

Please do not make the devastating decision to allow BC wolves to be hunted 10 months of the year with crule methods like leg snares. These genetically unique wolves are misunderstood as main contributors to decreased deer/ carabou populations when they mainly feed on ocean critters. Maybe if habitat loss were addressed and wildlife corridors were established, the wolves wouldn't have to be a scapegoat for such ecological imbalances. Please don't allow these beautiful creatures to be more vulnerable than they already are. Thank you.

This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Ridiculous!

|   |
|---|
| <p>An increase in wolf population does not mean we should ramp up efforts to kill more of them. Healthy populations of top predators are crucial for maintaining healthy ecosystems, including healthy prey populations. Killing wolves can lead to serious ecological repercussions. There is abundant research showing that healthy ungulate populations go hand in hand with robust carnivore populations, including wolves. See for example the role of predators in preventing and limiting disease transfer for serious threats to ungulates such as Chronic Wasting Disease, see <a href="http://mountainjournal.org/predators-and-chronic-wasting-disease">http://mountainjournal.org/predators-and-chronic-wasting-disease</a>. Furthermore, neck killing snares do not meet standards for a humane death established by Canadian Council on Animal Care for a humane death. The irrational and unscientific killing of large numbers of wolves in the province must stop.</p> <p>Firstly, how are you still so misguided that you still subscribe to the ideology that killing predators helps increase ungulate numbers in the long term? That is never the answer, and it will never properly solve the problem. These coastal wolves are a unique, cherished and vital part of the ecosystem. I very strongly oppose this proposal for a number of reasons - you simply don't know how many wolves there are. Your number counts are old and outdated and you are not basing your recent assessments on sound science. It is based on anecdotal reports that wolf numbers seem to be increasing, but there is no recent reliable, science-based population count of wolves on the island (the last population estimate is from 1994), nor any measurable data to suggest the population is in fact increasing. Even if wolf populations are confirmed scientifically to have increased, that alone does not justify lengthening the trapping season. Similarly, there is no reliable evidence to suggest that any decline in ungulates is necessarily due to wolf populations - any decline in ungulates must be researched in-depth. We also oppose lengthening the trapping season due to the increased risk of non-target species being caught in these traps, not to mention the safety issues facing the public and domestic animals. The provincial government has stated that they will be moving forward with a broader consultation process for a renewed wildlife management strategy for the province in 2018, but this one-off policy fails to align with the government's acknowledgements that a renewed strategy is needed. Instead, it seems more in-line with the previous government's tendency to scapegoat predators. In addition, the lack of reliable, measurable data surrounding this proposal is incredibly worrisome and dangerous. For these reasons, I'm are calling on the provincial government to reject this proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season and instead move forward with the process of updating the province's wildlife management strategy so that it is science-based, conservation-focused and aligned with the values of the vast majority of British Columbians.</p> <p>I am 100% AGAINST lengthening the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. Wolves are a much needed species in order to keep the eco-system in balance.</p> <p>I support a lengthened trapping season on wolves in Region 1. I have noticed in the areas I hunt a large drop in ungulate populations and an astounding amount of wolf sign. Although I do not believe predators are only to blame for the decline of Deer on the the North Island ( CR North ), I do think that managing the predator population is more necessary than ever. Lets not forget the continuing loss of habitat and wintering grounds the deer are continually facing.</p>   |
| <p>Our roads allow easy travel, the clear-cuts leave no cover for prey to hide, and our livestock provides easy meals. Humans caused this imbalance and thus wolves MUST be managed. However, I would like our biologists to review the science and make sure this is a properly sustainable method.</p> <p>I oppose this proposal due to a lack of sound research.</p> <p>If predator numbers are not managed how do people expect deer, elk, or moose to recover. The government is not interested in protecting habitat for ungulates, so we have to manage predators. Humans have a huge impact on the environment, our activities are already reducing ungulate numbers through habitat destruction and degradation. We are the ultimate apex predators, so we need to manage other predators of these species. There are also instances of wolves attacking dogs, while people have been walking near Tofino. How long until a wolf attacks a child or small person. Unfortunately, I am skeptical of this government, too much credence has been given to the uneducated, anti-hunting movement and their slick campaigns. Most people who are knowledgeable outdoorsmen, hunters and trappers, like myself, see animals for how they are, not as cuddly teddy bears, as these groups see them. The government needs to put emotions aside, and do the right thing once in a while, to protect deer, moose, elk, etc...numbers, and people for that matter, rather than listening to ridiculous polls. Polls on predator hunting are terribly unreliable as it is. Most animal activist groups, and anti-hunting groups have a huge social media presence, and funding and are really good at organizing their members to vote against hunting. They also tug at the heartstrings of the uneducated urbanites, who have no experience of the outdoors. Most hunters unfortunately, are not this organized, and we are not very good at getting our opinions heard, and getting people to look at the research that supports our stance, especially in the current media/government climate.</p> <p>I'm very skeptical about the provincial governments proposal to extend the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. The fact that this decision is being made based on anecdotal reports and not science-based information seems questionable. In some areas on the island there have been reports of decreased ungulate numbers and increased wolf sightings, but lets not jump to the conclusion that we need to kill more wolves. Increased industrial activity and more roads for logging means easier corridors for wolves to travel and hunt, and less habitat for ungulates to hide in. Just an example of how there could be many factors affecting the ungulate populations, and that alone needs to be studied further in depth before blaming only the wolves. The report states the last comprehensive wolf monitoring on the island was in 1994...24 years ago. Seems like that could be some outdated information. I believe the government needs to come up with a conservation plan that is more based on scientific facts of what is going on in our ecosystems rather than based off sightings, tracks and trends.</p> <p>This is an appalling proposal. there is no justification for trapping more island wolves. If there are less deer on the island then do not allow hunting of this population until it recovers. This is just wrong. Trapping of these animals should not be allowed regardless of their numbers as this is a cruel method of killing.</p> <p>Based on their relatively new arrival on the island and their proven consumption of ungulates and other wildlife, it is a certainty that wolves are contributing to recent ungulate population declines. I would strongly support this regulation change as I am sure based on their elusive behaviors, that very few are being removed currently. I choose to harvest my own meat, not buy it from a grocery store, and the wolf population is affecting our ability to do that. Management of predators is a proven method to increase ungulate populations and allow us the ability to harvest our food. Wildlife is a public resource for all of us to utilize in ways we feel is appropriate. I would like to keep it that way and resist any attempt at other user groups to limit my access. This is not a conservation concern, period. Lets keep emotion out of the policy making. Ultimately I would like to see more funding go into wildlife so we could monitor all animal species more closely.</p> <p>I agree with the oppositions to this poorly devised plan. Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.</p> <p>The optics of this proposal are awful. First, the long awaited NDP government ignores environmentalist concerns by going ahead with Site C (bad), then you ban trophy grizzly hunting (good), now you extend wolf trapping season on the Island (bad). What next? To base such a fundamentally important decision on hearsay is pandering to squeaky wheels. The areas where wolves (still) exist are not generally home to many domestic animals which might be put at risk if deer populations are actually reduced somewhat. Predator/prey relationships are cyclical and need not be fiddled with, in my view. In addition, no matter how "humane" the trap, it is still a Bad Day for the wolf. We have much more important things to worry about, like salmon farms.</p> <p>It's inhumane and unnecessary!!</p> |

To whom it may concern, The proposed extended wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island is un-scientific, illogical, unethical and completely unjustified by the rationale statement. Decisions regarding the trapping or culling of apex predators should never be based upon anecdotal evidence. In this case, much research has shown that island populations of predatory mammals can be genetically distinct and often isolated from surrounding populations. This makes island populations of apex predators highly susceptible to genetic drift and allee effects. These basic and foundational concepts of wildlife management appear to be completely ignored in the proposed regulation, which is shortsighted and misguided. Below I will quote a recent article in the Times Colonist that accurately summarizes my concerns: ?As British Columbia?s Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development is proposing to extend wolf-killing season on Vancouver Island to 10 months from the current eight months, wolves on the Island could endure an additional two months each year of needless suffering. In B.C., hunters and trappers kill more than 1,200 wolves annually. Yet, the ministry admits ?much of the information the province?s wildlife managers obtain regarding wolf populations is anecdotal, with a reliance on public sightings and observations.? In other words, B.C. ?s lethal exploitation of wolves is not based on science. Rather, the government relies on anachronistic seat-of-the-pants management rooted in an anti-predator ideology embedded in what its proponents ironically call the ?North American Model of Wildlife Conservation.? In line with its capricious approach to wolf management, the ministry?s stated rationale for extending the trapping season is centred on anecdotal sightings and observations of an ?increased wolf population and a lack of ungulates (primarily deer) in many northern and west coast management units on Vancouver Island.? The ministry says: ?Regional staff have witnessed increased [wolf] sightings/scats/tracks while conducting aerial and ground-based ungulate inventory.? Anecdotes and guesswork, however, are not scientific data, and when substituted for sound science, they contribute to poor reasoning and stunningly bad decisions. The ministry goes on to state: ?There have been decreased trends in deer population index in northern management units since the increased wolf sightings/sign have been observed,? implying a causal fallacy that wolf predation is the ultimate cause of deer decline on Vancouver Island. In addition to blatantly violating the elementary statistical principle of ?correlation does not imply causation,? the ministry?s reckless conjecture is contradicted by an abundance of scientific literature. The actions of humans coupled with a suite of natural forces affect deer abundance. Predators are only one factor in this dynamic. In fact, predator-prey interactions are influenced overwhelmingly by the altered landscape we have created through decades of widespread clearcut logging and industrial forestry. Forest fragmentation and associated habitat loss from clearcut logging adversely affect deer populations. Scientific studies by the U.S. Forest Service in the temperate rainforests of the Tongass National Forest in southeast Alaska have shown that ?short-rotation clearcut logging of old growth forests ? will reduce habitat capability for Sitka black-tailed deer. This conclusion is supported by an extensive body of research spanning 30 years on forest succession following logging, silvicultural practices, deer habitat relations and nutritional ecology of deer.? Although forage in early cutover areas might be temporarily abundant, typically it is of lesser nutritional value. In a few short years, when the second-growth plantation-forest canopy closes, there is next to no forage. Some understory plant species never reappear in areas subjected to the kind of short-rotation and even-age management that is dominant on Vancouver Island. What little forage persists is not available to deer during periods of deep snow because deer can neither travel efficiently nor access forage in snow that accumulates in clearcuts. Taken ?deer winter ranges? set amidst a sea of clearcuts provide a futile panacea. From the Tongass study: ?Within 30 years of clearcutting, regenerating conifers shade out most understory vegetation, creating poor habitat conditions for deer. These stands represent a serious problem for deer because the habitat is poor in all seasons, and these conditions persist for a long time (150 to 200 years).? This, too, describes Vancouver Island, where most of the Island?s old-growth forests have been transformed by clearcut logging and converted into biologically simplified tree plantations that are logged on short rotations, doing little to provide productive habitat for wildlife. Predation by wolves affects deer populations, just as all predators affect prey populations. If left alone, predation is nearly always self-regulating; native (i.e., not introduced) predators rarely over-exploit their prey. But once again, wolves are being unethically scapegoated and consequently persecuted for the damage done to deer habitat, and the capacity of that habitat to support deer, by decades of regressive forestry practices on Vancouver Island. Conservation of wolves and other demanding carnivore species will always be inconvenient and forcefully opposed by some groups and organizations seeking to influence government policy, and therefore politically volatile. Traditionally, the province has been aligned philosophically with ?special interest hunting? as a management tool, and has been too absorbed with assuaging these special interests to dependably assess the situation on Vancouver Island. Moreover, decision-makers have consistently forgotten that professional standards of managing wildlife include ethics. Even the best scientific management of wildlife populations doesn?t give us permission to kill wolves gratuitously or do as we please. Adherence to ethical standards is even more important when science is ignored and haphazard stories and groundless suppositions are the primary reasoning used to make decisions.? Sincerely s.22

There is no reliable, measurable count on wolves on Vancouver Island. There is no reliable, measurable data that would suggest changes in populations of wolves on Vancouver Island There is an implied connection between the alleged increase in wolf sightings and decrease in deer population, but no evidence given of a causal link, nor any further information on the deer populations (such as a cause, research etc.) There is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target-species caught or killed by these traps and how many more wolves and other species the proposal would lead to being killed; and There is no rationale explaining why an increase of wolves, if there is one, requires an extended trapping season. The proposal also fails to acknowledge the trapping-related safety issues for domestic animals and humans alike. I am therefore calling on the government to drop this proposed regulatory change, and ensure that proper research is conducted prior to moving forward with other proposals. Regards s.22

Please do not lengthen the wolf trapping season. Stop it altogether!! It is grossly inhumane and disruptive to the ecosystem. If you're so worried about deer and elk populations, stop hunting by humans and focus on catching poachers. These beautiful, and important animals deserve better!!

This proposal to expand wolf trapping should be abandoned because it does not provide even the most basic information to support it. Specifically: -No recent count of wolves on Vancouver Island is provided. The proposal states that the last population count of a small section of the Island was done in 1994 ? twenty-three years ago ? and there is no data to suggest that the population of wolves on the Island has changed; -The proposal implies that there is a causal connection between an increase in anecdotal wolf sightings and a decrease in the deer population, but there is no research or evidence to support this; -No information on current wolf trapping numbers is given, non-target species caught or killed by these traps, and how many more wolves and other species the proposal could cause to be killed; and, -The proposal does not explain why an increase in wolves, if one exists at all, requires an extended trapping season. This proposal is shoddy and appalling. The proposal would expand the cruelty of trapping despite no evidence that there is a problem, and even if a problem did exist, this proposal offers no evidence that it would solve that problem. The government should reject this proposal in its entirety and refuse to consider any similar proposals unless they have some basis in fact and science. Thank you.

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| <p>This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.</p> <p>Please consider to save wolf population because this proposal is not based on accurate and up to date scientific and biological information (1994 is not up to date).</p> <p>This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward. Please help protect these precious wolves and do not lengthen the hunting season!</p>  |
| <p>proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no</p> <p>Please do not extend the Wolf Trapping Season and rather find a more humane way of dealing with Wolves</p> <p>Hello, my name is [redacted] and I am from Australia. I have found this proposal to be a disgrace to all that humanity is. While I am not local or have any affiliations with Canada, I am instead someone who hopes to visit your country in the near future and bear witness to the incredibly diverse and pristine ecosystem that your nation so graciously has. As a child, the wolf was, and still is, my favourite animal. It is incredibly shy, it is social and they cover vast distances. To my understanding, the wolves on Vancouver Island are more distinct yet from the main continent. All animals are precious and they help keep deer populations in check, they are the great stabiliser. The sick and old are their source of nourishment while the strong preserve. The deer population will grow to counter the efforts of the wolves. They contribute in far more positive ways than they do negative. They ought to be protected, not trapped, injured, abused and slaughtered. They belong more to the land than we as humans are. It hurts me to think that when I next visit Vancouver Island, it could be the last time I'd ever see them. We do not need to use their furs, their meat, and we do not need to control their population. Instead, please look at alternative measures to the problems that exist in your precious ecosystem - humans and their nature. We can do better as people, and we need to care about the animals and the world we live in. I encourage you to do the same.</p> <p>This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.</p> <p>As biologists have determined that due to falling ungulate populations and increased trapping is recommended please do what is right and listen to those proposals. It's their job to figure these things out and if a change is necessary then they also have the ability to change it again next year. Pandering to the wants of animal rights activists while ignoring our own scientists will only harm bc wildlife.</p> <p>Wolves are an integral part of our ecosystem. No where else on the world can you find wolves like the ones found along the BC coastline. There have been numerous studies that show that controlling wolf populations does not help with controlling deer (or other) populations. With the decline of deer populations, wolf packs grow smaller (they self regulate). Please listen to science and reason before making this horrible decision of extending the wolf trapping season. Look at the success of the wolves in Yellowstone NP. Wolves encourage diversity! Let the deer population be controlled in a more natural way</p> <p>It is ridiculous to me that lengthening the trapping season is the solution that the BC government chose to boost deer populations. This is basic second year university biology. Predator populations increase in cycles in response to abundant prey, then collapse as prey populations decrease. The fact that this is also being done with the lack of supporting data is very frustrating. I oppose the extension of wolf trapping season in Vancouver Island.</p> <p>I write to express my concern over your proposal that wolf trapping be allowed for almost 2 additional months on Vancouver Island. This decision was not based on any valid scientific research, but merely on assumptions based on anecdotal research. You assume that deer populations have decreased due to increased predatory activity by wolves, but you have no actual proof of that. You also assume that wolf populations have increased, but again this assumption is based only on anecdotal evidence—no valid scientific research has been undertaken to verify these assumptions whatsoever. As a former resident of Vancouver Island, and a concerned citizen of Canada, I urge you to undertake the appropriate studies—however expensive or time-consuming they may be—before deciding to proceed with such risky decisions. The consequences of poor wildlife management policies on your part may be greater than you know. And certainly greater than the Canadian people are willing to accept.</p> <p>I lived on the island for 10 years. now travel there regularly for hunting and fishing areas we used to see many deer and little to no wolf sign now see many wolf and sign and only little deer</p> <p>Leave all wildlife alone Horgan! !!!!!</p> <p>The wolves need to be managed , should be open all yr with no bag limit</p> <p>Given that there is no scientific evidence for this extension or the scientifically proven need in for population management at all at this time, it seems prudent to not pursue this extension or even the trapping at all until there is valid, scientific proof, not anecdotal evidence from biased observers who profit from the decisions made. These biased observers profit from these decisions and make the entire exercise wholly unscientific. As a citizen of BC, I expect more when it comes to our wildlife.</p> <p>Too many wolves to sustain healthy ungulate numbers.</p> <p>To whom it may concern, Please do not extend the wolf hunt. This cull is inhumane and unethical. Wolves are not inventory, they are sentient being crucial to the integrity of the environment they live in, refer to the reintroduction of wolves into Yellowstone park. The problem here is humans impeding into their territory. Human infringement is leading to easier access for the wolves to hunt caribou, they are only following the pathways humans have created. If the government is truly invested in saving wildlife they would penalize companies that are colonizing the lands these animals live in. Wolves should not be punished, actually, heinously slaughtered is better fitter here, for human impact on their home base. Shooting them from the air, poisoning them, using a Judas wolf to track other wolves.. the mental impact this is has on a sentient and highly intelligent animal is detrimental. If humans did this to other humans they would be locked up for life without parole. This cull expresses that the B.C government is run by a bunch of soulless cowards. I oppose this extension. We can do better than this. Prove that B.C wolves are loved and respected by nixing this proposal and ending this entire cull.</p> <p>It's already too long. Ridiculous justifications.</p> <p>There is no definitive reason to extend the trapping season. No guidelines or compilation of information on the wolf population is available. Without a proper study this move is totally egregious. The public should be made aware of the lack of governmental observation and expert analysis before such a drastic change is suggested. The lack of responsibility is shocking.</p> |

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| Wolves should be protected and without any recent and accurate inventories, it seems inhumane and irresponsible to be extending the hunt.   |
| Should be all year long.  |
| Deer and elk on vancouver island need this badly.. Not enough hunters out actively hunting wolves   |
| <p>I am writing to express my opposition to the NDP government proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. Killing wolves by such inhumane and cruel methods is unjustifiable and should be banned. The proposed plan to increase the legal trapping season to 10 months out of the year means that wolf packs, many with young pups, will be indiscriminately killed causing significant disruption and suffering of one of the most socially-evolved animals in North America. In addition, by the B.C. government's own admission, this proposal is not based on science or peer reviewed data that would support the contention that wolves are causing a disproportionate decline in deer or other ungulates. There is no reliable evidence that wolf populations have risen to an unnatural level. Wolves are highly social animals which are integral to ecosystem function, in particular the wolves of Vancouver Island are genetically distinct and globally rare. These unique wolves have been subjected to too many government sponsored kill programs over the last one hundred years and were extirpated on most of Vancouver Island, California, Oregon and Washington in the early 20th century. Wolves deserve protection and should not be exterminated because the B.C. government has continually failed to protect and recover enough habitat for ungulates. Research cited in the Coastal Black-Tailed Deer Study (B.C. Ministry of Forests, 1996) makes clear that any increased wolf predation is directly linked to human-caused changes. These changes include forest harvesting and road building which isolates winter ranges, increasing resident deer (with a survival rate of 77%) and decreasing migratory deer (which typically have a high survival rate of 95%). The isolation of winter habitat may intensify predation and an overall loss of deer populations and resiliency. Therefore, intact old-growth forests should be set aside in order to rebuild deer populations (McNay and Voller, 1995) instead of using wolves as a scapegoat for inadequate habitat protection for ungulates. Societal values support protecting wolves for a number of reasons. Wildlife based tourism is the fastest growing sector of the tourism industry and B.C.'s international reputation is at stake. As other countries attempt to reintroduce and protect wolves, Canada continues to perpetuate, support and now expand the violence towards this species. People from around the world recently celebrated your decision to end the trophy hunting of grizzly bears and would expect that a similar policy direction would be evolving for wolves. This proposal clearly takes our societal values and the integrity of our natural ecosystems in the opposite direction.</p> <p>Yours sincerely, S ?</p>   |
| Hunting is a crude barbaric activity. Inflicting pain, suffering, and death upon sentient beings for their fur is unnecessary and has no place in a civilized society. It is outrageous that wolves are deemed overpopulated based on the mere claims of the hunters whose own vested interests are obvious. It is so disgusting that in a progressive country like Canada the humane and ethical treatment of sentient nonhuman animals is a low priority for our government   |
| <p>As a first year law student that is interested in environmental law, I am concerned and frankly disappointed in the BC government's proposal to increase the length of the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. I hope that the opinions of the public will be considered when making this decision, and that my points will be taken into account. Trapping, particularly the use of leghold traps, is inhumane; even with the best efforts to check traps frequently, animals that are caught are still often subjected to broken bones, leg swelling, self-mutilation (from trying to escape), and exhaustion. <a href="http://spca.bc.ca/programs-services/leaders-in-our-field/position-statem...">http://spca.bc.ca/programs-services/leaders-in-our-field/position-statem...</a> Additionally, studies have proven that Vancouver Island wolves are a genetically distinct species of wolf - they are coastal wolves, uniquely different from the Lower Mainland's timber wolves. Coastal wolves live off a diet of mainly salmon, clams and shellfish, and do not frequently interbreed with timber wolves. By grouping the two species together, this would consequently artificially inflate the wolves' population numbers: but the two must be considered separately, and it is unjust not to do so. If they are as genetically distinct as studies seem to suggest, and the number of coastal wolves that occupy Vancouver Island is actually much lower than appears, then they warrant similar protections as other species such as the kermode bear (a genetically distinct species of black bear). <a href="http://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/wolves-on-b-c-s-islands-mainland-genet...">http://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/wolves-on-b-c-s-islands-mainland-genet...</a> <a href="https://bmcecol.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/1472-6785-14-11">https://bmcecol.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/1472-6785-14-11</a> - please see results: "Our results from 116 individuals suggest the presence of a genetic cline between mainland and island wolves." A decision such as this MUST also consider scientific studies and facts, and must consult experts in these fields - the government cannot just rely on anecdotal evidence provided visually by hunters/trappers/etc, and doing so would be a disservice to the species that are being affected, and to the public that does not agree with this proposal. Finally, BC's attempt to control the deer population by culling wolves is misguided, and this has been shown time and time again - it is an (unfortunate) bandaid to a much larger problem. Using wolves as a scapegoat to address the decline in the numbers of deer does not get to the root of the problem. The root of the problem, so to speak, is that the main cause of the declining population is habitat loss - deer populations need old-growth forests, and there are not enough of these areas in BC that have been cordoned off and protected from logging. <a href="https://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/british-columbia/documents-indicate...">https://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/british-columbia/documents-indicate...</a> It also must be pointed out that the coastal wolves being targeted by the cull in this proposal lead a coastal lifestyle! If their diet consists mainly of sea-related food (fish/clams/etc), this indicates that they are not active hunters of deer (unlike their mainland cousins) and are not threatening the population as much as the government has been led to believe. And if this is the case, then there must be another factor affecting populations (if they have declined) - like forestation issues. I call upon the government, as a member of the public and a citizen of BC, to reconsider this proposal. More scientific research needs to be conducted to determine the actual populations of the coastal wolves and the deer that are living on the island, before something like this is implemented so hastily. One cannot rely on anecdotal evidence alone. Thank you for your consideration of my opinion in this matter.</p> |
| The B.C. government is still not recognizing the coastal wolves of Vancouver Island as genetically distinct and globally rare, nor the highly social nature of these family groups or packs. Leg hold traps are inhumane, cruel and should be banned.   |
| <p>Let me get this straight: Those people who are supposed to be educated, and basing management decisions on actual "science", are saying "counting wolves is hard, but people tell us they are seeing lots of tracks, and we haven't really bothered to do any censuses on deer, but people are telling us there are fewer now, so we think people should go ahead and kill more wolves." Really, Ministry biologists? Really? What mail-order wildlife management degrees do you people actually have? Here's a suggestion for steps on how to proceed with regard to this issue: 1. Do "science". Perhaps Google that word first. Hint: This involves collecting "data". Google that word too if you need to. 2. Base your management decisions on above "scientific data". This "proposal" is an embarrassment, and whoever drafted it - and the supervisor who approved it - should lose their jobs, as they clearly haven't the slightest idea what wildlife management is actually about.</p>   |
| <p>Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.</p>   |

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| I think that this research fails to acknowledge that we are encroaching upon their territory and that there is a natural cycle of predator and prey populations effecting each other. Wolves are a necessary part of the ecological system, we should not be imposing our will upon their natural cycle as it will have negative consequence in other species not only amongst animals but also the health of forests. On the pacific rim wolves are a unique specie of wolf that needs to be recognized. Just because there will be a couple of seasons when the deer population will be low is not a big deal, it will turn around as the wolves natural die off due to lack of food. We need to learn how to live with wolves not manage them!  |
| There is not enough evidence to justify lengthening the trapping season. Anecdotal is just not enough.   |
| I can't believe that this is being proposed in this day and age. Your rationale? is out-dated and hardly scientific. It's been proven time after time after time that human management of species does not work! Look at all the examples, look at the long term results, stop making the same devastatingly arrogant and ignorant mistake over and over again. Trapping is the cruelest form of hunting - it should be abolished completely, not extended!  |
| Need to ban hunting wolves entirely  |
| It is impossible and reckless to support this proposed regulatory change when it fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. How can you proceed with this when there is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers? Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.   |
| Please do not lengthen the trapping season of this coastal wolf, as the species is very valuable to the conservation of the ecosystem. There is not adequate scientific research to back that the wolf population is directly linked to the decline in the number of deer in the area. The traps that will be used are also inhumane and should not be allowed. This species of wolf could be decimated by lengthening the trapping season and this would be a tragic outcome for the surviving ecosystem. Please, please do not consider this proposal in order to satisfy the hunters and guides in the area.  |
| this proposal itself says there is no objective rationale for increasing the hunt, it is anecdotal information, and to draw a conclusion to increase the hunting of wolves is irresponsible.   |
| Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.   |
| The wolf populations on Vancouver island has certainly increased. As I observed both the cervid population and small mammal populations are declining as a result. So, I support this proposal.  |
| Please accept this submission as part of the consultation for the proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. I oppose this proposal for several reasons. It is based on completely unreliable reports that wolf populations are on the rise, however, the most recent population count done was a population estimate in 1994. There has been no scientific data on population number in over 20 years. We also have no concrete evidence proving that even with a rise in the wolf population, this is contributing to the decline in ungulates. To fully assess, we would need to have scientific data and studies on the ungulate populations, which seems like a better plan than to eliminate their predators based on a hunch. We (humans) are better than that. What about all the non-target species that could be caught in said traps? Public risk and domestic animal risk? Please note I am not suggesting other forms of killing the wolves, however trapping is completely brutal and causes unneeded suffering. The provincial government has stated that they will be moving forward with a broader consultation process for a renewed wildlife management strategy for the province in 2018, but this one-off policy fails to align with the government's acknowledgements that a renewed strategy is needed. Instead, it seems more in-line with the previous government's tendency to scapegoat predators. In addition, the lack of reliable, measurable data surrounding this proposal is incredibly worrisome and dangerous. For these reasons, we are calling on the provincial government to reject this proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season and instead move forward with the process of updating the province's wildlife management strategy so that it is science-based, conservation-focused and aligned with the values of the vast majority of Canadians. |
| I and my family oppose the lengthening of the wolf trapping season. Thank you for considering our input.   |
| I am opposed to the lengthening of the wolf hunting season for several reasons. Let me preface my arguments by saying I am neither an avid hunter (I have been hunting) or a Vegan/Vegetarian. Firstly, there is obviously a stark and empty collection effort of information on recent wolf populations, not only on the Island but the entire province. The lack of quantifiable information on the current wolf population calls into question how the "Least Concern" designation can even be close to verifiable. Second, the use of leg-hold traps is both inhumane and unnecessarily cruel for modern hunting. Increasing the timeframe in which our local megafauna could be exposed to this practice is not a viable choice. In my opinion as a tax-paying, law-abiding citizen of this province the sightings and anecdotal evidence provided for this proposition does not constitute a legitimate reason for increasing the wolf hunting season.   |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to lengthen the season for wolf-trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from anecdotal evidence given by consumptive users and there is no information on past or current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch of non-target species caught, injured or killed, or how the increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research or actual rationale to connect the alleged changes in wolf populations with the unexplained, possibly unrelated changes in deer populations. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research and answers before any similar proposals are considered.   |
| "Anecdotal sightings/observations from numerous First Nations, trappers, resident hunters and guide outfitters regarding increased wolf population and a lack of ungulates (primarily deer) in many northern and west coast MUs in Region 1." This is an unacceptable rationale to cull Vancouver Island wolves. Only those who stand to gain monetarily have a say in this life and death matter. With no outline of the costs and difficulty of an inventory of wolves, you are making it impossible for the public to make an informed decision regarding a claim of overpopulation by those who benefit from their deaths. Wildlife belongs to all British Columbians, not just to those who want to kill them. Based upon the information that you have presented here I think a moratorium on the trapping of wolves is imperative, until scientific data regarding these claims is available. We can not be hunting wolves anymore especially during breeding and pup rearing months  |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.   |

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| <p>This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.</p> <p>Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this proposal. Predator control in order to increase ungulate populations has not been conclusively proven to be effective. In fact, there are studies (including <a href="http://www.nrcresearchpress.com/doi/abs/10.1139/cjz-2014-0142#.WI-9cDelblU">://www.nrcresearchpress.com/doi/abs/10.1139/cjz-2014-0142#.WI-9cDelblU</a>) showing that while it may be effective in one case, it might not be in another. Without conclusive scientific evidence of efficacy, I feel that more attention should be directed to the other causes, such as habitat loss, particularly due to the intrusion of resource-based industry. Additionally, there are no scientific-based estimates of the wolf population in order to determine the effect of an increase in trapping - current estimates are largely anecdotal. Increased trapping also intensifies the risk of trapping non-target species, including domestic animals. And finally, there is no evidence that any decline in ungulate populations is due to wolf predation.</p> <p>Lengthening the season is important; Vancouver Island needs to keep its predatory species in check.</p> <p>Until such a time as more scientific studies can be conducted indicating that the wolf population is indeed increasing, the trapping season for these animals should not be lengthened.</p>  |
| <p>This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.</p> <p>I vehemently oppose the propose to lengthen the wolf trapping season. The BC government hasn't conduct an investigation to prove that the decrease of the populations has been cause by wolves. Also, the government has not conduct a wolf population study since 1994, which means that they are not tracking the trends of the wolf populations and defendinge their importance in the ecosystem. We must learn from the Yellowstone experience and defend and preserve our small wolf populations. Not to say that trapping is cruel and should be banned once and for all.</p>   |
| <p>This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.</p> <p>A) The "humane traps" are still anything but. We all know that. B) The wolves need to be exterminated because "it's difficult to monitor them"??? Not because they are any kind of a real danger that can't be dealt with any other way. C) There are several conservation groups willing to step up and provide monitoring and studies. D) These wolves are KNOWN for eating fish as their primary food source! It's laughable that you want to trap them for killing deer! Even though they also do kill deer SO WHAT...that's what they SHOULD be doing!! That's how ecosystems work. Ever seen what happened to Yellowstone National Park in the U.S. when they reintroduced wolves?? It thrived. E) Perhaps the deer are disappearing because they are being over-hunted?</p>  |
| <p>This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward. Thank you.</p>   |
| <p>The ungulates need all of the help they can get.</p> <p>Frankly, I am stunned to see a proposal coming from the BC Government which is based on ?anecdotal? observations. I would think that the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development would be embarrassed to undertake a change in policy to further decimate the coastal wolf population, based on ?public sightings and observations?. It is a shame that getting essential data is challenging and expensive. It is a shame that no one in the Ministry appears to have contemplated no explanation other than rampaging rapacious wolves, to be the cause of the reported ?decreased trends in [the] deer population index?. But it is inexcusable to have the stated rationale form the basis of a decision critical to the future existence of these animals. The trapping season for these rare, genetically distinct and highly social animals is eight months which is already too long and will likely result in the extinction of coastal wolves. To increase it by two months is inexcusable, as is the use of obscenely cruel trapping methods. This proposal smacks of a purely political maneuver, offered to placate hunters distressed by the NDP's recent decision to ban grizzly hunting. The timing of that decision also appeared to be primarily a political decision to try to placate environmentalists distressed by the government's unpopular Site C decision. I had such high hopes for this government. Please start living up to the wonderful expectations that so many BC residents had for you!</p>  |
| <p>To whom it may concern, I would like to voice my opposition to the lengthening of the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island for the following reasons: Just as wolf monitoring can be difficult, it appears the same rationale is applied to deer populations which lacks any real evidence for decreased populations other than anecdotal. Anecdotal evidence is argued against when it comes to wolves, so it seems the province is contradicting itself regarding inventory and monitoring and arbitrarily placing the welfare of deer before that of wolves. The province's rationale also states the ?low conservation concern status? of wolves, but the last monitoring effort was more than twenty years ago which leaves ample time for a decline in population numbers. There is no way to estimate population size without proper monitoring and data. The province should lead the field in evidence-based decision-making, but the current proposal does little to that effect. The populations that do exist on Vancouver Island are cut off from Mainland influxes of genetic diversity and therefore do not benefit from the existence of other populations in B.C. They must be considered separate when considering threat status. Coastal wolves are genetically distinct from interior wolves which makes them invaluable to maintain the evolutionary capacity of the species. If we allow the trapping season to be extended, we risk losing individuals who are important genetic resources for the health of the population. Extending the trapping period farther into their breeding season in order to trap more females and pups is inherently wrong. These animals (who are culturally and economically important) have a right to carry out their evolutionary <u>roles on a landscape that thrives from their presence. They are important to their ecosystem and can regulate their own populations, just as deer are regulated by natural forces.</u></p> <p>Without proper scientific evidence to account for the number of wolves available is not enough to allow for an extension of the proposal seeking to lengthen the wolf trapping season to September 10 to June 30. Completely unjustifiable. Making assumptions and guess work are not proper measures to deem that there is a heighten population of wolves. It's a costly exercise to provide inventory and monitor the wolves population, Please rescind the proposal regulations.</p> |

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| <p>What a step backwards it would be to allow the cruel killing of beautiful, intelligent canids -- with the only rational being anecdotal at best. There is not a shred of concrete, empirical evidence to suggest that wolves are responsible for a net decrease in deer. Further, there is no empirical evidence to show an increase in wolves. Wildlife management needs to be based on reproducible research, not word of mouth and heresay. BC made the right decision regarding grizzly bears. Please, let's not take a huge step backwards on wolf management.</p> <p>give her</p> <p>Don't kill the wolves. You know it's wrong..... look inside yourselves. I have faith you will make the right decision. We are all one on this planet - all beings just want to live. Let live. Emma</p> <p>Please acknowledge that the coastal wolves of Vancouver Island are genetically distinct and globally rare, and the highly social nature of these family groups or packs. Leg hold traps are inhumane, cruel and should be banned</p>   |
| <p>There is no reliable, measurable count on wolves on Vancouver Island (the last population count of a small section of the island was in 1994, according to the proposal); There is no reliable, measurable data that would suggest changes in populations of wolves on Vancouver Island; There is an implied connection between the alleged increase in wolf sightings and decrease in deer population, but no evidence given of a causal link, nor any further information on the deer populations (such as cause, research, etc.); There is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed by these traps and how many more wolves and other species the proposal would lead to being killed; and, There is no rationale explaining why an increase of wolves, if there is one, requires an extended trapping season. The proposal also fails to acknowledge the trapping-related safety issues for domestic animals and people alike. I</p>  |
| <p>Please accept this submission as part of the consultation for the proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. I strongly oppose this proposal for a number of reasons - it is based on anecdotal reports that wolf numbers seem to be increasing, but there is no recent reliable, science-based population count of wolves on the island, nor any measurable data to suggest the population is in fact increasing. Even if wolf populations are confirmed scientifically to have increased, that alone does not justify lengthening the trapping season. Again there is no evidence to suggest that any decline in ungulates is necessarily due to wolf populations - any decline in ungulates must be researched in-depth. I also oppose lengthening the trapping season due to the increased risk of non-target species being caught in these traps, not to mention the safety issues facing the public and domestic animals. The provincial government has stated that they will be moving forward with a broader consultation process for a renewed wildlife management strategy for the province in 2018, but this one-off policy not only fails to align with such a renewed strategy, but the lack of reliable, measurable data surrounding this proposal is incredibly worrisome and dangerous. For these reasons, I am calling on the provincial government to reject this proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season and instead move forward with the process of updating the province's wildlife management strategy so that it is science-based, conservation-focused and aligned with the values of the vast majority of British Columbians.</p>  |
| <p>Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.</p>   |
| <p>The war on wildlife must stop. Do NOT extend the already deplorable and far too long-lasting period for innocent, fur-bearing wildlife to be trapped. Maimed and murdered. Thank you.</p>  |
| <p>Trapping of any animal is absurd and needs to end. Especially in this case. Do not extend the trapping season. Trapping of these wolves is inhuman and not sustainable. If the BC government is ?trying? to ?protect? the Caribou they need to cease logging operations that are destroying habitat for many species. Please do not go through with this proposed extension for wolf trapping season. Cease the BC wolf cull at once.</p>  |
| <p>To whom it may concern, I am writing as a concerned professional and a student at the University of Victoria. The rationale provided for a lengthened trapping season displays a lack of evidence-based decision-making, a bias towards prey species over predator despite the greater ecosystem services provided by the latter, an irresponsible management strategy for a genetically, culturally, and economically valuable population of wolves, and the state sanctioning of an inhumane (Proulx et al., 2015), publicly abhorrent trapping method. I strongly advocate that the trapping season NOT be extended.</p>  |
| <p>Support</p>  |
| <p>I am curious to the current group who is opposing the extension of the wolf trapping on Vancouver island. They ask for scientific data to be collected regarding wolf populations impacts of increased trapping and impacts on wildlife. But in the case of the grizzly hunt nothing of the sort mattered...? I understand this type of research requires a great deal of time and money. I would hope that some of the costs of such studies would/could be covered by donations from such groups. Seeing as these types of people generate very little revenue towards wildlife management and scientific study. I hope our govt can see past the group pressures, manage unbiased, manage in the best interests for our wildlife and make decisions based on the best scientific information available.</p>   |
| <p>Anecdotal sightings/observations, this is really what you are basing this on? I haven't observed any more wolves, but I see lots of deer.</p> <p>Please accept this submission as part of the consultation for the proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. As an animal lover and a friend of people from Wildlife Defence League I must submit this proposal. Please pay a close attention to all the reasons mentioned under. I strongly oppose this proposal for a number of reasons - it is based on anecdotal reports that wolf numbers seem to be increasing, but there is no recent reliable, science-based population count of wolves on the island (the last population estimate is from 1994), nor any measurable data to suggest the population is in fact increasing. Even if wolf populations are confirmed scientifically to have increased, that alone does not justify lengthening the trapping season. Similarly, there is no reliable evidence to suggest that any decline in ungulates is necessarily due to wolf populations - any decline in ungulates must be researched in-depth. I also oppose lengthening the trapping season due to the increased risk of non-target species being caught in these traps, not to mention the safety issues facing the public and domestic animals. The provincial government has stated that they will be moving forward with a broader consultation process for a renewed wildlife management strategy for the province in 2018, but this one-off policy fails to align with the government's acknowledgements that a renewed strategy is needed. Instead, it seems more in-line with the previous government's tendency to scapegoat predators. In addition, the lack of reliable, measurable data surrounding this proposal is incredibly worrisome and dangerous. For these reasons, I am calling on the provincial government to reject this proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season and instead move forward with the process of updating the province's wildlife management strategy so that it is science-based, conservation-focused and aligned with the values of the vast majority of British Columbians.</p> |
| <p>I'm in favour of at least seeing what a reduction in wolf population will do to help bring back the ungulate population. The wolf population is not at risk and if we can trappers a bit more time to take wolves then I'm all for it.</p>   |



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| The season should run all yr as the wolves r multiplying  |
| Please consider not increasing the hunting season on these genetically diverse apex predator.   |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.  |
| I find it absolutely ridiculous that a decision made on this in a province where environment is of utmost important for not only intrinsic value but also economic value is based on absolutely no science at all and just hearsay. Before you make a decision such as this, there should always be a scientific study that this will not negatively affect the ecosystems in BC. No matter if the studies may be expensive, it is obvious with the example of the wolves in Yellowstone that decisions like this should be taken lightly. I am greatly disturbed that the government could even think about doing this. Living in Victoria, I can tell you that the deer populations do not seem based on anecdotal evidence to be decreasing. Maybe you should be doing some actual scientific studying!  |
| I vehemently oppose lengthening wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. It is necessary that government policies be based on science and evidence. Anecdotal evidence, such as what is cited above, is always insufficient but especially so when it is relied on by our Provincial Government. I am embarrassed that in our beautiful and ecologically diverse province we are considering a policy which is cruel, inhumane and based on anything less than sound empirical evidence. The wolf species targeted is unique and important in maintaining the integrity of the Vancouver Island ecosystem. Please take action to come up with a solution to protect these animals rather than harm them. I will no longer support a party that furthers policy which is ignorant of and uninformed by science. Please make us proud.   |
| I am in support of extension on wolf trapping .   |
| Hi, I am strongly opposed to the proposed lengthening of the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. This proposal is based on anecdotal evidence from "First Nations, trappers, resident hunters and guide outfitters " who obviously would be biased to want an increase in trapping periods. There is no recent science to determine current populations of Vancouver Island wolves with the most recent data being quoted above as from 1994. This proposal does not recognise that the wolves on Vancouver Island are genetically distinct and globally rare. Neither does it recognise the complex social family groups that keep wolf packs stable; a stable wolf pack is much less likely to come into conflict with humans., These BC wolves in particular deserve greater protection and a reduction or outright ban on trapping not an increase.   |
| Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island First of all I am opposed to all interference with wolves. This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly in-researched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward. I was hoping the new government would be more in tune with the environment than the past. Lets make it happen!   |
| To Whom It May Concern: I am writing as a Wildlife Biologist to oppose the proposed lengthening of the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. The rationale provided for a lengthened trapping season displays a lack of evidence-based decision-making, a bias towards prey species over predator despite the greater ecosystem services provided by the latter, an irresponsible management strategy for a genetically, culturally, and economically valuable population of wolves, and the state sanctioning of an inhumane, publically abhorrent trapping method. The lack of accurate, evidence-based population estimates for both deer and wolves on Vancouver Island is clearly admitted to in the provided rationale. A relative dearth of knowledge of population estimates of both species should not favor one species over another, unless there is an inherent bias towards the game species and an inherent prejudice against the predator species. A lack of recent abundance estimates for the Vancouver Island wolf population should recommend the use of the precautionary principle in the management of this potentially vulnerable population. The Vancouver Island wolf population is of conservation concern due to potential threats to genetic diversity, and the maintenance of evolutionary capacity. This island population, separated from mainland sources of genetic diversity by a highly trafficked body of water, is vulnerable to a loss of genetic diversity, an important component of a viable population. Coastal wolves, like those found on Vancouver Island, have also been found to have specific signatures of local adaptation to marine-subsidized environments. The perpetuation of these adaptations preserves the evolutionary capital of this island population, or the ability of these wolves to adapt to future changes in their environment. Wolves on Vancouver Island are not only intrinsically valuable, but have immense cultural, economic, and ecological importance. Overabundant deer populations are incredibly destructive to the natural structure of forest ecosystems, and are prone to increased disease transmission. Additionally, predators like wolves have been shown to decrease the transmission of zoonotic tick-borne diseases by reducing the number of highly mobile vectors like deer. The proposed lengthening of the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island would represent an irresponsible management of an important and vulnerable predator population and a breaking of a public trust in government to manage whole, healthy ecosystems that best serve their human and wildlife inhabitants. |
| wish no trapping was allowed of innocent animals  |
| Using traps is inhumane and should be banned. Trapping any animal using leg traps is not an acceptable or humane form of population control. It is very disappointing that our government is allowing this in the first place much less proposing to increase the length of season to kill these beautiful and misunderstood animals  |
| OPPOSED. Do not do this.  |
| Cruel , ill informed and unnecessary. Have you ever studied this issue instead of acting on the whims of the hunting/trapping lobby who wishes are to just kill. Check out what happened to the coyote populations after the idiotic attempts to exterminate them as vermin.  |
| I support any amendment that will reduce wolf numbers on Vancouver Island. There are far too many wolves. They are adversely impacting deer numbers over much of the Island resulting in poor deer hunting, especially on the northern half of the Island.  |
| I opposed the proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season.  |

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| I am writing to express my opposition to the government proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. Killing wolves by such methods is unjustifiable and should be banned. The proposed plan to increase the legal trapping season to 10 months out of the year means that wolf packs, many with young pups, will be indiscriminately killed causing significant disruption to one of the most socially-evolved animals in North America. In addition, by the B.C. government's own admission, this proposal is not based on science or peer reviewed data that would support the contention that wolves are causing a disproportionate decline in deer or other ungulates. There is no reliable evidence that wolf populations have risen to an unnatural level. Wolves are highly social animals which are integral to ecosystem function, in particular the wolves of Vancouver Island are genetically distinct and globally rare. These unique wolves have been subjected to too many government sponsored kill programs over the last one hundred years and were extirpated on most of Vancouver Island, California, Oregon and Washington in the early 20th century. Wolves deserve protection and should not be exterminated because the B.C. government has continually failed to protect and recover enough habitat for ungulates. Research cited in the Coastal Black-Tailed Deer Study (B.C. Ministry of Forests, 1996) makes clear that any increased wolf predation is directly linked to human-caused changes. These changes include forest harvesting and road building which isolates winter ranges, increasing resident deer (with a survival rate of 77%) and decreasing migratory deer (which typically have a high survival rate of 95%). The isolation of winter habitat may intensify predation and an overall loss of deer populations and resiliency. Therefore, intact old-growth forests should be set aside in order to rebuild deer populations (McNay and Voller, 1995) instead of using wolves as a scapegoat for inadequate habitat protection for ungulates. Societal values support protecting wolves for a number of reasons. Wildlife based tourism is the fastest growing sector of the tourism industry and B.C.'s international reputation is at stake. As other countries attempt to reintroduce and protect wolves, Canada continues to perpetuate, support and now expand the hunting season of this species. People from around the world recently celebrated your decision to end the trophy hunting of grizzly bears and would expect that a similar policy direction would be evolving for wolves. This proposal clearly takes our societal values and the integrity of our natural ecosystems in the opposite direction.   |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.   |
| I support this proposed regulation change.   |
| I disagree with this extension   |
| Last year, 108 wolves were culled in order to protect a declining population of caribou in interior British Columbia. Between 2015 and 2017, 227 wolves were shot by helicopter. The cull is planned to begin again this winter, and this plan should be cancelled immediately. Are caribou important? Yes, most certainly. However, there is no evidence to suggest that last years wolf cull has been effective in preventing the, admittedly, alarmingly low numbers of caribou. Experts such as Sadie Parr, who is the executive director of the advocacy group ?Wolf Awareness,? suggests that the the cause of the rapidly declining caribou populations is due to habitat loss, not predation. Humans are the source of the low numbers of caribou in British Columbia, not wolves. It is obvious that, yes, wolves play a part in population loss of BC caribou, as wolves are predators whom hunt caribou for sustenance. However, as previously stated, habitat loss is the primary source of the decline in caribou numbers. Thus, killing wolves in efforts to protect caribou numbers is, to put it eloquently, a band-aid solution. To put it frankly, it is a barbaric demonstration of a problematic mindset that is at the heart of both the current caribou populations, and also the entirety of the wolf cull operation: it is the choice to turn a blind eye to the future, the choice to take the easy way out. The choice to ignore major social issues that are buried, oh so shallowly, beneath a cruel, inhumane, unjust, fruitless excuse of a solution. Sadly, it is not only the wolves of interior BC that are being targeted and killed. There is currently a proposal to increase the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island, in order to preserve deer populations. This proposal is based on data that is neither scientific, nor reliable. There has been no population count of wolves since 1994, and whether or not the wolves are causing a decline in deer populations is undetermined. There has been little effort put into estimating the population of wolves on Vancouver Island, because it is expensive and challenging. This excuse is not only unacceptable, but it is entirely unjust to extend the legal trapping season to ten months out of the year without first knowing the population numbers. Coastal wolves of Vancouver Island are not only rare, but they are, according to Science Media Centre of Canada, genetically distinct from other kinds of wolves. Trapping animals is an inhumane, nonselective practice that causes many animals other than wolves to die or be injured. This includes family pets, and endangered species. The wolves whom are trapped often spend days in the trap before being killed. Is this time, they suffer from dehydration, starvation, and unimaginable pain. It is not uncommon for them to try to chew off their own trapped limb. This is truly disturbing, extremely unethical, and totally unacceptable. The fact that the proposition to lengthen the trapping season for an animal that is not only ecologically extremely important but also rare, is an extraordinarily irresponsible choice to make. It is particularly irresponsible to do this without first spending the time and money necessary to determine the current population of coastal wolves. In the perfect world of both mine and many other British Columbians, the NDP government would demonstrate humanity and compassion and put an end to both wolf trapping and also the wolf cull. At the very least, I ask that this government whom has been <del>associated with numerous human rights abuses, as well as the wolf cull, immediately end and reject the proposition to extend the trapping season of coastal wolves. Thank you.</del> |
| Oppose lengthening wolf trapping season. Cruel, painful, and inhumane practice of leg trapping with not good enough evidence to support lengthening trapping season. Not enough wolf population to warrant this type of culling. Humanely trap and relocate, if anything. Half of the problem is environmental loss and overhunting due to PEOPLE.   |
| Killing of top predators in protection of prey species is a bandaid solution. Trapping is also entirely inhumane. I am strongly opposed to this proposal.  |
| This is common sense decision making. Wolves take a heavy toll on ungulates and there is no other way of ensuring healthy deer and elk populations aside from culling wolves especially in an eco system that is so heavily impacted by humans. I support this proposal.   |
| I understand people make a living trapping animals. What I don't understand is the inhumane way it is done. Why is the wolf trapping timeline being changed?   |

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| <p>To whom it may concern, I am strongly opposed to the trapping and killing of wolves on Vancouver Island or elsewhere in BC, and this includes aerial culling. These are inhumane and outdated practices. I voted for the NDP government because I believed it would stop these kinds of senseless, cruel acts against wildlife and would instead protect them. The trapping and killing cause horrifying and untold suffering to the animals. In this modern day and age, why are we still allowing our wildlife to be wiped out in the name of the fur trade? This is so wrong on so many levels, words fail. Wolves are apex predators and they are critical to healthy ecosystems and wild habitats. Their impact is significantly positive. If you want the wolves to help contribute to the economy, why not encourage and support ecotourism in and around the areas/beaches that the wolves frequent? This would bring in ongoing and far greater \$\$\$ for the Province, than this continued archaic trapping and killing fur trade. Why not choose instead to be on the forefront of protecting these beautiful animals so that future generations are able to appreciate and laud your actions and continue to enjoy the wolves as we have done? Please, adopt sophisticated and progressive policies when it comes to protecting these animals. It is ridiculous that in this day and age, you, our government is allowing the trapping and killing of wolves when predator numbers worldwide continue to plummet and it has been repeatedly proven how important they are for healthy habitats and environments. We need these special wolf populations on Vancouver Island. Are we (BC) truly to be no better than Norway? Annihilating wolves for the betterment of the few (i.e. trappers)? (I believe many, many people are in opposition to policies such as what you are proposing, and I certainly hope they have written to you to make that clear. However, please know that it is very difficult to provide you with feedback via this website. This website is not user-friendly to say the least and, in my view, it does not provide for a fair public consultation process. I imagine many concerned citizens have given up attempting to provide feedback through sheer frustration of the process involved.) Please protect the wolves and stop allowing these horrifyingly inhumane trapping and killing practices to be perpetrated on these innocent and beautiful animals. Finally, rather than relying on anecdotal evidence to support your proposal, why not have your staff consult with expert wolf biologists? For more information, please see: <a href="https://www.yellowstone.org/what-we-do/wolf-project/">https://www.yellowstone.org/what-we-do/wolf-project/</a>. Or contact Doug Smith, Senior Wildlife Biologist, Yellowstone National Park (see: <a href="https://www.siliconrepublic.com/discovery/meet-doug-smith-wolf-watcher-y...">https://www.siliconrepublic.com/discovery/meet-doug-smith-wolf-watcher-y...</a>). If your staff were to conduct a thorough amount of research on this subject, which they admittedly have not, it would be extremely eye-opening and educational in terms of the benefits wolves bring to the planet and the overall health of the environments where they live.</p> |
| <p>Research shows that the most of the healthy ungulate populations in North America also host healthy wolf (and other carnivore populations); thus preventing and limiting disease transfer for serious threats to ungulates such as Chronic Wasting Disease</p>  |
| <p>I would like to state my objection to this new proposal. Why is this hidden from public view? I had to hear about it from a facebook post from a wildlife organization. Why is the government making this so difficult to comment on by requiring this extensive process of registering to write something to begin with. It certainly appears that this is being hidden from the public. Where is the science to support this action? The last count was done in 1994. The government is making a connection between the wolves and the decline in deer populations. Where is the science to show that the deer are being killed by wolves? How many non-target animals will be caught in these traps? Even if there is an increase in wolves how do you know this isn't a cyclical event? What would this casual information you are getting cause you to conclude that the trapping season should be extended? Are you just doing this to appease the deer hunters? This is a thinly veiled attempt to give licenses to trappers with no scientific basis. Before you do anything you should make this announcement to the general public and provide them with an easy way to comment. You are taking the easy, lazy route to justify the extended trapping period.</p>   |
| <p>The last cursory population estimate on wolves was in 1994. The B.C. government is still not recognizing the coastal wolves of Vancouver Island as genetically distinct and globally rare, nor the highly social nature of these family groups or packs. Leg hold traps are inhumane, cruel and should be banned. Until a full, official examination of wolf populations is done, there should be no lengthening of the trapping season, because anecdote and public sightings are not based in scientific evidence.</p>  |
| <p>Not enough research.</p>  |
| <p>In reading the Rationale for this proposed change I find there is no supporting information in the following matters: - no reliable, measurable count on wolves on Vancouver Island -no reliable, measurable data on the changes in the population of wolves on Vancouver Island -no evidence regarding a possible link with deer population or information on deer population -no information on current wolf trapping numbers or of non-target species caught and/or killed in the traps -no rationale to explain why a possible increase in wolves requires an extended trapping season In addition, I do not see any acknowledgement of any trapping related safety issues for domestic animals and people. Therefore, I speak against this change in the trapping season for wolves on Vancouver Island and urge the government to pursue the important research as outlined in my comments.</p>   |
| <p>I fully support the extended trapping days of wolves within the Vancouver island region as a means to manage their populations and thus allowing ungulate populations to thrive and prosper.</p>  |
| <p>Totally opposed to this, we should NEVER be managing predators based on a supposed need to increase prey populations. If we need to increase prey populations, this should come in the form of more limited and restrictive human hunting opportunities for ungulates. Our wild animals should not be 'resources' that we allow to be marketed to the European wild fur market. That cheats me and my fellow British Columbians out of opportunities to see these magnificent animals in the wild.</p>  |
| <p>Wolf population control is very important</p>   |
| <p>This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in the deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.</p>  |
| <p>Wolf numbers are at an all time high and need to be managed accordingly. Especially considering that they are very hard if not impossible to eradicate through hunting and trapping.</p>  |
| <p>I believe that wolves are not and should not be a concern in regards to the topic of deer population and management. It is incorrect data to blame these animals for their numbers, and that other forms of regulation should be explored. The action of trapping an animal, wolf or not, by its limb to die is both inhumane and cruel. It is not our obligation as humans to dictate the population of a species by making a choice to take its life.</p>   |
| <p>Please accept this submission as part of the consultation for the proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. I strongly oppose the extending of the wolf trapping season for many reasons. Not only are the reports of the wolf population increasing not scientifically proven and fail to support with measurable data, it is not a justifiable solution or reasoning. Extending the season puts non-target species at risk (including the public and domestic animals) and poses as a major safety concern. For these reasons, I am calling on the provincial government to reject this proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season and instead move forward with the process of updating the province's wildlife management strategy so that it is science-based, conservation-focused and aligned with the values of the vast majority of British Columbians.</p>  |

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| There is no reliable, measurable count on wolves on Vancouver Island (the last population count of a small section of the island was in 1994, according to the proposal); There is no reliable, measurable data that would suggest changes in populations of wolves on Vancouver Island; There is an implied connection between the alleged increase in wolf sightings and decrease in deer population, but no evidence given of a causal link, nor any further information on the deer populations (such as cause, research, etc.); There is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed by these traps and how many more wolves and other species the proposal would lead to being killed; and, There is no rationale explaining why an increase of wolves, if there is one, requires an extended trapping season. The proposal also fails to acknowledge the trapping-related safety issues for domestic animals and people alike.  |
| I am worried about this proposal coming without any background data on the actual wolf population numbers and actually trapping/killing numbers. How can we lengthen the kill season without having any way to assess how this will effect the wolf population. No real data is available for how wolf populations affect deer populations, either. Wolves are a really important ecological species. The lack of information is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.   |
| Please do not lengthen the trapping season. Leg hold traps are cruel, unnecessary and should be banned. The fact that you are calling them humane is ridiculous. The fur trade is antiquated and archaic and should not even be considered as one of these objectives. We need to continue to protect Mother Nature and all that she offers us. Please protect our wildlife. #saveBCwolves.  |
| I support the lengthening of the trapping season for wolves in all of British Columbia from Nov.1st - Jun. 30th.   |
| I do not accept that the wolf trapping season should be extended - if anything it should be reduced. There are no recent scientific studies to support this extension - I believe the last study was in 1994 -23 years ago. The coastal wolves are almost certainly a different group and should be protected regardless. I am truly horrified at the news that this extension is being considered and I urge you to dismiss it as the public outcry from all over the world will be extremely bad publicity and will harm Canada's tourist industry and general standing as an enlightened nation   |
| I strongly oppose the lengthening of the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island and am appalled this is even being considered under the guise of improving deer populations. Trapping is inhumane, unethical, and non-discriminant. It is time those responsible for making decisions about OUR wildlife focus on ways to mitigate the plethora of damage caused by humans, and stop using our predators as scapegoats for continued ignorance and poor management of our resources. Thank you.  |
| Drop this proposed regulatory change, and ensure that proper research is conducted prior to moving forward with other proposals. The lack of science existing in tracking wolf numbers makes this move an unscientific change. Predator prey levels self regulate and human beings need to stop killing wolves for the skins and as a hobby.   |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.   |
| The practice of trapping should be stopped and not encouraged or given excuses to carry on. The same goes for the cowardly slaughtering of top predators from air craft. To extend the months allowing idiots to trap wolves by snares, conibear and leg traps is ridiculous in itself and clearly politically motivated by those who wish monetary gain. If anything, Vancouver, BC actually should be promoting itself as a province which promotes environmental and ecological tourism not the old and archaic nonsense of trapping for fur or trophy hunting. Promote "hunting" with a camera and the opportunity to observe top predators and wildlife in their natural state. You want to help the economy, promote ecotourism.   |
| The proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.  |
| The government needs to stop killing off predators while claiming to have a conservation agenda and start realizing that habitat loss, forest fragmentation, climate change among other anthropogenic stressors are the actual threat to biodiversity and decline in populations. Foot hold traps are cruel and should be banned in the first place. Second of all it looks like actually collecting data and scientific evidence on the wolf population is too much money and work for the B.C. government. So your proposal is really not about conservation efforts as that requires data and evidence to back up and more about the fur trade which is cruel in itself, especially in 2018. Lets stop moving backward when it comes to conservation and start actually caring about biodiversity and this amazing province we are lucky to call home, and no that doesn't include hunting, trapping or killing. The only beings who are a threat to species population decline, species extinction and a disruption of the ecosystem equilibrium are humans, not wolves.   |
| This barbaric and archaic form of torture will be an embarrassment to BC and all of Canada if allowed to proceed as planned. I absolutely oppose and denounce this proposed agreement as a Canadian and British Columbian, and also as a human being with empathy and compassion for another species. You are to represent the citizens who have elected you to represent their ideas and perspectives on all topics. This has been so under the radar that it would appear the NDP are up to their old tricks again as it has not been brought to the table to even be discussed in the media or quietly at a town hall. Shame on you NDP for even considering such a heinous act. You are not doing the job you were hired to do.  |
| Wolves need to be managed or we will have a total imbalance of wildlife on the island  |
| This proposed regulatory change provides anecdotes on wolf populations, and, it seems, is somewhat skewed towards hunters, trappers and guide outfitters. The government is not getting enough scientific data, which I believe would be required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. In other words, there is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. We do not know if the alleged lower ungulate numbers are because of more kills by hunters, from more competition from wolves, or weather conditions. There is an observation that the deer population is showing a decreased trend at the same time that there has been an increase in wolf sightings, but there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information in this proposal makes me somewhat uncomfortable as to whether hunting lobby groups are perhaps having undue influence on government. Ultimately, I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward. |
| Protect our wolves!  |
| Excessive and unnecessary. Learn from Yellowstone. They culled the wolves and eventually had to reintroduce the wolves in order to create a natural balance. Humans need to stop playing God and stop messing with nature.   |

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| <p>"Anecdotal sightings/observations from numerous First Nations, trappers, resident hunters and guide outfitters regarding increased wolf population and a lack of ungulates (primarily deer) in many northern and west coast MUs in Region 1." This is an unacceptable rationale to cull Vancouver Island wolves. Only those who stand to gain monetarily have a say in this life and death matter. With no outline of the costs and difficulty of an inventory of wolves, you are making it impossible for the public to make an informed decision regarding a claim of overpopulation by those who benefit from their deaths. Wildlife belongs to all British Columbians, not just to those who want to kill them. Based upon the information that you have presented here I think a moratorium on the trapping of wolves is imperative, until scientific data regarding these claims is available.</p> <p>Feedback on Reg. # 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season Please accept this submission as part of the consultation for the proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. I strongly oppose this proposal for a number of reasons - it is based on anecdotal reports that wolf numbers seem to be increasing, but there is no recent reliable, science-based population count of wolves on the island (the last population estimate is from 1994), nor any measurable data to suggest the population is in fact increasing. Even if wolf populations are confirmed scientifically to have increased, that alone does not justify lengthening the trapping season. Similarly, there is no reliable evidence to suggest that any decline in ungulates is necessarily due to wolf populations - any decline in ungulates must be researched in-depth. I also oppose lengthening the trapping season due to the increased risk of non-target species being caught in these traps, not to mention the safety issues facing the public and domestic animals. The provincial government has stated that they will be moving forward with a broader consultation process for a renewed wildlife management strategy for the province in 2018, but this one-off policy fails to align with the government's acknowledgements that a renewed strategy is needed. Instead, it seems more in-line with the previous government's tendency to scapegoat predators. In addition, the lack of reliable, measurable data surrounding this proposal is incredibly worrisome and dangerous. For these reasons, I am calling on the provincial government to reject this proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season and instead move forward with the process of updating the province's wildlife management strategy so that it is science-based, conservation-focused and aligned with the values of the vast majority of British Columbians.</p>   |
| <p>Completely asinine! The coastal wolves of Vancouver Island are genetically distinct and globally rare. AND LEG HOLD TRAPS?!? They are inhumane and should be BANNED!</p> <p>I categorically oppose the proposal to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. There is copious amounts of scientific evidence that proves that the hunting of wolves is detrimental to the ecosystems in which they live and raise their young. The idea serves no purpose other than to satisfy the blood lust of crazed hunters.</p> <p>Wolves play an important role in the ecosystems and life. They are a rare species and so many animals are already going extinct due to humans lack of empathy for animals as creatures that deserve to live and walk the earth and play a part in the natural cycle of life without threat of unfair death. We need to consider the interconnectedness we share with these beautiful wolves.</p> <p>It seems once again that the government is using pseudo-science ? that is, vague numbers - to try to justify killing members of another species simply because they exist, or at the very most try to generate a revenue source via a means that is becoming extinct. ie: the fashion industry ? Much of the information the province's wildlife managers obtain regarding wolf populations is anecdotal, with a reliance on public sightings and observations?. Yes, that is scientific. Someone thinks they saw the ?big bad wolf? - nature must be getting out of balance - can we kill it? And now what's worst, is you call a population of animals an ?inventory?. ?Inventory?? What?! An inventory like they are boxes of parts in a factory. ?There have been decreased trends in deer population index (0-5 deer/km) in northern management units since the increased wolf sightings/sign have been observed?. Are there that many starving people on Vancouver Island that feel threatened by wolves taking away their food supply? Or do we just have a small contingent of society that feels the need to kill, that feel somehow entitled to take something because they pay a fee, and then disguise that lust for killing as ?conservation?? Wolves are only a few genes apart from our domesticated dogs. We, as a society would be absolutely outraged if someone were to go about trapping dogs with wire neck snares and other equally gruesome methods. This would be considered animal cruelty and the perpetrators would be charged. What right do we have as a species, to ignore the needs of other species simply to satisfy the egos of a small minority of our own species ? and then try to disguise this as ?management?, science, or ?good for the economy?. What right do we have, to kill members of other species ? in the most gruesome ways ? can you even begin to imagine what it would be like to be trapped in a neck snare? - simply because they exist? Elected leaders, policy/decision makers should be absolutely ashamed that they allow, support, and condone such animal cruelty ? and perhaps should be charged ? but try to disguise it with euphemisms ? ?management?, ?population control?, ?science?, and best of all, ?humane?. It is long past time to discard the out-dated, nineteenth century ?model of wildlife farming? and begin to implement policies that include updated, known science ? that is, animals of many species live in strong family units with strong social bonds. They feel fear, pain, joy, happiness and even grief. The new policies must put the NEEDS of wildlife above the WANTS of humans. Once again can you imagine ? just stop for a few minutes to think about what it would feel like lying out in the freezing cold, gasping for air as <u>a wire tightens around your neck. This is 2018, not the eighteenth century. Times and traditions have changed. Killing other species for any reason is not necessary.</u> wolf populations have stood the test of time and have been proven a very robust species. I support this initiative as trapping is a cost effective means of controlling predator populations, wildlife/livestock predation, and human conflict issues. Decisions of this nature must be driven by best available science, not anti hunting trapping lobby efforts and political agendas. I fear that the AHTE site has become more of an anti hunting tool than a consultation process for users of the resource and question the legitimacy of a process cloaked in secrecy and anonymity.</p> <p>Decreasing population of caribou is largely attributed to displaced habitats. Inhumanely killing wolves will not stop the caribou from going extinct. Protect caribou and wolf habitats so they can thrive in BC.</p> <p>Hi there I am concerned that not all the facts have been considered. When was the last time a population study of the deer or the wolves been completed? Perhaps the hunting season of the deer could be shortened? Are these wolves not genetically different then mainland wolves and therefore should be considered as their own species? Rather than trying to manage the predators why not try to manage the prey and increase their populations. Please make sure all the facts and recent data are being used in this decision!</p> <p>This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.</p> <p>Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.</p> |

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| <p>Need to increase wolf opportunity wherever possible</p>   |
| <p>I think we should be working to protect our wolves, not kill more. Please don't do this.</p>  |
| <p>God, how many times have I just had the overwhelming desire to rip the skin off a wolf on Halloween! It's so fitting- you've got your terror, gore, horror, and it's just so much more FUN than wearing some dumb plastic mask and eating candy. I could even wear the face of the last wolf whose head I tore off while I do it! Oh, right *ahem* "humanely". Of course.</p>   |
| <p>The fact is that the last cursory population estimate on wolves was in 1994. The B.C. government is still not recognizing the coastal wolves of Vancouver Island as genetically distinct and globally rare, nor the highly social nature of these family groups or packs. Leg hold traps are inhumane, cruel and should be banned.</p>  |
| <p>No reliable inventory count for wolves currently on the island. Last pop estimate was small/1994! There is an implied connection between the alleged increase in wolf sightings and decrease in deer population, but no evidence given of a causal link, nor any further information on the deer populations (such as cause, research, etc.) There is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed by these traps and how many more wolves and other species the proposal would lead to being killed. There is no rationale explaining why an increase of wolves, if there is one, requires an extended trapping season.</p>   |
| <p>Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward. Sincerely s 22</p>   |
| <p>What is the government spending money on this for? This is popular and necessary as the grizzly bear hunt. The B.C. Wolf Management Plan is in desperate need of an overhaul, and the wolf cull program is arguably its most ecologically, economically, and ethically offensive element. Wolves are social animals which are integral to ecosystem function. It is my view that they deserve protection and should not be exterminated because the B.C. government has continually failed to protect and recover enough habitat for caribou (on the mainland). The trapping season on Vancouver Island in a misguided attempt to preserve deer populations. The proposal states that that they are basing the decision on anecdotal information and not on science or any reliable data. Lets show some progressive action on taking care of our wildlife. These are not times to kill animals, these are times that need people to protect and preserve our dwindling natural spaces.</p>   |
| <p>I am completely opposed to this proposal. I have carefully reviewed the stated reasons for instituting this extension and they are not valid. Killing wolves by such inhumane and cruel methods is unjustifiable and should be banned. The proposed plan to increase the legal trapping season to 10 months out of the year means that wolf packs, many with young pups, will be indiscriminately killed causing significant disruption and suffering of one of the most socially-evolved animals in North America. In addition, by the B.C. government's own admission, this proposal is not based on science or peer reviewed data that would support the contention that wolves are causing a disproportionate decline in deer or other ungulates. There is no reliable evidence that wolf populations have risen to an unnatural level. Wolves are highly social animals which are integral to ecosystem function, in particular the wolves of Vancouver Island are genetically distinct and globally rare. These unique wolves have been subjected to too many government sponsored kill programs over the last one hundred years and were extirpated on most of Vancouver Island, California, Oregon and Washington in the early 20th century. Wolves deserve protection and should not be exterminated because the B.C. government has continually failed to protect and recover enough habitat for ungulates. Research cited in the Coastal Black-Tailed Deer Study (B.C. Ministry of Forests, 1996) makes clear that any increased wolf predation is directly linked to human-caused changes. These changes include forest harvesting and road building which isolates winter ranges, increasing resident deer (with a survival rate of 77%) and decreasing migratory deer (which typically have a high survival rate of 95%). The isolation of winter habitat may intensify predation and an overall loss of deer populations and resiliency. Therefore, intact old-growth forests should be set aside in order to rebuild deer populations (McNay and Voller, 1995) instead of using wolves as a scapegoat for inadequate habitat protection for ungulates. Societal values support protecting wolves for a number of reasons. Wildlife based tourism is the fastest growing sector of the tourism industry and B.C.'s international reputation is at stake. As other countries attempt to reintroduce and protect wolves, Canada continues to perpetuate, support and now expand the violence towards this species. People from around the world recently celebrated your decision to end the trophy hunting of grizzly bears and would expect that a similar policy direction would be evolving for wolves. This proposal clearly takes our societal values and the integrity of our natural ecosystems in the opposite direction.</p> |
| <p>Science proves the environment's need for wolves. Please show us that you have evolved with science and humanity has evolved with empathy.</p>  |
| <p>This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.</p>  |
| <p>I am opposed to the proposed extension of wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. In my opinion, all trapping and killing of wolves in BC is anathema to any conservation efforts, as it is systematically destroying the few surviving wolf colonies in BC. There is no worthwhile reason to allow the trapping of wolves in this day and age - it is an antiquated form of torture that needs to be abolished once and for all.</p>  |
| <p>This proposal is based in greed, not science.</p>   |
| <p>This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.</p>  |

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| I find it disgusting trapping and killing creatures for such barbaric things as fur when it is possible using other material which didn't cause suffering to animals!!!! find also hypocritical talking about trapping and animal welfare in the same sentence!!!! I am overwhelming disgusted by this association purpose for the lack of humanity, compassion and also scientific evidence of what are up saying!!!! there is no bond between human "management" and wildlife conflicts!!! The only reason is clearly money and for this you are even willing to cause useless pain and suffering!!!! completely disagree and boycott every product from your region and I will do advise against your purpose as many people as I can not to visit or buy anything from your region   |
| I am writing in response to the proposed changes to trapping regulations for wolves in Region 1 on Vancouver Island. The rationale for the extension of the trapping season from November 1st to June 30th to September 10th to June 30th does not reflect commitments outlined in the Management Plan for the Grey Wolf (Canis lupus) in British Columbia? (MFLNRO, 2014). According to the released statement, the BC GOV would like to: 1. Increase wolf trapping in response to decreasing trends in deer populations (black-tailed deer), within an unspecified number of northern management units. This is in response to anecdotal information, which is known to be biased and unreliable for predicting wolf population estimates. The proposal fails to provide basic wolf trapping statistics and annual hunting take for region 1 to indicate a legitimate need for increased hunting/trapping pressure. Additionally, there is no indication that human-quota for black tailed deer have been scaled back in response to reduced deer abundance, or that natural phenomena have been ruled out. By natural phenomena, I refer to naturally occurring predator-prey dynamics and or impacts that are weather/disease/habitat related. Page 5 of the management plan clearly states: "Predator control to enhance ungulate populations for hunting is not supported by policy." (MFLNRO, 2014). The current proposal is in defiance of this promise. The proposal is clearly tailored to enhance deer populations strictly through wolf control for increased hunting opportunity. Currently, public opinion is in favour of wolf management that reflects best-practices, and not traditional anti-predator approaches typically associated with the previous liberal government. A second commitment from the management plan states: "wolves are available in sufficient abundance to fulfill their ecological role?" (MFLNRO, 2014, 5). This ecological role can encompass: predator-prey dynamics within diverse ecosystems and the biological needs for social cohesion and reproduction. The current trapping timeframe arguably does not meet the biological needs of wolves. Trapping clearly occurs during the pupping season, which is generally regarded as unethical management. Changes to increase trapping would mean that wolves can be killed 10 months of the year, which is excessive. Alternatively, optimal wolf management would see a reduction in trapping pressure to ensure that compensatory breeding is reduced and that wolves can full-fill their biological needs as set out in the management plan. MFLNRO states in the proposal that wolves in British Columbia have a low conservation concern status. This statement fails to recognize that the Vancouver Island Wolf is a coastal subspecies with lower population estimates. Wolves on Vancouver Island are known to have different diets and behaviours than mainland wolves as they have adapted to smaller pack sizes and smaller prey bases. Research conducted by Pacific Rim National Park showed that wolves diets consisted primarily of sea-life and small mammals. A precautionary approach should be taken for managing a unique and highly valued population of wolves which are critically under-studied. I would like to urge the government to not expand the trapping season, and instead employ responsible wolf management practices by upholding commitments outlined in the current wolf management plan. Concerns regarding the decreasing population estimates for black-tailed deer on Vancouver Island can be addressed through: 1. Lowering hunting quotas until populations rebound 2. Determine if the current decreasing trends are the result of a natural fluctuations in deer population 3. Validate anecdotal information regarding wolf sightings by developing a rigorous protocol 4. Increase public education about wolf biology and conservation, and predator-prey dynamics in hunting communities to foster sustainable and responsible hunting |
| I am strongly opposed to the culling of wolves as a method of wildlife management.<br>I strongly oppose this proposal for a number of reasons - it is based on anecdotal reports that wolf numbers seem to be increasing, but there is no recent reliable, science-based population count of wolves on the island (the last population estimate is from 1994), nor any measurable data to suggest the population is in fact increasing. Even if wolf populations are confirmed scientifically to have increased, that alone does not justify lengthening the trapping season. Similarly, there is no reliable evidence to suggest that any decline in ungulates is necessarily due to wolf populations - any decline in ungulates must be researched in-depth. I also oppose lengthening the trapping season due to the increased risk of non-target species being caught in these traps, not to mention the safety issues facing the public and domestic animals. Trapping causes prolonged physical and mental suffering, and is inhumane in any circumstance. The provincial government has stated that they will be moving forward with a broader consultation process for a renewed wildlife management strategy for the province in 2018, but this one-off policy fails to align with the government's acknowledgements that a renewed strategy is needed. Instead, it seems more in-line with the previous government's tendency to scapegoat predators. In addition, the lack of reliable, measurable data surrounding this proposal is incredibly worrisome and dangerous. For these reasons, I hope the provincial government will reject this proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season.  |
| I am completely opposed to this. It is contradictory in that there is no real of accurate data and it is based on anecdotal evidence. There is no sound reason for this and it puts coastal wolves at risk. Enough with all the trapping and killing which serves only the greedy mankind. Live and let live.<br>This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward. The fact is that the last cursory population estimate on wolves was in 1994. The B.C. government is still not recognizing the coastal wolves of Vancouver Island as genetically distinct and globally rare, nor the highly social nature of these family groups or packs. Leg hold traps are inhumane, cruel and should be banned.   |
| I'm shocked and horrified that a civilised country such as Canada would practice such an inhumane practice in the first place, let alone expand this. Please do the right thing and put an end to this horrid practice that gives BC a terrible name.  |
| The last cursory population estimate on wolves was in 1994. The B.C. government is still not recognizing the coastal wolves of Vancouver Island as genetically distinct and globally rare, nor the highly social nature of these family groups or packs. Leg hold traps are inhumane, cruel and should be banned altogether.   |

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| <p>Feedback on Reg. # 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season Please accept this submission as part of the consultation for the proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. We strongly oppose this proposal for a number of reasons - it is based on anecdotal reports that wolf numbers seem to be increasing, but there is no recent reliable, science-based population count of wolves on the island (the last population estimate is from 1994), nor any measurable data to suggest the population is in fact increasing. Even if wolf populations are confirmed scientifically to have increased, that alone does not justify lengthening the trapping season. Similarly, there is no reliable evidence to suggest that any decline in ungulates is necessarily due to wolf populations - any decline in ungulates must be researched in-depth. We also oppose lengthening the trapping season due to the increased risk of non-target species being caught in these traps, not to mention the safety issues facing the public and domestic animals. The provincial government has stated that they will be moving forward with a broader consultation process for a renewed wildlife management strategy for the province in 2018, but this one-off policy fails to align with the government's acknowledgements that a renewed strategy is needed. Instead, it seems more in-line with the previous government's tendency to scapegoat predators. In addition, the lack of reliable, measurable data surrounding this proposal is incredibly worrisome and dangerous. For these reasons, we are calling on the provincial government to reject this proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season and instead move forward with the process of updating the province's wildlife management strategy so that it is science-based, conservation-focused and aligned with the values of the vast majority of British Columbians.</p> |
| <p>Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers.</p>   |
| <p>Please accept this submission as part of the consultation for the proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. We strongly oppose this proposal for a number of reasons - it is based on anecdotal reports that wolf numbers seem to be increasing, but there is no recent reliable, science-based population count of wolves on the island (the last population estimate is from 1994), nor any measurable data to suggest the population is in fact increasing. Even if wolf populations are confirmed scientifically to have increased, that alone does not justify lengthening the trapping season. Similarly, there is no reliable evidence to suggest that any decline in ungulates is necessarily due to wolf populations - any decline in ungulates must be researched in-depth. We also oppose lengthening the trapping season due to the increased risk of non-target species being caught in these traps, not to mention the safety issues facing the public and domestic animals. The provincial government has stated that they will be moving forward with a broader consultation process for a renewed wildlife management strategy for the province in 2018, but this one-off policy fails to align with the government's acknowledgements that a renewed strategy is needed. Instead, it seems more in-line with the previous government's tendency to scapegoat predators. In addition, the lack of reliable, measurable data surrounding this proposal is incredibly worrisome and dangerous. For these reasons, we are calling on the provincial government to reject this proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season and instead move forward with the process of updating the province's wildlife management strategy so that it is science-based, conservation-focused and aligned with the values of the vast majority of British Columbians.</p>   |
| <p>I strongly support this for ungulate management.</p>   |
| <p>To allow legal hunting of wolves on Vancouver Island almost year round via a leg trap is inhumane and an insult to science. Time and time again science has proved KEEPING wolf populations up helps keep the vegetation and landscape in check. Look at Yellowstone. Wolves were practically eradicated and they brought them back in 1994. Since then it has completely changed the course of rivers and vegetation. It has kept other animals in check, created firm river banks, allowed beavers to come back, and many other species found their home again. On top of that the wolves on Vancouver Island are rare! They are highly social and aren't found anywhere else. The public outcry AGAINST this is large. Canada sets an example for the rest of us on so many issues but something like this just falls in line with what is going on in the United States. Ignore the facts, ignore the public, and ignore what's best in the big long term picture. Don't fall in line, be the example.</p>   |
| <p>Research has shown that the wolf populations are not the primary cause of caribou decline. The decline is more attributed to human disturbance and anthropogenic landscape change. It is thus imperative that we focus on preserving the biodiversity and habitat on the island first to help caribou numbers recover (e.g. caribou can exist in lower density and hide better in large forested areas).</p>   |
| <p>Glad to hear of this proposal. Wolf populations seem to be on the rise across the province. Hopefully this helps to keep the pred/prey balance a little more even. They are amazing creatures but like all wildlife, need to be managed.</p>   |
| <p>This proposal to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island is not based on any hard evidence. There is no data on current or recent wolf populations and no information on current wolf trapping numbers. There is also no data on by-catch of non-target species or how this increased season would impact those animals. Furthermore, the proposed change only assumes the reduction in the deer population is due to an increase in the population of wolves; there is no evidence of that. The BC government should reject this proposal because it is not evidence-based. Clear, supporting concrete data needs to be obtained before any such proposal can be brought forward.</p>  |
| <p>Wolves are too important and social to put them at further risk. If ungulate populations are down focus on that problem. Human encroachment, road ways, etc. I oppose this proposal. Thank you.</p>  |
| <p>I urge you to ban all leg hold traps, as it's painful and barbaric. I can't believe that in 2018 that these traps are legal. I urge you to not lengthen the time that these cruel traps and these precious animals can be legally killed. Please, do not pass this proposal! I expected better from the NDP government!</p>  |
| <p>This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.</p>   |
| <p>It is incredibly disheartening to read the rationale of the BC government's proposal to lengthen the trapping season for the Vancouver Island wolf population. As with many wildlife issues within the province, it appears to come down to money once again. After reading the audit of grizzly bear management in BC, I no longer have confidence that funds provided through hunting operations are being properly allocated. Important wildlife management decisions should not be made without adequate scientific research, we know better than this. Without having an understanding of the predator-prey dynamic between the wolves and the deer they prey on, we cannot predict the outcome of lengthening the trapping season. With less wolves, surely we will see a significant increase in the deer population which could mean a detrimental impact on their ecosystem, which may lead to further problems. Please reconsider and allow time for proper research, there is funding available and aspiring Master's students willing to do the work. Thank you.</p>   |
| <p>I oppose the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. Trapping is inhumane and an archaic practice and we should not be trapping wolves. Leg hold traps are cruel and should be banned. Saving the last of our old growth forests in which the wildlife thrive should be our main priority. The Ndp are very misguided in their attempt to preserve deer populations by trapping wolves. Thank you.</p>   |



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| <p>Please accept this submission as part of the consultation for the proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. We strongly oppose this proposal for a number of reasons - it is based on anecdotal reports that wolf numbers seem to be increasing, but there is no recent reliable, science-based population count of wolves on the island (the last population estimate is from 1994), nor any measurable data to suggest the population is in fact increasing. Even if wolf populations are confirmed scientifically to have increased, that alone does not justify lengthening the trapping season. Similarly, there is no reliable evidence to suggest that any decline in ungulates is necessarily due to wolf populations - any decline in ungulates must be researched in-depth. We also oppose lengthening the trapping season due to the increased risk of non-target species being caught in these traps, not to mention the safety issues facing the public and domestic animals. The provincial government has stated that they will be moving forward with a broader consultation process for a renewed wildlife management strategy for the province in 2018, but this one-off policy fails to align with the government's acknowledgements that a renewed strategy is needed. Instead, it seems more in-line with the previous government's tendency to scapegoat predators. In addition, the lack of reliable, measurable data surrounding this proposal is incredibly worrisome and dangerous. For these reasons, we are calling on the provincial government to reject this proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season and instead move forward with the process of updating the province's wildlife management strategy so that it is science-based, conservation-focused and aligned with the values of the vast majority of British Columbians.</p> |
| <p>"I am against instituting a longer trapping season for wolves in Vancouver Island. The only information being used to justify the extension is anecdotal. Unless it can be scientifically proven that wolves are causing a significant, long-term decline in deer populations, there is no reasonable justification for extending the trapping season from September through June. Ethically, it should also be noted that this trapping season includes months when wolves are pregnant, giving birth, and caring for young pups (which may themselves be trapped). This is not sound wildlife management. Thank you."</p> <p>I too have seen the wolf population on the WCVI increase and become significantly more bold in their behaviour. Have seen Wolves in Bamfield walk through the town, and along the beaches of Tofino. These animals are only engaging in this behaviour due to the reduction in prey species. It will only be a matter of time until someone is critically injured or killed. I suspect that NOT expanding the trapping season would be seen as a liability on the part of the MFLNRO. Based on your studies on Blacktail deer densities, and increased circumstantial evidence of the increased population of wolves, I fully support the expansion of the trapping season. As a matter for the record, I have no affiliations with trapping or with anyone who is a trapper. Thank you.</p>  |
| <p><b>Wolf trapping and culling are cruel practices that cause these intelligent, familial, and sentient animals to suffer greatly under the completely false pretenses of conservation. Stop this barbaric slaughter!!!</b></p> <p>I am writing to voice my opposition to the proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. The decision to increase the length of wolf trapping on Vancouver Island is based on nothing more than the word of people who have a vested interest in wolves being eliminated, hunters and guide outfitters. There is no data to support this decision nor has there been any research to justify this proposal therefore this proposal should not even be considered. If in fact there is a declining deer population being seen in northern management units rather than extending a trapping season for wolves ? along with increasing the number of non-targeted animals killed ? the government should along with data and research, look at habitat protection for deer and better enforcement of hunting activities (more conservation officers). This would also be an important first step in helping curb poaching along with hunters taking more than their bag limit. Surveying how many deer First Nations are taking should also be taken into consideration when looking at a declining deer population. Until the number of wolves is known on Vancouver Island, along with the data, research and other considerations that may be factors into a possible declining deer population an increase in the wolf trapping season should not even be considered.</p>  |
| <p>This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward. Thank you for your consideration on the invalidity of the application of this bill based on the lack of information.</p>  |
| <p>How dare you use my tax dollars to pay for the slaughter of innocent beings. The rationale behind the so-called wolf ?cull? is appalling and nonsensical. The deer populations are on decline due to human expansions and human wildlife conflict. Killing one animal does not protect or ?save? another and anyone that supports human intervention in nature is uneducated. We have seen though multiple wolf cull campaigns that do not work.. Look at Yellowstone national park and Banff national park where wolf culls were unsuccessful and had terrible impacts on the entire ecosystem of the national parks. Furthermore, there is discussion surrounding the fur trade for the fashion industry. Again this is completely misguided as many of the major fashion designers are turning away from real fur because their customers are demanding a change. The trapping of wolves in BC is only continued so that people can make money. Simple. And I for one as a tax payer have had enough. This is not the last time you will hear from me and I will encourage everyone I know to stand up again the current government to put an end to this horrific slaughter once and for all. Shame on all of you.</p>   |
| <p>There is no need to manage nature - it does a better job on its own. It is a joke to assume that we can do a better job. Wolves are valuable to the ecosystem - look at Yellowstone Park to see how the reintroduction of wolves improved the diversity of the ecosystems/flora/fauna. Trapping animals is very cruel and unnecessary. Fur is a disgusting material that should be made illegal, as much as ivory is. Eco tourism is a much more ethical and lucrative industry than fur. It is shameful that in this modern world Canada still allows this barbaric practice to go on for the like of the fashion industry to profit from such pain. It is a disgrace. Once people have access and practice in harming animals, they may go on to do the same thing to people. Murder is wrong. Why do we think it is OK to do this to other sentient beings? Only psychopaths can find this enjoyable and people shouldn't be forced to do this for work. First nations hunted to survive, but now we do it to make money. That shows complete disrespect to these beings. Yet, First Nations kept this land pristine for 10,000 years. Soon there will be nothing left. We have to save the planet right now and show kindness to every person, animal and plant, on land and in the sea. Governments need to lead the way and bring about the change which everybody is craving and needs. Killing wolves is not the answer.</p>   |
| <p>It's alarming to me that the strongest justification for a wolf cull is anecdotal sightings by hunters who have a vested interest in an unbalanced ecosystem weighing more heavily on the side of ungulate population. Justifying a cull simply because of logistical issues with conducting a survey is an embarrassment. All wildlife agencies with any modicum of self respect should strive to do all that can be done within their power to conduct accurate unbiased surveys before condoning a cull that will threaten unique populations of wolves as well as unbalance the ecosystem therein. Please do better.</p>   |

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| <p>This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward. I do not believe that we humans have any right managing (mismanaging) nature. What happens next when deer populations get too high because wolves were killed? Then will deer be culled in an endless cycle of killing both species? It seems pretty basic and clear that we must stop interfering and let nature balance itself.</p> <p>I fully support the extension of wolf trapping season to support the recovery of ungulates in our area. As a resident, hunter and a past trapper I have never witnessed such an increase in populations in my experience. Deer are almost non-existent and in our local small community wolves have often appeared on the fringes of the town. We frequently hear them call during the night and with any snowfall their tracks are easy to find. Recently (last summer) DFO towed in the carcass of a humpback whale to a Holberg Inlet bay. It was a feeding place for wolves for months after as local pilots observed making their approach to our town. I support diversified wildlife populations, but with human impacts, ie roads everywhere, predators have a vastly increased advantage.</p> <p>I strongly oppose this proposal. If the wolf population is increasing, it does not justify extending the trapping season. The evidence presented does not provide a clear connection between a decrease in ungulate population and the wolf population. The ungulate population decrease should be investigated fully before making an irrational decision to destroy wolves. I also lengthening the trapping season due to the increased risk to domestic animals and other non-target species being caught in these traps. It is an inhumane way of causing unnecessary pain to animals. The people of British Columbia do not support or want this. Your strategy should be science-based and conservation-focused.</p> |  |
| <p>Wildlife is suffering from wolf predation making it beneficial to lengthen the trapping season.</p> <p>Scientific studies to show that wolf populations are increasing have not been done. Instead anecdotal information is obtained from possibly biased sources who may have ulterior motives such as the increase of deer for their own hunting needs. It is understood that scientific studies are expensive, but that is not a good reason to propose a policy change based on unreliable anecdotal data. Public policy cannot be changed without some type of study that is scientific and neutral. This policy change should not go ahead. Furthermore, a more extensive public input process is needed as most people are not aware of the BCEID process.</p> <p>Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.</p>  |  |
| <p>Against this proposal to lengthen brutal wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island, instead, trapping should be prohibited! There is NO reliable, measurable count on Wolves on Vancouver Island (the last population count of a small section of the island was in 1994, according to the proposal); There is no reliable, measurable data that would suggest changes in populations of wolves on Vancouver Island; There is an implied connection between the alleged increase in wolf sightings and decrease in deer population, but no evidence given of a causal link, nor any further information on the deer populations (such as cause, research, etc.); There is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed by these traps and how many more wolves and other species the proposal would lead to being killed; and, There is no rationale explaining why an increase of wolves, if there is one, requires an extended trapping season. The proposal also fails to acknowledge the trapping-related safety issues for domestic animals and people alike. The AHTE site requires login to the BCEID system, and it does not appear that significant effort was made to include all stakeholders in the process. Please do NOT prolong brutal trapping season which causes so many animals to suffer!</p>  |  |
| <p>This is by far, one of the most BOGUS plans that shows zero real scientific proof that this helps with any sort of ?deer? populations. More deer are hit by cars a year then killed by wolves (specifically coastal wolves). I don't know why the government can't see the ecological importance these creatures have on our eco-system. The fact that you use cruel methods to slaughter them is on an entirely other level. I will do everything in my personal power to spread awareness and stop this pathetic attempt to satisfy some sort of political or financial motive. If this is what the BC wildlife agency is putting their efforts in, then they all deserve to be fired and a formal investigation done on this sector of government to find out what kind of corruption they are into.</p>  |  |
| <p>This decision to lengthen the trapping season is not based on science or any reliable data. Leg traps are inhumane and should not be used. Rather than cull wolves to boost caribou numbers humans instead should make changes. We should be working at protecting caribou woodland by minimizing out impact on the environment.</p>   |  |
| <p>This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward. Furthermore, trapping - and indeed the fur industry as a whole - is an inherently cruel and unnecessary industry which has no place in modern society; every effort should be made to eradicate this repugnant practice rather than expanding its despicable reach. Trapping has been illegal in the UK since the 50's - when will Canada catch up with the rest of the world and stop defining itself with cruelty?</p>  |  |
| <p>With a background as an and treeplanter among other jobs, this proposal seems to cater to primary desires of our own species, rather than reflect on what species were present in large numbers historically hundreds of years ago. A missing area of exploration in the science presented here would be to acknowledge the primary land area use across North America, which is undoubtedly habitat loss due to various crop complexes. There are many journals and papers on the topic and proposed solutions. There would be greater quantity and varied animal species if there were more appropriate habitat to support these animals, not to mention it would make a huge dent in climate change. Don't believe me; just ask the experts who may have nothing to gain directly, depending on who you ask of course.</p>  |  |
| <p>We represent hundreds of thousands of supporters both in British Columbia and abroad and remain completely opposed to the inhumane and cruel trapping proposal for wolves on Vancouver Island. There is no peer-reviewed data or field-based science to support such a policy change and we would request a copy of all the anecdotal information that this policy change is being based on. To be clear killing highly social animals such as wolves by such inhumane methods should be banned. If this proposal goes forward it will be against the wishes and values of the majority of British Columbia residents while causing negative economic impacts by reduced wildlife based tourism.</p>   |  |

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| I oppose the lengthening of the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. The coastal wolves of Vancouver Island are genetically distinct and globally rare. The highly social nature of these family groups or packs is severely disrupted when one member of the pack is lost. From the rational posted on the government website the decision to lengthen the trapping season is purely based on anecdotal information. Is there proof that the lower deer population is due to the wolves? What is the actual trend in the deer population, is it actually lower? How much of the wolf's diet consists of deer? Has any research been done to verify how many deer have been taken by Hunters in the last 5 or 10 years? My belief is that the deer population is down due to over hunting and perhaps the number of deer tags issued to hunters in that region should be reduced so that the wolves have a better chance of surviving. I am a hunter and I support limited hunting where it is necessary and based on reliable field data. The biggest population of predators in the forest these days are hunters. Please reconsider the decision to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island until you have verifiable information to make a sound decision with.  |
| I would like to voice my extreme displeasure of this extension . Anecdotal evidence is not science and those giving this evidence are biased and will profit from a longer season. The cruelty here no longer has a place in our province and I expect better decisions from a modern government.   |
| On what scientifically researched basis are you supporting this decision other than anecdotal?<br>More studies need to be done before culling such high apex predators. Anyone remember first year biology ? Wolves are highly social animals which are integral to ecosystem function, in particular the wolves of Vancouver Island are genetically distinct and globally rare. This needs more science-backed research to be viable.  |
| Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.  |
| I am opposed to this.<br>There is no reliable, measurable count on wolves on Vancouver Island (the last population count of a small section of the island was in 1994, according to the proposal); There is no reliable, measurable data that would suggest changes in populations of wolves on Vancouver Island; There is an implied connection between the alleged increase in wolf sightings and decrease in deer population, but no evidence given of a causal link, nor any further information on the deer populations (such as cause, research, etc.); There is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed by these traps and how many more wolves and other species the proposal would lead to being killed; and, There is no rationale explaining why an increase of wolves, if there is one, requires an extended trapping season. The proposal also fails to acknowledge the trapping-related safety issues for domestic animals and people alike. The AHTE site requires login to the BCeID system, and it does not appear that significant effort was made to include all stakeholders in the process.  |
| The Rationale for this proposed change clearly states that the Ministry does not have any recent or reliable data on Vancouver Island wolf populations. The wolf is well-known as an elusive species and one for whom anecdotal observation does not present a reliable picture of its health as a population. Furthermore, the Ministry proposes to act based on the information provided by "trappers, resident hunters and guide outfitters". These are not neutral parties. These are people who have a vested interest in killing more wolves. This is not sound data on which to increase the trapping season for wolves. The Ministry has an obligation to the public to take a conservative stance with respect to authorizing the organized killing of wildlife. It should act only based on population estimates carried out in a methodologically sound fashion by neutral parties. If the government is not willing to fund such research, the government must not expand the trapping season in its absence. I am a resident of northern Vancouver Island and spend a lot of time in backcountry areas that are known to be populated by wolves. It is rare to see definitive wolf signs and rarer still to see actual wolves. I strongly question the anecdotal evidence provided by guide-outfitters and trappers - who, again, have a clear profit motive - with regard to increased wolf populations. Furthermore, with respect to ungulate populations, it would irresponsible to conflate reduced ungulate density with greater wolf populations in the absence of credible evidence of increased mortality to predation. Prime habitat on the North Island, for wolves and large ungulates, continues to be threatened by logging activity including the construction of new resource roads. Additionally, the Ministry appears to have insufficient data to recognize the distinct sub-populations of wolves that exist throughout Vancouver Island and ensure that trapping activity does not unduly impact any one specific sub-population. Therefore, given the absence of any credible data to suggest that the population of wolves on Vancouver Island is able to sustain increased trapping, I oppose this proposal <b>s.22</b> |
| I oppose the proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season in Region 1<br>This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.  |

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| I am 100% opposed to increasing the length of wolf trapping season in Region 1 or any Region in BC. In addition, I do not support any intention nor efforts to maintain an economy for Canada based upon fur trade with other countries (ie. "... European wild fur market. As the world's fashion centre, the European Union remains an important market for North American wild fur". The rationale behind the proposed increase in trapping outlines that the evidence regarding wolf population increases is anecdotal. Although the deer population may have been recorded to have gone down, predator prey numbers fluctuate and are not static. It makes sense that the wolf population is rebounding and recovering from previous efforts to eradicate them if their numbers are indeed increasing. Regardless, an increase in population does not authorise nor necessitate increased killing. Furthermore, scientific evidence has shown that indiscriminately killing wild canids can lead to increased density, and a break down in social structure and ecological functioning. Smaller packs and dispersing individuals also kill more per capita than larger packs. Killing wolves can also lead to serious ecological repercussions, such as a release in primary prey or mesopredators. Of important note, research continues to show that the most of the healthy ungulate populations in North America also host healthy wolf (and other carnivore populations); thus preventing and limiting disease transfer for serious threats to ungulates such as Chronic Wasting Disease, see <a href="http://mountainjournal.org/predators-and-chronic-wasting-disease">http://mountainjournal.org/predators-and-chronic-wasting-disease</a> . Furthermore, neck killing snares do not meet AIHTS standards; nor the standards set forward by the Canadian Council on Animal Care for a humane death; the musculature and trachea of wolves leaves victims suffering in great pain and distress for several hours. In addition, more baited snares equates to more non-target deaths as well. Snares do not discriminate. Not only will wolves die and suffer, so too will myriad other animals, eg. <a href="http://calgaryherald.com/news/local-news/snares-meant-for-wolves-catch-a...">http://calgaryherald.com/news/local-news/snares-meant-for-wolves-catch-a...</a> Increasing snares on the landscape in BC is irresponsible, unwarranted, and unethical. Far too many wolves are trapped and killed in BC each year as it is, using inhumane methods. I believe we need to focus efforts on learning to co-exist and prevent conflicts, not just absently kill the animals that share our amazing province and country. |
| Coastal wolves are among some of the most unique wildlife on Earth. They have adapted to their environmental challenges living along the coast leading to unique behaviors and characteristics different than the typical wolf. Trapping these wolves has no scientific support in defending the assumption that deer populations will increase. In fact, most similar studies have shown that predators are essential to balancing the ecosystem and ensuring the long term survival of the species they prey upon. This extension is short sighted and it would be an atrocity to see these wolves lost to trapping. I for one am willing to pay big money to travel to Vancouver island and area to see these wolves alive, not on someones wall or clothing.  |
| I do not support this at all. Why are wolves considered low conservation concern status when limited inventorying has been done? It is illogical to base policy like this on anecdotal evidence. The coastal wolves of Vancouver Island are genetically distinct and globally rare, and should be studied, not killed. Leg hold traps are inhumane, cruel and should be banned. It's a barbaric practice that has no place in our province. There is no reliable, measurable count on wolves on Vancouver Island (the last population count of a small section of the island was in 1994, according to the proposal). What is shocking is the rationale: you're not sure how many wolves there are (because finding out properly is ?costly and difficult?) Also, The proposal also fails to acknowledge the trapping-related safety issues for domestic animals and people alike. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward. Side Note: I don't know how the cruel trapping of any animal in this day and age is acceptable in any way shape or form. I do not support the fur industry because it just plain cruel and I for one would like to see the end of it. It is so very cruel to do that to any living being and I don't know where we have any right to subject any animal to such a sadistic death.  |
| Please do not lengthen wolf hunting season. There is NO SCIENCE to back up a decision to do that. Please ban leg hold traps. Give your heads a shake, think for a moment, and if you have any questions, ASK A BIOLOGIST!   |
| I am outraged at the suggestion of this and am completely against this as a resident of Vancouver Island.   |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.  |
| Increases in wolf population, increase trapper season. Makes sense.   |
| I'm sure there will be several political comments here. I support scientific management of wildlife and Wildlife managers.  |
| As a BC resident, born and raised, I strongly oppose this trapping regulation. It is incredibly short-sighted and completely overlooks the importance of the wolves as a keystone species on our coast. Using deer population control as reasoning for the regulation is ludicrous- deer are overrun on the island! Do as you have done to protect the grizzly and protect the wolf populations- they are equally as important to coastal marine habitat. We have the world's only temperate coastal rainforest of its kind and it's limited in protection as it is. Please do not pass this regulation!  |
| This seems an unnecessary and, certainly as articulated, currently insupportable regulatory change. This proposed change appears to be lacking the basic data required to support such a drastic alteration. There is no confirmed current or even recent data on wolf populations and no peer-reviewed research. There is no explanation, cited/linked research, or serious and supportable rationale offered to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained and unsupported supposition of a change in deer population. The proposal appears to rest on anecdotal statements presented as evidence from consumptive-users, an obviously vested special interest group that is overly represented. The proposal is therefore clearly lacking in scientific justification. The lack of real evidence, serious and clearly cited scientific research, and general information regarding these assertions is alarming, given the consequences and impacts on a wild species, at a time of anthropogenic environmental upheaval, such a regulatory change would have. Given the weakness of this proposal, and the lack of data and research to support its suppositions and speculations, I expect and encourage the government to reject it and demand peer-reviewed and independent research before any similar proposals are brought forward. Additionally, I expect and encourage the government to require a much broader representation of interests be included in any such future proposals and their consideration, including a balance between those engaged in independent scientific research, those engaged in wildlife conservation and environmental protection, and those with vested financial interests advocating such proposals.  |
| Keep the wolves wild. Leave them be.  |
| Do not let this barbaric practice continue. I am firstly dismayed that leg hold trapping continues but in addition you are considering lengthening the season in which this incredible animal could be exposed to this horrendous practice. This is not about wildlife management but rather sadistic, lazy bureaucrats taking the easy way out. Shame on you for not protecting a Canadian legacy. Do the right thing and stop this insanity.  |
| Support implementation for deer recovery.   |
| Please do not extend the season for such an already inhumane process of trapping  |

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| I am strongly opposed to the wolf hunt on Vancouver Island. If there was data to support the need for this, I might not have as strong objections but to do this without the data is just short-sighted, naive and objectionable on so many levels. The 40 or so wolves  a couple years back when the government thought there was a need there was disgusting. I realize ranchers are put out by the occasional wolf killing their cattle but that is a cost of business?not a reason to sacrifice beautiful animals that for the most part keep to themselves.  |
| Should be open all year round as they are to blame for the low deer numbers up in 1-10   |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.   |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.   |
| Please protect our wolves and do not allow them to be inhumanely trapped and hunted. How are snares and leg hold traps possibly humane? Is "maintaining access to the EU wild fur market" really a justifiable reason to inhumanely kill Canada's wildlife? You state that limited wolf inventory has been conducted so how can insufficient research be used as facts for an argument when comparing with ungulate numbers? This seems like an untested bandaid fix for a much bigger problem. Howabout we spend more time on dealing with bigger issues such as habitat loss, instead of a quick and unresearched "fix" as lengthening an inhumane hunting season.   |
| With no evidence of benefit and strong public opposition from citizens across Canada, I lend my voice to the call to NOT extend the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. Vancouver Island wolves are a unique population and should not be threatened, targeted and subject to inhumane hunting and culling practices. It is a shame that any level of Canadian government encourages the purposeful destruction of wildlife. Please do not extend wolf trapping on Vancouver Island, and please look to ban inhumane hunting practices like leg trapping.  |
| universal predator control is good for ungulate populations  |
| agree that increase measures to control wolf population on Vancouver Island is warranted.  |
| Keeping predators in check will help improve the ungulate populations  |
| Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward. |
| I am against instituting a longer trapping season for wolves in Vancouver Island. The only information being used to justify the increase is anecdotal. Until it can be scientifically proven that wolves are causing a significant, long-term decline in deer populations, there is no reasonable justification for extending the trapping season from September through June. Ethically, it should also be noted that this trapping season includes months when wolves are pregnant, give birth, and caring for young pups (which may themselves be trapped). This is not sound wildlife management. Thank you.  |
| Do not lengthen trapping of wolves. This is an inhumane, cruel and disgusting mistake decided and carried through by weak individuals. This must stop.   |
| Hi, I am an avid outdoors man, born and raised on Vancouver Island. Wolves have long since been eradicated or pushed out of the majority of Vancouver island. To extend the trapping season here could pose a serious threat to the health of the Vancouver Island Wolf population as well as many other species. What gives a select few the right to inhumanly kill something that I and many others hold so close to our hearts. What gives you the right to authorize an extension of this trapping season based on ?anecdotal? evidence provided by potentially biased interest groups. The fur trade should be an industry of the past because the world no longer supports an abundance of fur bearing animals. The Vancouver Island Wolf is the heart and soul of our most wild places. Please do not extend the trapping season for the wolves here and please re-assess the cultural and environmental costs related to the hunting and trapping of wolves.  |
| Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward. |
| This is an inhumane, unethical, and belligerent "solution" to the problem. This is also only a temporary and insufficient idea to eradicate the issue.   |
| I oppose wolf trapping entirely. It is extremely inhumane. In addition, wolves are integral to ecosystems and we really have no idea of the ramifications. Look at what happened to Yellowstone when they reintroduced wolves there. All previously missing parts of the ecosystem that us humans didn't even think about came back and nature balanced itself. <a href="https://www.nationalgeographic.org/media/wolves-yellowstone/">https://www.nationalgeographic.org/media/wolves-yellowstone/</a>  |
| This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.   |
| Please change the and drop the regulatory trapping of wolves. Ensure proper research is conducted before the trapping is done.   |

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| <p>Please do not extend the length of wolf trapping season. The data you are using to propose this issue is outdated and inaccurate when used to make decision in current day. Please see the positive benefits noted when Yellowstone park reinstated wolves to the park. Nothing but positive impacts on the biosphere. This continent culled wolves many times in the past with nothing but negative impacts on the environment, guilt, and regret. We live in an era in which we should be cleaning up our mistakes from the past and not repeating them. Wolf populations are no where near the levels they have been in British Columbia in the past and extending trapping season will just be putting more unnecessary anguish on their already difficult existence. Never have problems been properly solved by allowing more deaths on the wild animals we, as Canadians, are so lucky to share our home with. The beautiful ecosystems of British Columbia can self regulate themselves so perfectly as they have been for millions of years, the only time we see problems are when we think we should step in and interfere.</p> |
| <p>This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.</p>   |
| <p>There is no science or field research to support such a misguided decision and there is no ethical consideration of committing a highly social animal to such extreme cruelty. Leg hold traps are inhumane and should be banned. Stop using wolves as a scapegoat for inadequate habitat protection for Elk and other animal populations. ☹️🐾</p>  |
| <p>I fully support this, also any vacant or non utilized traplines need to be used or sold to new trappers.</p>   |
| <p>To whom this may concern, I have hunted the Nimpkish Valley for ☹️🐾 years. In that time I have seen hardly any wolf sign. Also, I might add, that I was a contractor for the BC Forestry service ☹️🐾. Also, I was employed by ☹️🐾. In the years that I was employed, there was never a wolf problem. I am opposed to the current regulations on the trapping and hunting of all Vancouver Island wolves. The First Nations do not condone the trapping and hunting of the wolf. The First Nations see the wolf as sacred. I would suggest that the powers to be end this draconian mentality.</p>  |
| <p>As a Vancouver Island resident, and avid outdoor user I fully support extending the trapping season for wolves.</p>  |
| <p>The government of BC should be protecting our unique local wildlife, not putting forward legislation contributing to the decline of these species. Please do not extend the wolf trapping season in British Columbia.</p>  |
| <p>The Vancouver Humane Society opposes the proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island for several reasons. The proposal itself relies on anecdotal reports suggesting that wolf populations are on the rise, instead of utilizing reliable, science-based measures. There is also no recent science-based wolf inventory for the area, with the last population estimate being done in 1994. Research has shown that any increased wolf predation is the result of human-caused changes to habitat. Therefore, the government should further investigate any declines in ungulate populations and focus efforts on habitat protection/restoration, rather than scapegoating wolves through predator management tactics. Ultimately, leg-hold traps are inhumane and should be banned. Both target and non-target species caught in these traps suffer greatly and these traps also pose a safety risk to the public and domestic animals.</p>   |
| <p>This is completely unacceptable, inhumane and unscientific approach to dealing with wild animals. There is wast amount of research that wolfs not only do not pose harm to deer but make the species even stronger by eliminating weak and sick animals. Not only we shouldn't extend wolf trapping season but we should completely ban killing wolves altogether. It is shameful that the new BC government is catering to small group of lobbyists instead of following reason and being ethical. We are living in 21st century, if you are concerned about deer, focus on protecting its habitat and decrease negative human impact. I'm utterly dissapointed and shoked that BC government would even consider such a proposal. Ban wolf trapping and hunting altogether!!!</p>  |
| <p>I support</p>  |
| <p>I am completely shocked by the explanation for the extension of wolf trapping. How does something with 0 basis pass through this government. This is obnoxiously lazy and alarming. This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.</p>   |
| <p>Although predator control is an important aspect in any environment, I strongly disagree with the way this would control the wolf population in B.C. By allowing hunters to hunt wolves 10 months out of the year would have a devastating effect on this wolf population. Another aspect is the allowance of trapping of these beautiful creatures. Snares, leg hold traps are incredibly cruel as they do not allow the quick death of the wolf. If the hunter has forgotten or has lost where he/she has set the trap, the wolf caught in these traps could suffer for days on end and suffer a horrendous and slow death if not found. Please do not allow these wolves to be shamelessly killed in such a cruel fashion, and protect the wolves so that future generations would get to see and experience one of B.C. most adaptable and beautiful predators.</p>  |
| <p>I believe in addressing the issues of pedator control and habitat loss/access before shortening hunting seasons</p>  |
| <p>Stop trapping. Stop killing. Stop GPS tracking to wipe out pack families . Less than 2% of our biomass is free. Hunting is a thing of the past. We have a problem with the populations of our deer? Then find alternatives . Start taking responsibility for the fact that humans are at fault for this and leave the innocent (wolves) out of your "conflict resolution "</p>   |
| <p>Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.</p>   |
| <p>This is not acceptable, wolves are nearing extinction. Also, trapping is cruel and barbaric. Humans need to save the wolves, they are an important part of the eco system.</p>   |

There should be no extension to this wolf hunting season on Vancouver Island. I don't believe there should be a hunting season on this island at all. I believe this to be true. Please accept this submission as part of the consultation for the proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. We strongly oppose this proposal for a number of reasons - it is based on anecdotal reports that wolf numbers seem to be increasing, but there is no recent reliable, science-based population count of wolves on the island (the last population estimate is from 1994), nor any measurable data to suggest the population is in fact increasing. Even if wolf populations are confirmed scientifically to have increased, that alone does not justify lengthening the trapping season. Similarly, there is no reliable evidence to suggest that any decline in ungulates is necessarily due to wolf populations - any decline in ungulates must be researched in-depth. We also oppose lengthening the trapping season due to the increased risk of non-target species being caught in these traps, not to mention the safety issues facing the public and domestic animals. The provincial government has stated that they will be moving forward with a broader consultation process for a renewed wildlife management strategy for the province in 2018, but this one-off policy fails to align with the government's acknowledgements that a renewed strategy is needed. Instead, it seems more in-line with the previous government's tendency to scapegoat predators. In addition, the lack of reliable, measurable data surrounding this proposal is incredibly worrisome and dangerous. For these reasons, we are calling on the provincial government to reject this proposal to lengthen the wolf trapping season and instead move forward with the process of updating the province's wildlife management strategy so that it is science-based, conservation-focused and aligned with the values of the vast majority of British Columbians. I do not believe that serious studies have been made on this topic or species counting. Hunters of wolves need to stop this slaughter. Fur markets should be banned worldwide. There are better ways to deter problem populations in the environment, decimation is not an option for healthy environments and animal populations. Thank you.

Trapping is inhumane and cruel. Wolves are an important part of the ecosystem and should be left alone

Re: Proposal 2018-1-10 to lengthen wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island This proposed regulatory change fails to provide the basic data required to support a decision to expand wolf trapping on Vancouver Island. There is no confirmed research on current or recent wolf populations, there is no peer-reviewed research from the anecdotal evidence provided by consumptive-users, and there is no information on current wolf trapping numbers, by-catch/non-target species caught or killed, or how this increased season would impact those numbers. Additionally, there is no explanation, linked research, or actual rationale to connect the alleged change in wolf populations with the unexplained/possibly unresearched change in deer population. The lack of information regarding these statements is alarming, and I expect the government to reject this proposal and demand further research before any similar proposals are brought forward.

Let the wolves be

#### Region 1 - Vancouver Island Regulation # 2018-1-11: Allow Shooting and Hunting on Mayne Island - Voting Results = Support (34) / Neutral (1) / Oppose (26)

makes sense. Island is over run with deer!

Fully agree there needs to be more hunter opportunity on mayne. Hundreds of deer are currently culled by farmers already.

Some great changes coming

Great idea! Hunter opportunities are very strong on Mayne

I am opposed to any change to the status quo. Discharge of firearms must continue to be limited to permit holders with rifles only. This a peace and public safety issue. Do NOT authorize any revision to the current rules.

I oppose allowing all wildlife hunting on Mayne, other than fallow deer which are an invasive species and are detrimental to our flora and fauna

reduce paperwork / admin and allow hunting on this island. overall activity will likely be governed by landowner permission anyhow, but reducing red tape for hunters & administrators is a good thing

Fallow Deer on Mayne Island: An Environmental disaster is currently impacting our Island landscape. Fallow deer are non-native to North America, were imported to be farmed, subsequently escaped and now run rampant on Mayne. They are destroying habitat, the understorey of our forests and starving out local species. Black Tail Deer are also rampant; it's time to consider culling the native deer too. The habitat is already destroyed - not one Arbutus seedling to be found in the local area for the last 10 years unless it's behind a fence.

I am not a hunter, and really would prefer people not to be shooting guns on the island, but I nevertheless support allowing hunting on Mayne Island because the island is severely overpopulated with deer. This isn't good for the deer or for the native plants. There are no "natural" predators to keep the deer population in check so it is up to humans to do so. Absent an alternative plan to cull the deer population, I think allowing hunting is the best way forward.

Hunting should be allowed by anyone that may wish to do.

I fully support a non-rifle hunt on Mayne Island for Fallow deer and also for Blacktail deer, within the regulations. If there are concerns about hunters on Mayne Island using shotguns, who would still require landowner permission, you could perhaps consider an archery-only hunt on the island. A bow and crossbow hunt for invasive deer (and blacktail deer, within the regs) would be a great opportunity for resident hunters like me who live in downtown Vancouver and are closer to the Gulf islands than we are to the interior. I really hope the province approves this change.

Please do not allow open hunting on Mayne. We have recognized hunters to help control the fallow tail deer already. We do not want recreational hunters coming to our quiet island, disturbing our peace with gunfire. We also don't want to have to worry about the safety of our children when we send them off to explore the forest, or our dogs, should they be wandering in the bush. Residents have already had off-island hunters trespassing on their property. We don't need any more. Lepp our little island quiet, peaceful and safe, and respect the black-tail deer and other small animals.

This is a perfect idea for this small island and human population ?yes

We purchased property on Mayne Island to enjoy as a vacation place for our family, and eventually retire. We have enjoyed taking our grandchildren there as well, feeling comfortable and safe in the community. I feel there is no room for hunting on Mayne Island, it's too populated with people, children and pets to allow this. If somebody gave a hunter permission to hunt on their property, there is no guarantee that a bullet from a gun would stay in the range of the property!! There are many trails and wooded hiking areas that are remote where people like to walk and enjoy nature, I myself would be extremely disturbed to hear or see hunters. One of the reasons we were drawn to Mayne Island was there was no hunting. I urge you to please NOT allow hunting on Mayne. When we drive off the ferry with our grandkids, they are delighted to see a deer or two, sometimes we don't see any, I wouldn't know how to explain ?hunting? to them. Please, I urge you to not allow hunting here, Mayne Island will not be the tranquil peaceful place it always has been

I enthusiastically support this! There are economic as well as wildlife management opportunities available.

I oppose this. There have been articles in the news about hunters accidentally shooting people or in one case, a beloved therapy dog it mistook for a wolf.

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| Why is there not consideration of electronic reporting for spike/fork bull moose instead of compulsory inspection? You could get data for all moose harvesting and hunter effort. Electronic licensing has been implemented take the step forward.      |
| Anything to support gathering more data to inform management decisions is welcomed. Poke: Perhaps our politicians need to know that data is the tool by which management measures should be made and not social value biases guided by shifty politics. |
| When accurate harvest information is collected from First Nations hunters I will happily comply with this however, if that information is not also gathered from them, any info gathered from us is inconsequential                                     |

| Region 3 - Thompson Regulation # 2018-3-04: Create New LEH Hunting Opportunity for Mountain Goats, Adult Only<br>Voting Results = Support (15) / Neutral (0) / Oppose (7)  |
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| Give the population an opportunity to further increase before permitting hunting.  |
| I strongly support this, especially with the restricted access to the area south of the Stein River in 3-16 because of the Stryen Trail closures (which made my draw useless last year)  |
| LEH Goat opportunities opening up is always good. It allows hunters to once again "spread out" and not cause crowding in small areas of the province. Sounds sustainable.  |
| I oppose the proposal to create a new hunting opportunity for mountain goats.  |
| If the population has grown enough to allow some hunting, good idea to allow more opportunity with LEH   |
| not sustainable, not necessary   |
| Dear Sir/Madam I am writing to express my opposition to the hunting of mountain goats. The funding for the aerial surveys attesting to the population of mountain goats was provided by partisan, pro-hunting sources. We may as well survey foxes as to the safety of hen houses. In any case, even according to the pro-hunting sources, there are still not very many mountain goats in the region. These goats present no threat to other species of wildlife and are iconic animals in the area, beloved by tourists and locals alike. It would be incredibly short-sighted to allow their slaughter for no discernible environmental reason, other than the desire of a tiny minority of trophy hunters who kill for sport and ego.  |
| Awesome! Make it happen  |
| Thompson Rivers Animal Advocacy is a student club dedicated to providing a forum for education, advocacy, and scholarship aimed at protecting the lives and advancing the interests of animals through the legal system, and raising the profile of the field of animal law. Currently, there is no Mountain Goat Limited Entry Hunting opportunities for this hunt zone. As human activity has wiped out many animal predators, government hunting programs are viewed as a natural way to cull the herds of prey animals that exist beyond the environment's carrying capacity in the eyes of the government. Although there are arguments that have been advanced in support of population control, there does not seem to be practical considerations in the case before us; at present time the population hovers around 123 animals. TALA holds that the size of this very small population alone does not justify the need for creating a hunting opportunity where one has never existed. As a starting point, animal advocates view hunting as unethical, arguing that it is morally wrong to kill animals, regardless of practical considerations. Hunting causes immense suffering to individual wild animal and methods used to kill the animals are rarely humane. Often the animal is tracked down because of the blood trail they leave, with the terrified animal running and fighting for his or her life. They may even inflict mortal wounds that cause much suffering and agony but not a swift death. Further, despite claims that hunting keeps wildlife populations in balance, there is considerable evidence demonstrating that such activity often results in the loss of biological diversity, genetic integrity and ecological balance in addition to a myriad of problems. Thus, even if the population numbers supported considering such an opportunity (under traditional methods of assessment), there is much evidence to suggest that hunting for purposes of wildlife control does not achieve its ultimate objective and resultantly, causes unnecessary suffering. |
| Support increase in hunting opportunity and it adheres to management plan.   |
| Oppose   |
| WHY NOT??? THEY THRIVE IN THIS AREA! MORE MONEY FOR CONSERVATION AND GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS BETTER OPPORTUNITES FOR HUNTERS!  |
| Excellent use of most up to date information and HCTF money to assess a population and manage accordingly.   |
| Agree  |
| Any new hunting opportunity where sustainable are an excellent suggestion to our management units.   |

| Region 3 - Thompson Regulation # 2018-3-05: Trapper Exemption for the Clinton Creek Motor Vehicle Closed Area<br>Voting Results = Support (6) / Neutral (1) / Oppose (4)   |
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| allow trappers to access their lines with motor vehicles   |
| There is no reason to make this occupation more difficult.   |
| The proposed regulation opens more area than is specified as desirable to be grandfathered in the Rationale.   |
| I oppose this proposal to allow trapping exemptions on motor vehicle closed areas. Vehicle prohibitions should apply to ALL backcountry users equally - the research is clear in that motor vehicle usage has a negative impact on sensitive wildlife. Not only should this proposal be denied, but current exemptions elsewhere should also be revoked.   |
| no vehicles should be exempt. it defeats the whole purpose of a road closure. disabled persons should also be banned from operating vehicles in a road closure. going soft for certain groups on road closures shows holes in the system. if logging and habitat destruction continue at the current pace, road closures will be the only option in the future, going soft on them now, will make it harder for road closures to succeed in general. |
| This is a common sense regulation.   |



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| Make it limited entry.   |
| This should be put back to a LEH as the numbers of elk have dropped drastically. You cannot go from 4 LEH tags in the last year then go to a GOS the following year. Especially when not having a compulsory check when successful. What was the thinking on this? Not good! Also LEH system should have a pool system that allows everyone of being successful eventually on applying to these draws. Seems like a lot of same hunters draw LEH tags every year. Some hunters don't draw an LEH tag EVER!   |
| Agree but shorten gos for 6 point bulls in east kootenay as well. Elk numbers have decreased in most areas and quality of hunt has declined. Extend archery only season to Sept 25 to limit rifle hunting in the rut. Open rifle hunt sept 25 to allow rifle hunt for late portion of rut. Or eliminate rifle hunting until Oct 1. Access to elk range has seen dramatic increase in the past ten years allowing rifle hunters much better harvest opportunity. Almost all other elk hunting areas in North America have archery only restriction during the rut but allow rifle hunting at some point later in the year. Many of these areas have much higher elk numbers than in BC. |
| More a question than a comment. Is this shortened season going to apply to bow hunting as well? Or are the bow hunters still going to get an early season?   |
| I support this   |
| Support if LEH is the alternative.   |
| I oppose the October 01 to 20 unless the season in the East Kootenay is the same based on the lack of bull elk in the East Kootenays and the increase of hunter days that will occur in the East Kootenays   |
| I support the move to shorten the season.  |
| Elk hunters tend to go where they can hunt during the rut, this will only cause increase traffic and pressure in adjacent areas with the earlier rut opening. Changes for the sake of sex ratios is not warranted at this time, and there is always good carry-over in this area as the terrain dictates there is always an unhunted portion of the population.  |
| Eliminate the entire general open season in west Kootenays region. Our beards have taken a horrible hit since the 6pnt and better season was created. I propose going back to a 100% LEH bull elk season with revisiting and potential sky adding additional tags in a few years to help bring the numbers bac   |
| An LEH any bull hunt would result in the harvest over a broader age class instead of focusing the pressure on the best breeding bulls. It would also allow sustenance hunters a choice of a younger more tender meat and lessen the chance of wrongful ID & kills. Younger bulls are also more susceptible to predation and winter kills so this could reduce that mortality.  |
| I agree with the shortened season but still wonder if a "fair" limited entry season would give greater control to the number of bulls harvested.   |
| Bulls are now climbing higher than 20:100. Not many people hunt elk any more in the 4-14 to 4-19 areas. Young hunters are less and less, old hunters are to old for elk hunting.   |
| I am on board 100%. Should allow bow season for more hunter opportunities but still low harvest rate   |

| Region 4 - Kootenay Regulation # 2018-4-05: Shorten Kootenay Wolverine Trapping Season<br>Voting Results = Support (34) / Neutral (2) / Oppose (6)  |
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| Very little is known about their population any steps to increase their numbers must be done ASAP   |
| makes sense   |
| Given that the analysis isn't completed, and that preliminary results indicate that the average of 13 wolverine trapped per year is too many, and the population in various management units of Region 4 is estimated at being ONLY 10 wolverines, trapping of wolverines should be halted completely until the analysis is completed.  |
| I support this change   |
| shorter season may reduce overall wolverine harvest to some extent, though some incidental take is likely after the season is closed. not sure how this will be practically enforced  |
| When's the last time anyone saw a wolverine? Absolutely shorten the trapping season and get enforcement officers hired to make sure people are not trapping out of season.  |
| Since it has been established that the current wolverine hunt is unsustainable reducing the time of the hunt is a small step in the right direction, but a better step would be to stop the hunt until sufficient objective and quality information about the population's status can be established. When in doubt about sustainability, we need to stop and reevaluate our impact on the species rather than persist until it is too late.  |
| support   |
| Wolverines are solitary animals with huge ranges and they are sensitive to human activity. The wolverine population in the Kootenays is low. Studies are ongoing, but leading researchers suggest that wolverines should not be trapped at all in many parts of the Kootenays. The proposed trapping regulations would shorten the wolverine trapping season and this is a good start towards improving wolverine populations by reducing the number of wolverines killed.          |
| With the precipitous population declines, the trapping season should be further reduced. This is a start only. The modification should be monitored after one year.   |
| Maintain current season.  |
| As a backcountry user that frequents this area, I support this proposal to shorten the wolverine trapping season. But more importantly, I support ending the trapping of wolverines. This is a species that is especially sensitive to human activity, with large home ranges - meaning there likely isn't very many individuals in the Kootenays to begin with. To effectively protect this species in the long-term, the Ministry should end the trapping of wolverines entirely. |
| Yes shorten it. Humans have cause enough imbalance in nature and should not be given any more time to do more damage. it should be shortened even more  |
| I support this regulation. It is necessary to keep the wolverine population healthy. Would love to see the hunt end completely.   |
| the data shows that the same season has been going on since 1993 and the harvest average is 13 wolverine. There is no reason to change the season as the harvest is totally sustainable.  |
| More data is needed. It would be nice to see the ministry use data to make changes to regulations   |
| I would like to see a ban on all lynx and wolverine hunting   |
| I support a total ban on wolverine hunting and trapping.  |

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| <p>Taken from the British Columbia furbearer guidelines - "However, wolverines naturally occur at low density, have a relatively low reproductive potential, and are believed to have the lowest resilience to harvesting pressure of all the province's furbearers." "Since 1994, the wolverine has also been included on the provincial ?Blue List,? a rating indicating that it is considered vulnerable and of high management priority." With the quotes posted above - I don't understand how the wolverine is being trapped in certain areas of BC at all. The hunting of wolverine was closed in Kootenay region 4 for 2016-2018 season. I think the season should be reduced or eliminated completely but this is a step in the right direction.</p>   |
| <p>As a trapper I would still support that as an alternative to closing the season as it still provides an opportunity for the trapper take the species, but in a more managed way. definitely reduce the hunting season. It is critical we retain the wolverine and our claim 'Beautiful British Columbia' These animals are suffering habitat loss, and are disappearing across the country. It is imperative we retain the wolverines here in BC.</p>  |
| <p>I definitely support shortening the season. With the numbers in doubt and how large their territories are there should be NO season until scientific numbers can be verified.</p>  |
| <p>I don't think any wolverines should be harvested.</p>  |
| <p>I support this. cancel the wolverine hunt altogether. there are far fewer wolverines than there are grizzly bears.</p>   |
| <p>Strongly support.</p>  |
| <p>I support the proposal to reduce the number of wolverines trapped.</p>   |
| <p>Do not believe shortening the season will impact harvest</p>   |
| <p>Where is the science that allows killing wolverines? What are you people doing to our wildlife and province?</p>   |
| <p>Wolverines are solitary and rare animals in our region. Like all wildlife they are subject to pressure from development and human incursion into their habitat. I strongly oppose all trapping of wolverines! This activity should be banned. If we want to preserve this species we need to take strong action now, not wait until it is too late.</p>  |
| <p>You estimate there may be only 10 wolverines left in the region and you still allow a hunt...this is madness!! End this hunt!!</p>   |
| <p>Seems to address a legitimate concern.</p>   |
| <p>I support shortening the season, but really eliminating the barbaric hunt altogether is what I am ultimately hoping for. What does the killing a wolverine accomplish exactly? It is not killed for food, it is a trophy hunt. Any and all trophy hunting must be banned. It's a dated practice that serves no purpose. There are so very few wolverines, can we please leave them alone?</p>  |
| <p>Strongly agree with shortening season</p>  |
| <p>Wolverines are a keystone predator and are an indicator of healthy intact ecosystems. Wildsight is supportive of the shortening of the wolverine trapping season. However, there should be an outright ban on wolverine trapping in most/all MU's until there is data that supports a sustainable harvest of the species. There is limited information on wolverines across the Kootenay Boundary and there is a lack of science-based data to inform decision making on wolverine trapping. The impact of trapping wolverines could be affecting the future wolverine viability and connectivity of wolverines across the region. We know that wolverines exist at relatively low density in our region, are solitary animals with huge ranges, and are extremely sensitive to human activity. The government numbers justify that an unsustainable harvest is continuing. 10 percent of recorded wolverine mortality is due to trapping - double the calculated sustainable rate. A substantial overharvest of wolverines is likely occurring in the Kootenay Boundary region. Cleavanger et al 2016 observed that wolverine populations in the BC Southern Rockies exist at densities than were lower than previously thought. Similar studies in the Purcells and Selkirks suggest that wolverine populations and detections were lower than expected (Kortello et al 2014). An overharvest (both historic and current) could account for this low wolverine population. Areas like the South Purcells, where wolverines are believed to exist at low density could be particularly susceptible to overharvest (Lofroth and Ott 2007). An outright ban on trapping in most or all MU's in Kootenay-Boundary would likely allow wolverines populations to recover in the mid to short term.</p> |
| <p>This message is in regards to the Wolverine open season for trapping. BC Ministry wants to shorten the season. I disagree because of the simple fact bears are still active during the first week in December. Any baiting will attract them. As it stands now I don't put traps out until the first week in December because of bears in region 4. This may differ in other provinces or areas but this fact is true in this region. I only utilize 6 or 7 weeks of trapping at the present time. Therefore I strongly disagree to any changes to The Wolverine season dates. Sincerely, s 22</p>   |
| <p>While reducing the hunt is a step in the right direction, I feel that hunting of wolverines should be banned altogether.</p>   |
| <p>An estimated 13 wolverines per year have been trapped over the past two decades, with as many as 23 wolverines trapped in 2015. Wolverines are solitary animals with huge ranges, who are sensitive to human activity, so there aren't very many in the Kootenays. The province estimates that on average more than 10% of the total population in the Kootenay Boundary are killed by trappers every year. Studies are ongoing, but leading researchers tell us that wolverines shouldn't be trapped in many parts of the Kootenays. The proposed trapping regulations shorten the wolverine trapping season to reduce the number of wolverines killed, but I believe a ban on wolverine trapping is the most reasonable long-term solution.</p>  |
| <p>Any shortening of trapping seasons is a positive move towards protecting BC's wildlife</p>   |
| <p>Wolverine populations are always on the brink, being such a sensitive animal to human activity. There should be a complete moratorium on trapping wolverines.</p>  |
| <p>The proposed trapping regulations shorten the wolverine trapping season to reduce the number of wolverines killed, this is a step in the right direction, but in my opinion a ban on wolverine trapping is the most reasonable long-term solution.</p>   |
| <p>I spent two winters working on wolverine surveys in the South Rockies in BC (from Mount Assiniboine Provincial Park south to the Montana border). These surveys made it very clear that the wolverine population in this area of the Kootenays is not doing well. Outside of the Elk Lakes and Height of the Rockies Provincial Parks and a few other fairly inaccessible areas, wolverines were nearly nonexistent. Wolverines have a low reproductive rate, low population density, and large home range. What I saw in the South Rockies was very alarming and I feel very strongly that wolverine trapping needs to be fully banned if we are going to have any hope of recovering and maintaining a healthy population.</p>   |
| <p>I think wolverine hunting should be closed completely until we are sure the species has recovered sufficiently to ensure its sustainable survival. We don't need to hunt these animals for any good reason (food or pelt, as we have many other alternatives).</p>   |

**Region 4 - Kootenay Regulation # 2018-4-06: Kootenay Wolf Trapping Method Restrictions**  
**Voting Results = Support (16) / Neutral (3) / Oppose (13)**

makes sense

I support this change. Snare traps are unnecessary. Need to increase hunter participation in wolf hunting/culling.

simplifying and aligning regulations is a good thing

There should be no closed season for wolves in any MU's regardless of elevation. Hunters could contribute to wolf control if they had unlimited season in alpine areas.

Snares are a particularly hideous method of hunting. They should be banned entirely. This revised proposal provides no restrictions on bait use. This proposal is unacceptable. Wolves are intelligent and highly social animals. Given that the government has noted numerous increases in the size of ungulate populations, such that increases in numbers hunted are recommended, now is the time to stop hunting wolves and other predators.

Wolf's are destroying ungulate populations. If anything there should be a bounty put on them. Oppose this proposal 100 % !!!!

the use of killing snares is critical to wolf harvest and to shorten the use of them by 6 weeks is not necessary. the pelts are fully prime after October 15th and at times the trapper has a limited time when they are able to target the pack due to pack movement following the migration of they prey. with regards to domestic dogs the ministry need to do a MUCH better job at relaying to the public their responsibility at keeping their pets on leash and under control.

On my line s 22 we typically do not notice bear sign after Nov 15th. I don't set snares until I am confident we will not have any bears in the area of our bait station. I strongly disagree with shortening the season!!!

I support a total ban on all methods of killing wolves.

Ill informed ,cruel and unnecessary.

Not in favor of limiting tools in the trappers tool chest when targeting wolves. Not a conservation concern with bears and trapping of domestic pets is not a common occurrence (not suppose to be off-leash on crown land anyway).

Agree with time frame for baiting/snaring of wolves for trappers

We need more wolf trapping not less

Do not support any restriction that has possibility of killing less wolves. Govt should be flying and killing wolves all across B.C.!

This is a reasonable change to prevent non targeted species (bears) from being caught in a wolf snare. I wish to point out that most trapper use breakaway devices which is designed to hold a wolf but breakaway on larger species such as bears. In regards to the risk of dogs I believe trappers in general set in a manner as to prevent catching a dog. There is onus on dog owners to be cognizant that there are tapping seasons and to maintain control of their dogs. Irresponsible dog owners that choose to allow their dogs to run wild take on the risk of them being unintentionally caught.

Need the opportunity to bait before December 1st, wolves are gone by then

agree

do not support restricting predator management tools in an area where wolf numbers are on a rise. Trapping is not occurring in enough quantity to be a conservation concern.

You have no idea of the population numbers in the kootenays, you aerial cull them and allow trapping and dont have one person in the area doing accurate scientific accounts of the wolf population...this is irresponsible management.

I agree with the proposed change

Leave the wolves alone! I have just seen them return here in the Slocan area several years ago, but not recently. They are an important part of the ecosystem. Stop trapping them. Leg hold traps are inhumane.

Makes sense

I support this proposed regulation to reduce the number of injured grizzly bears from snares during this very active time of year for bears.

I am a little confused on this one. Just how big do you think wolves are in the Kootenays? You are afraid of trapping bears in a wolf trap? "reduces the risk of killing non target species, primarily bears" or trappers using bear traps to catch wolves? I don't get it.

**Region 4 - Kootenay Regulation # 2018-4-07: Close Syringa Park Limited Entry Hunting Bighorn Sheep Opportunity**  
**Voting Results = Support (27) / Neutral (3) / Oppose (7)**

Sounds like there should be an increase wolf and cougar bag limits in correlation to this.

Typical example of what the re-introduction of wolves and lack of hounds men to kil Cougars has done to a great hunting opportunity. Really bad management from the authorities.



makes sense

Should have never had a hunting season until the population was strong enough to support it. Access to area is incredibly easy. Unsure of past LEH success rate, but I would guess high until impossible to find a full curl ram in later years. Close season and look for options for re-introduction.

if the population is too low to support a LEH hunt, close it down untilk the situation improves

Closing the hunt is not going to affect the numbers as the success in this hunt is very low. I do agree that the predation is very high in this area and would like to see a higher bag limit from 1 to 2 for cougar to allow for more control of the cougar population.

Only support if this is backed by annual data collection and reviewed to reinstate when numbers rebound. Need to include wolf control program or increased hunting and trapping opportunities.

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| I support the closure of motor vehicle access to the Duck Lake dike rd, during the critical migration periods stated. I have experienced first hand the mortality impacts by motor vehicle access during both spring and fall periods. The "Volunteer, Dusk closure" for the past 2 years has been ineffective as there have been continued vehicle travel documented during these times. With the amount of funding and continued monitoring, this measure can have positive impact on this vulnerable species with minimal impact to those folks making use of the road during these times. Thank you   |
| After seeing numerous road mortalities from heavy traffic along the Duck Lake Dyke road during the fall migration of the frog (coinciding exactly with open hunting season), a mandatory seasonal road closure should be implemented immediately. The voluntary road closure of 2017 had virtually no effect on road use, as this is a popular hunting access and most users do not take the time to read the sign, and very few seem to accept the voluntary closure and choose not to use the road. As this NLF population is the last breeding population, every possible step to reduce known and preventable human caused mortalities must be taken. Closing the gate may cause short term local frustration, however the value of this measure greatly outweighs any position that defends keeping the road open during these peak times of frog use. The biodiversity and integrity of BC's ecosystems is at risk and must be taken seriously. As a member of the public who is a user of this area for recreation, personal interest in wetland species, and work, I strongly support this road closure.                        |
| I support any action, including this seasonal motor vehicle prohibition, to protect the endangered leopard frogs. There is a great need to make this closure mandatory.   |
| This is a no brainer of an idea.  |
| As a wildlife stewardship volunteer who has monitored road mortality of amphibians, I know the impact roads have on seasonal migrations. This seasonal motor vehicle prohibition is critical for the success of the Northern Leopard Frog and other at-risk species in the Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area. It is an embarrassment that BC has not implemented this prohibition sooner, given migration data if this at-risk species has been available for over 17 years. I wholly support this road closure and strongly suggest BC more actively implement wildlife protection measures across the province. Sincerely,   |
| I recognize the need to protect Northern Leopard Frog, an endangered species. I agree with prohibiting vehicles on the dyke AT NIGHT. There must be some way to close off the dyke at night: a solar powered automatic gate on a timer to open at 6 am and close at 6 pm. You would need some way that people going in near closing time could get out. You would also need a big sign saying they have to get out by 6 pm or be trapped. Alternatively, maybe a group like the Creston Field Naturalists could be given a key to open and close the gate. I am a member of this group, and would be willing to go out periodically to do this. I am concerned about the economic impact of this closure on the Creston Valley and the province. So many people come here specifically to see waterfowl during migration - the same periods for which you are proposing the closure. There must be a way for both the frogs and birders to be satisfied! Please consider alternatives to just closing off the area for such a long period. Thank you.  |
| Should be no need to go as late as Oct. 15. End of Sept. should be good enough  |
| this road closure is long overdue.  |

| Region 4 - Kootenay Regulation # 2018-4-12: Trapper Exemptions on existing Kootenay Region Motor Vehicle Closed Areas<br>Voting Results = Support (19) / Neutral (1) / Oppose (30)   |
|--|
| Thats insane these areas were set up for protection. Why do trappers have more rights then wildlife photographers. That tiny income they generate is not worth the demise of wildlife poulations that are clearly being overharvested  |
| I have concerns about the impact of snowmobile trails in these areas improving predator access to wintering ungulates. Furthermore I am worried about the lack of regulatory control an exemption would create. Requiring industrial and commercial users to acquire a permit allows habitat staff the ability to place conditions on the access which is critical in high value habitat. Issuing the permit for a 5 year period and waiving the processing fee would be a better move than eliminating government oversight.  |
| Given that AMA's are designed to help protect wildlife, and that AMA's cover only a paltry few percent of the back-country roads in BC, it hardly makes sense to reduce those protections even further for the purpose of allowing trappers to more efficiently access and kill the wildlife in those areas. Everyone in the province benefits from the protection of our wildlife, which makes us a tourist destination. Access Management Areas should apply to all back-country users equally. Instead of giving trappers motorized access to new areas, we should be rescinding their option to use motorized access in those AMA's where they are currently allowed.  |
| exemption for trappers was overlooked - this will rectify the situation  |
| Trapper support is needed in this Province. Predator numbers are way too high, so trappers require easier access to help to the situation.   |
| Access Management Areas should apply to all backcountry users equally.   |
| Across the Kootenays, a few percent of our backcountry roads have some level of motorized access restriction. These restrictions are in place to maintain important wildlife habitat. The research on backcountry roads is clear: the more roads and the more people there are using those roads, the harder life is for wildlife. For sensitive species like wolverines, caribou or grizzly bears, space to roam free of humans, their traps and their motorized vehicles is crucial. Allowing motor vehicle access to these areas for the purpose of trapping would present an "unnecessary burden" to the animals resident therein. Exemptions for trappers in other AMAs already make it harder to keep other motorized users out and create confusion. Existing exemptions should also be revoked. Access Management Areas should apply to all backcountry users equally. |
| Support.   |
| As a BC resident who frequents some of these areas, I oppose this proposal to allow trapping exemptions on motor vehicle closed areas. Access Management Areas should apply to ALL backcountry users equally - the research is clear in that motor vehicle usage has a negative impact on sensitive wildlife. Not only should this proposal be denied, but current exemptions elsewhere should also be revoked.  |
| NO. People have enough advantage on the wild ones as it is. Also the noise will disturb all the wildlife. Humans have caused enough imbalance to the natural world we cannot have any more unfair advantages we have more than enough and we do not respect nature enough to be given any further advantage. NO NO NO  |
| The only "unnecessary burden" here would be the damage, noise, and destruction to the land and its natural inhabitants caused by the admittance of motor vehicles into these areas. I voted for the NDP because you promised to end the Grizzly hunt. You did that, and I thank you. However I hope you're now not opening all these loopholes in hunting regulations just to appease the groups and donors who were angered by the grizzly ban. Please don't be that kind of government.  |
| It is critical that trappers have this access as explained in the rational and also they are a vital tool with wolf management.  |
| Support. However, this proposal was not on the KWHAC short list and subsequently was not discussed by Regional stakeholders prior to being submitted.  |

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| Why limit trappers range????  |
| If it helps get some wolves trapped I'm all for it.   |
| Closed areas should remain closed to motor vehicle use by trappers as all motor vehicle use affects wildlife adversely  |
| I am strongly opposed to this exemption. We live in district 4-23. At the current time there is a HUGE amount of logging and industrial activity in this area. By allowing trappers motorized access in closed vehicle areas you are giving the animals almost no safe areas to go. With the amount of logging roads that have been cut into this area there is pretty well no where that is non-accessible at this point in time. I understand that may change as time passes however with no trees to block access to certain areas, they will be able to easier access these areas anyways. The fur bearing animal population has been greatly reduced in this area as it is ( I have lived here for s.22 and spend a large amount of time in the bush). The large game animal and predator population has also been affected over the past years by increased / continued hunting pressure. I do not feel that giving trappers the right to access their portions of trapline in closed areas by motorized vehicle will be beneficial at all.   |
| Definitely support this. The trapper has perhaps chosen that trapline to purchase as it may fit his needs in size and he has paid a certain amount based on the value of area he has to access and the fur that the total area can support being removed.   |
| strongly oppose the use of motorized vehicles for trappers, they consistently say it is a heritage thing, so they should walk anyway. If the reason for banning motorized traffic to the public is to lessen impact on wildlife, what has a larger impact than trappers? Bait, traps and motorized vehicles should NOT be allowed   |
| For the sake of all wildlife these wilderness areas should be free of motor vehicles.   |
| I do not support vehicle use in road closures. whether they are trappers or disabled persons. do not support this.  |
| Trappers should be under the exact same regulations as everyone else, if not more stringent access regulations.   |
| Strongly oppose. I can't understand why and how trapping of wolverines...or trapping of any wildlife is still considered a humane and acceptable practice.  |
| Support this change.  |
| consistent  |
| I strongly oppose allowing trappers to use motor vehicle access in closed areas. The more motor vehicles of any type, the more disturbance to wildlife. We are not talking about extremely remote areas or trappers who are dependent on trapping for their livelihood. Instead, this allows for more vehicles in areas that should be protected for wildlife. It is wrong!   |
| Unnecessary burden?? Depends on your point of view. Why make life easier for a trapper? It's a barbaric, dated practice that serves no purpose. Please do not make it easier, let the trapper have a challenge at least!  |
| Strongly agree with trapper exemptions in AMA's trappers need to be able to access there trapping area. Some AMA's will encompass a trappers entire trapping area. There will be minimal impact from vehicle use as we are talking about maybe 2 vehicles at a time. Trappers will not abuse this exemption as it is required to conduct there trapping business, not to mention the commercial rights and legal obligations  |
| Please do not exempt trappers in ANY of the closed areas in the Kootenays. Trapping is a barbaric, inhumane occupation and should not be allowed AT ALL. Most trappers do not do this to make a living, but just do it as a pastime. In particular, rare and probably endangered wolverines and lynx should not be trapped. Records might show that only a few are trapped each year, but how many pull out of a trap and wander off to die? Thanks for your consideration of this important matter s.2   |
| Wildsight is opposed to granting trappers exclusive access management exemptions for the Upper Elk Valley AMA, the Galton AMA, Alexander Creek, and the Holt and Lang restrictions. Across the Kootenays, access management areas are in place to maintain important wildlife habitat and limit motorized access. The proposed regulations would open up access closures to motorized use by trappers resulting in increased harvest pressure and stress on wildlife. This exemption is contrary to maintaining important wildlife habitat and limiting motorized usage.  |
| Strongly disagree that "they do not impact the values the AMA is intended to protect". Any motorized access does exactly that. By allowing this you start an entitlement to anyone else who sees tracks into these AMAs. You're unfairly putting one user group ahead of others and the values of the AMA. By allowing this you're allowing traffic into critical goat, sheep, etc. winter range at critical periods. I.E. should a trapper be allowed to sled up onto Abbey Ridge, Mount Bleasdale, or Deadmans pass and stress goats/sheep for the purpose of a martin set? Ridiculous, please reconsider. Nobody traps here as a means of income. They have dealt with this restriction until now and can continue to do so.   |
| Walk like everybody else.What did they do before these roads where built.Opens it up for hunting abuse by trappers and their friends.   |
| I strongly oppose exempting trappers from the subject area motor vehicle closed area regulation. Although trappers have commercial rights in these areas to trap animals they do not own the land, nor do they "own" the wildlife in that area. By allowing them access via motorized vehicle we are encouraging unnatural rates of trapping and potentially increasing the concern around ethical methods for harvesting our wildlife. There is little to no data to defend increasing trapping rates (which this would ultimately do) in these areas.   |
| Trappers should not be given exemptions to access restricted areas by motor vehicle in the Galton Range, Upper Elk Valley, Alexander Creek, Holt Creek and Lang Creek AMAs  |
| Across the Kootenays, a few percent of our backcountry roads have some level of motorized access restriction. These restrictions are in place to maintain important wildlife habitat. The research on backcountry roads is clear: the more roads and the more people there are using those roads, the harder life is for our wildlife. For sensitive species like wolverines, caribou or grizzly bears, space to roam without humans and their motorized vehicles is crucial. The proposed regulations would open up access closures to motorized use by trappers, including the Upper Elk Valley, the Galton Range slopes on the east side of Koocanusa, Alexander Creek north of Crownsnest Pass and the Holt and Lang Creek Valleys just east of Glacier National Park. For most trappers in the Kootenays, trapping is a recreational pursuit that provides a bit of income, the opportunity to have a backcountry cabin and some tax write-offs. Trappers in the Kootenays don't need special exemptions. Exemptions for trappers in other AMAs already make it harder to keep other motorized users out and create confusion ? so existing exemptions should be revoked as well. Access Management Areas should apply to all backcountry users equally. |
| There is no reason to give exemption from an initiative that clearly had a reason for it in the first place.Not allowed is not allowed. These people already have too many liberties, and more and more people think killing, and for sport in particular, is not how the people of BC want to be seen, nor is it good role modeling for children. As a teacher, I can tell you children are horrified when they find out what actually goes on. The people of BC are becoming aware of the suffering inflicted on animals by hunters, particularly when trapping is used, and which is increasingly becoming banned in other countries due to the fact it inflicts prolonged suffering on animals. Humans already stress out populations enough without barbaric practices like these. We are not a province of rednecks and the law should demonstrate that.  |

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| I feel obliged to comment after reading the misleading article that was released by Wildsight. I support the thoughtful inclusion of AMA exemptions of Trappers in Region 4, as this change proposes. I agree that the Trapper has a different role to play in the Backcountry, and therefore should have a different set of rules in order to carry out their role. The impact of a Trapper utilizing backcountry roads is different than that of hunters and recreational users, and the regulations governing their activity should reflect that. The rationale currently offered by the Ministry staff, supporting this change is sound, and it would sadden me to see this opportunity be missed because we have a lot of emotional and ill-informed individuals being herded by Wildsight to "voice their opposition" to these changes.   |
| The oversight should be dealt with.   |
| I am opposed to this regulation proposal for the following reasons. The above rationale is biased. Guide Outfitters have exclusive commercial rights and are not exempt, and guide outfitting is a far bigger business. Allowing motorized vehicles in AMA's does in fact impact the values that the AMA was intended to protect. Many of the roads within AMA's are very old and returning to nature without motorized traffic, and allowing trappers on them will open them back up. This could lead to trappers using atv's in the summer and fall to prepare their trap lines. This would have a very negative impact on other users that go to AMA's to get away from motorized activity, as well as disturb wildlife that uses these areas in spring/summer/fall. The upper elk valley AMA was put in place to protect wildlife values, as well as maintain a landscape that is not impacted by motorized vehicles allowing for a wilderness type experience. Exempting trappers compromises conservation, and negatively impacts hikers, horse enthusiasts, hunters, fishermen, and outfitters. ATV's are also spread invasive weeds, cause soil erosion, noise pollution etc. Snowmobile tracks in winter create highways for wolves, and have a negative impact on wintering moose populations. As the guide outfitter, I find the rationale "In addition, the licensed trapper has exclusive commercial rights, and legal obligations, to trap in the area and limiting motor vehicle access to the trapper would be an unnecessary burden." a joke. The trapper can meet their legal obligation by trapping from the road interface. I operate in AMA and park, and as such have a large string of horses that costs thousands of dollars a year to feed and maintain, not to mention my time. But this is what you do to operate in a place that has motorized restriction, so I am unsympathetic to the reference of unnecessary burden. Trapping for the most part, and I know specifically in the elk valley, is a hobby and pastime, not a sole method of making a living. It is commercial only in the sense that they sell a couple hundred dollars on the fur market each winter. To allow one persons pastime to threaten the integrity of an AMA, disturb wildlife and impact other user groups is absurd. |
| If a trapper needs to conduct motorized activities within an AMA he should be required to acquire a permit which limits where he can use a motor vehicle.. Trappers seem to think they can cut an ATV trail wherever they want within their trapping territory and use it when ever they want. I have witnessed far too many abuses from trappers accessing their trap line for the purpose of trapping during hunting season creating conflict with non-motorized hunters. Also, this development is at a detriment to the values the AMA's were intended to protect. Also, there are drainages in the north Elk Valley which fall with the Upper Elk AMA which also have Non-Motorized Rec. Trail designations under FRPA. Trappers require a special use permit from BC Sites & Trails to conduct trapping activities on registered rec trails. Aldridge and Weary Creeks are two examples. Giving trappers full motorized reign within AMA's will lead to habitat degradation, industrial development for personal gain, conflict with solitude seekers and non-motorized hunters, spread of noxious weeds and motorized development of wildlands. This is not what AMA's were intended for. Make the permits free of charge, but for the sake of the AMA, require a permit!  |
| Across the Kootenays, a few percent of the backcountry roads have some level of motorized access restriction. These restrictions are to maintain important wildlife habitat. The research on backcountry roads is clear: the more roads and the more people there are using those roads, the harder life is for wildlife. For sensitive species like wolverines, caribou or grizzly bears, space to roam without humans and their motorized vehicles is crucial.  |
| Trappers should not be given exemptions in any AMAs and current trapper exemptions should be revoked. AMAs are in place to protect important wildlife habitat. We already have a problem with non-compliance by members of the public within existing AMAs. Allowing trappers to enter AMAs will further encourage others to illegally enter these areas and will further degrade these important wildlife habitats and put extra pressure on sensitive species. Access Management Areas should apply to everyone.  |
| Trappers should also be exempt on all Forestry trails also. As Trapping was here long before these trails were established. I'm glad we are finally have the exemptions like all the rest of the BC Trappers have had. There should be no closures anywhere in BC for Trappers as they have the rights to be trapping & maintaining their respective Traplines. I still would like to hear that Trappers are also exempt from these Forestry Trails also. Please look at getting it taken care of too.  |
| We (the public and the government we elect) need to do a much better job of protecting our wildlife, and must create a land use plan in the Kootenays that restricts all human access to certain areas to ensure animals have the space they require to ensure a sustainable population. For most trappers in the Kootenays, trapping is a recreational pursuit that provides a bit of income, the opportunity to have a backcountry cabin and likely for some, some tax write-offs. Trappers in the Kootenays don't need special exemptions. Exemptions for trappers in other AMAs already make it harder to keep other motorized users out and create confusion so existing exemptions should be revoked as well. Access Management Areas should apply to all backcountry users equally. There must be areas that no humans can access, except in case of emergencies such as forest fires, etc. Please, please, create a land use plan for wildlife, non-motorized access, and motorized access areas, that apply equally to all.  |
| <b>Region 5 - Cariboo Regulation # 2018-5-01: Re-establish Taseko Lake Bighorn Sheep General Open Season</b><br><b>Voting Results = Support (36) / Neutral (1) / Oppose (6)</b>   |
| Keep it full curl.  |
| As the inventory is favourable we see no reason not to provide this hunting opportunity. We trust this hunt will be monitored.  |
| I am all for increased hunting opportunities in this area. A friend of mine has seen a large group of large rams in this m.u. a few years ago while out with his father. I didn't even know there were sheep in this area until I had talked to him. We need to ensure predator numbers are controlled as well in this region to ensure ongoing healthy ungulate population numbers.  |
| if population levels have returned to normal, re-open the season and monitor - as suggested   |
| nice to see !   |
| Nice to c some opportunities for these?r rams   |
| Increasing or decreasing opportunities for hunting of all species should be based on good science and based on accurate data - support if strong commitment to collect population data.   |
| I highly support this proposal.   |

|   |
|---|
| Fully support, the alpine is important habitat for wildlife.  |
| agree   |
| Full support of this access restriction   |
| <b>Region 8 - Okanagan Regulation # 2018-8-06: Silver Star Park &amp; Protected Area No Hunting Area Boundary Amendment</b><br><b>Voting Results = Support (21) / Neutral (1) / Oppose (8)</b>  |
| Clarity is good for compliance and enforcement  |
| Hunting was there long before the skiers. Maybe skiers should stay in the Boundaries drawn.   |
| Full support on this proposal.  |
| You appear to be reducing the size of the closure. Instead delineate the watersheds to conserve the habitat. This entire area is overused by recreationalists. It also does not say that you are amending the open season.  |
| I support this type of amendment however as outdoor activities take people further afield, it is also the responsibility of the users of the space to understand that there may be others in that space that may be engaged in hunting activities during parts of the year. Would it be possible to change the open season to coincide with low usage periods (shoulder seasons) for skiers, bikers and hikers or perhaps a change to bow-only areas encroaching on the original area restrictions?   |
| Tightening the area to reflect actual usage seems reasonable  |
| I am commenting on behalf of the Vancouver Humane Society. The Vancouver Humane Society opposes amending the boundaries in the Silver Star Park and Protected Area and asks instead that the entire area be closed to hunting. The Vancouver Humane Society is opposed to any hunting in provincial parks, conservancy areas and protected areas. National parks are closed to hunting, and provincial parks should be too ? they should not only protect habitat for wildlife, they should protect the wildlife within the habitat. Hunting in or near parks is a hazard for park visitors ? hunters admit seeing people ?walking through closed parks with a gun thinking it was open (for hunting). An interesting statistic is that 20% of bears shot at and hit are never recovered. This suggests a high probability that a bear in a park may be wounded, dramatically increasing the risk to humane safety. Studies show hunting mortality along provincial roads, including those in provincial parks, is very high which indicates that roads are providing easy access to wildlife for hunters. Wildlife are attracted by roads and should be protected when in such vulnerable circumstances. Thank you for this opportunity to provide feedback. |
| As a general principle, hunting should never be permitted in parks. If the boundary is unclear, extend the park boundary to help. The proposed additional area to be open to hunting is huge. This is not acceptable.   |
| This is a good decision as there is vast terrain around Silverstar that is suitable for hunting without interfering with other recreational activities.   |
| Very nice to see hunters gaining some terrain   |
| Support. more clarity is a good thing   |
| Support the proposed changes.   |
| I support   |
| I support this change as it will allow for proper distinct boundaries for all hunters to follow in the field.   |
| Agree   |
| Right, killing sentient beings is only cool when you do it on purpose?  |
| I strongly DISAGREE with the amendment of the proposed no-hunting areas around Silver Star resort. The no hunting areas in the immediate area does not allow for the management of animal/human conflicts which hunters can assist with. Hunting should be encouraged in this area to prevent the issues of urbanized/human friendly wildlife. The existing area is already significant enough and the loss of this valuable hunting area would be a huge loss of opportunity for Region 8 hunters.   |
| In support. Clear boundaries will help hunters stay in compliance. Hunting area increased.  |
| In support. Increases huntable area and provides better delineation of closed area.   |
| Allow archery hunting in this area if worried about public safety.We have eliminated enough public lands from use by hunters.No Crossbows.Call any area you allow crossbows special weapons areas.  |
| This will open up more of the south portion of the park to hunting, with access from abbott fsr. Hunters are already poaching in on this area, new boundary will make for more traffic.   |
| This makes sense  |
| Unnecessary and shows favoritism to corporations that hide behind the guise of safety. If passed this is the government being politically correct and giving in to corporations who are using the area to benefit financially and take opportunity away from the average tax paying citizen.  |
| Can't keep enlarging areas because more hunters want to hunt. Keep the area no-hunting. The public's right to safely enjoy the outdoors must be the priority.   |
| <b>Region 8 - Okanagan Regulation # 2018-8-07: Trapper Exemption to Garnet Valley Motor Vehicle Closed Area</b><br><b>Voting Results = Support (16) / Neutral (3) / Oppose (8)</b>  |
| Why not issue permits to those particular trappers for exclusive MV access to this area? Seems like MV access can be abused by trappers   |
| I support the exception in order to allow the trapper to earn some income from fur bearers  |
| Wolf Culling needed, so trappers need access since government is to scared to do the right thing and implement a province wide wolf cull.   |
| I don't unless Trappers are restricted from hunting while they access the area for other reasons.   |
| As long as they are not affecting the winter range for deer let them do there part in predator management   |

|  |
|--|
| I don't think trappers should have the right to use motorized vehicles in areas that are closed to public motorized use. How does a trapper have a legal obligation to trap? To whom? Garnet Valley has some of the Okanagan's most valuable wildlife habitat, with south-facing slopes ideal for winter and early spring habitat for mule deer. The valley is a beautifully diverse landscape ? with sensitive wetlands, grasslands, rugged terrain and open forests. It's a link for wildlife to move and connect to other important natural areas away from the busy Hwy 97 corridor. |
| I disagree with providing exemptions to trappers. A Motor Vehicle Prohibited area is established for good reasons, with the goal of reducing the human impact on an area, and it should include everyone. Trappers should have no additional benefits to access an area by vehicle. It defeats the point of the prohibition.   |
| It is the right thing to do for the trapper in question.   |
| Where is the evidence that this 2012 regulation has led to an "unnecessary burden"? What are the implications of opening these areas to motor vehicles?  |
| Absolutely!  |
| I support  |
| road closures should be closed to trappers as well as all disabled hunters in vehicles. there is enough roads for disabled hunters to hunt on without having to go in a road closure. Road closure means road closure, NO MOTOR VEHICLES whatsoever  |
| Agree  |
| Trapping was a pre-existing use in the area and must be acknowledged and respected.  |
| Wouldn't want a human to get their leg mangled, and be subjected to excruciating pain and terror.  |
| I agree  |
| Neutral. On the one hand we believe that there should be no access exemptions if the closure is to protect wintering ungulates, on the other hand we realize that a responsible trapper who may remove some predators could be a net benefit and be eyes and ears in the closed area for enforcement personnel. Opinion is split on this one.  |
| How did he access it before the roads were built. Everybody has an excuse to circumvent access restrictions ie. natives, handicapped permits, trapping, prospecting etc. Just put the roads back to bed totally eliminates all vehicle access. If you do not close the road to everybody you basically have no way to control access as there is to many ways around the restrictions.   |
| lifts an unnecessary burden to the trapper.  |
| Trapping by non-indigenous persons should be banned completely. It is indiscriminate killing and inhumane.   |
| Trapping is necessary in this region and, largely because of access restrictions, has not been getting done consistently   |

| Region 8 - Okanagan Regulation # 2018-8-13: Okanagan Cougar Pursuit Only Season<br>Voting Results = Support (21) / Neutral (3) / Oppose (20)   |
|--|
| Houndsman should be able to carry a firearm. possibly a restriction to caliber would be necessary as this would be considered a defense firearm.   |
| No reason to close a pursuit only season. No cougars are killed and it provides training and exercise like stated.   |
| good change  |
| I am a houndsman. There is plenty long enough season as is.  |
| If deer, moose, elk and other prey species are to recover, we must manage predators within areas. Cougars are major predators in the Okanagan, and kill many more animals than people realize. The government needs to do the right thing for once and listen to people who actually get out and see wildlife for what they are. I'm sure this proposal will get numerous opposing comments from the uneducated, urbanite population that just see predators as soft cuddly teddy bears that don't kill any animals. Time to leave emotion aside and look at factual studies and evidence, as most hunters and trappers support. Time to be rational, not emotional with regards to predator management. |
| presumably this type of season could also be used for 'tourism' / wildlife viewing opportunities   |
| full support on this.  |
| Though I am not interested in hunting cougars personally, I recognize the need to keep houndsman skills sharp in an effort to manage the population and to respond to cougar/human interactions.   |
| Oppose extending the cougar pursuit season.  |
| Pursuit only does not harm the cats at all. I would like to see pursuit only in the summer as well to provide the dogs an opportunity to hunt cats in alternative conditions other than snow. I have treed and freed numerous cats repetitively and these cats are none the worse for wear   |
| I would like to register my total opposition to a pursuit only season for cougar in any location. This is cruel in the extreme, exhausting and stressing wildlife, including those that could be pregnant, lactating or otherwise compromised. It also presents the risk that the dogs could physically harm the animals before they escape. Although I am opposed to hunting in general, this strikes me as a particularly appalling activity. Wildlife belong to everyone, not just those who hunt them for 'sport'.   |
| I support the pursuit only season, however... I disagree with this requirement: "Hunters must be licensed to participate in a pursuit only season, however they are prohibited from carrying a firearm." I feel it would put the participant at risk and they should therefore be able to carry a firearm for personal protection only. Thanks   |
| The idea of supporting chasing of wildlife to exercise the dogs is, ludicrous and abhorrent. If these hunters are unable to adequately exercise their dogs, they should not be using dogs to hunt. Furthermore, no description is provided in the rationale as to the impact of chasing on the cougar population number and health. There is also no attempt to address the issue of hunting dogs attacking an exhausted cougar, thereby reducing cougar numbers outside of hunting season. Absolutely oppose.   |



## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

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**From:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2018 2:06 PM  
**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX; FLNR Fish and Wildlife Section Heads  
**Subject:** FW: BC bobcat/lynx range paper  
**Attachments:** Gooliaff\_et\_al-2018-The\_Journal\_of\_Wildlife\_Management.pdf

FYI

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**From:** Weir, Rich ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2018 2:00 PM  
**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** BC bobcat/lynx range paper

FYI, a new paper in JWM from TJ Gooliaff's thesis work on bobcats and lynx in BC.

The uber-brief synopsis:

Bobcats were restricted to the southern half of British Columbia, whereas lynx occurred across most of the interior of the province. Bobcat and lynx distributions broadly overlapped in southern British Columbia, but image detections generally occurred at higher elevations for lynx than bobcats.

TJ is also publishing a paper that looks at changes to the distribution of bobcats and lynx in the province over the past 30 years. Coles notes: no real change in distribution of either species.

By the way, TJ is now working as a wildlife tech for FLNRO in the Kootenay region. If you are looking for someone to help FLRNO with the trapping file, he would be a very good choice. He knows the trapping data better than most and has a good rapport with the trappers. [TJ.Gooliaff@gov.bc.ca](mailto:TJ.Gooliaff@gov.bc.ca)

Rich

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**From:** Hodges, Karen [<mailto:karen.hodges@ubc.ca>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 22, 2018 12:34 PM  
**To:** Lewis, Jeff C (DFW)  
**Cc:** Weir, Rich ENV:EX; carmen vanbianchi  
**Subject:** RE: our BC bobcat/lynx range map paper. . .

Hi—

PDF of TJ's first paper. . .

Dr. Karen E. Hodges  
Professor, Conservation Ecology  
Department of Biology, Science Building  
University of British Columbia Okanagan  
1177 Research Road  
Kelowna, BC V1V 1V7

<http://biol.ok.ubc.ca/faculty/hodges.html>



*Research Article*

# Estimating Bobcat and Canada Lynx Distributions in British Columbia

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Page 085 to/à Page 094

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Copyright

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

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**From:** Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 16, 2017 2:30 PM  
**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX; Smith, Kelly B FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX; Wilton, William FLNR:EX; MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Heads Up Regulation Changes

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Hey Steve/Kelly, sorry we weren't on the call. Jerry and Billy were away counting deer s.22  
s.22 I have included a list of things on our radar for this fall.

Our proposed changes will include:

s.13

Sean Pendergast RPBio  
Senior Wildlife Biologist | Fish & Wildlife Section

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**From:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, August 11, 2017 4:10 PM  
**To:** Bohm, Holger FLNR:EX; Hales, Gerard S FLNR:EX; Larden, Troy P FLNR:EX; Lavallee, Michel FLNR:EX; Malt, Joshua FLNR:EX; Pillipow, Ray FLNR:EX; Kuzyk, Gerald FLNR:EX; Reedman, Dave FLNR:EX; Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX; Batho, Adrian ENV:EX; Bridger, Michael C FLNR:EX; Cadsand, Becky FLNR:EX; Dielman, Pat W FLNR:EX; Dixon, Krystal FLNR:EX; Evans, Jack FLNR:EX; George, Greg FLNR:EX; Gurd, Brent FLNR:EX; Jex, Bill A FLNR:EX; Kelly, John FLNR:EX; MacDermott, Jerry FLNR:EX; Marshall, Shelley FLNR:EX; Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX; Procter, Chris FLNR:EX; Smith, Kelly B FLNR:EX; Reid, Aaron FLNR:EX; Reynolds, Darryl M FLNR:EX; Schindler, Heidi FLNR:EX; Stent, Patrick FLNR:EX; Surgenor, John FLNR:EX; Szkorupa, Tara D FLNR:EX; Teske, Irene FLNR:EX; Thiessen, Conrad D FLNR:EX; Walker, Andrew FLNR:EX; White, Shane FLNR:EX; Wilton, William FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Smith, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Lirette, Daniel FLNR:EX; Hansen, Inge-Jean FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Heads Up Regulation Changes

Hi Folks,

Thanks for the call this afternoon, very informative. Attached are my notes on proposed regulation changes for the upcoming synopsis.

Please keep this internal, do not distribute outside the F&W branch (they are all still preliminary proposals).

Have a good weekend.

**Stephen MacIver** | Regulations and Policy Analyst | Fish & Wildlife Branch | Ministry of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations | Phone (250) 387-9767 | Mobile (250) 889-9497 | Email: [stephen.maciver@gov.bc.ca](mailto:stephen.maciver@gov.bc.ca)

**Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 6, 2017 2:39 PM  
**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: IN\_LengthenWolfTrappingSeason\_Dec2017\_V4  
**Attachments:** IN\_LengthenWolfTrappingSeason\_Dec2017\_V4.docx

Hi again!

Vivian has a question (see attached). The initial report simply stated “regional staff”. What is the right noun here? You can reply via email with the right answer.

Thanks!

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**From:** Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 6, 2017 2:29 PM  
**To:** Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** IN\_LengthenWolfTrappingSeason\_Dec2017\_V4

Hi! A question for you/Steve as marked.

## ADVICE TO MINISTER

### CONFIDENTIAL ISSUES NOTE

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource  
Operations, and Rural Development

Date: Dec. 6, 2017 DRAFTV4

Minister Responsible: Hon. Doug Donaldson

## Vancouver Island Wolf Trapping – Season Extension

### ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- The Province is proposing regulation changes on Vancouver Island to provide additional sustainable trapping opportunities for wolves s.13 reduce deer predation.
- Anecdotal reports by First Nations and trappers/hunters, and regionals.13 indicate that wolf populations on Vancouver Island have increased in the north and west areas of the Island. The number of deer in these same areas seems to be declining.
- To aid in deer conservation efforts, hunters have asked that the wolf trapping season open on Sept. 10, rather than Nov. 1. This change will allow for a longer trapping season.
- The Province has posted the proposed changes, and they will be available for public review and comment until Jan. 19, 2018. To see the regulation proposal and to submit feedback, visit <http://apps.nrs.gov.bc.ca/pub/ahte/>.

s.13

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### KEY FACTS REGARDING THE ISSUE:

The Hunting and Trapping Regulation Synopsis for 2018 to 2020 is currently under review. The Ministry is posting all proposed regulation changes online for public review and comment until Jan. 19, 2018, before the regulation proposals are finalized.

As a part of this process, the Ministry is reviewing the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. First Nations, trappers and hunters in the north and west areas of Vancouver Island have said anecdotally there is an increase in the number of wolves and a decrease in the number of deer. Regional government staff members have also witnessed an increase in wolf sightings, droppings and tracks while conducting aerial and ground based ungulate inventory.

On Vancouver Island, deer are one of the primary species that wolves prey on. The decrease in the deer population is a suspected result of the increased estimate in the number of wolves. To increase the number of deer and provide for additional trapping opportunity, it is proposed to extend the wolf trapping season by opening the season earlier – on Sept. 10 rather than Nov. 1. The season end date, which is June 30, will remain unchanged.

|                         |                 |              |
|-------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Communications Contact: | Dawn Makarowski | 250 356-5261 |
| Program Area Contact:   | Stephen MacIver | 778 698-9112 |



## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 17, 2018 11:39 AM  
**To:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Lynx Season Extension in the Omineca, Peace, and Skeena Regions and OWMC Stakeholder Engagement  
**Attachments:** Lynx Season Response Letter January 9, 2018.pdf

FYI – just had a call with Jeff Brown and Shelley Marshall on this and GOABC challenges with their advisory group.

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**From:** Pillipow, Ray FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 10, 2018 9:05 AM  
**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Lynx Season Extension in the Omineca, Peace, and Skeena Regions and OWMC Stakeholder Engagement

Hi Steve, Mike,

Please find attached the local stakeholders response to the lynx regulation change proposal. As you can see there is a cross regional implication regarding their concerns. Given that, I believe that branch and region will need to work together on a response. Can you set up a call to discuss?

Ray

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**From:** Brown, Jeff D FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 9, 2018 1:37 PM  
**To:** Pillipow, Ray FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Marshall, Shelley FLNR:EX; Brown, Jeff D FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Lynx Season Extension in the Omineca, Peace, and Skeena Regions and OWMC Stakeholder Engagement

Ray – would you mind following up with Branch to inquire about the status of reg change proposals – e.g. where are they at in the process, was the Lynx put on the website for comment/consideration etc. We should set up a call with Jennifer/Mike Burwash to discuss as well.

**From:** Jason Hooft [<mailto:jason@northriverconsulting.net>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 9, 2018 8:13 AM  
**To:** Marshall, Shelley FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Lynx Season Extension in the Omineca, Peace, and Skeena Regions and OWMC Stakeholder Engagement

January 9, 2018

**Attn:** Shelley Marshall, Senior Wildlife Biologist – Omineca Region  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Prince George, BC  
250-614-7458

Dear Ms Marshall,

**RE: Lynx Season Extension in the Omineca, Peace, and Skeena Regions and Stakeholder Engagement**

The BC Trappers Association (BCTA) submitted requests (in 2015 and 2017) to extend the Lynx season by an additional 13 days to the end of February (28<sup>th</sup>). Reasons for the extension are that Lynx populations have been observed to be high throughout the Omineca, Skeena and Peace regions and we wish to align season dates to the end of February, provide harvesters with increased flexibility in timing of harvest, and to potentially increase the male to female harvest ratio which can increase the overall reproductive productivity. What we want is to have the season extended in the Omineca, Peace and Skeena regions to the end of February.

The response that we have received has essentially stated that the season will not be extended since the Ministry of FLNRO does not have their own population data/knowledge, and they will not use the population knowledge that the stakeholders have provided. Essentially a lack of knowledge by FLNRO equals no action. There is minimal population data on most furbearers and we feel that this is not a valid reason to not extend a season length, otherwise there will never be any action when it comes to furbearers. We also feel that the FLNRO needs to rely on the best information that they have which in this case is fur harvesting info and observations by the stakeholders on population levels. In addition, FLNRO has not completed any further population monitoring since the initial request in 2015 to address their concerns.

The BCTA and other stakeholders are extremely disappointed with the entire process of evaluating proposals. The FLNRO through the Omineca Wildlife Management Committee has not provided appropriate engagement and has noted that they required additional information for the proposal, but never asked for this information from the proponent prior to denying the request. They have also continued to show that they do not value stakeholder knowledge of what is happening on the landbase and population levels. In this instance we have all stakeholders in agreement that the proposed Lynx season should go ahead and yet the season extension has been denied with no scientific evidence to indicate that it should not be approved.

For the next OWMC meeting the stakeholders will require that a sufficient amount of time is designated to discuss the Lynx season proposal (1hr minimum). We also request that Rich Weir participates in the meeting and discussion. In preparation for the discussion on the Lynx season proposal at the next meeting the BCTA requires that FLNRO provides the following information:

1. Provide all Lynx harvest data in regions 6 and 7 (A and B) for the last 30 years. This includes all Wild Fur Reports and all compulsory reporting/inspecting data.
2. Provide all other data that FLNRO has reviewed for this proposal.
3. Provide all First Nation comments on the proposal noting the sources.
4. Provide an estimate of the population of Lynx in each region: 7A, 7B, 6 and what level of Lynx harvest (% of population) that is known to be acceptable.

In the future we require that our wildlife knowledge is recognized and valued and that we are appropriately consulted and included in the decision making process in a meaningful way. We also require that if there is stakeholder agreement and no scientific evidence to prevent implementing changes, that they are assessed and implemented using the best available knowledge. In addition, we require that we are included in the decision making process to eliminate or reduce seasons. Currently there is an extensive process to increase or implement new seasons, however FLNRO has not included stakeholders in an appropriate level or engagement when reducing or eliminating seasons.

We look forward to receiving the requested information and hearing how our concerns will be addressed.

Discussed and submitted on behalf of the following:

- BC Trappers Association
- North Central Guides
- Spruce City Wildlife
- Vanderhoof Rod and Gun Club

CC: Michael Burwash, Tom Ethier, Jeff Brown, Brian Dack, BC Trappers Association, North Central Guides, Spruce City Wildlife, Vanderhoof Rod and Gun Club

January 9, 2018

**Attn:** Shelley Marshall, Senior Wildlife Biologist – Omineca Region  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Prince George, BC  
250-614-7458

Dear Ms Marshall,

**RE: Lynx Season Extension in the Omineca, Peace, and Skeena Regions and Stakeholder Engagement**

The BC Trappers Association (BCTA) submitted requests (in 2015 and 2017) to extend the Lynx season by an additional 13 days to the end of February (28<sup>th</sup>). Reasons for the extension are that Lynx populations have been observed to be high throughout the Omineca, Skeena and Peace regions and we wish to align season dates to the end of February, provide harvesters with increased flexibility in timing of harvest, and to potentially increase the male to female harvest ratio which can increase the overall reproductive productivity. What we want is to have the season extended in the Omineca, Peace and Skeena regions to the end of February.

The response that we have received has essentially stated that the season will not be extended since the Ministry of FLNRO does not have their own population data/knowledge, and they will not use the population knowledge that the stakeholders have provided. Essentially a lack of knowledge by FLNRO equals no action. There is minimal population data on most furbearers and we feel that this is not a valid reason to not extend a season length, otherwise there will never be any action when it comes to furbearers. We also feel that the FLNRO needs to rely on the best information that they have which in this case is fur harvesting info and observations by the stakeholders on population levels. In addition, FLNRO has not completed any further population monitoring since the initial request in 2015 to address their concerns.

The BCTA and other stakeholders are extremely disappointed with the entire process of evaluating proposals. The FLNRO through the Omineca Wildlife Management Committee has not provided appropriate engagement and has noted that they required additional information for the proposal, but never asked for this information from the proponent prior to denying the request. They have also continued to show that they do not value stakeholder knowledge of what is happening on the landbase and population levels. In this instance we have all stakeholders in agreement that the proposed Lynx season should go ahead and yet the season extension has been denied with no scientific evidence to indicate that it should not be approved.

For the next OWMC meeting the stakeholders will require that a sufficient amount of time is designated to discuss the Lynx season proposal (1hr minimum). We also request that Rich Weir participates in the meeting and discussion. In preparation for the discussion on the Lynx season proposal at the next meeting the BCTA requires that FLNRO provides the following information:

1. Provide all Lynx harvest data in regions 6 and 7 (A and B) for the last 30 years. This includes all Wild Fur Reports and all compulsory reporting/inspecting data.
2. Provide all other data that FLNRO has reviewed for this proposal.
3. Provide all First Nation comments on the proposal noting the sources.
4. Provide an estimate of the population of Lynx in each region: 7A, 7B, 6 and what level of Lynx harvest (% of population) that is known to be acceptable.

In the future we require that our wildlife knowledge is recognized and valued and that we are appropriately consulted and included in the decision making process in a meaningful way. We also require that if there is stakeholder agreement and no scientific evidence to prevent implementing changes, that they are assessed and implemented using the best available knowledge. In addition, we require that we are included in the decision making process to eliminate or reduce seasons. Currently there is an extensive process to increase or implement new seasons, however FLNRO has not included stakeholders in an appropriate level of engagement when reducing or eliminating seasons.

We look forward to hearing our concerns will be addressed.

Discussed and submitted on behalf of the following:

- BC Trappers Association
- North Central Guides
- Spruce City Wildlife
- Vanderhoof Rod and Gun Club

CC: Michael Burwash, Tom Ethier, Jeff Brown, Brian Dack, BC Trappers Association, North Central Guides, Spruce City Wildlife, Vanderhoof Rod and Gun Club

**Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, January 26, 2018 12:51 PM  
**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Lynx Season Response Letter January 9 2018.pdf  
**Attachments:** Lynx Season Response Letter January 9 2018.pdf

Not sure if it got to you too.

---

**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 9, 2018 9:49 AM  
**To:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Lynx Season Response Letter January 9 2018.pdf

Hi Jen

Attached is a letter that should have been forwarded to you as well. The letter is self-explanatory and the trappers locals have been working on this for a number of year and the issue of the extended season has not been resolved. It has also been brought up at the local PHATAT but has never been brought to the provincial PHATAT.

I hope that you can be of assistance in getting this issue resolved.

Thanks  
s.22

BC Trappers Association

January 9, 2018

**Attn:** Shelley Marshall, Senior Wildlife Biologist – Omineca Region  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Prince George, BC  
250-614-7458

Dear Ms Marshall,

**RE: Lynx Season Extension in the Omineca, Peace, and Skeena Regions and Stakeholder Engagement**

The BC Trappers Association (BCTA) submitted requests (in 2015 and 2017) to extend the Lynx season by an additional 13 days to the end of February (28<sup>th</sup>). Reasons for the extension are that Lynx populations have been observed to be high throughout the Omineca, Skeena and Peace regions and we wish to align season dates to the end of February, provide harvesters with increased flexibility in timing of harvest, and to potentially increase the male to female harvest ratio which can increase the overall reproductive productivity. What we want is to have the season extended in the Omineca, Peace and Skeena regions to the end of February.

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2. Provide all other data that FLNRO has reviewed for this proposal.
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In the future we require that our wildlife knowledge is recognized and valued and that we are appropriately consulted and included in the decision making process in a meaningful way. We also require that if there is stakeholder agreement and no scientific evidence to prevent implementing changes, that they are assessed and implemented using the best available knowledge. In addition, we require that we are included in the decision making process to eliminate or reduce seasons. Currently there is an extensive process to increase or implement new seasons, however FLNRO has not included stakeholders in an appropriate level or engagement when reducing or eliminating seasons.

We look forward to hearing our concerns will be addressed.

Discussed and submitted on behalf of the following:

- BC Trappers Association
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- Vanderhoof Rod and Gun Club

CC: Michael Burwash, Tom Ethier, Jeff Brown, Brian Dack, BC Trappers Association, North Central Guides, Spruce City Wildlife, Vanderhoof Rod and Gun Club



## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

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**From:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 1, 2018 4:54 PM  
**To:** MacÍver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: MDD notes re: wolf

Hi Steve, Can I ask for your help preparing the branch response? Thanks.  
Michael

---

**From:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 1, 2018 2:26 PM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: MDD notes re: wolf

Thanks for getting the ball rolling Mike. We just received notice that MGH will have a briefing on Feb 15<sup>th</sup>. Can we aim for this appendix by the 9<sup>th</sup> of Feb?  
Jen

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 1, 2018 10:11 AM  
**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Pendergast, Sean FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: MDD notes re: wolf

Hi everyone,

I drew up a plan to address Jen's questions (in grey below) and made some suggestions about starting points. There is a mixture of Branch and Region items as well as a few items that will likely need collaborative discussion. Let's get started and aim to bring some answers forward by 3 pm Friday.

Thanks,

Mike

Page 108

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

[Branch]

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**From:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 31, 2018 10:59 PM  
**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** MDD notes re: wolf

Hi Michael and Mike,

The meeting went well with MDD today. He was happy with the note and had several questions about population monitoring, data, hunting and trapping, etc. There may be a briefing with the Greens and MGH. If there is I offered to include an appendix to the briefing note that would provide additional detail re: wolf management, hunting and trapping.

Questions included:

s.13

s.13

Thanks for all your work on this.

Jen

## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 14, 2017 2:24 PM  
**To:** Roscoe, Lisa GCPE:EX  
**Cc:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Review - IB and INs Hunting Regulation proposals  
**Attachments:** IN\_Hunting reg Changes\_TNG\_FINAL.docx; IN\_LengthenWolfTrappingSeason\_Dec2017\_FINAL.docx; IN\_AHTE\_Caribou Hunt LEH\_Dec2017\_FINAL.docx; IN\_AHTE\_Elk Bulkley Valley\_Dec2017\_FINAL.docx

**Importance:** High

Hi Lisa,

These have all been approved by Jen. The 4 attached underwent some edits (sorry, not track changed) and are approved as-is. There were no edits to the Mayne Island or the IB documents and they are approved as you sent them.

Can you work some magic and move these up the signature ladder as quick as possible? It is fairly urgent that we get a green light to commence public engagement on the regulation proposals, doing it as soon as possible will save us some (potentially significant) challenges down the road.

Thanks,  
Steve

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**From:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 14, 2017 2:16 PM  
**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Review - IB and INs Hunting Regulation proposals

Looks great.

---

**From:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 14, 2017 2:06 PM  
**To:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Review - IB and INs Hunting Regulation proposals

Is this better? Most of the language is taken from correspondence from Rodger Stewart and Dave Reedman.  
Steve

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**From:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 14, 2017 1:31 PM  
**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Review - IB and INs Hunting Regulation proposals

s.13

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**From:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 14, 2017 11:34 AM

**To:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Review - IB and INs Hunting Regulation proposals

They look good from me. Only potential change would be to the s.13,s.16  
s.13,s.16

Michael

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**From:** Roscoe, Lisa GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 14, 2017 11:10 AM  
**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Review - IB and INs Hunting Regulation proposals

Hi Steve,

The latest drafts of the IB and Issues Notes are attached.

Cheers,  
Lisa

**Lisa Roscoe**  
Public Affairs Officer  
250-953-4200  
[lisa.roscoe@gov.bc.ca](mailto:lisa.roscoe@gov.bc.ca)

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development  
780 Blanshard Street, Room 328,  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 9V1

## ADVICE TO MINISTER

### CONFIDENTIAL ISSUES NOTE

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource  
Operations, and Rural Development

Date: December 14, 2017

Minister Responsible: Hon. Doug Donaldson

# Vancouver Island Wolf Trapping – Season Extension

### ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **The Province is proposing regulation changes on Vancouver Island to provide additional sustainable trapping opportunities for wolves.**
- **Anecdotal reports by First Nations and trappers/hunters, and regional wildlife staff indicate that wolf populations on Vancouver Island have increased in the north and west areas of the Island. Surveys of deer populations in these same areas indicate these populations are declining.**
- **To aid in deer management efforts, numerous First Nations and stakeholders have asked that the wolf trapping season open on Sept. 10, rather than Nov. 1. This change will allow for a longer trapping season.**
- **The Province has posted the proposed changes, and they will be available for public review and comment until Jan. 19, 2018. To see the regulation proposal and to submit feedback, visit <http://apps.nrs.gov.bc.ca/pub/ahte/>.**

### KEY FACTS REGARDING THE ISSUE:

The Hunting and Trapping Regulation Synopsis for 2018 to 2020 is currently under review. The Ministry is posting all proposed regulation changes online for public review and comment until Jan. 19, 2018, before the regulation proposals are finalized.

As a part of this process, the Ministry is reviewing the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. First Nations, trappers and hunters in the north and west areas of Vancouver Island have said anecdotally\* there is an increase in the number of wolves and a decrease in the number of deer. Regional government staff members have also witnessed an increase in wolf sightings, droppings and tracks while conducting aerial and ground based ungulate inventory.

On Vancouver Island, deer are one of the primary species that wolves prey on. The decrease in the deer population is a suspected result of the increased estimate in the number of wolves. To reduce predation on deer and provide for additional trapping opportunity, it is proposed to extend the wolf trapping season by opening the season earlier – on Sept. 10 rather than Nov. 1. The season end date, which is June 30, will remain unchanged.

\*The Ministry relies heavily on anecdotal observations to monitor the number of wolves because implementing other survey methodologies, such as aerial tracking or the use of tracking devices, can be

costly and difficult. In addition, the numbers of wolves in B.C. is particularly abundant, providing further reason not to monitor their population because conservation efforts are not required.

|                         |                 |              |
|-------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Communications Contact: | Dawn Makarowski | 250 356-5261 |
| Program Area Contact:   | Stephen MacIver | 778 698-9112 |



## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 18, 2018 10:04 AM  
**To:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Screenshot 2018-01-17 at 9.11.45 PM  
**Attachments:** IN\_LengthenWolfTrappingSeason\_Dec2017\_Draft 4\_jp\_mb.docx

Hi Jen

I only took one line from Steve's email below to update the IN. Please edit and forward.

Thanks.

Michael

---

**From:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 18, 2018 9:04 AM  
**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Screenshot 2018-01-17 at 9.11.45 PM

Hi Mike,

Here are some bullets. There is a lot here, but I think it's all relevant.

Steve

From the IN:

s.13

Page 116 to/à Page 117

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Berezanski, Dean (SD) <Dean.Berezanski@gov.mb.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 18, 2018 8:00 AM  
**To:** Walpole, Aaron (MNRF) (Aaron.Walpole@ontario.ca)  
**Cc:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: trapper education course certification  
**Attachments:** TrapperEducationScan-2014-04-08.xlsx; Master 2012 Trapper Education National Summary completedMay 2013.docx

I sent this to BC, but I don't think they followed up with a jurisdictional scan. Asking Mr MacIvor if they did a followup, and if not and send out for an update to include online courses.

s.22

---

**From:** Berezanski, Dean (SD)  
**Sent:** November-23-17 5:31 PM  
**To:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: trapper education course certification

Hi, gang. See attached from 2014 when ON (Christy Macdonald at the time) did the update, but not as in much detail as in the May 2013 update by YK (Helen Slama at the time).

You may wish again to pick and choose categories, and have Stephen send them around for a 2017 update(I will be on the road next week).

...Dean

---

**From:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX [<mailto:Mindy.Richter@gov.bc.ca>]  
**Sent:** November-23-17 4:31 PM  
**To:** Berezanski, Dean (SD) <[Dean.Berezanski@gov.mb.ca](mailto:Dean.Berezanski@gov.mb.ca)>  
**Cc:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX <[Stephen.MacIver@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephen.MacIver@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** trapper education course certification

Hi Dean

In order to trap in BC a trapper must complete a trapper's education course. BC accepts the completion of courses in Quebec, Yukon, Alberta and Ontario, as an equivalent.

We have not visited this policy in a long time. There may be courses from other provinces that are now equivalent. I spoke with Stephen McIver on this topic. We decided to check on whether there have been any scans on the requirements for a trapper education course in order to trap or receive a trapper's licence. Have there been any? I am also interested in whether the provincial courses have been compared for equivalency in the past or recently, and if not is there someone that could do that for all the provinces?

Regards,

Mindy Richter  
Director, Strategic Projects



| Jurisdiction          | Trapper Education Program in | Who administers the Trapper Education Program?  | Who issues trapping licences?  | What role do Provincial Trapping Organizations play?  |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|---|--|---|
| New Brunswick         | Yes                          | Government  | Government   | The New Brunswick Trappers and Fur Harvesters Federation help organize the course and provide instructors.  |
| Prince Edward Island  | Yes                          | Government  | Government   | PEI Trappers Association has input into course content but no official role in course delivery  |
| Nova Scotia           | Yes                          | Government in collaboration with Trappers Association   | Government   | Deliver classroom trapper education course and hands –on optional workshops; collaborate in curriculum revision; assist with trap testing; assist with scientific capture projects; assist by providing voluntary and mandatory carcass collections and mandatory harvest reports.  |
| Quebec                | Yes                          | The Government in collaboration with Trappers Association of Qc but mostly for delivery by trappers/monitors.   | Government via automatic pay-desk licences (VPPC) available through Canadian Tire and Grocery stores   | Provincial/local legal advisory to the minister (National Wildlife and Fish council = Table nationale/régionale de la faune) for all programs and concerns . Trapper education course (in class) and co-planning (governemental committee, manuals, and so), specimen/carcass collecting and assistance (scientific or management purposes), voluntary trapping reports on trap line. |
| British Columbia      | Yes                          | Mostly administered by the BC Trappers Association (provide course, testing and certification). Province sits on the advisory committee that oversees the trapper education program to ensure it is meeting provincial and international standards. | Government. The trapper education certificate allows a person to trap, but additional licences/permits may be required depending on how/where/when they are trapping. A separate licence, issued by the Province is required to own a trapline or to be an assistant on a trapline. Other licences/permits issued by the Province are required for specialty trapping (out of season, etc.). | BCTA delivers the trapping course and provides certificates. Province provides funding to the BCTA when available (\$10,000 per year) to support the administration of the trapper education program. BCTA is a member of a Provincial Hunting and Trapping Advisory Team run by the Province, which provides stakeholder advice and feedback.  |
| Manitoba              | Yes                          | Government  | Province, both thru gov't offices (Open Area licenses and RTL permits) and private vendors (almost all Open Area licences only; only a few private remote vendors of RTL permits)  | Delivery is govt and MTA (or some independent instructors); gov't tends to do northern and remote communities; MTA tends to do southern communities.  |
| Northwest Territories | Yes                          | Government  | Government - in consultation with Land Claim Organisations   | None – consult with Land Claim Organisation as and when.  |

| Jurisdiction | Trapper Education Program in | Who administers the Trapper Education Program?   | Who issues trapping licences?  | What role do Provincial Trapping Organizations play?   |
|--------------|------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Newfoundland | Yes                          | The program is administered by non-government: NL Trappers Association (NLTA).   | Government. Province (Wildlife Division) including registering trappers  | NLTA. In consultation with NLTA, curriculum determined by Province (Wildlife Division). The Province has been supplementing this course with an optional practical component offered yearly, but continuation of this component into the future will be dependent on available funds.  |
| Nunavut      | Yes                          | Government and Auction Houses.   |  |  |
| Saskatchewan | Yes                          | Delivered by Sask Trappers Associations (2) with gov't funding   | If by issues you mean sells then we have a network of private vendors and the option to buy at a ministry field office. We are electronic so can be bought online. If by issues you mean creates and authorizes then it is govt. | Saskatchewan Trappers Associations deliver trapper education program.  |
| Alberta      | Yes                          | IT IS ADMINISTERED BY THE ALBERTA TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION (ATA) THROUGH A GRANT PROVIDED BY GOVERNMENT  | Government.  | THE ATA CURRENTLY DELIVERS TRAPPING COURSES, PUBLIC EDUCATION AND A TRAPPER COMPENSATION PROGRAM. I AM IN THE PROCESS OF BROADENING THEIR ROLE TO DELIVER TRAPLINE MANAGEMENT PLANS AND MONITOR HARVEST AND TRAPPING EFFORT, AS WELL. THE INTENT IS FOR THIS TO BE INPLACE FOR THE 2015 TRAPPING SEASON  |
| Yukon        | Yes                          | We have a certified trapper education program that is administered and delivered through our Fur Industry Development and Support Program, a unit of Conservation Officer Services, Dept. of Environment, Government of Yukon. | Government. Trapping Licences are issued by the Dept. of Environment, Government of Yukon subject to the provisions of the Wildlife Act, Wildlife Regulation, and Trapping Regulation.   | The Yukon Trappers Association plays a role in our jurisdiction by delivering supplemental trapper training courses such as wolf snaring workshops, trapper taxation courses and partnering with Environment Yukon on projects such as the Pelt/Hide Auction. They do not deliver certified trapping courses as it requires certified trained instructors. |

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Pierre Canac-Marquis <fic.canac@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2018 11:59 AM  
**To:** dave.kay@gov.ab.ca; Aaron Walpole; Berezanski Dean; Boudreau, Michael; brucerodrigues@gov.nl.ca; Caroline Ladanowski EC; Corenna Nuyalia; Cormier, Jonathan (DNR/MRN); Emmanuel.Dalpe-Charron@mffp.gouv.qc.ca; Francois Rossouw; Gaetan.Fournier@mffp.gouv.qc.ca; Garry Gregory; Maha Ghazal; Mark Callan; mike.gallop; Ryan Sealy YK; MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX; waynebarney@gov.nl.ca  
**Subject:** Fwd: Eagles and Trapping  
**Attachments:** Snare set selective to avoid capture of birds of prey.pdf

Salut everyone,

Here is an email exchange that Jonathan Cormier and I recently had about already published information to trappers on how to avoid incidental captures of bird of prey in snares.

I thought it could also be interesting for some of you.

If ever you have more please circulate to the group.

Cheers!

Pierre

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Pierre Canac-Marquis <fic.canac@gmail.com>  
**Date:** 2018-01-12 11:42 GMT-05:00  
**Subject:** Re: Eagles and Trapping  
**To:** "Cormier, Jonathan (ERD/DER)" <Jonathan.Cormier@gnb.ca>  
**Cc:** "MERSEREAU, RANDY" <RANDY.MERSEREAU@emera.com>, dave.kay@gov.ab.ca, Berezanski Dean <Dean.Berezanski@gov.mb.ca>

Salut Jonathan,

Bonne année 2018!

Yes, all information published in the "Best Trapping Practices" is available to be used in any trappers ed program or publication. This is the main reason for which it was produced.

As an example, it is now integrated in the recent edition of the Quebec Trappers Ed manual.

Fell free to use it at your convenience.

Il y a aussi la version française! [https://fur.ca/downloads/ms\\_4530.pdf](https://fur.ca/downloads/ms_4530.pdf)

Also attached a recent document produced in Québec showing different snares installation to avoid incidental captures of bird of prey.

I noticed that you already have in hand the Québec brochure "How to avoid incidental captures ...." in which FIC has also participated.

Salut

Pierre

Le 2018-01-10 11:01, "Cormier, Jonathan (ERD/DER)" <[Jonathan.Cormier@gnb.ca](mailto:Jonathan.Cormier@gnb.ca)> a écrit :

Salut Pierre,

Happy New Year!!! I hope all is well.

Over the past several years in NB, there have been several instances of bald eagles getting caught in snares. It has been asked to add some best trapping practices info on avoiding eagles into our trapper ed course and into our Hunt and Trap Summary.

Would be possible to use the information on avoiding eagles from [https://fur.ca/downloads/ms\\_4528.pdf](https://fur.ca/downloads/ms_4528.pdf) in NB's Hunt and Trap summary and to hand out this entire document to each student in our Trapper Ed courses?

Jon

**Jonathan Cormier**

Furbearer Management Biologist / Biologiste des animaux à fourrure

Big Game, Furbearers, and Fisheries Section / Section des gros gibiers, animaux à fourrure et des pêches sportives

Fish and Wildlife Branch / Direction du poisson et de la faune

Natural Resources Divison / Divisions des ressources naturelles

*Energy and Resource Development / Développement de l'Énergie et des Ressources*

Phone / Téléphone : 506-457-6938

Fax / Télécopieur : 506-453-6699

E-mail / Courriel : [jonathan.cormier@gnb.ca](mailto:jonathan.cormier@gnb.ca)

[www.gnb.ca](http://www.gnb.ca)



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-----  
Ce message est destiné à la personne désignée dans la présente et il doit demeurer confidentiel. Il ne doit pas être réacheminé sans la permission de l'expéditeur. Si ce message vous a été envoyé par erreur, veuillez aviser l'expéditeur et effacer le message. Effacez ensuite votre réponse. Merci de votre collaboration.



--

***Pierre Canac-Marquis***

IFC /Coordonnateur Recherche sur les pièges  
FIC Trap Research Coordinator  
[fic.canac@gmail.com](mailto:fic.canac@gmail.com)  
418-576-4300 cell.

**Institut de la fourrure du Canada /Fur Institute of Canada**

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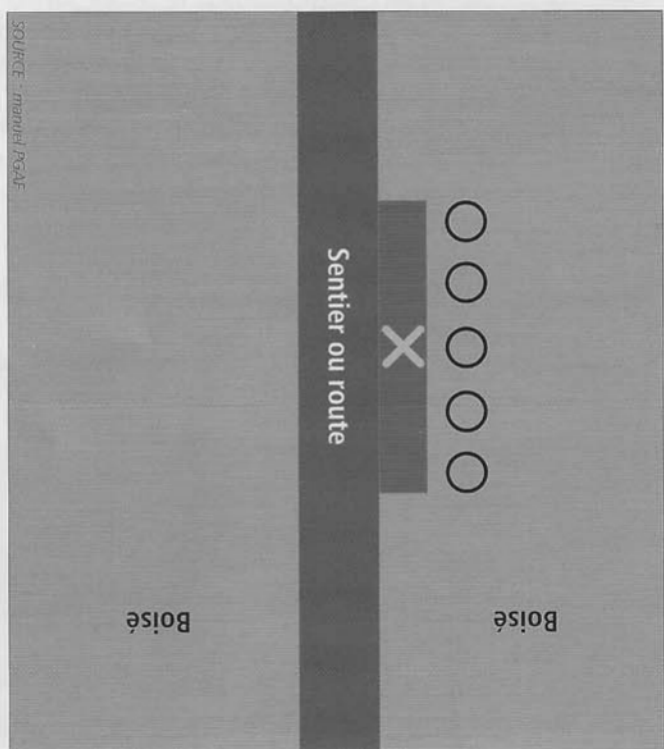
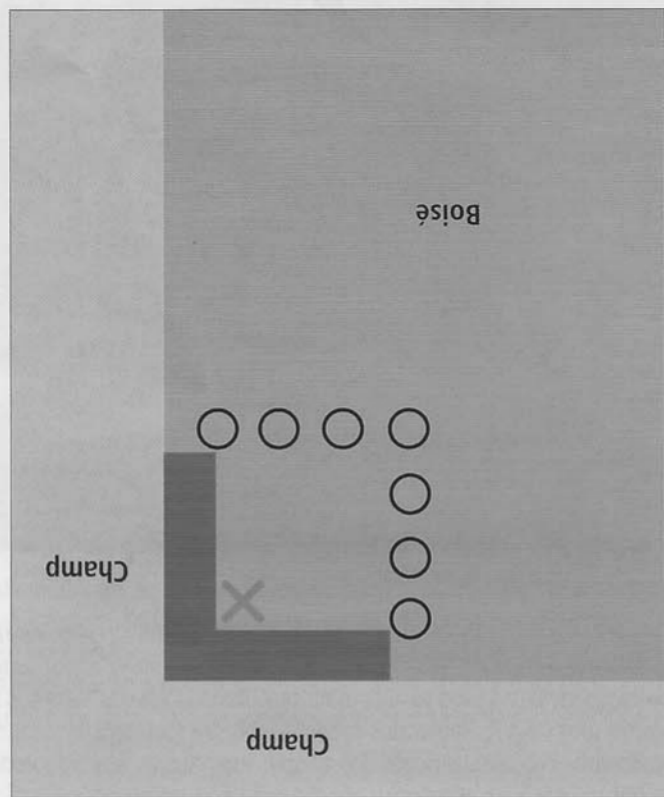
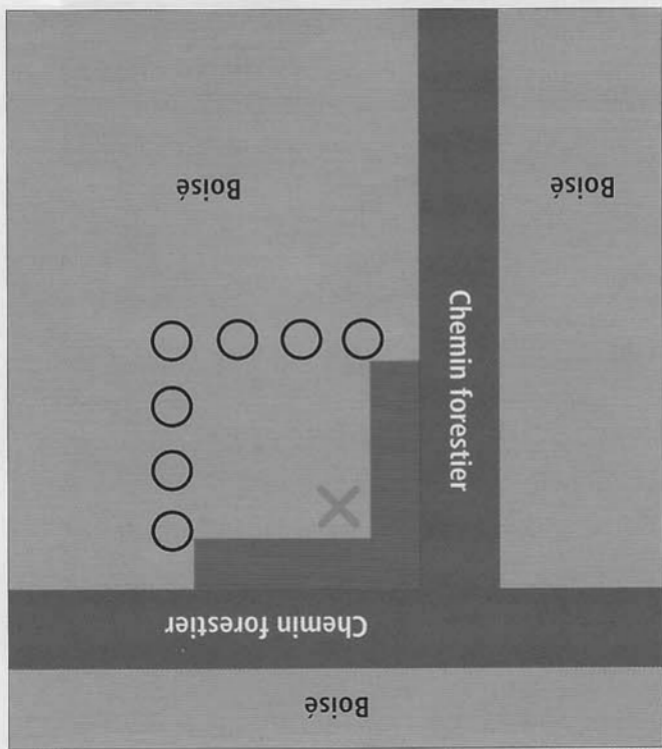
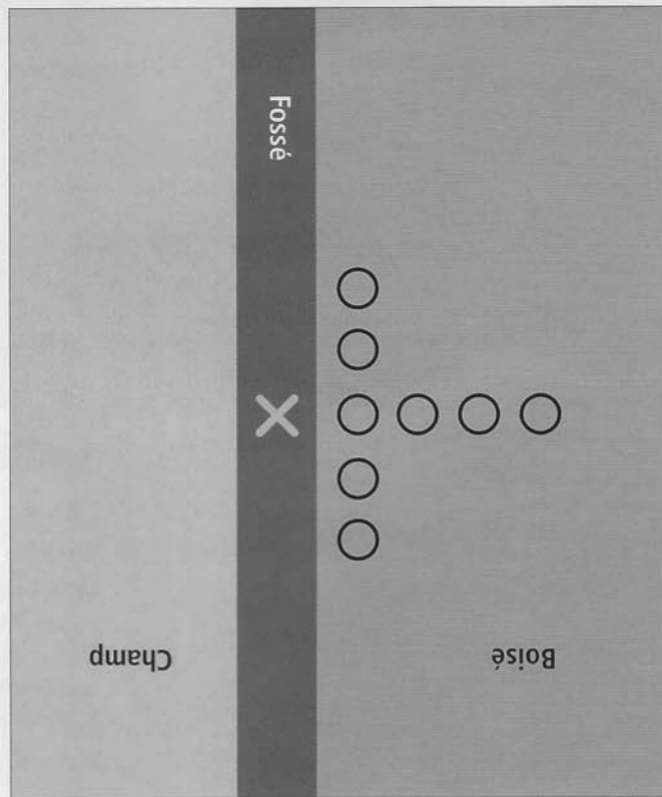
**@FurInstitute**

**www.fur.ca**



# La sélectivité, les captures accidentelles et la perception du public, éléments clés de l'acceptabilité sociale du piégeage Sélectivité

REGROUPEMENTS DE COLLETS ET EXEMPLES DE LOCALISATION DE CES DERNIERS PERMETTANT D'ÉVITER LA CAPTURE D'ESPÈCES NON VISÉES



Appât/leurre X Collet Zone à éviter pour collets

## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

---

**From:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 18, 2018 11:32 AM  
**To:** McNeill, Diana A FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Island Wolf Trap Bullets

Hi,

s.13

Page 127

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

## Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX

---

**From:** Marshall, Shelley FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, October 2, 2017 6:08 PM  
**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX; Smith, Kelly B FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Pillipow, Ray FLNR:EX; Brown, Jeff D FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Omineca wildlife reg change proposals  
**Attachments:** ATVForHunting\_TimeOfDayCorrection\_Sept2017-signed.pdf;  
ATVMorningClosuresSubmissionVictoria\_Sep2017-signed.pdf;  
GoatSubmissionVictoria\_Sep2017\_Final-signed.pdf; LynxSubmissionVictoria\_Sep2017-signed.pdf; MooseCalfSubmissionVictoria\_Sep2017\_Final-signed.pdf;  
RausMVforHuntingClosureSubmissionVictoria\_Sep2017\_FinalUnsigned.docx

Hi Steve and Kelly

Attached are 6 wildlife regulation change proposals from the Omineca Region.

Please note that there are 4 supported by region:

- Mountain goat closures in parts of 727 and 728
- Correcting the ATV morning start time in the regs
- Changing moose calf season from GOS to LEH
- Raus Valley motor vehicle for hunting closure (note that this one is not final, I am waiting for mapping from the Dunster Community Forest before we can provide the coordinate of where the closure should start – I anticipate having this late this week and will forward the finalized/singed proposal as soon as I can)

Please note that there are 2 proposals attached that are **NOT supported** by region and attached here. s.13

s.13

- Lynx hunting/trapping season extension
- Expand ATV morning closures to all of 7A

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Cheers

Shelley

***Shelley Marshall***

Senior Wildlife Biologist – Omineca Region

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

Prince George, BC

250-614-7458

[shelley.marshall@gov.bc.ca](mailto:shelley.marshall@gov.bc.ca)

# Lynx Hunting and Trapping Season Extension

## Stakeholder Submission

|                                      |             |             |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Submitted By: Bob Frederick          | Phone: s.22 | E-mail s.22 |
| Affiliation: BC Trappers Association |             |             |

### Proposal Description:

The trappers in Region 7-A propose that the Lynx Season in all Management Units of Region 7A be extended by 2 weeks from February 15<sup>th</sup> to February 28<sup>th</sup> for both trapping and hunting.

### Proposal Rationale (submitted by proponent):

"We do not have any scientific data to support this request ,however, historical record keeping and anecdotal reporting clearly support the fact that lynx have been harvested for a very long time in British Columbia an in particular the Central Interior of the province and currently their numbers have never been higher. The lynx season originally ran until March 31 which took it well into the breeding season and combined with other factors certainly led to the season adjustment we currently have. The current Provincial Furbearer Management Guidelines state that *"The lynx breeding season in most areas is in March or early April, and the young are born in late May or early June after a 65 to 70 day gestation period.* At this time we don't believe that an extension of 2 weeks to the season will have any impact on populations as the bulk of the breeding season occurs in March. Although the province undertook a review of Lynx & Bobcat Management Plans approximately 10 years ago it has never been completed and finalized after review by all stakeholders and until such time it should not be relied upon with respect to decision making of this nature."

### Pros and Cons of Implementing this Proposal (submitted by proponent):

"We cannot see any negative impact as a result of this proposal and on the other hand the Pros clearly give added opportunity to both Trappers and Hunters. There has been an attempt to harmonize season dates within the province for over a decade and this change would now align Lynx Seasons with most other Land based species. This allows trappers the opportunity to pursue lynx at the same time as other species such as marten etc."

### Demonstrate how support was achieved for this proposal within your stakeholder group (submitted by proponent):

"This proposal has been on the table at the provincial level for over 5 years now. It has passed resolution at the B.C TRAPPERS ASSOC. AGM, has been discussed extensively at the local level within the Prince George Local, Stuart Nechako Local and the McBride local and fully supported by these groups of trappers. The proposal was put forward last year and fully supported by OMWC members of the GOABC & BCWF. The proposal will be put forward to the Provincial website for public discussion once moved forward. We believe that the vast majority of hunters & trappers support this regulation change."

Bob Frederick, Pres. Stuart Nechako Local BCTA

## Regional Regulation Change Request Form



### REGULATION CHANGE REQUEST FORM

| HQ Use Only       |                          |          |                          |
|-------------------|--------------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| Executive Summary | <input type="checkbox"/> | Map      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Regulation        | <input type="checkbox"/> | Synopsis | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Schedule          | <input type="checkbox"/> | AHTE     | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**Contact:** Shelley Marshall **Phone:** 250-614-7458 **Region:** Omineca

**SUBJECT:** Extension to the Lynx hunting and trapping seasons

**Management Units:** All of 7A **Date of Submission:** Oct 2, 2017

**Species:** Lynx

**Regulation Name and Section/Schedule No.:** Hunting and Trapping Synopsis

**Who is the regional contact for communications issues?**

(someone with authority to deal with media requests if requested by Public Affairs)

Name: Shelley Marshall

Phone: 250-614-7458

#### PART A: PURPOSE

**1. Nature of the change:**

☐ New regulation

☒ Amending Existing Regulation  
(e.g., GOS dates, bag limits)

☐ Deletion of an existing regulation

**2. What is currently in the synopsis? (exact wording preferred)**

P 74. Lynx, 7-2 to 7-18, 7-23 to 7-30, 7-37 to 7-41, Nov 1 – Feb 15

P 96. Lynx Regions 6, 7, Nov 1 – Feb 15

**3. Briefly describe the proposed wording in the synopsis:**

Supporting scientific information has not been submitted and does not currently exist leaving Region unable to evaluate this proposal.

**4. Map attached?** ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A

**5. Reason for proposal (Rationale):**

What is the problem or issue that the regulation change is intended to address or resolve?

Why is government action required at this time?

Write at a professional level. This document may be part of the OIC/MO package and is subject to FOI requests.

This proposal was submitted by BCTA to increase hunting and trapping opportunities for lynx in Region 7A by extending the season by 13 days to Feb 28. This was requested to provide additional opportunity and contribute to season harmonization.

---

**Region does not recommend this change** based on proposal evaluation criteria detailed in the regional response section appended.

---

**6. Is there, or will there be, an associated map in the synopsis (page and map# if applicable)?**

no

---

**PART B: ANALYSIS**

---

**1. Describe surveys used for conservation issues and their results as they relate to this submission:**

What were the results of scientific surveys? For example, what population monitoring techniques were used? Anecdotal (hunter comments) and/or scientific information can be used. Be brief and write at layman's level. Doesn't require a lot of technical detail. (Reports, technical data can be sent as an attachment.)

There is no survey or monitoring data to support this request. Please see detailed response appended.

---

**2. Alternatives to regulation considered:**

If no alternatives were considered, explain why.

What other methods of regulation were considered and rejected and why? (e.g., voluntary codes, self-management, partnerships, etc.) Could other bodies outside of government ensure standards are met?(e.g., accreditation, certification, auditing, etc.)

Region recommends maintaining status quo.

---

**3. Pros/Cons analysis undertaken & results:**

Explain how the benefits outweigh the costs. An example of a pro would be an increase in recreational opportunity or reduced costs. An example of a con would be impact on species population or increased regulatory complexity.

Can the costs or benefits for proposed regulation be quantified? What factors were evaluated to determine this impact?

Pros and cons are identified in the detailed response appended.

---

**4. Identify risks of NOT implementing the new provision:**

'Risk' is the potential of loss or damage resulting from a decision. Risks would include conservation issues and relationships with stakeholders. Describe the "worst case scenario". (A risk in the broadest sense is the potential for loss. Risk may be represented by any unintentional event or situation that leads to harm for an organization, group, habitat, species, or individual. The loss might be as simple as the pain of a twisted ankle or as complex as a liability claim ending in a law suit.)

There is no conservation risk by not implementing this request.

---

**8. Comments by Reviewers: (if relevant)**

Use separate page, as comments may not be included in the final OIC/MO Package. Copies of email correspondence may be attached.

See below.

---

**PART D: STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION & FIRST NATIONS ENGAGEMENT**

---





|   |                                 |                    |  |
|---|---------------------------------|--------------------|--|
|   |                                 | 31 and Sep 12, 17) |  |
| <b>Other Gov't agencies (list)</b> (Highways, Forests)            |                                 |                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| <b>BCWF (Zone Representative)</b>                                 | Chris Schultz and Olin Anderson | Jun 19, 17         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| <b>GOABC or local organization</b>                                | Ken Watson                      | Jun 19, 17         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| <b>BCTA or local organization</b>                                 | Bob Frederick                   | Jun 19, 17         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| <b>Other organization: (name)</b>                                 |                                 |                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| <b>First Nations:</b> If incomplete, this form will be returned.* | See attached                    | Aug 8, 17          | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Not supported by s.13        |
| <b>Public Meetings:</b>   | (attendees)                     |                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A |

### List attachments:

List number of attachments and their nature (e.g., letter from local rod and gun club, minutes from public meeting)

Response from Rich Weir (email)  
Response from GOABC  
Response from BC Parks  
Response from BCWF  
Response from BCTA

### First Nations

We require the name of each FN group engaged and individuals within the group. When did the engagement take place and in what forum (letter, fax, meeting, etc)? What was the response or outcome of engagement (band by band or tribal association)? What might be the anticipated impact of this proposal on the First Nation's ability to practice their Aboriginal Interests?

See appended summary of FN consultation.

**PART E: APPROVAL**

**RECORD OF APPROVALS FOR REGULATION CHANGES  
UNDER THE WILDLIFE ACT**

**BC REGULATION** [title] [reg #] [section #]

**SUBJECT:** [subject]

**Region:** Omineca

**Contact Name:** Shelley Marshall

**Telephone Number:** 250-614-7458

**\*\*Region is not recommending this proposal be approved but is advancing to Victoria with rationale given the controversy that surrounded the identical 2015 submission.\*\***

**APPROVAL is sought for the following documents, to be submitted as part of the OIC/MO package:**

- [LIST DOCUMENTS & ATTACHMENTS]

**1. Section Head, Originating Office (GIVE LOCATION)**

Reviewed by: Ray Pillipow

Date: October 2, 2017


Signature: 

☐ Recommended ☒ Not Recommended

**2. Regional Manager**

Reviewed by: Norm Bilodeau

Date: October 2, 2017

Signature: 

☐ Recommended ☒ Not Recommended

## Response to BCTA Lynx Hunting and Trapping Season Extension

### Background

BCTA submitted a regulation change proposal (in 2017) to extend the lynx hunting and trapping season by 13 days (to end February 28). The previous BCTA submission to extend the lynx hunting and trapping season (submitted in 2015) was denied for the following reasons:

- insufficient monitoring data to determine the impact of the extension on lynx populations; monitoring data is required to ensure sustainability of the harvest
- to maintain the integrity of the provincial non-detrimental findings required through CITES and
- to maintain consistency with the recommended direction on season changes in the draft provincial lynx and bobcat management plan.

Upon notification of regional staff denying this request, BCTA contacted Minister Thomson and local MLA Morris. ADM Kriese met with BCTA and relevant actions are noted in the briefing note below.

Regulation changes with potential negative impacts on target populations should be grounded in the best available science so that potential impacts do not conflict with the management goals of the population. The current submission from BCTA does not present any new monitoring information, stating that existing monitoring data should be sufficient to determine the baseline population trends. We reviewed these data sources and deemed them insufficient for this purpose.

### Proposal Evaluation Criteria

| Proposal Evaluation Criteria   | Regional Comments  |
|--|--|
| First Nation Concerns?   | Yes, s. 13 did not support this proposal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• They felt that anecdotal evidence was not valid to justify the extension particularly when the anecdotes were provided by a source that would benefit from the proposed change. "...request that sophisticated monitoring be completed prior to making any decision regarding the lynx population in our territory."</li></ul> |
| Does Provincial or Other Scientific Data Suggest the Potential Impact of the Request is Sustainable? (eg, trend, demographic data) | No data exists to evaluate the potential impacts of this extension request. FLNRO manages 2 databases that track parts of furbearer harvest but both are fraught with challenges (details provided below).   |
| Did the Requestor Provide Adequate Data to Evaluate the Potential Impact of this Request?  | No, the stakeholder did not provide any data but feels that the current FLNRO databases are sufficient.  |
| Does this Request Promote Consistency Between Regions? (length of season, start/end dates)   | No, Omineca region currently has the longest lynx hunting and trapping seasons of the central and northern regions. This request would further enhance the discrepancy between regions and particularly between  |

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  | regions with similar lynx habitat conditions.  |
| Does this Request Promote Consistency Within Region? (length of season, start/end dates) | Yes, this request would align season end dates for some trapped species however the provided rationale did not include any concerns for bycatch that could be addressed by aligning season dates within region.  |
| Alignment with provincial or regional plans/management direction?                        | No, this proposed change does not align with the recommendations in the draft Provincial Lynx Management Plan.   |
| Inter-jurisdictional Concerns?   | Yes, BC must maintain the integrity of the provincial non-detriment findings (NDF) required through CITES. This is dependent on maintaining a sustainable, scientifically-based and monitored harvest. An extension to the harvest seasons would increase the vulnerability of BC's NDF to a challenge. If challenged, the lynx trade would be suspended while the investigation occurred. |
| Outstanding Info Required for Adequate Evaluation:                                       | Sufficient monitoring data for lynx population is required to evaluate the potential impacts of this request   |

### **FLNRO Furbearer Harvest Data**

There are two primary sources of furbearer harvest data in BC: the Wild Fur reports, which document royalty returns, and compulsory reporting/compulsory inspection (CR/CI) programs.

#### **Compulsory Reporting:**

Although lynx are a CR species for Region 7 for hunting, lynx harvested by trapping are exempt. The lynx reported by CR in Region 7A will therefore not reflect the total harvest, nor can it be used as an index of population abundance or trend.

#### **Wild Fur Reporting:**

Wild Fur reporting records the year in which the fur was sold rather than the year of harvest. Since lynx populations (and therefore market prices) fluctuate widely, trappers can hold their lynx pelts until prices are more favorable such that the year in the associated Wild Fur record has no bearing on the year in which the lynx was harvested.

On-going work comparing the CR/CI data and Wild Fur data suggests the two data sources are highly inconsistent. For 1671 wolverines harvested between 2007 and 2015, 25% were reported only in the CR/CI data, 56% showed up only in the Wild Fur data, but only 19% were in both databases (R. Weir, pers comm). Using harvest data to infer population trends is inherently difficult (e.g., differential vulnerability of age/sex classes of a species, differential dispersal distances/rates based on area condition), but when the harvest data itself is highly inaccurate, population trends cannot be inferred. Using this information as the basis of changing harvest regulations carries a high degree of risk and does not represent a science-based approach to wildlife management.

## **Biological Considerations**

Class 2 furbearers, like lynx, are wide-ranging and must be managed on a regional scale, not at the trapline scale. Baseline monitoring for trends in population and harvest regionally are required to assess changes in the lynx population and evaluate potential impacts of harvest regulation changes (e.g., a 13 day extension of the harvest seasons); however baseline monitoring does not exist.

Monitoring to make science-informed decisions is particularly important considering the scale of landscape change currently on-going in the Omineca Region. While young regenerating forests (15-40 years old) are generally considered good foraging habitat for lynx, logging activities often remove the complex understory structure typically required for denning. These same aged forests are also considered good foraging habitat for moose but confounding effects of the large scale landscape change are likely driving their population decline despite an abundance of food.

Camera trapping of lynx using scent lures appears more effective during the breeding season (Crowley, Hodder and Larsen 2013). This suggests that there could be a higher mortality rate during the proposed trapping extension as the extension occurs in the breeding season. The potential for adverse population-level impacts underscores the importance of solid monitoring prior to making this kind of regulation change.

## **Inter-Regional Season Comparisons**

Trapping Seasons in other Regions:

- other regions have a lynx trapping season extending from November 15 to February 15;
- the exceptions are the Skeena and Omineca regions, which have a longer trapping season, from November 1 to February 15.

Hunting Seasons in other Regions:

- Omineca is November 1 to February 15
- R3, Cariboo, Skeena, NE is November 15 to February 15
- Kootenay is November 15 to December 31

Maintaining regulatory consistency among regions would favor keeping the lynx season at status quo.

## NATURAL RESOURCE SECTOR – JOINT MINISTRY INFORMATION NOTE

Date: January 18, 2016

File: 280-20

CLIFF: 219691

**PREPARED FOR: Honourable Steve Thomson, Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations**

**ISSUE: EXTENSION OF LYNX HUNTING AND TRAPPING SEASONS IN THE OMINECA**

### **BACKGROUND:**

An Omineca (Region 7A) stakeholder meeting was held on March 6, 2015 where Guide Outfitters Association of British Columbia (GOABC), British Columbia Wildlife Federation (BCWF), and British Columbia Trappers Association (BCTA) brought forward regulation change proposals for group discussion. BCWF reps requested a 13-day extension to the lynx hunting season. Once brought forward for discussion, the BCTA rep asked that the same extension apply to the trapping season. Their rationale was to align the lynx season with the wolverine, marten, and mink trapping seasons to harmonize season end dates increase trapping opportunity.

### **DISCUSSION:**

In preparation of the 2016-2018 *Hunting and Trapping Regulations*, the Omineca Natural Resource Region received proposals from hunting/trapping groups for regulation changes. Key ministry drivers ('tests') for regulation changes include; regulation simplification, harmonization of regulations within and between regions, increasing hunting/trapping opportunities, and, program delivery within existing resources. All regulation changes must ensure that the ministry's primary goal of conservation is maintained.

The regional BCTA and the BCWF proposed extending the hunting and trapping season for lynx in the Omineca Natural Resource Region (Region 7A) from the existing period of November 1 – February 15 to the proposed period of November 1 – February 28 to increase hunting and trapping opportunity.

This proposal was reviewed, and endorsed by non-government representatives on the Omineca Wildlife Management Committee (OWMC) consisting of regional representatives from the GOABC, BCTA, and BCWF.

While there are no known conservation concerns for lynx in Region 7A, there are no surveys of population trends or adequate harvest monitoring to adequately evaluate the risk of increasing hunting/trapping opportunity to the population.

Biologists in the Omineca solicited feedback on extending the season, and comments included:

1. First Nations;

2. s.13 suggested that “if the season extension is enacted, s.13 request that the ministry maintain records of harvest such that an understanding of harvesting dynamics during the “new-extended period” can be developed and understood over a two year period.
3. The Environment Carnivore Conservation Specialist had concerns with the proposal;
  - The extension of the season would be inconsistent with the draft Lynx Management Plan. The plan was developed in collaboration with the BC Wildlife Federation and the BC Trappers Association. Although the plan is yet to be approved (FLNR is currently looking to release this plan in 2016, after final review and edit), extension of the season would require increased population monitoring which is not occurring.
  - Furthermore, lynx is a CITES species which requires the Province to demonstrate that lynx are sustainably harvested. Without sufficient population or harvest tracking data, we are challenged to support additional harvest opportunities.

Considering the information within the proposal, and the comments received, the Omineca Natural Resource Region did not submit the proposal to headquarters to extend the lynx season, as;

1. Lack of population data to adequately assess risk to population, and in consideration that lynx are a listed CITES species,
2. Lack of completion and approval of the provincial Lynx (and Bobcat) Management Plan,
3. Regions 7A (and 6) already have the most liberal trapping season from November 1 to February 15.
  - Regions 3, 4, 5, 7B and 8 have a lynx trapping season from November 15 to February 15, which is 14 days shorter.
  - Region 8 has a lynx hunting season from November 15-February 28.
4. The proposal was not supported by the Carnivore Conservation Specialists.

The Omineca FLNR biologist recommended that the BC Trappers Association work with the regional biologists to address outstanding concerns in preparation for next regulatory cycle.

#### **NEXT STEPS:**

- FLNR initiate a process to rationalize lynx hunting and trapping season to maximize regional consistency on regulation and reporting with consideration for regional population issues and concerns;
- The BC Trappers Association is encouraged to continue participating in the completion of the Lynx Management Plan; and,
- In preparation for the next regulatory cycle, the BC Trappers Association is encouraged to develop a comprehensive proposal which increases opportunity for trappers and hunters while minimizing risk to the population. Further proposals could include population and harvest data and trends;



- While all proposals to increase hunter/trapper opportunity receive due consideration, not all proposals may be approved. The BC Trappers Association is encouraged to share their expertise and information with local staff and develop comprehensive proposals which provide opportunity and sustainably manage wildlife; and
- A mid-cycle regulation change could be considered once outstanding issues are addressed.
- The Province is currently working with the BCTA to establish a harvest reporting and monitoring system, through a reporting form (see Appendix A). This system could be implemented over the next two years to provide facilitate further discussions on hunting and trapping seasons for furbearing animals.

**Alternate Contact:**

**Prepared by:**

**Contact:**

*ADM: Kevin Kriese*

*Name: Norm Bilodeau*

*Name: Jeff Brown, Ray Pillipow*

*Div: North Area*

*Region: Omineca*

*Region: Omineca*

*Phone: 250-847-7789*

*Phone: 250-561-3403*

*Phone: 250-614-7400*

| Reviewed by | Initials  | Date      |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| DM          |           |           |
| DMO         |           |           |
| ADM         |           |           |
| RED         |           |           |
| DIRECTOR    | NBILODEAU | Jan 18/16 |
| PRGM Mgr.   | JBROWN    | Jan 18/16 |

## HQ Response

RE: Lynx Regulation Change Proposal - Omineca - Message (HTML)

File Message

Ignore X Junk Delete Reply Reply All Forward More Meeting IM Move OneNote Mark Unread Categorize Follow Up Translate Related Select Zoom Zoom

Delete Respond Move Actions Tags Editing

① You replied to this message on 2017-09-25 1:55 PM.

From: ☐ Weir, Rich ENV:EX Sent: Mon 2017-09-25 1:49 PM  
To: ☒ Marshall, Shelley FLNR:EX  
Cc:  
Subject: RE: Lynx Regulation Change Proposal - Omineca

Hi Shelley,

I took a read through of the proposed regulation change to extend the trapping season for lynx in Region 7A by 2 weeks, as submitted by the BC Trappers Association, along with the response prepared by regional wildlife staff. The response by the regional staff was well drafted and presents a clear articulation of the reasoning as to why the proposal should not be considered for adoption.

Specifically, the proposal:

1. Lacks evidence to support that the population could sustain additional harvest. Past harvest rates are not an indication of sustainable harvest, as many other factors affect the observation of consistent harvest from year to year. The current harvest monitoring system is inadequate to truly capture harvest information, so relying on this a means of monitoring the population is further flawed.
2. Would increase the vulnerability to challenge of the non-detriment finding under our CITES obligations s.13
3. Be inconsistent with the draft management plan for lynx, which suggests that an expansion of harvest opportunities should only be considered with better more comprehensive information on population status and trend.
4. As noted, sufficient monitoring data for lynx population is required to evaluate the potential impacts of this request.

s.13

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Cheers,

Rich Weir

Richard D. Weir, R.P.Bio. | Carnivore Conservation Specialist  
Ecosystems Branch, Ministry of Environment  
PO Box 9338 Stn Prov Govt | 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 2975 Jutland Road  
Victoria, BC | V8W 9M1 | 778.698.4390

## **BC Parks Response**

### **Lynx Trapping and Hunting Season Extension**

BC Parks, Omineca section does not support this proposal. To consider this proposal we would like to see empirical information and analyses. If the populations are currently high, does it not simply make sense to set more traps within the present season dates?

### **Mule Deer Rut Closure and Season Extension**

No concerns. Although this proposal seems overly complex and counter to recent trend to simplify and harmonize regulation provincially.

### **Morning ATV Closures**

No concerns.

### **Reduce Moose Calf Season Opportunities**

No concerns.

### **Reduce Hunting Opportunities for Mountain Goat within WMU 7-27**

BC Parks fully supports this information based proposal to close mountain goat, a provincially blue-listed species, hunting within Mount Blanchet Provincial Park until such a time that lines of evidence (genetics, inventory, etc.) indicate that the population can sustainably support goat harvest.

As outlined in the attached 2005 Mount Blanchet Provincial Park and Takla Lake Ecological Reserve Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan, the primary purpose of this park is to “protect conservation values”. Mountain goats are one of four listed conservation values.

There are no concerns for the Mitchell range and Driftwood proposals .

### **Raush Valley Motor Vehicle for Hunting Closure**

No concerns.

## BCWF Response

### 2017 Wildlife Regulation Change Proposal Voting

Please indicate whether your group supports the following proposals (yes or no):

| Proposal   | BCTA | BCWF | GOABC |
|--|------|------|-------|
| Lynx hunting/trapping extension  |      | Yes  |       |
| Mule deer rut closure/season extension (712-715, 724-725)              | n/a  | Yes  |       |
| Morning ATV closures (702 – 706, 716-718, 723-730, 737, 740, 741)      | n/a  | No   |       |
| Change moose calf season to LEH  | n/a  | Yes  |       |
| Raush Valley motor vehicle for hunting closure                         | n/a  | Yes  |       |
| Reduce hunting opportunities for mountain goats in 727 (details below) | n/a  | No   |       |

If your group disagrees with one of the proposals, please provide details here:

#### Goat Restrictions

The Regional BCWF wants to the extent possible to have science informed decisions regarding wildlife management. However, there is currently concern that this may be a hasty knee jerk reaction. The consensus currently is that 1-2 more surveys should to be conducted in order to have confidence in the counts/estimates prior to a decision being made to close or reduce hunter opportunity. The region also would like to see the outfitter(s) in the area given an opportunity to change their harvest practices (i.e. no female harvest) and suggest that an appropriately worded notice be issued in the hunting regulations stating that resident hunters may lose the opportunity to hunt goats in these areas if female harvest is excessive.

#### Morning ATV Closures

While there was not complete consensus on this issue, the majority of clubs were not in favor of implementing this restriction using the provided rationale.

## GOABC Response

### 2017 Wildlife Regulation Change Proposal Voting

Please indicate whether your group supports the following proposals (yes or no):

| Proposal   | BCTA | BCWF | GOABC |
|--|------|------|-------|
| Lynx hunting/trapping extension  |      |      | yes   |
| Mule deer rut closure/season extension (712-715, 724-725)              | n/a  |      | yes   |
| Morning ATV closures (702 - 706, 716-718, 723-730, 737, 740, 741)      | n/a  |      | yes   |
| Change moose calf season to LEH  | n/a  |      | yes   |
| Raush Valley motor vehicle for hunting closure                         | n/a  |      | yes   |
| Reduce hunting opportunities for mountain goats in 727 (details below) | n/a  |      | no    |

If your group disagrees with one of the proposals, please provide details here:

We don't agree with the proposed regulation changes to the mountain goat in 7-27  
We think that one flight doesn't justify such drastic changes. Also when are they planning to check again to see what the populations are doing with such measures?  
I would also like to see suggestions as to how they plan to recover or increase populations to what each place "could" have. Then a commitment when populations objective are reached to reopen and reinstate what was there on opportunities before.

- 1.) If these populations are as good as it gets with GOS till now then there is no need to change.
- 2.) If these populations are lower than what they could be, how are they getting them to higher numbers? (Establish pop objectives and a plan to get there). And when are they checking again?

## BCTA Response

**RE: 2017OWMC\_member\_voting.docx**

■ Marshall, Shelley FLNR:EX

Sent: Fri 2017-09-01 12:08 PM

To: ■ 'B & H Frederick'; ■ Jason Hooft; s.22

■ info@circlemoutfitters.ca

Cc: ■ Klaczek, Michael FLNR:EX; ■ Anderson, Morgan FLNR:EX

Hi Bob,

I appreciate your comments on who makes the decision on whether BCTA votes for non-trapping proposals. This is not covered in our terms of reference; maybe something we should review at a later date. I recall that during this process 2 years ago, you noted that BCTA does not vote for non-trapping proposals so I followed that direction when placing n/a on the form.

Shelley

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**From:** B & H Frederick s.22

**Sent:** Thursday, August 3, 2017 7:10 PM

**To:** Marshall, Shelley FLNR:EX; Jason Hooft; s.22

; info@circlemoutfitters.ca

**Cc:** Klaczek, Michael FLNR:EX; Anderson, Morgan FLNR:EX

**Subject:** Re: 2017OWMC\_member\_voting.docx

Shelley;

BCTA of course votes yes on the Lynx Proposal and note that voting on the other regulation changes have been marked as n/a on the attachment. Moving forward suggest that the decision to not take a position on regulation changes with respect to hunting should be made by the Trapping representatives as although we agree that generally we should not take a position on hunting changes we certainly should have the opportunity to do so when the change may be based on fundamentals of wildlife management that may impact the trapping community.

Bob

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Marshall, Shelley FLNR:EX

**To:** 'B & H Frederick'; Jason Hooft; s.22

; 'info@circlemoutfitters.ca'

**Cc:** Klaczek, Michael FLNR:EX; Anderson, Morgan FLNR:EX

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 02, 2017 3:24 PM

**Subject:** 2017OWMC\_member\_voting.docx

Hi folks,

We need a formal response from each of the 3 groups on the regulation change proposals. Please provide your response in the attached. Note that there is a proposal included relating to goats in 727 – details are included in the attached.

## First Nation Consultation Summary

**Consultation Start Date:** 2017-08-01

**Response Requested By:** 2017-09-05. A 20 day extension was provided to nations experiencing significant fires in their territory that had not already responded (Canim Lake, Lhoosk'us Dene Nation, Simpcw First Nation, and Nazko First Nation). Lhtako Dene Nation was affected by wildfire but responded Aug 15, 17.

**Request Sent By:** email and letter. Proposals were discussed with Kwadacha via email as part of the Kaska Fish and Wildlife Working group. A sample letter is appended after this summary.

### FNs Consulted:

All First Nations with asserted territory or treaty rights in the Omineca Region (or as part of an agreement) were consulted in regards to the proposed Wildlife Regulation Changes. Strength of Claim assessments were not conducted because the proposed changes are region-wide. Five proposals were assessed as having no impacts to aboriginal interests associated with hunting and trapping. Two proposals were assessed as having minimal impact on aboriginal interests associated with hunting and trapping. Minimal impacts to aboriginal interests associated with hunting and trapping may include some increased hunting/trapping competition if hunting timeframes for certain species are extended.

Beryl Nesbit led consultation on these proposed regulation changes. The following First Nations were consulted, with information sent to contacts determined by our First Nation advisors.

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Adams Lake Indian Band        | Neskonlith Indian Band                 |
| Canim Lake Band               | Prophet River First Nation             |
| Cheslatta Carrier Nation      | Saik'uz First Nation                   |
| Doig River First Nation       | Simpcw First Nation                    |
| Halfway River First Nation    | Skin Tyee Nation                       |
| Kaska Dena Council (Kwadacha) | Stellat'en First Nation                |
| Lake Babine First Nation      | Tahltan Central Council                |
| Lheidli T'enneh First Nation  | Takla Lake First Nation                |
| Lhoosk uz Dene Nation         | TI'azt'en Nation                       |
| Lhtako Dene Nation            | Tsay Keh Dene Nation                   |
| McLeod Lake Indian Band       | Tsilhqot'in National Government        |
| Nadleh Whut'en Band           | West Moberly First Nations             |
| Nak'azdli Whut'en Band        | Xats'ull First Nation                  |
| Nazko First Nation            | Yekooche First Nation                  |
| Nee-Tahi Buhn Indian Band     | Gitxsan - Nii Kyap House, Haiwas House |

### Summary:

Below are comments received from FNs and any follow-up responses.

#### s.13,s.16

ATV Restrictions: "Consistent and enforceable regulations between WMU and Regions are recommended. There is a question on why only the morning closure is being proposed." Region

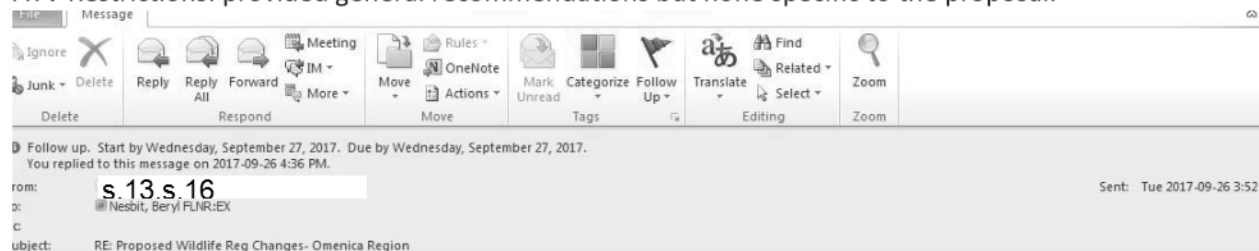
responded with “The ATV morning closure was proposed by GOABC to standardize regulations. They proposed the closure specific to mornings because it aligns with closures that exist in the southern portion of our region where day access to hunting areas from large cities is plentiful.” No further response.

Moose Calf Season: Do not support a moose calf season. Region responded that there is no moose calf season in s.13,s.16

s.13,s.16

Moose Calf Season: Would prefer season be closed completely.

ATV Restrictions: provided general recommendations but none specific to the proposal.



Good morning Beryl,

I'm just returning to the office and have had a chance to review the proposed changes to the 2018 regulations. I certainly appreciate the changes proposed and feel that they are long overdue. Having grown up in Prince George and hunted the areas around it extensively I can say that there have been some rather sharp declines in the animal populations. Response to a few areas of the proposed changes below.

Rather than make the Calf season LEH, it should be closed altogether. There's already enough pressure on the animals that additional pressure on the early life stages isn't necessary. Closing the season for calves also means that you avoid the associated costs of running the LEH process.

ATV restrictions should be set for a bit earlier and run longer. Having a restriction in place that is a half hour before sunrise means that people will use their ATV to go out to remote areas to hunt and be ready by sunrise. For example, one of the proposed times is 0530-0900am Sep 1-30<sup>th</sup>. This means that people get on their ATV and drive out at 5am. It still allows them to get into remote areas and hunt without breaking the law.

s.13,s.16





s.13,s.16

Requested additional information. Region provided requested information. No further correspondence received.

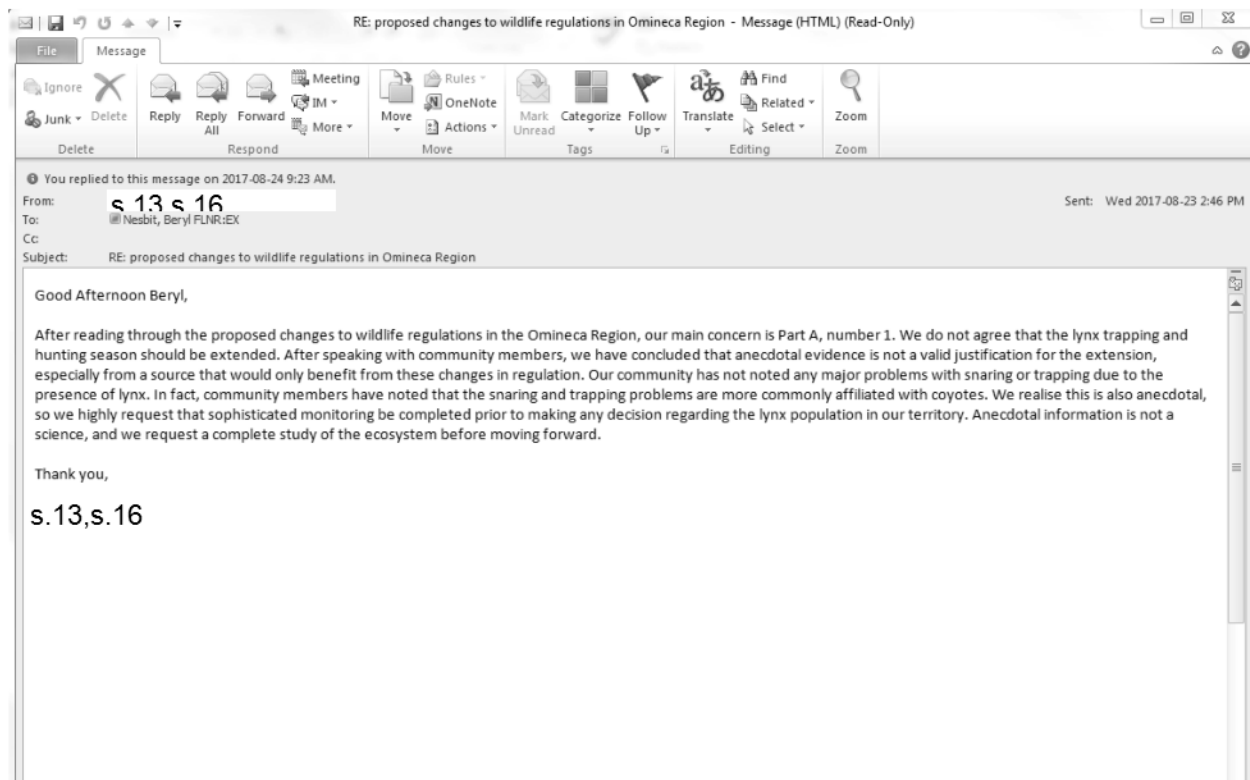
s.13,s.16

No concerns specific to proposals.

s.13,s expressed interest in an assessment of how much effect the wildfires have had on wildlife populations in the Omineca MUs in their territory.

s.13,s.16

Lynx: disagree with lynx proposal.



For nations impacted by fires who did not respond, the consultation record from 2015 wildlife regulation change proposals was reviewed; however there were no comments from those nations in 2015.



August 2, 2017

**EMAILED AND MAILED**

s.13,s.16

The Province of British Columbia is proposing changes to wildlife regulations in the Omineca Region and is requesting your input on the following:

PROPOSAL: Omineca Wildlife Regulation Changes (see descriptions below)

LOCATION: Omineca Region (Wildlife Management Units 7-2 to 7-18, 7-23 to 7-30, 7-37 to 7-41)

RESPONSE is requested by: **September 5, 2017**

Your review and input is required within the time period so that your interests can be fully considered in this matter.

**Further Detail:**

The proposed changes are described in detail in the Omineca Wildlife Regulation Change Proposal Overview, which is enclosed with this letter. The proposed changes may be specific to select Management Units and include:

More restrictive, does not apply to FN, no negative impacts are anticipated:

- Morning ATV closures
- Reduce Provincial Mule Deer Bag Limit
- Reduce Moose Calf Season Opportunities
- Reduce Hunting Opportunities for Mountain Goat within WMU 7
- Raush Valley Motor Vehicle for Hunting Closure

More liberal, little to no potential impact (wildlife managers anticipate no conservation concerns as a result of these changes):

- Lynx Hunting and Trapping Season Extension
- Mule Deer Rut Closure and Season Extension

The Province recognizes that your First Nation has asserted aboriginal rights and interests in one or more of these Wildlife Management Units, and is interested in understanding how these interests may be impacted by the proposed wildlife regulation changes.

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**Ministry of Forests,  
Lands & Natural  
Resource Operations**

First Nation Relations Team

Mailing Address:  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor 499 George Street  
PRINCE GEORGE BC V2L 1R5

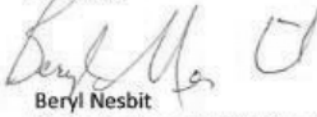
Telephone: (250)561-3479

If your First Nation has any further information that may inform how the proposed wildlife regulation changes might impact your aboriginal interests please contact me at 250-561-3467 or at [Beryl.Nesbit@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Beryl.Nesbit@gov.bc.ca) prior to **September 5, 2017** to enable the Province to consider such information in relation to this matter. If you prefer to provide written comment, please direct mail to the address listed at the bottom of the first page of this letter.

Should you need additional time to review this proposal due to the wildfire situation in BC, please let me know.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further with me, I can be reached directly at 250-561-3467.

Sincerely,



Beryl Nesbit  
Senior Advisor, First Nations Relations  
Regional Operations Division  
Omineca Region

s.13,s.16

Enclosure(s): Omineca Wildlife Regulation Change Proposal Overview  
Map of the Omineca Region Management Units

## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 20, 2017 2:35 PM  
**To:** Fraser, Dave F ENV:EX  
**Cc:** Smith, Kelly B FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Proposed Hunting Regulation Changes  
**Attachments:** 2018-2020 H&T Regulation Proposal Summary.xlsx

Hi Dave,

Tis the season for presents, decorated trees, intermittent snow, and reviewing proposed hunting/trapping regulation amendments. Attached is a summary of everything that has been submitted so far (note, two tabs, one for LEH and one for general open seasons), all of these are also posted/described in the Angling, Hunting, and Trapping Public Engagement website at <https://apps.nrs.gov.bc.ca/ahte/>.

I think I let you know about this before, but the regulation submission form states the following:

**Note: If the proposed regulation is for a CITES species, Dave Fraser (Provincial Scientific Authority for CITES) must be consulted.**

I think regional staff that submitted these proposals have contacted you, but want to double check that are ok from a CITES Scientific Authority for the proposed regulation changes.

Let me know if you have any concerns or questions.

Cheers,

**Stephen MacIver** | Regulations and Policy Analyst | Fish & Wildlife Branch | Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations, and Rural Development | Phone (778) 698-9112 | Email: [stephen.maciver@gov.bc.ca](mailto:stephen.maciver@gov.bc.ca)

| GENERAL OPEN SEASON SUMMARY, 2018-2020 PROPOSED REGULATION CHANGES |                                  |                                  |   |   |   |                     |   |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|---|---|---------------------|---|
| TAB #  | Species, Class                   | Management Unit                  | Proposal  | Rationale   | Consultation<br>All organizations listed support changes unless otherwise noted - red denotes opposition to the proposal - blue font denotes o/s  | Supported by Region | CONSULTATION REMARKS  |
| <b>ALL SPECIES</b>   |                                  |                                  |   |   |   |                     |   |
| 1  | Parabearing species              | Province wide                    | Amend certified traps list  | Periodically, new traps are certified in accordance with the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards (AIHTS). This proposal adds newly certified traps to the list of traps permitted for use in BC.   | Stakeholder groups support the Province's continuation of compliance with the AIHTS.  |                     |   |
|  | Evidence of Sex and Species      | Province wide                    | Remove antlers and horns as evidence of sex and species.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hunters are required to leave attached the parts required by regulation when transporting harvested wildlife from the kill location to a meat cutter, owner or operator of a cold storage plant, the person's normal dwelling place, or compulsory inspection location. The required parts are intended to prove the wildlife was lawfully harvested through possession of evidence of sex and species.</li> <li>Current regulations stipulate that the wildlife parts must be left naturally attached to the carcass or one part of the carcass. The term "carcass" is not defined in the Wildlife Act, and as such is defined by common dictionary definitions; this leaves the regulation open to interpretation.</li> <li>The Conservation Officer Services interprets "carcass" such that a detached head is not considered part of the carcass, and antlers attached to a detached head are not considered evidence of sex and species. One of the current options for hunters to prove evidence of sex and species allows for antlers (males), or that portion of a skull that in males would normally bear antlers (females) that are left naturally attached to the carcass, however this option is problematic because hunters frequently detach the head from the rest of the carcass. From the interpretation of the COS, for a hunter to meet proof of sex and species using antlers, the detached head would have to be left naturally attached to a portion of the remaining carcass, and the animal would have to be transported whole, or with the head attached to a front quarter or loin.</li> <li>The option to use antlers as evidence of sex and species is not necessary, reproductive organs prove evidence of sex, and portions of hide and/or an unskinned tail provide evidence of species; both of these parts are easily left attached to a portion of a carcass that a hunter likely intends to retrieve anyways (edible portions). The option of using antlers for evidence of sex/species complicates an otherwise simple process.</li> </ul> | COS - Joe Caravetta<br>Other Regions - N/A<br>HQ - Stephen MacIver<br>BC Parks - N/A<br>BCWF - PHTAT<br>GOABC - PHTAT<br>BCTA - PHTAT<br>Other Organization - PHTAT<br>FN - Letters to be sent to Treaty First Nations  | O/S                 | s.13  |
|  | Chronic Wasting Disease Products | Province wide                    | Ban any Cervid parts or derivative for the purpose of hunting or trapping.                              | Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is one of the most significant issues affecting the management of Cervids in North America. The infectious prions (abnormal proteins) that cause CWD are present in tissues and biological materials from infected Cervids, particularly in body fluids such as urine. These materials may be used in the production of attractants for hunting purposes and are frequently collected from farmed Cervids in jurisdictions other than BC. There is little regulation in the production of these materials, they are usually available without labelled information on their origin and Cervid farms in 2 Canadian provinces and 21 US states are known to be or have been infected by CWD. Cervid based attractants are a potential route of introducing CWD to new jurisdictions, including BC. The negative impacts of CWD on native Cervid populations and the continued spread of the disease has led to several jurisdictions implementing bans on products containing biological material from Cervids. BC can reduce the risk of CWD entering the province by banning materials containing Cervid biological materials.  | COS - Joe Caravetta<br>Other Regions - N/A<br>HQ - Steve MacIver<br>BC Parks - N/A<br>BCWF - PHTAT<br>GOABC - PHTAT<br>BCTA - PHTAT<br>Other Organization - PHTAT<br>FN - Letters to be sent to Treaty First Nations  | O/S                 |   |
| 2  | Mule deer (buck)                 | Regions 3, 4, 5, 6, 7A, 7B and 8 | Change Provincial bag limit from 3 to 1   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hunting pressure in Regions 3 and 8 has increased ~25% between 2011 and 2015 (2015: 18,500+ hunters in Region 3, 12,700+ hunters in Region 8), combined with other influences on mule deer populations, such as excessive and increasing road density, reduced habitat quality and predation, which has resulted in declining buck ratios in some areas and/or buck ratios below the provincial performance measure (i.e., 20 bucks/100 does post-hunt) in other areas. Currently, Regions 3 and 8 support ~55% of the interior mule deer hunters and ~60% of the interior mule deer harvest. Ways to redirect or distribute hunting pressure and harvests are required. Large areas in Regions 3 and 8 are currently very near or below provincial buck/doe targets and a proactive approach is necessary to maintain current levels of hunter opportunity in the regions as opposed to attempting to recover from widespread buck ratios below the objective with more drastic season restrictions in the near future. Harvest reductions in both Regions 3 and 8 are expected to be 5-15% and the proposed change is expected to have a significant reduction in hunting pressure as well. Alternative measures, such as restricted seasons (November closures, rut closures, limited entry hunts, etc.) are not the preferred way of addressing this issue as they will concentrate hunters, cause similar restrictions in all regions in the southern interior and be very difficult to get back in the future.</li> </ul>  | COS -<br>Other Regions -<br>HQ -<br>BC Parks -<br>BCWF - PHTAT<br>GOABC - PHTAT<br>BCTA - PHTAT<br>Other Organization - PHTAT<br>FN -   | Y                   |   |
| 3  | Wolf                             | Province wide                    | Replace solidly-fastened leg hold traps with all traps designed to trap wolves must be solidly fastened | Incidental trapped bears can be a safety issue if on a drag. When a drag is used on a foot hold trap it can be difficult to assess how secure the bear is when it is located and how mobile the bear might be. If the trap is solidly fastened there is no uncertainty about the mobility of the bear and the individual releasing the bear doesn't have to worry about the bear being able to move the anchor.   | COS - Denny Chretien<br>Other Regions - N/A<br>HQ - Stephen MacIver<br>BC Parks - N/A<br>BCWF - N/A<br>Wildlife Assoc., West Kootenay Outdoorsmen,<br>East Kootenay<br>GOABC -<br>BCTA -<br>Trappers Assoc., West Kootenay Trappers Assoc.<br>Other Organization - Bowhunters of BC<br>FN - | O/S                 | s.13  |
|  |                                  |                                  |   |   |   |                     | • FN - "no consultation with other FN because reg change will reduce licensed hunter harvest (discussed with Jen Smith and Isabelle LaRouche)."<br>s.22 |
| <b>MOUNTAIN GOAT</b>   |                                  |                                  |   |   |   |                     |   |

|               |           |  |   |  |   |   |   |
|---------------|-----------|--|---|--|---|---|---|
| 44<br>45      | Mule deer | 8-1 to 8-15,<br>8-21 to 8-26   | Close Nov 1-Nov 10 youth hunting and<br>Nov 25-Dec 10 bow only season   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In the past 8 years the Okanagan Wildlife branch has performed mule deer composition surveys during the rut when bucks and does have the closest sightability ideally with 100% snow coverage. Since 2010 we have completed 4 Mule deer surveys. One survey in each Okanagan (2015) and Similkameen (2012) Game Management Zones with both below provincial management targets (17:100 and 12:100 respectively). The boundary GMZ and Shuswap were surveyed 2 times in the past 10 years, both GMZs were above provincial management targets (26:100 and 35:100 respectively).</li> <li>A review of hunter harvest and hunter effort has shown a 25% increase in mule deer hunters over the past 5 years and an increase of approx. 20% in the same time. The average success rate and effort expended per harvest has not changed significantly for the past 15 years.</li> </ul>  | COS - Tobe Sprado<br>Other Regions - Chris Procter, Francis Iredale, Pat Stent<br>HQ - Mike Burwash, Stephen MacIver<br>BC Parks - N/A<br>BCWF - s.22<br>GOABC - s.22<br>BCTA - s.22<br>Other Organization - Wildlife Stewardship Council<br>FN - All Region 3 bands  | Y |   |
| <b>WOLF</b>   |           |  |   |  |   |   |   |
| 13            | Wolf      | 1-1 to 1-15  | Lengthen trapping season from:<br><br>Nov 1-Jun 30 to Sept 10-Jun 30  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anecdotal sightings/observations from numerous First Nations, trappers, resident hunters and guide outfitters regarding increased wolf population and a lack of ungulates (primarily deer) in many northern and west coast MUs in Region 1.</li> <li>Regional staff - increased sightings/scats/tracks while conducting aerial and ground based ungulate inventory.</li> <li>Decreased trends in population index (0-5 deer/km) in northern management units since the above increased sightings/sign.</li> </ul>   | COS - Scott Norris, Ben York, Mike Newton<br>Other Regions - Darryl Reynolds<br>HQ - Gerry Kuzyk<br>BC Parks - N/A<br>BCWF - s.22<br>GOABC - s.22<br>BCTA - s.22<br>Other Organization - N/A<br>FN - All Region 1 FN bands  | Y |   |
| 21            | Wolf      | 4-2 to 4-5, 4-20 to<br>4-22, 4-24 to<br>4-26, 4-34 to<br>4-37, 4-40<br><br>4-01 to 4-09,<br>4-14 to 4-41 | Restrict leg hold traps from Apr 1-Oct<br>14.<br><br>Replace killing snares in MU 4-1 from<br>Dec 1-Mar 31 to all of Region 4 from<br>Dec 1-Mar 31. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In MUs with no closed season, limiting trapping method to modified leg hold from (Apr 1 – Oct 14). This proposal will reduce the risk of killing non target species primarily bears but potentially domestic dogs during the non-winter period.</li> <li>Limiting the use of killing snares to Dec 1 – Mar 31 across all MUs. This proposed change will also help to reduce the killing of non-target species, primarily bear, at bait stations.</li> <li>This proposal will align the modified leg hold only restriction in MUs with no closed seasons more closely with the Caribou and Thompson Regions as well as reduce the complexity of the Kootenay portion of the synopsis by removing the special regulation within MU 4-01.</li> </ul>   | COS - Denny Chretien<br>Other Regions - N/A<br>HQ - Stephen MacIver<br>BC Parks - N/A<br>BCWF - s.22<br>Wildlife Assoc., West Kootenay Outdoorsmen,<br>GOABC - s.22<br>BCTA - s.22<br>East Kootenay<br>Trappers Assoc., West Kootenay Trappers Assoc.<br>Other Organization - Bowhunters of BC<br>FN - s.22 | Y | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FN - "no consultation with other FN because reg change will reduce licensed hunter harvest (discussed with Jen Smith and Isabelle LaRouche)."</li> </ul> |
| <b>COUGAR</b> |           |  |   |  |   |   |   |
| 11            | Cougar    | 1-1 to 1-15  | Remove exclusion of cougars from<br>edible portions.<br><br>NOTE: This is being addressed by<br>Penny Lloyd's group                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recently hunting for all species without the requirement to remove edible portions has been touted as "Trophy Hunting." Trophy hunting is harder to justify to the general public and maintain a hunt on the species in question. Requiring meat to be collected and removed from the carcass, the hunts for Cougars would be much more defensible and the optics of these hunts greatly improved. Currently, most resident Cougar hunters remove all edible portions of the carcass as cougar meat is highly sought after for human consumption.</li> </ul>  | COS - Scott Norris, Ben York, Mike Newton<br>Other Regions - Darryl Reynolds<br>HQ - s.22<br>BC Parks - N/A<br>BCWF - s.22<br>GOABC - s.22<br>BCTA - s.22<br>Other Organization - N/A<br>FN - All Region 1 FN bands   | Y |   |
| 22            | Cougar    | 4-01 to 4-09,<br>4-14 to 4-40  | Remove female quota in MUs 4-03,<br>4-04 and 4-26.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This regulation change will simplify cougar hunting seasons and encourage a more balanced harvest of male and female cougars in the southern East Kootenay where cougar densities are highest. Female quotas are no longer needed in the Cranbrook Game Management Zone (GMZ) as female harvest has been well below the target 15% harvest rate. The February 28th closing date will enable harvest on highhorn sheep winter ranges when animals are most susceptible to predation. The proposal fits with objectives in the regional cougar harvest strategy, which was developed in consultation with regional stakeholders.</li> <li>Cougar harvest is closely monitored with compulsory inspection of all cougars killed by hunting and other causes. Target harvest rates are 15% for female cougars in the southern East Kootenay, which has been considered sustainable in other jurisdictions. We used cougar densities estimated by DNA inventory to calculate approximate population estimates for the southern East Kootenay. Based on these estimates, a target harvest of 26 females was estimated for the southern East Kootenay. Only 17 female cougars were harvested in these MUs in winter 2016/17 (approximately 11% harvest rate), suggesting additional harvest could be sustained. Emergency season closures can be implemented if female harvest exceeds this target.</li> </ul> | COS - Jared Connatty<br>Other Regions - Andrew Walker<br>HQ - Steve MacIver<br>BC Parks - N/A<br>Other Gov't agencies - N/A<br>BCWF - s.22<br>GOABC - s.22<br>BCTA - s.22<br>Other Organization - East Kootenay Trail Hounds Assoc.<br>FN - s.22  | Y | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FN - ongoing, through official consultation - to be completed by November 22</li> </ul>  |

|    |                 |   |  |   |  |   |  |
|----|-----------------|---|--|---|--|---|--|
| 23 | Lynx            | 4-01 to 4-09,<br>4-14 to 4-40                 | Shorten hunting season from:<br>Nov 15-Dec 31 to Dec 1-Dec 31  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overharvest concerns. Lynx harvest has increased 583% since the introduction of an early season hunt in 2014. 57% of the hunter harvest since 2014 has been in the month of November. While recognizing that we are limited to 3 years post extension data and that other factors maybe influencing harvest, the increase is so significant it would be prudent to eliminate the early season (Nov 15-Nov 30) where the additional harvest has been focused.</li> </ul>  | COS - Denny Chretien<br>Other Regions - N/A<br>HQ - Rich Weir<br>BC Parks - N/A<br>BCWF - [redacted] East Kootenay Wildlife Assoc., West Kootenay Outdoorsmen, [redacted]<br>GOABC - [redacted]<br>BCTA - [redacted], East Kootenay Trappers, Assoc., West Kootenay Trappers Asso [redacted]<br>Other Organization - Bowhunters of BC<br>FN - [redacted] | Y | <b>s.13</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FN - "no consultation with other FN because reg change will reduce licensed hunter harvest (discussed with Jen Smith and Isabelle LaRonche)."</li> </ul> |
| 30 | All fur bearers | 6-23 to 6-29                                  | Exempt licensed trappers from need to get an export permit when going through the Yukon                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is currently no exemption in the <i>Wildlife Act</i> or its regulations for a trapper to export furs to the Yukon for the purpose of shipping them back in to BC.</li> </ul>   | COS - Kevin Nixon<br>Other Regions - N/A<br>HQ - No indication in proposal<br>BC Parks - No indication in proposal<br>BCWF - [redacted]<br>GOABC - [redacted]<br>BCTA - [redacted]<br>Other Organization - [redacted]<br>FN - [redacted]   | Y |  |
| 35 | Lynx            | 7-2 to 7-18,<br>7-23 to 7-30,<br>7-37 to 7-41 | Change general open season and trapping seasons from:<br>Nov 1-Feb 15 to Nov 1-Feb 28<br><br><b>s.13</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This proposal was submitted by BCTA to increase hunting and trapping opportunities for Lynx in Region 7A by extending the season by 13 days to February 28. This was requested to provide additional opportunity and contribute to season harmonization.</li> </ul>  | COS - Mark West<br>Other Regions - Provincial wildlife biologists<br>HQ - Rich Weir, Dave Fraser<br>BC Parks - A. Batho, P. Goetz<br>BCWF - [redacted]<br>GOABC - [redacted]<br>BCTA - [redacted]<br>Other Organization - N/A<br>FN - [redacted]   | N | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Region does not recommend this change based on proposal evaluation criteria detailed in the regional response section appended.</li> </ul>                              |
| 20 | Wolverine       | 4-01 to 4-09,<br>4-14 to 4-40                 | Shorten trapping season from:<br>Nov 1-Jan 31 to Nov 1-Dec 31  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FLNRO and co-operators conducted 8 wolverine inventories in the south half of the Kootenay region between 2012 and 2016. Analysis is currently underway but preliminary results suggest trapping mortality rates are &gt;10% which is much higher than sustainable rates that have been presented in the literature (approx. 5-6%).</li> <li>Current wolverine trapping season is Nov 1 - Jan 31. Trapping season has been the same since 1993. From 1993 - 2015, an average of 13 wolverine are trapped per year (range 4 - 29). The highest number of wolverine trapped (29) was in 2009 with 23 wolverine being trapped in 2015. Female harvest averaged 33%. Shortening season to Nov 1 - Dec 31 could reduce total harvest by 38% and female harvest by 25% (2004 - 2015 CR and Fur Harvest data). Lynx season was lengthened in 2010 to Nov 15 - Feb 15 to align with other regions.</li> </ul> <p><b>NOTE:</b> Rich Weir approves this proposal</p> | COS - Denny Chretien<br>Other Regions - N/A<br>HQ - [redacted]<br>BC Parks - N/A<br>BCWF - N/A<br>GOABC - N/A<br>BCTA - [redacted]<br>Other Organization - N/A<br>FN - [redacted]  | Y | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FN - "no consultation with other FN because reg change will reduce licensed hunter harvest (discussed with Jen Smith and Isabelle LaRonche)."</li> </ul>                |



**Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2017 12:31 PM  
**To:** Trotter, Ward FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: 229803 Attachment A  
**Attachments:** 229803 Biennial Hunting Regulations\_Oct 4.docx; 229803 Attachment A\_Oct 4.docx

Minor changes in both.  
Steve

---

**From:** Trotter, Ward FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2017 12:23 PM  
**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX; Trotter, Ward FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** 229803 Attachment A

**MINISTRY OF FORESTS, LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCE OPERATIONS  
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
INFORMATION NOTE**

Date: ~~September 27~~ October 4, 2017  
File: 280-20 BN  
CLIFF: 229803

**PREPARED FOR: Honourable Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural  
Resource Operations and Rural Development**

**ISSUE:** Biennial Hunting Regulations

**BACKGROUND:**

The Fish and Wildlife Branch (FWB) publishes the Hunting and Trapping Regulation Synopsis (HTRS) every other year. The next edition of the HTRS is scheduled to be effective from June 1, 2018 until July 31, 2020.

Leading up to the publication of the HTRS is the “biennial regulation cycle” which includes regulation changes that pertain to hunting (open seasons, bag limits, etc.), safety concerns related to firearms, motor vehicle prohibitions/restrictions, and trapping.

The amendments generally originate from regional offices, respond to the most current information available about sustainable use of wildlife populations, and are proposed for conservation of wildlife/habitat or to maintain/enhance recreational opportunities. Communication between regions occurs constantly as an amendment to regulations in one region can have consequences in others.

Consultation is a key component the biennial regulation cycle, and includes consultation with First Nations, hunting/trapping stakeholders, and the general public. Most First Nations and stakeholder consultation occurs at the regional level, and broader public consultation occurs through the Angling, Hunting, and Trapping Public Engagement (AHTE) website.

Consultation with First Nations is a legal requirement when a proposed regulation change has the potential to infringe on an aboriginal right (i.e., liberalisation of a hunting season). In cases where there is no anticipated infringement on an aboriginal right (i.e., more restrictive hunting season) there is no legal requirement to consult. However, First Nations bands in the area are notified of the proposed change and given opportunity to provide feedback. In some cases (e.g., Treaty 8, Tsilhqot'in) there are agreements in place that require a level of consultation on all proposals.

Proposed regulation amendments are summarized by FWB, and in collaboration with Government Communications and Public Engagement, are posted on the AHTE website in late November for a ~~period of one~~ month. The AHTE website provides the public with an opportunity to provide feedback on proposed regulation amendments. This website can generate significant amounts of feedback from both the hunting and non-hunting public which is considered by FWB and regional staff. Feedback from the AHTE website has been useful in past regulation cycles as a tool to:

- inform and educate the public on wildlife management and hunting/trapping regulations,
- gauge the sensitivity or public interest in specific proposals,
- solicit and consider alternative options, and,
- further inform the statutory decision maker on public interests in proposed regulation amendments.

## DISCUSSION:

The authority to amend the majority of regulations associated with the biennial regulation cycle has been delegated to the Minister responsible for the *Wildlife Act* through a Ministerial Order. Once the Ministerial Order is tagged it is packaged with briefing material and forwarded to executive and the Minister for consideration.

FWB and Regional staff are currently working out the details for each of the 75 proposed regulation amendments under consideration for this biennial regulation cycle. Certain proposals will be contentious to some First Nations, stakeholders and public (e.g., proposals to reduce moose hunting opportunities in the Skeena and Peace Regions are anticipated and likely to garner attention).

## NEXT STEPS:

FWB and Regional fish and wildlife staff will continue working with First Nations and stakeholders to develop proposals for regulation amendments with the goal to meet Government's objectives related to safety, conservation and opportunity. In late November the proposals will be posted to the AHTE website for public comment.

### Contact:

ADM: Tom Ethier  
Resource Stewardship Division  
Phone: 250-387-3637

### Alternate Contact:

Jennifer Psyllakis, Director  
Fish and Wildlife Branch, Victoria BC  
Phone: 250-387-3637

### Prepared by:

Steve MacIver  
Fish and Wildlife Branch, Victoria BC  
Phone: 250 387-9767

| Reviewed by    | Initials | Date |
|----------------|----------|------|
| DMO            |          |      |
| ADM            |          |      |
| Exec. Director |          |      |

Page 159 to/à Page 161

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 18, 2018 3:40 PM  
**To:** Correspondence Serv. Sectn, FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: 235567 - Lesley Fox - Please advise/draft response  
**Attachments:** 235567 - CLIFF phone call.docx

Hi Diana,  
I phoned Lesley, see the attached.  
Cheers,  
Steve

---

**From:** Correspondence Serv. Sectn, FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 15, 2018 1:32 PM  
**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX; Correspondence Serv. Sectn, FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: 235567 - Lesley Fox - Please advise/draft response

Hi Steve,

The response can be via phone call – I have attached the phone call response form which will need to be sent back to us upon completion.

Thanks!

### **Diana De Cotiis**

Correspondence Coordinator, Correspondence Services  
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development  
E: [FLNR.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FLNR.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca) | [Diana.DeCotiis@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Diana.DeCotiis@gov.bc.ca)  
T: 250-387-5888

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**From:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 15, 2018 1:05 PM  
**To:** Correspondence Serv. Sectn, FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: 235567 - Lesley Fox - Please advise/draft response

Hi Diana,  
Does this have to be a written response, or can I phone Lesley directly?  
Thanks,  
Steve

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**From:** Correspondence Serv. Sectn, FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 15, 2018 12:41 PM  
**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Richter, Mindy S FLNR:EX; Correspondence Serv. Sectn, FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** 235567 - Lesley Fox - Please advise/draft response

Hi Stephen,

It has been advised that you will be able to draft a response to Lesley Fox's points on trapping in the attached incoming message. Please confirm, and draft a response with wording/bullets due to CSS by January 26.

Thank you,

**Diana De Cotiis**

Correspondence Coordinator, Correspondence Services

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

E: [FLNR.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FLNR.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca) | [Diana.DeCotiis@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Diana.DeCotiis@gov.bc.ca)

T: 250-387-5888

## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** Pierre Canac-Marquis s.22  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 17, 2018 8:53 AM  
**To:** Alan Herscovici  
**Cc:** Emmanuel.Dalpe-Charron (MFFP - Qc); Serge Lariviere; James Baker; Jim Gibb; MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX; Tim Killey  
**Subject:** Re: BC - dog in trap (call for signage)

I had a second look at this video, took more time and sorry I made a mistake in my first reading of it. I did to quickly ...

The 2 trap models showed here are the Brawn no 9 Rubber jaws but the second one is the Koro Wolf offset jaws. The first one is already certified as meeting AIHTS requirements for live capture of wolf and the second is actually under testing for certification.

Seems to be some confusion here: they say that the black lab was caught "in this trap" . The trap model model they show when saying this is the Brawn no 9 but when you look at the trap on the leg of the black lab it is the other model (Koro)...

I wonder how she was able to pull out the first dog out of the Brawn no 9 and not the one in the Koro. The Brawn is way more difficult to open to release the animal....because of the shape of the spring lever arms (small diameter steel rod) and because it is probably the most powerful leg hold trap.

Again it is crystal clear for me that a good professional trapper would have never set rusty traps like to capture a wolf.

My last comment: if ever my dog gets caught in a trap like this, I would never think of taking the time to position my cell phone to film the event. My only priority would be my dog welfare. ...

2018-02-16 17:10 GMT-05:00 Pierre Canac-Marquis s.22

Alan

1) The dog was caught in Bridger Brawn no 9 with rubber coated jaws not the offset one which is a Bridger Alaskan no 5 offset and Laminated jaws.

This Brawn trap is by far the most strongest legal leg hold trap for wolf.

2) NEVER

Le 2018-02-16 17:03, "Alan Herscovici" <[alanh@furcouncil.com](mailto:alanh@furcouncil.com)> a écrit :

Adding Tim Kiley to this discussion too, for BCTA.

1) Yes, I noticed that she says dog was not seriously injured; confirming these offset traps do minimize injuries, even without laminated coating.

2) Your observation about the traps being rusty is very interesting; so no experienced/serious trapper would use traps in this condition?

3) We know that Furbearers has recently called for Qc Govt (and others?) to introduce signage to warn where traps are... could this be part of this campaign?

-a/

**From:** Pierre Canac-Marquis [mailto:s.22

**Sent:** February 16, 2018 4:36 PM

**To:** Alan Herscovici

**Cc:** Emmanuel.Dalpe-Charron (MFFP - Qc); Serge Lariviere; James Baker; Jim Gibb;  
[stephen.maciver@gov.bc.ca](mailto:stephen.maciver@gov.bc.ca)

**Subject:** Re: BC - dog in trap (call for signage)

One more thing:

These 2 trap models are certified as meeting AIHTS standards for wolf. The fact that she confirmed that the dog only had minor injuries confirms that these our trap certification and related animal welfare criteria system works!

I.m adding Stephen to this email group. He is the BC fur manager.

2018-02-16 16:30 GMT-05:00 Pierre Canac-Marquis <s.22

Something I don't get.

No professional trapper would use rusty traps like these. It it a basic principle in canids trapping. This will never caught a wolf!

For this only reason this makes me think that this could be a Furbearers frame up?

2018-02-16 16:20 GMT-05:00 Alan Herscovici <[alanh@furcouncil.com](mailto:alanh@furcouncil.com)>:

FYI...

<https://www.cheknews.ca/nanaimo-dog-walker-calling-for-trappers-to-put-up-warning-signs-417670/>

Alan Herscovici

Senior Writer & Researcher

***Truth About Fur***

*Setting the record straight about a remarkable heritage industry!*





Page 166

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.22

## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 12, 2017 10:03 AM  
**To:** Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** RE: IN\_LengthenWolfTrappingSeason\_Dec2017\_V4  
**Attachments:** Lengthen wolf trapping season.docx

Hi Dawn,

s.13 I've revised the wording in the posting document (approved by the director), could you take a look at this and consider adding some of the new language into the IN?

If the IN has gone up already don't worry about it.

Thanks,  
Steve

---

**From:** Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 6, 2017 2:39 PM  
**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: IN\_LengthenWolfTrappingSeason\_Dec2017\_V4

Hi again!

Vivian has a question (see attached). The initial report simply stated "regional staff". What is the right noun here? You can reply via email with the right answer.

Thanks!

---

**From:** Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 6, 2017 2:29 PM  
**To:** Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** IN\_LengthenWolfTrappingSeason\_Dec2017\_V4

Hi! A question for you/Steve as marked.

## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 8, 2018 2:03 PM  
**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Re: Internal Consultation List.

Doh. Thanks for correction. :-). There are growing partnerships with C&E, FN, cos, OGC etc. Need to keep the table manageable though. Will be good to hear from Mike when he decides.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the TELUS network.

---

**From:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 8, 2018 1:46 PM  
**To:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Internal Consultation List.

COS is at the regional table. Bryce thinks that there should also be representation from FLRNO C&E. I think we should leave that in Mike Stabergs hands...

---

**From:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 8, 2018 12:15 PM  
**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Re: Internal Consultation List.

Thanks. Sorry if I didn't give you a heads up. I had meant to. Cos at regional table is a good thing. Thought it was the default in fact.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the TELUS network.

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**From:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 8, 2018 12:07 PM  
**To:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Internal Consultation List.

Hi Jen,

I called Bryce and we spoke about the regulation change process and his concerns with the wolf proposal. He will be enquiring with Mike Stalberg on the process for FLNRO C&E staff to have a seat at the regional advisory table.

Steve

---

**From:** Casavant, Bryce FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 8, 2018 9:42 AM  
**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Internal Consultation List.

Hi Stephan,

**When you have a minute today I'm hoping to touch base with you Re: proposed reg change 2018-1-10 "Lengthen Wolf Trapping Season on Vancouver Island"**

I have a couple concerns with the information that has been put out to the public and would like to be placed on the internal consultation list for this proposed reg change.

Always,  
Bryce Casavant, CMAS, MA  
Senior Compliance and Enforcement Specialist  
West Coast Region  
Compliance and Enforcement Branch  
Ministry of Forests Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Province of British Columbia



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**From:** Casavant, Bryce FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2018 1:30 PM  
**To:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Internal Consultation List.  
Sounds good. Thank you Jen.  
I'll start there and loop back to you later so I don't waste your time now.  
Thank you!

Always,  
Bryce Casavant, CMAS, MA  
Senior Compliance and Enforcement Specialist  
West Coast Region  
Compliance and Enforcement Branch  
Ministry of Forests Lands and Natural Resource Operations  
Province of British Columbia



---

**From:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2018 1:22 PM  
**To:** Casavant, Bryce FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Internal Consultation List.  
Hi Bryce.  
I am out of the office starting in a few minutes until Tuesday next week. You could also talk to our regulations specialist  
wh

## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 14, 2018 8:38 PM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: letter adn info

Thanks Mike,

I expect this and the work that you are doing with GCPE to suffice. s.13  
s.13

Appreciate the detail.

All the best.

Jen

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, January 12, 2018 4:42 PM  
**To:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX; Hiltner, Clementine FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: letter adn info

Hi Jennifer,

Steve and I have been working with GCPE regarding media questions. As part of this work I touched base with First Nations to get their permission to explain the requested regulation change originates from First Nations. Maa-nulth and KDC representatives will likely provide further information for the ministers or may also request to meet.

Attached are some informal points to explain the situation. I can prepare a formal package if you like; however, I am not available on Monday (meeting with different First Nations over different issue).

Thanks,  
Mike

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**From:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 11, 2018 4:35 PM  
**To:** Hiltner, Clementine FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX; MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Re: letter adn info

Hi Clementine,

Correct, there is nothing planned. We have a reg in public consultation that proposes an extended trapping season. I recommend Mike Stalberg as contact (ccd). I also have Steve Maciver in branch included s.13

s.13

Jen

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the TELUS network.

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**From:** Hiltner, Clementine FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 11, 2018 3:41 PM

---

To: Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
Subject: FW: letter adn info

Hi Jennifer,

I just wanted to double check with you on this, although I don't believe there are any planned wolf culls on VI? Would you be able to point me in the right direction on my response to this?

Clementine



**Clementine Hiltner**  
**Manager, Executive Issues**  
Deputy Minister's Office  
Cell: (778) 584-1315  
**Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development**

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**From:** McLaren, Kenn FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 11, 2018 3:19 PM  
**To:** Hiltner, Clementine FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** letter adn info

Hi Clementine;

Below is a letter from a constituent of MLA Routley. As you will see, the constituent is concerned about a planned wolf cull on VI by FLNRORD. Please send this letter to the appropriate division, likely Resource Stewardship, for a response to how we framed our decision. This will help the minister and MLA Routley in a possible meeting with the constituent. This does not need a large IN but perhaps a quick response on how we decide to pursue a course of action.

Letter:

- **Subject:** Wolf Cull on Vancouver Island
- Doug: FLNR are at it again. They are proposing to increase the trapping season for wolves on Vancouver Island for 2 more months in the Fall. No scientific info about wolf population, increased wolf predation, just anecdotal info from hunters & trappers.
- My hope was the NDP would insist on scientific information to make wildlife decisions but no your party is allowing the same crap to come out of FLNR.
- Would you be able to get me the info from FLNR that forms their strategy? Thanks & need it quickly due to timeframe to respond.
- I have some other constituents who would like to meet with you along with me. I will get back to you as to when we can meet.
- Can we still get a meeting with Heyman & Donaldson on wolf issues as they share responsibility for this animal. Legislature does not have to be in session.

Thanks Clementine,  
Kenn

Kenn McLaren  
Ministerial Assistant | Honourable Doug Donaldson  
Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

o- 250-387-6240 c – 250-953-7231

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## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 15, 2018 9:35 AM  
**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Uppenborn, Jeremy GCPE:EX; Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX; GCPE FLNR Media Requests GCPE:EX; Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX; Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** Re: Media Request: CTV Vancouver Island - Wolf trapping

Hi everyone,

CHECK ran a story on Saturday about a lady who was walking dogs and 2 got caught in wolf traps. Lady was a commercial dog walker and was walking on Timberwest land without permission. Timberwest has allowed (by written agreement) a First Nation trapper to trap on Timberwest land. A Fish & Wildlife staff was volunteering (on private time) to check traps on days when trapper could not. Two days prior to dogs being caught, a wolf killed an elk in the area; wolf was trapped the next day. Lady a dogs were fortunate that wolf was removed or they would have been at risk.

Thoughts on bullets

s.13

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 15, 2018, at 8:48 AM, MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX <[Stephen.MacIver@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Stephen.MacIver@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Hi,  
Just wondering if Mike Stalberg has seen this? s.13  
s.13  
Steve



---

**From:** Uppenborn, Jeremy GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 14, 2018 1:33 PM  
**To:** Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX  
**Cc:** GCPE FLNR Media Requests GCPE:EX; Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX; Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX; MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Media Request: CTV Vancouver Island - Wolf trapping  
Okay to send to reporter? Attributable to the Fish, Wildlife and Habitat Management Branch?  
I've included Brett's comments<sup>s.13</sup>

**From:** Jeremy Uppenborn [<mailto:Jeremy.Uppenborn@gov.bc.ca>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 14, 2018 12:37 PM

**To:** Uppenborn, Jeremy GCPE:EX

**Subject:** FLNR Media Request: Wolf trapping

**Reporter**

Scott Cunningham, Reporter  
CTV Vancouver Island - Victoria  
[scott.cunningham@bellmedia.ca](mailto:scott.cunningham@bellmedia.ca)  
250-414-6568 c: 250-661-8630

**Deadline ASAP**

**Request**

Couple questions about the proposed change to regulations on Vancouver Island wolf trapping:  
<https://apps.nrs.gov.bc.ca/ahte/content/lengthen-wolf-trapping-season-vancouver-island>

- 1- Is trapping the same as hunting? As in, would trapping a wolf result in its death, or could it simply be relocated.
- 2- Is this proposed change to regulations a direct result of human wolf conflict on Vancouver Island?
- 3- Where exactly are these conflicts taking place?
- 4- What is the increase in these conflicts?

**Background**

**Recommendation**

Here's some information about the regulation proposal to increase the trapping season for wolves on Vancouver Island. Any attribution should be to the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development.

- There has been an increase in wolf populations on northern Vancouver Island, particularly in the area around Port Hardy.
- Wolf trapping is used to try and increase elk populations, which are currently too small to be hunted and show no signs of increasing. The wolves are not relocated.
- Biologists have also noticed increased wolf signs (tracks or sightings) in the area during deer and elk inventory work.
- The Province is also closing three additional areas due to declining elk numbers.

- There also appears to be correlation between the areas with increased wolf sign and decreased ungulate populations. Although there are scientific inventories to monitor deer and elk populations, there have not been scientific surveys for monitoring wolves.
- However, the ministry estimates there are about 250 wolves on Vancouver Island at this time and the population is increasing.
- Hunters/trappers that harvest wolves must report the harvest to the Province.
- Ministry data show that no wolves were trapped during the fiscal year of 2016-17, as there was significant snowfall and freezing temperatures last winter.
- In the previous five years, where conditions were milder for setting traps, the average has been seven wolves total for the entire Vancouver Island region per fiscal year.
- The Province anticipates that harvest rates will remain similar to past years; however, there will be a greater ability for First Nations and trappers to collaborate to address site-specific concerns.
- Trapping will occur by licenced trappers or by status First Nations, mostly on central or northern Vancouver Island.
- Commercial trappers have Crown-registered trapline boundaries where they have the right to trap, and 65% of commercial traplines on Vancouver Island are registered to First Nations' members.
- As well, status First Nation trappers can trap within their traditional territory for food, social, or ceremonial purposes.
- Commercial trappers and status First Nation trappers may trap on private land with landowner permission.

## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, January 12, 2018 2:58 PM  
**To:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Media Request: Times Colonist - Wolf trapping on Vancouver Island  
**Attachments:** Media Request\_SM.docx

Hi Mike,  
A few minor edits in the attached.  
Steve

---

**From:** Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, January 12, 2018 1:26 PM  
**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Media Request: Times Colonist - Wolf trapping on Vancouver Island

Hi Steve,

Background in grey and answers in plain.

We can talk once you have a chance to read.

Thanks,  
Mike

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**From:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, January 12, 2018 11:59 AM  
**To:** Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX; Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX; Wenham, Logan FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX; Roscoe, Lisa GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Media Request: Times Colonist - Wolf trapping on Vancouver Island

I think Mike will have some information for you this afternoon.  
Steve

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**From:** Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, January 12, 2018 9:35 AM  
**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX; Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX; Wenham, Logan FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX; Roscoe, Lisa GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Media Request: Times Colonist - Wolf trapping on Vancouver Island  
**Importance:** High

Hi there - Just following up on the status of this one are our ask for info. Hoping to have the answers by noon as no doubt when we send them to Jack Knox at the TC, he will come back with more questions.  
Mike Stalberg provided some good responses to me over the phone yesterday, but we need it in written form that also answers the questions below.

Thanks  
Brett

- What kind of traps are used?
- How many wolves were trapped last year?
- How many more wolves do you expect to trap now that the season has been extended?
- Are the wolfs killed in the traps or relocated?
- Who does the trapping?
- What is the estimate for how many wolves there are on Vancouver Island?
- Where on the island is most of the trapping happening?

# Lengthen Wolf Trapping Season on Vancouver Island

## Post comments

**Regulation Number :**

2018-1-10

**Status:**

Proposed

**Region:**

Region 1 - Vancouver Island

**Regulation Type:**

Trapping

**Species:**

Wolf

**Closing Date:**

Friday, January 19, 2018

**Decision Statement:**

Pending

**Current Regulations:**

The current trapping season for wolves in Region 1 (Vancouver Island) is November 1 to June 30.

**Proposed Regulations:**

This proposal seeks to lengthen the wolf trapping season to September 10 to June 30.

**Rationale:**

Inventory and monitoring of wolf populations is costly and difficult, survey methodologies generally consist of aerial snow-tracking, radio-telemetry, or a combination of aerial snow-tracking and radio-telemetry. Aerial based inventory methods do not work because wolves are elusive and can be difficult to see from the air, especially in timber. Because of the high costs and challenges with wolf inventory, and their low conservation concern status, limited wolf inventory has been conducted in B.C. The most comprehensive wolf population monitoring in B.C. has occurred in the Nimpkish Valley on northern Vancouver Island (Atkinson and Janz 1994), north of Revelstoke in southern B.C. (Serrouya 2013) and in the Muskwa-Kechika area of northeastern B.C. (Elliott 1984a, 1984b). Currently, there is limited inventory or monitoring of wolves other than some woodland caribou recovery areas in B.C. Much of the information the province's wildlife managers obtain regarding wolf populations is anecdotal, with a reliance on public sightings and observations.

Anecdotal sightings/observations from numerous First Nations, trappers, resident hunters and guide outfitters regarding increased wolf population and a lack of ungulates (primarily deer) in many northern and west coast MUs in Region 1. Regional staff have witnessed increased sightings/scats/tracks while conducting aerial and ground based ungulate inventory.

There have been decreased trends in deer population index (0-5 deer/km) in northern management units since the increased wolf sightings/sign have been observed.

**Additional Information:**

On June 1, 1999, the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards (AIHTS, or the "Agreement") came into effect. Signed by the Government of Canada, the European Community, and the Government of the Russian Federation, the Agreement serves to protect Canada's access to the European fur market and thus protects the wild fur industry in Canada.

The AIHTS sets performance thresholds on traps for specific species. Those traps that meet the performance thresholds are then eligible for certification. In order to comply with the Agreement, BC has made numerous regulatory changes and will make further regulatory changes to ensure that only certified traps will be legal for those species listed in the AIHTS.

The Agreement applies to most furbearers trapped in BC, including beaver, bobcat, coyote, ermine, fisher, lynx, marten, muskrat, otter, raccoon and wolf for the following purposes:

1. for wildlife management purposes, including wildlife conflict control;
2. to obtain furs, skins or meat;
3. for conservation purposes.

Objectives of the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards:

1. To meet a requirement of EU Regulation 3254/91
2. To pursue an international standard that scientifically addresses animal welfare related to trapping furbearers. This reduces the ability to force legislation based on political lobbying efforts
3. To enlist signatories to address the issue of animal welfare related to trapping, regardless of the reason the animals are trapped. Whether it is for pest control, research, disease control, wildlife management or the commercial fur trade, the AIHTS is designed to ensure that the same scientifically validated standards apply in all three jurisdictions.
4. To maintain access to the European wild fur market. As the world's fashion centre, the European Union remains an important market for North American wild fur

As the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards is a dynamic treaty, it provides opportunity for continuing the improvement of animal welfare related to trapping as new technology and scientific knowledge emerges.

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**From:** Uppenborn, Jeremy GCPE:EX

**Sent:** Thursday, January 11, 2018 12:48 PM

**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX; Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX

**Cc:** GCPE FLNR Media Requests GCPE:EX; Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX; Wenham, Logan FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX; Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX

**Subject:** RE: Media Request: Times Colonist - Wolf trapping on Vancouver Island

Looping in Mike Stalberg.

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**From:** Uppenborn, Jeremy GCPE:EX

**Sent:** Thursday, January 11, 2018 12:38 PM

**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX

**Cc:** GCPE FLNR Media Requests GCPE:EX; Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX; Wenham, Logan FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX; Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX

**Subject:** Media Request: Times Colonist - Wolf trapping on Vancouver Island

Hi Steve,

Are you able to offer some advice on suggested response to the reporter's questions below? Or direct me to who can, please?

Thank you,

**Jeremy Uppenborn**

Senior Public Affairs Officer

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

Office: 250 356-7506

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**From:** Jeremy Uppenborn [<mailto:Jeremy.Uppenborn@gov.bc.ca>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 11, 2018 12:34 PM  
**To:** Uppenborn, Jeremy GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** FLNR Media Request: Wolf trapping on Vancouver Island

**Reporter**

Jack Knox, Reporter  
Times Colonist  
[jknox@timescolonist.com](mailto:jknox@timescolonist.com)  
250-380-5206

**Deadline** Friday, January 12, 2018 4:30 PM

**Request**

Was contacted by some people up Island that are upset about the proposal to extend the wolf-trapping season by 51 days on Vancouver Island. <https://apps.nrs.gov.bc.ca/ahte/content/lengthen-wolf-trapping-season-vancouver-island>

I wasn't aware there was wolf-trapping on Vancouver Island.

Looking for background about wolf-trapping on Vancouver Island?

Why is it a good idea?

Who traps and what are the statistics for wolves harvested on the Island annually?

What areas of the Island does wolf-trapping take place?

**Background**

**Recommendation**

## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 10, 2018 9:27 AM  
**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX; Roscoe, Lisa GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed wolf trapping season extension - Vancouver Island

Thanks Steve.

---

**From:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 10, 2018 9:27 AM  
**To:** Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX; Roscoe, Lisa GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed wolf trapping season extension - Vancouver Island

Should have cc'd you two on this. I expect some media attention.  
Steve

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**From:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 9, 2018 4:22 PM  
**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Stalberg, Mike X FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Smith, Kelly B FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Proposed wolf trapping season extension - Vancouver Island

Hi Folks,

Just a heads up that the proposed wolf trapping season extension on the island is starting to get attention on the public engagement website, and a few NGO websites have this highlighted.

**Stephen MacIver** | Regulations and Policy Analyst | Fish & Wildlife Branch | Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations, and Rural Development | Phone (778) 698-9112 | Email: [stephen.maciver@gov.bc.ca](mailto:stephen.maciver@gov.bc.ca)

## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 2:39 PM  
**To:** Hiltner, Clementine FLNR:EX; Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Response req'd - wolf trapping/hunting reg changes

I just sent an email on this, should have looked at other correspondence on the subject first.

We will be going to the Minister with two separate regulation orders.

The first one should be sometime in early to mid April, but will be specific to Limited Entry Hunting proposals (LEH is on a different timeline).

The second order, which will include proposals related to general open season hunting/trapping (including the proposal to extend the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island), motor vehicle prohibitions, firearms restrictions, will be about a month later, likely early to mid May, but possibly late May depending on how things roll out.

Steve

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**From:** Hiltner, Clementine FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 12:20 PM  
**To:** Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Response req'd - wolf trapping/hunting reg changes

Will do, thank you both.



**Clementine Hiltner**  
**Manager, Executive Issues**  
Deputy Minister's Office  
Cell: (778) 584-1315  
**Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development**

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**From:** Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 11:29 AM  
**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Hiltner, Clementine FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Response req'd - wolf trapping/hunting reg changes

Thanks for this, Michael.

Clementine, please let me (or Steve) know if you require a more specific date/more info.

Have a good day!  
Dawn

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**From:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 11:21 AM



**To:** Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX  
**Cc:** Hiltner, Clementine FLNR:EX; MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Response req'd - wolf trapping/hunting reg changes

Hi Dawn,

The challenge for identifying a date is some proposed late regulation changes that will not have public review completed until the end of February. Following that would be the minister briefing on the proposed regulation changes, including the summarized input from the public.

I'm anticipating early March for the regulation decisions.

Steve is back tomorrow and can correct me if necessary.

Regards,

Michael

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**From:** Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 11:01 AM  
**To:** Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Hiltner, Clementine FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Response req'd - wolf trapping/hunting reg changes  
**Importance:** High

Hi Michael,

I believe Steve is out of the office. Are you able to respond to the attached?

Thanks,  
Dawn

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**From:** Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 29, 2018 9:53 AM  
**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Hiltner, Clementine FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Wolf trapping  
**Importance:** High

Hi Steve,

Just wondering if you might be able to provide some information on the timeline of proposed regulation changes following the public review and comment period.

MDD has a meeting request from BCSPCA, but does not want to schedule it until after revised hunting/trapping regulations have been announced.

Do we have a date for this?

Thanks!

**Dawn Makarowski**

Public Affairs Officer

250-356-5261

[Dawn.Makarowski@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Dawn.Makarowski@gov.bc.ca)

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 780 Blanshard Street

Victoria, BC V8W 9V1

## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 12, 2017 12:49 PM  
**To:** Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX  
**Cc:** Roscoe, Lisa GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Revised IN wolf trapping  
**Attachments:** IN\_LengthenWolfTrappingSeason\_Dec2017\_post-Finalv2\_SM.docx

Hi Dawn,  
Looks good, a few suggested edits in the attached.  
Cheers,  
Steve

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**From:** Makarowski, Dawn GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 12, 2017 12:04 PM  
**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Roscoe, Lisa GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** Revised IN wolf trapping

Hey Steve,

s.13

I did not include the additional information in the key messages, but I did put it in the background because it may prove to be useful.

After you've had a look at it, I will have my manager Brett give it a quick look before sending on to Jen and Mike.

**Dawn Makarowski**  
Public Affairs Officer  
250-356-5261  
[Dawn.Makarowski@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Dawn.Makarowski@gov.bc.ca)

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 780 Blanshard Street  
Victoria, BC V8W 9V1

## ADVICE TO MINISTER

### CONFIDENTIAL ISSUES NOTE

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource  
Operations, and Rural Development

Date: Dec. 6, 2017

Minister Responsible: Hon. Doug Donaldson

# Vancouver Island Wolf Trapping – Season Extension

## ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **The Province is proposing regulation changes on Vancouver Island to provide additional sustainable trapping opportunities for wolves s.1 to reduce deer predation.**
- **Anecdotal reports by First Nations and trappers/hunters, and regional wildlife staff indicate that wolf populations on Vancouver Island have increased in the north and west areas of the Island. The number of deer in these same areas seems to be declining.**
- **To aid in deer conservation efforts, s.13 have asked that the wolf trapping season open on Sept. 10, rather than Nov. 1. This change will allow for a longer trapping season.**
- **The Province has posted the proposed changes, and they will be available for public review and comment until Jan. 19, 2018. To see the regulation proposal and to submit feedback, visit <http://apps.nrs.gov.bc.ca/pub/ahte/>.**

## KEY FACTS REGARDING THE ISSUE:

The Hunting and Trapping Regulation Synopsis for 2018 to 2020 is currently under review. The Ministry is posting all proposed regulation changes online for public review and comment until Jan. 19, 2018, before the regulation proposals are finalized.

As a part of this process, the Ministry is reviewing the wolf trapping season on Vancouver Island. First Nations, trappers and hunters in the north and west areas of Vancouver Island have said anecdotally\* there is an increase in the number of wolves and a decrease in the number of deer. Regional government staff members have also witnessed an increase in wolf sightings, droppings and tracks while conducting aerial and ground based ungulate inventory.

On Vancouver Island, deer are one of the primary species that wolves prey on. The decrease in the deer population is a suspected result of the increased estimate in the number of wolves. To s.13

s.13 deer and provide for additional trapping opportunity, it is proposed to extend the wolf trapping season by opening the season earlier – on Sept. 10 rather than Nov. 1. The season end date, which is June 30, will remain unchanged.

\*The Ministry relies s.13, \_\_\_\_\_ on anecdotal observations to monitor the number of wolves because implementing other survey methodologies, such as aerial tracking or the use of tracking devices, can be

costly and difficult. In addition, the numbers of wolves in B.C. is particularly abundant, providing further reason not to monitor their population because conservation efforts are not required.

|                         |                 |              |
|-------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Communications Contact: | Dawn Makarowski | 250 356-5261 |
| Program Area Contact:   | Stephen MacIver | 778 698-9112 |

## **Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 7, 2017 4:20 PM  
**To:** Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Smith, Kelly B FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Reg Changes - Public Engagement

Hi,

Almost all the proposed regulation changes are on the public engagement website. Don't panic, only Kelly and I can see them, but they're lined up and when there is a green light to post we can have them live in a few minutes.

Couple of things we should discuss before going live:

s.13

s.13,s.14

4) Vancouver Island wolf trapping – posting document needs a re-write, I'll do that tomorrow morning.  
s.13

I think we can go live with the lions share of the postings tomorrow (we've gotten many asks about when this will happen), and hold off on the 5 above until a later date.

Cheers,

**Stephen MacIver** | Regulations and Policy Analyst | Fish & Wildlife Branch | Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations, and Rural Development | Phone (778) 698-9112 | Email: [stephen.maciver@gov.bc.ca](mailto:stephen.maciver@gov.bc.ca)



## REGULATION CHANGE REQUEST FORM

| HQ Use Only       |                          |                                   |
|-------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Executive Summary | <input type="checkbox"/> | Map <input type="checkbox"/>      |
| Regulation        | <input type="checkbox"/> | Synopsis <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Schedule          | <input type="checkbox"/> | AHTE <input type="checkbox"/>     |

|  |                                     |           |
|--|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Contact: Irene Teske                                 | Phone: 250-489-8551                 | Region: 4 |
| SUBJECT: Shorten length of Wolverine Trapping Season |                                     |           |
| Management Units: 4-01 to 4-09, 4-14 to 4-40         | Date of Submission: October 1, 2017 |           |
| Species: Wolverine                                   |                                     |           |

Regulation Name and Section/Schedule No.: WHICH REGULATION IS IT IN/SHOULD BE IN

**Who is the regional contact for communications issues?**

(someone with authority to deal with media requests if requested by Public Affairs)

Name: Tara Szkorupa

Phone: 250-489-8553

### PART A: PURPOSE

**1. Nature of the change:**

- ☐ New regulation ☒ Amending Existing Regulation ☐ Deletion of an existing regulation  
(e.g., GOS dates, bag limits)

**2. What is currently in the synopsis? (exact wording preferred)**

Region 4: Wolverine trapping Nov 1 to Jan 31

**3. Briefly describe the proposed wording in the synopsis:**

Region 4: Wolverine trapping Nov 1 to Dec 31  
(Shorten trapping season by 1 month)

**4. Map attached?** ☐ Yes ☒ No ☒ N/A

**5. Reason for proposal (Rationale):**

**Background from February 2004 briefing note (1997-2003):** Biodiversity Branch provided information regarding over harvest of wolverine in specific management units (i.e. 4-01, 4-02, 4-20, 4-21, 4-22, 4-23, and 4-34). In addition, Biodiversity Branch recommended that Region 4 close the harvesting of wolverine in MU 4-03, 4-04, 4-07, 4-08, 4-09, 4-14 due to small estimated population size (i.e. less than 10 wolverines). After reviewing harvest data from 1997 to 2003, it was determined that 27% of the harvest was females and that 72% of the females were harvested in January. According to research, females tend to travel longer distances in late January and February (pers.comm. J. Krebs, E. Lofroth; Hatler and Beale 2003). Slightly more than half of the wolverine harvest in the Kootenays occurs in January. This data was presented to four representatives of the East Kootenay Trappers Association (EKTA) on January 27, 2004. They were opposed on principle to closing the wolverine season in the above mentioned units. When presented the proposal of a shortened wolverine season (Nov 1 – Jan 15) they would only accept the proposal if the lynx season was lengthened from Nov 15 – Dec 31 to Nov 15 – Jan 15. If the lynx season was lengthened, the trappers would then support a reduced wolverine season and cooperatively write a letter with WLAP requesting trappers to reduce their harvest of wolverine in specific MUs.

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**Current background: 2004 – 2015**

FLNRO and co-operators conducted 8 wolverine inventories in the south half of the Kootenay region between 2012 and 2016. Analysis is currently underway but preliminary results suggest trapping mortality rates are >10% which is much higher than sustainable rates that have been presented in the literature (approx. 5-6%).

Current wolverine trapping season is Nov 1 - Jan 31. Trapping season has been the same since 1993. From 1993 – 2015, an average of 13 wolverine are trapped per year (range 4 – 29). The highest number of wolverine trapped (29) was in 2009 with 23 wolverine being trapped in 2015. Female harvest averaged 33%. Shortening season to Nov 1 – Dec 31 could reduce total harvest by 38% and female harvest by 25% (2004 – 2015 CR and Fur Harvest data). Lynx season was lengthened in 2010 to Nov 15 – Feb 15 to align with other regions.

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**6. Is there, or will there be, an associated map in the synopsis (page and map# if applicable)?**

No map

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**PART B: ANALYSIS**

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**1. Describe surveys used for conservation issues and their results as they relate to this submission:**

Eight wolverine DNA based inventory projects occurred within Kootenay Region from 2012-2016. s.13

s.13  
s.13

Harvest data is from Compulsory Reporting Database and Fur sales database.

---

**2. Alternatives to regulation considered:**

- Status quo: Maintain current harvest and current season length
  - Close wolverine trapping
- 

**3. Pros/Cons analysis undertaken & results:**

Pros: expected to reduce overall trapping harvest and female harvest; hope to reduce harvest rate to less than 6%

Cons: trapping activity may adjust and occur in Nov and Dec resulting in no reduction in harvest.

---

**4. Identify risks of NOT implementing the new provision:**

Shortening the length of trapping season is an attempt to reduce overall harvest and female harvest without closing the season. As harvest rate is approximately 17%, which is 11-12% above what is recommended in literature, management action is warranted.

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**5. Comments by Reviewers: (if relevant)**

Use separate page, as comments may not be included in the final OIC/MO Package.

Copies of email correspondence may be attached.

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**PART D: STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION & FIRST NATIONS ENGAGEMENT**

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ADEQUATE CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT MUST BE RECORDED, OR THE FORM WILL BE RETURNED TO THE ORIGINATOR.

**Please attach supporting documentation, such as letters, meeting minutes, etc.**

Identify who was consulted and when consultations took place.



### Who raised concerns and what was the nature of their concerns?

Has the regulation been changed to respond to the First Nations' or Stakeholders' Concerns?

| Organization  | Contact Name                | Date and type of Consultation & Engagement   | Supported?<br>(If no, attach an explanation)  |
|---|-----------------------------|--|---|
| CO Service  | Denny Chretien              | email  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A<br>Note: CO service consultation is required BEFORE submission is sent to Fish & Wildlife Br. Only rarely is this consultation not required. Note that COS verification is required for safety related regulation proposals.   |
| Other Regions   |                             |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A  |
| <b>Fish and Wildlife Branch (Victoria)</b><br>Note: If the proposed regulation is for a CITES species, Dave Fraser (Provincial Scientific Authority for CITES) must be consulted. |                             |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A<br>Note: Consultation is required BEFORE submission is sent to Fish & Wildlife Br. Only rarely is this consultation not required.<br>Consultation for:<br>Ungulates: <a href="mailto:Gerald.Kuzyk@gov.bc.ca">Gerald.Kuzyk@gov.bc.ca</a><br>Birds: <a href="mailto:Myke.Chutter@gov.bc.ca">Myke.Chutter@gov.bc.ca</a><br>Wildlife Health: <a href="mailto:Helen.Schwantje@gov.bc.ca">Helen.Schwantje@gov.bc.ca</a><br>Furbearers/small game: <a href="mailto:Rich.Weir@gov.bc.ca">Rich.Weir@gov.bc.ca</a><br>Large Carnivores: <a href="mailto:Bruce.McLellan@gov.bc.ca">Bruce.McLellan@gov.bc.ca</a><br>Motor Vehicle Prohibitions: Depends on the purpose of the closure, if the purpose is related to a specific species contact the species specialist above. Habitat related proposals are a case by case basis; check the N/A box. |
| BC Parks, if applicable   |                             |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A   |
| Other Gov't agencies (list) (Highways, Forests)   |                             |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A   |
| BCWF (Zone Representative)  | Jeff Berdusco               | Email: prefer to let the trappers decide   | <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A  |
| GOABC or local organization   | Dave Beranek<br>Ken Robins  | Email: no comment  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A  |
| BCTA or local organization  | Jeff Cromerty<br>Bob Faiers | email  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A  |
| Other organization: (name)  |                             |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A   |
| First Nations: If incomplete, this form will be returned.*  | Kerri Garner, Tim Eugene    | Email sent to s.13,s.16 indication received that consultation is necessary on a change that is | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No is not an option without full explanation why.   |

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|                         |             |  |   |
|-------------------------|-------------|--|---|
|                         |             | more conservative<br>than current reg. |   |
| <b>Public Meetings:</b> | (attendees) |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |

**List attachments:**

List number of attachments and their nature (e.g., letter from local rod and gun club, minutes from public meeting)

**First Nations**

**s.13,s.16**

**PART E: APPROVAL**

**RECORD OF APPROVALS FOR REGULATION CHANGES  
UNDER THE WILDLIFE ACT**

**BC REGULATION** [title] [reg #] [section #]

**SUBJECT:** [Shorten length of Wolverine Trapping Season]

**Region:** 4

**Contact Name:** Irene Teske

**Telephone Number:** 250-489-8551

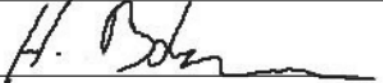
**APPROVAL** is sought for the following documents, to be submitted as part of the OIC/MO package:

- [LIST DOCUMENTS & ATTACHMENTS]

**1. Section Head, Originating Office (Cranbrook)**

Reviewed by: Holger Bohm

Date: 02 October 2017

Signature: 

☒ Supported ☐ Not Supported

**2. Regional Manager**

Reviewed by: John Krebs

Date: 13 Oct 2017

Signature: 

☒ Supported ☐ Not Supported

**Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

---

**From:** Pierre Canac-Marquis <fic.canac@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 13, 2018 2:58 PM  
**To:** s.22

**Subject:** Update of the AIHTS certified traps list February 10 2018 / Mise à jour de la liste des pièges certifiés ANIPSC  
**Attachments:** Certified Traps List FIC FEB 10 2018 Eng 8½ X 14.docx.pdf; Certified Traps List FIC FEB 10 2018 FR 8½ X 14.docx.pdf

Hi everyone,

Please find attached the most recent update (February 10 2018) of the AIHTS certified traps by Canada. You can also find it on the FIC website.  
<https://fur.ca/certified-traps/>

*Bonjour à tous,*

*Vous trouverez ci-joint la version la plus récente ( 10 février 2018) de la liste des pièges certifiés ANIPSC par le Canada.*  
*Vous pouvez également la trouver sur le site web de l'IFC.*  
<https://fur.ca/fr/liste-de-piege-certifie/>

--

***Pierre Canac-Marquis***

IFC /Coordonnateur Recherche sur les pièges  
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## Pièges certifiés – Mise en oeuvre de l'ANIPSC au Canada

Liste mise à jour le 10 février 2018

(Nouveaux ajouts surlignés et identifiés en gras)

Les directeurs de la faune du Canada, autorités compétentes pour la mise en œuvre de l'Accord sur les normes internationales de piégeage sans cruauté (ANIPSC), ont approuvé un processus en deux phases visant la mise en œuvre de l'ANIPSC au Canada. La liste suivante explique les deux phases de la réglementation des pièges en fonction de l'espèce : (1) les pièges **certifiés** actuellement réglementés pour des espèces en particulier; (2) les pièges **certifiés** qui ne sont pas réglementés à l'heure actuelle. Les pièges énumérés par leur nom ont tous été certifiés par une autorité compétente canadienne conforme à l'ANIPSC en fonction de l'espèce. Consultez votre gouvernement provincial ou territorial afin de confirmer la réglementation sur l'utilisation de pièges, applicable à votre territoire de piégeage



### PHASE 1- PIÈGES MORTELS – Pièges certifiés par espèce dont l'utilisation est actuellement obligatoire

| ESPÈCE  |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| <b>CASTOR</b>   | -Bélisle Classique 330<br>-Bélisle Super X 280<br>-Bélisle Super X 330<br>-B.M.I. 280 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I. 330 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I. BT 300  | -Bridger 330<br><b>-Duke 280</b><br>-Duke 330<br>-LDL C280<br>-LDL C280 Magnum<br>-LDL C330   | -LDL C330 Magnum<br>-Rudy 280<br>-Rudy 330<br>-Sauvageau 1000-11F<br>-Sauvageau 2001-8<br>-Sauvageau 2001-11   | -Sauvageau 2001-12<br>-Species-Specific 330 Dislocator Half Mag<br>-Species-Specific 440 Dislocator Half Mag<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 280<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330                             |
| <b>LOUTRE</b>   | -Bélisle Super X 220<br>-Bélisle Super X 280<br>-Bélisle Super X 330<br>-LDL C220<br>-LDL C220 Magnum<br>-LDL C280 Magnum   | -Rudy 220 Plus<br>-Rudy 280<br>-Rudy 330<br>-Sauvageau 2001-8<br>-Sauvageau 2001-11<br>-Sauvageau 2001-12   | -Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 220<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 280<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330                                   |  |
| <b>LYNX DU CANADA</b>   | -Bélisle Super X 280<br>-Bélisle Super X 330<br>-B.M.I. 220 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I. 280 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I. 220 Magnum Body Gripper   | -B.M.I. 280 Magnum Body Gripper<br>-Bridger 220<br>-Bridger 280 Mag. Bodygripper  | -LDL C220<br>-LDL C220 Magnum<br>-LDL C280 Magnum<br>-LDL C330<br>-LDL C330 Magnum   | -Rudy 330<br>-Sauvageau 2001-8<br>-Sauvageau 2001-11<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330   |
| <b>PÉKAN</b>  | -Bélisle Super X 120<br>-Bélisle Super X 160<br>-Bélisle Super X 220  | -Koro no 2<br>-LDL C160 Magnum<br>-LDL C220 Magnum  | -Rudy 120 Magnum<br>-Rudy 160 Plus<br>-Rudy 220 Plus<br>-Sauvageau 2001-5  | -Sauvageau 2001-6<br>-Sauvageau 2001-7<br>-Sauvageau 2001-8  |
| <b>MARTRE</b><br><i>M. americana</i><br><i>M. martes</i><br><i>M. zibellina</i> | -Bélisle Super X 120<br>-Bélisle Super X 160<br>-B.M.I. 126 Magnum Body Gripper   | -LDL B120 Magnum<br>-LDL C160 Magnum<br>-Koro no 1<br>-Koro no 2  | -Northwoods 155<br>-Rudy 120 Magnum<br>-Rudy 160 Plus<br>-Sauvageau C120 Magnum  | -Sauvageau 2001-5<br>-Sauvageau 2001-6<br>-KP120 (Russia)<br>-Kleiner Schwanenhals (Germany)<br>-Eiabzugseisen (Germany)   |
| <b>RAT MUSQUÉ</b><br>Sur terre  | -Bélisle Super X 110<br>-Bélisle Super X 120<br>-B.M.I. 120 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I. 120 Body Gripper Magnum<br>-B.M.I. 126 Body Gripper Magnum<br>-Bridger 120<br>-Bridger 120 Mag. Bodygripper                       | Bridger 155 Mag. Bodygripper<br>-CONV 110 CAN (Hollande)<br>-Duke 120<br>-FMB 110 SS (Hollande)<br>-FMB 150 SS (Hollande)   | -Koro Muskrat Trap<br>-Koro Large Rodent Double spring<br>-LDL B120<br>-LDL B120 Magnum<br>-Oneida Victor 120 Stainless Steel<br>-Ouell 411-180<br>-Ouell RM | -Rudy 110<br>-Rudy 120<br>-Rudy 120 Magnum<br>-Sauvageau 2001-5<br>-Sauvageau C120 Magnum<br>-Sauvageau C120 "Reverse Bend"<br>-Triple M<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 110<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 120 |
| <b>RAT MUSQUÉ</b><br>Sous l'eau   | Tout type de piège à mâchoires (mortel ou à patte) qui exerce une force de serrage sur un rat musqué et installé pour le maintenir sous l'eau.  |   |  |  |
| <b>RATON LAVEUR</b>   | -Bélisle Classique 220<br>-Bélisle Super X 160<br>-Bélisle Super X 220<br>-Bélisle Super X 280<br>-B.M.I. 160 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I. 220 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I. 280 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I. 280 Magnum Body Gripper | -Bridger 160<br>-Bridger 220<br>-Bridger 280 Mag Body Gripper<br>-Duke 160<br>-Duke 220<br>-Koro no 2<br>-LDL C160<br>-LDL C160 Magnum<br>-LDL C220                             | -LDL C220 Magnum<br>-LDL C280 Magnum<br>-Northwoods 155<br>-Rudy 160<br>-Rudy 160 Plus<br>-Rudy 220<br>-Rudy 220 Plus  | -Sauvageau 2001-6<br>-Sauvageau 2001-7<br>-Sauvageau 2001-8<br>-Species-Specific 220 Dislocator Half Mag<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 160<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 220                                 |
| <b>HERMINE ET BELETTES</b>  | -Bélisle Super X 110<br>-Bélisle Super X 120<br>-B.M.I. #60<br>-B.M.I. 120 Body Gripper Magnum<br>-B.M.I. 126 Body Gripper Magnum   | -Bridger 120<br>Bridger 120 Mag. Bodygripper<br>Bridger 155 Mag. Bodygripper<br>-Koro Muskrat Trap<br>-Koro Rodent Trap<br>-Koro Large Rodent Double spring<br>-LDL B120 Magnum | -Ouell 411-180<br>-Ouell 3-10<br>-Ouell RM<br>-Rudy 120 Magnum<br>-Sauvageau C120 Magnum<br>-Sauvageau C120 "Reverse Bend"                                   | -Sauvageau 2001-5<br>-Triple M<br>-Victor Rat Trap<br>-WCS Tube Trap Int'l<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 110<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 120   |

### PHASE 1- PIÈGES A CAPTURE VIVANTE – Pièges certifiés par espèce dont l'utilisation est actuellement obligatoire

| ESPÈCE                |  |  |  |   |
|-----------------------|--|--|--|---|
| <b>LYNX DU CANADA</b> | -Bélisle Lacet #6<br>-Bélisle Sélectif | -Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch muni de 2 ressorts à boudin | -Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch muni de 4 ressorts à boudin | -Oneida Victor #3 muni de mâchoires d'acier non décalées d'au moins 8 mm d'épaisseur, de 4 ressorts à boudin et d'une virole d'attache au centre de la barre du châssis |

**Phase 2. ANNÉE D'APPLICATION À DÉTERMINER -**

Bien que les pièges énumérés dans la Phase 2 soient certifiés pour les espèces et les catégories de piège suivantes, l'année d'entrée en vigueur de l'obligation de n'utiliser que les pièges certifiés en vertu de l'ANIPSC n'a pas encore été déterminée. Cette date, qui pourrait varier d'une espèce à l'autre, sera connue au moins trois ans d'avance.

**Pour toutes les juridictions canadiennes;**

- L'utilisation des pièges mortels et à capture vivante pour le lynx roux deviendra obligatoire (Phase 1) à l'automne 2018.
- **L'utilisation des pièges à capture vivante pour le loup et le castor (cages) deviendra obligatoire (Phase 1) à l'automne 2020**

Consultez votre gouvernement provincial ou territorial afin de confirmer la réglementation sur l'utilisation de pièges, applicable à votre territoire de piégeage

**PHASE 2- PIÈGES MORTELS – Pièges certifiés par espèce mais dont l'utilisation n'est pas encore obligatoire**

| ESPÈCE           |   |  |  |  |
|------------------|---|--|--|--|
| <b>LYNX ROUX</b> | -Bélisle Super X 280<br>-Bélisle Super X 330<br>-B.M.I 220 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I 280 Body Gripper<br>-B.M.I 220 Magnum<br>Body Gripper | -B.M.I 280 Magnum<br>Body Gripper<br>-Bridger 220<br>-Bridger 280 Mag.<br>Body gripper | -LDL C220<br>-LDL C220 Magnum<br>-LDL C280 Magnum<br>-LDL C330<br>-LDL C330 Magnum | -Rudy 330<br>-Sauvageau 2001-8<br>-Sauvageau 2001-11<br>-Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330 |

**PHASE 2- PIÈGES A CAPTURE VIVANTE – Pièges certifiés par espèce mais dont l'utilisation n'est pas encore obligatoire (\*1)**

| ESPÈCE                              |   |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>COYOTE</b>                       | -Bélisle Lacet # 6<br>-Bélisle Sélectif<br>-Duke No 3 Rubber Jaws avec une virole d'attache située au centre de la barre du châssis.<br>-Oneida Victor #1.5 Soft Catch avec 2 ressorts à boudin<br>-Oneida Victor #1.5 Soft Catch avec 4 ressorts à boudin<br>-Oneida Victor 1.75 avec mâchoires décalées de 3/16 de pouce munies de double laminations métalliques rondes (3/16 de pouce par-dessus et ¼ de pouce en dessous) et 4 ressorts à boudin<br>-Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch muni de 2 ressorts à boudin<br>-Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch muni de 4 ressorts à boudin | -Oneida Victor # 3 avec mâchoires décalées de 3/16 de pouce munies de double laminations métalliques rondes (3/16 de pouce par-dessus et ¼ de pouce en dessous) avec 2 ressorts à boudin.<br>-Oneida Victor # 3 avec mâchoires décalées de 3/16 de pouce munies de double laminations métalliques rondes (3/16 de pouce par-dessus et ¼ de pouce en dessous) avec 4 ressorts à boudin.<br>-Bridger #3 avec mâchoires décalées de 5/16 de pouce munies de doubles laminations métalliques ronde (3/16 de pouce par-dessus et ¼ de pouce en-dessous), de 4 ressorts à boudin et muni d'une virole d'attache située au centre de la barre du châssis.<br>-MB 550 Rubber Jaws avec 4 ressorts à boudin. |
| <b>CASTOR Cages</b>                 | -Comstock 12 X 18 X 39 Swin Through Beaver Cage<br>-Breathe Easy Live Beaver Trap<br>-Ezee Set Live Beaver Trap   | -Hancock Live Beaver Trap<br>-Koro "Klam" Live Beaver Trap  |
| <b>LOUP</b>                         | -Bélisle Lacet #8<br>-Bridger Alaskan #5 Offset and Laminated Jaws<br>-Bridger Alaskan #5 Rubber Jaws<br>-Rudy Red Wolf 4 ½<br>-MB 750 Alaskan OS (3/8")  | -Livestock Protection EZ Grip No. 7<br>-Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch avec 4 ressorts à boudin, une barre de châssis d'au moins 8mm d'épaisseur et une virole d'attache fixée au centre de cette barre<br>-Bridger Brawn no 9 Rubber Jaws   |
| <b>LYNX ROUX</b>                    | -Bélisle Lacet #6<br>-Bélisle Sélectif<br>-Oneida Victor #1.5 Soft Catch avec 4 ressorts à boudin<br>-Oneida Victor #1.75, avec 2 ressorts à boudin et équipé de mâchoires décalées et laminées   | -Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch avec 2 ressorts à boudin<br>-Oneida Victor #3 Soft Catch avec 4 ressorts à boudin<br>-Oneida Victor #3 avec mâchoires décalées de 3/16 de pouce munies de double laminations métalliques rondes (3/16 de pouce par-dessus et ¼ de pouce en dessous) avec 2 ressorts à boudin.  |
| <b>RATON LAVEUR Cages et boîtes</b> | -Ramconct DURA-POLY Box Trap<br>-Havahart Cage Trap 1079<br>-Havahart Cage Trap 1081<br>-Havahart Cage Trap 1085<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 108<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 108.1<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 108.5<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 108F<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 108SS<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 108.2SS   | -Tomahawk Cage Trap 1010<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 1010F<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 1010SS<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 1010SS-F<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 608<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 608.1<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 608.5<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 608F<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 608SS<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 608.2SS<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 6010<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 6010F<br>-Tomahawk Cage Trap 6010SS   |
| <b>RATON LAVEUR (*1)</b>            | -Duffer<br>-Bridger T3<br>-Egg Trap   | -Lil' Grizz Gef'rz<br>-Duke DP Coon Trap  |

(\*1): L'utilisation exclusive de ces pièges certifiés est actuellement obligatoire seulement en Ontario, au Québec et au N.B.

**Fernandes, Ruth FLNR:EX**

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**From:** Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, January 12, 2018 9:37 AM  
**To:** MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX; Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** Vancouver Island wolf trapping  
**Attachments:** Lengthen wolf trapping season.docx

Are we able to update the rationale on the web? The current one doesn't make sense. The attached is what we were initially provided.

<https://apps.nrs.gov.bc.ca/ahte/content/lengthen-wolf-trapping-season-vancouver-island>

**Vivian Thomas**

Communications Director  
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations  
and Rural Development  
Tel: 250 356-2475 cell: 250 213-2972  
[Vivian.Thomas@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Vivian.Thomas@gov.bc.ca)



## Angling, Hunting, and Trapping Engagement (AHTE) Website Guide

Heading: Trapping

Title: Lengthen wolf trapping season

Status: Proposed

Region (MU): Vancouver Island (1), Management Unit 1-1 to 1-15

Regulation Type: Commercial Activities Regulation

Species: Wolf

Closing Date: Most proposals will be posted for a period of 1 month.

Decision Statement: Pending

Current Regulation:

The current trapping season for wolves in Region 1 (Vancouver Island) is November 1 to June 30.

Proposed Regulation:

This proposal seeks to lengthen the wolf trapping season to September 10 to June 30.

Rationale:

- Anecdotal sightings/observations from numerous First Nations, trappers, resident hunters and guide outfitters regarding increased wolf population and a lack of ungulates (primarily deer) in many northern and west coast MUs in Region 1.
- Regional staff have witnessed increased sightings/scats/tracks while conducting aerial and ground based ungulate inventory.
- There have been decreased trends in deer population index (0-5 deer/km) in northern management units since the increased wolf sightings/sign have been observed.

Additional Information:



## REGULATION CHANGE REQUEST FORM

| HQ Use Only       |                          |          |                          |
|-------------------|--------------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| Executive Summary | <input type="checkbox"/> | Map      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Regulation        | <input type="checkbox"/> | Synopsis | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Schedule          | <input type="checkbox"/> | AHTE     | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**Contact:** Jerry MacDermott

**Phone:** 250-751-3229

**Region:** 1-West Coast

**SUBJECT:** Change in season start date for wolf trapping in Region 1 from November 1 to September 10

**Management Units:** Region 1 (MUs 1-1 to 1-15)

**Date of Submission:** September 8, 2017

**Species:** Wolf (*Canis lupus*)

**Regulation Name and Section/Schedule No.:** [Wildlife Act Commercial Activities Regulation] [338/82]  
[Schedule 3.07]

**Who is the regional contact for communications issues?**

(someone with authority to deal with media requests if requested by Public Affairs)

Name: Jerry MacDermott

Phone: 250-751-3229

### PART A: PURPOSE

**1. Nature of the change:**

☐ New regulation

☒ Amending Existing Regulation  
(e.g., GOS dates, bag limits)

☐ Deletion of an existing regulation

**2. What is currently in the synopsis? (exact wording preferred)**

WOLF  
Region 1

Nov 1 – Jun 30

**3. Briefly describe the proposed wording in the synopsis:**

WOLF  
Region 1

Sept 10 – Jun 30

**4. Map attached?**

☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A

**5. Reason for proposal (Rationale):**

Effective wildlife management of all game species, requested by numerous First Nations, trappers, resident hunters, and guide outfitters. Trapper access and regional trapping techniques have been negatively affected by previous start date/time of year, due to weather (freeze/thaw events and frozen snow).

This change synchronizes trapping season start dates in the Coast Area (i.e. Regions 1 and 2).

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**6. Is there, or will there be, an associated map in the synopsis (page and map# if applicable)?**

N/A

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**PART B: ANALYSIS**

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**1. Describe surveys used for conservation issues and their results as they relate to this submission:**

Anecdotal sightings/observations from numerous First Nations, trappers, resident hunters and guide outfitters regarding increased wolf population and a lack of ungulates (primarily deer) in many northern and west coast MUs in Region 1.

Regional staff - increased sightings/scats/tracks while conducting aerial and ground based ungulate inventory.

Decreased trends in population index (0-5 deer/km) in northern management units since the above increased sightings/sign.

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**2. Alternatives to regulation considered:**

Status quo

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**3. Pros/Cons analysis undertaken & results:**

Pros

- Effective management of all wildlife species;
- Increased prey species abundance;
- Increased opportunity and economic benefit for trappers; and
- Positive response to stakeholder(s) recommendations.

Cons

- Social issues
- Potential for complains from members of the public concerned with increased harvest on wolf populations

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**4. Identify risks of NOT implementing the new provision:**

Decreased stakeholder support/trust in the Ministry's ability to make sound management decisions while meeting their needs; loss of financial opportunity for trappers in terms of fur sales and fur price; and loss of financially opportunity for the Province in terms of royalties.

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**8. Comments by Reviewers: (if relevant)**

Use separate page, as comments may not be included in the final OIC/MO Package.

Copies of email correspondence may be attached.

## PART D: STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION & FIRST NATIONS ENGAGEMENT

**ADEQUATE CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT MUST BE RECORDED, OR THE FORM WILL BE RETURNED TO THE ORIGINATOR.**

**Please attach supporting documentation, such as letters, meeting minutes, etc.**

Identify who was consulted and when consultations took place.

**Who raised concerns and what was the nature of their concerns?**

Has the regulation been changed to respond to the First Nations' or Stakeholders' Concerns?

| Organization  | Contact Name                    | Date and type of Consultation & Engagement | Supported?<br>(If no, attach an explanation)   |
|---|---------------------------------|--|--|
| <b>CO Service</b>   | Scott Norris<br><br>Mike Newton | Email<br><br>Email Sept. 21/17             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A<br><br>Note: CO service consultation is required BEFORE submission is sent to Fish & Wildlife Br. Only rarely is this consultation not required. Note that COS verification is required for safety related regulation proposals.  |
| <b>Other Regions</b>  | Darryl Reynolds                 | Email Sept. 22/17                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A   |
| <b>Fish and Wildlife Branch (Victoria)</b><br>Note: If the proposed regulation is for a CITES species, Dave Fraser (Provincial Scientific Authority for CITES) must be consulted. | Gerry Kuzyk                     | Email Sept. 20/17                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A<br>Note: Consultation is required BEFORE submission is sent to Fish & Wildlife Br. Only rarely is this consultation not required.<br>Consultation for:<br>Ungulates: <a href="mailto:Gerald.Kuzyk@gov.bc.ca">Gerald.Kuzyk@gov.bc.ca</a><br>Birds: <a href="mailto:Myke.Chutter@gov.bc.ca">Myke.Chutter@gov.bc.ca</a><br>Wildlife Health: <a href="mailto:Helen.Schwantje@gov.bc.ca">Helen.Schwantje@gov.bc.ca</a><br>Furbearers/small game: <a href="mailto:Rich.Weir@gov.bc.ca">Rich.Weir@gov.bc.ca</a><br>Large Carnivores: <a href="mailto:Bruce.McLellan@gov.bc.ca">Bruce.McLellan@gov.bc.ca</a><br>Motor Vehicle Prohibitions: Depends on the purpose of the closure, if the purpose is related to a specific species contact the species specialist above. Habitat related proposals are a case by case basis; check the N/A box. |
| <b>BC Parks, if applicable</b>  |                                 |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A  |
| <b>Other Gov't agencies (list)</b> (Highways, Forests)  |                                 |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A  |
| <b>BCWF (Zone Representative)</b>   | Doug Janz                       | WRAC meeting Aug 31/17                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A   |
| <b>GOABC or local organization</b>  | John Henderson WSC              | WRAC meeting Aug 31/17                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A   |
| <b>BCTA or local organization</b>   | Darlene Clark                   | WRAC meeting Aug 31/17                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A   |
| <b>Other organization: (name)</b>   |                                 |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A  |
| <b>First Nations:</b> If incomplete, this form will be returned.*   | John Henderson<br>KDC Ron Frank | WRAC meeting                               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No is not an option without full explanation why.   |

|                         |             |  |   |
|-------------------------|-------------|--|---|
|                         | Maa-nulth   | Pending responses to letters - First Nations found in MU 1-1 to 1-15 |   |
| <b>Public Meetings:</b> | (attendees) |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |

### List attachments:

Wildlife Regulations Advisory Committee meeting minutes – August 31, 2017

### First Nations

First Nations consultation not required as the regulation does not affect their ability to harvest or infringe upon any rights. We feel all first nations will be supportive of this regulation change. We will be sending out an engagement/notification letter advising of the proposed change.

| First Nations:                                    | Meeting Representative | Meeting Date | Correspondence Type/ Date | Response/ Outcome |
|---|------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Quatsino  |                        |              | Letter - October 4, 2017  | s.13,s.16         |
| Tlatlasikwala                                     |                        |              | Letter - October 4, 2017  |                   |
| Nanwakolas Council Society*                       |                        |              | Letter - October 4, 2017  |                   |
| Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw (*sent through Nanwakolas)  |                        |              |                           |                   |
| Kwakiutl (*sent through Nanwakolas)               |                        |              |                           |                   |
| Mamalilikulla (*sent through Nanwakolas)          |                        |              |                           |                   |
| Da' naxda'xw/Awaetlala (*sent through Nanwakolas) |                        |              |                           |                   |
| Tlowitsis (*sent through Nanwakolas)              |                        |              |                           |                   |
| Komoks (* sent through Nanwakolas)                |                        |              |                           |                   |
| We Wai Kum (*sent through Nanwakolas)             |                        |              |                           |                   |
| Kwiakah (*sent through Nanwakolas)                |                        |              |                           |                   |
| We Wai Kai  |                        |              | Letter - October 4, 2017  |                   |
| Gwawaenuk   |                        |              | Letter - October 4, 2017  |                   |
| Namgis  |                        |              | Letter - October 4, 2017  |                   |
| Dza wa daenuxw                                    |                        |              | Letter - October 4, 2017  |                   |
| Kwikwasutinuxw Haxwamis                           |                        |              | Letter - October 4, 2017  |                   |
| Qualicum  |                        |              | Letter - October 4, 2017  |                   |
| Homalco/Xwemalhwu                                 |                        |              | Letter - October 4, 2017  |                   |
| Ehattesaht  |                        |              | Letter - October 4, 2017  |                   |

|  |  |  |                          |           |
|--|--|--|--------------------------|-----------|
| Nuchatlaht   |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 | s.13,s.16 |
| Mowachaht-Muchalat                                   |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 |           |
| Hesquiaht  |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 |           |
| Ahousaht   |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 |           |
| Tl-o-qui-aht   |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 |           |
| Tseshaht   |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 |           |
| Hupacasath   |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 |           |
| Snaw'Naw'As  |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 |           |
| Maa-Nulth Treaty Society**                           |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 |           |
| Toquaht (**Sent through Maa-nulth)                   |  |  |                          |           |
| Huu-ay-aht (**Sent through Maa-nulth)                |  |  |                          |           |
| Uchucklesaht (**Sent through Maa-nulth)              |  |  |                          |           |
| Ka:yu:Kth/Che:K:tl̓es7eth (**Sent through Maa-nulth) |  |  |                          |           |
| Ucluelet (Yuul ui lath) (**Sent through Maa-nulth)   |  |  |                          |           |
| Stz'uminus (Chemainus)                               |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 |           |
| Halalt   |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 |           |
| Cowichan Tribes                                      |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 |           |
| Lake Cowichan  |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 |           |
| Lyackson   |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 |           |
| Penelakut  |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 |           |
| Ditidaht   |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 |           |
| Snuneymuxw   |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 |           |
| Pacheedaht   |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 |           |
| Malahat  |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 |           |
| Tsouke   |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 |           |
| Scia new/Beecher Bay                                 |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 |           |
| Esquimalt  |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 |           |
| Songhees   |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 |           |
| Tseycum  |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 |           |
| Pauquachin   |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 |           |
| Tsartlip   |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 |           |
| Tsawout  |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 |           |
| Semiahmoo  |  |  | Letter - October 4, 2017 |           |

**PART E: APPROVAL**

**RECORD OF APPROVALS FOR REGULATION CHANGES  
UNDER THE WILDLIFE ACT**

**BC REGULATION** [Commercial Activities Regulation] [338/82] [3.07]

**SUBJECT:** [Change in season start date for wolf trapping in Region 1 from Nov.1 to September 10]

**Region:** 1 – West Coast

**Contact Name:** Jerry MacDermott

**Telephone Number:** 250-751-3229

**APPROVAL is sought for the following documents, to be submitted as part of the OIC/MO package:**

Wildlife Regulations Advisory Committee meeting minutes – August 31, 2017

**1. Section Head, Originating Office** (Nanaimo)

Reviewed by: Mike Stalberg

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

☐

Supported

☐

Not Supported

**2. Regional Manager**

Reviewed by: Larry Barr

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

☐

Supported

☐

Not Supported



## REGULATION CHANGE REQUEST FORM

| HQ Use Only       |                          |          |                          |
|-------------------|--------------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| Executive Summary | <input type="checkbox"/> | Map      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Regulation        | <input type="checkbox"/> | Synopsis | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Schedule          | <input type="checkbox"/> | AHTE     | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**Contact:** Aaron Reid

**Phone:** 250-354-6288

**Region:** Kootenay

**SUBJECT:** Killing snare timing restrictions for wolf trapping

**Management Units:** Kootenay region All

**Date of Submission:** August 11, 2017

**Species:** Wolf

**Regulation Name and Section/Schedule No.:** Wildlife Act, Commercial Activities Regulation Section 3.08 Open Seasons, Schedule 3.08 & Prohibition 3.04 (1) (j.1)

**Who is the regional contact for communications issues?**

Name: Aaron Reid

Phone: 250-354-6288

### PART A: PURPOSE

**1. Nature of the change:**

☐ New regulation

☒ Amending Existing Regulation  
(e.g., GOS dates, bag limits)

☐ Deletion of an existing regulation

**2. What is currently in the synopsis? (exact wording preferred)**

Region 4\*+, 5♦, 6, 8.....Oct 15 – Mar 31

\*There is no closed season for wolf below 1100 m elevation in MUs 4-2 to 4-5, 4-20 to 4-22, 4-24 – 4-26, 4-34 to 4-37, and 4-40.

+ In MU 4-1, open season is Dec 1- Mar 31 if using a killing snare. In MU 4-1, it is illegal to place bait between Mar 31 – Dec 1 of a kind / quantity that could reasonably be expected to attract a wolf to an area in which a killing snare is used.

**3. Briefly describe the proposed wording in the synopsis:**

Region 4\*, 5♦, 6, 8.....Oct 15 – Mar 31

\*There is no closed season for wolf below 1100 m elevation in MUs 4-2 to 4-5, 4-20 to 4-22, 4-24 – 4-26, 4-34 to 4-37, and 4-40, restricted to the use of modified led hold traps only from Apr 1 to Oct 14.

+ The use of killing snares in the Kootenay Region is limited to Dec 1 - Mar 31.

**4. Map attached?**

☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A

- This map may be used to form the regulation. It should be digital and professional.

**5. Reason for proposal (Rationale):**

There are two parts to this regulation:

Part 1) in MUs with no closed season, limiting trapping method to modified leg hold from (Apr 1 – Oct 14).  
s.13



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during the non-winter period.

Part 2) Limiting the use of killing snares to Dec 1 – Mar 31 across all MUs. This proposed change will also help to reduce the killing of non-target species, primarily bear, at bait stations.

This proposal will align the modified leg hold only restriction in MUs with no closed seasons more closely with the Caribou and Thompson Regions as well as reduce the complexity of the Kootenay portion of the synopsis by removing the special regulation within MU 4-01.

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**6. Is there, or will there be, an associated map in the synopsis (page and map# if applicable)?**

No

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**PART B: ANALYSIS**

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**1. Describe surveys used for conservation issues and their results as they relate to this submission:**

None

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**2. Alternatives to regulation considered:**

None

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**3. Pros/Cons analysis undertaken & results:**

Pros: - Protects non target species such as bears from capture in killing snares.

- Harmonizes with other regions
- Simplifies the Kootenay portion of the wolf regulations

Cons: Removal of one tool for wolf control (not an issue for fur trappers as the fur value is low from April 1 – Nov 30)

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**8. Comments by Reviewers: (if relevant)**

Use separate page, as comments may not be included in the final OIC/MO Package.  
Copies of email correspondence may be attached.

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## PART D: STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION & FIRST NATIONS ENGAGEMENT

**ADEQUATE CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT MUST BE RECORDED, OR THE FORM WILL BE RETURNED TO THE ORIGINATOR.**

**Please attach supporting documentation, such as letters, meeting minutes, etc.**

Consultation with the Kootenay Wildlife Hunter Advisory Committee (KWHAC) at the Aug 3, 2017 meeting.

**Who raised concerns and what was the nature of their concerns?**

No concerns were raised

| Organization  | Contact Name  | Date and type of Consultation & Engagement | Supported?<br>(If no, attach an explanation)  |
|---|---|--|---|
| <b>CO Service</b>   | Denny Chretien  | KHWAC Meeting<br>Aug 3, 2017               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A<br>Note: CO service consultation is required BEFORE submission is sent to Fish & Wildlife Br. Only rarely is this consultation not required. Note that COS verification is required for safety related regulation proposals.   |
| <b>Other Regions</b>  |   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A   |
| <b>Fish and Wildlife Branch (Victoria)</b><br>Note: If the proposed regulation is for a CITES species, Dave Fraser (Provincial Scientific Authority for CITES) must be consulted. |   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A<br>Note: Consultation is required BEFORE submission is sent to Fish & Wildlife Br. Only rarely is this consultation not required.<br>Consultation for:<br>Ungulates: <a href="mailto:Gerald.Kuzyk@gov.bc.ca">Gerald.Kuzyk@gov.bc.ca</a><br>Birds: <a href="mailto:Myke.Chutter@gov.bc.ca">Myke.Chutter@gov.bc.ca</a><br>Wildlife Health: <a href="mailto:Helen.Schwantje@gov.bc.ca">Helen.Schwantje@gov.bc.ca</a><br>Furbearers/small game: <a href="mailto:Rich.Weir@gov.bc.ca">Rich.Weir@gov.bc.ca</a><br>Large Carnivores: <a href="mailto:Bruce.McLellan@gov.bc.ca">Bruce.McLellan@gov.bc.ca</a><br>Motor Vehicle Prohibitions: Depends on the purpose of the closure, if the purpose is related to a specific species contact the species specialist above. Habitat related proposals are a case by case basis; check the N/A box. |
| <b>BC Parks, if applicable</b>  |   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A   |
| <b>Other Gov't agencies (list)</b> (Highways, Forests)  |   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A   |
| <b>BCWF (Zone Representative)</b>   | Jeff Berdusco, Mark Hall, East Kootenay Wildlife Association, Gerry Bond, West Kootenay Outdoorsmen | KHWAC Meeting<br>Aug 3, 2017               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A  |
| <b>GOABC or local organization</b>  | Ken Robins / David Beranek  | KHWAC Meeting<br>Aug 3, 2017               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A  |

|   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|--|
| <b>BCTA or local organization</b>                                 | Bob Faiers East Kootenay Trappers Assc., Jeff Cromarty West Kootenay Trappers Assc. | KHWAC Meeting Aug 3, 2017   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A   |
| <b>Other organization: (name)</b>                                 | Darren [REDACTED], Bowhunters of BC   | KHWAC Meeting Aug 3, 2017   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A   |
| <b>First Nations:</b> If incomplete, this form will be returned.* | Kerri garner, Tim Eugene  | Email sent to s.13,s.16<br>indication received that consultation is necessary on a change that is more conservative than current reg. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No As this proposal is more restrictive consultation with FN is not required. |
| <b>Public Meetings:</b>   | (attendees)   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A  |

**List attachments:**

List number of attachments and their nature (e.g., letter from local rod and gun club, minutes from public meeting)

**First Nations**  
s.13,s.16

**PART E: APPROVAL**

**RECORD OF APPROVALS FOR REGULATION CHANGES  
UNDER THE WILDLIFE ACT**

**BC REGULATION** [title] [reg #] [section #]

**SUBJECT:** [subject]

**Region:** 4

**Contact Name:** Tara Szkorupa

**Telephone Number:** 250-489-8553

**APPROVAL is sought for the following documents, to be submitted as part of the OIC/MO package:**

- [LIST DOCUMENTS & ATTACHMENTS]

**1. Section Head, Originating Office (GIVE LOCATION)**

Reviewed by: Holger Bohm

Date: 02 October 2017

Signature: 

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Supported

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Not Supported

**2. Regional Manager**

Reviewed by: John Krebs

Date: 13 October 2017

Signature: 

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Supported

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Not Supported