From: Kulmala, Peggy GCPE:EX
To: Plank, Sarah GCPE:EX

Cc: Venn, Tania GCPE:EX; Cowan, Cale GCPE:EX; Hold - 210805 - Suter, Danielle GCPE:EX

Subject: Media Clip: Kamloops councillor, Merritt mayor want consultations to include communities and First Nations

**Date:** November 6, 2019 3:10:08 PM

Hey Sarah:

I believe TNO missed this one:

 $\frac{https://www.kamloopsthisweek.com/news/kamloops-councillor-merritt-mayor-want-consultations-to-include-communities-and-first-nations-1.23988063$ 

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### Peggy Kulmala, CD MBA APR | Public Affairs Officer

Ministry of Indigenous Relations & Reconciliation Government Communications and Public Engagement T: 778 974-5023 | C: 250 812-3486 From: <u>Venn, Tania GCPE:EX</u>

To: Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX; Haslam, David GCPE:EX

Cc: Plank, Sarah GCPE:EX

Subject: Update on this document - Southern Mountain Caribou

**Date:** March 13, 2020 11:43:36 AM

Attachments: KM QA Southern Mountain Caribou Central Group Jan 28 2020 v20.docx

Hi Brett and David,

Any update to this document from late Jan?

Thank you,

Tania

#### Tania Venn

Communications Manager | Ministry of Indigenous Relations & Reconciliation Government Communications & Public Engagement

Office: 778.698.9499 | Mobile: 250.208.6183 | Email: tania.venn@gov.bc.ca

#### Communications:

#### **Southern Mountain Caribou Central Group**

Jan. 28, 2020

#### **Key Messages:**

#### General comments

- Following years of uncertainty under the previous government regarding caribou
  management and declining herd populations, our government has been taking concrete
  steps to address these concerns and develop a more comprehensive, made-in-B.C.
  approach to managing this important resource.
- A Leaders' Table meeting was held on Nov. 29, 2019 to support the recovery of the endangered Central Group of the southern mountain caribou, while also maintaining the social and economic well-being of communities in northeastern British Columbia.
- We need to conserve caribou herds and caribou habitat in British Columbia. This government is committed to working with First Nations towards that goal, in accordance with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).
- We also acknowledge the desire of local residents, industry and other stakeholders to pursue economic goals and engage in other activities on the landbase.
- Unfortunately, the number of caribou in British Columbia has decreased over the last century from about 40,000 animals to about 15,000. Southern mountain caribou populations total less than 3,100 animals. (The Southern Mountain Caribou Central Group population is about 230 animals.)
- Through the Provincial Caribou Recovery Program, the government of B.C. has committed \$47 million over five years to support the recovery of this iconic species, using a comprehensive, science-based approach to address the concerns and recover caribou herds in B.C.
- The Provincial Caribou Recovery Program is committed to ensuring that Indigenous Nations, local governments, stakeholders and the natural resource sector can participate in the planning and implementation of caribou recovery measures.
- The Habitat Conservation Trust Fund was granted \$2 million by the B.C. government in March 2018 to implement a caribou habitat restoration program. In October 2019, the B.C. government announced an additional commitment of \$6.5 million over three years to protect caribou habitat through the Habitat Conservation Trust Fund.

#### Public engagement

• In March 2019, the Province began a public engagement process on two draft agreements: the draft Southern Mountain Caribou Bilateral Conservation Agreement with Canada (the Section 11 agreement that applies to all Southern Mountain Caribou) and the draft Partnership Agreement between the Province, Canada, West Moberly First Nations and Saulteau First Nations for the conservation of the Central Group of the Southern Mountain Caribou National Ecological Area in northeast B.C.

- The first public engagement sessions related to these agreements occurred in April 2019.
- In April 2019, Premier John Horgan appointed Blair Lekstrom as a community liaison to engage with residents of the Peace Region on the Partnership Agreement. Mr. Lekstrom prepared a report with 14 recommendations, including the need for further discussions with local governments. B.C. implemented several of the recommendations, including the creation of temporary protections in caribou habitat and re-engaging with local governments to better understand and address their concerns.
- The B.C. government also appointed Lorne Brownsey and Patrick Kelly as lead
  facilitators to work with the parties to the Partnership Agreement, tenure holders, and
  local governments to determine the best path forward to finalize the Partnership
  Agreement. Brownsey and Kelly have had several meetings with local governments and
  tenure holders.

#### Resignation of Blair Lekstrom

- On Jan. 23, 2020, Blair Lekstrom resigned as a community liaison engaging with residents of the Peace Region on the Partnership Agreement.
- Our government remains committed to working in partnership with local governments, industry and First Nations on protecting caribou and the livelihoods of people who live in the Peace.
- It's important to note that changes to the text of the Partnership Agreement require the consent of all three parties and cannot be done by the province unilaterally. We know it's important for local governments to be heard and be involved that's why we have been working hard to ensure they have a larger role in the work to protect caribou.
- Last fall, we brought together all parties, including local governments, to a Leaders' Table on caribou recovery. The leaders had a robust discussion and agreed to continue to work together on this file.
- We are encouraged that community leaders who participated the technical sessions are
  as committed as we are to putting in place solutions that protect the iconic caribou
  species while still supporting workers and communities.
- We will continue to work with all stakeholders and the federal government to ensure they provide financial resources to support workers and communities.

# Southern Mountain Caribou Central Group Partnership Agreement Leaders' Table (Nov. 29, 2019)

- We've heard loud and clear over the past few months that developing practical and meaningful solutions to caribou management requires ongoing discussions with those who could be directly affected.
- That's why we organized the **Southern Mountain Caribou Central Group Partnership Agreement Leaders' Table** on Nov. 29, 2019 in Vancouver.
- The goals of that meeting included the following:

- Provide an inclusive and respectful forum where caribou-related issues can be discussed, constructive feedback is welcomed, and additional information can be gathered to help formulate positive solutions.
- Develop stronger working relationships between all participants to help maintain an open and mutually beneficial dialogue, and to foster a comprehensive exchange of ideas and information in future.
- Participants discussed how best to move forward to implement the draft Partnership
  Agreement between the B.C. government, the federal government, West Moberly First
  Nations and Saulteau First Nations.
- We will continue to work in partnership with community leaders, industry and First Nations. It is by working together that we will protect caribou and support people's livelihoods.
- Our government will also continue to work with the federal government to secure resources to support workers, industry and communities.

The material below is intended for internal use.

### Participants at the Leaders' Table Session on Nov. 29, 2019

Prov + Fed Government	Local Government	First Nations	Industry
Ravi Kahlon - Parliamentary Secretary, FLNRORD	Keith Bertrand - Mayor, Tumbler Ridge	Ken Cameron	Don Kayne - Chief Executive Officer- Canfor
Geoff Meggs, Chief of Staff to the Premier	Allen Courtoreille - Mayor, Chetwynd	Roland Wilson	Raymond Ferris - Chief Executive Officer - West Fraser
John Allan Deputy Minister - FLNRORD	Dale Bumstead - Mayor, Dawson Creek	Moe Sihota (Saulteau)	Louisiana Pacific - (by conference call - Mike Blosser Senior VP/ Mark Fonda Forest Manager)
Mark Zacharias - Deputy Minister, ENV	Lori Ackerman - Mayor, Fort Saint John (by conference call)		John Schadan - President Conuma Coal
Dave Nikolejsin - Deputy Minister - EMPR	Raye McMeeken - Deputy Mayor, Mackenzie		Darren Mawhinney - Mining Manager Anglo American
Christine Kennedy, Associate Deputy Minister, Premier's Office	Dan Rose, Director, Peace River Regional District		Bill Clapperton, Vice President, Canadian Natural Resources Ltd (by conference call)
Christine Hogan, Deputy Minister, Environment and Climate Change Canada	Blair Lekstrom - Premier's Liaison Local Government		Mark Feldinger - Senior VP, Canfor
Sue Milburn- Hopwood - Assistant Deputy Minister, Environment and Climate Change Canada			

#### **Communications tools:**

- Key Messages
- Q&A
- https://engage.gov.bc.ca/caribou/
- related Information Bulletin (released on Oct. 16, 2019) about caribou habitat enhancement projects being funded by the Habitat Conservation Trust, and the announcement of another \$6.5 million provided by the B.C. government over three years to the Habitat Conservation Trust for future habitat enhancement projects (\$2 million was provided to the Habitat Conservation Trust Fund in April 2018.)

#### **Historical overview:**

- Caribou populations have deceased significantly in British Columbia in recent decades, due in part to habitat disturbance, predation (e.g. wolves), climate change, and human activity on the landbase.
- The number of caribou in British Columbia has decreased from about 40,000 animals to about 15,000 over the last century.
- The B.C. government is committed to protecting this iconic species and has invested \$47 million over five years (starting in 2017) to support caribou management initiatives.
- These initiatives include: herd planning (a collaborative approach involving Indigenous nations, industry, stakeholders and governments to design a recovery plan for a particular herd); habitat management, protection and restoration; maternity penning programs; supplemental feeding program; animal relocations; predator management; and other measures.
- Despite the progress that B.C. has made on caribou management in recent years, the
  federal government could choose to protect caribou habitat in B.C. under Section 80 of
  the federal Species at Risk Act (SARA). Such a move could potentially include stringent
  land use restrictions, cover large areas of land, and have a severe negative impact on
  B.C.'s rural communities and on the economies and residents in affected regions. A
  made-in-B.C. solution is seen as being preferable to measures imposed by the federal
  government.
- The draft Southern Mountain Caribou Bilateral Conservation Agreement with Canada ("the Section 11 agreement") began to be developed in 2017 and was intended to address these concerns.
- The West Moberly First Nations and the Saulteau First Nations expressed an interest in being party to the Section 11 agreement. In recognition of the substantial contributions made by these First Nations to assist with caribou management in the Peace Region, the federal government worked with the B.C. government to draft a Partnership Agreement with those two Indigenous governments in February 2019 to help conserve the Central Group of the Southern Mountain Caribou National Ecological Area in northeast B.C. This draft agreement has not been finalized.
- In April 2019, the Province began a public engagement process on the draft Southern Mountain Caribou Bilateral Conservation Agreement with Canada (the Section 11 agreement) and on the draft Southern Mountain Caribou Central Group Partnership

- Agreement between the Province, Canada, the West Moberly First Nations and the Saulteau First Nations for the conservation of the Central Group of the Southern Mountain Caribou National Ecological Area in northeast B.C.
- During those public engagement sessions, it became clear that local governments, communities, residents and stakeholders wanted the government to take a closer look at the economic and social ramifications of such agreements, and to consult with them further about the proposed agreements.
- In April 2019, Premier John Horgan appointed Blair Lekstrom as a community liaison to engage with residents of the Peace Region on the Southern Mountain Caribou Central Group Partnership Agreement with the West Moberly First Nations and the Saulteau First Nations. Mr. Lekstrom prepared a report with 14 recommendations, including the need for further discussions with local governments.
- The B.C. government appointed Lorne Brownsey and Patrick Kelly as lead facilitators to
  work with the parties to the Partnership Agreement, tenure holders, and local
  governments to determine the best path forward to finalize the Partnership Agreement.
  Brownsey and Kelly have had several meetings with local governments and tenure
  holders.
- On June 20, 2019, the B.C. government implemented an interim two-year moratorium on new mining and forestry activity in large areas of forest land in northern B.C. The moratorium stemmed from one of the 14 recommendations in Lekstrom's report on caribou recovery.
- The removal of wolves from caribou habitat has been shown to have a beneficial impact on caribou populations. A report by provincial biologists on a five-year wolf removal program that began in 2015 in the South Peace region (in combination with habitat restoration, maternity penning and habitat protection efforts) showed that the caribou population in that area increased by almost 50% from 166 individuals in 2016 to 247 in 2019.

### **Q&As related to the Partnership Agreement Working Groups**

What is the purpose of the working groups that have been established as a result of the Leaders' Table held on Nov. 29, 2019?

- <u>B.C.</u> invited representatives from industry, local government and local snowmobile clubs to participate in three separate working groups, as follows:
  - The Snowmobile Advisory Committee will include local snowmobile clubs and local government representatives and will work to ensure that any snowmobile management plans for the South Peace Region are informed with local input.
  - The Caribou Recovery Related Land Use Objective Stakeholders Committee will
    include industry and local government representatives and will ensure that local
    governments, industry and stakeholders are fully involved in the process of
    developing Caribou Recovery Related Land Use Objectives.

- The Socio-Economic Committee will include industry and local government representatives. It will review the work done by Big River Analytics and provide recommendations to B.C. and Canada on a further analysis to understand the impacts of the Partnership Agreement and plan mitigation strategies.
- Kick-off meetings for all three of these working groups were held in the South Peace region on Jan. 23 and 24, 2020.

#### Will there be any changes to the Partnership Agreement?

• [Same response as provided in Premier's letter?]

#### When will government be signing the Partnership Agreement?

[Need a response]

# **Q&A** related to caribou recovery interim measures, including the moratorium implemented in June 2019:

#### Is the interim moratorium responsible for mill closures in Mackenzie and Fort St. John?

- No. The interim moratorium on new resource development in parts of northeastern British Columbia does not impact the volume of timber that's available for harvesting in those areas.
- The agreement establishes a framework for co-operation between the federal and B.C. governments to work collaboratively with Indigenous nations, local governments, communities and industry to develop caribou management plans for the southern mountain caribou.
- The interim moratorium provides more time to protect jobs and support workers as the government engages with affected communities and industries about long-term caribou protection strategies.

#### What areas were impacted by the restrictions you announced in June 2019?

- The measures that we announced apply to areas that are critical for caribou recovery.
- They include high-elevation caribou habitat near Mackenzie, Tumbler Ridge and Chetwynd, as well as some other critical areas north of Highway 97 in the Pine Pass area.
- These measures cover 734,000 hectares, which include most of the proposed protected area that's being considered in the Southern Mountain Caribou Central Group Partnership Agreement.

### What activities are impacted by the restrictions that were announced as part of the interim moratorium?

• These activities include **new** forestry, mining and oil and gas developments in specific areas that are critical to caribou habitat.

#### What are the potential impacts of the measures you've announced on jobs in the region?

- No impacts on jobs are anticipated as a result of the interim measures.
- We are committed to protecting jobs and supporting workers, as we continue to engage with communities and industry on long-term caribou protection strategies.
- The interim moratorium only applies to <u>new</u> resource development and has no impact on the volume of timber available for harvesting.

## After the B.C. government accepted the Lekstrom report, Lorne Brownsey was appointed to continue to act as a liaison with affected communities. What's new on the caribou file?

- The B.C. government appointed Lorne Brownsey and Patrick Kelly as lead facilitators to work with the parties to the Partnership Agreement, tenure holders, and local governments to determine the best path forward to finalize the Partnership Agreement.
- Brownsey and Kelly have met with multiple parties to help identify the best path forward for the Southern Mountain Caribou Central Group Partnership Agreement, including the Peace River Regional District, and stakeholders in the forest and mineral sectors.
- There is broad support to help caribou recover and there is also an interest on their part to be more involved in the planning and implementation of recovery measures.
- Brownsey and Kelly are working with all these groups and the parties to the Partnership Agreement to determine how best to move forward on the Southern Mountain Caribou Central Group Partnership Agreement.

#### What was the goal of the Leaders' Table meeting on Nov. 29, 2019?

- The Leaders' Table meeting was planned to support the recovery of the endangered Central Group of the southern mountain caribou, while also maintaining the social and economic well-being of communities in northeastern British Columbia.
- Participants discussed how best to move forward to implement the draft Partnership
  Agreement between the B.C. government, the federal government, West Moberly First
  Nations and Saulteau First Nations.
- The Partnership Agreement was negotiated to respond to threats to the central group of Southern Mountain caribou, as identified under the federal Species at Risk Act. The Leaders' Table also reviewed approaches to mitigate the agreement's potential impacts on natural resource and land use, while advancing caribou protection.
- The parties to the Southern Mountain Caribou Central Group Partnership Agreement (B.C., Canada, West Moberly First Nations and Saulteau First Nations) have reached out to forest and mineral tenure holders and representatives from local governments in the region.
- It is important for us to address questions and concerns about caribou that have been raised by communities. We feel that these issues can be addressed thought multiple means that don't require us to reopen the agreements at this time.
- We are committed to protecting caribou while mitigating the potential impacts on jobs and communities in the area.

#### Did you accept all of Mr. Lekstrom's recommendations?

- What's clear from his report is that everyone in the region wants to recover caribou populations, while maintaining community economic stability.
- We acted right away on his recommendation to immediately bring in a moratorium on resource development in certain areas and to do further engagement with people in the region.
- When it comes to the remaining recommendations, we will be considering them as engagement in the region continues.

## Is there still a risk that the federal government will impose an emergency order under the federal Species at Risk Act?

- Everyone recognizes that a federal order would have serious negative impacts on people and communities.
- The federal *Species at Risk Act* only considers caribou protection that they deem necessary for recovery, not local economies or people's livelihoods. That's why we've been working hard with all our partners to find a path forward.
- We are confident that with the measures we've announced to date and our continued engagement with partners and local communities — the federal government will not impose an order under the Species at Risk Act.
- The federal government recognizes the need to work with communities to ensure that we protect caribou while also protecting people's livelihoods.

# What's the difference between measures in the Southern Mountain Caribou Central Group Partnership Agreement and the interim measures that you announced in June 2019?

- The interim measures include protections for caribou habitat that are considered in the Southern Mountain Caribou Central Group Partnership Agreement in the majority of the area, while engagement continues with partners and communities for other areas.
- The activities restricted through the interim moratorium are consistent with those considered in the draft Southern Mountain Caribou Central Group Partnership Agreement.
- We'll continue engaging with communities, First Nations and the federal government as we work on further protections for caribou while also protecting people's livelihoods.
- The Southern Mountain Caribou Central Group Partnership Agreement specified other potential measures that could be taken to support caribou recovery.

#### How much was Mr. Lekstrom paid for his work?

- Mr. Lekstrom's contract has a maximum value of \$50,000.
- This includes the work that he started in April 2019.

# Are you planning to use the recommendations from the Lekstrom report as a model for species at risk in other parts of the province?

• The circumstances that led to the Southern Mountain Caribou Central Group Partnership Agreement and to Mr. Lekstrom's report were unique.

- Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy George Heyman and staff in his
  ministry have been leading our efforts to conserve B.C.'s plants, animals and ecosystems
  to make sure we have an environment that supports healthy communities and people's
  livelihoods.
- Starting in 2018, our government has been engaging with Indigenous governments, other stakeholders and individual British Columbians to hear their views on how we can better protect species at risk. This work is ongoing.

#### Why didn't your government engage with the McLeod Lake Indian Band?

- Throughout the engagement process, our government reached out to the McLeod Lake Indian Band, and ministry staff have met with the McLeod Lake Indian Band on several occasions.
- Additionally, Mr. Lekstrom met with representatives from the McLeod Lake Indian Band as part of his community engagement process, to hear their views on the Southern Mountain Caribou Central Group Partnership Agreement.
- The McLeod Lake Indian Band has demonstrated a commitment to caribou recovery specifically with their support for the Kennedy Siding herd feeding program.

## Will First Nations in other parts of B.C. have opportunities to enter into partnership agreements like this?

- The Section 11 Agreement outlines the approach that Canada and B.C. will be taking to engage with Indigenous Nations in other parts of B.C.
- The West Moberly First Nations and Saulteau First Nations are unique in their past and present activity related to caribou recovery, which is why the Southern Mountain Caribou Central Group Partnership Agreement made sense in this case.
- B.C. is committed to collaborating with First Nations in other parts of B.C. on caribou recovery.

#### When would you consider the caribou herds in these areas to be successfully recovered?

- It's important to remember that caribou populations have been in decline for many years or, in some cases, for decades.
- The first priorities are to reverse this decline and continue to pursue recovery activities so that caribou populations do not decline further.
- The Southern Mountain Caribou Central Group Partnership Agreement sets out a shared recovery objective to "immediately stabilizing and expeditiously growing the population of the Central Group to levels that are self-sustaining and support traditional aboriginal harvesting activities, consistent with existing Aboriginal and Treaty rights."

## Do the interim measures announced in June 2019 mean that people can't snowmobile in the region anymore?

- No. The areas that are open for snowmobile riding now will remain open.
- The Southern Mountain Caribou Central Group Partnership Agreement does not specify any additional snowmobile closures. Instead, it commits the Province to engaging with

snowmobilers so that together we can develop a plan and provide access for snowmobilers, while supporting caribou recovery objectives.

## We've heard reports from First Nations leaders and others in the region that this process has led to racism in the region. What is your response?

- We were deeply troubled by the reports that we heard about racism in the region.
- Racism has no place in British Columbia.
- It's critical that we all take time to address community concerns and bring people together.
- It is by working together that we will find a path forward when it comes to protecting caribou and people's livelihoods.

#### Why has logging continued in some caribou herd ranges?

- Currently, over five million hectares of core (not matrix) caribou range are protected from tree harvesting using various mechanisms. This represents just over half of the total area of core caribou habitat that's protected from forest harvesting activities in the province.
- Despite this protection, caribou populations continue to decline in most of B.C.'s herds.
- The B.C. government has embarked on a herd planning process to help identify limiting factors for each of the herds and make recommendations how to support the recovery of these caribou.
- Without legal protection mechanisms, forest licensees can continue harvesting in these areas, based on plans that are developed by qualified professionals and are consistent with legislation.
- The B.C. government has been working with forest licensees to develop management strategies to minimize the impacts of their operations on caribou recovery efforts.

### On the details of the Interim Moratorium...

#### What area is affected (i.e. zones)?

- The majority of high-elevation caribou habitat and some adjacent caribou habitat located within the Central Group of Southern Mountain Caribou are being protected.
- The areas defined as the moratorium area were identified as Zone A2 and Zone B3 in the Draft Caribou Recovery Partnership Agreement.
- The area we're protecting includes portions of three management units:
  - Dawson Timber Supply Area
  - Mackenzie Timber Supply Area
  - Tree Farm Licence 48

#### How large is the area that's being protected?

 The area associated with this order represents 734,410 hectares of land and approximately 120,000 hectares of Timber Harvesting Land Base (THLB) over three

- management units: the Dawson Timber Supply Area; the Mackenzie Timber Supply Area; and Tree Farm Licence 48.
- The majority of the area within Zone A2 (high-elevation habitat) is not contributing to the Timber Harvesting Land Base, since it consists of high-elevation forests, alpine tundra, rock and ice. This is the preferred habitat for these herds of caribou.

## What activities does the moratorium restrict? What does the Environment and Land Use Act (ELUA) order do? What does the Part 13 order do?

- The order under Section 7 of the *Environment and Land Use Act* (ELUA) will prevent new authorizations under the *Coal Act, Mines Act* and the *Oil and Gas Activities Act*.
- It will prevent new authorizations related to these acts that would be detrimental to caribou and caribou habitat in the moratorium area.
- Part 13 refers to Sections 168 to 175.4 of the Forest Act. These sections allow the minister to take specific action within a designated area, which in this case is the moratorium area.
- The order precludes the issuance of new permits associated with the harvesting of trees and construction of roads. Road construction will only be allowed to facilitate harvesting related to cutting permits or timber sales licences that had already been issued.

#### How long will this moratorium last?

• The Part 13 order and the *Environment and Land Use Act* order will be in place until June 20, 2021, or until they're repealed.

### Do either of these orders affect cutting permits, road permits and timber sale licences that have already been issued?

No. Existing issued permits will be allowed to proceed to completion.

#### What volume of forestry activity will still take place in the area?

- There are 47 cut blocks that are currently partially within the moratorium area, representing about 2,000 hectares, although 13 of those cut blocks have less than one hectare within the moratorium area.
- Logging in these 47 cut blocks can continue.
- However, it is worth noting that the 47 cutblocks represent only 0.3 percent of the total moratorium area.

#### Will the annual allowable cut be reduced as a result of this moratorium?

- The estimated fibre supply impact associated with this order is 275,437 cubic metres per year (118,853 for Dawson Creek, 58,149 for Mackenzie, and 98,435 for TFL 48).
- The AAC level is an independent decision completed by the province's chief forester. We believe it is unlikely that the AAC will be affected by the moratorium.
- This will be re-evaluated once the moratorium expires or when permanent measures are put in place.

#### Will forest licensees be compensated for the effects of this moratorium?

- The interim moratorium does not impact forest licensees' agreement terms or their ability to access fibre, and therefore compensation is not warranted.
- There are no tenure compensation provisions related to a Part 13 order that is in place for less than four years. Since the current order is only for two years, no compensation is being considered.
- Provisions around compensation are contained within the Forest Act. Once permanent measures are put into effect, the province will be reviewing its obligations.

#### Do either of these orders affect operating mines in the area?

- No. There are no operating mines included in the closure area. Areas for future exploration may be impacted in some cases.
- New mine applications will not be allowed during the moratorium period.

### Why aren't the Prince Rupert Gas Transmission and West Coast Gas Transmission projects impacted by the moratorium?

- The measures we're bringing in are aimed at new resource development.
- Both projects had their necessary regulatory approvals before we announced the interim moratorium.

#### Will other partnership agreements or moratoriums affect additional areas in the province?

No.

#### How is the Province educating snowmobilers about using snowmobile trails?

- The Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development is working with the snowmobile community to enhance government communications with this user group.
- This engagement process is informing the development of physical and web-based mapping products to make more information available to these users.
- The goals of this work include providing users with information to help them navigate, increasing compliance with land use designations, and enhancing relationships with snowmobile clubs throughout the province.
- The scope of this pilot project includes the communities of Revelstoke, Blue River and Valemount, although the plan is to expand this work to the entire province in future years.