

Lyons, Devon IRR:EX

From: Stewart, Rodger W FLNR:EX
Sent: Friday, October 6, 2017 2:36 PM
To: Banford, Alexandra R IRR:EX
Cc: Lyons, Devon IRR:EX
Subject: FW: NR - Hunting closures will help protect moose in the Cariboo
Attachments: 2017FLNR0323-001705.pdf

Importance: High

For your reference.

Rodger

From: Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX
Sent: Friday, October 6, 2017 2:27 PM
To: Ethier, Tom FLNR:EX; Trotter, Ward FLNR:EX; Manwaring, Richard G FLNR:EX; Pedersen, Mike FLNR:EX; Stewart, Rodger W FLNR:EX; MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX; Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX
Subject: NR - Hunting closures will help protect moose in the Cariboo
Importance: High

The news release has now been issued. Here's final copy for your reference.



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
2017FLNR0323-001705
Oct. 6, 2017

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

Hunting closures will help protect moose in the Cariboo

VICTORIA – Two areas of the Cariboo Region that were severely impacted by wildfires this summer will be closed to moose hunting for the Oct. 15-31 and Nov. 1-15, 2017, seasons.

Zones A and C of management unit 5-13 in the Cariboo contain high-quality moose habitat that was severely affected by the Chilcotin Plateau Fire. In addition, the area is important to First Nations for sustenance hunting.

Closure of these zones applies to all licensed hunting, including resident and guided hunters. The moose hunting closure announced today is for an area immediately north of Highway 20 and west of Williams Lake and Quesnel.

The closure was recommended by ministry biologists. It comes on the heels of a ban on motor vehicles for the purpose of licensed hunting within the Chilcotin Plateau and Hanceville-Riske Creek area last week.

These measures were a first step to mitigate wildlife vulnerability to hunters as a result of increased access and sight lines following the burning of major tracts of forest this past summer.

The areas impacted by today's hunting ban will be assessed over the winter to determine what levels of sustainable hunting opportunity will be available in the coming years.

A map of Zones A, B, and C of management unit 5-13 can be accessed online:
http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/sports-recreation-arts-and-culture/outdoor-recreation/fishing-and-hunting/hunting/limited-entry-hunting/zone-maps/region-5/moose_5-13_a_b_c.pdf

Quote:

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

"This has been an unprecedented wildfire season, with parts the Cariboo particularly hard hit. With moose populations already declining in this management zone, we need to take steps now to protect wildlife and ensure healthy moose populations in the future."

Contact:

Media Relations
Government Communications and Public
Engagement
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources
Operations and Rural Development
250 356-5261

Connect with the Province of B.C. at: www.gov.bc.ca/connect

Lyons, Devon IRR:EX

From: Stewart, Rodger W FLNR:EX
Sent: Friday, October 6, 2017 2:36 PM
To: Banford, Alexandra R IRR:EX
Cc: Lyons, Devon IRR:EX
Subject: FW: Wildlife Act 184/2017 M323/2017 (LEH Reg Moose Closure)
Attachments: 184_2017.pdf

Let me know if there should be need to talk about this action.

Rodger Stewart
Director, Resource Management
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Cariboo Region
400 - 640 Borland Street
Williams Lake, BC
V2G 4T1
cell (250) 305 8536, desk (250) 398 4549
fax (250) 398 4214

From: Pedersen, Mike FLNR:EX
Sent: Friday, October 6, 2017 1:34 PM
To: Stewart, Rodger W FLNR:EX; Reedman, Dave FLNR:EX
Subject: FW: Wildlife Act 184/2017 M323/2017 (LEH Reg Moose Closure)

FYI for now – wait for the news release.

From: Vaughan, Nicola FLNR:EX
Sent: Friday, October 6, 2017 12:57 PM
To: Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX; MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX; Trotter, Ward FLNR:EX; Ethier, Tom FLNR:EX
Cc: Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Pedersen, Carrie-rae FLNR:EX; Steele, Jason W FLNR:EX; Lowther, Brett GCPE:EX; Larkin, Brenda FLNR:EX; Pedersen, Mike FLNR:EX
Subject: Wildlife Act 184/2017 M323/2017 (LEH Reg Moose Closure)

Hi everyone,

Please find attached the deposited regulation under the Wildlife Act, and distribute as needed.

Many thanks,

Nicola Vaughan
Legislative Coordinator | Phone: 250 387-7070

From: JAG LSB Registrar of Regulations JAG:EX
Sent: Friday, October 6, 2017 12:50 PM
To: Vaughan, Nicola FLNR:EX; Dauch, Sam FLNR:EX
Subject: BC Reg 184/2017

Please find attached BC Reg 184/2017, under the Wildlife Act.

Have a great weekend,

Emily Summer
Office of Legislative Counsel
Ministry of Attorney General
250-356-5704

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
REGULATION OF THE MINISTER OF
FORESTS, LANDS, NATURAL RESOURCE OPERATIONS
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Wildlife Act

Ministerial Order No. M 323

I, Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, order that Schedule I of the Limited Entry Hunting Regulation, B.C. Reg. 134/93, is amended by repealing items 551, 552, 559 and 560.

DEPOSITED

October 6, 2017

B.C. REG. 184/2017

October 6, 2017

Date



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

(This part is for administrative purposes only and is not part of the Order.)

Authority under which Order is made:

Act and section: *Wildlife Act*, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 488, ss. 16 and 108

Other: O.C. 415/93

R10171918

Lyons, Devon IRR:EX

From: Pedersen, Mike FLNR:EX
Sent: Thursday, September 28, 2017 6:02 PM
To: Reedman, Dave FLNR:EX; Vanderburgh, Ken FLNR:EX; Lyons, Devon IRR:EX
Subject: Fwd: Rationale

This was what we were after.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Ethier, Tom FLNR:EX" <Tom.Ethier@gov.bc.ca>
Date: September 28, 2017 at 5:56:51 PM PDT
To: "Pedersen, Mike FLNR:EX" <Mike.Pedersen@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: "Manwaring, Richard G FLNR:EX" <Richard.Manwaring@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Rationale

Thanks Mike. So just to recap we can bring in the closure for the areas specified and vehicle prohibition will be supported by TNG bcwf and guide's. I think if that's the case we can let Tim know and work hard tomorrow to get the reg in place. 10-4?

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 28, 2017, at 5:29 PM, Pedersen, Mike FLNR:EX <Mike.Pedersen@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Tom if we can do the MVP for the fire area as was initially proposed and the closure of 513 A and C for moose will work.

Thank you Tom.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Reedman, Dave FLNR:EX" <Dave.Reedman@gov.bc.ca>
Date: September 28, 2017 at 5:11:14 PM PDT
To: "Pedersen, Mike FLNR:EX" <Mike.Pedersen@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: "Lyons, Devon IRR:EX" <Devon.Lyons@gov.bc.ca>, "Peetoom, Kai FLNR:EX" <Kai.Peetoom@gov.bc.ca>, "Vanderburgh, Ken FLNR:EX" <Ken.Vanderburgh@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Rationale

The MVP closure would reduce hunter success for any/all species, so it wouldn't hurt. I would support that also being in place, but again enforcement could be challenging.

I couldn't provide you with a rationale for species other than moose in zones 5-13A or 5-13C, especially if the MVP restriction is in place.

Dave

From: Pedersen, Mike FLNR:EX
Sent: Thursday, September 28, 2017 5:04 PM
To: Reedman, Dave FLNR:EX
Cc: Lyons, Devon IRR:EX; Peetoom, Kai FLNR:EX; Vanderburgh, Ken FLNR:EX
Subject: Re: Rationale

Dave do we still want the MVP reg for the fire area? That would protect the rest of the wildlife.

The MU closure would be for moose only?

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 28, 2017, at 4:56 PM, Reedman, Dave FLNR:EX
<Dave.Reedman@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Mike,

LEH Zone: 5-13A 82 authorizations
 5-13C 161 authorizations

Also, some analysis is attached.

Dave Reedman
Fish and Wildlife Section Head - Cariboo Region
Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
400 – 640 Borland Street
Williams Lake, BC V2G 4T1

Phone: 250-398-4368
Dave.Reedman@gov.bc.ca

From: Pedersen, Mike FLNR:EX
Sent: Thursday, September 28, 2017 4:51 PM
To: Reedman, Dave FLNR:EX
Cc: Lyons, Devon IRR:EX; Peetoom, Kai FLNR:EX; Vanderburgh, Ken FLNR:EX
Subject: Re: Rationale

How many Authorizations are out there for LEH?

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 28, 2017, at 4:33 PM, Reedman, Dave FLNR:EX
<Dave.Reedman@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Mike,

As requested:

**Rationale to close the moose hunt in
LEH zones 5-13A and 5-13C only for
the 2017 season only.**

- These are areas of moderate to high moose habitat that have been most impacted by wildfire. They have also seen significant declines in moose density, and so are most vulnerable to any potential increase in human harvest.
- Certain areas in the Chilcotin have seen considerable declines in moose density over the past 15 years. While the added impact of the extensive wildfires of 2017 is not known, cumulative effects work indicates that previous disturbance from mountain pine beetle salvage logging and wildfire has significantly reduced the availability of adequate cover for moose in portions of these MUs.
- The decline in moose density is particularly acute in MU 5-13A (survey done in 2016), which also experiences considerable First Nations' harvest pressure. Wildlife biologists predict a similar decline in moose density has occurred in MU 5-13C.
- This is a precautionary approach as it is not possible to quantify the effect this action would have on moose populations. Also, as fire impacts to available cover can persist for up to 10 years or more, this closure could create questions from First Nations and stakeholders precedence for closures in future years.

s.16

- The timing of this closure would be problematic given that moose hunting in 5-13A opens Oct 1 and is currently open in 5-13C (next LEH draw starts Oct1). Questions from LEH holders and guide outfitters around compensation would need to be addressed.

Dave Reedman

Fish and Wildlife Section Head -
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Phone: 250-398-4368

Dave.Reedman@gov.bc.ca

<LEH Analysis 5-13&5-14.xlsx>

Lyons, Devon IRR:EX

From: Pedersen, Mike FLNR:EX
Sent: Thursday, September 28, 2017 5:06 PM
To: Lyons, Devon IRR:EX
Cc: Vanderburgh, Ken FLNR:EX
Subject: Re: Follow up received

Let it rest for now. I am working on it.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 28, 2017, at 5:03 PM, Lyons, Devon IRR:EX <Devon.Lyons@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

s.16

Call me if you'd like to discuss. C: 250.267.1268.

Devon Lyons
A/Regional Manager
Negotiations and Regional Operations – Cariboo
Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation
Devon.Lyons@gov.bc.ca
P: 250.398.4247
C: 250.267.1268

Page 12

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.16

From: Reedman, Dave FLNR:EX [<mailto:Dave.Reedman@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: September 7, 2017 3:09 PM
To: Luke Doxtator
Cc: Shawn Wiebe; Lirette, Daniel FLNR:EX; Lyons, Devon ABR:EX
Subject: RE: Closures

Hi Luke,

The timelines for the Wildfire Act closures is included in the website. I cut and paste the portion below:

Forest Use Restrictions

On September 2, 2017, area restrictions were expanded around several fires in the Cariboo Fire Centre. A campfire ban remains in effect and the off-road vehicle prohibition that was implemented throughout the Cariboo Fire Centre's jurisdiction on Aug. 4, 2017, is still in effect. For more information, please visit:
<http://ow.ly/LVRt30eCGIM>

The area restriction order applies to all Crown land within the geographic boundaries as outlined on the associated maps, but it does not include the foreshore or Crown land covered by water (i.e., public use of lakes and rivers that

are not under an evacuation order is not restricted). The area restriction order also does not include private land, garbage dumps and transfer stations.
The following area restrictions will remain in effect until noon on Oct. 31, 2017, or until the area restriction order is otherwise rescinded.

Also as stated in Mike Pedersen's letter to Chief Joe Alphonse (attached):

"Should the *Wildfire Act* area restrictions be lifted before the end of 2017 hunting season, the situation will be reassessed in consultation with the Cariboo Fire Centre and the Tsilhqot'in Nation to ensure appropriate regulations are in place to protect wildlife. Beyond the 2017 hunting season, the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD) is committed to work with the Tsilhqot'in Nation on understanding the specific impacts to wildlife from the 2017 wildfires and ensuring that hunting in the Cariboo region is managed sustainably."

So, yes. A commitment has been made to work with the TNG if they come off before the end of hunting season,

Hope that answers it. Feel free to call if you have any questions.

Dave

Dave Reedman

Fish and Wildlife Section Head - Cariboo Region
Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
400 – 640 Borland Street
Williams Lake, BC V2G 4T1

Phone: 250-398-4368

Dave.Reedman@gov.bc.ca

From: Reedman, Dave FLNR:EX [<mailto:Dave.Reedman@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: Thursday, September 7, 2017 2:21 PM
To: Luke Doxtator; Gash, Michael ABR:EX
Cc: Shawn Wiebe
Subject: RE: Closures

Hi Luke,

The Wildfire Act area restrictions remain in place around the active fires. See the attached map for a summary of the region with WMUs included, note that the fire perimeter has changed somewhat but the area restrictions in Chilcotin have not.

The shapefile that Patricia sent JP and Garry a week ago is still correct, although the fires to east within the Cariboo Fire Centre now have 2km buffers in addition to what was there before.

Here is the link to the BC Wildfire service page for the full description and explanation, as well as maps for each fire.

<http://bcfireinfo.for.gov.bc.ca/hprScripts/WildfireNews/Bans.asp>

Hope that helps clear it up.

Dave

Dave Reedman

Fish and Wildlife Section Head - Cariboo Region
Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
400 – 640 Borland Street
Williams Lake, BC V2G 4T1

Phone: 250-398-4368
Dave.Reedman@gov.bc.ca

From: Luke Doxtator [<mailto:Luke@tsilhqotin.ca>]
Sent: Thursday, September 7, 2017 1:01 PM
To: Reedman, Dave FLNR:EX; Gash, Michael ABR:EX
Cc: Shawn Wiebe
Subject: Closures

Good afternoon,

I'm curious what this means now in regards to the closures we discussed that were to be in place until the end of October. Can someone enlighten me please.

Thanks,

Luke Doxtator
Stewardship Department Manager
Tsilhqot'in National Government
253 Fourth Ave. North

Williams Lake, BC
V2G 4T4
P (250) 392-3918
F (250) 398-5798
Toll Free 1-877-512-2674

From: Banford, Alexandra R IRR:EX
Sent: Friday, September 29, 2017 1:32 PM
To: Lyttle, Shawna IRR:EX
Cc: Lyons, Devon IRR:EX; Giles, Wayne IRR:EX
Subject: Bullets: Additional South Area Topics - High-Priority Items for MSF Briefing on October 2nd
Attachments: 09 20 17 Moose Hunt Press Release TNG.pdf; s.16
s.16 Hunting closure response_TNG_Aug31_2017.pdf; 2017SEPT25 BN TourismOperators_FINAL.DOCX; APPENDIX A Xení Gwet'in Final Report.pdf

Hi Shawna,

In addition to the LSIB briefing bullets we provided for MSF briefing on Monday, please find the bullets prepared for the other two topics identified below. Given the sensitivity of topic 1, we have provided much more context. There are also numerous attachments I'd like to provide to Doug S for his understanding and reference. Please let me know if you may need anything further in advance and we can get to it promptly.

1. TNG: Chilcotin Moose Harvest Post-Wildfire

Context

- Following BC's Aug.31, 2017 response (*attached*) to TNG's Aug.11, 2017 letter requesting a full moratorium on moose harvest post-wildfire, TNG issued a press release on Sept 26, 2017 (*attached*), asking the province to put an immediate moratorium on moose hunting. In their view, it cannot be "business as usual" for moose amidst wildfire recovery. s.16
s.16
- On September 27, 2017 the remaining restrictions in place around wildfires in the Cariboo were rescinded. [BC News Release] In anticipation of the *Wildfire Act* Section 11 Order being fully rescinded, FLNR prepared options for Minister Donaldson's consideration, about how to manage impacts to moose from hunting post wildfire. s.13
- Immediately after the Section 11 Order was lifted on September 27th, regional MIRR (Manager) and FLNR (FW Section Head) spoke to TNG representatives; in addition, ADM Rick Manwaring left a message for Chief Joe Alphonse. s.16
s.16
s.16
Given the prompt timing of the order being lifted, staff will now be working with the Tsilhqot'in on preparing to collaborate on implementation of the minister's decision.

Connection to the Accord

- Under the Accord, there is a distinct moose management arrangement between BC and the TNG (sub sections 12.33 to 12.41). The TNG sit on the Fish & Wildlife Panel, where there is a commitment to develop a moose management plan.
- In the February 2016 Letter of Intent with TNG, BC provided TNG with \$200K (under the SFE) to support TNG participation in the joint development of a moose management plan. Also under the LOI, BC provided the TNG with funding out of the SFE to develop a "First Nation Sustenance Hunting Policy that includes actions

to reduce the reliance on cow moose. The policy, to be endorsed by the Tsilhqot'in leadership, will describe policies for governance of community wildlife harvest practices including matters such as (but not limited to) wildlife harvest reporting, use of ATVs, and harvest of antlerless moose". This was a TNG accountability that they said was needed and committed to doing.

- Section 18 of the Accord (Dispute Resolution) sets out a clear process to follow when either party is not satisfied with Accord progress.

Go-Forward

- MIRR will be working with FLNR and MJAG to ensure a coordinated effort is made to de-escalate this issue. BC needs to confirm our commitment to the collaborative moose management work in the Accord, as well as confirming our commitment to the role and influence of the Fish & Wildlife Panel. MIRR will be coordinating a call with key agency reps for early next week.
- The Fish and Wildlife Panel discussed impacts on wildfire on moose and wildlife at the September 12th Panel meeting. The Tsilhqot'in expressed the need to protect wildlife, by closing or limiting the hunt, or by managing access particularly around burnt areas, particularly if the *Wildfire Act* Section 11 was removed.
- FLNR committed to discuss access management options through the coming weeks, in hope of having a plan in place before the *Wildfire Act* Section 11 was removed. Options are currently in front of Minister Donaldson, and including these concerns and ideas discussed at the Panel meeting.
- The Fish and Wildlife Panel produced a joint recommendation on Annual Allowable Harvest (AAH) for four species, including moose; we are currently in Year 1 of the five year allocation cycle. The Harvest Allocation Policy allows for annual evaluation of populations, and hunter success rates, to determine whether adjustments in hunting authorizations (LEH) are required to avoid exceeding the AAH. The Province will be working with the Tsilhqot'in to collect and review information about populations and habitat; if changes are required to maintain the AAH, the Policy provides the tool for adjusting the number of hunting authorizations.
- The Limited Entry Hunt season for moose starts October 1. Any change in regulations, or access restrictions for resident hunters would need to be effectively communicated and an enforcement strategy considered.
- Regional FLNR and MIRR staff are engaging First Nations in the Cariboo on wildfire recovery and rehabilitation. A meeting is being planned for October 17 at the Cariboo Fire Centre. Each community will be offered funding from the Strategic Forestry Envelope, to participate in discussions with FLNR on this date and onwards. Tsilhqot'in communities will be represented at these discussions.

2. Xenigwet'in: dynamics with tourism operators in Cariboo Chilcotin

- Xenigwet'in and the Cariboo Chilcotin tourism operators are in conflict over existing tourism operations that were under Provincial licence or lease and are located within the aboriginal title area, granted in June 2014.
- Xenigwet'in are members of the Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG). Marilyn Baptiste is now Acting Chief while Roger William is on administrative leave.
- The Xenigwet'in have sent letters to operators to stop activities immediately and the operators are looking to the Province of British Columbia and Canada for more certainty.

- Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) have meetings scheduled to discuss land use, tourism activities, as well as other issues with the operators, Xeni Gwet'in and TNG on October 2nd, 3rd and 4th respectively. Representatives from the Province of British Columbia may also be in attendance depending on the scope of discussion.
- The Nenqay Deni Accord, signed in 2016, commits to negotiate operating arrangements for tourism companies. The original two year bridging agreements for crown land and parks have expired and new agreements have not been signed. In addition, recommendations in the Aboriginal Tourism Association of Canada (ATAC) 'Xeni Gwet'in Mediation Project – Final Report' June 2017, have not yet been implemented.
- Numerous elected officials in the Cariboo Chilcotin area have requested Minister-level meetings to voice constituent concerns. IGRS requested a BN from MIRR in order to inform internal briefings and potential meetings (*attached*), with the Mediation Project Final Report as an appendix (also attached).

Thanks,
Alexandra

From: Banford, Alexandra R IRR:EX
Sent: Wednesday, September 27, 2017 10:27 AM
To: Lyttle, Shawna IRR:EX
Cc: Ronmark, Tracy C IRR:EX
Subject: Additional South Area Topics: High-Priority Items for MSF Briefing on October 2nd

Thanks Shawna.

In addition to LSIB, which we'll be providing updated bullets for, I would also like to request two additional priority matters:

1. TNG: post wildlife moose management
2. Xeni Gwet'in: dynamics with tourism operators in Cariboo Chilcotin

We'll be working on bullets for you today and tomorrow.

Thanks,
Alexandra

From: Lyttle, Shawna IRR:EX
Sent: Wednesday, September 27, 2017 10:17 AM
To: ABR NROD SR Manager Committee
Cc: Bowles, Cynthia IRR:EX
Subject: Request: High-Priority Items for MSF Briefing on October 2nd

Good morning:

The next minister briefing is scheduled for Monday, October 2nd at 3:00 PM. Therefore, can you please advise of any new high-priority matters that Doug should raise with the Minister? The summary from this week's briefing is attached – please do not distribute further.

If you have a topic please include 4-5 bullets and advise if there is a need to book a further, specific briefing on the matter. Please send topics/bullets to me no later than Friday at noon.

Thank you.

Shawna Lyttle

Division Coordinator

Negotiations and Regional Operations

Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

Office: 250-387-8748

Moose LEH Authorization and Harvest Analysis for 5-13A, 5-13C and 5-14

Zone	% MU area impacted by 2017 wildfires (so far)	% suitable moose habitat impacted by 2017 wildfires (so far)	Last Survey Year	Surveyed Moose Density	Bulls per 100 Cows	Total pop Estimate	Total Bull Estimate
5-13A	31%	35%	2016	0.17	39	850	213
5-13C	32%	32%	2008	0.34	33	1590	333
5-14	29%	22%	2013	0.25	31	1017	185

* Note: Estimates of sustainable harvest rates in BC averaged 5% (Hatter 1999)

2017 LEH Authorizations	2014-2016 Auth success rate	Avg annual Harvest 2014- 2016	Estimated 2017 Licenced Harvest Rate (Pre-Fire)	Estimated Licenced Harvest Rate under 40% Auth Success Rate	Estimated Licenced Harvest Rate under 50% Auth Success Rate
82	0.45	54	4.34%	3.86%	4.82%
161	0.46	63	4.66%	4.05%	5.06%
100	0.22	19	2.16%	3.93%	4.92%

Estimated Licenced Harvest Rate under 60% Auth Success Rate	Estimated Licenced Harvest Rate under 70% Auth Success Rate	Estimated Licenced Harvest Rate under 80% Auth Success Rate
5.79%	6.75%	7.72%
6.08%	7.09%	8.10%
5.90%	6.88%	7.87%



TŚILHQOT'IN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

253 – 4th Avenue North - Williams Lake, BC V2G 4T4 - Phone (250) 392-3918 - Fax (250) 398-5798

PRESS RELEASE

Tsilhqot'in Nation Challenged with 'Business as Usual' from Province of B.C

September 26, 2017, Williams Lake, B.C: Copyright
Copyright

Media Contact:
Graham Gillies
Communications Manager
604-779-4221
ggillies@tsilhqotin.ca

Page 26 to/à Page 27

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.16



Reference: 230541

VIA EMAIL: gcrowe@tsilhqotin.ca

Chief Joe Alphonse
Tribal Chair, Tsilhqot'in National Government
253 – 4th Avenue North
Williams Lake, British Columbia
V2G 4T4

Dear Chief Alphonse:

Thank you for your letter of August 11, 2017, requesting a big game hunting ban in the Chilcotin region for the 2017 hunting season. Minister Donaldson has asked that I reply on his behalf.

The Government of British Columbia takes the Tsilhqot'in National Government's concerns seriously. We recognize that hunting is an important activity for First Nations and licensed hunters alike and we share your interest in maintaining sustainable wildlife populations now and in the future.

Wildlife staff has undertaken an assessment of the wildfire impact on wildlife by management unit sub-zone. Our regional staff met with your Executive Director on August 24 to discuss this analysis. It will be some time before ministry biologists will be able to accurately assess impacts to wildlife populations and ecosystems.

While direct mortality is expected to be low, given the latest fire perimeter information and fact that these fires continue to burn uncontrolled there are specific wildlife management units where Cariboo region wildlife staff recognizes the potential for impacts to wildlife.

Factors taken into account were potential impacts to ungulate habitat and winter range, landscape alterations that may alter hunter success rates or effort and general population health.

As you are aware certain areas in the Chilcotin have seen considerable declines in moose density over the past 15 years. A high degree of management actions are already in place for the Cariboo moose hunt (bull moose only, a limited licensed harvest and a closure of the September moose hunt in a portion of the Chilcotin). While the added impact of extensive wildfire is not known, cumulative effects work indicates that previous disturbance has significantly reduced the availability of adequate cover for moose in portions of these MUs prior to the 2017 wildfires. The decline in moose density is particularly acute in MU 5-13A, which also experiences considerable First Nations' harvest pressure. Wildlife biologists predict a similar decline in moose density has occurred in MU 5-13C.

Page 1 of 2

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

Office of the Minister

Mailing Address:
PO BOX 9049 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9J2

Tel: 250 387-6240
Fax: 250 387-1040
Website: www.gov.bc.ca/for

Chief Joe Alphonse

For moose, wildlife staff undertook a risk analysis to determine what actions would be appropriate to protect populations. Moose hunting was reviewed based on licensed hunter success rates in areas hardest hit by the fire (5-13A, 5-13C and 5-14), modeling harvest impact at varying degrees of increased hunter success.

Mule deer impacts were also assessed. Mule deer in the Cariboo region are abundant and managed on General Open Season. While mule deer will be impacted by loss of some winter range, closing the hunt in the Chilcotin is not expected to provide any measurable benefit to the population and will not reduce deer mortality over the fall and winter.

The Section 11 *Wildfire Act* area restrictions in place around the wildfires in the Cariboo region encompass a large portion of the management units that you requested be closed in your letter. This *Wildfire Act* restricts access for hunters to large portions of 5-3, 5-4, 5-12, 5-13 and 5-14.

This *Wildfire Act* area restriction applies to all people, and restricts both licensed and First Nations hunters from accessing all Crown land within these areas. This restriction goes beyond what wildlife biologists believe to be required for sustainable wildlife management and eliminates the need for specific hunting closures in wildfire impacted areas. This *Wildfire Act* area restriction and its implications for hunting in the area will be communicated to hunting stakeholders around the province.

Wildfire can have a mixed effect on wildlife. Beneficial effects include increased vegetation growth for forage. However, burned areas remove screening and thermal cover for ungulates, and fire suppression activities, such as fire guards, increase hunter access and harvest success rates.

Should the *Wildfire Act* area restrictions be lifted before the end of 2017 hunting season, the situation will be reassessed in consultation with the Cariboo Fire Centre and the Tsilhqot'in Nation to ensure appropriate regulations are in place to protect wildlife. Beyond the 2017 hunting season, the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD) is committed to work with the Tsilhqot'in Nation on understanding the specific impacts to wildlife from the 2017 wildfires and ensuring that hunting in the Cariboo region is managed sustainably.

FLNRORD and the Conservation Officer Service will be available to partner with the Tsilhqot'in to assist with the enforcement of any communal hunting closures Tsilhqot'in leadership may want to enact for your members.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,



Mike Pedersen
Cariboo Region Executive Director

pc: Tim Sheldan, Deputy Minister of FLNRORD
Jennifer Psyllakis, Director, Fish and Wildlife Branch
Rodger Stewart, Director, Resource Management, Cariboo Natural Resource Region

Lyons, Devon IRR:EX

From: Stewart, Rodger W FLNR:EX
Sent: Wednesday, October 4, 2017 12:51 PM
To: Lyons, Devon IRR:EX
Subject: FW: 231652 BN-Chilcotin moose harvest post wildfire(03 Oct 17)RWJS_JP
Attachments: 231652 Chilcotin Moose Harvest Post Wildfire.docx

Categories: Orange Category

From: Larkin, Brenda FLNR:EX
Sent: Wednesday, October 4, 2017 11:49 AM
To: Trotter, Ward FLNR:EX; Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX
Cc: Pedersen, Mike FLNR:EX; Stewart, Rodger W FLNR:EX; Christensen, Tracy E FLNR:EX; Di Georgio, Alexis FLNR:EX; Beadman, Krista FLNR:EX
Subject: RE: 231652 BN-Chilcotin moose harvest post wildfire(03 Oct 17)RWJS_JP

Attached is the ADM approved (Rick and Tom) note that is going forward to the DMO for approval prior to going to the MO.

Brenda

From: Trotter, Ward FLNR:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 12:50 PM
To: Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Christensen, Tracy E FLNR:EX; Di Georgio, Alexis FLNR:EX
Cc: Pedersen, Mike FLNR:EX; Stewart, Rodger W FLNR:EX; Larkin, Brenda FLNR:EX
Subject: RE: 231652 BN-Chilcotin moose harvest post wildfire(03 Oct 17)RWJS_JP

Brenda

Here is the note. Jen and I have added Option 3 to the recommendation (along with 1) because of the BCWF. I think that if Tom and Rick do have a conversation about this they can consider how best to move the options along; or provide us with additional direction.

ward

From: Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 12:13 PM
To: Christensen, Tracy E FLNR:EX; Di Georgio, Alexis FLNR:EX; Trotter, Ward FLNR:EX
Subject: Re: 231652 BN-Chilcotin moose harvest post wildfire(03 Oct 17)RWJS_JP

Ward. I made minor additions. Mike W also updated the maps.
Jen

From: Christensen, Tracy E FLNR:EX
Sent: October-03-17 10:03 AM

To: Di Georgio, Alexis FLNR:EX

Cc: Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Stewart, Rodger W FLNR:EX

Subject: 231652 BN-Chilcotin moose harvest post wildfire(03 Oct 17)RWJS_JP

For Ward's approval, thank you!

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

Date: October 3, 2017

File: 280-20

CLIFF: 231652

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

ISSUE: Moose harvest management following wildfire disturbance in the Cariboo Region.

BACKGROUND:

- Management Unit (MU) 5-13 (west of Quesnel) was heavily disturbed during the unprecedented wildfire disturbances of 2017.
- MU 5-13 (sub-zones 5-13A and 5-13C) is moderate to high value moose habitat. Cumulative effects assessment indicates that disturbance from salvage logging and previous wildfire has significantly reduced the supply of suitable habitat for moose in MUs 5-13A and 5-13C.
- Active road density approaches the highest ratios (km/km²) in the province. Road density has direct positive correlation to increased vulnerability of moose to human-caused mortality, and decrease in effective use of habitat.
- Past moose population surveys indicate declines in moose density across the Chilcotin and south Omineca sub-regions by 50-70%.
- In MU 5-13A, 2016 surveys revealed significant decline in moose density. Wildlife biologists predict a similar decline in moose density has occurred in MU 5-13C (2016 survey was not completed). Overall, bull to cow ratios in the Cariboo are consistently above provincial minimum targets, with some sign of population recovery in the South Chilcotin. However, calf to cow ratios in several Chilcotin MUs is lower than required to maintain stable populations, and will require future monitoring. (see Attachment 1 for 2017 late winter/early spring survey results)
- Wildfires generally benefit wildlife in the long-term; however, short-term (decade) impacts can be acute (direct mortality caused by wildfire, insufficient winter forage and thermal cover) or indirect (ineffective use of habitat, increased vulnerability to natural predation and hunting pressure due to increased access and improved sight-ability).
- To mitigate the increased vulnerability of wildlife, a regulation has been established prohibiting use of motor vehicles for hunting within the Chilcotin Plateau and Hanceville-Riske Creek fire perimeters from September 1 to December 10 annually. Wildlife staff is expecting a decrease in hunter success rates.
- Collaboration with First Nations has revealed that the Tsilhqot'in Nation and the Southern Dakeh Nation Alliance rely heavily on wildlife from MU 5-13. Strong representation has been made to the Province about closure of moose hunting to protect aboriginal rights, and to encourage recovery of moose densities.
- The Province places high priority on strengthening strategic relationships with the Nations. Benefits of a strong relationship include secure access to land and resources; a matter of high importance after pine beetle and fire disturbance impacts to natural resource assets in the

region. The Nations' representations indicate high tensions and serious implications for the Province's strategic interests.

- Residents are managed through a Limited Entry Hunt (LEH) for moose in MUs 5-13A and 5-13C. The season is split up in 2 week openings. A total of 243 LEH authorizations were granted and 110 moose were expected to be harvested based on estimates of success rate (see Attachment 2).
- Nine guiding territories occur within the wildfire area that support guided non-resident hunters. Two territories are completely within MUs 5-13A or 5-13C while the other territories include another management unit or sub-zone. The moose quota for the entire area of these nine guide territories is 51. These territories have already been subject to wildfire access restrictions (*Wildfire Act* Section 11). Guiding operations may have been severely limited even before a hunting closure is considered.
- Based on the Province's Allocation Policy, conservation is the first priority when managing populations. If a portion of the population is available for harvest, First Nations needs are accounted first, then resident and non-resident opportunity in that order. Hunts may be closed in reverse order.

DISCUSSION:

- The additional influence of 2017 wildfire disturbance on moose is not yet known. It is expected that the abundance and distribution of moose will have been altered and winter habitat supply reduced through loss of forest cover and forage. The benefits of wildfire disturbance for moose may not be realized for several years.
- It will be some time before ministry biologists can reasonably determine 2017 wildfire impacts to ecosystems and wildlife populations. Recovery assessment and determining management actions are currently underway or planned.
- The Conservation Officer Service advises that enforcement of the motor vehicle prohibition will be a challenge due to the density of roads and trails, the limited number of Conservation Officers, the difficulty in hunters knowing their location on the landscape, and sparse uptake on notice of the regulation.
- First Nations do not accept that motorized vehicle restrictions will address their concerns that the intensity and broad extent of wildlife disturbance has put the moose at increased risk, with population recovery substantively compromised. Provincial assurances about moose resiliency have not been accepted.
- First Nations have been steadfast and vocal in asking for closure of moose hunting across the Chilcotin sub-region. MUs 5-13A and 5-13C are areas where a hunting closure would be of highest relevance, and would align with First Nations interests.
- Closing these zones to licenced moose hunting would be a precautionary approach as it is not possible to quantify the effect this action would have on moose populations.

s.16

- A decision to close MUs 5-13A and 5-13C will not be in place until after October 15, 2017 (halfway through the season). As such, we would only expect a harvest reduction by resident hunters of 43 moose (39% of forecast harvest) with negligible population impacts given the licensed harvest is of bulls only.
- Timing a moose hunting closure will be problematic given that moose hunting opened October 1, 2017 in MU 5-13A, along with the second LEH season in MU 5-13C. Questions about compensation will arise from LEH holders and guide outfitters.
- Impact on non-resident harvest by a MUs 5-13A and 5-13C closure is difficult to determine. The sector may legally harvest their quota at any time during the moose season.
- Regional stakeholders (Cariboo Chilcotin Guide Outfitters Association and the local British Columbia Wildlife Federation) supported the access restrictions.
- The British Columbia Wildlife Federation, representing resident hunters across the province, have indicated support of a closure if based on conservation needs and applying to First Nations. The British Columbia Wildlife Federation reacted strongly against the access closures once they were in place.
- The Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG) have not responded to the August 31, 2017 letter from Mike Pedersen, Cariboo Region Executive Director, where ministry and Conservation Officer Service offered to partner with the Tsilhqot'in to assist with the enforcement of any communal hunting closures Tsilhqot'in leadership may want to enact for their members.
- None of the proposed actions will meet the expectations of the TNG. The TNG would support the closure of MUs 5-13A and 5-13C, but would expect the other MUs they named (MUs 5-03, 5-04, 5-05, 5-12, 5-14) to also be closed.

s.13,s.16

Approved / Not Approved

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

Date

Attachment(s):

1. 2017 Moose Survey Results
2. LEH Moose Seasons and Expected Harvest Based on Success Ratios

Contact:

ADM: Tom Ethier
 Div: Resource Stewardship Division
 Phone: 250-356-0972

Alternate Contact:

Name: Mike Pedersen
 Div/Region/Branch: Cariboo Region
 Phone: 250-398-4355

Prepared by:

Name: Jennifer Psyllakis
 Branch/Region: RSD -- Fish & Wildlife
 Phone: 250-387-5657

ADM: Rick Manwaring
 Div: South
 Phone: 250-828-4449

Name: Rodger Stewart
 Branch/Region: Cariboo Region
 Phone: 250-398-4549

Reviewed by	Initials	Date
DM		
Associate DM		
DMO		
ADM - South	RM	Oct 4, 2017
ADM - RSD	TE	Oct 4, 2017
Exec Dir	RWT	Oct 3, 2017

Attachment 1 - 2017 late winter / early spring survey results

- In the Cariboo surveys were conducted in five management units, with mixed results.
- In Alexis Creek (MU 5-13A), moose densities were down 30% compared to the previous survey conducted in 2003, which was consistent with declines in neighbouring areas surveyed over the past two to five years. The bull to cow ratios were adequate at 39 bulls per 100 cows, but the calf to cow ratio was low, at only 14 calves per 100 cows.
- In Big Creek (MU 5-04) estimated moose density increased over 50% from when last surveyed in 2012, although 2012 survey conditions were considered poor and the percentage increase should be interpreted with caution. Estimated bull to cow ratio was 45 bulls per 100 cows and estimated calf to cow ratio was 30 calves per 100 cows, which were both considered adequate.
- Composition surveys conducted in MUs 5-12A, 5-13B and 5-13C (North Chilcotin) found bull/cow ratios ranging from 33 to 56 bulls per 100 cows and calf/cow ratios ranging from 21 to 30 calves per 100 cows.
- Overall, bull to cow ratios in the Cariboo are consistently above provincial minimum targets, with some sign of population recovery in the South Chilcotin.
- However, calf to cow ratios in several Chilcotin MUs is lower than required to maintain stable populations, and will require future monitoring.
- Surveys of the Nazko area of the North Chilcotin are planned for this coming winter to better understand status and trends in North Chilcotin moose populations

Attachment 2 - The table below illustrates the moose seasons and the expected harvest based on success ratios calculated prior to the wildfire.

LEH Zone	Date	Authorizations	2014-2016 success rate	Predicted Licensed Moose Harvest
5-13 A	Sep 10 – Sep 30	Closed	42%	0
5-13 C	Sep 10 – Sep 30	50	59%	30
5-13 A	Oct 1 – Oct 15	27	72%	20
5-13 C	Oct 1 – Oct 15	33	51%	17
5-13 A	Oct 15 – Oct 31	22	47%	11
5-13 C	Oct 15 – Oct 31	39	35%	14
5-13 A	Nov 1 – Nov 15	40	20%	8
5-13 C	Nov 1 – Nov 15	32	30%	10

Lyons, Devon IRR:EX

From: Banford, Alexandra R IRR:EX
Sent: Thursday, September 28, 2017 12:46 PM
To: Lyons, Devon IRR:EX
Subject: Thanks: Correction: MIRR MO Briefing Bullets - Chilcotin Moose Harvest Post-Wildfire

Thanks Devon -- much appreciated, and looks great.

I will be preparing with Doug S for the MSF briefing on this topic. If there are additions or updates throughout today, please send directly to me without the list of folks cc'd. Will be interested to hear how it goes this afternoon!
I will send out a summary of the MSF briefing and next steps to the full team; hopefully FLNRORD will be able to do the same once MDD has provided a decision.
Do you have a copy of the options paper that is currently in front of MDD? Both Francesca and I would like to review as a key reference.

We're also going to be briefing MSF the Xeni/tourism operators -- hoping you (or perhaps Karen?) can synthesize from the BN and pass along today.

Thanks,
Alexandra

From: Lyons, Devon IRR:EX
Sent: Thursday, September 28, 2017 9:36 AM
To: Banford, Alexandra R IRR:EX
Cc: Ronmark, Tracy C IRR:EX; Wheler, Francesca M IRR:EX; Reedman, Dave FLNR:EX; Vanderburgh, Ken FLNR:EX; Pedersen, Mike FLNR:EX; Mayhew, Neilane IRR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; 'Doug Konkin'; Lirette, Daniel FLNR:EX
Subject: Correction: MIRR MO Briefing Bullets - Chilcotin Moose Harvest Post-Wildfire

*Small correction was brought to my attention. Further updates after 4pm.

From: Lyons, Devon IRR:EX
Sent: Thursday, September 28, 2017 9:18 AM
To: Banford, Alexandra R IRR:EX
Cc: Ronmark, Tracy C IRR:EX; Wheler, Francesca M IRR:EX; Reedman, Dave FLNR:EX; Vanderburgh, Ken FLNR:EX; Pedersen, Mike FLNR:EX; Mayhew, Neilane IRR:EX; Burwash, Michael FLNR:EX; Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; 'Doug Konkin'; Lirette, Daniel FLNR:EX
Subject: AS REQUESTED: MIRR MO Briefing Bullets - Chilcotin Moose Harvest Post-Wildfire

Alexandra,

As requested. It was a busy day yesterday on this topic, and continues today. I can provide updated bullets after our meeting with TNG after 4pm.

Date of Drafting – September 28, 2017

Chilcotin Moose Harvest Post-Wildfire

- On September 27, 2017 the remaining restrictions in place around wildfires in the Cariboo were rescinded. In anticipation of the *Wildfire Act* Section 11 Order being fully rescinded, FLNR prepared options for Minister Donaldson's consideration, about how to manage impacts to moose from hunting post wildfire. Options before the minister include a range from full hunting closure, limited area closures, and access management focused strategy. A decision is pending.
- Immediately after the Section 11 Order was lifted on September 27th, regional MIRR (Manager) and FLNR (FW Section Head) spoke to TNG representatives; in addition, ADM Rick Manwaring **left a message for** Chief Joe Alphonse. On September 28, 2017 (today) MIRR and FLNR staff will have a follow up meeting with TNG representatives. Tsilhqot'in leadership and staff are frustrated by the optics of a 'unilateral' decision being made by the minister; BC staff reinforced that the minister's office is aware of the Tsilhqot'in' views on the matter, as well as the Fish and Wildlife Panel's discussions. Given the prompt timing of the order being lifted, staff will now be working with the Tsilhqot'in on preparing to collaborate on implementation of the minister's decision.
- The Fish and Wildlife Panel discussed impacts on wildfire on moose and wildlife at the September 12th Panel meeting. The Tsilhqot'in expressed the need to protect wildlife, by closing or limiting the hunt, or by managing access particularly around burnt areas, particularly if the *Wildfire Act* Section 11 was removed. FLNR committed to discuss access management options through the coming weeks, in hope of having a plan in place before the *Wildfire Act* Section 11 was removed. Options in front of Minister Donaldson reflect concerns and ideas discussed at the Panel meeting.
- The Fish and Wildlife Panel produced a joint recommendation on Annual Allowable Harvest (AAH) for four species, including moose; we are currently in Year 1 of the five year allocation cycle. The Harvest Allocation Policy allows for annual evaluation of populations, and hunter success rates, to determine whether adjustments in hunting authorizations (LEH) are required to avoid exceeding the AAH. The Province will be working with the Tsilhqot'in to collect and review information about populations and habitat; if changes are required to maintain the AAH, the Policy provides the tool for adjusting the number of hunting authorizations.
- The Limited Entry Hunt season for moose starts October 1. Any change in regulations, or access restrictions for resident hunters would need to be effectively communicated and an enforcement strategy considered.
- Regional FLNR and MIRR staff are engaging First Nations in the Cariboo on wildfire recovery and rehabilitation. A meeting is being planned for October 17 at the Cariboo Fire Centre. Each community will be offered funding from the Strategic Forestry Envelope, to participate in discussions with FLNR on this date and onwards. Tsilhqot'in communities will be represented at these discussions.

[FYI – News Release]

CONTEXT DETAIL for MIRR STAFF (can be removed):

August 23, 2017 the *Wildfire Act* Section 11 Order was updated from applying region-wide, to around fire perimeters.

August 31, 2017 Minister Response Letter under Michael Pedersen's signature (attached), highlights *"wildfire can have a mixed effect on wildlife"*, and *"should the Wildfire Act area restrictions be lifted before end of the 2017 hunting season, the situation will be reassessed in consultation with the Cariboo Fire Centre and the Tsilhqot'in Nation to ensure appropriate regulations are in place to protect wildlife"*.

September 12, 2017 – FW Panel meeting, as Section 11 Order (fire perimeter) was still in place; discussed need to have a plan in place, and what access management might look like.

September 27, 2017 – Full Section 11 order in the Cariboo was lifted. BC contacted TNG at two levels – regional, and ADM-Chief Joe.

September 28, 2017 (2-4pm) – TNG (Shawn Wiebe and Luke Duxtator) will meet MIRR (Devon) and FLNR (Dave Reedman, Mike Pedersen, Kai Peetoom, Ken Vanderburgh –additionally, a Branch

representative may be calling in). Details will be sorted today, as this was a decision of late yesterday. FW Director will be providing updated messages today.

Devon Lyons

A/Regional Manager

Negotiations and Regional Operations – Cariboo

Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

Devon.Lyons@gov.bc.ca

P: 250.398.4247

C: 250.267.1268

McNeill, Carly IRR:EX

From: Banford, Alexandra R IRR:EX
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:23 PM
To: Lyons, Devon IRR:EX
Cc: Ronmark, Tracy C IRR:EX
Subject: FYI - Close Licensed Moose Hunt in 2017 in Cariboo-Chilcotin Region
Attachments: LOI Addendum Jan 28-16 SIGNED.pdf

FYI

From: Wheler, Francesca M IRR:EX
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 3:06 PM
To: Banford, Alexandra R IRR:EX; Mayhew, Neilane IRR:EX
Cc: Scott, Douglas S IRR:EX; Nash, Laurel IRR:EX
Subject: RE: FYI - Close Licensed Moose Hunt in 2017 in Cariboo-Chilcotin Region

Thanks Alexandra. A couple of observations:

- Under the Accord, there is a distinct moose management arrangement between BC and the TNG (sub sections 12.33 to 12.41). There are a number of actions identified in those sub-sections that someone needs to review and report out on in terms of whether both parties have met the obligations and, if they haven't been met, reasons why not. I think this will help reframe the rhetoric and link this issue back to agreements under the Accord (which is rarely raised in TNG correspondence that I've seen over the past several months).

The Fish and Wildlife Panel plays very heavily into this – which they sit on – including the development of a moose management plan. In the February 2016 Letter of Intent (attached) we provided them with \$200K (under the Strategic Forestry Envelope I believe) to support their participation in the joint development of this plan. I have no idea if that was completed.

- s.16
- Section 18 of the Accord (Dispute Resolution) sets out a clear process to follow when either party is not satisfied with Accord progress – s.16
- Also under the LOI, BC provided the TNG with funding out of the SFE to develop a *“First Nation Sustenance Hunting Policy that includes actions to reduce the reliance on cow moose. The policy, to be endorsed by the Tsilhqot'in leadership, will describe policies for governance of community wildlife harvest practices including matters such as (but not limited to) wildlife harvest reporting, use of ATVs, and harvest of antlerless moose”*.
s.16

There has been a lot of conversation around moose management and hunting policy as it relates to moose under the auspices of either the Accord or the LOI. Funding has been provided s.16

I think that might be a good step that still needs to be taken.

Francesca

Francesca Wheler
(250) 360-6002

From: Banford, Alexandra R IRR:EX
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:31 PM
To: Mayhew, Neilane IRR:EX
Cc: Wheler, Francesca M IRR:EX; Scott, Douglas S IRR:EX; Nash, Laurel IRR:EX
Subject: FYI - Close Licensed Moose Hunt in 2017 in Cariboo-Chilcotin Region
Importance: High

FYI

From: Lyons, Devon IRR:EX
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 2:26 PM
To: Banford, Alexandra R IRR:EX; Ronmark, Tracy C IRR:EX
Cc: Nash, Laurel IRR:EX
Subject: FYI Only - Close Licensed Moose Hunt in 2017 in Cariboo-Chilcotin Region
Importance: High

FYI - I'm cc'd on this letter to MDD, as the Fish and Wildlife Panel co-chair.

In the community engagement sessions earlier this week that Laurel, Tracy and I attended, s.16
s.16

s.16 . A lot of internal work is going on, on this topic. After the sessions, I did let section head Dave Reedman, and FW
Director Jennifer Psyllakis know s.16

Devon Lyons
A/Regional Manager
Negotiations and Regional Operations – Cariboo
Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation
Devon.Lyons@gov.bc.ca
P: 250.398.4247
C: 250.267.1268

From: Stewart, Rodger W FLNR:EX
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 1:31 PM
To: O'Sullivan, Susan FLNR:EX; Lyons, Devon IRR:EX
Cc: Jordan, Ryan J IRR:EX
Subject: FW: Close Licensed Moose Hunt in 2017 in Cariboo-Chilcotin Region
Importance: High

For your immediate reference. Aligns with the correspondence from s.16 , and about what we will
expect from s.16 once their communities settle from the recent lifting of evacuations.

Rodger Stewart
Director, Resource Management
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

Cariboo Region
400 - 640 Borland Street
Williams Lake, BC
V2G 4T1
cell (250) 305 8536, desk (250) 398 4549
fax (250) 398 4214

s.16

Page 44 to/à Page 48

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.16

McNeill, Carly IRR:EX

From: Banford, Alexandra R IRR:EX
Sent: Friday, October 6, 2017 4:30 PM
To: Mayhew, Neilane X MMHA:EX; Scott, Douglas S IRR:EX
Cc: Lyons, Devon IRR:EX; Wheler, Francesca M IRR:EX; Harbord, Chris GCPE:EX
Subject: FYI: Cariboo - FLNRORD news release: 'hunting closures will help protect moose in the Cariboo'
Attachments: 2017FLNR0323-001705.pdf

FYI – the two areas proposed for hunting closures in the Cariboo have now been confirmed.

This is in addition to the vehicle restrictions already in place over a broader area. **s.16**

s.16 this is a significant science-based measure rarely done mid-hunting season.

Additional status reporting will be provided next week.

Thanks,
Alexandra

From: Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX
Sent: Friday, October 6, 2017 2:27 PM
To: Ethier, Tom FLNR:EX; Trotter, Ward FLNR:EX; Manwaring, Richard G FLNR:EX; Pedersen, Mike FLNR:EX; Stewart, Rodger W FLNR:EX; MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX; Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX
Subject: NR - Hunting closures will help protect moose in the Cariboo
Importance: High

The news release has now been issued. Here's final copy for your reference.

McNeill, Carly IRR:EX

From: Banford, Alexandra R IRR:EX
Sent: Friday, September 29, 2017 12:33 PM
To: Mayhew, Neilane X MMHA:EX; Scott, Douglas S IRR:EX
Subject: FYI: Follow-up: Area restrictions around most Cariboo fires rescinded

FYI.

Francesca and I will keep coordinated on this one, and ensure briefing bullets are updated as necessary for this topic at the Monday MSF weekly.

Thanks,
Alexandra

From: Banford, Alexandra R IRR:EX
Sent: Friday, September 29, 2017 12:27 PM
To: Manwaring, Richard G FLNR:EX; Wheler, Francesca M IRR:EX; Pegg, Keely S JAG:EX; Vanderburgh, Ken FLNR:EX
Cc: 'Doug Konkin'
Subject: Follow-up: Area restrictions around most Cariboo fires rescinded

s.13

Happy to discuss further in the meantime.

Thanks,
Alexandra

s.16

Page 51

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.16

See announcement below and at: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FLNR0305-001636>

Area restrictions around most Cariboo fires rescinded

Effective at noon on Wednesday, Sept. 27, 2017, area restrictions that are currently in place around many wildfires in the Cariboo will be rescinded, due to a return to seasonal weather conditions and reduced fire activity.

The only area restriction order affecting land within the Cariboo Fire Centre that will remain in place is the one around the Elephant Hill wildfire. For more information about this area restriction, please visit: <http://ow.ly/7OJV30ft3qX>

The BC Wildfire Service reminds members of the public that wildfires are active worksites with ongoing fire suppression efforts and rehabilitation planning underway. Hunters and recreationalists are urged to use extreme caution in areas where fires are still burning. Even if an area restriction has been rescinded around a fire, officials engaged in fire control (including firefighters) have the authority under the *Wildfire Act* and its regulations to order anyone to leave the area.

Before entering areas that have been affected by wildfire, members of the public should be aware that there may be significant safety hazards present. Trees that have been damaged by fire might be unstable and could fall down at any time. Ash pits can be hard to detect and can remain hot long after the flames have died down.

People can expect to still see smoldering ground fires and smoke within the perimeters of wildfires over the coming weeks. This is common with large wildfires and it may continue for some time. If you see smoke coming from well within a fire's perimeter and the area is surrounded by black, burned material, this is typically not a concern. However, smoke rising from green, unburned fuel or from outside a fire's perimeter should be reported immediately.

To report a wildfire, unattended campfire or open burning violation, call *5555 on a cellphone or 1 800 663-5555 toll-free.

For the latest information on current wildfire activity, burning restrictions, road closures and air quality advisories, visit: www.bcwildfire.ca

You can follow the latest wildfire news on:

- Twitter at: <http://twitter.com/BCGovFireInfo>
- Facebook at: <http://facebook.com/BCForestFireInfo>

McNeill, Carly IRR:EX

From: Trotter, Ward FLNR:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 12:32 PM
To: Wheler, Francesca M IRR:EX; Harbord, Chris GCPE:EX; Banford, Alexandra R IRR:EX; Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Stewart, Rodger W FLNR:EX; Reedman, Dave FLNR:EX; Lyons, Devon IRR:EX; Pedersen, Mike FLNR:EX
Cc: Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: Cross-agency coordination: Chilcotin moose

Thanks for the email. If there any info MIRR has/can share on the conversation that might be useful for us as we manage the moose/wildlife piece?

From: Wheler, Francesca M IRR:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 12:13 PM
To: Harbord, Chris GCPE:EX; Banford, Alexandra R IRR:EX; Trotter, Ward FLNR:EX; Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Stewart, Rodger W FLNR:EX; Reedman, Dave FLNR:EX; Lyons, Devon IRR:EX; Pedersen, Mike FLNR:EX
Cc: Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: Cross-agency coordination: Chilcotin moose

Latest from yesterday.

Francesca Wheler
(250) 360-6002

From: Harbord, Chris GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 12:09 PM
To: Wheler, Francesca M IRR:EX; Banford, Alexandra R IRR:EX; Trotter, Ward FLNR:EX; Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Stewart, Rodger W FLNR:EX; Reedman, Dave FLNR:EX; Lyons, Devon IRR:EX; Pedersen, Mike FLNR:EX
Cc: Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: Cross-agency coordination: Chilcotin moose

Are there any documents you can share for my background? I don't have a clear understanding of what is being contemplated. Cheers, Chris

From: Wheler, Francesca M IRR:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 12:05 PM
To: Banford, Alexandra R IRR:EX; Trotter, Ward FLNR:EX; Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Stewart, Rodger W FLNR:EX; Reedman, Dave FLNR:EX; Lyons, Devon IRR:EX; Pedersen, Mike FLNR:EX
Cc: Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX; Harbord, Chris GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: Cross-agency coordination: Chilcotin moose

Thanks Alexandra. This is helpful and I think will keep everyone well informed as we work through this particular matter. I would suggest that this has a life after moose as well.

The only person I don't see here is Ken Vanderburgh. Should he be included? He would be FLNR unless Mike you don't think it necessary. He just has an important connection for FLNR into the TNG Accord Working Group and sub-tables.

F.

Francesca Wheler
(250) 360-6002

From: Banford, Alexandra R IRR:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 8:43 AM
To: Trotter, Ward FLNR:EX; Wheler, Francesca M IRR:EX; Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Stewart, Rodger W FLNR:EX; Reedman, Dave FLNR:EX; Lyons, Devon IRR:EX; Pedersen, Mike FLNR:EX
Cc: Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX; Harbord, Chris GCPE:EX
Subject: Cross-agency coordination: Chilcotin moose

Thanks Ward and team, much appreciated.

Also, thanks for the call yesterday afternoon – it helped to clarify how we can coordinate effectively together on FN engagement.

To confirm, we can use this distribution list for communications & status updates over the coming days:

MIRR:

- Alexandra: coordination between regions and HQ
- Francesca: coordination between this group, HQ, and TNG Accord table
- Devon Lyons: coordination in-region, and with HQ

FLNRO

- Ward, Jennifer P, Dave R
- Mike P, Rodger

GCPE (as needed):

- FLNRO: Vivian Thomas
- MIRR: Chris Harbord

I'll be proposing a meeting for this group to meet tomorrow, following an MIRR & FLNRO ADM briefing also currently being sought.

Happy to discuss further in the meantime.

Thanks,
Alexandra

Alexandra Banford Chief Negotiator, South Area - Negotiations and Regional Operations Division | Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation
2957 Jutland - Victoria, BC ☎ 250.387.7796 📁 [MIRR Website](#) ✉ [E-mail Alexandra Banford](#)

Our Vision: "British Columbia is a place where communities are healthy, prosperous, sustainable, and self-determining founded upon positive, lasting relationships between Aboriginal people and all British Columbians".

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From: Trotter, Ward FLNR:EX
Sent: Monday, October 2, 2017 4:45 PM

To: Wheler, Francesca M IRR:EX; Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX; Banford, Alexandra R IRR:EX; Stewart, Rodger W FLNR:EX; Reedman, Dave FLNR:EX; Lyons, Devon IRR:EX

Subject: FW: Wildlife Act 177/2017 (MVP Reg Thompson-Cariboo Wildfire Response)

As discussed.

From: Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX

Sent: Friday, September 29, 2017 4:25 PM

To: Ethier, Tom FLNR:EX; Trotter, Ward FLNR:EX

Subject: FW: Wildlife Act 177/2017 (MVP Reg Thompson-Cariboo Wildfire Response)

FYI! Done.

From: Vaughan, Nicola FLNR:EX

Sent: Friday, September 29, 2017 4:24 PM

To: MacIver, Stephen FLNR:EX; Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX

Cc: Pedersen, Carrie-rae FLNR:EX; Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX

Subject: Wildlife Act 177/2017 (MVP Reg Thompson-Cariboo Wildfire Response)

Hello,

Please find copy of the deposited & effective regulation attached. This can be distributed as needed.

Thanks all for your work to get this done.

Nicola

From: JAG LSB Registrar of Regulations JAG:EX

Sent: September-29-17 4:17 PM

To: Vaughan, Nicola FLNR:EX; Dauch, Sam FLNR:EX

Subject: BC Reg 177/2017 under Wildlife Act

Please find attached PDF of deposited BC Reg 177/2017, made under the Wildlife Act.

Hope that helps,

Emily Summer
Office of Legislative Counsel
Ministry of Attorney General
250-356-5704