

**From:** [Bell, Danielle L GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Karn, David GCPE:EX](#); [Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Badry, Micheal J ENV:EX](#); [Crebo, David GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Media Call  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 4, 2017 9:11:41 AM

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Actually Mike, if you have few mins to chat today that'd be great.

We're thinking if Chris provides overall HWCR stats, perhaps you could add info from more of a bear behaviour perspective – ie why some bears are relocated and others aren't.

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**From:** Karn, David GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2017 8:58 AM  
**To:** Bell, Danielle L GCPE:EX; Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX  
**Cc:** Badry, Micheal J ENV:EX; Crebo, David GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Media Call

I'm fine with it too.

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**From:** Bell, Danielle L GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2017 8:57 AM  
**To:** Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX  
**Cc:** Badry, Micheal J ENV:EX; Karn, David GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Media Call

I don't mind the idea - provide a general overview I assume?

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**From:** Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2017 7:58 AM  
**To:** Bell, Danielle L GCPE:EX  
**Cc:** Badry, Micheal J ENV:EX  
**Subject:** Media Call

We talked about having Mike speak about the human wildlife conflicts for the media calls. Should we give this a try for tomorrow's call (if Mike is available)?

Chris

**From:** [Crebo, David GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Karn, David GCPE:EX](#); [Bell, Danielle L GCPE:EX](#); [Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Badry, Micheal J ENV:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Media Call  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 4, 2017 9:14:19 AM

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How about Mike doing an education piece. After Chris rattles off statistics etc and recaps what the COs have done, Mike the bear expert explains why relocating isn't a good option based on bear behavior and why it's essential to prevent the conflict in the first place. His schpiel then basically validates the actions the COs have to take.

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**From:** [Karn, David GCPE:EX](#)  
**To:** [Badry, Micheal J ENV:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Bell, Danielle L GCPE:EX](#); [Crebo, David GCPE:EX](#); [Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Media Call  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 4, 2017 12:08:48 PM  
**Attachments:** [COS Media Briefing 2017-08-01.docx](#)

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Mike, scroll down to August 2<sup>nd</sup> and you'll see a clip of the call.

<https://soundcloud.com/bcgov/>

Also attached are Chris's notes from the call.

I'll provide you with dial-in details soonest.

dk

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**From:** Crebo, David GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2017 9:14 AM  
**To:** Karn, David GCPE:EX; Bell, Danielle L GCPE:EX; Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX  
**Cc:** Badry, Micheal J ENV:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Media Call

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**Cc:** Badry, Micheal J ENV:EX; Crebo, David GCPE:EX  
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**Cc:** Badry, Micheal J ENV:EX  
**Subject:** Media Call

We talked about having Mike speak about the human wildlife conflicts for the media calls. Should we give this a try for tomorrow's call (if Mike is available)?

Chris

## **COS Media Briefing**

**August 2<sup>nd</sup> 2017 – 3pm via Conference Call**

### **Human Wildlife Conflict**

Many areas of the province have experienced above normal call volume over the last few months.

Since April 1<sup>st</sup>, over 10,000 human wildlife conflicts have been reported to the COS. Black bear related calls are double for the same time period last year – 8900 this year compared to 4900 last year. The biggest increases in call volume have occurred in the Skeena, South Coast, Vancouver Island and West Kootenay areas. Many of these bear conflicts were preventable. The COS would like to remind the public to secure attractants such as garbage and fruit that may attract bears. It is an offence under the BC Wildlife Act to feed or attract dangerous wildlife. This applies to residences, campsites and businesses.

Some recent human-wildlife conflicts of interest:

- Sunshine Coast CO's recently freed a 400kg bull elk that had become entangled in a fishing net near Egmont. Officers were able to immobilize the elk and cut the net free.
- Skeena region CO's freed a grizzly bear cub that had been accidentally caught in a leg hold trap near Houston. The sow grizzly and two other cubs were with the caught cub the entire time but CO's were successfully able to tranquilize and free the cub without incident. The cub awoke from the tranquilizer later in the morning beside where the trap had been set and left the area with its mom and siblings.
- Okanagan region CO's captured 3 young grizzly bears that were frequenting developed areas around Sicamous. The three female bears are considered to be important to the Columbia Shuswap Grizzly Bear population unit. The bears had started to access attractants and the bears were captured to prevent further conflict that may lead to public safety issues and or the destruction of the bears. The bears level of conflict was assessed and they were determined to be good candidates for relocation. The success of this translocation relies on the public doing their part to secure attractants to prevent future conflicts should the bears return.
- Conservation Officers, Natural Resource Officers and municipal officials recently worked together to conduct a bear attractant audit in Revelstoke. The teams made well over 100 contacts in the community. 15 Dangerous Wildlife Protection Orders and 3 violation tickets related to dangerous wildlife attractants were issued. Most of the infractions involved domestic and commercial waste and many residents were provided advice on managing fruit trees.
- Sea to Sky zone CO's immobilized a black bear that was grazing along-side the valley trail where the running portion of the Iron Man Triathlon was taking place. The bear was indifferent to the presence of humans and was eventually relocated a short distance away where it was no longer a threat to the safety of the runners.
- A bearded dragon was recently found on logging road on Southern Vancouver Island. The animal was turned in the COS where it remains under its care. It appears that this exotic species was released into the environment by unknown persons. This animal would not have survived in the environment and serves as a reminder that persons should never release pets or non-native species into the environment. Doing so could have negative effects on native species and is inhumane. The SPCA has also been informed.

### **Wildfire Related Operations**

Cariboo region CO's have been providing significant support to public safety and law enforcement operations in areas affected by wildfires and evacuations. Despite our officers being evacuated from their own homes, they have worked tirelessly day and night supporting evacuations and road blocks. CO's have also been conducting patrols with police agencies to protect property in evacuated areas.

Elsewhere in the province, CO's are patrolling by ground and water to ensure compliance with campfire bans. Despite the bans, CO's have been encountering illegal campfires on a regular basis. This has resulted in numerous wildfire act charges. Many violation tickets in the amount of \$1150 have been issued. CO's are also encountering target shooters using exploding targets which are prohibited during a campfire ban.

s.15

## Investigations

An investigation in the Okanagan region has resulted in numerous charges under the BC Wildlife Act, Park Act and Criminal Code.

- The charges relate to violations committed in 2015, and 2016 near Oliver, BC.
- A summary of the charges are:

Criminal Code of Canada

Count 1: on May 9th, 2016, Did willfully kill, maim, wound or injure a horse, contrary to s. 444(1)(a) of the Criminal Code of Canada in violation of s. 444(2)(a).

Provincial Statutes of BC

Count 1: between May 8th 2016 and May 11th 2016 did hunt bear by placing bait contrary to BC Hunting Regulations, 17(1) (m) pursuant to the Wildlife Act of BC.

Count 2: between May 8th 2016 and May 11th 2016 did hunt bear by placing an attractant on land with the intent of attracting dangerous wildlife (bear) contrary to s. 33.1(1) of the wildlife act of BC.

Count 3: between May 8th 2016 and May 11th 2016 did discharge a firearm from a motor vehicle contrary to s. 27(1) of the Wildlife Act of BC.

Count 4: between May 8th 2016 and May 11th 2016 being a guide outfitter guiding for big game did fail to accompany a hunter he was guiding contrary to the Commercial Activities Regulation s.1.05(i)(b) of the Wildlife Act of BC.

Count 5: between October 1, 2015 and May 15th 2016 did hunt wildlife (wolf) with poison contrary to s.26(1)(f) of the Wildlife Act of BC.

Count 6: on the 10th day of May 2016 did act as a guide in a park, conservancy, or recreational area without a valid park use permit or resource use permit contrary to s.4(a) of the Park Conservancy and Recreation Area Regulation of the BC Parks Act.

Count 7: on the 10th day of May 2016 did operate a motor vehicle in a park, conservancy, or recreational area not permitted by sign or other device contrary to s.24(1) of the Park Conservancy and Recreation Area Regulation of the BC Parks Act.

- Non-resident big game hunters are required to be guided by a licenced guide outfitter in BC.
- Guide outfitters and assistant guides are tested, licenced and regulated to accompany their clients while hunting to ensure their clients safety and the legal ethical harvest of big game.
- Approximately 5000 non-resident hunters a year use the services of a guide outfitter in BC every year and generate approximately \$ 116 million in revenue.
- BC Parks does allow guide outfitting in some parks and protected areas by way of permit.

## AIS Update

The COS continues to support the Aquatic Invasive Species mussel defence program. The COS has deployed an invasive mussel detection dog and handler which is being used to support inspection stations located throughout the province.

- *On Friday June 30th a vehicle towing trailered watercraft from Quebec failed to stop at the Golden inspection station. Sgt. Josh Lockwood of the COS/AIS K 9 UNIT apprehended the vehicle and escorted it back to the inspection station. During the K9 inspection Kilo detected in multiple locations and inspectors visually confirmed the presence of invasive mussels. The watercraft was decontaminated, and sealed with a 30 day quarantine period. The owner of the watercraft was charged for failing to stop an inspection station and for possessing and transporting mussels. The watercraft had been in infested waters only one week prior and was destined for Shuswap Lake.*
- As of July 30, 2017 over 19,800 watercraft have been inspected and the crews have interacted with approximately 40,000 people to promote Clean, Drain, Dry.
- Of the total watercraft inspected, 1,100 were identified as high risk, 166 Decontamination Orders have been issued, and 117 watercraft have been issued quarantine periods to meet the required 30-day drying time. Between June 11 and July 30, 32 watercraft were inspected at

night (10 p.m. to 5 a.m.) at the Golden inspection station. Of those, none were identified as high risk and no mussel fouled watercraft have been intercepted during nighttime operations.

- Of the more than 19,800 watercraft inspected, 15 were confirmed to have adult invasive mussels. These came from Ontario (7), Texas (2), Arizona (1), Ohio (1), Illinois (1), Michigan (1), New York (1) and Quebec (1) and were destined for the Lower Mainland (6), Okanagan (5), Kootenays (1), Thompson-Nicola (1), Vancouver Island (1) and Alaska (1).

### **Recent Enforcement Operations**

Omineca Region CO's participated in a multi-agency roadcheck on highway 16 west of Prince George on Saturday. CO's seized numerous fish and charges were laid under the Fisheries Act and Wildlife Act.

On Sunday, Skeena Region CO's conducted a patrol of Meziadin Lake which resulted in the seizure of 13 sockeye salmon and 1 char. A total 8 charges under the Fisheries Act and Wildlife Act were laid against 5 individuals.

The COS enforces a variety of provincial and federal legislation to protect public safety and the provinces fish, wildlife and environment. The public is reminded to report violations to the COS's Report all Poachers and Polluters hotline, 24/7 at 1-877-952-7277.

**From:** [Badry, Micheal J ENV:EX](#)  
**To:** [Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Media Call 2017-10-05  
**Date:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 10:37:00 AM

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Didn't even notice. I get called a lot of things.

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**From:** Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 10:31 AM  
**To:** Badry, Micheal J ENV:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Media Call 2017-10-05

Thanks sorry just realized I gave you wrong title, will edit.

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**From:** Badry, Micheal J ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 10:02 AM  
**To:** Karn, David GCPE:EX; Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX; Bell, Danielle L GCPE:EX  
**Cc:** Crebo, David GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Media Call 2017-10-05

Sounds good. I will talk about level of conflict and the association with natural food availability as well. I did up the September stats and black bear conflicts were as low as we have seen them is the last 7 years for that month. There is still a month of fall left however and people will have to remain vigilant with attractant management.

Mike

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**From:** Karn, David GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 9:50 AM  
**To:** Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX; Bell, Danielle L GCPE:EX; Badry, Micheal J ENV:EX  
**Cc:** Crebo, David GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Media Call 2017-10-05

Chris, this is great.

In the second paragraph perhaps you can say that 'attractants continue to be an issue and BC Wildlife Conflict Manager Mike Badry will speak to that in a few minutes'. Then complete your summary and turn it over to Mike for his remark?

..... Mike the bear expert explains why relocating isn't a good option based on bear behavior and why it's essential to prevent the conflict in the first place. His schpiel then basically validates the actions the COs have to take.

dk

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**From:** Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 9:36 AM  
**To:** Karn, David GCPE:EX; Bell, Danielle L GCPE:EX; Badry, Micheal J ENV:EX  
**Subject:** Media Call 2017-10-05

Rough draft - still working on some bullets – will have completed draft by 11:30



**From:** [Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX](#)  
**To:** [ENV ENF Provincial Leadership Team](#)  
**Cc:** [Bell, Danielle L GCPE:EX](#); [Karn, David GCPE:EX](#); [Crebo, David GCPE:EX](#)  
**Subject:** Media Call 2017-10-05  
**Date:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 11:23:36 AM  
**Attachments:** [Media Call 2017-10-05.docx](#)

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Lots of materials for today's call. Last minute updates/edits welcome.  
Chris

## **Media Call**

**2017-10-05**

### **Human Wildlife Conflicts**

To date over 20,000 human wildlife conflicts have been reported the COS. Of those, over 14,000 have been associated to black bears, 1500 associated to cougars and 438 associated to grizzly bears.

Non natural food sources continue to be significant drivers for bear conflicts and Wildlife Conflict Manager Mike Badry will speak to that in a few minutes. Attractants such as garbage, ripened fruit and bird seed need to be contained where they are inaccessible to bears. It is an offence to feed dangerous wildlife or to negligently store attractants that may attract dangerous wildlife. Electric fencing should be used to protect livestock, fruit trees and other crops that also attract bears.

Conservation officers recently investigated 2 separate grizzly bear attacks on hunters. The first attack occurred near the Yukon border. A sow grizzly attacked a hunter causing injuries to his head and face. The hunter's hunting partner shot and killed the bear during the attack. Investigating officers found the bear to be emaciated and determined the attack to be predatory in nature.

The second attack occurred in the Fernie area where a hunter had a surprise encounter with a sow and cub. The hunter sustained minor injuries before the bear moved off. Investigating officers determined the attack to be defensive in nature and did not attempt to capture the bear.

And now I will turn this part of the call over to biologist and human wildlife conflicts Manager Mike Badry to explain why we may be seeing high numbers of bear conflicts in certain areas this time of year. Mr. Badry will also explain the science on why relocation of conflict animals is problematic.

### **Investigations**

- On September 27th, 2017, the Conservation Officer Service executed a search warrant near Blue River, BC to seize evidence relating to an investigation under the Wildlife Act. The investigation is focusing on incidents under section 33.1 of the Wildlife Act of BC that prohibits a person from feeding, attempting to feed or placing any attractant on land for dangerous wildlife. Dangerous wildlife is defined as: bear, cougar, wolf and coyote. The penalty under the Wildlife Act is \$100,000 and or one year imprisonment. The Conservation Officer Service is asking residents of Blue River to be vigilant with their home food attractants and report any incidents of conflict with bears to the RAPP line 1-877-952-7277. Any persons with information relating to the feeding or placement of attractants for bears in the Blue River, BC area are asked to call the RAPP line. The incidents are under investigation and no further details can be provided at this time.
- Yesterday, North Coast CO's commenced an investigation into the illegal killing of a moose. CO's received a report alleging that a commercial crab fishing boat rammed into a moose that was

swimming. Occupants of the vessel then allegedly lassoed the moose and dragged it towards Double Island. Anyone with information about this offence is asked to call the COS.

- **Trafficking in Wildlife.** Two individuals from Duncan and one individual from Victoria have been charged under the BC Wildlife Act for trafficking in Wildlife meat following a COS investigation that commenced in 2014. The next court appearances are October 17<sup>th</sup> and November 21<sup>st</sup> in Duncan provincial court.
- **Hunt closed season et al.** A Richmond resident has been charged with several wildlife act offences. The male was charged after a COS investigation into the killing of 2 black tailed deer on Saltspring Island in July 2016. The next court appearance is scheduled for November 20<sup>th</sup> in Ganges provincial court.
- **On September 28, 2017 Invermere COS** received information from a concerned member of the public alleging that they had just been down at the Columbia River at the CPR bridge north of Invermere and observed four males catching and keeping fish alive in net pens (see attached picture). The complainant also believed the subjects were fishing with prohibited fishing gear. A patrol was immediately conducted to the complaint occurrence location and the COS confirmed there were four adult males fishing in the Columbia River. Upon inspection of these individuals it was learned that they were all from Calgary, AB, and three of the four produced Alberta fishing licences. Three of the four were fishing with a double hook system, using bait with barbed hooks, and the other had a single barbed hook. Three of the four had live 'Northern Pike Minnow' and 'Mountain Whitefish' contained in mesh bags in the river. A total of eleven Federal Fisheries charges were laid for 'Fish with Prohibited Gear' and 'Possess Live Fish' and all members of the fishing party were issued Violation Tickets under the Provincial Wildlife Act for 'Fish without a Licence' All of their fishing gear was seized and forfeited and the fish were returned to the river.  
Invermere COS is thankful to the individual who had come forward and provided the details which led to the apprehension of these fish poachers. Anyone who witnesses a fish or wildlife violation is asked to call the Report All Poachers and Polluters hotline at 1-877-952-7277
- **Roadchecks – BCCO's** have been busy conducting roadchecks throughout the province to ensure compliance with the Wildlife and Fisheries Acts. 2 recent roadchecks in the Quesnel area resulted in numerous wildlife act charges and several deer being seized. Last weekend North Okanagan CO's, RCMP, and Aquatic Invasive species inspectors conducted a road check on highway 33 near Kelowna. Over 1,000 vehicles came through the check. Several charges were laid including 4 for loaded firearms in vehicles. A deer was also seized.
- **Powell River Conservation Officers** have charged a local resident for the illegal shooting and possession of a black bear. Conservation Officers were responding to several reports of two bears in conflict in one neighbourhood. When officers attended they found only one bear in the neighbourhood. A large pool of blood was found on a trail near the neighbourhood. Charges were later laid to one of the local residents after officers investigated the incident. Further, An orphaned black bear cub has been trapped which is believed to be the offspring of a sow

recently shot. The orphaned cub was taken to Critter Care Wildlife Society in Langley BC where it will be supported until its release in the Spring of 2018. The Conservation Officer Service is currently investigating the illegal shooting of the black bear sow and believes there could be a second orphaned cub in the Powell River area.

- Sunshine Coast Conservation Officers are currently investigating the illegal harvest/possession of a bull (male) Roosevelt Elk in the Pender Harbour Area. The elk was shot in a closed area to firearms prior to any legal hunting season. Anyone with information about this incident is asked to call the COS.
- Over the weekend Fort Nelson COS launched an investigation into the illegal harvest of a Wood Bison near the BC – Northwest Territory Border. Wood Bison are protected under the Federal Species at Risk Act and closed to hunting under the BC Wildlife Act. The bison has been recovered and evidence is currently being analyzed.
- During mid-September, BC Conservation Officers, supported by officers from the Canadian Wildlife Service conducted an enforcement blitz in and around the Community of Todd River BC. The purpose of the blitz was to help ensure compliance with fish, wildlife and other natural resource laws including the Off Road Vehicle Act. Over a five day period officers conducted roving patrols by boat, atv and truck and conducted multiple road checks. Provincial biologists and staff from the Kaska Dene First Nation attended the road checks to collect harvest data and raise public awareness. During the project, officers contacted approximately: 156 hunters, 6 anglers, 17 off road vehicle users, 54 USA residents transiting with firearms through Canada and 510 non-users. Overall compliance was good - 4 charges were laid and several warnings were issued. 1 stone sheep was seized.
- A recent overnight ATV patrol by North Peace CO's resulted in 9 charges. 2 moose, 2 caribou and 1 mountain goat were seized during the patrol.

AIS Oct 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017 update:

- As of Sep 27, 2017 over 33,800 watercraft have been inspected and the crews have interacted with approximately 71,000 people to promote Clean, Drain, Dry.
- Of the total watercraft inspected, 1,972 were identified as high risk, 260 Decontamination Orders have been issued, and 180 watercraft have been issued quarantine periods to meet the required 30-day drying time.
- Of the more than 33,800 watercraft inspected, 20 were confirmed to have adult invasive mussels. These came from Ontario (11), Michigan (2), Texas (2), Arizona (1), Ohio (1), Illinois (1), New York (1) and Quebec (1), and were destined for the Lower Mainland (9), Okanagan (6), Vancouver Island (2), Kootenays (1), Thompson-Nicola (1) and Alaska (1).
- The Program receive advanced notification on 16 of the 20 mussel fouled boats either from another jurisdiction (e.g., AB, MT, Idaho, WA) or by Canada Border Services Agents (CBSA).

- Average compliance at the inspection stations for the 2017 season is 82%. Of the watercraft that failed to stop at the inspection station 76% were non-motorized watercraft such as canoes, kayaks, and paddleboards.
- To date for the 2017 season a total of 53 tickets and 83 warnings have been issued by Conservation Officers to motorists for failing to stop at the inspection stations.
- The COS continues to utilize a mussel detection dog. The K-9 has detected invasive mussels on several vehicles.

**From:** [Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX](#)  
**To:** [Badry, Micheal J ENV:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Canuel, Aaron ENV:EX](#)  
**Subject:** Media Call  
**Date:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 1:27:58 PM

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Thanks for your assistance Mike – you did a great job!  
Chris

**From:** Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX  
**To:** Beck, Martina ENV:EX; Lockwood, Josh ENV:EX  
**Subject:** Media Call  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 4, 2017 8:50:00 AM

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We have a media call tomorrow – any updates?

**Deputy Chief Chris Doyle**

OIC Provincial Operations

Conservation Officer Service | Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

(604) 892-7823

**From:** [Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX](#)  
**To:** [Struthers, Darryl J ENV:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Toad River/Muncho/Liard area blitz - Sept 7-11 - Media Call Stuff  
**Date:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 10:15:00 AM

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12:30

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**From:** Struthers, Darryl J ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 10:09 AM  
**To:** Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX  
**Subject:** Re: Toad River/Muncho/Liard area blitz - Sept 7-11 - Media Call Stuff  
When is your call?

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 5, 2017, at 9:58 AM, Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX <[Chris.Doyle@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Doyle@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Looks good – what about the overnight atv patrol that resulted in all the game being seized

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**From:** Struthers, Darryl J ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 9:57 AM  
**To:** Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX  
**Cc:** Struthers, Darryl J ENV:EX; Lacey, Brad A ENV:EX; Brinsky, Shawn ENV:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Toad River/Muncho/Liard area blitz - Sept 7-11 - Media Call Stuff  
**Importance:** High

Chris – how is this?

During mid-September, BC Conservation Officers, supported by officers from the Canadian Wildlife Service conducted an enforcement blitz in and around the Community of Todd River BC. The purpose of the blitz was to help ensure compliance with fish, wildlife and other natural resource laws including the Off Road Vehicle Act. Over a five day period officers conducted roving patrols by boat, atv and truck and conducted multiple road checks. Provincial biologists and staff from the Kaska Dene First Nation attended the road checks to collect harvest data and raise public awareness. During the project, officers contacted approximately: 156 hunters, 6 anglers, 17 off road vehicle users, 54 USA residents transiting with firearms through Canada and 510 non-users.

Charges and warnings - 4 VT's and 16 WT's:

- a) Firearms: 3 loaded firearms in MV charges. Admin action for 2 people without PAL's.
- b) Wildlife Act – 1 VT and 10 WT's mostly related to wildlife transport requirements (proof of species/sex)
- c) ORV and MVA - 4 WT's total

1 firearm and 2 stone sheep seized – investigations ongoing

Over the weekend Fort Nelson COS launched an investigation into the illegal harvest of a Wood Bison near the BC – Northwest Territory Border. Wood Bison are protected under the Federal Species at Risk Act and closed to hunting under the BC Wildlife Act. The bison has been recovered and evidence is currently being analyzed.

- Higher quality photos can be provided upon request.

*Inspector Darryl J. Struthers*



**From:** Hamlyn, Christopher J ENV:EX

**Sent:** Saturday, September 30, 2017 2:11 PM

**To:** Brinsky, Shawn ENV:EX; Harris, Samuel G ENV:EX; Posthuma, Christopher ENV:EX; Kneller, Micah ENV:EX; 'Castagner, Trevor (EC)'; Laing, Steven (EC)

**Cc:** Hamlyn, Christopher J ENV:EX; Struthers, Darryl J ENV:EX; Gagne-Delorme, Audrey FLNR:EX

**Subject:** RE: Toad River/Muncho/Liard area blitz - Sept 7-11

Greeting all,

Better late than never – here are the stats for the entire Muncho/Liard project – including two days of road checks.

**Present:**

**BC COS:** Chris Hamlyn, Sam HARRIS, Shawn BRINSKY, Micah KNELLER, Chris POSTHUMA

*(5) - Present all five days*

**EC CWS:** Trevor CASTAGNER, Steve LAING (2) – *Present for three days*

**FLNRO:** Audrey GAGNE-DELORME – *present for two (road check) days*

**Kaska Nation:** s.22

*– present for two (road check) days.*

**Contacts:**

156 - Hunters.

6 - Anglers

17 - OVR

54 - USA firearm contact

1 - Cites contact (live lizard)

510 – Others

750 - contacts total (approximate)

**Enforcement:**

**Firearms:**

3 – Loaded firearm in Motor vehicle – VT's

2 – Criminal Code warnings

**Wildlife Act:**

5 - Fail to comply species licence - WW

1 - No evidence of Sex – VT

2 – No evidence of sex - WW

1 - no evidence of species - WW

2 - no photo Id - WW

**ORV:**

1 - OVR no Registration - WW.

1 OVR no Registration - TTP

1 - fail to produce Registration - WW

1 - Mva – WW

16 - Warnings Total

4 - Violation Tickets Total

**Investigations opened:**

1) False information to obtain lic/fail to retrieve.

2) Fail to retrieve, no evidence of sex, no photo Id possible illegal guiding

3) Over Weight Vehicle m/k

**Seizures:**

- 1) 2 - Stone Sheep seized
- 2) 1 - rifle seized

**Biologist:**

- 11 – Surveys conducted
- 3 – Samples taken

Overall consensus – compliance was higher than expected

It was a fun productive project and we got the point across and waved the proverbial COS/Gov't flag. Thanks to all who attended!

Until next year - Take care,

**Chris Hamlyn**

Conservation Officer

Fort Nelson | Conservation Officer Service | Province of British Columbia

Desk: 250-774-5991

Report all Poachers and Polluters 24 hrs: 1-877-952-7277

[www.rapp.bc.ca](http://www.rapp.bc.ca)

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Page 19 to/à Page 21

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.15

**From:** Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX  
**To:** ENV ENF Inspectors - Field Operations; Olsen, Rod ENV:EX  
**Subject:** Media Call  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 3, 2017 10:26:00 AM  
**Importance:** High

---

I have a media call on Thursday. Please send me any recent operations, convictions etc of interest.

Thanks,

**Deputy Chief Chris Doyle**

OIC Provincial Operations

Conservation Officer Service | Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

(604) 892-7823

**From:** [Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX](#)  
**To:** [Olsen, Rod ENV:EX](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Media Call  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 3, 2017 11:36:30 AM

---

Will do

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 3, 2017, at 11:21 AM, Olsen, Rod ENV:EX <[Rod.Olsen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Rod.Olsen@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Chris are you going to cover the Blue River Search Warrant as well?

---

**From:** Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2017 10:27 AM

**To:** ENV ENF Inspectors - Field Operations; Olsen, Rod ENV:EX

**Subject:** Media Call

**Importance:** High

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**Deputy Chief Chris Doyle**

OIC Provincial Operations

Conservation Officer Service | Ministry of Environment and Climate Change  
Strategy

(604) 892-7823

**From:** [Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX](#)  
**To:** [Schley, Cam D ENV:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Media Call  
**Date:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 9:33:00 AM

---

Any update on the other files today?

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**From:** Schley, Cam D ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2017 4:02 PM  
**To:** Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Media Call

Chris,

s.15

s.15

They are all in sat phone only land right now. If I get some updates tonight and they are worth mentioning in your media call, I will send you a note. s.13,s.14

For Skeena news:

-Smart River bear mauling Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>. A BC resident hunter was moose calling along the Smart River and was attacked from behind by a sow grizzly bear with 2 cubs in tow. The sow knocked the victim down the river bank and attempted to drag him into the river, the victim's partner intervened and managed to shoot the sow twice, the victim also shot at the sow (he missed) once the attack ceased. The offending bear was confirmed dead on the river bank and the cubs scattered into the surrounding cover. The victim attended the Teslin Yukon medical station for treatment of punctures and lacerations to head and face, was released the same day. The attack was determined to be a predatory attack by an extremely emaciated sow grizzly bear. Both Yukon and BC CO's attended the attack site the same day as the attack.

-Bear/people conflicts. All areas along the Hwy 16 corridor from Prince Rupert to Burns Lake are experiencing significant bear/human conflicts. This is attributed to a poor berry crop this year combined with a very healthy bear population that over the last two years prior to this year have experienced excellent berry crops. CO's continue to urge residents on the Hwy 16 corridor to secure garbage away from bears and to pick ripe fruit from fruit trees. CO's have handled over 100 bears now on this corridor this year.

-Enforcement. CO's have conducted several hunting patrols so far this fall from Burns Lake to Atlin. Loaded firearms continue to be an enforcement/safety concern. CO's recently conducted joint game checks with the Taku River Tlingit, Kaska and Tahltan First Nations in the Atlin and Dease Lake areas.

-Banks Island Gold. The first week of trial completed September 29<sup>th</sup>, the trial is set to resume on Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> in Prince Rupert Provincial Court.

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**From:** Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2017 10:27 AM  
**To:** ENV ENF Inspectors - Field Operations; Olsen, Rod ENV:EX  
**Subject:** Media Call  
**Importance:** High

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**Deputy Chief Chris Doyle**

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(604) 892-7823

**From:** Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX  
**To:** Smith, Murray J ENV:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Media Call  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 4, 2017 2:25:00 PM

---

Thanks – couple of questions – did we charge the mud bidders?  
What was the disposition of the orphaned cub?

---

**From:** Smith, Murray J ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 4, 2017 2:20 PM  
**To:** Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Media Call  
**Importance:** High  
SCZ

The Sechelt Conservation Officer Service has attended two Community Volunteer based forest clean ups “Trash Bash” on the Sunshine Coast. Volunteers during the cleanup turned in identifying evidence to Conservation Officer that will most likely lead to charges against illegal dumpers. Powell River Conservation Officers have charged a local resident for the illegal shooting and possession of a black bear. Conservation Officers were responding to several reports of two bears in conflict in one neighbourhood. When officers attended they found only one bear in the neighbourhood. A large pool of blood was found on a trail near the neighbourhood. Charges were later laid to one of the local residents after officers investigated the incident.

Conservation Officers are currently investigating the illegal harvest/possession of a bull (male) Roosevelt Elk in the Pender Harbour Area. The elk was shot in a closed area to firearms prior to any legal hunting season

FNZ

On Saturday September 23<sup>rd</sup> myself, CO TRUDGIAN and an NRO from Chilliwack attended a mud bogging event at Rocky Point on Stave Lake. We were informed of the event by social media. The event was advertised to be a huge party event with mud bogging, camping, stage shows and wet t-shirt events. When we attended the event we found it to be tame. There were no stage shows and only consisted of a few mud bidders. The clubs that attended were there to do their yearly clean up to protect the land.

An orphaned bear cub was turned into a pet at a low income housing complex in Coquitlam. The cub had been in the area when the children started feeding it, petting it and named it “OG Blacky”. The people were even letting it in the houses. CO’s attended and removed the bear, issued tickets and spoke to the entire complex. In the end this bear was so tame it would walk up to the kids to be pet on the nose.

MR CO’s will be wrapping up the last workshop on bee keeping put on by a restorative justice candidate admitting to killing bears damaging their bee hive operation. He will be educating the Katzie first nation on bee husbandry and the apiary industry as the last part of the restorative justice process.

MR CO’s conducted a joint ORV patrol (today) to the end of Pitt Lake to enforce laws associated to fishing and hunting in the area. All hunters, anglers, ORV owners, as well as motor vehicle operators were stopped in conjunction with this patrol. Officers were checking for licences, safe hunting/ORV operation, as well as respect for the environment protection and fisheries quotas. **Stats will be forthcoming based on results.**

S2SZ

Usual messaging re. attractant management as bear activity is increasing, pick fruit, secure garbage,

compost etc.

Several vehicles have sustained significant damage from bears recently in Whistler. Don't leave garbage, food or other attractants in your

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**From:** Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2017 10:27 AM

**To:** ENV ENF Inspectors - Field Operations; Olsen, Rod ENV:EX

**Subject:** Media Call

**Importance:** High

I have a media call on Thursday. Please send me any recent operations, convictions etc of interest.

Thanks,

**Deputy Chief Chris Doyle**

OIC Provincial Operations

Conservation Officer Service | Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

(604) 892-7823



**From:** Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX  
**To:** Struthers, Darryl J ENV:EX  
**Cc:** Lacey, Brad A ENV:EX; Brinsky, Shawn ENV:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Toad River/Muncho/Liard area blitz - Sept 7-11 - Media Call Stuff  
**Date:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 9:58:00 AM

---

Looks good – what about the overnight atv patrol that resulted in all the game being seized

---

**From:** Struthers, Darryl J ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 5, 2017 9:57 AM  
**To:** Doyle, Chris J ENV:EX  
**Cc:** Struthers, Darryl J ENV:EX; Lacey, Brad A ENV:EX; Brinsky, Shawn ENV:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Toad River/Muncho/Liard area blitz - Sept 7-11 - Media Call Stuff  
**Importance:** High

Chris – how is this?

During mid-September, BC Conservation Officers, supported by officers from the Canadian Wildlife Service conducted an enforcement blitz in and around the Community of Todd River BC. The purpose of the blitz was to help ensure compliance with fish, wildlife and other natural resource laws including the Off Road Vehicle Act. Over a five day period officers conducted roving patrols by boat, atv and truck and conducted multiple road checks. Provincial biologists and staff from the Kaska Dene First Nation attended the road checks to collect harvest data and raise public awareness. During the project, officers contacted approximately: 156 hunters, 6 anglers, 17 off road vehicle users, 54 USA residents transiting with firearms through Canada and 510 non-users.

Charges and warnings - 4 VT's and 16 WT's:

- a) Firearms: 3 loaded firearms in MV charges. Admin action for 2 people without PAL's.
- b) Wildlife Act – 1 VT and 10 WT's mostly related to wildlife transport requirements (proof of species/sex)
- c) ORV and MVA - 4 WT's total

1 firearm and 2 stone sheep seized – investigations ongoing

Over the weekend Fort Nelson COS launched an investigation into the illegal harvest of a Wood Bison near the BC – Northwest Territory Border. Wood Bison are protected under the Federal Species at Risk Act and closed to hunting under the BC Wildlife Act. The bison has been recovered and evidence is currently being analyzed.

- Higher quality photos can be provided upon request.

*Inspector Darryl J. Struthers*

OIC Peace Region|Conservation Officer Service| Min. of Environment  
1201-103rd Avenue Dawson Creek BC V1G 4J2  
Phone: (250) 784-2305 Fax: (250) 784-2510

---

**From:** Hamlyn, Christopher J ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 30, 2017 2:11 PM  
**To:** Brinsky, Shawn ENV:EX; Harris, Samuel G ENV:EX; Posthuma, Christopher ENV:EX; Kneller, Micah ENV:EX; 'Castagner, Trevor (EC)'; Laing, Steven (EC)  
**Cc:** Hamlyn, Christopher J ENV:EX; Struthers, Darryl J ENV:EX; Gagne-Delorme, Audrey FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Toad River/Muncho/Liard area blitz - Sept 7-11

Greeting all,

Better late than never – here are the stats for the entire Muncho/Liard project – including two days of road checks.

**Present:**

**BC COS:** Chris Hamlyn, Sam HARRIS, Shawn BRINSKY, Micah KNELLER, Chris POSTHUMA (5) - *Present all five days*

**EC CWS:** Trevor CASTAGNER, Steve LAING (2) – *Present for three days*

**FLNRO:** Audrey GAGNE-DELORME – *present for two (road check) days*

**Kaska Nation:** s.22 – *present for two (road check) days.*

**Contacts:**

156 - Hunters.

6 - Anglers

17 - OVR

54 - USA firearm contact

1 - Cites contact (live lizard)

510 – Others

750 - contacts total (approximate)

**Enforcement:**

Firearms:

3 – Loaded firearm in Motor vehicle – VT's

2 – Criminal Code warnings

Wildlife Act:

5 - Fail to comply species licence - WW

1 - No evidence of Sex – VT

2 – No evidence of sex - WW

1 - no evidence of species - WW

2 - no photo Id - WW

ORV:

1 - OVR no Registration - WW.

1 OVR no Registration - TTP

1 - fail to produce Registration - WW

1 - Mva – WW

16 - Warnings Total

4 - Violation Tickets Total

**Investigations opened:**

1) False information to obtain lic/fail to retrieve.

2) Fail to retrieve, no evidence of sex, no photo Id possible illegal guiding

3) Over Weight Vehicle m/k

**Seizures:**

1) 2 - Stone Sheep seized

2) 1 - rifle seized

**Biologist:**

11 – Surveys conducted

3 – Samples taken

Overall consensus – compliance was higher than expected

It was a fun productive project and we got the point across and waved the proverbial COS/Gov't flag.

Thanks to all who attended!

Until next year - Take care,

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Page 30 to/à Page 31

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