



Case Summary

1.

Details

Case File #:	202012110	Opened Date:	2020-10-21 08:21 AM
Category:	CO SERVICE	Discovery Date:	2020-09-25
Type:	WILDLIFE	Closed Date:	
Status:	Open	Admin Org Unit:	OMINECA ZONE
Opened By:	FLORIA, DAWN	Source:	REPORTED
Lead Investigator:	KEENAN-TOOP, RICHARD	Source Ref #:	ERS 20-5757
Lead Investigator's Phone:		Other Source Agency:	
Paper File Created:	No	Transferred to Agency:	
Electronic Case File:	No	Other Transferred Agency:	
Investigation Review Process:	No	Joint Investigation:	No
Investigation Review Date:		Transferred Agency Contact:	
Investigation Start Date:	2020-09-25	Lead Agency:	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
Joint Agency Contact:		Joint Agency:	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
Other Joint Agency:		Joint Agency Phone:	
Case Description:	ERS 20-5757 TWO GRIZZLY CUBS TRACKED AND RUN OVER		

Members:

Name	Phone Number	Start Date	End Date
KEENAN-TOOP, RICHARD		2020-10-21	2030-10-19
FLORIA, DAWN		2020-10-21	2030-10-19
ACKLES, STEVE : s.22		2020-10-21	2030-10-19

Parties Involved:

Name	DOB	Role	Nature of Involvement	Phone No.	Address
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s.22

COMPLAINANT YESTERDAY COM

s.22

2.

FOUND 2
SILVERTIPPED
GRIZZLY CUBS THAT
WERE TRACKED OVER
200 YARDS AND RUN
OVER, SOW WAS
NOWHERE TO BE
HEARD/SEEN WHILE

s.22

s.22

s.22

s.22

UNKNOWN,
UNKNOWN

SUBJECT OF
COMPLAINT

Sites:

Site	Site Type	Description
1. 7-27; OMINECA ZONE		NEAR LEO CREEK, BC

Notes:

Date	Name	Comments
2020-10-30	KEENAN-TOOP, RICHARD	REVIEWED FILE
2020-10-22	MCARTHUR, EAMON	A/SGT REVIEWED FILE, FILE REQUIRES UPDATE; DD 2020-11-10
2020-10-21	FLORIA, DAWN	AS PER CO KEENAN-TOOP ERS ENTERED/ATTACHED. CO NOTIFIED.

Continuation Report:

Date	Time	Name	Report
2020-09-29	13:38	KEENAN-TOOP, RICHARD	CO Keenan-Toop and Sgt Ackles attended s.22 s.22 to view grizzly bear carcasses and take statement s.22

CO Keenan-Toop examined the carcasses

-No visible gun shot wounds

-No visible broken bones

-One carcass was missing both front legs ; s.22 was attempting to harvest the meat

-Some other parts were missing from the bears such as the flanks

-No peri-mortem bruising on the hides or carcasses to indicate being hit or dragged by vehicle

Cause of death of cubs unable to be verified, animals had been hung, dried, and partially butchered making a verification difficult.

s.15

s.15

File to be closed as unsolved.

Attachments:

Attach#	Description	Photo	File	Attached By	Attached Date
1	202012110_20200926_D No OC_s.22 ERS_20- 5757.PDF		20200926_DOC_s.22 S_20-5757.PDF	_ER FLORIA, DAWN	2020-10-21
2	20200929_PHOTOS_GRI No ZZLYS_KEENAN-TOOP		20200929_PHOTOS_GRIZ ZLYS_KEENAN- TOOP.PDF	KEENAN-TOOP, RICHARD	2020-10-30
3	20200928_PHOTO_X5_G No RIZZLY-CUBS_NO- HUNTING_POST_CARS ON		202012110 20200928_PHOTO_X5_GR ANNE IZZLY-CUBS_NO- HUNTING_POST_CARSO N.PDF	CHARTRAND, JO- ANNE	2020-11-23
4	20200929_DOC_FIELD- No NOTES_KEENAN-TOOP		20200929_DOC_FIELD- NOTES_KEENAN- TOOP.PDF	CHARTRAND, JO- ANNE	2020-11-23
5	20200929_STMTs.22 _ No KEENAN-TOOP		202012110 20200929_STMTs.22 _K ANNE EENAN-TOOP.DOCX	CHARTRAND, JO- ANNE	2020-11-23
6	20200929_STMTs.22 _ No KEENAN-TOOP.WAV		20200929_STMTs.22 _K EENAN-TOOP.WAV	CHARTRAND, JO- ANNE	2020-11-23

Contravention No.1

WILDLIFE ACT AND REGULATIONS 26 (1)(C) : HUNT, TAKE, TRAP, WOUND OR KILL WILDLIFE NOT WITHIN OPEN SEASON

Species:

Est. Incident Date

2020-09-26

Party:

UNKNOWN, UNKNOWN

Site:

1. 7-27; OMINECA ZONE; NEAR Party Address:
LEO CREEK, BC

Enforcement Actions

Enforcement Action No. 1

Type:

UNSOLVED

Comments:

NO SUSPECTS, NO LEADS

Vehicles:

Date Printed:2020/11/23

Page 3 of 3

User ID: CHARTRAND, JO-ANNE

Report ID: CORS-001

Environment:PROD

2

4.

Blank

Enforcement Routing Sheet #20-5757

Complaint Received By: DONNA - ECC SUP (Donna Weber)
 Area: FORT ST. JAMES - VANDERHOOF - OMINECA REGION

Date / Time received:
 2020-09-26 13:26
 COORS OR#:

CALLER INFORMATION

Caller Name: s.22
 Mail / Street
 Address:
 City:
 Postal Code:
 Referred By:
 Contact Numbers
 Cellular s.22

VIOLATION DETAILS

Violation Date: 09/25/2020 Violation Time: P.M. Violation in Progress? No
 Violation Type: WILDLIFE
 Offense Witnessed:
 2 silver tipped grizzly cubs killed and found.
 Offense Location:

s.22
 Offense Details:
 s.22 found 2 Silvertipped Grizzly cubs that were tracked over 200 yards and run over,
 Sow was nowhere to be heard/seens.22
 s.22
 13:33 - phoned CO Keenan-Toop - l/m

DESCRIPTION				
Name (if known)				
Description	Sex	Race	Height	Weight
	Eyes	Hair	Glasses	Smoker
	Build	Complexion	Distinguishing Features	
Clothing				
Vehicle				
Weapons				
Other Details				
	Sex	Race	Height	Weight
	Eyes	Hair	Glasses	Smoker
	Build	Complexion	Distinguishing Features	
Name (if known)				
Description	Sex	Race	Height	Weight
	Eyes	Hair	Glasses	Smoker
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Description	Sex	Race	Height	Weight

6.

	Eyes	Hair	Glasses	Smoker
	Build	Complexion	Distinguishing Features	
Name (if known)				
Description	Sex	Race	Height	Weight
	Eyes	Hair	Glasses	Smoker
	Build	Complexion	Distinguishing Features	
Clothing				
Vehicle				
Weapons				
Other Details				

Notification:

2020-09-26 13:42 Email to: Omineca [PRINCE GEORGE, VANDERHOOF] [COS.Omineca.Zone@gov.bc.ca] Sent from s.15; s.17



BUMK



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16

BLANK



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19



P1

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BANK



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PS

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BLANK

Sept 29, 2020

0950-10-36 10-8 Vt & area

1110-17 to

s.22

to investigate grizzly
bear cubs with Sgt.
Ackles.

1235-Check hunter on quad

s.22

on
s.22

and loaded firearm on
quad

s.22

photos
taken of firearm &
hunter for id purposes
Issued Vt.

94

1318- Two hunter checks - good

1338-10-6 at

s.22

s.22

s.22

Examining bear
carcasses & take struts.
Photos taken

s.15

s.15

1700-10-35 in

s.15

s.15

1750-10-35

95

33

34

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Page 35 of 70

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.16; s.22

35

36

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Page 37 of 70

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.16; s.22

12

38

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Page 39 of 70

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.16; s.22

23

40

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Page 41 of 70

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.22; s.16

14

42

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Page 43 of 70

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.16; s.22

24

44

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From: Ackles, Steve W ENV:EX
Sent: November 19, 2020 2:05 PM
To: West, Mark S ENV:EX
Subject: Fwd: s.16; s.22 RE: Potential Safety Issue: Middle River Bridge

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "West, Mark S ENV:EX" <Mark.West@gov.bc.ca>
Date: September 28, 2020 at 7:19:54 PM PDT
Subject: Fwd: s.16; s.22 RE: Potential Safety Issue: Middle River Bridge

I know you have a plan and I do appreciate CKT comments but what does blowing up mean?

Inspector Mark S. West
OIC Omineca Region
Conservation Officer Service
Prince George, BC
250-561-4592

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Keenan-Toop, Richard ENV:EX" <Richard.KeenanToop@gov.bc.ca>
Date: September 28, 2020 at 15:38:10 PDT
To: "Ackles, Steve W ENV:EX" <Steve.Ackles@gov.bc.ca>, "West, Mark S ENV:EX" <Mark.West@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Fwd: s.16; s.22 RE: Potential Safety Issue: Middle River Bridge

Mark and Steve,

An update on this situation as it seems to be blowing up there may be some media attention.

Steve and I are headed up there tomorrow morning to follow up on the file and I've been in contact with the complainants.

I have not provided an update to those in the email chain below.

CO Richard Chay Keenan-Toop
Omineca Zone | Conservation Officer Service
Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy
189 Stewart St. E. Vanderhoof, BC, V0J 3A0
Phone: 250-567-6306
Sent from iPhone, please excuse spelling/grammar

Begin forwarded message:

46

From: "Carson, Heather M FLNR:EX" <Heather.M.Carson@gov.bc.ca>
Date: September 28, 2020 at 2:14:19 PM PDT
To: "Park, Jill E FLNR:EX" <Jill.Park@gov.bc.ca>, "Simpson, Cameron FLNR:EX" <Cameron.Simpson@gov.bc.ca>, "Anderson, Eric D FLNR:EX" <Eric.D.Anderson@gov.bc.ca>, "Byers, Carol S FLNR:EX" <Carol.Byers@gov.bc.ca>, "Boyde, Mike W FLNR:EX" <Mike.Boyde@gov.bc.ca>, "Jones, Jeff E FLNR:EX" <Jeff.E.Jones@gov.bc.ca>, "Borth, Lori J FLNR:EX" <Lori.Borth@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: "Keenan-Toop, Richard ENV:EX" <Richard.KeenanToop@gov.bc.ca>, "Harris, Samuel G ENV:EX" <Samuel.Harris@gov.bc.ca>, "Burck, Jim W FLNR:EX" <Jim.Burck@gov.bc.ca>, "Pillipow, Ray FLNR:EX" <Ray.Pillipow@gov.bc.ca>, "Jacklin, James FLNR:EX" <James.Jacklin@gov.bc.ca>, "Bogh, Tara IRR:EX" <Tara.Bogh@gov.bc.ca>, "Wilder, Camille IRR:EX" <Camille.Wilder@gov.bc.ca>, "Van Dolah, David FLNR:EX" <David.VanDolah@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: s.16; s.22 **RE: Potential Safety Issue: Middle River Bridge**

Hi,

s.16; s.22

As it relates to hunting season and anticipating an influx of calls to offices, we may need to look at developing guidance for frontcounter staff who may be asked about hunting access to this area. s.13; s.16 s.13; s.16

Thanks,

Heather Carson

Advisor, First Nations Relations
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
Stuart Nechako Natural Resource District
Heather.M.Carson@gov.bc.ca<mailto:Heather.M.Carson@gov.bc.ca>
Phone: 250-996-5275 or 778-693-3026

From: Carson, Heather M FLNR:EX
Sent: September 28, 2020 9:18 AM
To: Park, Jill E FLNR:EX <Jill.Park@gov.bc.ca>; Simpson, Cameron FLNR:EX <Cameron.Simpson@gov.bc.ca>; Anderson, Eric D FLNR:EX <Eric.D.Anderson@gov.bc.ca>; Byers, Carol S FLNR:EX <Carol.Byers@gov.bc.ca>; Boyde, Mike W FLNR:EX <Mike.Boyde@gov.bc.ca>; Jones, Jeff E FLNR:EX <Jeff.E.Jones@gov.bc.ca>; Borth, Lori J FLNR:EX <Lori.Borth@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Keenan-Toop, Richard ENV:EX <Richard.KeenanToop@gov.bc.ca>; Harris, Samuel G ENV:EX <Samuel.Harris@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Potential Safety Issue: Middle River Bridge

Hi, s.16; s.22

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barricaded the bridge against all hunting s.16; s.22 At this time, we are unsure as to whether this also applies to forestry operations. At this stage, it may be best to avoid sending staff across the Middle River Bridge until we have a better idea of what's happening and how it could affect our work. I will be contacting s.16; s.22 to get an idea of their awareness and whether it will impact our operations. My understanding is that COS has been contacted and the situation has been reported.

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48

[cid:image009.png@01D69599.EEB088D0]

[cid:image010.png@01D69599.EEB088D0]

Feel free to contact me with any questions,

Heather Carson

Advisor, First Nations Relations

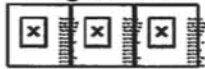
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural
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<image001.emz>



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Heather Carson

Advisor, First Nations Relations
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
Stuart Nechako Natural Resource District
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[cid:image010.png@01D69599.EEB088D0]

Feel free to contact me with any questions,

Heather Carson

Advisor, First Nations Relations

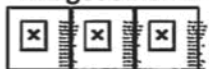
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Phone: 250-996-5275 or 778-693-3026

<image001.emz>



From: Ackles, Steve W ENV:EX
Sent: November 19, 2020 2:03 PM
To: West, Mark S ENV:EX
Subject: Fwd: Information Only: Middle River Bridge Barricade

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Jacklin, James FLNR:EX" <James.Jacklin@gov.bc.ca>
Date: September 29, 2020 at 3:58:59 PM PDT
Subject: FW: Information Only: Middle River Bridge Barricade

Hi guys, any updates from COS?



James Jacklin, R.P.Bio.
Director, Resource Management &
Regional Manager, Recreational Fisheries and Wildlife Programs
Omineca Region

Phone (250) 645-9370
Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

From: Bogh, Tara IRR:EX <Tara.Bogh@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 29, 2020 3:41 PM
To: Carson, Heather M FLNR:EX <Heather.M.Carson@gov.bc.ca>; Jacklin, James FLNR:EX <James.Jacklin@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Jordan, Ryan J IRR:EX <Ryan.J.Jordan@gov.bc.ca>; Low, Bruce IRR:EX <Bruce.Low@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Information Only: Middle River Bridge Barricade

Hi Team,
Have we heard anything from the COs about their investigation? Wanting to keep our Critical Incidents team well in the loop on this.

Tara

From: Pollard, Jennifer D FLNR:EX <Jennifer.Pollard@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 9:06 AM



To: Low, Bruce IRR:EX <Bruce.Low@gov.bc.ca>; Bogh, Tara IRR:EX <Tara.Bogh@gov.bc.ca>
 Subject: FW: Information Only: Middle River Bridge Barricade

54

FYI

From: Carson, Heather M FLNR:EX <Heather.M.Carson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 29, 2020 8:49 AM
To: Smith-Rockwell, Angela FLNR:EX <Angela.SmithRockwell@gov.bc.ca>; Bilawchuk, April FLNR:EX <April.Bilawchuk@gov.bc.ca>; Borth, Lori J FLNR:EX <Lori.Borth@gov.bc.ca>; Pallard, Emily-Anne FLNR:EX <EmilyAnne.Pallard@gov.bc.ca>; Hogan, Miles FLNR:EX <Miles.Hogan@gov.bc.ca>; Mathiscyk, Vahid FLNR:EX <Vahid.Mathiscyk@gov.bc.ca>; Payne, Steve G FLNR:EX <Steve.Payne@gov.bc.ca>; Pollard, Jennifer D FLNR:EX <Jennifer.Pollard@gov.bc.ca>; Rice, Shawn FLNR:EX <Shawn.Rice@gov.bc.ca>; Steel, Kara FLNR:EX <Kara.Steel@gov.bc.ca>; Park, Jill E FLNR:EX <Jill.Park@gov.bc.ca>; Sweeney, Robert FLNR:EX <Robert.Sweeney@gov.bc.ca>; Marr, Sharon P FLNR:EX <Sharon.Marr@gov.bc.ca>; Marincak, Neal FLNR:EX <Neal.Marincak@gov.bc.ca>; Paulson, Janelle FLNR:EX <Janelle.Paulson@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Jacklin, James FLNR:EX <James.Jacklin@gov.bc.ca>; Klaczek, Michael FLNR:EX <Michael.Klaczek@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Information Only: Middle River Bridge Barricade

Hi All,

Please consider this email as an update/information should anyone come to you with questions about access across Middle River Bridge or into the area between Takla and Babine Lakes.

On Saturday night, I became aware that the previous day,^{s.16}
 s.16 two grizzly cubs that had been run down in a vehicle
 and killed.s.16
 s.16

s.16 I spent most of yesterday liaising with District Management and the
 s.16; s.22 to get as full an understanding of the situation as possible and ensure that management had the necessary information for staff safety. Please note this incident was not a result of legal or regulated/licenced hunting and Conservation Officer Service is investigating this incident

Why is this such a big deal?

- Licensed Grizzly Bear hunting was closed in December 2017 (let alone that killing cubs and in this manner was never legal)
- Grizzly Bears are a spiritually significant and respected species for the Dakelhne.
- Hunting season is starting right now, and we expect an influx of people to the area associated with this.
- The optics of running down baby bears and leaving them in the middle of the road is generally very poor and upsetting.
- Grizzly Bears have previously been a politically sensitive topic.
- Staff and Public safety are always paramount, so being aware of these types of occurrences and ensuring staff/management are able to make fully informed decisions is a priority.

At this time, our understanding is that the area is only restricted for hunting, forestry and mining activities/workers should not be affected. This is obviously liable to change and I will keep everyone informed as appropriate. My assessment, knowing both^{s.16} and the situation, is that there is no threat to staff safety but I cannot guarantee access would be granted in every situation.

dr

55

Blank

Given that we are anticipating that there will be an influx of hunters to the area in the next little while and may be preparing s.16

s.16

I asked for wording to be made available for FCBC staff in anticipation of calls. James Jacklin and Mike Klaczek put together the following points for FCBC:

1. Suggest letting hunters know that access is closed until further notice and there is potential for tension, avoid the area/specific access if possible
2. Hunting licenses/LEH authorizations specific to the Middle River area (7-26) remain valid.
3. We ask hunters to be respectful of the community, this unfortunate incident and local community members

If you receive any questions that cannot be answered by the 3 points above, please contact me and I will either respond or connect with the necessary people. Please note that this situation requires NO ACTION and this email is for information purposes only.

Thanks,

Heather Carson

Advisor, First Nations Relations

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

Stuart Nechako Natural Resource District

Heather.M.Carson@gov.bc.ca

Phone: 250-996-5275 or 778-693-3026

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Subject: Fwd: Information Only: Middle River Bridge Barricade

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Jacklin, James FLNR:EX" <James.Jacklin@gov.bc.ca>
Date: September 30, 2020 at 8:37:16 AM PDT
Subject: RE: Information Only: Middle River Bridge Barricade

Thanks for this update Steve.

James

From: Ackles, Steve W ENV:EX <Steve.Ackles@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 29, 2020 7:28 PM
To: Jacklin, James FLNR:EX <James.Jacklin@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: West, Mark S ENV:EX <Mark.West@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Information Only: Middle River Bridge Barricade

Hi James,

Sorry about the late reply but I was out of cell service all day.

We attended Middle River and investigated the Grizzly Bear cubs that were allegedly run over by a vehicle. The death of the bear cubs was the apparent cause of the reported blockade. At the time of our arrival the blockade was not on the bridge as previously reported.

s.16; s.22

That's what I have at this time.
Steve

Steve Ackles
Sergeant
Conservation Officer Service
Prince George
Omineca Region
Office 250-614-9917
Report A Poacher or Polluter (RAPP)
24/7 1-877-952-7277

On Sep 29, 2020, at 3:58 PM, Jacklin, James FLNR:EX <James.Jacklin@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Hi guys, any updates from COS?

<image001.png>

James Jacklin, R.P.Bio.
 Director, Resource Management &
 Regional Manager, Recreational Fisheries and Wildlife Programs
 Omineca Region

Phone (250) 645-9370
 Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

From: Bogh, Tara IRR:EX <Tara.Bogh@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 29, 2020 3:41 PM
To: Carson, Heather M FLNR:EX <Heather.M.Carson@gov.bc.ca>; Jacklin, James FLNR:EX <James.Jacklin@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Jordan, Ryan J IRR:EX <Ryan.J.Jordan@gov.bc.ca>; Low, Bruce IRR:EX <Bruce.Low@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Information Only: Middle River Bridge Barricade

Hi Team,
 Have we heard anything from the COs about their investigation? Wanting to keep our Critical Incidents team well in the loop on this.

Tara

From: Pollard, Jennifer D FLNR:EX <Jennifer.Pollard@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 9:06 AM
To: Low, Bruce IRR:EX <Bruce.Low@gov.bc.ca>; Bogh, Tara IRR:EX <Tara.Bogh@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Information Only: Middle River Bridge Barricade

FYI

From: Carson, Heather M FLNR:EX <Heather.M.Carson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 29, 2020 8:49 AM
To: Smith-Rockwell, Angela FLNR:EX <Angela.SmithRockwell@gov.bc.ca>; Bilawchuk, April FLNR:EX <April.Bilawchuk@gov.bc.ca>; Borth, Lori J FLNR:EX <Lori.Borth@gov.bc.ca>; Pallard, Emily-Anne FLNR:EX <EmilyAnne.Pallard@gov.bc.ca>; Hogan, Miles FLNR:EX <Miles.Hogan@gov.bc.ca>; Mathiscyk, Vahid FLNR:EX <Vahid.Mathiscyk@gov.bc.ca>; Payne, Steve G FLNR:EX <Steve.Payne@gov.bc.ca>;

Pollard, Jennifer D FLNR:EX <Jennifer.Pollard@gov.bc.ca>; Rice, Shawn FLNR:EX <Shawn.Rice@gov.bc.ca>; Steel, Kara FLNR:EX <Kara.Steel@gov.bc.ca>; Park, Jill E FLNR:EX <Jill.Park@gov.bc.ca>; Sweeney, Robert FLNR:EX <Robert.Sweeney@gov.bc.ca>; Marr, Sharon P FLNR:EX <Sharon.Marr@gov.bc.ca>; Marincak, Neal FLNR:EX <Neal.Marincak@gov.bc.ca>; Paulson, Janelle FLNR:EX <Janelle.Paulson@gov.bc.ca>
 Cc: Jacklin, James FLNR:EX <James.Jacklin@gov.bc.ca>; Klaczek, Michael FLNR:EX <Michael.Klaczek@gov.bc.ca>
 Subject: Information Only: Middle River Bridge Barricade

Hi All,

Please consider this email as an update/information should anyone come to you with questions about access across Middle River Bridge or into the area between Takla and Babine Lakes.

On Saturday night, I became aware that the previous day, s.16
 s.16 two grizzly cubs that
 had been run down in a vehicle and killed. s.16
 s.16



s.16 I spent most of yesterday liaising with District Management and the
 s.16; s.22 to get as full an understanding of the situation as possible and ensure
 that management had the necessary information for staff safety. Please note this
 incident was not a result of legal or regulated/licenced hunting and Conservation
 Officer Service is investigating this incident

Why is this such a big deal?

- Licensed Grizzly Bear hunting was closed in December 2017 (let alone that killing cubs and in this manner was never legal)
- Grizzly Bears are a spiritually significant and respected species for the Dakelhne.
- Hunting season is starting right now, and we expect an influx of people to the area associated with this.
- The optics of running down baby bears and leaving them in the middle of the road is generally very poor and upsetting.
- Grizzly Bears have previously been a politically sensitive topic.
- Staff and Public safety are always paramount, so being aware of these types of occurrences and ensuring staff/management are able to make fully informed decisions is a priority.

At this time, our understanding is that the area is only restricted for hunting, forestry and mining activities/workers should not be affected. This is obviously liable to change and I will keep everyone informed as appropriate. My assessment, knowing both the
 s.16 and the situation, is that there is no threat to staff safety but I cannot
 guarantee access would be granted in every situation.

Given that we are anticipating that there will be an influx of hunters to the area in the next little while and may be preparing s.16
 s.16 I asked
 for wording to be made available for FCBC staff in anticipation of calls. James Jacklin and Mike Klaczek put together the following points for FCBC:

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1. Suggest letting hunters know that access is closed until further notice and there is potential for tension, avoid the area/specific access if possible
 2. Hunting licenses/LEH authorizations specific to the Middle River area (7-26) remain valid.
 3. We ask hunters to be respectful of the community, this unfortunate incident and local community members

If you receive any questions that cannot be answered by the 3 points above, please contact me and I will either respond or connect with the necessary people. Please note that this situation requires NO ACTION and this email is for information purposes only.

Thanks,

Heather Carson

Advisor, First Nations Relations
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
Stuart Nechako Natural Resource District
Heather.M.Carson@gov.bc.ca
Phone: 250-996-5275 or 778-693-3026



WITNESS AUDIO RECORDING TRANSCRIPT
CONSERVATION OFFICER SERVICE



File #: 202012110
Caption: s.22

Page 1 of 9

Person Interviewed: s.22
Task Number (MIU only): [Click here to enter text.](#)
Type of Statement: Witness

Date of Recording: 2020-09-29
Start Time of Interview: 1341
End Time of Interview: 1346
Location of Interview: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Interviewer: CO Richard KEENAN-TOOP
Second Interviewer: [Click here to enter text.](#)
Transcribed by: Admin Jo-Anne CHARTRAND **on:** 2020-11-20
Proofed by: CO Richard KEENAN-TOOP **on:** 2020-11-24

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.22

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