

## Nov. 19 General Meeting WLSA.

- Discussion on formation of Wildlife Advisory Committee.
  - Now 4 BCWF members talk for resident hunters. One from each club. Bella Coola, 100 mile, Williams Lake and Quesnel. Also one not affiliated with BCWF – Don Evans. 3 from guide outfitters. 1 guide outfitter not affiliated with guide association. Bow Hunters want a seat.
- Review items for Wildlife Advisory Committee.

### Guide Outfitters recommendations.

- 1. Spring easier to identify a boar. East Cariboo better in spring. Bella Coola better in fall (bears on river). Need to know percentage of resident hunters who fill their tag.
- 2. Has potential for more goats for resident.
- 3. No
- 4. No
- 5. yes first part. No 3 deer limit.
- 6. a) No. b) Yes.
- 7. Yes.
- 8. Want Michel-Bazeko road open all year round.
- 9. No.
- 10. No.
- 11. Yes.
- 12. No.
- 13. Yes.
- 14. No spike-fork moose. Natives don't like it.

### Ministry recommendations.

- 1. Yes move but better to remove closure altogether.
  - 2. yes.
  - 3. Need more info. Restrict as small an area as possible. Need exemption for predator hunting. Only two roads.
  - 4. Reluctantly close that part of 509C that is in the Grizzly Bear Management Area.
  - 5. Yes.
- BCWF Region5 AGM Dec. 10, 2007. 7:00 pm.
  - Itcha Ilgachuz Local Advisory group meeting. Nov. 29, 2007 at 1:30 pm. Blue spoon Rest. Roy Slavens is going .
  - Mt. Polly meeting on Nov. 26 at 6:00 pm. in Likely. Wayne and Glen will go.
  - BCWF AGM delegate fees going up \$25.00.
  - Sheep capture in Kamloops – 30 to 50 animals. Sponsored by the Wild Sheep Society. Drop off at Alkali Ranch and Big Bar in Dec. – Jan. dependant on weather.

**1. We would like to propose a fall grizzly season. We would recommend that an LEH permit holder would be able to use their permit in the spring or the fall of the same year. NOT a separate draw for the fall. This would give the permit holder a better opportunity of harvesting his animal and also give the guides more flexibility with their quota**

**Response:** I don't really understand the benefits of doing this. As a resident hunter, I have the option of choosing a spring or a fall hunt for LEH. If I apply for a spring hunt, I may not be interested in continuing the hunt in the fall on the same tag. By doing this, it would reduce opportunity for resident hunters as well. I just don't see the rational for this suggestion and would not support it.

Jacques Drisdelle

**2. We would once again like to request a goat survey in 5-12, as reports indicate that there may be 60 plus goats out there. We would also request that closed goat areas in the upper Horsefly and McKay in 5-15A be added to the Eureka LEH zone which should add a few extra goats. We would also like to see a reopening of the Mount Springer closed goat area.**

Response:

Who gains on these changes to goat harvesting.

Certainly not the resident hunters?

The guide area found in the Upper Horsefly & McKay in 5-15A is owned by **Glynis Cox**

Stuart Mailand owns the guiding area involved in the Eureka Peak area of 5-15A

Jacques Drisdelle

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I think that Stuart  
Maitland meant Mount  
Spranger as shown on this  
map. From the map on  
the right, this area  
appears to have road  
access.

The map on the right is of the area that Stuart  
Maitland proposes to have an opening for goat.

**3. We still have a big concern on class 4 bucks, as surveys and all indications show a real conservation concern on mature bucks. This is one of the most important animals to our sector. It has potential of being one of the best species this region has to offer for trophy class animals. However, it is being managed for anything but. We would like to see some areas managed for trophy deer spread out around the region in the south Chilcotin, the north Chilcotin and in the east cariboo. The areas should stay away from heavy highway kill areas and away from alfalfa farm areas along the Fraser. This will still allow high kill areas where ranchers and highways have problems, and a lot of other areas would still be open or any buck as well. We would request these trophy areas to be managed with a 4 point only regulation, one buck limit.**

**Response:** Quality of hunt for many resident hunters does not have the same definition as what the Guide Outfitters and non-resident hunters have. Most people are interested in opportunity and access and I don't feel that non-residents should have a priority over residents.

Jacques Drisdelle

**4. We would also like to see the season as a 2 deer limit, of which one has to be a doe under LEH.**

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**Response:** What science or conservation issues are there to justify this? This is also in conflict with item # 5. This is a new approach to the same old idea of limiting resident hunters by Guide Outfitters. I cannot support this.

Jacques Drisdelle

**5. We feel there is a real big problem with whitetail deer and mule deer and crosses, and their identification. We would like to suggest just one deer tag for either, as is done for sheep. This would eliminate a person being illegal for mistaken identity. Then we could have a 3 deer limit, 2 bucks, one of each species, and one mule deer doe under LEH.**

**Response:** Who says there is a problem with shooting one species or another in error? Is there evidence of this or is this something that has been concocted to give support to limiting us on deer?

Jacques Drisdelle

Another item brought to my attention, the antlerless LEH for deer should be expanded to allow someone to take an antlerless white tail on the same draw. There is getting to be quite a few around. I don't think we really want them established here, and I would think they would do as much crop damage as a mule deer.

Doug Hill

**6. With the massive amount of roads going in due to the beetle epidemic, we would like to propose a 2 ATV restrictions. A) ATV's should only be able to operate between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm region wide. B) No ATV's or any motorized vehicle above 5500 feet. This is to protect sensitive alpine areas all over our region. This would not be a winter closure. Almost every one has a GPS or good Topographical maps.**

**Response:** This is exactly the reason that I suggested earlier that we should be controlling this debate before they do. We find ourselves in a defensive position rather than at the controls. We have two possible options on this issue. 1) We disagree with the proposal altogether or 2) we agree that there should be ongoing discussion on this subject and a willingness to review vehicle access pros and cons, or something to that effect. I do not believe we should accept this as written or to any restrictions at this stage.

Jacques Drisdelle

**7. We would like to see a 6 point Elk in 5:02 and possibly 5-14 and 5-13. A Moose survey this winter showed a number of Elk sightings without even looking for them. The reason for 6 point would be to align with bordering regions. LEH would be option number 2.**

**Response:** We certainly have suggested this in the past. Is there merit to this proposal?

Jacques Drisdelle

**8. We would like to see the Michel-Bazeko road only closed in the fall season from September 1<sup>st</sup> to the end of Caribou season, as that is the main reason for the closure, there is no need to be restricted for the rest of the year.**

**Response:** Open or not, no one can operate a motor vehicle in the park. The only benefit of having this road open is that it allows hunters to get closer. This road restriction was brought to the table by MOE last year and the Guides voted against it. This in my view is a proactive method for guides to be in control of this issue. I believe we should counter with lifting the access restriction completely.

Jacques Drisdelle

**9. With all the harvest that has taken place and planned to take place in the sucker lake road system, we would like to see a motor vehicle restriction for the purpose of hunting 4**

**to be instituted. This is a very important deer migration route and wintering area. These roads have had devastating effects on the deer in this system. This would be on all the roads in the system excluding the road into the residents.**

**Response:**

**10. Once again, we are going to urge the recreational sector to accept LEH on Caribou in 5-12, as this is just a visual procedure to show we are managing a threatened species.**

**There should be plenty of permits to keep the recreational harvest up. It is better to have LEH than to have our Caribou hunt yanked out from under us by the Federal Government for lack of management.**

**Response:** Can't agree and won't agree. There is no evidence, at least that the Itcha-Ilgachuz herd is in danger. MOE proposed this two years ago and it was turned down by Victoria. The area is not easy to access and should remain open.

Jacques Drisdelle

**11. Last year we appreciated seeing a little more CO activity in the field; however this still falls far short of what is needed, with all the roads and circle routes being created more presence is needed to cover it all.**

**Response:** Fully agree and we have made the same proposal.

Jacques Drisdelle

**12. We would also like to see more discussions on vacant areas and predator permits.**

**Response:** Why? The subject should not be up for discussion. Guides have their areas and unallocated areas should stay status quo.

Jacques Drisdelle

**13. Once again we are requesting a Chilcotin Grizzly season in 5-04, 5-05, 5-06 and 5-12.**

**Response:**

**14. We are in strong support of the LEH moose season, we don't see dead moose lying around as we did on the one season we had open immature. The First Nations are ok with the LEH, it doesn't become such a zoo out there and has a more even distribution of the kill.**

**Response:** If spike-fork season works in adjacent regions, why is it not viable for Region 5?

Jacques Drisdelle

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## **The following are agenda items proposed by the Ministry:**

- A recommendation to move the commencement point of the MV restriction for the purpose of hunting on the Upper Dean River Main Haul Road (MU 5-12) from 64 km to 66 km.

Dispute or agreement rationale:

Sure Jacques Drisdelle

- A recommendation to remove the Rocky Lake FSR and the Groundhog FSR MV

restrictions (MU 5-04) for the purpose of hunting. In terms of resident and non-resident hunting, there is no conservation concern in terms of moose harvest. In 2005, the bulls/100 cows ratios were estimated at 49. This is well above the provincial recommendation of 30 bulls/100 cows - at least try to remove the Rocky Lake closure.

Dispute or agreement rationale:

Agree Jacques Drisdelle

- A recommendation to establish No Shooting Area in the populated areas surrounding Tye Lake. We need a better map outlining what the community association representative is describing in their letter. It sounds like the proposal includes several different roads.

Dispute or agreement rationale:

Why? There are already provisions under the Wildlife Act for not discharging firearms within a certain distance from residents. This could set a dangerous precedent in that similar restrictions could be set for other areas as well. Not a good idea.

` Doug Hill

It sounds like the restriction for shooting at Tye Lake road is going to proceed in some way. Perhaps we can lobby at the meeting to have it limited to single projectiles, and only along that part of the road where the residences are. This would allow people to hunt the lower portions near the power lines where there is no residences, and allow people to shoot grouse with shotguns where it is safe to do so.

Doug Hill

- Closure of Grizzly Bear Hunting in MU 509C - This area overlaps part of a GBMA (Grizzly Bear Management Area) that has been agreed to through CCLRMP. GBMA's are basically grizzly bear conservation areas. The objectives within a GBMA is to reduce human caused grizzly bear mortality to the minimum possible therefore all grizzly bear hunting is closed within these conservation areas.

Dispute or agreement rationale:

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- Re-zoning of MU 508B - In order to address issues of human bear conflicts in the Bella Coola Valley a portion of the unit will be rezoned. Recent changes to Grizzly Bear harvest procedures allow regions to apply alternative management options in specific areas where human/bear conflicts are excessive. The new subzone will be created in the Bella Coola Valley below the confluence of Talchako and Atnarko Rivers.

Dispute or agreement rationale:

If this will allow resident hunters to obtain Grizzly tags for this area to harvest a grizzly that would be otherwise slated for destruction due to bear-human conflict, then yes.

Jacques Drisdelle