

Hans Smit
Chair, Bulkley Community Resources Board
c/o C-18 S-15 RR 1
Telkwa, B.C. V0J 2X0

Hugh Markides
Regional Director
Ministry of Water, Air and Land Protection
Bag 5000
Smithers, B.C. V0J 2N0

April 4, 2002

Re: Angling Use Plans

Dear Mr. Markides,

At the regular monthly meeting of the Bulkley Community Resource Board (CRB) held on February 5, 2002 the CRB listened to presentations by Reid White of your Ministry and local members of the Angling Use Plan (AUP) committee on the issue of AUPs for the Bulkley and Babine rivers. The CRB is now aware of some of the major issues concerning the Bulkley and Babine rivers. Both these rivers provide world class angling opportunities, but both the health of the fish stocks and the quality of the resource are being compromised by over-fishing and overuse.

The Bulkley AUP was meant to deal with issues such as overuse. Members of the local angling community noted that the AUP process was started 14 years ago, and that they are frustrated that not all of the recommendations in the Bulkley AUP have been instituted. Mr. White informed us that this was largely due to a lack of regulations which could be used to institute the recommendations.

The CRB considers the angling opportunities on the Bulkley and Babine rivers to be a very valuable resource to our community. The Bulkley LRMP states that "Agencies will provide management to address recreational user conflicts, including the Bulkley River". The CRB would like to help facilitate implementation of the outstanding recommendations of the AUP. Would you please inform the Board of your intent to proceed on this issue and how the Board could assist in this process?

Sincerely,

Hans Smit
Chair, Bulkley Community Resource Board

Cc Kevin Kriese, MRSM
Dennis MacKay, MLA