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

Reid White Manager of Fish and Wildlife, Ministry of Water, Air and Land Protection Regional Office Bag 5000 3726 Alfred Avenue Smithers, BC VOJ 2N0

January 21, 2002

Re: Angling Use Plans

Dear Sirs,

Thank you for your discussion via telephone on January 15 regarding Angling Use Plans. As I understand it, AUPs were developed in the late 1980s for a number of rivers in British Columbia and that some of the recommendations in the plans were then put in place. A number of the plan recommendations were not put in place because there was no legislated authority for your Ministry to do so. There still are no regulations to allow government to institute some of these recommendations.

The Bulkley Community Resource Board is concerned that the world class fishery resource in the Babine and Bulkley River systems, and the recreational and commercial benefits it provides, could be seriously compromised if action to protect and conserve the resource are not implemented soon. From my discussion with you, I understand that new laws and regulations which would allow a more active management of the fishery resource are required before actions such as those outlined in the AUPs can be undertaken. The Board could be one avenue for bringing this matter to the attention of provincial legislators.

I would like to invite you to attend the next Community Resource Board meeting on the evening of February 5th to discuss this issue with the entire Board.

Sincerely, Hans Smit, Chair Bulkley Community Resources Board

cc Wally Bergen, IAMC Dennis MacKay, MLA