



Brian Smith, President  
Polar Coachman Flyfishers  
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October 24, 2022

To: Nikolaus Gantner  
Senior Fisheries Biologist  
BC Ministry of Forests  
Omineca Region (7A)

Re: FWCP Peace Project no: PEA-F24-W-3820  
Anzac/Table Arctic Grayling Conservation 2023

Dear Nikolaus:

Once again, our club is pleased to offer support and encouragement for funding to support the ongoing conservation studies of Arctic Grayling in the Parsnip watershed. The wild Arctic Grayling population of the Parsnip River system is a unique fishery that is the envy of fisheries biologists and the world that knows it, and all scientific actions taken to preserve, conserve, record and understand the fishery will benefit the resource immensely.

I personally had the pleasure of fishing the Anzac this summer, and in spite of the mega pipeline and spruce-wood logging industrial activity in the area, fishing this river remains a joyful wilderness experience. It appears that these industrial actions in the vicinity are being closely monitored and policed, and the system has been affected very little by this activity.

As my partner and I were leaving the river, we were visited by two lady “fisheries ambassadors”, the hiring of which the Polar Coachman Flyfishers supported several years ago. These ladies were friendly, knowledgeable and tactful. What a good program that turned out to be! I hope it continues for many years to come.

The Polar Coachman Flyfishers Club Association is a registered Society incorporated 18<sup>th</sup> March 1992, the purpose of which “is to promote the enjoyment of fishing and to encourage conservation in the Province of British Columbia.”

We are currently a group of forty-plus members and their families who meet twice monthly at the Spruce City Wildlife Association hatchery building on River Road in Prince George, BC. The club takes an active role in advocating, educating and leading its members, the public and our community in the pursuit of fly-fishing as a worthwhile hobby and pastime, as well as promoting the sport as a tourism net for the City of Prince George and surrounding areas.

Recent club projects and ongoing activities include:

- installation and rehabilitation of coarse fish weirs at Hart Lake
- purchase and placement of fishing docks at Shane and Tory Lakes to remedy difficult public access and to protect and enhance sensitive shorelines at popular fishing spots
- supporting, volunteering and assisting ongoing “fry feeding” obligations at the Spruce City Wildlife Hatchery
- supporting and participating in SCWA annual “clean-up” days along River Road
- the ongoing teaching of fly-tying courses at the Art Gallery by members
- with BCWF sponsorship, organizing annual Fishing Forever days for disabled people on an “as needed” basis. In 2019, the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) was sponsored. Covid has hampered this activity, however the club is planning for two (2) events in spring 2023.
- “as needed” letters of support for Steelhead Society of BC, BC Federation of Fly Fishers, Spruce City Wildlife Association, BC Wildlife Federation and Ministry of Environment in their ongoing endeavors to protect and enhance the fisheries resource in northern BC
- 2020-2021 saw major volunteer effort from several PC Club members in assisting the SCWA with their major upgrade project (400k) at the hatchery facility.
- further club information and activities can be viewed at our website [www.polarcoachmanflyfishers.com](http://www.polarcoachmanflyfishers.com)

Sincerely

Brian Smith