



Brian Smith, President
Polar Coachman Flyfishers
11915 Wilan Road
Prince George, BC
V2N 5A6

October 27, 2020

To: FWCP Peace Region Board Members, c/o Chelsea Cody
Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program (FWCP)
3333 22nd Ave., Prince George, BC ,V2N 1B4

Dear Board Members

Re: Upcoming PEA's for 2021:

- 1. PEA-F22-F-3424 Bull Trout Spawner Abundance and Critical Habitats**
- 2. PEA-F22 F-3425 Finlay Arm Grayling Monitoring**
- 3. PEA-F22-F-3407 Parsnip Arctic Grayling Abundance and Critical Habitats**

The Polar Coachman Flyfishers Club fully supports the objectives of all proposals by John Hagen and Associates and Chu Cho Environmental to study and assess critical fish habitat and abundance of some of all rivers and waterways flowing from the Rocky Mountain Trench. As stated previously in our letters of support, our club fully supports ongoing research and studies of any kind that will protect, conserve and enhance the fisheries resources of Northern BC.

Our northern provincial fisheries management team is at a critical junction during the next several years, having to deal with the current spruce beetle kill and the necessity to “log the Trench” at the headwaters of many wilderness sport fishing streams, while minimizing the catastrophic effect of habitat destruction that industrial activity will surely reap on the river systems. How our provincial team manages and supervises this activity will be crucial to the long-term future of this rare, world class fishery that we enjoy.

Selective logging will play a large part in the success story, as will some proposals which will call for protection from logging altogether in key habitat zones.

Further to logging exploitation, our provincial fisheries management people are called upon to deal with a pipeline that has built access roads and bridges which span previously undisturbed wilderness areas of the Trench, leading to a colossal failure to protect the

rivers from runoff and silting during a typical spring-summer season. This type of destruction is not acceptable in this day and age and must be avoided!

The Polar Coachman Flyfishers Club Association is a registered Society incorporated 18th 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 activities include:

- installation and rehabilitation of coarse fish weirs at Hart Lake
- fund-raising, purchasing and placing of fishing docks at Shane and Tory Lakes to protect and enhance sensitive shorelines at popular public fishing spots
- supporting and assisting ongoing “fry feeding” obligations at the Spruce City Wildlife Hatchery
- the ongoing teaching of fly-tying courses at the Art Gallery
- our website address is www.polarcoachmanflyfishers.com
- participation in managing public “Fishing Forever” events of the BCWF

Sincerely

Brian Smith

Copies: Erich Franz, Secretary Polar Coachman Flyfishers
Ray Klingspohn, BCWF
Bob Moody, BCWF