

2020 Draft Resolutions

Continued ...

2020 DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING RESOLUTIONS AT CONVENTION

- 1. SENIOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIP**
- 2. EMERGENCY FISH CULTURE INTERVENTION FOR INTERIOR FRASER RIVER STEELHEAD**
- 3. POLICY DIRECTION FOR CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE AREAS FORAGE CROPS**
- 4. PURCHASING A LICENSE TO APPLY FOR LIMITED ENTRY HUNTING DRAWS**
- 5. YOUTH & INITIATION HUNTERS PROPOSED REGULATION CHANGE**
- 6. FUNDING FOR SCIENCE-BASED MANAGEMENT**
- 7. HONOURING BC WILDLIFE FEDERATION MEMBERS**
- 8. REMEMBRANCE DAY CELEBRATION**
- 9. MANDATORY ANNUAL REPORTING OF BIG GAME ANIMALS HARVESTED BY BC RESIDENT HUNTERS**
- 10. GOVERNING THE USE OF ELECTRIC BIKES**
- 11. POLICY DIRECTION FOR THE TERMS 'RECREATIONAL' OR 'RECREATION'**
- 12. EFFECTIVE ACCESS REDUCTION**
- 13. ANNUAL FIXED STAY RV CAMPING FOR NON-RESIDENTS**
- 14. NON-RESIDENTS RECREATIONAL VEHICLE USER FEE**
- 15. EMERGENCY RESOLUTION – FIREARMS BUY BACK PROGRAM WITHDRAWAL**

2020 Draft Resolutions

Continued ...

PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING RESOLUTIONS AT CONVENTION

The following shall be considered the procedures for handling Resolutions at the Annual General Meeting (Convention):

1. All resolutions will be voted on by the assembly of voting delegates.
2. Amendments may be move on the floor; amendment form must be used.
3. All Resolutions will be debated in general assembly; which can be in the closed session if deemed necessary.
4. Only registered delegates are eligible to vote, and they will be required to use the coloured voting card that will be issued to them upon registration.
5. Scrutineers will be appointed by the Chair and must **NOT** be voting delegates.

Submission of Resolutions on important matters which were not evident before the December 31st, 2019 deadline, and which, by their very nature, cannot wait until the 2021 Convention **MAY** be considered an **EMERGENCY RESOLUTION** at the discretion of the Resolutions Committee.

These Resolutions must be submitted for consideration, in a readable form, to the Chair of the Resolutions Committee **PRIOR TO** a Resolutions session listed on the Convention Agenda. No Resolutions received during a session will be entertained during that session in order to allow for proper distribution, if appropriate, to the voting delegates.

Respectfully submitted by,



Jared Wilkison, Chair
BCWF Resolutions Committee

2020 Draft Resolutions

Continued ...

1. SENIOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

Special Resolution 01/20

WHEREAS many organizations offer their Senior members a reduced membership rate, and many of our affiliated club members are both Senior and Family members,

WHEREAS “Senior Families” are usually limited to 2 adults only, and the BCWF only recognizes a Senior (single) category, and does **NOT** have a “Senior Family” membership category,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the BC Wildlife Federation create a “Senior Family” membership category for affiliated club members as determined by the BCWF Board of Directors.

Submitted By: Kamloops & District Fish & Game Association

Approved By: Shuswap Region, BC Wildlife Federation

Passed _____ Defeated _____ Withdrawn _____
Amended _____ Deferred _____

SUPPORTING BRIEF

The BC Wildlife Federation currently has 4 membership categories for members of affiliated clubs:

Regular (for single members 19-64 years of age) - cost to clubs \$ 29.00

Junior (for single members 14-18 years of age) – cost to clubs \$ 18.00

Senior (for single members 65 years of age and over) – cost to clubs \$ 23.50

Family (including up to 2 adults and children 18 years of age or under) – cost to clubs \$ 38.00

There is no category or rate for “Senior Family”. The present BCWF membership structure requires a Senior Family to pay the full Family rate. Many affiliated clubs have increasing numbers of Senior members and a reduced rate would be a welcome financial relief for clubs when paying their BCWF dues.

2020 Draft Resolutions

Continued ...

2. EMERGENCY FISH CULTURE INTERVENTION FOR INTERIOR FRASER RIVER STEELHEAD

Fisheries 01/20

WHEREAS The projected 2019/2020 returns for steelhead to the Chilcotin and Thompson rivers are 48 and 104 fish respectively, it must be assumed that those numbers represent **functional extinction**; and

WHEREAS The projected spawning population forecasts for the Chilcotin and Thompson watersheds represents the lowest observed over 49-year and 43-year time frames respectively; and, (following a declining trend for much of the 21st century), and

WHEREAS The current projected spawning populations are given, by provincial biologists, a 96% chance of being classified in a state of **Extreme Conservation Concern** for the past 5 years; and

WHEREAS All recovery options to date have not reversed that alarming trend; and immediate actions are therefore required to save this and future brood years from potential extinction; and

WHEREAS “Emergency Fish Culture Intervention” is identified in the Provincial Steelhead Management Plan for one generation only as a last resort when stocks are at a point of extreme conservation concern and in peril of extinction.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the B.C. Wildlife Federation lobby provincial and federal fisheries managers to cooperate and immediately implement an “Emergency Fish Culture Intervention” program for Interior Fraser Steelhead as the only current viable option to safeguard the 2019/2020 brood year and future brood years. This measure should be developed in conjunction with input from organizations such as the Pacific Salmon Foundation.

Submitted By: Kamloops & District Fish & Game Association

Approved By: Shuswap Region, BCWF

Passed _____ **Defeated** _____ **Withdrawn** _____

Amended _____ **Deferred** _____

SUPPORTING BRIEF

The “**Provincial Steelhead Management Plan**” established in 2014 states: “Where the requirement for a Recovery Plan (under the Accord for the Protection of Species at Risk or the Species at Risk Act) is identified for a steelhead stock or stock group, then it (intervention) will be undertaken according to provincial policy and procedure. The use of conservation fish culture designed to conserve with in-stock genetic diversity is an acceptable short-term option (one generation) if it is part of a provincially approved recovery plan.”

2020 Draft Resolutions

Continued ...

It further states, “Conservation fish culture is a specialized and experimental form of hatchery intervention designed to prevent the extinction of a population or species while the root causes of population decline are being ascertained and addressed. The primary focus of conservation fish culture is to protect the natural genetic integrity of the population. Such a program requires a carefully designed breeding plan and release strategy to mimic what would happen in the wild. These programs are designed to be temporary, usually lasting for one generation. A conservation fish culture program differs significantly from the hatchery production program where the main objective is to provide for angling opportunity.”

Several years ago, Cheakamus River steelhead were threatened with extinction due to a severe chemical spill when CN Railway cars derailed into the river. Following an independent review, it was determined that the only viable immediate solution to prevent potential extinction was to institute “Emergency Fish Culture Intervention” to ensure the maximum return from the remnants. We strongly suggest that at 48 and 104 fish respectively for Chilcotin and Thompson Rivers, those rivers deserve the same recovery option as they are well past the point of natural recovery.

We appreciate that there is opposition to fish culture programs and thus an unbiased independent review would be appropriate. (Attach Figures 1 & 2 from Bison’s status report of November 7, 2019- **Re: Status Update for Fraser River Late-Run Summer Steelhead.**)

2020 Draft Resolutions

Continued ...

3. POLICY DIRECTION FOR CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE AREAS FORAGE CROPS

Wildlife 01/20

WHEREAS Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is negatively impacting wild cervids in Saskatchewan, Alberta and many US states adjacent to the British Columbia border and

WHEREAS CWD causes significant impacts to stakeholders who are dependent on our provincial cervids (deer, moose and elk populations), and

WHEREAS CWD is currently NOT present in British Columbia and it is critical to be very proactive in preventing its spread into British Columbia, and

WHEREAS the science indicates that CWD prions can be spread by moving forage (hay/feed) crops contaminated with decomposing carcasses, fecal matter, urine and saliva from infected animals, and

WHEREAS currently CWD contaminated forage (hay/feed) crops can be brought into British Columbia or other CWD free areas in Canada, and

WHEREAS it is important to not allow any contaminated forage (hay/feed) crops to be brought into CWD free areas in order to prevent its spread into existing cervid populations, and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT it become the policy position of the BC Wildlife Federation that no forage (hay/feed) crops from Chronic Wasting Disease areas be allowed to be brought into British Columbia or any Chronic Wasting Disease free zone as a preventive measure to reduce the possibility of spreading the Chronic Wasting Disease, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the BC Wildlife Federation strongly urge the following provincial ministries: FLNRORD, Environment, and Agriculture to adopt the required legislation that would restrict forage (hay/feed) originating from Chronic Wasting Disease areas from entering the province of British Columbia to help reduce the potential spread of Chronic Wasting Disease, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the BC Wildlife Federation, through the Canadian Wildlife Federation strongly urge the appropriate Federal ministries to adopt the required legislation that would restrict forage (hay/feed) originating from Chronic Wasting Disease Areas from entering the provinces and territories of Canada to help reduce the spread of Chronic Wasting Disease.

Submitted By: BC Wildlife Federation Wildlife Committee

Approved By: Board of Directors, BC Wildlife Federation

Passed _____ **Defeated** _____ **Withdrawn** _____

Amended _____ **Deferred** _____

2020 Draft Resolutions

Continued ...

SUPPORTING BRIEF

At the 2019 BC Wildlife Federation Convention the Provincial Wildlife Health Biologist informed the delegates that plants could take up or bind to the prion that causes Chronic Wasting Disease. The following summary of the Scientific Paper: **Pritzkow et al., 2015_Grass Plants Bind, Retain, Uptake, and Transport** (provides the evidence) **Infectious Prions**

In Brief; Prions are the proteinaceous infectious agents responsible for prion diseases. Pritzkow et al. report that prions from brain and excreta can bind grass plants and remain attached to living plants for a long time and that contaminated plants can infect animals. In addition, grass plants can uptake and transport prions from infected soil.

Also, prions contained in decomposing carcasses, fecal matter, urine and saliva of CWD infected animals can be taken in during the harvesting process of forage crops in CWD infected areas and then transported into British Columbia and other CWD free areas. There is currently no easy way to test hay, for example, for the presence of CWD prions.

From *A Surveillance and Response Plan for Chronic Wasting Disease*

In British Columbia (https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/plants-animals-and-ecosystems/wildlife-wildlife-habitat/wildlife-health/wildlife-health-documents/bc_cwd_plan_june2019_approved.pdf)

“Research has demonstrated that plants can retain, uptake and bind to prions, and those prions were shown to be infective for several weeks (Pritzkow et al 2015). This has yet to be documented on the land, but the risk of potentially contaminated plant material cannot be ruled out as potential a source of CWD into new areas.”

This resolution extends the current BC Wildlife Federation policy as follows:

“The BCWF supports a ban on importing animal products that could result in the spread of CWD, including parts of harvested animals and scents or attractants derived from animal products, from jurisdictions outside of British Columbia.”

This policy of the BC Wildlife Federation is not meant to unduly impact the agricultural sector of British Columbia — The BC Wildlife Federation feels that keeping BC CWD free is an important value for farmers and ranchers.

Highlights:

- Grass plants bind prions from contaminated brain and excreta
- Prions from different strains and species remain bound to living plants
- Hamsters fed with prion-contaminated plant samples develop prion disease
- Stems and leaves from grass plants grown in infected soil contain prions

In addition, Norway is the only jurisdiction currently that has implemented a ban to prevent the spread from forage crops (hay/ feed)

2020 Draft Resolutions

Continued ...

“The Norwegian Veterinary Institute examined the risk related to the import of hay and straw from other European Economic Area countries and relevant countries outside the EEA. The Veterinary Institute looked at the risk of importing various known infectious disease agents including Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) associated prions from the USA and Canada. The risk assessment showed that there was a high risk to import CWD prions on hay and straw from Canada and USA. On the basis of the risk assessment, the Norwegian authorities chose to maintain existing requirements for importing hay and straw, and would introduce additional requirements put in force in 2018. Prions are exceptionally resilient and may spread with hay and straw. It was therefore necessary with an additional requirement to ensure that hay and straw imported from North America comes from states and provinces without the CWD.”

2020 Draft Resolutions

Continued ...

4. PURCHASING A LICENSE TO APPLY FOR LIMITED ENTRY HUNTING DRAWS

Wildlife 02/20

WHEREAS when you analyze the data in “The Participation Habits of Successful LEH applicants from 1997-2006 in table 2.1 (LEH Review 6, 2.5 Participation in the Hunt, Zeman 2009).

Of 171,003 tags given out over the 10-year period (1997 - 2006), 9.1 % or 1 in 11 (15,535 draws) of those tags went to people who didn't even buy a hunting license and hunt anything that year, approximately 1,550 draws a year. 9.1% of approximately 70,000 applicants per year = approximately 6,300 people per year over that time applied for LEH draws and didn't even buy a license that year.

WHEREAS Some people with Fish & Wildlife Identification numbers apply for LEH draws and only buy a license when they are drawn.

WHEREAS The fee to apply for Limited Entry Hunting opportunities is minimal and anyone who enters into the draw reduces the chances of another person's success. The added cost of purchasing a license may discourage a person from applying for a tag they know they probably won't use.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the BCWF and its Allocations Committee urge the provincial government to require all applicants to have purchased a hunting license for the current year prior to applying for a Limited Entry Hunting draw.

Submitted By: Valley Fish & Game Club

Approved By: Region 2, BC Wildlife Federation

Passed _____ **Defeated** _____ **Withdrawn** _____

Amended _____ **Deferred** _____

SUPPORTING BRIEF

There are 470 000 FWID numbers and all can apply for LEH draws.

Requiring hunters to purchase a license prior to applying for LEH draws will help our hunter numbers go up because some of the people who don't purchase a hunting license unless they are drawn and many who don't purchase a license even after they are drawn will buy a license so they can enter the draws.

This will add revenue to FLNRO to increase the budget for CO's etc. as well as adding dollars to the Habitat Conservation Trust fund.

It is broadly speculated that anti-hunters have obtained Fish & Wildlife Identification numbers specifically to apply for Limited Entry Hunting draws so they can draw a tag with no intent of filling it. This may discourage any future anti-hunters from deciding to get a FWID number and applying for LEH draws.

2020 Draft Resolutions

Continued ...

By discouraging people who aren't serious about using the draws from applying, it'll increase the odds for the hunters who will value and use the draw to purchase a tag and go hunting.

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2020 Draft Resolutions

Continued ...

5. YOUTH & INITIATION HUNTERS PROPOSED REGULATION CHANGE

Licensing 01/20

WHEREAS in modern times with hunting becoming less socially acceptable we need to do everything possible to help the hunting community encourage and engage our youth in hunting.

WHEREAS (Quote Jessie Review of LEH) 2009 Chapter 2 Secondary Research.
 “The greatest opportunity to recruit new hunters exists through current hunters. The group with the highest recruitment and retention is sons under age 20 who are taken a field by their fathers. Recruitment often occurs even before hunters appear in government data bases; to be recruited, hunters generally come from a hunting household with a strong and broad hunting related social group.”

THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED that the BCWF and its Allocation Committee lobby the provincial government to make the following regulation changes to give youth hunters and initiation hunters another opportunity to be included in a hunt.

<p>Change from: The holder of a Youth Hunting Licence can hunt under the authority of their supervising hunter’s LEH. If the Youth Hunting Licence holder harvests an LEH species, it is the animal authorized by the supervising hunter’s LEH and the supervising hunter must cancel the appropriate species licence and count that animal against his/her bag limit. The holder of an Initiation Hunting license cannot hunt under the authority of their supervising hunter’s LEH.</p>	<p>Change to: Any hunter aged 10 to 17 holding either a youth or regular BC hunting licence can hunt under the authority of their supervising hunter’s LEH. If the youth harvests the LEH species authorized by the supervising hunter’s LEH, the supervising hunter must cancel the appropriate species licence and count that animal against his/her bag limit. The holder of an Initiation Hunting license can also hunt under the authority of their supervising hunter’s LEH. If the Initiation Hunter harvests the LEH species authorized by the supervising hunter’s LEH, the supervising hunter must cancel the appropriate species license and count that animal against his/her bag limit.</p>
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Submitted By: Valley Fish & Game Club
Approved By: Board of Directors, BC Wildlife Federation

Passed _____ **Defeated** _____ **Withdrawn** _____
Amended _____ **Deferred** _____

2020 Draft Resolutions

Continued ...

SUPPORTING BRIEF

The great thing about these regulation changes is that it allows for more hunting opportunities with no additional allocation. It basically turns the hunt into a shared hunt except the holder of the LEH has to be there supervising the youth or initiation hunter at all times. It's the perfect mentoring opportunity because the supervising hunter can legally participate in the harvesting if necessary. If the youth with a FWID number had the LEH tag the supervising adult legally shouldn't participate in the harvesting.

Just another tool to help recruit and retain hunters. This group is most likely to become lifelong hunters. (Highest recruitment and retention).

2020 Draft Resolutions

Continued ...

6. FUNDING FOR SCIENCE-BASED MANAGEMENT

Administration 01/20

WHEREAS wildlife populations in British Columbia are in a steep decline, and

WHEREAS funding for science-based wildlife management is lacking; and

WHEREAS the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation surcharges on BC hunting and species licenses have not been increased for many years;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the BC Wildlife Federation request that the Province of BC double the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation surcharge on hunting and species licenses for resident hunters and non-resident hunters, effective immediately; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the BC Wildlife Federation request that future Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation surcharges be calculated on a cost of living index and updated regularly.

Submitted By: Pemberton Wildlife Association

Approved By: Region 2, BC Wildlife Federation

Passed _____ **Defeated** _____ **Withdrawn** _____

Amended _____ **Deferred** _____

SUPPORTING BRIEF

According to the experts in the province, the current declines in our wildlife populations have been brought about by the cumulative effects of climate change, the Mountain Pine beetle infestation, forest encroachment on winter range, fire suppression, industrial and recreational use of the land base etc. A perfect storm of negative impacts, which shows no sign of subsiding. Hunting opportunities will need to be restricted to reflect this new reality.

Funding to support a science-based action plan to restore fish and wildlife populations has not been made available by the Provincial government.

The BCWF has been suggesting a new provincial funding mechanism for wildlife management for some time. For example, an excise tax on all outdoor gear sold in the Province would be a huge step forward and is a model which is used successfully in the USA. Under this model, more groups who take part in outdoor recreation would contribute to the necessary management of the resource.

Unfortunately, successive Provincial governments have not responded favorably to any new funding model proposals.

2020 Draft Resolutions

Continued ...

The Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation (HCTF) was created by the BCWF – in partnership with the Province - in the 1980's and remains a non-government, independent organization. Therefore, we believe this is the organization, which we can work with to bring about the much-needed increase in funding for wildlife management.

The hunters of the Province provide significant funding to wildlife management through HCTF surcharges on hunting licenses and species licenses (approx. \$2.5 million per year). This revenue goes directly to the HCTF. Subsequent grants from HCTF fund much of the wildlife research, which is done in the Province. Without this research, science-based wildlife management would be impossible.

The current surcharge on a resident hunting license is \$7. Surcharges on resident species licenses vary from \$1 to \$14. We believe that these figures no longer reflect the value of the resource or the true cost of managing it. Most hunters could afford to pay the proposed increase, which would generate significant additional annual revenue for the HCTF.

To avoid any confusion, please note that we are proposing that the HCTF surcharge itself be increased. We are not suggesting that any other increases to license fees be made at this time. If this proposal were adopted, BC residents would pay an extra \$7 for a hunting license, an extra \$3 for a deer tag, an extra \$5 for a moose or elk tag. Not a huge increase, but it adds up!

Anglers, Trappers and Guide Outfitters also pay an HCTF surcharge on their annual licenses. We hope that they will follow the lead of the resident hunters and request a similar increase in the HCTF surcharges, which apply to their licenses. We felt it would be inappropriate to try to include those groups in this resolution without their direct input.

Requesting the proposed surcharge increase would show commitment and leadership – traits which hunters have been known for in the past. Your support for this resolution would be appreciated.

2020 Draft Resolutions

Continued ...

7. HONOURING BC WILDLIFE FEDERATION MEMBERS

Administration 02/20

WHEREAS the rights and privileges that all British Columbians' enjoy today and for all generations that succeed us, and

WHEREAS it is due to the countless and tireless efforts of all the members and their families, of all the volunteers, of the Clubs, Regions, Boards of Directors, and Executive of the B.C. Wildlife Federation, and

WHEREAS this organization believes in acknowledging the lifelong work of its members,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the B.C. Wildlife Federation at the beginning of every Annual Convention and Annual General Meeting, observe a minute of silence in respect for those who are not with us anymore, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clubs and Members be notified at the beginning of each year to submit only the names of those who are not with us from the immediate previous year, with their Club's affiliation, and a photograph, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that photos and names be displayed during the minute of silence and any person not so honoured be recognized in the following year.

Submitted By: The Delta Ladner Rod & Gun Club and The Ridgedale Rod & Gun Club

Approved By:

Passed _____ **Defeated** _____ **Withdrawn** _____

Amended _____ **Deferred** _____

SUPPORTING BRIEF

All Members of the B.C. Wildlife Federation are committed to the following Six Purposes and contribute in their own way to fulfill that obligation. It is to honour their contribution that we dedicate this minute of silence.

The purposes we believe in are:

1. To ensure the sound, long-term management of British Columbia's fish, wildlife, parks and outdoor recreational resources in the best interests of all British Columbians, and to co-ordinate all the voluntary agencies, societies, clubs and individuals interested in that objective.

2020 Draft Resolutions

Continued ...

2. To encourage the propagation of fish and wildlife populations through the protection and enhancement of habitat.
3. To develop and support a comprehensive educational program to make all British Columbians aware of the value of our fish, wildlife, park and outdoor recreational resources, and to arouse in the public conscience recognition of, and a respect for, the place of fish, wildlife and outdoor recreational resource values in all natural resource developments.
4. To submit views and recommendations to all governmental and private agencies as the Federation may deem necessary to safeguard the interests of fish, wildlife, park and outdoor recreational resource values in all-natural resource developments, and to support Shooting Sports.
5. To obtain and maintain reasonable public access to all forests and other recreational areas of the province.
6. To make British Columbians aware of the dangers of land, water and air pollution; to act wherever possible to prevent pollution; and to co-operate in every way possible with all groups with similar objectives.

2020 Draft Resolutions

Continued ...

8. REMEMBRANCE DAY CELEBRATION

Administration 03/20

WHEREAS the rights and privileges that all Canadians and British Columbians enjoy, and the freedoms that our democratic government administers, and all Canadians are inherently endowed with, and

WHEREAS the B.C. Wildlife Federation believes in the right of all British Columbians to have access to Crown land for recreational purposes, and we wish the enjoyment of the outdoors for all generations that succeed us, and

WHEREAS we recognize the supreme sacrifices of previous generations of the Veterans of Wars,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the B.C. Wildlife Federation participates in Remembrance Day recognition ceremonies in British Columbia.

Submitted By: The Delta Ladner Rod & Gun Club and The Ridgedale Rod & Gun Club

Approved By:

Passed _____ **Defeated** _____ **Withdrawn** _____

Amended _____ **Deferred** _____

2020 Draft Resolutions

Continued ...

9. MANDATORY ANNUAL REPORTING OF BIG GAME ANIMALS HARVESTED BY BC RESIDENT HUNTERS

Wildlife 03/20

WHEREAS harvest data is important in calculating wildlife population trends and sustainable harvest levels, and

WHEREAS Electronic licensing is now available in British Columbia, potentially offering a new and efficient option with which to gather important harvest data from all licensed hunters.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the British Columbia Wildlife Federation request that the Province of British Columbia institute mandatory annual harvest reporting for all big game species harvested by licensed British Columbia hunters, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the British Columbia Wildlife Federation reach out to the Indigenous hunters of British Columbia to respectfully discuss a method which could be used to report Indigenous hunters annual harvest of big game animals to the British Columbia Fish & Wildlife Branch biologists for harvest data purposes only.

Submitted By: Pemberton Wildlife Association

Approved By: Region 2, BC Wildlife Federation

Passed _____ **Defeated** _____ **Withdrawn** _____

Amended _____ **Deferred** _____

SUPPORTING BRIEF

Annual reporting of all big game animals harvested in the Province would be a significant step forward for wildlife managers. Up to date, accurate data would help to generate more precise big game population estimates and sustainable harvest levels.

Filling out a survey at the end of the hunting season is a reasonable request to make of any responsible BC hunter. Failure of a licensed hunter to complete the annual survey should make that particular hunter ineligible for a hunting license the following year, until the survey is completed.

The Guide Outfitters Association of BC is already required to submit an annual report of all animals harvested in a calendar year. We would appreciate your support for this resolution.

2020 Draft Resolutions

Continued ...

10. GOVERNING THE USE OF ELECTRIC BIKES

Access 01/20

WHEREAS the use of electric bicycles of all classes can be deleterious to habitat causing the acceleration of erosion in sensitive areas throughout the province

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the British Columbia Wildlife Federation request the Provincial Government regulate the use of electric bicycles of all classes to the same standards as The Wildlife Act Closures affecting altitude restrictions and all motor vehicle laws which apply to Off Road Vehicles.

Submitted By: The Ridgedale Rod & Gun Club

Approved By: Region 2, BC Wildlife Federation

Passed _____ **Defeated** _____ **Withdrawn** _____

Amended _____ **Deferred** _____

SUPPORTING BRIEF

Electric bicycles (e-bikes) have a motor and therefore should be considered a motor vehicle or an off-road vehicle – depending on where they are operated. They are far more capable than an ordinary bicycle.

Use of e-bikes has the potential to increase backcountry use in areas, which are already at (or over) recreational carrying capacity. Unmanaged e-bike use also has the potential to cause damage to sensitive alpine and riparian habitats.

Motorized road closures have been put in place under the Wildlife Act and the Forest and Range Practices Act to protect critical habitat and wildlife populations. E-bikes must not be allowed to bypass these important closures.

The Province needs to move quickly to manage this new recreational activity on all Crown Land.

2020 Draft Resolutions

Continued ...

11. POLICY DIRECTION FOR THE TERMS 'RECREATIONAL' OR RECREATION'

Access 01/20

Whereas, Governments and other organizations want to use the term "Recreational" or "Recreation" to define hunting, angling and foraging by residents, and

Whereas, most residents of British Columbia and Canada hunt, and fish wildlife for food, and in addition, forage wild plants and berries for food, and

Whereas, the terms "RECREATIONAL" or "RECREATION" do not adequately reflect the 'need' for which the majority of resident's hunt, fish and forage which is to provide food for themselves and their families, and

Whereas, it would be beneficial for governments to be more accurate and factual when defining the use of our fish, wildlife and plants by resident hunters, anglers and foragers, and

Whereas, it would be proactive for the BC Wildlife Federation to have clear policy direction to define hunting, fishing and foraging for the residents of British Columbia, and

Therefore Be It Resolved that, the BC Wildlife Federation adopt a policy that dictates that the terms "Recreational" or "Recreation" will not be used to describe the use by the majority of residents for hunting and fishing for wildlife and foraging for wild plants and berries in British Columbia and Canada,

Be It Further Resolved that, the BC Wildlife Federation adopt the terms resident hunter, resident angler and resident forager in policy to better serve and reflect the needs of the majority of British Columbian and Canadian residents,

Be It Further Resolved that, the BC Wildlife Federation implement these policy directions once adopted in all discussions with all forms of government, correspondence, government processes and plans.

Submitted By: Quesnel Rod & Gun Club June 6, 2019

Approved By: Region 5, BC Wildlife Federation

Passed _____ **Defeated** _____ **Withdrawn** _____

Amended _____ **Deferred** _____

2020 Draft Resolutions

Continued ...

SUPPORTING BRIEF:

The Provincial Government uses the term "Recreational" in numerous documents to reflect hunting, angling and foraging by residents. BC Parks Plans are a perfect example of the use of the term "Recreational" to describe hunting and angling activities. Google Search: Northern Rocky Mountain Park and Protected Area Northern Rocky Mountains Park offers an exciting array of visual and recreation features and opportunities for the backcountry adventurer. Recreation activities include scenery and wildlife viewing, angling, boating, hunting, adventure tourism, camping, hiking, horseback riding and nature photography.

An example of the Federal Government from a Google search:

[Sport Fishing Advisory Board | Pacific Region | Fisheries and Oceans ...](#)

<https://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca> > Home > Pacific Region > Consultations > Salmon

1. Dec 10, 2018 - The **Sport Fishing Advisory Board** (SFAB) has been an advisory body to Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) on **recreational** issues since ...

2020 Draft Resolutions

Continued ...

12. EFFECTIVE ACCESS REDUCTION

Access 02/20

WHEREAS ever increasing resource road construction has allowed expansion of predator (human and animal) access, putting previously relatively sheltered animal populations under pressure.

WHEREAS the Forest Practices Board (FPB) states: “the scale of road development in BC is staggering. After more than 100 years of resource development activities across the Province, there are more than 600,000 kilometers of resource roads, with somewhere in the order of 10,000 km added every year. More than 75% of these are built by the Forest Industry. Many inactive roads have the potential to cause environmental damage and allow unintended access, even when deactivated.”

WHEREAS numerous studies detail the negative effects of roads on wildlife including disturbance and fragmentation of habitat and disturbance of migration patterns, weed spread and much more.

WHEREAS most current efforts to deactivate roads are ineffective and fail to prevent ATV and much other vehicular traffic.

WHEREAS one of the most effective forms of road deactivation, decompaction, recontouring and replanting has not occurred during the “Professional Reliance” regime as such agreements needed to be negotiated prior to permit granting and biologists and District Managers have been removed from initiating such agreements.

WHEREAS BCWF approved our resolution in 2019 that: “the BC Wildlife Federation urge and engage with the relevant government ministries to request that Provincial registered resource professionals’, including fish and wildlife biologists, regulatory oversight of logging and new cutting permits, as well as Forest Stewardship Plans and Amendments, be reinstated. https://bcwf.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/2019.05.27-Amended-2018-Resolutions_FINAL.pdf

WHEREAS the BCWF RAPP App provides new reporting opportunities which make feasible another alternative to Deactivating/Decommissioning, that alternative being closed and posted closed to all vehicular traffic except for possible special exemptions, e.g. game recovery, rancher access etc.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the BCWF (a) urge and engage with Government to increase the effectiveness of all forms of access reduction including posted closed areas with awareness that Provincial Registered resource professionals regulatory oversight must be reinstated as per the 2019 Resolution noted above. (b) request that Government requires that the effectiveness of deactivating/decommissioning be maintained over time.

Submitted By: Kettle Wildlife Association

Approved By: Region 8, BC Wildlife Federation

Passed _____ **Defeated** _____ **Withdrawn** _____

Amended _____ **Deferred** _____

2020 Draft Resolutions

Continued ...

KWA RESOLUTION SUPPORTING BRIEF. While recommending an increase in all forms of access reduction, the most effective form, decompaction, recontouring and replanting (DRR) needs to be incorporated in logging permits at the initial stage as agreements need to be made with tenure holders or permittees prior to logging. Such agreements may include stumpage reductions to adjust for costs of such deactivation, costs which can be expected to be substantially lower than if done sometime after logging.

According to one substantial tenure holder in the Boundary, 5% to 6% of their logged areas are occupied by roads, that about a quarter to a third of all new roads could have DRR. That would leave the main stems and many branch roads intact although some or all could be subject to deactivating /decommissioning. Critical to including DRR at the planning stage in permits is the reinstatement of regulatory oversight as per earlier Resolution.

Although Forest Practices Board and the Haddock Report have recommended such reinstatement, it is not yet in place. Resolution part (b) refers to intended road barriers that fail to work effectively or are bypassed by off roaders due to inadequate preventive design. With such breached access lacking any road closure signage, unintended access can defy enforcement. Our recommendation is for deactivation and closures in various forms with the initial objective of achieving no net increase in roads.

2020 Draft Resolutions

Continued ...

13. ANNUAL FIXED STAY RV CAMPING FOR NON-RESIDENTS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA **Licensing 01/20**

WHEREAS non-resident recreational vehicle camping volume in the regions adjacent to the British Columbia /Alberta / Montana / Idaho / Washington borders, such as in the East & West Kootenay's, Okanagan, Boundary and Peace, appears to be increasing every year.

WHEREAS long term seasonal squatting on crown land by non-resident recreational vehicle users is resulting in limiting opportunity for British Columbia residents to enjoy provincial crown lands.

WHEREAS the province is not able to enforce maximum stay periods, nor can it adequately confirm the duration of stay of users.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the BC Wildlife Federation urge the province to develop a seasonal use license for non-resident RV use on Crown Land that allows for an annual maximum stay in BC of 14 days. The license would be purchased in advance using an online platform for a specific 14-day period or a combination of periods not to exceed 14 days.

Submitted by: Sparwood Fish and Wildlife Association

Approved by: Region 4, BC Wildlife Federation

Passed _____ **Defeated** _____ **Withdrawn** _____

Amended _____ **Deferred** _____

SUPPORTING BRIEF

The growth of non-resident recreational use in BC continues to increase stressing our provincial infrastructure and our front and backcountry; this is especially true for those regions immediately adjacent to the BC/Alberta border. Data indicates that in 2018, tourism numbers in Fernie BC increased 40% over 2017. Tourism can be an important economic driver for regions in BC, however, consideration of sustainable balance between overcrowding and year on year increases in tourism must be considered in order to ensure availability of use for residents and management of front and backcountry impacts.

Long-term recreational vehicle camping in core recreational areas, such as around Lake Koochanusa in the East Kootenay's, is resulting in crowding along the lakeshore and dispersal of those seeking camping opportunity across the landscape. Limiting stays of non-resident users would allow popular RV locations to rotate among users and therefore provide increased opportunity for users and reduce the spread and distribution of other users.

An annual RV use license would generate revenue that could support enforcement of the durational stay and provide a means to confirm the length of stay of users. License fees would be directed back to enforcement and management.

2020 Draft Resolutions

Continued ...

14. NON-RESIDENTS OFF HIGHWAY VEHICLE USER FEE

Licensing 03/20

Whereas non-resident Off Highway Vehicle use in the regions adjacent to the British Columbia / Alberta / Montana / Idaho / Washington borders, such as in the East & West Kootenay's, Okanagan, Boundary and Peace, regions appear to be increasing every year.

Whereas often, non-resident users are not conforming to land use plans such as access management and are stressing provincial enforcement resources.

Whereas taxpayers, resident recreational users and our lands are being impacted by the volume of use by non-resident users.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the BC Wildlife Federation urge the provincial government to implement a provincial, seasonal use license for non-resident Off Highway Vehicle use on Crown Land. The license fees would be directed to management and enforcement of Off Highway Vehicle use within the regions the license is applied for.

Submitted by: Sparwood Fish and Wildlife Association

Approved by: Region 4, BC Wildlife Federation

Passed _____ **Defeated** _____ **Withdrawn** _____

Amended _____ **Deferred** _____

SUPPORTING BRIEF

The growth of non-resident recreational use in BC continues to increase stressing our provincial infrastructure, our backcountry and front country. Tourism can be an important economic driver for regions in BC, however, a sustainable balance between overcrowding and year on year increases in tourism must be considered in order to ensure availability of use for residents and management of front and backcountry impacts.

The increased use has resulted in impacts to resident users through regulations that seek to manage the issues generated by the volume of on-resident use. Monitoring of regulated access areas has provided strong evidence that non-resident use is not considerate of provincial land use objectives or legislation.

The province is struggling with education, enforcement and capacity to manage the volume. There is a risk that broad management regulations will be developed to manage the issues. General management will result in BC resident users being impacted to manage a non-resident-based issue.

2020 Draft Resolutions

Continued ...

It is recommended that the province develop and implement a seasonal use license for non-resident OHV use on Crown Land. The license would be required to be produced upon request by enforcement officials to confirm compliance. Penalties for failure to produce the license would be applied and enforced through a reciprocal agreement with Alberta and other jurisdictions.

The fees generated through license collection will contribute directly to education, enforcement and management of OHV by the province.

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2020 Draft Resolutions

Continued ...

15. FIREARMS BUY-BACK PROGRAM WITHDRAWAL

Emergency 01/20

WHEREAS Canada has some of the strictest firearms laws in the world;

WHEREAS Canadian’s who wish to own and use firearms are held to strict standards, including passing mandatory courses, taught by professional firearm instructors, required to demonstrate safe firearm use, and subject to criminal penalties for any infraction of these regulations;

WHEREAS Canadians after completing the rigid tests are subject to criminal investigation by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to determine their fitness to own firearms before being issued a Possession Acquisition License so that they may legally own firearms;

WHEREAS Possession Acquisition License owners are checked on the daily bases in the “continuous eligibility” program of the Firearms Act to ensure compliance;

WHEREAS the firearms community believe there are enough checks at present to allow them to own unrestricted and restricted firearms without increasing firearms laws or regulations;

WHEREAS the intent of the present federal government is to confiscate lawfully owned firearms in a so-called “buy-back” program;

WHEREAS the government has set aside an estimated \$250 Million to buy back firearms from legitimate firearms owners;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That the BC Wildlife Federation requests that the Federal Government withdraw this program and spend the required funding on supporting more police activity to counter gang violence, strengthen border security to catch smuggled firearms, and provide federal, provincial, and municipal politicians with greater knowledge of the benefits of lawful firearms ownership.

Submitted By: Firearms Committee & Recreational Sports Shooting Committee, BC Wildlife Federation

Approved By: BCWF Board of Directors

Passed _____ **Defeated** _____ **Withdrawn** _____

Amended _____ **Deferred** _____