



North Peace Rod & Gun Club

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December 27, 2014

Honorable Pat Pimm
MLA Peace River North

Dear MLA

The intent of this letter is to outline the North Peace Rod and Gun Club's response to Minister Thomson's December 10, 2014 Wildlife Allocation Review in regards to its effects on resident priority:

1. BC Resident Hunter Priority is being eroded by what seems to be backroom deals as a result of strong lobbying by GOABC upon Government, consequently reducing resident hunting opportunities.
2. The allocation splits as outlined in the December 10, 2014 document released by Minister Thomson are totally unacceptable, and are a detriment to resident hunters, as the splits favor sustaining an outdated GOABC business model favorable to nonresidents, and placing resident on LEH.
3. Stone Sheep in region 7B continue to be excluded from Category A (The Allocated Species List)
4. Funding for wildlife management, research and range management are totally inadequate to maintain the proposed splits.
5. The lack of predator control is negatively impacting wildlife populations and has become a conservation concern, thereby causing a reduction in hunting opportunities.

As a resolution to these Issues, the North peace Rod and Gun Club proposes the following:

1. Resident hunters, 102,000 strong, contributing approx \$250 million to the BC economy be awarded allocation priority over 4500 nonresident hunters, contributing a heavily government subsidized \$116 million.
2. Allocation Splits for sheep/goats/grizzly bears be set at 75/25 and splits set at 90/10 for moose/elk/bison, in favor of resident hunters. This would align the splits with most Jurisdictions in North America limiting non-residents to 5-10 per cent of the allowable harvest. This allocation to non-residents would allow for a viable guiding and outfitting industry upon restructuring. Furthermore, where LEH is implemented as a management tool for a species, LEH should also apply to non-residents as well.
3. Stone sheep to be returned to the category A – Allocated List on a 75/25 split.
4. Funding be increased in order to allow for a higher level of stewardship to maintain the recommended allocation splits.
5. A predator control program be established to reduce the negative impact of predators on game populations.

The North Peace Rod and Gun Club sees the present Allocation Policy as biased towards the non-resident and unfair to the resident hunters of British Columbia. The message the club wishes to convey is that it is imperative the Government recognize resident priority in deed as well as in word, by adopting policies that benefit British Columbians first and foremost.

Yours truly,

Guy Lahaye
President
North Peace Rod and Gun Club