

## Skeena Wildlife Regulation Change Proposal Form

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**Objective of Proposal** (describe what outcomes the regulation change is expected to achieve. For example change to bull:cow ratio, reduce crowding of hunters, etc):

The objective of this proposal is to initiate a public engagement process that will result in a suite of regulation changes for moose harvest that will account for conservation requirements, First Nations food, social, and ceremonial requirements, and licensed hunter harvest.

**Proposal Description** (specific MU's, season dates, bag limits, attach a map if required, # of authorizations, etc):

Specific regulation proposals will be developed through engagement with First Nations and stakeholders.

South Skeena regulation change review will apply to MUs: 6-01 to 6-11, 6-14 to 6-16, and 6-30

North Skeena regulation change review will apply to MUs: 6-17 to 6-29

**Proposal Rationale** (provide supporting survey data\*, scientific literature, and/or traditional knowledge):

### Southern Skeena

Over the past allocation period there has been an increasing proportion of resident moose hunter harvest occurring during the 7 day General Open Season (GOS) in the southern part of the region, resulting in reduced harvest opportunity during the LEH season. The trend has resulted in some LEH zones being reduced to 1 LEH permit in order to keep the season open. In some MUs resident hunters are achieving more than their allocated share of the harvest, and we expect this trend to continue. In order to address this issue the current moose seasons in the southern part of the region need to be re-evaluated.

### Northern Skeena

Northern Skeena Region has the longest GOS for any bull in the province and draws hunters from across BC. With regulations becoming more restrictive in the southern part of the Skeena Region and elsewhere in the province this area is predicted to see a shift to increased resident hunter effort. There are concerns that this shift will impact First Nations food, social, and ceremonial requirements, as well as impact the hunting experience of licensed hunters. The seasons in the northern portion of the region need to be proactively adjusted to avoid negative results from changes to southern moose regulations.

Please submit to Conrad Thiessen at [conrad.thiessen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:conrad.thiessen@gov.bc.ca)

\*We encourage early communication with regional wildlife biologists regarding proposed changes particularly for those lacking survey data as we can provide advice on how to collect data to strengthen rationale for proposed change.

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**Pros and Cons of Implementing this Proposal** (explain how the benefits of this proposal outweigh the costs):

Pros:

- Engagement process allows FLNRO, First Nations, and stakeholders to work together to develop regulations for moose that will address multiple objectives.

Cons:

- Significant time and resources will be required by First Nations, stakeholders, and FLNRO to effectively implement the engagement process over a short period of time.

**Demonstrate how support was achieved for this proposal within your First Nation or stakeholder group** (e.g., voting results from members including total number polled, # support, # non-support, # indifferent, etc; concerns raised during discussion; efforts taken to reach as many individuals represented by your group):

**List First Nations and stakeholder groups (other than your own) that you contacted regarding the proposed regulation change** (include details of support or not for the proposal):

Full engagement and consultation with First Nations will occur through this process.

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