

Wild Sheep Society of British Columbia
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RE: Where is your voice? Overturning the NDP Grizzly Bear Ban

The five leading conservation organizations in BC have agreed to hold the provincial government accountable to their commitment to enhance wildlife management and maintain wildlife populations for BC resident hunters, First Nations, guide outfitters, trappers and the non-hunting public. The WSSBC is continuing to work together with these groups on overturning the NDP Government's decision to ban grizzly bear hunting within the Great Bear Rainforest and the regulations that would make it illegal for a hunter to retain the skull, hide and paws of grizzly bears.

During this critical time of change it is our duty as conservationists and wildlife stewards to create a unified voice to protect and enhance our wildlife through scientific management. The best course of action is to rigorously engage with our government on this issue. Ultimately, this decision will come down to individual hunters, conservationists and outdoorsmen expressing their concerns with the emotional management model that the NDP is proposing to implement. Grizzly bears are undoubtedly the first of many to suffer from the transition from the science based North American Wildlife Conservation Model to this NDP vision of managing individual species based on emotions and misinformation.

Together we must ensure that British Columbians are able to uphold sustainable hunting practices and traditions not only today but for many generations to come. The BC government has opened up a consultation period ending November 2, 2017.

The WSSBC has developed a summary document of the proposed changes along with corresponding facts, links and discussion points. We have also drafted a sample letter that anyone can copy and paste for submission to the Fish and Wildlife Branch so that their voice can be heard. The documents can be found on our webpage: <https://www.wildsheepsociety.com/voice-overturning-ndp-grizzly-bear-ban>
The link to the government consultation page can be found here:
<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2017FLNR0316-001676>

Wildlife conservation within British Columbia is greatly at risk of becoming a political tool where emotional management will lead to the decline in all species. Be sure your voice is heard on this issue and email the Fish and Wildlife Branch.

Yours in Conservation,

Rodney Zeeman
President
Wild Sheep Society of BC