

MUSKWA - KECHIKA REPORT

2007

Officer: Clint CORBEIL

RESOURCE USER CONTACTS

- 268 hunter and angler checks were conducted.
- Unknown how many non user contacts made but spent numerous days in Muncho Lake, and Summit Lake area talking to the public about the MK.
- Spoke to all Guides in the MK throughout the fall.

LOCATIONS PATROLLED, FREQUENCY AND METHOD

- Patrolled Muncho Lake and area for anglers on July Long weekend for 4 days.
- One week in July covered Fort Nelson District patrol MK for anglers.
- August patrolled the Red Fern trail 4 day quad patrol with Parks.
- September, 3 day quad patrol Sikanni / Red Fern
- September, 3 days covering Fort Nelson Patrol Muncho Lake and designated routes.
- September, 7 day Jet boat patrol up the Muskwa River.
- 3 day snowmobile patrol in the MK (Red Fern) with Parks. No traps were set on any trap lines we could find.

ENFORCEMENT OCCURRENCES / INVESTIGATIONS

- 208 contraventions in 2006 were found (including non-MK files).
- 100 tickets, and 95 warnings issued in total.
- Out of the 208 contraventions 41 were MK related files.
- Notable ongoing investigations in MK not included in the 208 contraventions
 - A resident of Alberta claimed to be from BC and harvested a Stone Sheep. This person also has purchased several other hunting licences contrary to the regulations.
 - A resident of the USA claimed to be a BC resident and harvested an elk and moose. This person is under investigation for hunting without the assistance of a guide and several other offences.
 - A hunting party from BC harvested 2 caribou in the motor vehicle closure in the Mile 156 area while using a vehicle. It was also found that the same group harvested 3 mountain goats in a closed area on another hunt to this area.
 - A hunter shot an illegal bull moose in the pink mountain area and through the investigation it was found that he had also shot a goat in a closed area.

- A Saskatchewan resident claiming to be a resident of BC was found in the Toad River area hunting moose, elk, and sheep. Statements were taken and passed on to another Conservation Officer for follow up on Vancouver Island.
- Several Outfitter files ongoing.

NOTEABLE FILE OUTCOMES

- Many files still going through Court system from 2005.
 - These files were primarily Form 2 Information files.
 - All but one ticket that were issued within the MK have been paid in full.

PROBLEM WILDLIFE

- No reports from the Outfitters of problem grizzly or black bears.
- Public complaints were only of meat being taken.
- No bear maulings reported within the MK.

FIRST NATION LIASON

- Made several contacts with the Blue Berry, Doig, and Halfway band in regards to problem Bison near Pink Mountain. Spoke to several Halfway members also. Attend to the Halfway's complaints of Moose around Band office and school.

TRENDS / OBSERVATIONS

- Information about the MK designated routes is lacking. Signage in the MK is poor several routes are missing designated route signs and trail end markers.
- A dry fall resulted in ATV's being able to travel in areas that were to wet in previous years.
- Moose harvest in October seemed to be quite good due to weather.
- While on the sheep inventory a high number of Bison were observed high on many ridges out competing other animals for browse.

ASSISTANCE TO OTHER PROGRAMS

- Assisted Wildlife Branch in the MK area by helicopter for 5 days to do Stone Sheep inventory.
- Assisted Wildlife Branch in trapping and collaring white-tailed deer around Fort St. John for 3 days.
- Assisted the Fort Nelson office for coverage of the district while CO Brinsky was on leave.
- Very busy with moose problems / complaints in Fort St. John and surrounding area due to the winter.