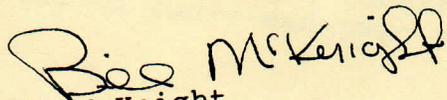


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6. Commercial fish boats acquired by the Nisga'a will operate under the Fisheries Act and be subject to the same policy and regulations which govern all of the industry.
  7. The benefits from the proposed salmonid enhancement programs will be shared between the Nisga'a and the other user groups in the land claim area. In this way, there should be an increase in the overall number of salmon species available.
  8. The overall management control of the fishery will be maintained under federal jurisdiction through the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. The role of the Nisga'a in the management of the fishery will be primarily directed at the management of the fish which are allocated to them in their traditional fishing area.
  9. The overall objective of both the federal government and the Nisga'a is to conclude a land claim settlement which will define the rights and benefits of the Nisga'a in the claims area in return for clear title to the crown. A settlement should also provide for the Nisga'a the opportunities for greater economic independence and autonomy.

I trust that the aforementioned will explain the objectives of the comprehensive claims policy and particularly how these are being applied in the Nisga'a negotiations. I want to conclude by assuring you that when an agreement is reached, the impact of the proposed terms of settlement on other users will be carefully evaluated by Cabinet to ensure that this agreement will benefit both Canada and the Nisga'a and that affected third parties will be fairly dealt with.

Thank you very much for taking the time to bring your views to my attention. Your concerns are appreciated and will be considered.

Yours sincerely,

  
Bill McKnight

c.c.: The Right Honourable Brian Mulroney, P.C., M.P.