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BC Wildlife Federation pleased with Announcement by Minister Krueger on Registration of ATV's

Kamloops, BC – Mel Arnold, President of BC Wildlife Federation, was pleased to hear that the registration and identification of all-terrain-vehicles will be a basic system and that costs to owners will be kept at a minimum, as announced today by Kevin Krueger, Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts.

“With habitat and resource conservation as a core mandate, BC Wildlife Federation agrees with the need to be able to identify persons negatively impacting the environment.” states Arnold. “It has also been our position that registration should occur as a one-time, point-of-sale procedure that endows the vehicle with an identifying plate or decal rather than a costly annual licensing process, as has been proposed by other groups”.

Krueger’s announcement in Kamloops this afternoon served confirmation that there is shared concern between the Ministry and BCWF about how to best manage off-road activities which sometimes damage or destroy fragile fish and wildlife habitats. It also confirms that there is aligned vision in how the issue can be addressed through an accountable management program that is neither financially arduous to those who legitimately and responsibly use these vehicles, nor administratively burdensome for the system to implement and monitor.

“We are pleased that the Minister has considered the direction of 35,000 active BCWF members who hunt, fish, and otherwise enjoy the outdoor bounty of this province, and each of whom is concerned about the conservation of natural habitat.” continues Mel Arnold.

“BC Wildlife Federation congratulates Minister Krueger on his ability to listen and form legislation that is both practical as well as enforceable. We look forward to being involved in developing policy surrounding this legislation.”

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For further information contact Patti MacAhonic, Executive Director of the BCWF at 604-291-9990 extension 230 or at patti@bcwf.bc.ca.

The BCWF is a province-wide voluntary conservation organization representing over 35,000 British Columbian members whose aims are to protect, enhance and promote the wise use of the environment for the benefit of present and future generations.

The B.C. Wildlife Federation was incorporated under the B.C. Societies Act in 1951 and it became a registered charity in 1969. The Federation is British Columbia's largest and oldest conservation organization.