This Policy Replaces:
None

Staff, Organizations Directly Affected:
Fish and Wildlife Regional Managers
Director, Fish and Wildlife Branch
FrontCounter BC staff
Guide Outfitters

Purpose:
To implement the amendment to the *Wildlife Act* to section 59 (3) made in 2012 to switch from a 10-year maximum term to a 25-year maximum term for a guiding territory certificate.

**POLICY STATEMENT**

*It is the policy of the Ministry*

That a guiding territory certificate should normally be issued for a term of 25 years.

The Regional Manager should take into account the following factors when considering issuing a certificate for a term of less than 25 years:

- potential for impact on Aboriginal Interests and with procedures for consultation with First Nations;
- the violation history of the applicant (including a majority shareholder, if applicable) and/or a decision made under s. 61 of the *Wildlife Act* against the applicant (including any shareholder, if applicable).

Note: See Policy and Procedure Manual Cross References listed below.

**Definitions:** (note: section numbers in the definition refer to the *Wildlife Act*)

"guiding territory" means
(a) an area described in a guiding territory certificate, or
(b) an area designated under section 65 (1) as a guiding territory;

"guiding territory certificate" means a certificate issued under section 59;
"regional manager" means a regional manager of the recreational fisheries and wildlife programs;

Reasons for Policy:

1. To support the guide industry and provide increased certainty.
2. To increase bankability for guide businesses through longer-term guiding territory certificates,
3. To reduce administrative workload for the ministry and government through less frequent renewal of guiding territory certificates.
4. To provide guidance to regional managers when determining the appropriate period of time for which to issue a guiding territory certificate.

Procedure Manual Cross-Reference:
Ministry Procedure Manual, Volume 4, Section 1
Subsection:
— 01.05 Issuance of Guide Outfitter Certificate
— 01.09 Action When a Regional Manager Makes a Decision that Affects a Guide Licence, Permit or Guide Outfitter's Certificate or Application Therefor
— 01.13 First Nations Consultation on Guiding Territory Certificate Decisions, section C (IV)

Other Cross-References:
Ministry Policy Manual, Volume 4, Section 1
Subsection:
— 01.01 Guiding Activities
— 01.13 First Nations Consultation on Guiding Territory Certificate Decisions
— 02.01 Cancellation/Suspension/Prohibition Decisions Respecting Hunting, Angling or Carrying Firearms in British Columbia

Wildlife Act s. 59, 59.1, 61, 62, 64, 67