

INDIAN OFFICE.

Telegraph Creek. B.C.

112/12/18064.

112/12/18093.

Aug. 4 th 1930.

Sir,

Re Closed season for Beaver. Cassiar.

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letters dated June 21. st & June 24 th. regarding the above subject, with an enclosed copy of a letter received from the Game Commissioner for B.C.

The Commissioner states in part "that while I believe there should be a closed season for Beaver in certain districts - etc." his belief in regard to this case is perfectly correct, and therefore should be applied at once to the Cassiar District, down to the Nass Divide.

This country is unmapped and unregistered, and has all sorts of trappers within its boundaries, from the Nomad Indian to the Alien White Trappers, who all go where they please, at any time.

The civilized idea of making the trapper responsible for the conservation of fur, is quite all right in a controlled district, and with trappers who understand, but it can hardly be expected to work in such a district as this.

The people of the Yukon know this, hence their laws, and the Cassiar is practically the same as the Yukon.

No laws are of value if not well enforced, and the Game Department do not seem to have sufficient men with which to carry out their regulations.

The Indians of this Agency are now facing a great shortage of fur, their only revenue, but this could be avoided to some extent if the Beaver were now protected.

Also, if a dead-line across the Nass Divide could be drawn, for the closure of Beaver, the same course of events would come about, as is now going on between the Boundary Line of B.C. and the Yukon, and so we would be none the worse off.

It is mentioned that if some relief is not evoked the Beaver of the Cassiar will be reduced to a vanishing point and much trouble will be created by running Beaver trappers in the Spring Time.

However, your instructions have been carried out with regard to notifying all trappers, but the subject is one of much discontent with all trappers.

In conclusion it is mentioned that all such subjects as the above are always discussed with the local Game Wardens, but receiving no reply, and knowing of no action at the request of all trappers, action was taken by bringing the matter to your attention, and it is still sincerely hoped that the matter may be reconsidered.

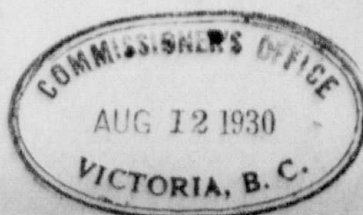
I am.

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

W. E. Ditchburn Esq.
Indian Commissioner.
Victoria. B.C.

Harper Reed.
Indian Agent.



RG 10, C-11-2, vol. 11290

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