



A VISION FOR THE RECREATIONAL FISHERY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA 2008-2012

For Sport Fishing Institute AGM, Nov. 2008

A joint effort by the Sport Fishing Advisory Board,
Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the Province of B.C.



Why do we need a recreational fishery Vision?

- Reports from First Nations Panel on Fisheries and the Joint Task Group on Post-treaty Fisheries.
- Pacific Fisheries Reform (DFO, 2005)
- Vision for the recreational fishery is needed
- SFAB, DFO and BC agreed to work on a Vision
- The Vision is meant to be a framework for developing goals, initiatives and actions to support achievement of a collective vision for the recreational fishery in B.C..



Scope of the “Vision Document”

- Focus of the Vision is on the British Columbia recreational fishery, the resource, and the relationship among governments and the recreational community.
- Marine species and Pacific salmon only, does not include freshwater species.



Purpose of the Recreational Vision

- Address the needs of the recreational fishery in a manner consistent with DFO and MOE policies and initiatives.
- Build a collaborative relationship with the recreational fishing community and other interests.
- Provide a framework for addressing specific issues that operates within existing legislation and policies.
- Primary objective is to provide broad guidance to fisheries managers, decision makers, and the recreational community.
- Secondary objective is to improve the understanding of the recreational fishery by other stakeholders and FN.



Structure Of The Document:

Three components were identified to achieve the vision





Vision & Mission

The Vision:

- A sustainable and vibrant recreational fishery in British Columbia, providing broad social and economic benefits through diverse opportunities that recognize and respect other users of the resource.

The Mission:

- To achieve this vision through the best managed recreational fisheries in the world, consisting of:
 - *A healthy environment and fishery resource;*
 - *Sound management and decision making;*
 - *Sustainable, stable, and diverse recreational fishing opportunities.*



Principles *(abbreviated, full principles are in the Document)*

- ✓ Conservation first...
- ✓ We have a shared responsibility ...
- ✓ The fishery is a common property...
- ✓ First Nations Food, Social, and Ceremonial needs have priority...
- ✓ There is social and economic value in the recreational fishery...



Principles *(abbreviated, full principles are in the Document)*

- ✓ There is a need to consider the unique needs of the recreational fishery in the IFMP...
- ✓ Integrated consultation processes must be respected...
- ✓ Stock enhancement and habitat restoration are useful...
- ✓ The fishery will be fostered...



Strategic Goals

1. Achieve healthy and productive marine and freshwater ecosystems that support recreational fisheries.
2. Realize the full social and economic potential of the recreational fishery.
3. Maintain and enhance a consultative framework which provides for a supportive relationship between governments and the recreational fishing community, and encourages a healthy and respectful dialogue with other users through inclusive and meaningful processes.



Strategic Goals

4. Ensure that the management of the recreational fishery is based on the best available information while taking into account local and traditional knowledge.
5. Provide sustainable fishing opportunities which consider the needs of and foster the potential of the recreational fishery.
6. Establish a framework for sharing responsibility for activities which benefit the recreational fishery.
7. Promote understanding of the recreational fishery and recreational fisheries management practices.



1. What have we heard?

- General support for Vision document; vision, principles and strategic goals, but with editing to clarify intent.
- Quality of recreational fishery catch estimates and the increase in recreational fishing effort in some coastal areas are concerns.
- Commercial harvesters looking for a defined share of salmon catch for the recreational fishery.
- Commercial nature of recreational fishery needs to be recognized.



2. What have we heard?

- Higher licence fees to reflect true value of recreational fishing experience.
- First Nations priority access for FSC needs to be reflected in larger allocations relative to year-round sport fishery.
- Desire of First Nations to meet with recreational harvesters at a local level to resolve conflicts.
- Some First Nations interested in potential economic benefits from the coastal recreational fishery.
- Concern with time-line for input.



Next Steps

Consultation and review

- First Nation and stakeholder comments deadline
December 30/08

Final approval process

- January/February 2009
- DFO, SFAB and Province

Continue development of Action Plan

- Spring 2009
- For each strategic goal develop the initiatives, action items and performance measures



Comments?

Document website:

http://www-ops2.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/xnet/content/consultations/sfab/mainsfab_e.htm

Your comments are welcomed and they must be submitted by December 30/08 to one of the following:

- Email address: RecreationalVision@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
- Postal address: Recreational Vision
200-401 Burrard St.
Vancouver, BC, V6C 3S4