

CNL(08)30

Council

2005 Survey of Recreational Fishing in Canada

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The information on Atlantic salmon activity and economic impacts in 2005 is contained in a separate document which is available and can be summarized as follows: Salmon anglers in Atlantic Canada and Quebec contributed a total of \$75.4 million to pursue this activity. This figure is derived from survey estimates for the 2005 fishing season and is made up of investments, package deals and direct expenses to pursue this activity.

With over two million lakes and rivers that flow into five major ocean drainage basins, Canada is well-known for its recreational fisheries. Fishing has historically been one of the country's popular leisure activities both for Canadians and visitors to Canada. The important social and economic contributions of recreational fishing are felt in all of Canada's provinces and territories, particularly in some of the more remote areas of the country.

The 2005 Survey of Recreational Fishing in Canada was the seventh cycle of the survey which began in 1975 and is conducted every five years. The survey's target population covered all individuals identified in the 2005 federal, provincial and territorial licence data bases (where possible) and questionnaires were mailed to over 80,000 households in Canada and other countries to obtain information on recreational fishing activities. All jurisdictions participated in the survey.

The 2005 survey collected information on:

- Angler profile (age, sex, residence)
- Recreational fishing activity
 - Fishing effort by region;
 - Number of fish caught and retained;
 - Harvest by species and by fisheries management and/or economic region;
 - Trip information; and
 - Catch and release activities.
- Expenditures
 - Major purchases or investments attributable to fishing activities;
 - Package deals purchases;
 - Direct expenditures related to recreational fishing trip activities.

Anglers contributed a total of \$7.5 billion to various local economies in Canada in 2005. Of this amount, \$5 billion was in the form of investments and major purchases of durable goods related to recreational fishing activities. The remaining \$2.5 billion covered direct recreational fishing expenditures during fishing trips, such as transportation, food, lodging, fishing services, and fishing supplies.

The Survey, including detailed statistical tables are available at: www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca