

The fisheries and marine service, a major component of the fisheries and the environment department, undertakes a broad range of responsibilities. These include: management of Canada's ocean and some inland fisheries; fisheries and oceanographic research contributing to the understanding, management and optimum use of renewable aquatic resources and marine and fresh waters; hydrographic surveying and charting of navigable coastal and inland waters; administration of small craft harbours; environmental impact studies affecting coastal and inland waters; and research in support of international agreements relating to fisheries management and marine environmental quality.

Functions of the fisheries and marine service are grouped under three major units: fisheries management, ocean and aquatic sciences and small craft harbours. The service carries on most of its programs at regional and field locations. Regional headquarters for fisheries management are located at Vancouver, BC; Winnipeg, Man.; Quebec, Que.; Halifax, NS; and St. John's, Nfld.; and for ocean and aquatic sciences at Patricia Bay, BC; Burlington, Ont.; and Dartmouth, NS. Research institutes and laboratories are located at a number of centres across Canada.

Several appointed public corporations and boards are involved in activities closely aligned with those of the fisheries and marine service, including the Fisheries Prices Support Board, the Canadian Saltfish Corporation and the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation.

International fisheries. Many injurious effects on aquatic resources are results of historical practice, insufficient knowledge, multiple uses of water, social and economic conditions, and national and international competition. Problems under national control are corrected as conditions warrant but many resources are shared with other nations and must be managed jointly.