

Matapédia, Dartmouth, Port Daniel, Petite Cascapédia, Restigouche, Loutre, Jupiter 12, Jupiter 30, York, Chaloupe and Saumon.

A wildlife council, consisting of members drawn from those involved in the field, submits recommendations to the government concerning legislation required to maintain satisfactory fishing conditions or to deal with other problems created by the constant evolution of modern life and its effects on wildlife.

Ontario. Ontario's fishery resources are administered by the fisheries branch of the natural resources ministry under the authority of the federal Fisheries Act, the Ontario Fishery Regulations and the Ontario Game and Fish Act.

The commercial freshwater fishing industry in Ontario has a capital value of over \$18 million and produced an annual yield of 19 million kg of fish in 1976 for which fishermen received \$13 million in sales. In addition, nearly 4.5 million kg of bait fish were caught. Subsequent handling and processing of fish result in a contribution of about \$25 million to the provincial economy. The widely scattered industry, centred chiefly on the Great Lakes, provides employment for about 2,200 commercial food-fish fishermen and 2,500 bait-fish fishermen; many more are employed indirectly. Approximately 900 are engaged in fish handling and processing. The species harvested commercially include yellow perch, smelt, whitefish, pickerel, pike, lake trout, herring, chub, carp, white perch, sturgeon, white bass, bullhead, catfish, eel, goldeye, sunfish, burbot, freshwater drum, rock bass, crappie, sauger and suckers. Slightly under 90% of all fish landed in Ontario are harvested from the Great Lakes. More than 350 smaller inland lakes, mainly in northwestern Ontario, are commercially fished.

Fishing methods and equipment have been modernized during the past few years and include the use of diesel-driven steel-hull tugs with depth sounding devices, radar and ship-to-ship and ship-to-shore communications. Modern icing facilities and transportation methods are in use as well as new types of fishing gear. Programs to develop more efficient and economical fishing and processing techniques have resulted in efficient bulk-handling techniques for smelt and a viable fish-meal plant which produces a marketable product from fish-processing wastes and fish unsuitable for food. Trawling on Lake Erie has proved efficient in harvesting smelt year-round. Most Ontario fishermen are organized into local associations mainly represented by a provincial council of commercial fisheries.

Ontario has an estimated freshwater area of approximately 177 388 square kilometres. Excellent angling opportunities are available for such prized fish as brook, rainbow and lake trout, yellow pickerel (walleye), smallmouth and largemouth bass, northern pike, and maskinonge. Quantities of hatchery-reared coho and chinook salmon are released annually in the western basin of Lake Ontario and provide good fishing during late summer and fall. A wide selection of ice-angling equipment including snowmobile rentals is available and seasons have been extended in many parts of the province for certain species of fish.

Revenue from the sale of angling licences in 1976 was \$5.5 million. Prices and numbers sold vary greatly according to licence type. Canadian residents bought 24,909 licences at \$4.00; non-residents bought 454,212 seasonal licences at \$10.75 and 159,839 at \$6.00. Total expenditures in Ontario related to resident and non-resident angling were estimated to be over \$400 million in 1976. The management of this resource is administered by a field staff of conservation officers, biologists and technicians.

Ontario operates 14 fish hatcheries and rearing stations, notably for brook, rainbow and lake trout, splake, smallmouth and largemouth bass and maskinonge. The basic aim of the hatcheries is the economic production of high-quality species to sustain and rehabilitate recreational and commercial fishing. Studies are conducted on the improvement of transportation and planting techniques, including the use of aircraft and trucks, to improve survival and returns to the angler. The marking of hatchery fish by removal of a single fin is providing valuable information on survival of fish stocks and angler success; 180 fish sanctuaries provide protection during spawning. Research programs are directed toward specific fisheries management problems in the Great Lakes and in the smaller inland waters.