

Manitoba. Manitoba's interior location belies the importance of its fisheries resources which stem from an abundance of fresh water in about 104 000 km² of lakes and streams covering 16% of the province.

In the year ended March 31, 1977, the commercial fishery produced 8.7 million kg of fish. The value to the fishermen increased from \$5.9 million in 1975-76 to \$7.6 million in 1976-77. Summer catch represented 68% of the value of the yearly catch. Lake Winnipeg contributed 3.6 million kg (41%), followed by the northern waters with 2.5 million kg (29%), other southern lakes with 1.1 million kg (12%), Lake Manitoba with 0.9 million kg (10%), and Lake Winnipegosis with 0.6 million kg (8%). In 1976-77, whitefish contributed 2.5 million kg, pike 1.7 million kg, walleye (pickerel) 2.6 million kg and sauger 1.3 million kg. A miscellany of species contributed 0.6 million kg. All of the commercial catch is marketed by the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation, a federal Crown agency, and is exported mainly to the United States. Gill-nets are the main fishing gear. About 1,704 fishermen were licensed during open-water fishing and 1,858 in winter fishing. During 1976-77, there were 2,953 individuals licensed.

Administration of both sport and commercial fisheries is controlled by the minister responsible for renewable resources and transportation services. The following are identifiable components of fisheries administration in Manitoba: program management, planning and economics, research, monitoring, extension, stocking, development, acts and regulations.

The sport fishery is an important use of the fishery resource, with walleye, pike, perch and several kinds of trout the principal sport species. In 1976-77, 189,337 angling licences were sold, 150,027 of them purchased by Canadian residents.

Saskatchewan. Fisheries resources are administered by the fisheries and wildlife branch of the tourism and renewable resources department and by the resource development branch of the Northern Saskatchewan department. The latter, with headquarters in La Ronge, administers the northern commercial fishery and the former, with head office in Prince Albert, the southern commercial fishery and the provincial sport fishery.

During 1976, 2,307 commercial fishing licences were issued to fish 215 lakes. The harvest of 4.9 million kg was worth \$2.7 million to the fishermen. The industry, although widely scattered, is centred chiefly in the northern half of the province; about 70% of the production came from northern waters. In order of market value, the species composition of the catch was whitefish, walleye, lake trout, pike and tullibee.

One shallow saline lake in southern Saskatchewan produced 16 000 kg of brine shrimp and brine shrimp eggs. These are processed for sale to fish hobbyists. In 1976, 405 000 kg of buffalofish, a sucker species, and carp were harvested from the Qu'Appelle drainage, and 22 000 kg of bait fish were harvested by 32 commercial bait fishermen.

Interest in aquaculture remained stable in 1976 with the licensing of 2,466 aquaculture enterprises to raise rainbow trout. The majority of operations were intended for the private use of the owner. About 893,000 rainbow fingerlings stocked in the spring of 1976 resulted in an estimated 131 000 kg harvest.

In 1976, 196,529 angling licences were sold. Northern pike, walleye, lake trout, perch, arctic grayling, rainbow trout and goldeye continued to be the principal species taken. A continuous program of inventory of sport fishing stocks is maintained to provide up-to-date information for management purposes. During 1976, 233 waters were examined. Expansion of the exotic-species program continued with about 100 lakes and streams having established populations of trout and salmon to date.

The provincial hatchery at Fort Qu'Appelle reared 25.3 million fish of seven species for distribution in 159 waters in 1976. Rainbow trout was the species most widely distributed, being stocked in 50 waters. Walleye was stocked in 44 waters, brook trout in 38, brown trout in 15, northern pike in five, perch in four and whitefish in three.

The limnological and fisheries research program is designed to provide information on the productivity of water bodies, the abundance and relationship of fish species, and to investigate and assess factors affecting fish populations. This information is subsequently used to develop fishery management policies and programs. Angler and commercial catch data are collected to improve management of the fishery resource.