

## *Frequently Asked Questions (2004), was featured in the 2004/2005 Freshwater Fishing Synopsis*

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### **I'm traveling to B.C. and want to go fishing with a guide. Can you recommend one?**

BC Fisheries does not list or endorse fishing guides. However, tourist information booths usually have copies of the "Sport Fishing Freshwater & Saltwater Planning Guide" published by the Sport Fishing Marketing Alliance. There are many advertisements for guides and charters in this publication as well as in this Synopsis. Check the website of the Alliance ([bcfishing.com](http://bcfishing.com)) or the BC Fishing Resorts and Outfitters Association ([www.bcfroa.bc.ca](http://www.bcfroa.bc.ca)), where you may obtain a free copy of the Sport Fishing Guide and tips on planning your fishing experience.

#### **Does my boat need to be registered?**

All recreational vessels under 15 gross tons and powered by an engine 10 horsepower (7.5 kilowatts) or more must be licenced. The licencing process is free of charge through Canada Customs and Revenue Agency (refer to the blue pages in your telephone directory for the telephone number of the nearest office).

#### **We plan to fish in a certain area of B.C. and would like some help choosing a lake to fish.**

Check out the B.C.'s Family Fishing website (<http://www.familyfishingbc.com/where.to.fish.htm>) and also try local tackle shops or angling clubs for suggestions and information on hot spots. Also, there are numerous commercial websites on the Internet offering suggestions on where to fish in B.C.

#### **Are contaminants a problem in freshwater fish in B.C.?**

Monitoring for toxins or other contaminants entering the aquatic environment is undertaken where there is a known potential risk. The provincial health ministry then reviews data on contaminant levels in fish and determines if a public health advisory is warranted. When this occurs, a fish consumption advisory is published in the tables of this Synopsis under "Special Restrictions/Notes" for the affected lakes or streams.

#### **How can I become an angling guide?**

To apply for an Angling Guide Licence, you must submit an application form and a proposed Angling Guide Operating Plan (AGOP) to the Fish and Wildlife Regional Office where you intend to guide. Before you are issued a guiding licence, you will be required to successfully complete a competency exam. New angling guides are required to submit their application and AGOP by January 15th of the calendar year in which they intend to guide. Late applications will be accepted; however, an administrative fee will be charged in addition to the regular guiding licence fee.

