

# BOATING INFORMATION

## Fluctuating Lake & Reservoir Levels

Water levels in lakes and especially reservoirs can fluctuate over the year. These fluctuations result in a change in the location of stream mouths (please check the definitions of "streams" and "stream mouths" on page 8 of the Synopsis). Note that a stream flowing through the drawdown portion of a reservoir basin is not considered to be part of the reservoir. Anglers are reminded that because lake and stream regulations may differ, care must be taken to ensure that the proper regulations are followed.

## Boating Safety

For important information on regulations related to boating safety, including:

- Operator competency requirements;
- Horsepower restrictions related to the age of operators;
- Universal Shoreline Speed Restrictions; and
- Proper use of Personal Flotation Devices (including Inflatable PFDs),

Please contact Transport Canada Marine's Office of Boating Safety toll-free at 1-800-267-6687, or visit their web site at [www.boatingsafety.gc.ca](http://www.boatingsafety.gc.ca) and click on "The Safe Boating Guide."

Many B.C. waters have boating restrictions in place. Please refer to the Regional Water-Specific Tables in this Synopsis for boating restrictions on individual waters and page 5 for an explanation of the various types of restrictions.

## River Boating Etiquette and Safety

### For your safety and the enjoyment of everyone using the river, please:

Keep boat launch areas clear so that all boaters have equal access.

Don't mix alcohol and boating. You will need your best reflexes to keep you, your boat and other stream users safe. It's illegal to operate a boat while impaired.

Limit your speed (particularly when entering corners) to avoid collisions with other boaters, anglers, swimmers and hidden obstacles.

Respect the Universal Shoreline Speed Restriction (10 km/hr within 30m of the shore).

Be careful when boating at dawn and dusk, or in other conditions of limited light or visibility.

Refrain from running your boat through water being fished by others. Go slowly or drift by anglers along the shoreline. Be considerate of others.

Avoid sensitive habitats such as shallow water, spawning areas, and wildlife nesting or foraging areas.

Give animals crossing the river the space and time to do so. It's illegal to harass wildlife.

Pack out your garbage. Old fishing line, litter, fuel and oil damage fish habitat, endanger aquatic life and reduce water quality.



## 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 Border Services Agency** (refer to the blue pages in your telephone directory for the telephone number of the nearest office).

