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Fish On! – 2013 Recreational Fishing

Sport-fishing is one of many outdoor experiences that Nova Scotia offers - whether you are a beginner or an experienced angler - it is an activity that can be enjoyed by all age groups. Nova Scotia has many places to fish and the opportunity to fish throughout the year. The province's freshwater fishing spots are abundant with wildlife. For many anglers - exploring what is around the next bend or visiting a new fishing spot for the first time is an important part of the adventure.



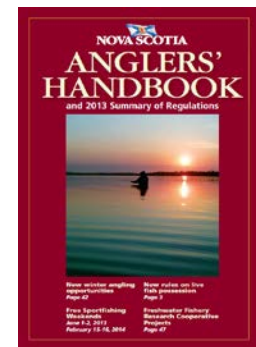
The growing number of anglers increases the financial support provided to the Nova Scotia Sport-fish Habitat Fund through the sale of fishing licences. Last year both Nova Scotians and visiting anglers contributed over \$300,000 to the fund which provides money for programs such as Adopt-A-Stream and barrier-free access projects to help all anglers access their favourite fishing spots.

New Live Fish Possession Regulations

New regulations developed under the Fisheries and Coastal Resources Act prohibit the possession of live fish in Nova Scotia. These regulations will help protect native fish species against the unauthorized introduction of invasive fish into provincial waters

Dozens of volunteer angling groups access these programs each year to improve and restore fish habitat and angler access. Anyone wanting to find out what the sport has to offer should take part in a sport-fishing weekend, happening June 1 and 2, 2013 and February 15 and 16, 2014. Residents and non-residents may fish without a general fishing licence only on those weekends.

For more information on the recreational fishing seasons and dates, contact your local Inland Fisheries office, or check the 2013 [Anglers Handbook right here.](#)



And don't forget, You are required to purchase a general fishing licence or a salmon fishing licence to angle in the waters of Nova Scotia, Good luck this year and fish safe.



To receive a copy of the NSFAH monthly E-Newsletter simply fill out the contact form at the Federation website, include your name and email address...it really is that simple!

by providing an enforceable law that directly targets this illegal activity. This new regulation represents an crucial step towards minimizing the negative effects invasive species can have on native fish populations. [Go here for more info.](#)

Learn to Fish

L2F

Learn to Fish!

For more information on the Learn to Fish program, contact Tara Marshall at marshatj@gov.ns.ca or call (902) 485-7028.

The L2F program, presented by the Inland Fisheries Division of the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture along with volunteer instructors, has completed a very busy 7th year. Students, youth groups and educators enjoyed the interactive hands-on classroom component and were very excited to apply their knowledge in the outdoor fishing workshop. We have received many positive comments from students and teachers and are busy planning for this upcoming spring session.

Learn to Fish is geared towards youth aged 8-12 and consists of two main components: classroom presentation consisting of an introduction to freshwater sportfish in Nova Scotia, habitat characteristics, for cold and warm water species, basics of tackle, assembling a fishing rod, safety, ethics and respect, health benefits and outdoor presentation/lesson consisting of a

hands-on sportfishing workshop at a lake nearby. The L2F program recruits the next generation of stewards of our aquatic resources, by teaching safe and ethical angling skills to youth.



The Inland Fisheries Division has received amazing support from the people of Nova Scotia and the sportfishing community. We wish to thank our volunteer L2F instructors, Shakespeare Fishing Tackle, teachers, youth group leaders, Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers and Hunters, Hants West Wildlife Association, Richmond County Wildlife Association, Mr. Mark Weare of First Cast Radio Show, and Halifax Regional Municipality.

Hatchery Stocking Program

The Province has administered a hatchery program since 1982, when a federal-provincial agreement delegated responsibility for the production and distribution of trout in Nova Scotia. Stocking initiatives are probably the most visible and popular of Inland Fisheries' management activities.

Approximately 200 lakes are stocked each spring as part of our urban stocking program. Nova Scotia's most popular salmonids, Brook trout and Rainbow trout are made available for this program. Trout are generally catchable size and in addition to providing angling opportunity may reduce pressure on more vulnerable wild stocks. More than 45 derbies receive trout from our Fraser's Mills and McGowan Lake hatcheries. These social events are cherished by many organizers and communities as a means of introducing youngsters to the enjoyment that angling can provide.

An additional 200 lakes are stocked in the fall, usually after the angling season closes as part of our fall enhancement program. Brook trout account for most of this effort but Brown trout and Sea-run Atlantic salmon populations are also enhanced at this time of year. In recent years, the hatcheries have been able to provide additional Rainbow trout to sites with winter seasons as the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture looks to expand winter angling opportunities.



McGowan Lake Fish hatchery built 1987

[Spring Stocking List can be found by clicking here.](#)

[Contact Fisheries & Aquaculture by clicking here.](#)

Looking for a Challenge?

Then navigate this!

Halifax Regional Search & Rescue's "Eco-Endurance Challenge", are four exciting Navigational Competitions, offering eight and twenty-four hour options. All challenges have the same full course open to them and use the same competition map.

The Eco-Endurance Challenge 2013 will be an exciting and challenging eco-adventure hosted outside Halifax, Nova Scotia. The E2C will be physically and mentally demanding, with an event area of more than 200 km² of thick forests, wet bogs, fast flowing streams and miles of backwoods trails and cart tracks. It will challenge your navigational abilities as well as endurance in the backcountry of Eastern Canada. This fundraising event promises to be equally fun and challenging for the seasoned adventure racer or the first time participant.



The E2C is a hybrid of classical orienteering, ultra-distance running and the navigational training practices of Search and Rescue Emergency Responders. Good physical conditioning is necessary to push one through the tough terrain, but accurate navigation skills are key to finding controls and minimizing the distance traveled. The 24 hour challenge is mentally exhausting as team members must always be aware of their surroundings. Teams of two or more have a fixed time (8 or 24 hours) to visit as many of the 60 checkpoints as possible. The winner of the event is the team that obtains the highest point total within the specified time, or is the fastest to return to the start after visiting all the markers on the course.

All profits from the Eco-Endurance Challenge are used to support the life-saving activities of Halifax Regional Search and Rescue and provide assistance to the Orienteering Association of Nova Scotia. Revenues are used to support:

- Search and Rescue Operations
- Children's Hug-A-Tree Program
- Training & Educational Programs
- Medical Equipment and Supplies
- Capital Asset Purchases



Challenge I

Emergency Responders & SAR – 8 or 24 hour events

Challenge II

Public Competitive – 8 or 24 hour events

Challenge III

Recreational – 8 or 24 hour events

Challenge IV

Armed Forces – 8 or 24 hour events

Registration Fee

\$80 per Person CAD (24hr event) / \$65 per person CAD (8hr event)

Search and Rescue Training Discount: \$25 per person

Youth entry – 8hr event \$25 / 24hr event \$40. Youth are classed as those aged 15 and under. Please note that there must be at least one adult (over 18) on a team.

Join the challenge and live the adventure!

E2C - 2013

**May 4th, 2013
Start Time: 06:30 AM**

**May 5th, 2013
End Time: 12:00 PM**

[Click here for more information.](#)



2013 Fee Increase - Hunting



The Government of Nova Scotia will be increasing most user fees and government charges by 5.8 per cent in 2013–2014. The 5.8 per cent increase is tied to the average Consumer Price Index increase for the past two years. The last government-wide increase to user fees and government charges was in April 2011. The current increases will provide additional revenue to help cover the overall rising costs of government programs and services.

Here are some of the Natural Resources fees that may impact you:

Bear Hunting Stamp-R- \$25.78

Bear Hunting Stamp-NR- \$120.91

Bear Snaring Stamp-R- \$25.78

Deer Hunting Stamp-R-\$27.04

Deer Hunting Stamp-NR- \$133.09

Bonus Deer Hunting Stamp \$5.39

Bowhunter Stamp-R-\$6.04

Bowhunter Stamp-NR-\$12.09

Fur Buyer Licence \$30.25

Hide Dealer Licence \$12.

Taxidermist Licence \$12.10

Fur Harvester Licence \$20.57

Wildlife Habitat Stamp \$5.00

License Replacement \$5.00

Wildlife Resources Card \$7.57

Nu. Wildlife Operator's Licence \$6.05

Bear Gallbladder Seal \$6.04

Guide Licence \$12.10

Most fees will increase on April 1, 2013. Some fees will increase on dates determined by the individual departments.

[Click here for a complete listing](#) of user fee increases.

No increase for sport fishing license this year.

Western Crown Lands Need You

DNR will be working to develop a gate policy through the consultation. Until plans are finalized and decisions are made regarding access to the land, all requests to access the lands should be forwarded to the DNR regional office. Non-motorized access is already available to Nova Scotians.

Beginning on March 18, 2013 the Department of Natural Resources began consulting with people of the province on how the Crown lands in the Western region should be used in the future. Details on the [consultation schedule can be viewed right here](#).

The consultations, announced in December, will help the department develop a sustainable plan for the land and will allow Nova Scotians to give their ideas on sustainable ways to use these lands to create future economic, social and environmental gains for the western region and the whole province.

At least 30,000 acres of the land plus the lands identified in the 12% land protection process will be preserved for conservation. The land could also be used for things such as agricultural operations (blueberries, cranberries etc.), mineral

exploration, wineries, maple syrup production, and renewable energy. The province is seeking input from the public, Mi'kmaq, municipalities, industry, and communities to help in the development of a long term plan to manage the Crown land and its natural resources.

Some of the Crown land will be used for community forests as announced by the province in December. The Department of Natural Resources will set up at least one pilot Community Forest project in the western region. Talks are also underway with the Mi'kmaq regarding a Mi'kmaq forestry initiative, also announced in December. The land identified through the 12% land protection process will be reserved conservation.

Have your say, get involved today!

For Federation Members

Bell & Grant Limited recently sold their home and auto personal lines insurance business to Johnson Inc., an industry leading company that has been offering insurance solutions for over 130 years.

As a member of The Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers & Hunters (NSFAH), Johnson Inc. is pleased to offer you their voluntary Home-Auto Insurance Plan.

Call 1-877-775-5473 between 8:30 am and 8:30 pm AST for a quote and enter for your chance to win a \$5,000 pre-paid VISA. Visit www.johnson.ca/atlantic for

details. Make sure you identify yourself as a member of the Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers & Hunters.

5 GREAT REASONS TO CALL

1. Interest Free Payments
2. Earn AIR MILES® reward miles
3. Depreciation Add-Back on your vehicle
4. Dedicated Service Representative
5. Chance to win a \$5,000 pre-paid VISA

JOHNSON 

Johnson values the NSFAH. For each member not currently insured with Johnson, who receives a qualifying no-obligation quote, Johnson will donate \$20 to projects we support*

NSFAH Funding Lottery Winners

The winners of the 2012 NSFAH Funding Lottery are:

Brian Bailey, Middle Sackville
Boat Motor and Trailer sold by Halifax
Wildlife and they get a print

Maurice Colpitts, Truro,
\$400.00, sold by NSFAH

Jamie Mombourquette, \$300.00,
St.Peters's,
sold buy NSFAH

Robert Fader, Print,
sold by Vinal Smith

David Briggs, Waverley, Print
sold by David Briggs

Shawn Skidmore, Mahone Bay, Print,
sold by NSFAH

Congratulations to all the winners this year. Contact the Federation for more information and ticket availability for next years draw.

Bluenose Longbeards - NWTF



While attending the Bluenose Long Beards Chapter 11th annual Banquet & Dinner in Bedford, NS on March 23, 2013, Ben Marsdon won an Excalibur Crossbow!

Congratulations to Ben.

In the picture is Ken Ferguson President Bluenose Long Beards Chapter (left) and Terry Smith (right) presenting the Crossbow to Ben.


NWTF

Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers & Hunters

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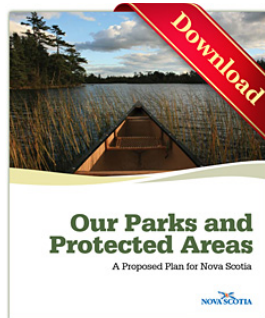
The NSFah Journal is published monthly, except during hunting season. If you or your club has an article to submit, send along before the 25th of each month to ensure your information is inserted.

We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.nsfah.ca

Parks and Protected Areas

Your input is needed on ***Our Parks and Protected Areas: A Proposed Plan for Nova Scotia***. This will ensure that these areas continue to thrive. The plan delivers on two important government commitments:

1. Update Nova Scotia's park system to secure and strengthen its long-term success
2. Increase Nova Scotia's legally protected landmass to at least 12 per cent by 2015.



The Parks and Protected Areas proposes to add, expand, and reassign a number of areas, including the following:

Add

- 4 new provincial parks (960 ha)
- 44 new wilderness areas (126 020 ha)
- 120 new nature reserves (33 690 ha)

Expand

- 12 provincial parks (3940 ha)
- 32 wilderness areas (72 070 ha)
- 10 nature reserves (4330 ha)

With these changes, the proposed parks and protected areas system would include

- 205 provincial parks
- 84 wilderness areas
- 142 nature reserves

[Online comments can be made here.](#)

The Trading Post

Trade a Trip

Willing to trade a trip hunting ducks in the Queens / Lunenburg area for a trip upland hunting for pheasant or grouse. [Contact Vinal here.](#)

[Trading Post Terms of Use.](#)



Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers & Hunters Affiliate Club Listing

All Terrain Vehicle Association of Nova Scotia
Archery Association of Nova Scotia
Bowhunters Association of Nova Scotia
Bowhunters Instructors Association of Nova Scotia
Bras D'or Wildlife Association

Cape Breton Wildlife Association
Conservation Enforcement Officers Association of Nova Scotia
Delta Waterfowl Association
Digby East Fish & Game Association
Halifax Wildlife Association

Hants West Wildlife Association
Kings County Fish & Game Association
Canadian Association of Smallmouth Anglers
Lansdowne Outdoor Recreation Development Association

Lunenburg County Wildlife Association
Nova Scotia Association of Crossbow Hunters
Nova Scotia Guides Association
Nova Scotia Houndsmen Association
Nova Scotia Bear Hunters Association

Mic Mac Rod & Gun Club
Port Morien Wildlife Association
Queens County Fish and Game Association
Bluenose Longbeards Chapter, NWTF
Shelburne County Fish & Game Association

South Shore Wildlife Association
The Big Game Society of Nova Scotia
Traditional Archers Association of Nova Scotia
Trappers Association of Nova Scotia
West Pictou Wildlife Association