



Important Notice for anglers in the Skeena River watershed -2020/2021 season

On February 27, 2020 the Gitksan First Nation issued a press release updating and reconfirming the effect of the closure notice to recreational fishing for the upcoming 2020-21 season across the Gitksan Traditional Territory.

The B.C. government shares the Gitksan First Nation's interest regarding salmon conservation in the Skeena River watershed.

Recreational fishing licences for all fishing in freshwater are authorized by the Province of British Columbia. The Province regulates the freshwater fishery, including steelhead, trout and char. Canada (DFO) regulates the fishery for salmon.

Until further notice, angling licences sold by the Province for freshwater species remain valid. Any changes or updates will be posted on the [Freshwater Fishing Regulation webpage](#) in Angler Updates and in the Region 6 In-Season Regulation Changes.

Provincial fishery management decisions are made on the best available science, with conservation and sustainability being the top priority, followed by First Nations' food, social and ceremonial needs, then recreational opportunities.

Based on the best available science at this point in the season, steelhead, trout and char in the Skeena watershed can support recreational fishing as per management measures in the Freshwater Fishing Regulations Synopsis.

Staff from the Province of B.C. are working with the Gitksan to better understand their concerns and see what can be done together. For reference, a map of Gitksan traditional territory can be found [here](#).

Please respect First Nations rights and perspectives and seek permission before crossing Indian Reserve lands.

Please also respect and manage the risks associated with the transmission of the COVID 19 virus by practicing the measures outlined by the public health authority.