Sport Fishing in Yukon 2005

Summary Report of the Seventh Survey of Recreational Fishing in Canada

2006
Environment Yukon
Fisheries Management Section



Introduction

Preface

This report summarises the results of a survey of sport fishing in Yukon in 2005. The Yukon survey is part of a national survey that takes place in each province and territory across Canada: the National Survey of Recreational Fishing in Canada. The 2005 edition is the seventh in a series carried out every five years.

The survey collects information about the recreational fishery from both resident and non-resident anglers. Information on a broad array of topics is collected, including the origin of anglers, angler demographics, expenditures and investments related to angling, the kind and number of fish harvested, the amount of time spent fishing, values, satisfaction, quality of fishing, and opinions about specific fisheries management issues. These data are used to evaluate the importance of recreational fishing to the public, anglers, the sport fishing industry, and fisheries management agencies. Because of the long times series no available, survey data also provide information on trends in recreational fishing across Canada. These data are used by provincial and territorial fisheries management agencies to make informed management decisions.

The survey was conducted in 2006 by the Fisheries Section of the Fish and Wildlife Branch of the Yukon Department of Environment in co-operation with the Surveys Unit, Economic and Commercial Analysis Directorate, of Canada's Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO).

Survey background

In 1970, recreational fisheries managers from across Canada met to discuss matters of common interest and concern. Participants realised that effective management of the recreational fisheries required a national dataset of basic information on the size, value, socio-economic performance and potential of Canada's sport fisheries. At the time no comprehensive information existed, but data from the only previous survey in 1961, indicated that millions of Canadians and hundreds of millions of dollars were involved.

The idea of a national survey was soon born and fisheries agencies from across the country launched the first nationally co-ordinated set of surveys for the 1975 calendar year. These surveys are intended to provide authoritative data on the magnitude and importance of Canada's sport fisheries and consistent and comparable data from a common group of questions. The success of the 1975 survey led to a second survey in 1980 and a strong commitment to continue the surveys at five-year intervals.

Methods

Survey design

Survey questionnaires are developed based on the common national survey design so that results can be compiled and compared across the country. In addition to the nationally common questions, the Yukon questionnaire also includes questions specific Yukon fisheries and issues. The survey included questions about:

- fishing activity: time spent fishing, type of waters, species caught and kept
- stocked lakes program
- satisfaction with the fishing experience
- assessment of the status and trends of Yukon's fisheries
- opinion on fisheries management
- financial expenditure information on fishing and fishing related activities
- basic demographic information.

The survey questionnaire also included a map of Yukon. The Yukon was divided into Regions 1 through 7 which were based on the road network within the territory (Fig. 1).

Survey implementation

Resident and non-resident anglers were selected using stratified, systematic random sampling of data sets of anglers who held a fishing licence during the survey year. Surveys were mailed out to the random subset of anglers along with a cover letter that explained the purpose of the survey and encouraged respondents to participate. Seven weeks following the first mail-out a second mail-out to all non-respondents was done, which increased the response rate. Completed surveys were sorted, screened, coded, and analyzed.

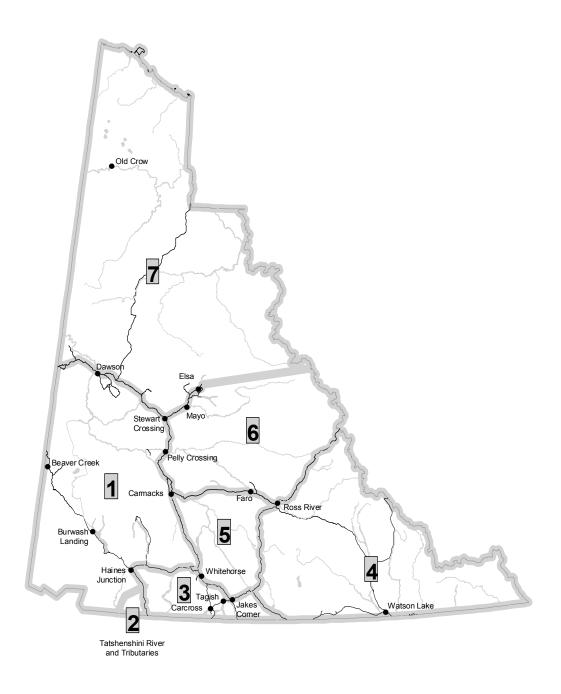


Figure 1: Map of Yukon, showing seven regional divisions for purpose of measuring fishing effort

Results and Discussion

Survey response

Seventeen hundred questionnaires (1000 residents and 700 nonresidents) were sent out. Of these, 680 residents and 304 non-residents returned completed surveys for response rates of 68% and 43% respectively.

Angler profile

In 2005, 15,141* anglers held Yukon angling licences (Table 1). 53% (8,018) were sold to Yukoners, 21% to Canadians from outside Yukon, and 26 % to non-Canadians.

Table 1: Licence classes of anglers licenced to fish in Yukon, 2005.						
Licence Type	Type of Angler	Licences Sold	Percent			
A1	Resident -season	6,374	42			
A2	Resident (over 64) -season	525	3			
A3	Resident (under 16) -season	643	4			
A4	First Nation -season	476	3			
A7*	Duplicate	79				
B1	Canadian non-resident -season	1,507	10			
B3	Canadian non-resident (under 16) -season	143	1			
B4	Canadian non-resident First Nation -season	44	.3			
B5	Canadian non-resident (6 day)	1,183	8			
B6	Canadian non-resident (1 day)	337	2			
B7*	Duplicate	1				
C1	Other non-resident -season	1,878	12			
C3	Other non-resident (under 16) -season	127	.8			
C5	Other non-resident (6 day)	965	6			
C6	Other non-resident (1 day)	647	4			
C7*	Duplicate	0				
D1	Alaska resident (resident season)	292	2			
Total		15,221				
* The number of anglers is less than the number of licences issued reflecting multiple licence						

purchases by the same angler for term licences.

Sixty-nine percent of active resident adult anglers were male; 31% were female. The average age of all adult anglers was 50 years (Table 2).

Table 2: Age and sex of licensed anglers in Yukon, 2005							
Sex	Type of Angler	Anglers					
Male	Resident	46.6	4,590				
	Canadian non-resident	53.3	2,477				
	Other non-resident	56.6	3,009				
	Total	51.2	10,076				
Female	Resident	44.5	2,081				
	Canadian non-resident	47.9	313				
	Other non-resident	51.7	279				
	Total	45.7	2,672				
Total	Resident	45.9	6,671				
	Canadian non-resident	52.7	2,790				
	Other non-resident	56.2	3,287				
	Total	50.1	12,748				

Approximately 3% of resident anglers rated themselves as experts, 43% rated themselves as average, and 16% rated themselves as beginners (Table 3). For all non-resident anglers 38% considered themselves experienced, 33% average anglers, and 14% beginner.

Table 3: How did anglers rate their skill levels in 2005								
	Resident	Canadian non-resident	Other non-resident	Total				
No Response	398	338	208	944				
Expert	204	146	288	638				
Experienced	2,240	1,001	1,396	4,637				
Average	2,951	1,066	1,032	5,049				
Beginner	1,106	382	504	1,992				
Total	6,899	2,933	3,428	13,260				

Attitudes of anglers towards live release fishing are summarised in Table 4. Fifty-six percent of anglers voluntarily practised live release fishing in the Yukon in 2005, down from 64% in 2000.

Table 4: Attitude of Active Anglers on Live Release in Yukon, 2005								
	F	Practised		Did not	Did			
	Mandatory %	Voluntary %	Both %	Practice %	Practice %			
Resident	5.7	52	43	26	66			
Canadian non-resident	4.7	72	24	26	63			
Other non-resident	16	52	32	19	73			
Average	8.7	56	35	24	67			

Anglers were asked if they use barbless hooks while angling. 96% of Yukon anglers and 88% of non-resident Canadians used barbless hooks while angling (Table 5). The acceptance and use of barbless hooks by Yukon residents has been consistently increasing over the years.

Table 5: Anglers who use barbless hooks in Yukon, 2005							
	Resident % Canadian Other non-resident % non-resident %						
Yes	96	88	77				
No	4.0	10	21				

Angling effort

Anglers fished in the open water season, in the Yukon from late April to mid October, a total of 99,372 days in 2005. On average, all anglers spent nine days fishing, with Yukon anglers averaging the highest at over 13 days. Yukoners fished a total of 8,238 days through the ice, while non-residents, who mostly fish the Yukon in the summer months, spent only 388 days ice fishing (Table 6).

Table 6: Days Fished in Yukon, 2005							
Type of Angler		Total days	Ice days				
Resident	Sum	66,899	8,238				
	Mean	13.3	1.6				
Canadian non-resident	Sum	13,187	106				
	Mean	4.9	0.0				
Other non-resident	Sum	19,286	282				
	Mean	6.1	0.1				
Total	Sum	99,372	8,626				
	Mean	9.1	0.8				

Of the 6,899 resident season and senior Yukon anglers who bought a licence, only 5,050 actually fished during the fishing season (Table 7). (First Nations information is not available and information on youth anglers is provided in Table 8).

Table 7: Active anglers in Yukon, 2005							
	Resident	Canadian non- resident	Other non- resident	Total			
Yes	5,050	2,677	3,162	10,889			
No	1,849	256	266	2,371			
Total	6,899	2,933	3,428	13,260			

Yukon seniors and youth under 16 were active participants in sportfishing and fished for close to 10,000 days (Table 8).

Table 8: Activity of other household members in Yukon, 2005									
	Under 16 fished Days under 16 fished Average Over 65 fished Days over 65 fished Average								
Resident	1,480	6,812	4.6	76	907	11.9			
Canadian non-resident	362	1,046	2.9	-	-	ı			
Other non-resident	131	782	6.0	-	-	ı			
Total	1,974	8,640	4.4	76	907	11.9			

For the purpose of analysis, the Yukon's sport fishery was divided into seven regions. Resident anglers showed a decided preference for the south central region - 3, (which is the area that contains most of the resident population), and where they spent over thirty-six percent of their time fishing. Table 9 shows that resident anglers prefer to fish in both regions 3 and 5. Both these regions border the City of Whitehorse therefore easily accessible in evenings and also have the popular southern lakes system of Marsh and Tagish Lakes.

For their part non-resident non-Canadian anglers favoured Region 4 in the southeast.

Table 9: Days Fished by Region of Yukon, 2005									
Type of Angler	-	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 6	Region 7	Total days fished
Resident	Sum	6,233	1,287	24,316	6,979	18,909	7,346	1,829	66,899
	Mean	5.1	2.8	9.3	9.9	8.4	9.7	4.8	13.3
Canadian non-resident	Sum	2,112	214	3,188	2,729	2,380	1,691	872	13,187
	Mean	3.3	1.7	3.9	4.4	3.3	4.1	2.1	4.9
Other non- resident	Sum	3,525	341	1,652	4,795	3,901	3,186	1,887	19,286
	Mean	3.7	2.5	3.0	5.3	5.8	4.3	4.9	6.1
Total	Sum	11,870	1,842	29,156	14,503	25,191	12,223	4,588	99,372
	Mean	4.2	2.6	7.4	6.5	6.9	6.4	3.9	9.1

Resident anglers have fished for an average of 16 years in Yukon, while Canadian non-resident anglers have fished for an average of 4 years in the Yukon (Table 10).

Table 10: Years fished for recreation in the Yukon, 2005							
Type of Angler Average Anglers							
Resident	15.6	6,884					
Canadian non-resident	3.7	2,915					
Other non-resident	2.4	3,414					
Total	9.6	13,213					

Harvest

In 2005, anglers in the Yukon caught an estimated 275,000 fish of all species combined and retained 51,300 of them (Table 11).

Table 11: Harvest of Fish Species by Anglers in Yukon, 2005.								
Fish Species	Resident		Canadian non-resident		Other non-resident		Total	
	Caught	Kept	Caught	Kept	Caught	Kept	Caught	Kept
Arctic Grayling	28,099	7,815	20,087	3,166	56,182	4,960	104,475	15,941
Lake Trout	31,311	11,823	9,084	2,493	28,888	1,485	69,283	15,801
Rainbow Trout	6,583	1,548	801	292	7,648	1,011	15,032	2,850
Northern Pike	28,579	5,950	13,301	1,427	27,449	2,936	69,328	10,312
Whitefish	1,865	1,472	709	103	948	154	3,522	1,729
Dolly Varden	485	208	0	0	955	42	1,440	250
Bull Trout	771	285	287	36	1,149	89	2,207	410
Arctic Char	2,068	898	59	59	204	0	2,331	957
Chinook	1,309	370	214	66	129	78	1,652	514
Sockeye	15	15	15	0	33	0	63	15
Coho	212	150	0	0	0	0	212	150
Other	2,230	1,941	468	192	2,911	252	5,609	2,385
Total	103,526	32,476	45,023	7,834	126,496	11,006	275,046	51,315

Resident anglers caught 38% of the total number of fish caught by all anglers and kept only 31% of these. Non-resident Canadian anglers caught 16% of the total number of fish caught and kept only 17% of these, while non-resident non-Canadians caught 46% of the total number of fish and kept only 9%. Non-resident non-Canadians were very active anglers and caught over 23,000 more fish than Yukon residents.

Arctic grayling, northern pike and lake trout were the most widely caught species. Arctic grayling accounted for 38% of the total catch (by number) while lake trout and northern pike each accounted for 25% of the catch.

Yukon residents were surveyed for the retention and use of fish caught in 2005. Anglers kept 85,964 pounds of all fish species caught and ate approximately 93% of their catch.

Table: 12 Top three species preferences provided by anglers fishing in Yukon in 2005									
	Resident	sident Canadian non- Other non- resident resident		Total					
Arctic grayling	2,305	1,280	1,418	5,004					
Lake trout	3,473	1,248	1,605	6,326					
Northern pike	1,765	759	1,461	3,985					
Rainbow trout	1,368	646	719	2,733					
Whitefish	262	30	144	435					
Dolly Varden	370	110	371	850					
Bull trout	66	65	60	190					
Coho salmon	412	109	73	595					
Sockeye salmon	666	173	114	954					
Chinook salmon	824	300	199	1,323					
Arctic char	771	261	84	1,115					
Other fish	208	30	31	268					
Total	4,394	1,945	2,361	8,699					

Salmon fishing

Salmon fishing is a popular fall fishery for Yukon residents, but pressure all depends upon closures put in placer by Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Yukoners account for the highest pressure on salmon stocks in the Yukon, although this pressure is still quite low. Only 11% of Yukon residents fished for salmon in 2005 (Table 13). Fisheries and Oceans, Canada is responsible for the management of salmon.

Table 13: Did the angler fish for salmon in Yukon, 2005						
	Resident Canadian non-resident Other non-resident					
Yes	563	128	65	756		
No	4,487	2,549	3,097	10,133		
Total	5,050	2,677	3,162	10,889		

Salmon are found within the Yukon and Tatshenshini River systems only. The Yukon River system is a popular fishing spot for Yukon residents, with Tatchun Creek accounting for 778 days fished. Non-resident anglers fished few days and only fished on the Takhini, Teslin and Mayo Rivers.

Table 14: Days fished for salmon in the Yukon River System in Yukon, 2005							
	Tatchun Creek	Takhini River	Teslin River	Mayo River	Morley River	Other	
Resident	778	31	73	31	-	-	
Canadian non-resident	-	30	133	295	-	-	
Other non-resident	-	-	-	-	-	214	
Total	778	60	206	326	-	214	

The Tatshenshini River system was the favourite spot for non-residents anglers where they spent 246 days fishing.

Table 15: Days fished for salmon in the Tatshenshini River System in Yukon, 2005							
Klukshu River Blanchard Village Takhanne River Creek River							
Resident	540	31	-	-	92		
Canadian non-resident	107	-	-	-	7		
Other non-resident	111	-	-	28	99		
Total	757	31	-	28	199		

Angler opinion and perception

Anglers were asked to rate the quality of, and satisfaction with, their 2005 recreational fishing experience in the Yukon and also asked their opinion of the importance of specific factors in improving the Yukon fishery. Yukon anglers stated that the stocking program, improving facilities and increasing fines and enforcement were extremely important. The majority of non-resident anglers provided no response.

Anglers were asked to rate the quality of fishing in the Yukon in 2005. Anglers rated fishing in the Yukon as good to excellent (Table 16). Non-resident anglers still consider the fishing in the Yukon to be excellent at 20% of respondents. While only 13% of Yukoners thought the fishing was excellent.

Table 16: Rating of fishing in the Yukon, 2005						
	Resident	Canadian non-resident	Other non-resident	Total		
No Response	169	156	160	485		
Excellent	829	775	1,084	2,688		
Very Good	1,352	525	795	2,672		
Good	1,708	679	566	2,953		
Fair	663	285	273	1,221		
Poor	328	257	283	868		
Total	5,049	2,677	3,161	10,887		

Resident anglers were asked about the importance of programs aimed at education and angler assistance. Of the nine options anglers said that habitat protection programs, fisheries enhancement programs and live release training were very important. Programs such as tackle loaner and ice fishing clinics were not important education programs (Table 17).

Table 17: Resident anglers' assessments of various programs aimed at education and angler assistance						
	Very important	Important	Not important	No opinion		
School based education programs	1,730	1,719	431	1,169		
Young angler programs	1,599	1,923	358	1,169		
Tackle loaner programs	300	1,183	1,549	2,018		
Skills development programs	809	1,969	840	1,431		
Live release training	2,093	1,619	397	942		
Ice fishing clinics	585	1,641	1,291	1,517		
Fisheries enhancement programs	1,791	1,696	328	1,235		
Species ID programs	1,399	2,189	362	1,100		
Habitat protection programs	2,562	1,442	158	887		

Anglers spent a total of 99,434 days fishing in the Yukon with just over 12%, or 12,167 days, spent fishing on the Marsh/Tagish Lakes system, 86% being from resident anglers. Ten percent of lake trout caught and 16% of lake trout kept in Yukon came from within this system (Table 18).

Table: 18 Angling activity on the Marsh / Tagish Lake system in Yukon, 2005						
	Resident	Canadian non-resident	Other non- resident	Total		
Total Days Fished	10,503	1,387	277	12,167		
Average	8.1	4.0	1.5	6.6		
Trout Caught	3,879	938	643	5,460		
Average	3.0	2.7	3.4	3.0		
Trout Kept	1,922	301	208	2,431		
Average	1.5	0.9	1.1	1.3		

Yukon anglers direct a large percentage of their fishing effort on lake trout.

Lake trout are one of the most important angled fish in the Yukon and are an important part of the management of freshwater fish. Anglers were asked their opinion of the state of lake trout stocks in Yukon in 2005. Resident anglers who are the heaviest harvesters of lake trout were of the opinion that stocks were remaining steady or decreasing, though a majority of all anglers having no opinion (Table 19).

Table 19: Angler opinion regarding the state of lake trout stocks in Yukon, 2005						
	Resident Canadian Other non- non-resident resident		Other non- resident	Total		
No Response	247	603	476	1,326		
Increasing	154	44	28	226		
Remaining steady	1,249	300	378	1,927		
Decreasing	1,272	130	153	1,555		
No Opinion	2,127	1,600	2,127	5,854		
Total	5,049	2,677	3,162	10,888		

Motivations

Non-resident anglers made 9,497 trips to the Yukon in 2005 and spent a total of 97,708 days in the Yukon (Table 20).

Table: 20 Trip information for anglers visiting Yukon, 2005						
Trips Days Fishing 1-day fishing Nights spen on fishing trips						
Canadian non-resident	4,002	54,504	3,030	83	40,420	
Other non-resident	5,495	43,204	3,824	114	33,742	
Total	9,497	97,708	6,854	197	74,162	

Sixty-four percent of all non-resident anglers said they would have substituted other activities if there had been no fishing opportunities (Table 21).

Table: 21 Attitude of non-resident Anglers if there had been no fishing opportunities in Yukon, 2005.						
Activity	Canadian non-resident	Other non-resident				
Stayed Shorter Time	13.1	14.3				
Substituted Other Activities	66.3	53.4				
Not come at all	13.3	28.6				

Anglers rated fishing in the Yukon as good to excellent (Table 22). Non-residents still consider the fishing in the Yukon to be excellent at 20% of those surveyed, while only 13% of Yukoners thought the fishing was excellent.

Table: 22 Attitude of Active Anglers on the quality of fishing in Yukon, 2005.					
	Resident %	Canadian non- resident %	Other non-resident %	Total	
Excellent	16.4	28.9	34.2	24.7	
Very Good	26.8	19.6	25.1	24.2	
Good	33.8	25.3	17.9	27.1	
Fair	13.1	10.6	8.6	11.2	
Poor	6.5	9.6	8.9	7.9	
No Response	3.3	9.6	5.1	4.4	

Stocking program

In 2005, 11 lakes were stocked with 60,000 thousand rainbow trout fry. Other species stocked included kokanee salmon, bull trout and arctic char. Yukon's trout stocking program was rated as very important by Yukon resident anglers who also accounted for the highest number of anglers (Table 23). Only 3% of nonresident anglers indicated that they had fished in a stocked lake in 2005 (Table 24).

Table: 23 How did anglers rate the importance of the stocking program in Yukon, 2005						
	Resident	Canadian non-resident	Other non-resident	Total	%	
Very important	605	64	42	711	52	
Important	370	39	113	522	38	
Not important	31	-	14	45	3.3	
No opinion	46	-	28	74	5.4	
Total	1,067	103	197	1,367		

Table: 24 Did the angler fish stocked lakes in Yukon, 2005						
	Resident	Canadian non- resident	Other non-resident	Total	%	
Yes	1,067	102	197	1,366	12.4	
No	3,982	2,575	2,965	9,522	87.6	
Total	5,049	2,677	3,162	10,888		

Opinions on the quality of fishing in stocked lakes varied between angler groups with residents having a fair to very good experience and non-residents having differing opinions with the majority having poor or good fishing quality (Table 25).

Table: 25 Opinion of anglers on the quality of stocked lake fishing in Yukon, 2005					
Rating	Resident %	Canadian non-resident %	Other non-resident %	All Anglers %	
Excellent	11	36	7	13	
Very Good	19	0	14	17	
Good	26	41	28	27	
Fair	28	9	14	24	
Poor	12	15	28	14	
No response	3.3	0	7	4	

It is estimated that in 2005, licensed anglers spent 7,581 days fishing at stocked lakes in Yukon. This represents 7.6% of the total number of days (99,434) spent fishing territory-wide during the year. Of the days fished,

pressure from resident anglers was greatest on Fisheye Lake at 1,591 days followed by Hidden Lakes at 1,417 days, Scout Lake at 936 days and Cantlie Lake at 732 days; while all non-residents anglers only fished 852 days on all lakes, up from 184 days in 2000, with the majority fishing on Haldane and Wrong Lakes at 155 days each.

Expenditures and investments

Anglers in the Yukon invested \$11 million on major durables and property in 2005 (Table 26) of which \$6.5 million or 59% was wholly attributed to recreational fishing activities. Boats and fishing equipment attracted a total, from all anglers, of \$3.8 million, while special vehicles (ATV's, snowmobiles, camper trucks, etc.) were popular items for residents only, accounting for \$2.6 million.

Table: 26 Major Purchases of Durables and Property attributable in whole or in part to Recreational Fishing in Yukon, 2005.					
Expenditures \$	Resident	Canadian non-resident	Other non- resident	Total	Wholly Attributable to Sport fishing
Fishing Equipment	582,112	48,215	47,789	678,115	678,115
Boating Equipment	4,086,001	65,478	6,504	4,157,983	3,146,387
Camping Equipment	2,153,618	20,381	52,409	2,226,408	1,033,819
Special Vehicles	2,662,282		89,696	2,751,981	853,009
Land/Buildings	707,452	214,230	33,758	955,441	548,983
Other Purchases	202,703	18,688	36,360	257,750	219,497
Total Investments	10,394,174	366,991	266,515	11,027,679	6,479,809
Wholly Attributable to Sport Fishing	5,940,565	354,733	184,512	6,479,809	

Yukon residents spent \$5.9 million attributed wholly to sport fishing or 92% of the total spent by all anglers.

In direct expenditures non-resident non-Canadian anglers accounted for the most money spent at \$6.9 million, \$4 million more than Yukon anglers. This was most likely related to the amount that non-resident non-Canadian anglers spent on lodge packages (\$3.9 million, Table 27).

Table: 27 Direct Expenditures made in Yukon, 2005.					
Expenditures \$	Resident Canadian non- resident		Other non-resident	Total	
Packages	-	487,312	3,901,003	4,388,315	
Accommodation	18,948	234,584	606,048	859,580	
Campsite Fees	75,603	125,526	146,509	347,638	
Food Costs	843,719	430,511	584,599	1,858,829	
Travel Costs	1,111,781	710,966	857,737	2,680,484	
Household Boat Costs	496,378	60,514	40,884	597,775	
Boat Rental	22,504	8,998	20,528	52,030	
Fishing Supplies	253,625	66,934	105,223	425,783	
Guide Services	616	16,508	184,145	201,269	
Licence Fees	96,839	58,341	90,391	245,571	
Access Fees	3,689	5,309	13,341	22,339	
Other Costs	4,851	48,238	337,305	390,394	
Total Direct Expenditures	2,928,551	2,253,741	6,887,714	12,070,005	

Comparison to 2000 results

Total licensed angling population for resident anglers increased by 24% in 2005, while non-resident licensed anglers decreased by 12%. Yukon anglers were more active in 2005 while non-resident active anglers decreased by 6.8%.

Resident anglers fished more in 2005 by over 29%, with an increase of close to 17,000 days. Non-residents decreased their fishing activity by 7.6%, spending approximately 32,861 days fishing in 2005 as compared to 35,569 days in 2000.

The total fish caught and retained of all species combined was down by 4% for residents from 33,992 in 2000 to 32,476 in 2005.

Total direct expenditures by all licensed anglers in the Yukon increased by 23% in 2005, from \$9.8 million spent in 2000 to \$12 million in 2005. Resident anglers spending increased by 17% in 2005, while non-resident anglers increased by 25%.

The major purchase and investment category increased by 55% for Yukoners, with the amount wholly attributable to sport fishing increasing by 67%.

Non-residents made the most significant increase in purchases wholly attributable to sport fishing by increasing their spending by 108% (Table 28).

Table: 28 Comparisons of Angler Characteristics, Days Fished, Species Harvested and expenditures in Yukon for 2000 and 2005. Total Residents Non-residents % % % 2005 2000 2005 2000 2000 2005 Change Change Change **Total Licensed** 6,476 8,018 24% 8,077 7,123 -12% 14,553 15,141 4.00% **Angling Population Total Active Adult** 4,756 5,050 6.20% 6,267 5,839 -6.80% 11,023 10,889 -1.20% Anglers 58,337 75,137 32,861 29% 35,569 -7.60% 93,906 107,998 15% **Total Days Fishing** Total Fish Caught 33,992 32,476 -4.40% 16,918 18,840 11% 50,910 50,316 -1.20% and Retained **Total Direct** 2,508,545 2,928,551 7,314,192 9,141,455 12,070,006 17% 25% 9,822,737 23% Expenditures Major Purchases 6,695,084 10,394,174 55% 570,539 633,506 11% 7,265,623 11,027,680 52% and Investments Total Attributable to 3,554,600 259,118 539,245 3,813,718 6,479,810 5,940,565 67% 108% 70% Sport Fishing

Conclusions

The results of the 2005 survey of sport fishing in the Yukon show that angling remains a popular recreational activity and although there has been a decrease in participation by non-residents, Yukoners are enjoying this popular family activity in greater numbers than in 2000.

In 2005 15,141 licensed adult anglers participated in fishing, 8,018 of whom were residents of the Yukon and 7,123 were non-residents.

Licensed anglers spent approximately 107,998 days fishing in the Yukon in 2005, 15% more than in 2000. The total number of fish caught and kept by licensed anglers was 50,316 fish down by 1.2% from 2000.

In 2005, anglers spent a total of \$11 million on major purchase and investments and \$6.4 million totally attributable to sport fishing.