

September 23, 2019

Poll: How Will Fisherman Vote In the 2019 Federal Election?

The most important questions to ask party candidates

There's a lot at stake for the future of sport fishing in British Columbia in the 2019 election. While you may have already decided on how you would answer the following questions, do you know where the political parties and your local candidates stand on these issues?

We are asking people with a vested interest in the BC Coastal fishery to bring these questions to your candidates to find out where they stand on these issues.

This poll is currently taking place online at:

- 1) Would you support a candidate/political party that would choose to implement a Marked Select Fishery (MSF), or would you prefer a candidate/political party that would choose to implement a Non-Retention Fishery as a conservation measure?**

What is a Marked Select Fishery (MSF)?

A Marked Select Fishery (MSF) allows the retention of hatchery fish that are marked by clipping the adipose fin where wild fish are found with unclipped adipose fins. A Non-Retention Fishery is a designation in which no fish can be retained, no matter if the fish is wild or from a hatchery, or whether or not it is a stock of concern.

Choose:

Yes - Marked Select Fishery

Yes - Non-Retention Fishery

- 2) Would you support a candidate/party that would implement a new approach to making management decisions for our fisheries based on establishing Roundtable Processes that vest management decisions with stakeholders who lead decision-making?**

What is a Roundtable Process?

A Roundtable Process for co-management of a fishery brings all stakeholders together with DFO science staff providing advice in order to examine fishery management issues to reach management decisions. This would include sport fishing, commercial, and First Nations.

Choose:

Yes – I support a Roundtable Process

No – I don't support a Roundtable Process

- 3) Would you support a candidate/party that would transition fishery harvest methods to Selective or Non-Selective Fishing Methodology?**

What are Non-Selective Fishing Methods?

Non-Selective Fishing Methods are those that result in bycatch of other species. This includes the use of gillnets, trawling, and longlines. Selective Fishing Methodology avoids, and/or allows for release of non-targeted species, such as pole and line.

Choose:

Yes- Selective Fishing Methodology

Yes – Retain the current Non-Selective Fishing Methodology

4) The Liberals have pledged to establish a Marine Protected Area (MPA) to close 25% of high value marine areas to fishing. Do you support a candidate/party that plans to establish Marine Protected Areas closed to fishing?

What is a Marine Protected Area (MPA)?

A Marine Protected Area (MPA) is an area that is designated as a protected "no-fishing area" or as a "wildlife refuge" where there is a high concentration of fish. These areas represent the best and most popular fishing grounds on the coast of BC. Areas could include The Salish Sea, Strait of Georgia, Juan De Fuca Strait, West Coast of Vancouver Island (WCVI), and the entire BC Coastline.

Choose:

Yes – I support expanding Marine Protected Areas, closing them to fishing

No – I do not support expanding Marine Protected Areas closed to fishing

5) Salmon Abundance Programs – Do you support a candidate/party that would establish stable long-term increased funding for investment into creating salmon abundance through enhancement and habitat improvement?

What are Salmon Abundance Programs?

Salmon Abundance Programs are those programs that create more fish through investment in hatcheries, habitat, and restoration.

Choose:

Yes – I support Increased Salmon Abundance Programs

No – I do-not support increased investment in Salmon Abundance Programs