



## RESPONSE TO PETITION

Prepare in English and French marking 'Original Text' or 'Translation'

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PETITION NO.: **421-02178**

BY: **MR. SAMSON (SACKVILLE-PRESTON-CHEZZETCOOK)**

DATE: **MARCH 21, 2018**

PRINT NAME OF SIGNATORY: **TERRY BEECH**

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Response by the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard

SIGNATURE

Minister or Parliamentary Secretary

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SUBJECT

**Sport Fishing**

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**ORIGINAL TEXT**

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**REPLY**

The Recreational Fisheries Conservation Partnerships Program (RFCPP), a five year sunset program launched in 2013, has supported efforts across Canada to restore, rebuild and rehabilitate compromised and/or threatened fisheries habitat in areas that are important to the sustainability and productivity of Canada's recreational fisheries.

Building on the success of the RFCPP, the department developed and launched the Coastal Restoration Fund (CRF), a new contribution program in support of the Oceans Protection Plan (OPP) that facilitates collaboration and partnerships that contribute to the development and implementation of coastal restoration plans, the identification of restoration priorities and the implementation of projects that address threats to marine species located on Canada's Coasts.

To date, the CRF's 32 approved projects have contributed to advance the objectives of the OPP as well as support the proposed changes to the Fisheries Act under Bill C-68, including an increased focus on longer-term strategies for conservation and restoration. In addition, DFO continues to work in partnership with stakeholders to achieve its restoration goals through other programs such as the Habitat Stewardship Program, and the Aboriginal Fund for Species at Risk.

DFO will continue to prioritize opportunities that support collaboration and partnership towards the sustainable management of fish and fish habitat across Canada.