



8th World Recreational Fishing Conference

The B.C. Small Lake Fishery- Anglers as an Innovative Tool for Management

Brian Chan

Fishing Guide and Retired Fisheries Biologist

British Columbia is recognized throughout the global angling community as a must-fish destination. Each year over 10 million angler days are spent on rivers and lakes within the province. Stocked lakes support over 50% of B.C.'s annual angling effort. Dynamics of angler effort and changing environmental conditions make it challenging for managers, with limited operating resources to stay abreast of changes occurring within individual fisheries. Recreational anglers are a willing resource to assist in the collection of specific biological and social data to help maintain, restore or enhance individual fisheries. Engagement and collaboration with anglers through the use of various forms of social media will help to build a community of citizen scientists.

About Brian Chan

It's safe to say that Brian Chan was hooked on fishing from a very early age. That passion led to an educational path including a technical degree in fish and wildlife management and a BSc in freshwater ecology. Brian spent 34 years as a fisheries biologist for the province of B.C. specializing in the management of small lake recreational trout fisheries. During this period, Brian also developed a secondary career within the fly fishing industry which includes writing, filming, educational seminars and guiding. When not on the local lakes, he can be found chasing steelhead and salmon in coastal rivers of B.C. or walking tropical saltwater flats in search of bonefish and tarpon.