



Watershed and Fisheries Sustainability Questions

- 1. There has been inadequate federal investment in BC's fish resources, as evidenced by a large number of species recommended for SARA listing. What actions will you take to ensure the conservation of populations and habitat take priority over commercial fishing and habitat degradation?**

There are many developments in British Columbia and around the world that show great promise in reducing risks to wild stocks, and there is no reason that Canada cannot be a global leader in this field. Canada's Conservatives believe that we must protect these iconic species and ensure that our wild stocks remain healthy. A Conservative government will support efforts to transition BC's salmon farming industry to more sustainable practices and technology that will reduce potential risks to our wild stocks.

- 2. How is the federal government going to implement strategies to ensure the abundance and diversity of salmon and other fish stocks?**

We look forward to working with the many groups to address this in the coming months.

- 3. Bill C-68 Fisheries Act Amendments received Royal Assent on June 2019. Will you support the early implementation of the ecologically significant area provisions in the act?**

A Conservative government will restore funding for the community-led National Wetland Conservation Fund (NWCF), and restore funding for the community-led Recreational Fisheries Conservation Partnership Program (RFCPP), both which were cancelled by the Trudeau Liberals.

Canada's Conservatives will create a new fund for community-based projects targeted to wildlife enhancement, and maintain the Habitat Stewardship Program for Species at Risk. Further, a Conservative government will maintain important national conservation programs, including the North American Waterfowl Management Plan and the Natural Heritage Conservation Program. As Prime Minister, Andrew Scheer will work to implement policies that positively impact our environment, while putting more money in the pockets of Canadians.

- 4. Do you support the rapid and orderly transition from open-net pen fisheries to land-based systems for the fin-fish aquaculture industry?**

The Conservative Party will have more to say on this over the course of the campaign.

- 5. What plans do you have for national watershed sustainability initiatives and what level of investment will you support?**

In 2007, the previous Conservative government implemented the Lake Simcoe Clean-Up Fund, It funded over 200 community-based projects that restored fish and wildlife populations, planted thousands of new trees, and reduced harmful sewage and waste dumps into watersheds. As Prime Minister, Andrew Scheer will maintain support for watershed protection in significant wetlands, including the Great Lakes, and Lake Winnipeg, and restore the Lake Simcoe Clean-Up Fund.



Landscape and Wildlife Sustainability Questions

- 1. Do you support the use of the license and permit fees to support programs such as the migratory bird permit that supports the Wildlife Canada restoration program and other authorized programs?**

Migratory birds are iconic symbols in Canada. As Prime Minister, Andrew Scheer will continue to fund the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, and will increase resources for waterfowl conservation measures, funded by modest increases for non-resident hunters on the cost of the migratory bird stamp.

- 2. There is a need for financial support for implementing SARA measures to protect wildlife that includes roundtables with Indigenous and non-Indigenous community participation. How would you improve the process and financial support for the implementation of caribou recovery in North Eastern British Columbia from an economic, social, and environmental perspective?**

Trudeau's Liberals have been heavy-handed, using an Ottawa-knows-best approach that ignores provincial land management expertise. The protection of woodland caribou is an important priority for many provinces, but the management and protection of this species is complex, and has the potential to have severe consequences for many rural communities if it is not undertaken carefully.

- 3. Although the BCWF supports per user pay (license, surcharges, and fines) supporting conversation programs, we believe the level of funding is inadequate for fish and wildlife sustainability, particularly in the face of climate change. Everyone has an impact on wildlife through their personal carbon use. When will you use carbon tax money to support the ecological functioning and resilience of landscapes and watersheds nationally? Will you make this a priority, working with provincial governments?**

As an environmental policy, the carbon tax is a failure of epic proportions. It makes virtually no contribution to the global fight against climate change. And it only makes life more expensive for Canadian families and small businesses. A Conservative government will scrap the carbon tax.

- 4. The government has announced that they will become involved in grizzly bear management. How will the federal government become engaged in the management of grizzly bears in BC? Will you bring resources to adequately inventory grizzly populations, implement measures to protect habitat, and involve both Indigenous and non-Indigenous stakeholders? Will the same consultation techniques be applied that were used during the southern caribou protection decision which provided top-down direction using federal legislation with no resources or support for the implementation of difficult land-use decisions?**

A Conservative government will work with the provincial government to develop legislation that benefits all levels.

5. Environmental Assessment processes must be able to deal with the remediation of legacy sites, such as Mount Polley. How will the federal government force immediate remediation for sites that have been polluted by both operating and defunct companies?

Canadians trusted Justin Trudeau when he said he would protect the environment and lower Canada's emissions. Instead, all they got was a carbon tax. As an environmental policy, the carbon tax is a failure of epic proportions. It makes virtually no contribution to the global fight against climate change, and it only makes life more expensive Canadian families and small businesses.

Under the Conservative plan, it will not be free to pollute – and unlike the Liberal scheme, there will be no sweetheart deals for anybody.

6. A recent decision to create a national park reserve in the South Okanagan incorporated conservation lands which were purchased to protect wildlife habitat. How will the ecological integrity of these sensitive landscapes be protected from the development and commercialism that has occurred in national parks such as Banff? What are the mechanisms to ensure local stakeholder input into the national park reserve?

Canada must have a robust protected area system. A Conservative will conduct consultations with local communities and governments, business owners, and Indigenous peoples to make sure that our approach has the best interests of the communities in mind.

An Andrew Scheer-led Conservative government will restore protections for meaningful community consultations that were taken away by the Liberal government. Canada's Conservatives will reinstate up-front consultations with communities and stakeholders before determining protected area boundaries.



Firearms Questions

- 1. Bill C-71, an Act to amend certain Acts and Regulations in relation to firearms, received Royal Assent on June 2019. Do you support repealing Bill C-71? Yes/No**

Whenever Liberals talk about gun violence, they fail to address the issue and end up going after law-abiding firearms owners. This was made crystal clear with the Liberal backdoor gun registry Bill C-71. A new Conservative government will repeal and replace Bill C-71.

If no...

- 2. If a person has passed all the RCMP required background checks do you agree that they should be allowed to own and use handguns only at appropriate facilities?**
- 3. If a person has passed all the RCMP required background checks do you agree they should be allowed to own and use all types of semi-automatic rifles for hunting and or target shooting at approved gun ranges?**
- 4. Why is it necessary to have firearms licenses undergo background checks every five years when the Canadian Police Information Centre computers check you every day?**
- 5. Why is it necessary to revert to the paper issuance of permits to take restricted firearms to gun shows, gunsmiths, and the border if you are allowed to take your restricted firearms to All Approved Shooting Ranges at any time?**