

FISHING FOREVER

2024 REPORT



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Photo Credits: Jennifer Hansen - Freshwater Fisheries Hatchery, Abbotsford

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Fishing Forever Overview

Fishing is for Everyone



Photo Credits: Cia Harms - Echo Lake, Campbell River

Making the Outdoors Accessible

Fishing is a skill that can be learned and enjoyed by anyone—the B.C. Wildlife Federation's Fishing Forever program emphasizes that disabilities and age shouldn't hinder one's enjoyment of nature. With support from the BCWF staff and volunteers, the Fishing Forever program ensures the outdoors remains accessible, allowing individuals with diverse abilities to begin or continue fishing.

Annually, the BCWF-affiliated clubs organize Fishing Forever events throughout B.C.

Program History

Fishing Forever has been inspiring communities since 1989, when the idea of the project was first put forward by broadcast journalist, Walt Liimatainen. Since then, the dedicated clubs of the B.C. Wildlife Federation, volunteers and sponsors have spent many a day outdoors helping those who may need a little extra help to learn how to fish and enjoy the natural offerings around them.

Events & Locations

In 2024, Fishing Forever saw events in 11 communities presented by members of the BCWF's affiliate clubs across B.C.

Region	District	Location	Event Host
1	Campbell River	Echo Lake	Campbell River Fish and Wildlife Club
1	Courtenay	Courtenay Club	Courtenay Fish and Game Protective Association
1	Nanaimo	Nanaimo Club	Nanaimo Fish & Game Club
2	Abbotsford	Freshwater Fisheries Hatchery	Lower Mainland Branch of the BCWF
4	Invermere	Lake Windermere	Lake Windermere Rod & Gun Club
4	Nelson	Cottonwood Lake	Nelson District Rod & Gun Club
5	Williams Lake	Williams Lake	Biff's Ponds
6	Smithers	Babine Lake	Bulkley Valley Rod & Gun Club
7A	Prince George	Vivian Lake Resort	Polar Coachman Flyfishers Association
8	Lumby	Mable Lake Provincial Park	Lumby & District Wildlife Association
8	Osoyoos	Owls Roost Cabins	Accessible Okanagan

Participant Turnout

In 2024, the BCWF's Fishing Forever program brought together 598 participants.

Region	District	Participants	Participant Caregivers/ Companions
1	Campbell River	91	25
1	Courtenay	196	58
1	Nanaimo	43	3
2	Abbotsford	81	120
4	Invermere	32	3
4	Nelson	20	8
5	Williams Lake	28	8
6	Smithers	15	4
7A	Prince George	20	4
8	Lumby	54	16
8	Osoyoos	18	22
Totals		598	271

Volunteer Engagement

The BCWF's Fishing Forever program is largely made possible by the hard work and dedication of volunteers.

Region	District	Volunteers	Volunteer Hours
1	Campbell River	7	85
1	Courtenay	103	322
1	Nanaimo	18	134
2	Abbotsford	29	340
4	Invermere	11	74
4	Nelson	20	466
5	Williams Lake	10	63
6	Smithers	5	59
7A	Prince George	10	112
8	Lumby	13	93
8	Osoyoos	5	105
Totals		502	2084

Media & Outreach

Photo Credits: Jennifer Hansen - Freshwater Fisheries Hatchery, Abbotsford



YouTube Video



YouTube Video



Social Media Coverage



bcwildlifeederation More Fishing Forever 2024 photos! Thanks to the B.C. Wildlife Federation's clubs, volunteers, and program sponsors, the Fishing Forever program makes fishing accessible to everyone, including those needing extra assistance.

- 1, 2, & 3: Campbell River, hosted by the Campbell River Fish and Wildlife Club
- 4 & 5: Prince George, hosted by the Polar Coachman Flyfishers Club
- 6 & 7: Smithers, Bulkley Valley Rod & Gun Club

Thank you to all the volunteers, partner organizations, and funders for making these events happen. Stay tuned for more Fishing Forever photos to come!

Find more details about Fishing Forever here: >>> <https://bcwf.bc.ca/fishingforever/> (link in bio).



BCWF Instagram



Blog Post

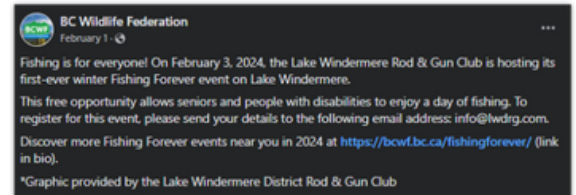
Why I Volunteer: Mike Stiles



This article was originally written by Dikshita Jain and Anya Naval of WorkSafeBC.



Blog Post



BCWF Facebook



Photo Credits: Jennifer Hansen - Freshwater Fisheries Hatchery, Abbotsford

Fishing Forever Funders

Fishing forever is also made possible with the support of the following funders:



OUTDOOR FUND



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