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ALBERTA  
ENVIRONMENT AND PARKS

*Office of the Minister  
Government House Leader  
MLA, Rimbey-Rocky Mountain House-Sundre*

**MAR 21 2022**

Victor Benz, President  
The Alberta Fish and Game Association  
13045 - 156 Street NW  
Edmonton AB T5V 0A2  
[president@afga.org](mailto:president@afga.org)

Dear Victor Benz:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Government of Alberta's management of fish and wildlife. Fishing is an important part of Alberta's cultural fabric, and I welcome the opportunity to provide the following information.

The Alberta government strives to make informed management decisions to promote the conservation and success of our fisheries, while providing exciting fishing opportunities for current and future generations. I recognize the importance of our fish and wildlife resources, and engagement on fish and wildlife management with groups like the Alberta Fish and Game Association.

In 2020, Environment and Parks offered extensive face-to-face engagements across the province. Those sessions resulted in direct changes to fisheries management, including the re-establishment of the walleye stocking program in the province. Beginning in 2021, fisheries engagement sessions moved online and webinars were available to all stakeholders for 2021-22. Environment and Parks values the Alberta Fish and Game Association's input, and I invite you to visit [www.alberta.ca](http://www.alberta.ca) and click the "public engagement" tab at the top of the page to contribute to the active fisheries engagements. I have also forwarded your letter to the appropriate department staff for their consideration.

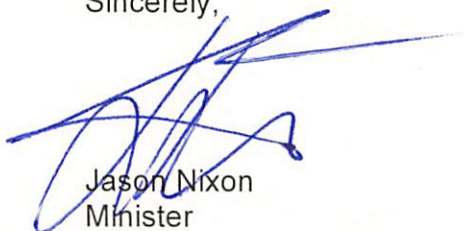
Feedback from the angling community is important and directly used for fisheries programming and regulatory decision-making. Some examples include the 2020 implementation of harvest slot-size regulations at 50 water bodies; the walleye stocking program with angler driven management objectives for harvest and new fishing opportunities; increases and diversification to stocked fishing opportunities in Alberta; and many water body-specific regulation changes. This includes the over 2,500 responses received in 2021 that directly informed regulatory changes for more than 30 water bodies.

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The department aims to improve communication with Albertans. To schedule a meeting to discuss potential engagement improvements and initiatives, please contact Shane Petry, Manager of Provincial Fisheries Policy, at 403-634-6615 (dial 310-0000 for a toll-free connection), or at [shane.petry@gov.ab.ca](mailto:shane.petry@gov.ab.ca).

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,



Jason Nixon  
Minister

cc: Bev Yee  
Deputy Minister

Tom Davis  
ADM, Resource Stewardship

Shane Petry  
Environment and Parks