

Standing Committee on Resource Stewardship

Review of Bill 205, Fisheries (Alberta) Amendment Act, 2012

Twenty-Eighth Legislature
First Session
August 2013



COMMITTEES
OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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STANDING COMMITTEE ON RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP

August 2013

**To the Honourable Gene Zwozdesky
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
of the Province of Alberta**

I have the honour of submitting, on behalf of the Standing Committee on Resource Stewardship, its final report containing recommendations on Bill 205, *Fisheries (Alberta) Amendment Act, 2012*, for consideration by the Legislative Assembly of Alberta.

Sincerely,

[Original signed by Chair]

Donna Kennedy-Glans, MLA
Chair, Standing Committee
on Resource Stewardship

c. Dr. David McNeil
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

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28th Legislature, First Session

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* Substitution for Linda Johnson, July 23, 2013

† Substitution for Drew Barnes, July 23, 2013

‡ Substitution for Mike Allen, July 23, 2013

1.0 Introduction

Bill 205, *Fisheries (Alberta) Amendment Act, 2012*, was introduced and received first reading on November 28, 2012. On April 22, 2013, the Bill was referred to the Standing Committee on Resource Stewardship for review.

2.0 Order of Reference

Excerpt from the Votes and Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, Monday, April 22, 2013:

On motion by Ms Calahasen, Hon. Member for Lesser Slave Lake, the following Bill was referred to the Standing Committee on Resource Stewardship, pursuant to Standing Order 74.1(1):

Bill 205 Fisheries (Alberta) Amendment Act, 2012 — Ms Calahasen

3.0 Committee Activities

On May 14, 2013, the Standing Committee on Resource Stewardship invited presentations from the sponsor of Bill 205, Ms Calahasen, regarding the provisions of the Bill and from representatives of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Resource Development (ESRD) concerning current practices within ESRD with respect to fisheries management.

On May 30, 2013, the Committee requested a written submission from ESRD detailing the Ministry's current internal regulations surrounding consultation with Zone E fishermen on the topic of setting and/or amending commercial fishing quotas. The Committee also requested information on how closely the Ministry's internal regulations currently align with the proposed measures outlined in Bill 205 and, where there are discrepancies, details on a proposed timeline to address these discrepancies.

On July 8, 2013, ESRD responded to the Committee with a letter detailing the Ministry's current consultation process with Zone E fishermen.

4.0 Recommendations

Pursuant to Standing Order 74.2(1),

When a Bill is referred to a Legislative Policy Committee after first reading, the committee may conduct public hearings on the subject matter of the Bill and report its observations, opinions and recommendations with respect to the Bill to the Assembly.

The Standing Committee on Resource Stewardship recommends to the Assembly that the Bill not proceed.

The Committee further requires that, pursuant to Standing Order 52.07(2), Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development provide an update to the Committee on the department's commercial fishing consultation practices in relation to Zone E, including recommendations for improvement, annually at a time to be determined by the Committee for a maximum of three years.

