



The Use of Catchable Trout, Lake Infrastructure and Innovative Monitoring Techniques to Develop Urban Fisheries

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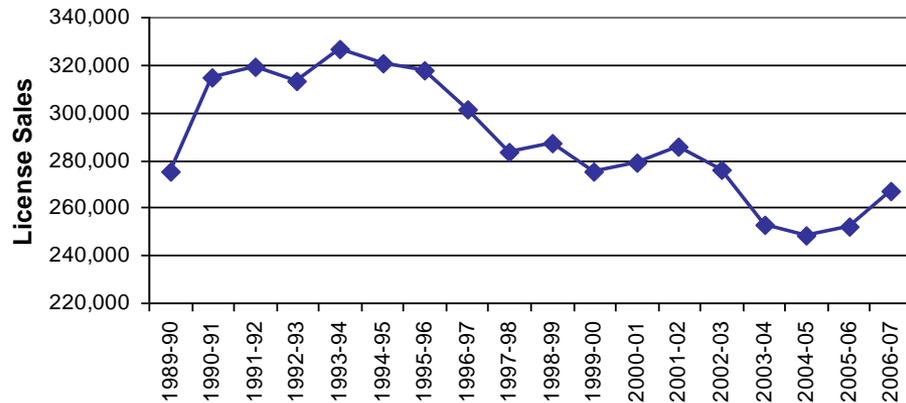


The Issue?

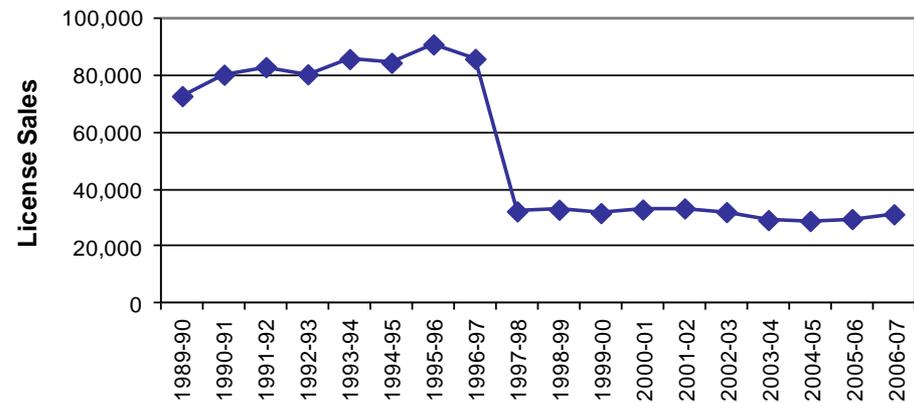
Decreased angling participation resulting from:

- Aging demographic
- Dual working parents
- Fuel costs
- Reduced access

Province Wide Basic License Sales - All Classes

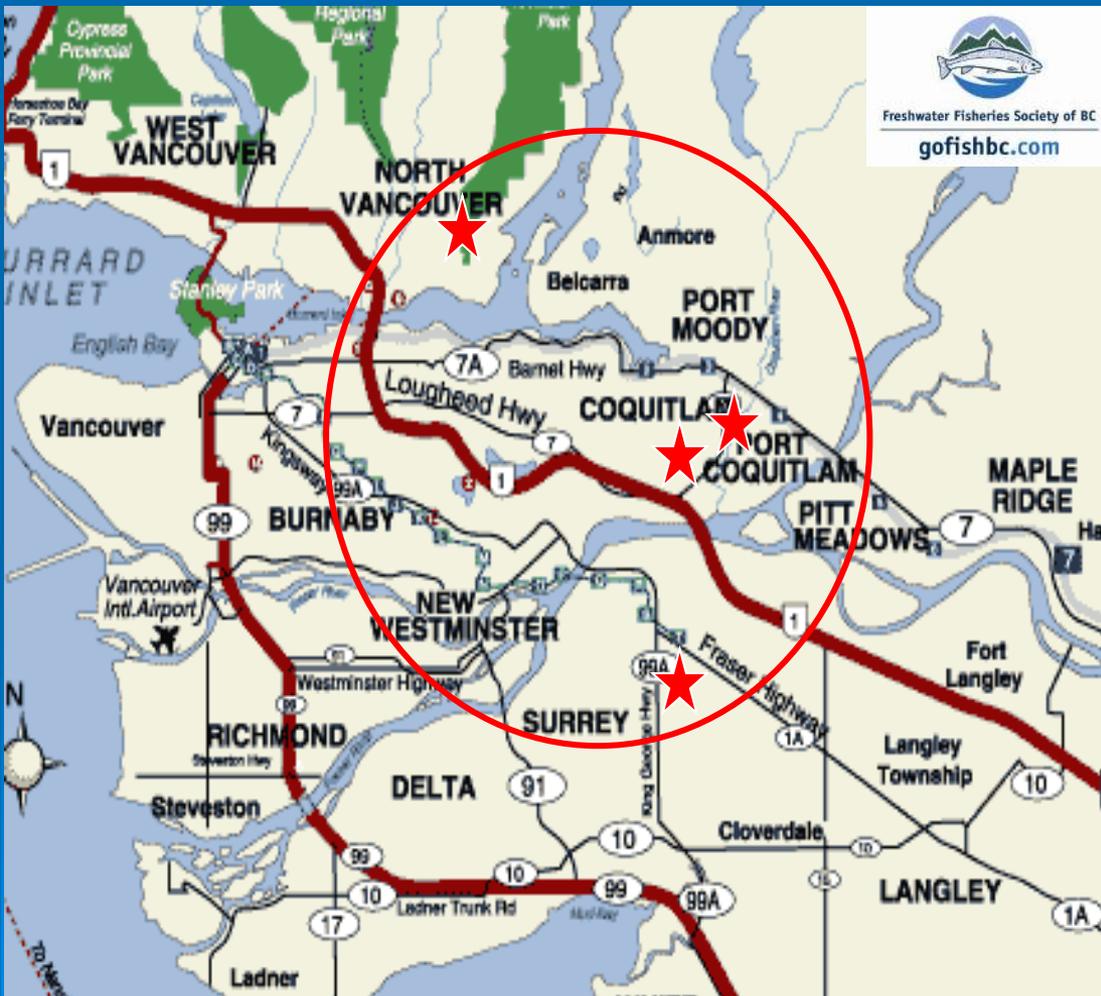


Region 1 Basic License Sales - All Classes



Are There Solutions?

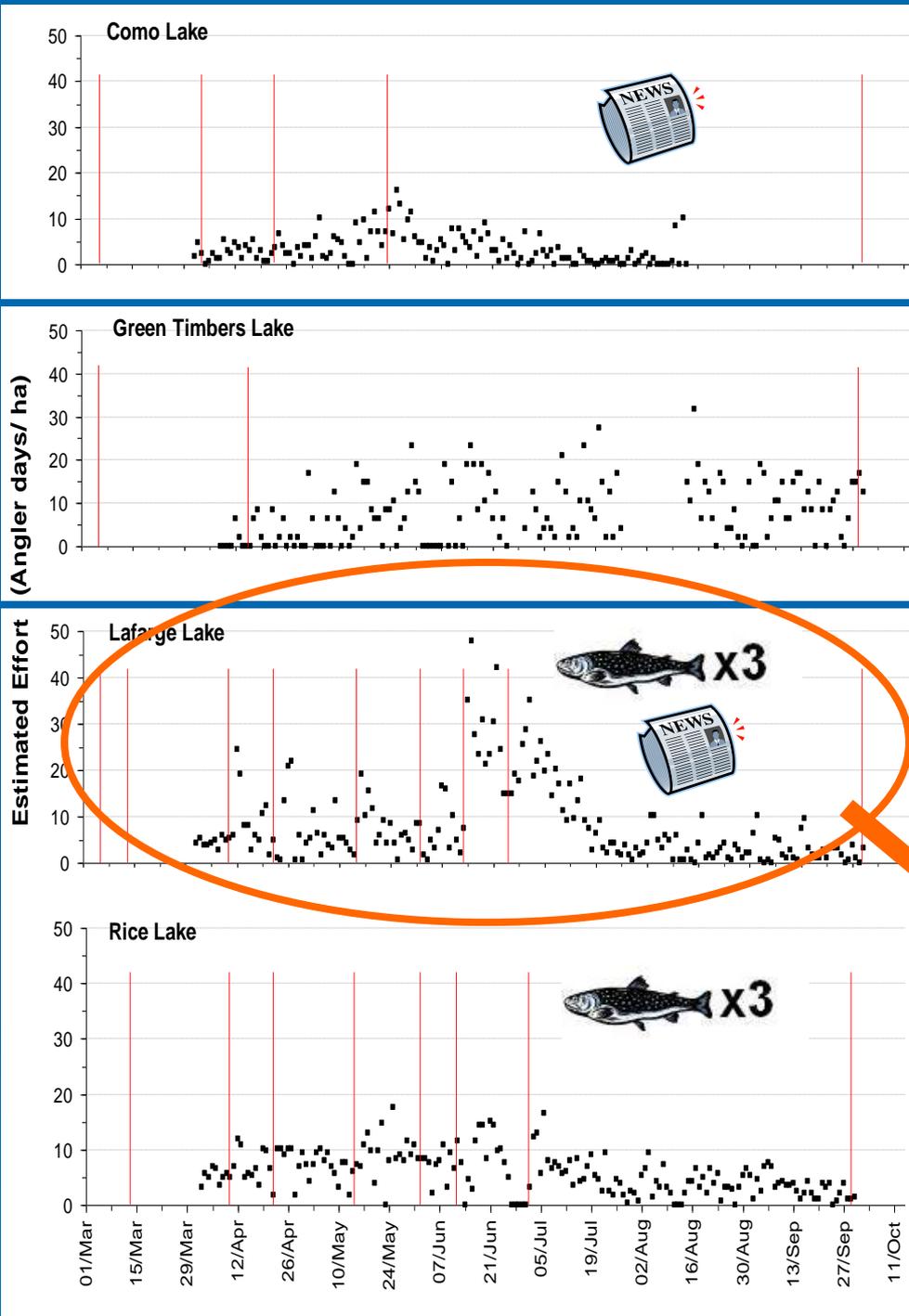
Metro Vancouver Urban Lake Case Study:



- FFSSBC pilot program in 2008/09
- Effectiveness of marketing and stocking on increasing angler participation

Metro Vancouver Urban Lake Case Study:

- 4 lakes
 - 1 increased stocking
 - 1 increased media
 - 1 both
 - 1 no change
-
- Largest gain in effort from both increased stocking and media





Application to Vancouver Island Urban Lakes

Promote and encourage angler participation by:

1. Increasing catch success
2. Marketing and promotion
3. Improving access and infrastructure

Target groups are lapsed and youth anglers

1. Increasing Catch Success



- Increased number of fish stocked in target lakes
- Increased number of stockings
- Utilizing a highly catchable rainbow trout strain

1. Increasing Catch Success



Fraser Valley 3N Rainbow Trout

- Only domestic strain stocked in BC
- Stocked as catchable size (300 g, 8 inches)
- Extremely high growth rates
- Bold and aggressive, thus more easily caught

2. Marketing and Promotion

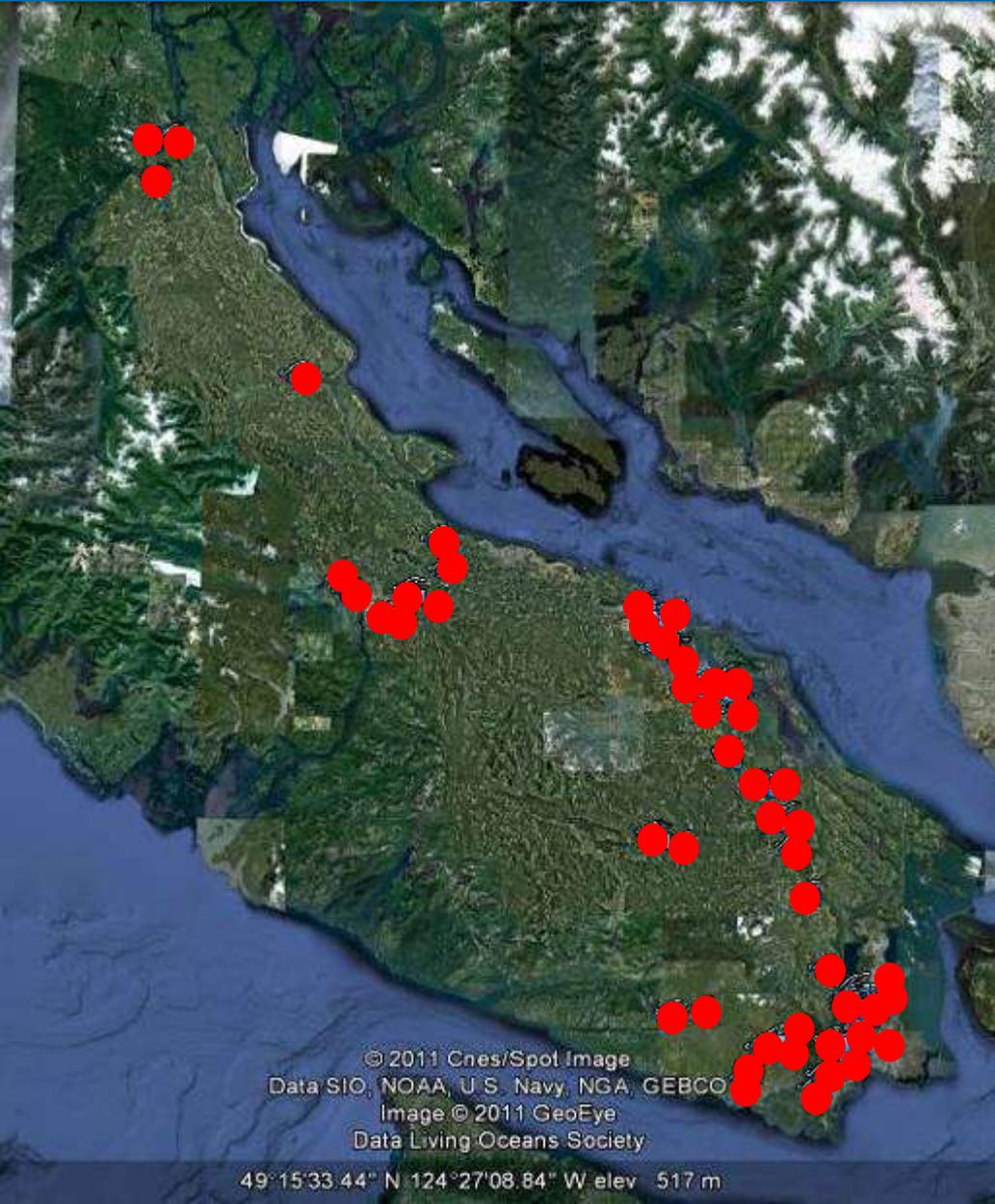
- Advertise stockings in local newspaper and TV
- Stocking posted on FFSSBC website
- Learn 2 Fish and Fishing Buddies Programs



Vancouver Island Trout Hatchery fish culturist Graham Nesman loaded 1,250 "catchable" rainbow trout into Echo Lake Wednesday afternoon as part of the Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC's ongoing lake stocking program. Another 750 trout, roughly half a pound each, were loaded into Restaid Lake as well.

Goal: Increased angler use leading to improved management resources

3. Improving Access and Infrastructure



- Infrastructure inventory at 79 urban lakes in 2009/10
- Document the condition of existing fishing infrastructure
- Evaluated lake specific effort trends

3. Improving Access and Infrastructure



- Consulted local angling clubs on needs



- Identified new angling access and infrastructure projects



- Collaborate with local governments on project implementation

3. Improving Access and Infrastructure:



- 2 sites built in year 1 - 2010/11 (\$100,000)
- 5 projects planned for year 2 – 2012/13 (\$120,000)



- 3 year program wrapping up in 2013/14

Assessing Project Effectiveness



Monitoring changes in angler use and effort

- Time lapse camera program



Time Lapse Camera Image



2 Shore Anglers

2 Boat Anglers

4/24/09 11:00 AM



Assessing Project Effectiveness

Creel surveys with 'Sportfishing Ambassadors'



- Interview anglers on catch and effort
- Provide information to anglers
- Perform time lapse camera calibration counts

If You Build It, Will They Come?



- Preliminary results are showing increased effort
- Mark-recapture results show low seasonal carryover of fish – high catch
- Continued data collection in 2012/13

Many Thanks.....



**Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC
(Stacy Webb, Adrian Clarke, Tony Massy)**



**Habitat Conservation Trust
Foundation**

Michelle Kehler – BC Conservation Foundation

Questions?