

ENFORCEMENT AND COMPLIANCE

PENALTIES FOR BREAKING FISHING LAWS

The penalty for fishing offences against the *Fisheries Act* is a fine of up to \$100,000, a prison term of up to 12 months, or both. If an enforcement officer finds any fish illegally caught or held, or any equipment, vehicle, vessel or other item used in the commission of an offence, the officer may seize them without a warrant. Depending on the severity of the offence, you may be issued a fine by ticket or required to attend court.

INSPECTION

If asked, you must allow a Conservation Officer, Fishery Officer, RCMP Constable, Park Ranger in a Provincial Park, Park Warden in a National Park or an Officer under the *Wildlife Act* to examine your fishing licence, gear and catch.

NOTICE TO VIOLATORS

LICENCE SUSPENSIONS & PROHIBITIONS

Did you know? Under Section 24 of the *Wildlife Act*, the Director of the Fish & Wildlife Branch, Ministry of Environment, may prohibit you from holding a hunting and/or fishing licence for a specified period (up to a 30-year prohibition). The period will depend on the severity of your offence and is independent of any fine or suspension which may be imposed by a court of law upon your conviction for fish or wildlife offences. It pays to become familiar with the fish and wildlife regulations and to abide by them.



REPORT ALL POACHERS AND POLLUTERS

The Conservation Officer Service, Ministry of Environment, has established a partnership with the Provincial Emergency Program Call Centre to operate a toll-free hotline that allows you to report known suspected poachers and polluters.

The RAPP program is simple, safe and effective. It is based on the principle that someone other than the criminal has information that can solve the crime.

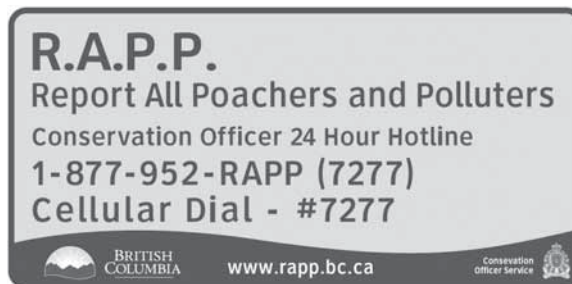
Available 24/7

Use This Number to Report:

Violations of Fisheries, Wildlife or Environmental Protection Laws (except salmon related violations which should be reported to Fisheries and Oceans Canada at 1-800-465-4336).

Wildlife/Human Conflicts where public safety is at risk.

Look for this sign along highways and forestry roads in British Columbia



What you can do:

1. Familiarize yourself with current regulations.
2. Record relevant details of suspicious activities, such as: time, date, location, descriptions of violators and/or vehicles. Photographs are useful.
3. Report any fish, wildlife or environmental offences as soon as possible to the Provincial Emergency Program Call Centre.

Report all Poachers and Polluters (RAPP) operates in cooperation with the B.C. Wildlife Federation. The B.C.W.F. pays rewards up to \$2000 for information leading to the conviction of persons who have violated laws related to the protection of fish, wildlife, or the environment, or damaged the property of companies or individuals who provide access to hunters and anglers.