



April 30, 2019

Corey Jackson, DFO: corey.jackson@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
Neil Davis, DFO: neil.davis@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Delivered via Email

Dear Neil & Corey,

I am writing on behalf of Boating BC Association to provide feedback and comment to the consultation process on the Recovery Measures for the Southern Resident Killer Whale. Boating BC is comprised of over 300 member-businesses that represent all sectors of the recreational boating industry; removing barriers for marine businesses and ensuring our industry is both viable and sustainable is central to our mandate. Martin Paish is a member of our Board of Directors and represented Boating BC on the Sanctuaries Technical Working Group.

Given the two options outlined in the consultation document, we strongly support Option A. The direct impact to recreational boating under this option is manageable, but with such a quick implementation date planned, it raises questions regarding how these measures will be communicated to the boating public and how they will be enforced.

Over 50 per cent of boaters use their boats for recreational fishing. Further, our member-businesses supply the recreational fishery and other small commercial operators such as the whale watching industry with their boating equipment, supplies and servicing. Given this, we have a keen interest in these sectors and, in support of them, we again strongly support Option A. The closures outlined in Option B would be devastating for recreational fishing and, as a result, the recreational boating industry as well.

Our sector generates \$2.2 billion in annual revenue in British Columbia. Made up of small and medium sized businesses along our coast and waterways, collectively, these small businesses have a significant economic impact. Tremendous pressure has already been placed on the sport fishery this season, and we believe Option A will minimize any further negative impacts while successfully contributing to the recovery of our Southern Resident Killer Whales.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Don Prittie
President

Because BC is better on a boat!™