

COWICHAN LAKE LAMPREY

Critical Habitat Protections in Effect



COWICHAN LAKE LAMPREY

- Cowichan Lake (Vancouver) lamprey is a species of fish found only in Mesachie, Bear and Cowichan lakes- nowhere else in the world.
- This small (up to 27cm) freshwater species is the only lake spawning, parasitic lamprey species in Canada.
- In order to help ensure the long term survival of this amazing species, both the species and its critical habitat are protected under the *Species at Risk Act*.



PROTECT THE SPECIES

- If you catch a lamprey, return it unharmed!
- It is **illegal to harm, harass or kill Cowichan Lake lamprey.**

PROTECT CRITICAL HABITAT

Critical habitat for the species includes:

- Mesachie, Cowichan and Bear lakes
- The lower 100m of 8 tributaries flowing into Cowichan Lake
- Mesachie Creek
- Key riparian areas (15-30m) in the lakes and major tributaries

It is **illegal to harmfully alter, disrupt or destroy critical habitat** without a *Fisheries Act* Authorization. Applications for activities in critical habitat should be submitted to DFO for review.



To report potential infringements to the species and its habitat call DFO's Observe Record Report line (1-800-465-4336) or email DFO.ORR-ONS.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

For information regarding development activity email ReferralsPacific@dfo-mpo.gc.ca.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
SCAN THE QR CODE



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