



Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters

1. What is your party's position on fishing, hunting, and trapping?

The Green Party recognizes that hunting, fishing, and trapping are an essential component of Aboriginal rights and will never seek to minimize these rights.

Greens support sustainable and legal hunting, fishing, and trapping that respects our animals and natural areas, acknowledging that, for many Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people, wild game is an important source of food and cultural heritage.

The Green Party advocates for sustainable fishing practices to restore our wild fish populations and protect recreational fishermen with strictly enforced regulations governing gear types, fishing practices and catch limits. We are strongly committed to strengthening the Fisheries Act to protect fish habitats and populations.

The Green Party will work with provincial and territorial governments to end trophy hunting in Canada while supporting subsistence hunting of wild animals that are not threatened or endangered.

2. If elected, will your government end all funding for the cervid (deer and elk) farm industry and commit to banning cervid farms, the primary vector for the spread of CWD, with compensation for the owners?

The Green Party will end all subsidies to the cervid farm industry. The Green Party recognizes the threat to wild cervid populations posed by Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD). We will take all necessary steps to prevent the spread of CWD.

3. If you form the next government, will you commit to increasing the Canadian funding envelope for the GLFC Sea Lamprey Control Program to the same level provided by the US?

The Green Party is committed to the conservation of wild fish populations. Greens have led on Great Lakes issues for many years. As Senior Policy Advisor to former federal Environment Minister Tom McMillan, Green Party Leader Elizabeth May worked on the previous iteration of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement in 1987. We are committed to strengthening the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement to protect wild aquatic life from invasive species like the sea

lamprey. The Green Party will consider all tools at our disposal, including a potential funding increase for the GLFC Sea Lamprey Control Program, to ensure fish are fully protected.

- 4. If you form the next government, will you work with the OFAH and other stakeholders across the country to explore ways to ensure that Canadians will have continued access to our lakes, rivers, streams?*

Public access to our waterways has been a Canadian right for over 130 years; however, recent legislative changes have steadily eroded this right. The Green Party vigorously opposed the 2012 changes to the Navigable Waters Protection Act (NWPA), which replaced the NWPA with the Navigation Protection Act and removed protections over 98 per cent of our inland waters. The Harper Conservatives' 2009 and 2012 changes weakened anglers', hunters', and paddlers' historic rights to navigate our lakes, rivers, and streams without impediment. The federal government must once again take up the mantle of protecting Canadian waterways and public access to them. The Green Party will absolutely work with OFAH and other stakeholders across the country to explore ways to ensure that all have continued access to our lakes, rivers, streams.

- 5. If elected, will your government commit to supporting HAAP and work with the panel to protect, enhance, and support the sustainable use of fish and wildlife across Canada?*

The Green Party is an enthusiastic supporter of fish and wildlife conservation. Hunters and anglers are intimately familiar with Canada's natural environments, and they are well-positioned to advise the federal government on conservation needs. The Green Party will continue to support the efforts of the Hunting and Angling Advisory Panel to protect, enhance and maintain the sustainable use of fish and wildlife across Canada.

- 6. If you form the next government, will you work with the OFAH and other stakeholders to ensure sustainable fishing and hunting opportunities remain in Marine Protected Areas, and are enhanced in National Parks and National Wildlife Areas?*

Absolutely! The Green Party will work with OFAH and other stakeholders to ensure sustainable fishing and hunting opportunities remain in Marine Protected Areas, National Parks and National Wildlife Areas in keeping with the principles of ecological integrity.

- 7. If you form the next government, will you continue funding for the RFCPP and create a dedicated program to support wildlife habitat enhancement in Canada?*

The Green Party is strongly committed to upholding the ethic of conservation in federal policy. Enhancing habitat protections is a high priority for Greens. We will continue funding the Recreational Fisheries Conservation Partnerships Program. The Green Party supports the Boreal



Forest Conservation Framework agreement to protect at least half of Canada's boreal forests. We will strengthen the Fisheries Act to restore robust habitat protections for marine and freshwater species. We will also restore the standard of "ecological integrity" and habitat protection in national parks legislation, to ensure that public use of natural areas does not adversely impact biodiversity. We will amend the Species at Risk Act (SARA) to ensure that recovery plans protect and restore the habitats of endangered species. The Green Party will make concrete changes in all areas related to conservation to ensure wildlife habitats are adequately protected.

8. *If elected, will you commit to ensuring that stakeholders and the public have an opportunity to provide meaningful input into discussions around land claims that affect them, and establish a funding envelope to allow non-Aboriginal groups and individuals to access funds to assist them in representing their interests during the claims process?*

The Green Party believes that land claims negotiations must be collaborative, rather than adversarial. Land claims must be based on a true nation-to-nation negotiation with Indigenous Peoples. The Green Party believes the Crown must recognize Aboriginal peoples' rights to their traditional lands so that we can move forward in partnership.

9. *If you form the next government, will you commit to not restoring a long gun registry for non-restricted rifles and shotguns, and work with stakeholder groups representing law-abiding firearms owners to continue firearms reforms that recognize the legitimate ownership and use of legal firearms in Canada?*

Many Canadians and Indigenous people found the long gun registry onerous and discriminatory. Thunder Bay-Superior North MP Bruce Hyer put his constituents' concerns before party allegiance in his vote to abolish the long gun registry, as he had long promised. As Green Party Deputy Leader, he continues to stand by his constituents.

The Green Party has no plans to restore the long gun registry for non-restricted rifles and shotguns, and will work with firearms stakeholder groups to review the registry for restricted firearms and establish safe and protected locations for target shooting.

10. *If elected, will your government provide a dedicated funding source for non-government organizations to acquire lands that will remain available for public use, particularly heritage activities?*

The Green Party strongly supports federal programs that conserve and protect the ecological integrity, biodiversity, and ecosystem health of our natural areas. We will support the efforts of non-governmental groups to promote public access to these areas for heritage activities wherever these efforts are compatible with the aforementioned goals, including with federal funding.



11. If you form the next government, will you commit to establishing a permanent and dedicated funding program to fight the threat posed by invasive species?

Invasive species wreak havoc on our ecosystems, and have major economic costs. The Ontario Invasive Plant Council reports that just sixteen invasive species have cost the Canadian economy up to \$34.5 billion annually. The zebra mussel has devastated Great Lakes fisheries.

The Green Party has called on the Harper Conservatives to reinstate funding to Environment Canada's Invasive Alien Species Partnership Program, which was terminated in 2012. The current government's drastic cuts have cost Canada programs that are important to biodiversity. These front-line programs are more necessary than ever, as the climate crisis leads to changes in species distribution. The Green Party will also address invasive species in the Great Lakes by developing stringent protocols for ballast water flushing prior to entering the St. Lawrence waterway.

