

CHAPTER FIVE

Conclusions

In summary, the Committee would like to emphasize that the inland fisheries are of crucial importance to some of the regional and local economies of both the Ontario and Western Regions. Governments have the responsibility to support these fisheries, particularly in northern areas where few employment alternatives are available.

Witnesses and participants in this investigation expressed strong feelings about the advantages of either single-desk selling or a free enterprise marketing system. As the two systems were developed in response to the needs of the time, however, it is the Committee's considered opinion that there is more to be gained by improving the existing systems than by changing them completely. It is understood that the proposals put forth by the Committee will require further study and evaluation by both industry and government, but the Committee believes that their eventual implementation could make a strong contribution to the prosperity of Canada's freshwater fisheries.

(4a) The responsibility of marketing agencies for the processing, packaging and marketing of such species and other low value species be given to an impartial body composed of federal and provincial officials with the assistance of a representative from the FFMC.

(4b) Research and development work be accelerated to find alternative uses for caught fish species.

(5) Variable pricing be implemented on a larger scale to control surges in delivery as well as quality levels. The fishermen affected by this should be fully informed of the pricing changes as well as the means for implementing them.

(6a) The provinces consult with the FFMC when establishing quota levels with a view to achieving a better coordination of supply and demand.

(6b) The provinces investigate the possibility of issuing transferable licences specifying annual quotas, the amount of which would be staggered throughout the year.

(7) A permanent inter-provincial-freshwater-fishery committee composed of provincial and territorial government representatives, FFMC officials,