

GREAT LAKES FISHERIES CONVENTION BETWEEN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Signed at Washington, April 2, 1946

His Majesty the King of Great Britain, Ireland and the British dominions beyond the Seas, Emperor of India, in respect of Canada, and the President of the United States of America,

Recognizing that the fish of the Great Lakes and their connecting waters constitute an important source of food supply and a natural resource of great economic importance to Canada and the United States of America, that fishing operations and other factors in the waters within the jurisdiction of one country may adversely affect the supply in the waters within the jurisdiction of the other, that some species of fish in the Great Lakes have declined and that further declines are probable unless adequate provision is made for the development, protection and conservation of the Great Lakes fisheries and for the maintenance of conditions which will permit the maximum yield, and that the conservation and effective management of these fisheries require cooperation between and joint action by the governmental agencies of both countries concerned with the administration of these fisheries,

Have resolved to conclude a convention for this purpose and have appointed as their respective plenipotentiaries,

His Majesty the King of Great Britain, Ireland and the British dominions beyond the Seas, Emperor of India, for Canada:

Lester Bowles Pearson, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary for Canada to the United States of America, and

Hedley Francis Gregory Bridges, Minister of Fisheries of Canada, and
The President of the United States of America:

Dean Acheson, Acting Secretary of State of the United States of America;

Who, having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE I

It is agreed that the provisions of this Convention shall apply to the following, herein referred to as the Great Lakes: Lake Ontario, Lake Erie, Lake St. Clair, Lake Huron, Lake Michigan, Lake Superior, and the connecting waters, bays, and component parts of each of these lakes, and the St. Lawrence River from Lake Ontario to the forty-fifth parallel of latitude. For the purposes of this Convention the St. Lawrence River from Lake Ontario to the forty-fifth parallel of latitude shall be treated as a lake of the Great Lakes.

ARTICLE II

1. The High Contracting Parties agree to establish and maintain a joint commission, hereinafter referred to as the Commission, to be known as the International Commission for the Great Lakes Fisheries and to be composed of two National Sections, a Canadian Section and a United States Section.

2. Each High Contracting Party may also appoint an advisory committee for each lake consisting of representatives designated by each province or state, as the case may be, having jurisdiction on the lake.