

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Department of Transportation and Works is proposing to construct a two-lane, all-season gravel surface highway from Cartwright Junction to Happy Valley-Goose Bay. This highway is Phase III of the Trans Labrador Highway (TLH) and will link the existing TLH highway sections to the east (Phase II) and west (Phase I).

The TLH-Phase III is currently undergoing an environmental assessment under both the Newfoundland and Labrador *Environmental Protection Act* and *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*. A Fish and Fish Habitat Component Study was prepared in conjunction with the environmental assessment.

This report provides follow-up information and clarification on items identified in the supplementary deficiency statement for the Fish and Fish Habitat Component Study that was prepared in conjunction with the environmental assessment for the TLH-Phase III. Aspects covered in the report are:

- fish and fisheries in each watershed;
- comparison and contrast of resident, non-resident and aboriginal fisheries;
- life history and population characteristics of fish;
- comparison of fish populations in affected watersheds with those of the Labrador region;
- populations and sustainable yield in each watershed;
- key features of the angling experience;
- comparison of water quality between sampling campaigns;
- seasonal differences in water quality and flow; and
- brook trout size and growth rates.

