



# Oceans Protection Plan

## Removal of Wrecked and Abandoned Boats

### Background

Abandoned small vessels in Canada have economic and environmental impacts on local communities. They can pollute the marine environment and disrupt local businesses, such as tourism and fisheries. They can also damage infrastructure, interfere with navigation and pose safety risks.

### What Programs Remove Wrecked and Abandoned Boats?

Under the Oceans Protection Plan, the Government of Canada has a comprehensive strategy featuring two funding programs to address abandoned and wrecked vessels:

**Abandoned Boats Program:** Helps communities assess, remove and dispose of high-priority abandoned and/or wrecked small boats that are a hazard in Canadian waters. This program also educates small-boat owners about how to responsibly manage the end-of-life of their boats, and supports research on boat recycling and environmentally responsible boat design.

**Small Craft Harbours, Abandoned and Wrecked Vessels Removal Program:** Provides funding to Harbour Authorities and other eligible recipients to remove and dispose of abandoned and wrecked vessels located in small craft harbours across the country.

Each of these programs protect the environment, reduce threats to our health and safety, and enhance tourism, fishing and other economic activities.

### What have we done so far?

Since the launch of the programs, the Government of Canada has provided **more than \$4 million** to a variety of organizations across Canada

- ✓ to assess boat removal projects
- ✓ to remove over 280 abandoned and wrecked boats from Canadian waters in collaboration with these organizations across Canada

### What's next?

Another Call for Proposals will launch to fund more assessments and removals of wrecked and abandoned boats.

Removing wrecked and abandoned boats is another action the Government of Canada is taking to protect our coasts and waterways. The Government is investing \$1.5 billion in the Oceans Protection Plan, a national strategy that is improving marine safety and responsible shipping, protecting Canada's marine environment and helping advance Indigenous reconciliation.