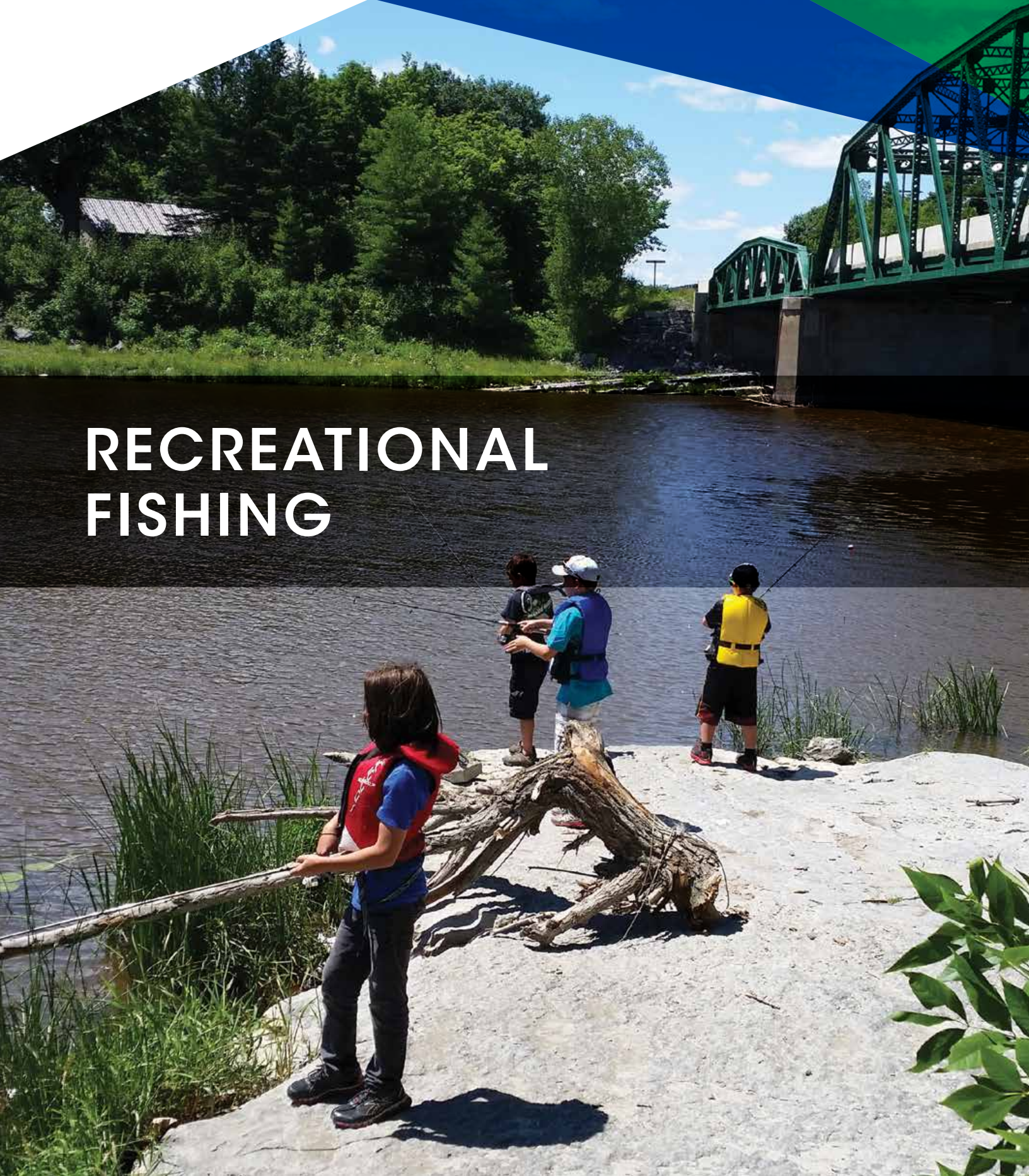




SOUTH NATION  
CONSERVATION  
DE LA NATION SUD

# RECREATIONAL FISHING

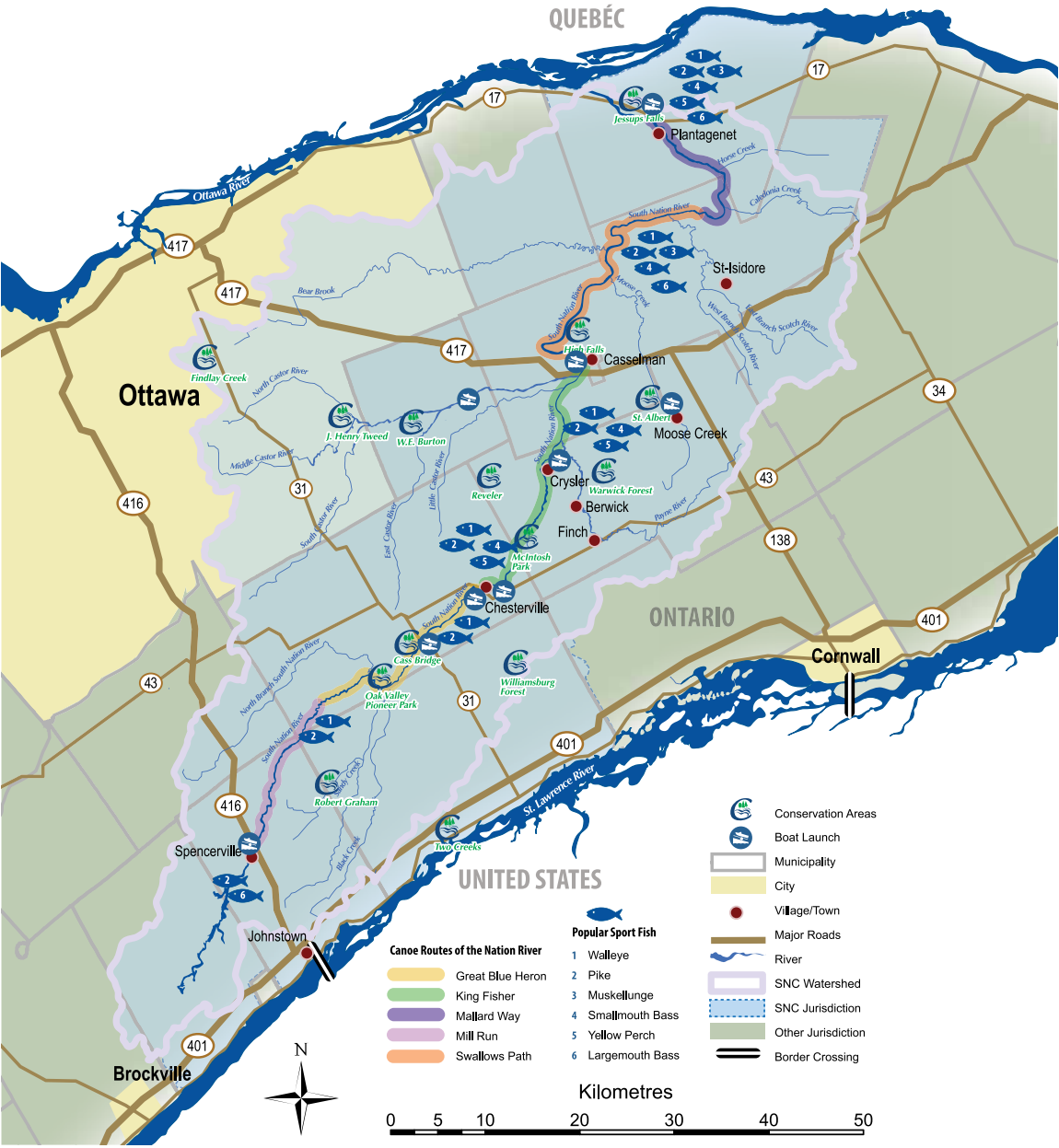


# ENDLESS ANGLING OPPORTUNITIES ARE AT YOUR DOORSTEP!

Offering over 4,300 km<sup>2</sup> of land in the South Nation Conservation jurisdiction, the possibilities for fishing are endless!

The South Nation River is 175 km long and drops only 85 m from headwaters north of Brockville to where it empties into the Ottawa River, near Plantagenet. The combined length of the main River and all its tributaries encompass over **7,000 km of fish habitat** and supports **72 different fish species**.

Angling opportunities provide a way for people of all ages to learn about the links between clean water, a healthy environment and thriving fish communities. With over **10,300 resident anglers**, this area is a premier destination for ice, small-boat, fly and shoreline fishing.





### HOW CAN YOU ACCESS THE RIVER?

A quality angling experience can be found all along the River, from small boat launches to larger docks for all boating and paddling activities.

- SNC and partners maintain **9 public river access points** and **5 canoe/kayak routes**. The five routes are: Mill Run, Great Blue Heron Route, King Fisher Route, Swallows Path, and Mallard Way. For more information: [nation.on.ca](http://nation.on.ca)
- Many tours/charters, festivals, bait and tackle shops, and angling groups are available for both residents and visitors.

### WHAT SPECIES CAN YOU CATCH?

The river supports many popular sport fish and coarse fish (such as Common Carp, Channel Catfish and Brown Bullhead) that offer ample angling opportunities. River fish are safe to eat following the Guide to Eating Ontario Sport Fish.

---

**? DID YOU KNOW** the South Nation River supports 3 of the top 5 sport fish in Ontario?

---

**📍 THE MAP ON YOUR LEFT** features many species of sport fish and canoe routes that provide great river access.

The SNC jurisdiction is situated within Fisheries Management Zone (FMZ) 18 which is home to a large number of provincially significant wetlands that provide spawning and nursery habitat for sport fish.

---

**🐟 FUN FISH FACT** Walleye was the most frequently preferred species followed by Bass in second and Largemouth Bass in third.

---

Recreational fishing is an important driver of culture, wellbeing and the economy.

Over \$8 million Canadian dollars was spent by resident anglers in direct expenditures such as package deals, food and lodging, transportation costs, fishing services, and fishing supplies – much of this investment occurs through local businesses.

---

**? DID YOU KNOW** that most anglers fish within 1-hour proximity of their homes?

---

Fish are important environmental indicators of ecological health. Land use changes on water quality, water quantity, and stream banks can impact fish habitat and future angling opportunities.



The characteristic brown color of the South Nation River is due to the presence of marine clays.

#### HOW DO WE COLLECT DATA?

SNC monitors and reports on **fish populations and communities** using several standardized provincial protocols within the six reaches of the South Nation River (Plantagenet, Lemieux, St. Albert, Berwick, Hyndman, and Spencerville). These reaches are separated by five water control structures. Typically we sample one reach per year.

- SNC monitors the natural forest cover, stream bank vegetation, water quality and quantity, and wetlands. All important components of a healthy fishery.
- We also monitor the presence of **aquatic bugs** as they are sensitive to changes in the water. Depending on the species, their presence can indicate a healthy stream, or it can indicate poor water quality.
- Certain species known as **species at risk** are found in the South Nation River, such as the **American eel**, which is protected under Ontario's Endangered Species Act.
- Popular sport fish such as Muskellunge, Pike, Bass, and Walleye are known as **top predators** and are present in the River systems, indicating good river health overall.

- We work with many partners to complete habitat enhancements, stream assessments, tree planting, garbage clean-ups, and invasive species removals.
- Visit our website to access the **Recreational Fishing Story Map** that explores the important science and stewardship work that SNC and partners are doing to ensure that a healthy fishery continues to provide quality angling opportunities for future generations.

#### HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP!

- **Go fishing!** SNC is a OFAH/OPG TackleShare Loaner Site for fishing equipment.
- **Report** your species at risk sightings.
- **Get involved** in our on the ground stewardship projects.
- **Learn** about our property owner and stewardship programs.



SOUTH NATION  
**CONSERVATION**  
DE LA NATION SUD

**South Nation Conservation**  
38 Victoria Street  
Finch, ON K0C 1K0

T: 1.877.984.2948  
info@nation.on.ca  
[nation.on.ca](http://nation.on.ca)

