



# The Alberta Fish & Game Association

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **GOVERNMENT SELLS OUT FUTURE GENERATIONS!**

**August 23, 2004.** In light of recent announcements by the Government of Alberta to sell off publicly-owned land, the full Executive of the Alberta Fish and Game Association (AFGA), at its August 21st meeting, has **again unanimously called for an immediate and permanent stop of the sale of all publicly-owned land in Alberta.**

Ray Makowecki, President of the AFGA said, “Albertans have said no to selling public land time and time again. Our Association supports the farmers and ranchers who lease public lands and use them in a responsible manner but we oppose the sale of these public lands.”

The AFGA has had a long-standing policy that does **not** support the sale of **any** publicly owned lands especially in light of the fact that the populated areas of the province, classified by the Alberta Government as “white areas”, contain very limited amounts of publicly-owned land. These islands of nature often stand out as wonderful fish and wildlife habitats which provide all Albertans opportunities for hunting, fishing, berry-picking, wildlife viewing, or other recreational activities. The AFGA’s position paper (attached) describes the many reasons for these lands to remain in the hands of all Albertans.

“The need to sell this valued heritage is not only disappointing but is confusing,” indicated Makowecki. “If you as an individual had wealthy financial resources, like our provincial government, would you sell your land; the public land, instead of leaving it for your children, the people of Alberta... and future generations?”

It simply does not make any sense and the public has said it over and over again.

**“When does No mean No!” The AFGA calls upon the Alberta Government to place an immediate and permanent stop on the sale of public land.**

The Alberta Fish and Game Association is a not-for-profit volunteer organization proud to serve Albertans in the promotion of the wise use of our fish and wildlife resources and the conservation of their habitats. The AFGA has been active since 1908 in working towards these goals and has a province-wide membership of 15,000 individuals spread among 106 local Clubs.

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