Chapter 8: **Consumptive and Non-consumptive Recreation**

**What is outdoor recreation?**

Carrying out wilderness based activities for our personal enjoyment. As a few examples, 75 000 of NL’s are hunters, almost 240 000 fish for sport, about 50 000 use snowmobiles, and several thousand trap.

- about 83% of us participate in outdoor rec, worth over $200M per year
- fishing, wildlife viewing, and hunting are the top three recreational activities

Recreational activities can be grouped as either “consumptive” or “non-consumptive”.

**Consumptive activities** - harvest something while we are out there, involves removing something.

Examples:

- Catch and keep fishing....
  - char, salmon, pike, trout, smelt, and whitefish
  - removes “large size” genes and spawners

**Non-consumptive activities** - minimal damage, no harvesting of any resource.

Examples:

- Catch and Release fishing...
  - careful playing, landing, handling, and releasing of fish, single barb less hooks
  - photo / replica trophies
  - minimizes impacts

**Impacts of both types:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>CONSUMPTIVE</strong></th>
<th><strong>NONCONSUMPTIVE</strong></th>
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<td>Requires management, always a risk of depleting the resource, harassment, associated littering, pollution.</td>
<td>More sustainable, still managed, still littering, pollution, and harassment potential</td>
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- **CONSUMPTIVE**
- **NONCONSUMPTIVE**
Impacts of Cabin Development:

Often, recreational trips involve the use of cabins. You are responsible for knowing some of the impacts or potential impacts cabins can have on their surroundings.

- noise
  - fireworks, ATV’s, chainsaws, generators, parties, guns

- risk of fire
  - bonfires, fireworks, burning garbage or litter can start fires

- sewage disposal
  - outhouses no longer allowed, they attract animals, smell, and spread bacteria and/or contribute to disease

A proper septic system must be installed that meets modern environmental rules.
- raw sewage cannot be introduced into the surrounding environment, it must be contained and broken down in a septic system to reduce local water and soil contamination

- garbage disposal
  Cabin owners sometimes dump garbage, hazardous materials, even vehicles into the surrounding woods or water

- trail and access road developments
  Accessing a cabin means you’ll need to use an existing road or trail (impacts already covered) or you’ll have to create a new access road or trail of your own (discouraged by crown lands office) - getting land in more remote areas can be made more difficult by this rule
- wildlife stress and lifestyle changes
  Increased traffic, noise, and hunting can stress nearby wildlife, cause them to move, or even change migrations

- use/impacts of ATV’s concentrated

- wood harvesting
  Cabin users often harvest wood somewhere near their camp, clear away vegetation to increase breezes, change your view out the window, or simply for firewood
You should be able to explain how someone would go about getting a brand new cabin constructed, and how the regulations are different between “new” cabins, and cabins already constructed and are exempt from newer guidelines.

**New cabin on new lot property**

- land lots have to be made available for lease or sale to the public by Crown Lands (Provincial Government)

- you apply for the lease or purchase of land, and if approved, have to pay to have the property professionally surveyed, and pay for the annual lease fee or outright purchase price

- cabin must be built in accordance with building codes.....electrical wiring, septic system, oil or wood heat system has to meet building code requirements or you cannot insure your new cabin

- systems must be inspected ( you pay for it ) and cabin location surveyed again to make sure it is what and where you said you would build
Cabins on preexisting lots, purchased preexisting cabins....

- you have to assume the property lease, or purchase the property. Outhouses already existing may remain. If you wish to insure a camp, you might have to update heating, electrical, or septic systems. A lot fewer restrictions on the cabin owner(s).