# Table of Contents

Purpose ...................................................................................................................... 4
A Commercial Fishing Licence .................................................................................... 4
Pacific Region Licence Terminology ........................................................................ 5
Vessel based vs. Party based Licensing ..................................................................... 7
National Online Licensing System (NOLS) ............................................................... 7
Pacific Fishery Licence Unit (PFLU) .......................................................................... 8
Commercial Licensing Reports ................................................................................ 8
Integrated Fisheries Management Plan (IFMP) ......................................................... 8
Notice and Acknowledgement System ..................................................................... 9
Licence Prefix Categories ......................................................................................... 10

**Party Based Licenses**

Fisher Registration Card (FRC) ................................................................................. 13
Roe Herring ................................................................................................................ 15
  - Seine (Categories HS and FHS)
  - Gillnet (Categories HG and FH)
Spawn on Kelp ............................................................................................................. 19
  - Categories J and FJ
Clam ............................................................................................................................ 22
  - Categories Z2 and Z2ACL
Green Sea Urchin ....................................................................................................... 24
  - Categories ZA and FZA
Red Sea Urchin .......................................................................................................... 26
  - Categories ZC and FZC
Sea Cucumber ............................................................................................................ 30
  - Categories ZD and FZD
Euphausiid ................................................................................................................ 32
  - Categories ZF and FZF
Rockfish ..................................................................................................................... 34
  - Inside and Outside (Categories ZN and FZN)
Food and Bait Herring ............................................................................................. 38
  - Category ZM
Pacific Sardine ........................................................................................................... 41
  - Categories ZS and ZSF
Eulachon .................................................................................................................... 45
  - Category ZU
Pacific Wild Oyster .................................................................................................. 46
  - Categories ZWO and FZWO
Special Use Bait Herring ......................................................................................... 49
  - Personal (1 Ton) Category ZX
  - Commercial (3 Ton)
    - Category ZY1 (Sport Bait)
    - Category ZY2 (Commercial Bait)
    - Category ZY3 (Domestic Food and Bait)
    - Category ZY4 (Zoo and Aquarium)
Commercial Salmon - Taku and Stikine River ......................................................... 53
  - Categories ATBR, ATBRF and FATBR
# Table of Contents

## Vessel Based Licenses

### Salmon

- Gillnet (Categories AG, FAG and NAG)
- Seine (Categories AS and FAS)
- Troll (Categories AT and FAT)

### Schedule II Species

- Categories C and FC

### Geoduck and Horseclam

### Sablefish

- Categories G and FG

### Halibut

- Categories K and FK

### Crab

- Categories R and FR

### Shrimp by Trawl

- Categories S and FS

### Groundfish Trawl

- Categories T and FT

### Prawn and Shrimp by Trap

- Categories W and FW

### USA68 – Albacore Tuna

- Category USA68

### Transporting

- Category D (also known as a Packing Licence)

### Schedule II Species – Tuna

- Category CT

### SEC68 – High Seas

- Category SEC68

### Fisheries Management Area Map

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*The list of categories above is a reflection of commercial and communal commercial licences within each fleet. Licences that reflect an F in front of the prefix (e.g., FL) are communal commercial licences.*
Purpose

The purpose of this reference document is to provide the commercial fishing industry, and any others who may have an interest, with an overview of the Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) licensing rules and policies for commercial fisheries within the Pacific Region.

DFO should be consulted for all purposes of interpreting and applying these policies.

*All persons making use of this reference document are reminded that it has no official sanction and its contents may change without prior notice.*

*Please note that the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans retains complete discretion to approve an exception to these rules/policies.*

A Commercial Fishing Licence

A fishing licence is a document or instrument by which the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, pursuant to authority under Section 7 of the *Fisheries Act*, has an absolute discretion to either issue or authorize to be issued fishing licenses which grant permission to an individual, company or First Nation to engage in the harvest of a certain species or any other activity related to fishing, subject to certain conditions attached to the licence.

A licence is in no sense a permanent authority to fish; the vessel owner or licence eligibility holder essentially acquires a limited fishing privilege rather than any kind of absolute or permanent right.
Pacific Region Licence Terminology

Communal Commercial Licences – Referred to as Category F licences, communal commercial licences have been relinquished from the commercial fishing fleet through the Allocation Transfer Program (ATP) or the Pacific Integrated Commercial Fisheries Initiative (PICFI) and are allocated to First Nations through an agreement between the ATP/PICFI and the First Nation. Communal commercial licences are party based with the First Nation identified as the licence eligibility holder. Each communal commercial licence has a maximum vessel length (MVL) associated with it. The communal commercial licence eligibility cannot be designated to a vessel with an overall vessel length (OAL), which exceeds the associated MVL. Regardless of the overall length of the designated vessel, the MVL associated with the communal commercial licence will remain at the established length.

Contact Vessel Owner – A vessel owner identified to be the contact party for the vessel for all licensing matters. This name will appear on all licensing documents.

Delegation Code/Public Identifier – A unique number that a vessel owner/licence eligibility holder may provide to a person they wish to appoint as their representative. The Public Identifier is also used to assign a person as an authorized individual for an organization (e.g. contact person).

Designation/Redesignation - Assignment of a party based licence eligibility to a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel. Redesignate or redesignation implies a second assignment of the licence to an alternate registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel.

Limited Entry – The total number of licences within a fishery is restricted.

Married – Licences which are permanently attached to other vessel based licences held on a single vessel. Single licences may become married if placed on a vessel with other vessel based licence eligibilities. Once married, all licences must move together to a replacement vessel, unless the current vessel replacement rules for that fishery permit to be separated. The exceptions being within the Halibut, Sablefish, Groundfish Trawl and Geoduck fisheries; where a category C licence or the Schedule II Species privileges from within the licence eligibility is retired in conjunction.

Maximum Vessel Length (MVL) – The maximum vessel length assigned to a licence eligibility. This length is based on the surveyed overall vessel length of the vessel holding the licence at the time either the licence was relinquished or the maximum vessel length was established. The licence cannot be designated or placed on a vessel with an overall vessel length which exceeds this length.

National Online Licensing System (NOLS) – A system used by DFO to issue commercial and communal commercial fishing licences and Fisher Registration Cards. The same system is used by all vessel owners and licence eligibility holders to view, pay for, and print commercial/communal commercial fishing licences, licence conditions, and/or receipts.

Nomination – A party based licence eligibility holder may request that the Minister consider another individual, company or First Nation for the applicable limited entry licence eligibility. There is currently no nomination process within the Clam, Eulachon and Spawn on Kelp fisheries.

Original Vessel Length (OVL) – the overall length (OAL) of the original vessel, the vessel licenced as of the date in specified fishery.
**Overall Length (OAL)** – The length of a vessel, based on an official measurement survey according to established DFO guidelines, which includes a measurement of the extreme ends of the outside of the hull.

**Party based Licence** – A licence eligibility held by an individual, a company or a First Nation. The licence eligibility holder may apply for the licence and have control over licensing transactions for that licence. Party based licence eligibilities include Herring, Rockfish, Clam, Sea Cucumber and Sea Urchin.

**Representative/Delegate** – A family member, friend, colleague or other trusted individual appointed by a vessel owner or licence eligibility holder to use the National Online Licensing System to conduct business on their behalf. The appointed representative is permitted to renew licences, submit requests, pay licence renewal fees, print licence documents, and receive notifications on behalf of the vessel owner or licence eligibility holder on record.

**Stacking** – More than one licence of the same species category has been placed/designated to the same vessel at the same time. In some fisheries, once licences have been stacked, they then become married and take on the overall length of the vessel upon which they are held. Some fisheries have applicable deadlines and special stacking provisions; such as a vessel may not hold more than one licence for the same area.

**Total Loss** – When a vessel has been declared unsuitable for fishing due to an accident or a surveyor’s report. Vessel owners are given three years to permanently replace the vessel and place the licence eligibilities held on the vessel to a vessel of the same length or shorter. Vessel owners are permitted to temporarily place a licence, within the three years, on a vessel with a 10 per cent flexibility in length restriction.

**Unlimited Entry** – The total number of licences within a fishery is not restricted.

**Vessel based Licence** – A licence is issued “in respect of a vessel” as the licence eligibility must be attached to a vessel. The reported vessel owner(s) may apply for the licence and have control over licensing transactions for that licence. Vessel based licence eligibilities include Salmon, Schedule II Species, Geoduck and Horseclam, Halibut, Sablefish, Shrimp by trawl, Groundfish Trawl, and Prawn and Shrimp by trap.

**Vessel Replacement** – where the vessel owner(s) of a vessel that holds a limited entry vessel based licence eligibility may make an application to permanently/temporarily place the licence eligibility on another registered commercial fishing vessel.

**Vessel Registration Number (VRN)** – A vessel registration number is assigned to all vessels registered with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans that are engaging in commercial fishing or transporting activities. The VRN can be comprised of five or six digits (i.e. 23456 or 312133). Vessels that are registered as a commercial fishing vessel will have a vessel registration number that begins with a 2 or a 3 (i.e. 23456 or 312133); whereas vessels that are registered as a transporting vessel will have a vessel registration number that begins with a 9 (i.e. 90052).
Some fisheries are subject to vessel based licensing rules while others are subject to party based rules. Vessel based licenses were initiated in the Salmon fishery at the beginning of limited entry as a means to control the capacity of the individual vessels in the fleet. In fisheries where the fishing vessel was not seen as the central element of fishing effort, party based licenses were utilized. Within each fishery, there are also differences in the application of licensing rules and restrictions.

Under vessel based licensing, a licence eligibility is held by a vessel and the vessel owner(s) may apply for the licence and have control of licensing transactions. Most vessel based licence categories are limited entry with a limited vessel size restriction.

Under party based licensing, a licence eligibility is held by an individual, a First Nation or a company who may apply for the licence and have control of licensing transactions. Most party based licences are limited entry and required to be annually designated to a registered commercial fishing vessel holding a vessel based licence eligibility. Some party based licences are also limited to vessels that do not have an overall length that exceeds the maximum vessel length associated with the licence eligibility.

All fish harvesters, licence eligibility holders, and vessel owners must use the National Online Licensing System (NOLS) to view, pay for, and print commercial fishing licences, licence conditions and/or receipts.

All limited entry licences must be renewed, and the renewal fees paid, every fishing year to retain the privilege to be issued the licence in the future. This means that vessel owners and licence eligibility holders must renew the licence(s) whether they intend to fish or not. If the licence is not annually renewed, the licence will cease and DFO will not be able to consider a request to issue that licence in the future.

Before a party based or communal commercial licence may be issued (where applicable), licence eligibility holders must annually designate a fishing vessel to hold the licence, by submitting a request through the NOLS. Instructions are available at www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm

NOLS training materials, including step-by-step guides and a detailed user training manual, are available to help users register to use the system and complete their licensing transactions. Refer to www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/FM-GP/SDC-CPS/licence-permis-eng.htm

The Department also provides client support and assistance on how to use the system via e-mail at fishing-peche@dfo-mpo.gc.ca or by calling toll-free 1-877-535-7307 (7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern, Monday to Friday).
Pacific Fishery Licence Unit (PFLU)

The Pacific Fishery Licence Unit can be reached by:

**Telephone:** 1-877-535-7307,
**Email:** fishing-peche@dfo-mpo.gc.ca or
**Fax:** (604) 666-5855

Commercial Licensing Reports

Reports on licence statistics, vessel searches and commercial fishing licenses may be found under the following Fisheries and Oceans Canada webpage:

http://www-ops2.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/vrnd-rneb/index-eng.cfm

Integrated Fisheries Management Plan (IFMP)

Current year Integrated Fisheries Management Plans (IFMP) for each commercial fishery may be found on the Fisheries and Oceans Canada Federal Science library page.

**Federal Science Library - Fisheries and Ocean Canada**
https://science-libraries.canada.ca/eng/fisheries-oceans/

A copy of the full IFMP can be found when entering ‘Integrated Fisheries Management Plan and the applicable fishery name’ in the search box on the Federal Science Library webpage.
Notice and Acknowledgements System

Fisheries and Oceans has worked with various financial institutions, including the Canadian Bankers Association to develop the Notice and Acknowledgement system for financial agreements entered into by a lender and vessel owners/licence eligibility holders. This was done in response to concerns expressed by the fishing and financial service industries relating to the need for access to capital.

The Notice and Acknowledgement system is a system that may be used where financing is arranged with a lender.

The Notice and Acknowledgement Form, notifies DFO of a financial arrangement between the vessel owner/licence eligibility holder and the lender, in relation to a specific licence eligibility and quota. The Notice and Acknowledgement Forms (or lack of Acknowledgement Form) are considerations that can be taken into account by DFO when determining whether to approve a request submitted by the vessel owner/licence eligibility holder.

The Notice and Acknowledgement process is as follows:

1. The vessel owner/licence eligibility holder or the lender on behalf of the vessel owner/licence eligibility holder can notify DFO of a financial arrangement(s) by filing the appropriate Notice and Acknowledgement Form with DFO.
2. The vessel owner/licence eligibility holder (depending on the licence eligibility being identified) must complete the Declaration of Consent on the Notice and Acknowledgement Form, consenting to DFO notifying the lender when the vessel owner/licence eligibility holder does not pay the required licence renewal fees or when he/she does not apply to renew the licence eligibility.
3. DFO will sign the Notice and Acknowledgement Form, acknowledging its receipt, and return a copy of the document to the vessel owner/licence eligibility holder and/or the lender.
4. The original Notice and Acknowledgement Form will be kept on file with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.
5. By filing a Notice and Acknowledgement Form, the vessel owner/licence eligibility holder and lender agrees to submit a completed Acknowledgement of Request for Licence Activity Form, signed by the lender whenever a request to permanently place a vessel based licence to another vessel for the issuance of a replacement licence, the transfer of quota for more than one fishing season or to have the Notice removed altogether, is submitted.
6. The filed Notice and Acknowledgement Forms (or lack of Acknowledgement Form) are considerations that can be taken into account by DFO in determining whether to approve a request submitted by the licence holder for licence activity set out in the current Acknowledgement of Request for Licence Activity Form.
7. If there is more than one Notice and Acknowledgement Form on file associated with a particular licence, then DFO will require one Acknowledgement of Request for Licence Activity Form for each Notice.

Where the vessel owner/licence eligibility holder is an Individual, the Notice and Acknowledgement forms are available at:

Where the vessel owner/licence eligibility holder is a Company, the Notice and Acknowledgement forms are available at:
## Licence Prefix Categories

Commercial fishing licences in the Pacific Region are often referred to by alphabetic letters (known as a “prefix”), which represent the species and fishing method. Some examples are "A" for Salmon, "S" for Shrimp by trawl, and "ZN" for Rockfish.

All Aboriginal communal commercial licence prefixes begin with the letter "F".

All commercial party based and vessel based licenses are issued under the authority of the Fisheries Act and Section 19 of the Pacific Fishery Regulations, 1993 and confers authority to fish under the conditions applicable to this licence, subject to provisions of the Fisheries Act and Regulations made thereunder.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prefix</th>
<th>Party based Licence Descriptions</th>
<th>Entry Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FRC</td>
<td>Fisher Registration Card</td>
<td>Unlimited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HG</td>
<td>Roe Herring by gillnet</td>
<td>Limited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HS</td>
<td>Roe Herring by seine</td>
<td>Limited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J</td>
<td>Spawn on Kelp by purse seine</td>
<td>Limited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAG</td>
<td>Salmon by gillnet – Northern Native Fishing Corp.</td>
<td>Limited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Z2</td>
<td>Clam by hand picking or hand digging</td>
<td>Limited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Z2ACL</td>
<td>Clam by hand picking or hand digging – Aboriginal</td>
<td>Limited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Z8</td>
<td>Smelt by gillnet or set net</td>
<td>Unlimited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZA</td>
<td>Green Sea Urchin by dive</td>
<td>Limited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZC</td>
<td>Red Sea Urchin by dive</td>
<td>Limited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZD</td>
<td>Sea Cucumber by dive</td>
<td>Limited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZF</td>
<td>Euphausiid by pelagic trawl</td>
<td>Limited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZM</td>
<td>Food and Bait Herring</td>
<td>Unlimited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZN</td>
<td>Rockfish by hook and line (Inside and Outside)</td>
<td>Limited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZS</td>
<td>Pacific Sardine by seine</td>
<td>Limited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZSF</td>
<td>Pacific Sardine by seine – Aboriginal</td>
<td>Limited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZU</td>
<td>Eulachon by gillnet</td>
<td>Limited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZX</td>
<td>Special Use Bait Herring – personal</td>
<td>Unlimited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZY1</td>
<td>Special Use Bait Herring – sport</td>
<td>Unlimited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZY2</td>
<td>Special Use Bait Herring – commercial</td>
<td>Unlimited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZY3</td>
<td>Special Use Bait Herring – domestic food</td>
<td>Unlimited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZY4</td>
<td>Special Use Bait Herring – zoo/aquarium</td>
<td>Unlimited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZWO</td>
<td>Pacific Wild Oyster</td>
<td>Limited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATBR</td>
<td>Transboundary Commercial Salmon (Taku and Stikine)</td>
<td>Limited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATBRF</td>
<td>Transboundary Aboriginal Commercial Salmon (Taku and Stikine)</td>
<td>Limited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AYR</td>
<td>Yukon River – Commercial Salmon</td>
<td>Limited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefix</td>
<td>Vessel Based Licence Descriptions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AG</td>
<td>Salmon by gillnet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS</td>
<td>Salmon by seine</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AT</td>
<td>Salmon by troll</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Schedule II Species by hook and line</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CT</td>
<td>Schedule II Species (Tuna)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Transporting (Packing)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>Geoduck and Horseclam by dive</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>Sablefish by longline or trap</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>Halibut by hook and line</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R</td>
<td>Crab by trap</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>Shrimp by trawl</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEC68</td>
<td>Section 68 – High Seas in international waters</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T</td>
<td>Groundfish Trawl</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA68</td>
<td>USA68 Section 68 – Albacore Tuna in USA waters</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>Prawn and Shrimp by trap</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All communal commercial party based licenses are issued under the authority of the Fisheries Act and Subsection 4(1) of the *Aboriginal Communal Fishing Licences Regulations* and confers authority to fish under the conditions applicable to this licence, subject to provisions of the *Fisheries Act* and Regulations made thereunder.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prefix</th>
<th>Communal Commercial – Aboriginal Licence Descriptions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FAG</td>
<td>Salmon by gillnet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAS</td>
<td>Salmon by seine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAT</td>
<td>Salmon by troll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FC</td>
<td>Schedule II Species by hook and line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FG</td>
<td>Geoduck and Horseclam by dive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FH</td>
<td>Roe Herring by gillnet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FHS</td>
<td>Roe Herring by seine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FJ</td>
<td>Herring Spawn on Kelp by purse seine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FK</td>
<td>Sablefish by longline or trap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL</td>
<td>Halibut by hook and line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FR</td>
<td>Crab by trap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FS</td>
<td>Shrimp by trawl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FT</td>
<td>Groundfish Trawl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FW</td>
<td>Prawn and Shrimp by trap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FZA</td>
<td>Green Sea Urchin by dive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FZC</td>
<td>Red Sea Urchin by dive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FZD</td>
<td>Sea Cucumber by dive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FZF</td>
<td>Euphausiid by pelagic trawl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefix</td>
<td>Communal Commercial – Aboriginal Licence Descriptions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FZN</td>
<td>Rockfish by hook and line (Inside and Outside)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FATBR</td>
<td>Transboundary Communal Commercial Salmon (Taku and Stikine)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prefix</th>
<th>Other Licence Descriptions</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EEZ</td>
<td>Exclusive Economic Zone – Foreign Vessels</td>
<td>Unlimited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CS</td>
<td>Contaminated Shellfish – Harvest Depuration</td>
<td>Unlimited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSO</td>
<td>Contaminated Shellfish – Oyster Relay</td>
<td>Unlimited Entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XMCFR</td>
<td>Management of Contaminated Fisheries Regulations</td>
<td>Unlimited Entry</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fish Harvester Registration Card (FRC)

Applicants must be a Canadian Citizen, Permanent Resident, Refugee or Holder of a Working Holiday Visa/Employment Authorization (i.e. Work/Study Permit).

Licence Category
Section 25 of the Pacific Fishery Regulations, 1993 requires persons 16 years of age or older to hold, and be able to produce upon demand, a Fish Harvester Registration Card (FRC) when:

- fishing for commercial purposes in tidal waters; including fishing for tuna from Canadian fishing vessels on the high seas or in the waters of the United States;
- being onboard a commercial fishing vessel that is engaged in commercial fishing;
- leaving a port or place in British Columbia to engage in commercial fishing; and
- being onboard a commercial fishing vessel that is fishing alternately under a commercial licence and a communal commercial licence (e.g., ‘dual fishing’).
- participating in the Taku and Stikine River category ATBR and ATBRF fisheries.
- a non-indigenous individual participates in an economic opportunity fishery (XEO) off of Band or Reserve land.

An FRC is not required:
- to engage in commercial fishing, if the person is under 16 years of age;
- for persons on board a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel that is only licensed for transporting (packing); or
- for persons onboard a registered Canadian commercial vessel that is only licensed under the authority of a communal commercial fishing licence (In lieu person will hold written designation list from the communal commercial licence holder)
- to participate in the Taku and Stikine River category FATBR fishery.

Licence Category Background
An FRC was previously known as a Personal Commercial Fishing Licence (PCFL). These have been issued since the 1900s primarily to identify the number of industry participants. Until about 1986, the PCFL authorized a licence holder to fish certain species without a vessel.

A five-year FRC was introduced in 1982 (and discontinued in 1995) to support a professional certification program that was being considered. Since 1995, only annual FRCs have been issued.

Licence Renewal Fee
The FRC licence renewal fee is $60.00

The FRC renewal fee includes $10.00 which is set aside for the Salmon Conservation Fund. Each applicant is requested to choose whether the monies be directed to the T. Buck Suzuki Environmental Foundation or the Pacific Salmon Foundation, or divided 50/50 between the two foundations. If an applicant does not make a selection, the monies are split equally between the two organizations.

Licence Issuance
A person may only hold one valid FRC, within a given year.
First time applicants must provide two pieces of valid identification:

1. The primary identification is proof of Canadian Citizenship or status in Canada (e.g., a birth certificate or passport).
2. Secondary identification may be a driver’s licence or other form of identification.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRIMARY IDENTIFICATION</th>
<th>SECONDARY IDENTIFICATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Birth Certificate</td>
<td>Service Discharge Papers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanent Resident Card (Valid)</td>
<td>Certificate of Registration of Birth Abroad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Citizenship Card</td>
<td>Refugee Status/Conventional Refugee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Passport (Valid)</td>
<td>Band Card – Issued by the Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Seaman’s ID Card</td>
<td>Dept. of National Defence (DND), RCMP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Baptismal Papers</td>
<td>Vancouver Police Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian Status Card (Valid)</td>
<td>Statutory Declaration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naturalization Papers/Card (American)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment Permit/Authorization (Valid)*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Permit (Valid)*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Where the conditions of the permit allows the individual to work in the commercial fishing industry*


**Licence Documents**

FRCs are valid from the date of issue to December 31st annually for the specified year of issuance.

Licence holders may reprint any lost or destroyed licence documents using the National Online Licensing System.
## Roe Herring

### Seine (Categories HS and FHS)

### Gillnet (Categories HG and FH)

**Licence Category**
A commercial or communal commercial Roe Herring by seine licence (category HS or FHS) or by gillnet licence (category HG or FH) is required to commercially fish for Roe Herring. Roe Herring licence eligibilities are limited entry and party based, and licence eligibility holders must annually select a harvest area.

**Licence Category Background**
Herring has been one of the most important components of the Pacific Region’s commercial fisheries over the past century, with catch records dating from 1877. The fishery has evolved from a dry salted product in the early 1900s, to a reduction fishery in the 1930s, to the current roe fishery that began in 1972. In addition to the Roe fishery, whole Herring and/or Herring Spawn has been harvested in the following fisheries: food, social and ceremonial; Spawn on Kelp; winter Food and Bait; commercial; sport; and personal use bait, charity sales, zoo and aquarium food, test fishing and research.

Limited entry in the Roe Herring fishery began in 1974. Licence eligibilities were issued upon application by individuals who owned substantial or all shares of gillnet or seine geared Roe Herring fishing vessels.

The criteria for obtaining a Roe Herring licence eligibility in 1974 was:
- participation in the 1972 and 1973 Roe Herring fishery, which made individuals eligible to apply for one licence eligibility for each vessel fished during those years; and
- consideration for issuance of one licence eligibility not based on previous landings, per individual.

Annual licence fees for this fishery were originally set at $2,000.00 for a seine licence and $200.00 for a gillnet licence.

Changes in Roe Herring licence holdings were not permitted in the first few years as there was an “owner/operator” restriction; in that a person who is the owner and operator of a commercial fishing vessel or who is a shareholder in a company, other than a fish processing company, that owns more one or more fishing vessels and who is designated by such company as the owner/operator for the purposes of these regulations (previously known as the Pacific Herring Fishery Regulations).

Therefore, prior to August 1, 1990, people who received licenses in 1974 (up to 1977 for Aboriginal Individuals) were still recognized by the Department as the licence holder of record, with the exception of those whose Ministerial appeals for family-related changes in licence holdings had been granted. The original intent of this person, holder-operator, non-transferable licence system was to provide some flexibility in the number of licenses issued annually. For example, if it was desirable, the fleet could be reduced through gradual attrition; as licence holders left the fishery, their licenses would be retired. It is interesting to note that it was originally intended that changes in the licence holdings were to eventually be allowed once the desirable number of vessels remained in the fishery after attrition.
This attrition did not occur for a number of reasons. Some licenses were issued to companies, and effective changes in the holders of these licenses occurred through sale of the company. Changes in licence holdings of elderly or deceased fishers to family members were granted through appeals to the Minister.

In 1979, the owner/operator requirement was dropped from the licence because of enforcement difficulties. As a result, some licence holders began to rent their annual fishing opportunity. This practice, later extended to long-term (99 year) leasing of licenses and supported by a power of attorney granted by the original applicant, provided a means to avoid the prohibition on nominations. This practice became so popular that it presented a problem for the department in identifying the actual operator. There has also been an enormous cost to those involved, as leases involve complex legal and administrative arrangements.

On August 1, 1990, the policy with respect to changes in Roe Herring licence holdings was changed to be as follows:

- Prior to licence application each year, licence holders of record may indicate their intention to no longer apply for a licence by completing a nomination form provided by the department. Where such an intention is stated, the Minister may consider issuance of the licence to another person nominated by the previous licence holder.
- All applications for a Roe Herring licence must be signed by the licence holder of record. Powers of Attorney will not be accepted. To encourage individual participation in the fishery, corporate licence holdings will be restricted to the levels indicated by the 1988 survey of Roe Herring licence holdings. Where a company is nominated by these licence holder as a replacement, the application will be subject to review to ensure that these levels are not exceeded.
- Reduced fee Roe Herring licence holders of record may also indicate their intention to no longer apply for a licence privilege but the person nominated by the licence holder must be an aboriginal individual.

**Fishing Areas**

**Gillnet**
Gulf – Areas 14 to 18
Prince Rupert – Areas 3, 4 and 5

**Seine**
Gulf – Areas 14 to 18
Prince Rupert – Areas 5
Gulf (Food and Bait Herring) – Areas 13, 14, 17, 18 and 29

*As the fishing areas associated with the Roe Herring Gillnet and Seine fisheries may change on an annual basis, please refer to the current year Integrated Fisheries Management Plan (IFMP) – Pacific Herring to view the current area selections.*

**Licence Renewal Fees**
Annual commercial Roe Herring licence (categories HS and HG) renewal fees are available at full and reduced fee amounts. There is no annual renewal fee for a communal commercial category FHS or FH licence.
Reduced fee licence eligibilities are held by individuals who have status under the Indian Act and who elect to pay a reduced fee for a Roe Herring licence eligibility. This election may be made at any time and is irreversible.

**Licence Renewal Fees**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gear</th>
<th>Full Fee</th>
<th>Reduced Fee</th>
<th>Communal Commercial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seine</td>
<td>$3,980.00</td>
<td>$1,990.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gillnet</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Licence Issuance**

A commercial Roe Herring Gillnet or Seine licence must be renewed, and the renewal fee paid, every year by December 31st to retain the privilege to be issued the licence in the future. This means that licence eligibility holders must renew the licence whether they intend to fish or not. If the licence is not annually renewed by December 31st, the licence will cease and DFO will not be able to consider a request to issue that licence in the future.

Prior to licence issue, a licence eligibility holder must:
- make an area selection;
- identify a Pool Contact;
- place the Roe Herring Gillnet licence in a pool (a minimum of four Roe Herring Gillnet licences and no maximum number);
- place the Roe Herring Seine licence in a pool (a minimum of eight licences and no maximum number);
- submit a pool designation list for each pool; and
- designate a vessel for each Roe Herring Seine licence.

Designated seine vessels must:
- be registered as a Canadian commercial fishing vessel; and
- have a valid fish hold inspection certificate.

This information must be submitted to DFO using the National Online Licensing System.

**Under the Canada Shipping Act, all vessels fishing herring or capelin are required to have a valid stability certificate/booklet on board the vessel.**

**Those Roe Herring Seine licence eligibility holders who select the Option for Food and Bait Herring will:**
- Be eligible to apply for a Food and Bait Herring (Category ZM) licence and submit the $30 fee for licence issuance.
- Be selecting this option for the current fishing year only
- Be required to submit the roe seine licence renewal fee to maintain eligibility
- Not be part of the Roe Herring Seine pool designation process

**Licence Documents**

Roe Herring licence documents are valid from the date of issue to December 31st annually.

Licence eligibility holders may reprint any lost or destroyed licence documents using the National Online Licensing System (NOLS).
Seine Vessel Redesignation
An on grounds Roe Herring Seine vessel redesignation request will not be considered where a vessel is licensed in another area and unable to arrive in time for a fishery in a second area.

After licence issue, vessel redesignation within the current pool may occur on grounds on the approval of a fishery officer.

An on grounds redesignation request may only be considered by Fishery Officers:
- Prior to the fishery openings in the area. Changes in area will not be permitted; or
- if the vessel is disabled (i.e. lost, damaged or mechanical breakdown); or
- if within the current pool

Nomination
Roe Herring licence eligibilities for categories HG or HS may be nominated from one party to another. Communal commercial Roe Herring licences (categories FH or FHS) may not be nominated.

Only one party (e.g., an individual, a company or a First Nation) may be nominated. There are no restrictions as to who may be nominated for a full fee Roe Herring licence; however, only an aboriginal individual may be nominated for a reduced fee Roe Herring licence.

Nomination forms are accepted by the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit every year from April 1st to close of business on October 31st. Nomination forms received after October 31st will not be accepted.

The Nomination for Roe Herring Licence Eligibility form is available at www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/licence-permis/licence-commercial-eng.html. The nomination form must be signed by the licence eligibility holder on record and notarized by a lawyer or notary.

If you require further discussion or information on the above mentioned nomination policies, please contact the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit.
Spawn on Kelp

Categories J and FJ

Licence Category
A commercial or communal commercial Spawn on Kelp licence (category J or FJ) is required to commercially harvest Spawn on Kelp. Spawn on Kelp licence eligibilities are limited entry and party based.

Spawn on Kelp licences are issued for herring pond operations. The licence eligibility holder or, in the case of a First Nation, the First Nation's representative, must be on site at all times during operation.

Licence Category Background
Commercial production of Spawn on Kelp was initiated in 1975.

Spawn on Kelp licences are issued for herring ponding operations. Catcher vessels are only used by some licences to impound live herring and draw them into an enclosure. Other operations use an “open ponding” principle which allows fish to freely enter and exit the pond during spawning.

The area of operation of the catcher vessel and ponding are specific for each Spawn on Kelp licence. A catcher vessel is used for closed ponding operations where as an operating vessel is used in open ponding operations.

Commercial production of Spawn on Kelp was initiated in 1975. Permits were issued to 13 individuals for six tons of product each. Selection of permit holders was based on remoteness of operation site and experience in catching, holding and handling live herring. Special consideration was given to remote communities and to Aboriginal Individuals. Individuals who were successful in obtaining a herring Spawn on Kelp permit were not permitted to also hold a herring roe licence, nor to participate in any way in the Roe Herring fishery either as a vessel skipper or as crew.

Permits were not issued to processing companies. Permits were only issued if adequate supplies of herring and kelp were available in the area being considered. The number of permits issued increased to 21 in 1976 and to 24 in 1977. In 1977 the quota per licence was increased to 10 tons.

An additional five permits were issued to Aboriginal bands in 1978. During that same time, the quota per licence was dropped from ten tons to eight tons. In 1979, one permit holder exchanged a Spawn on Kelp licence for a Roe Herring licence, resulting in a total of 28 permits. In 1983, these limited entry permits formally became category J licenses with a fee of $2,000.00 per licence and a reduced fee of $10.00 per licence for Aboriginal individuals or bands. These fees were intended to be consistent with the fees for a Roe Herring Seine licence. Licence holders are required to operate the licence.

In November 1989, the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans announced that an additional 10 licenses would be issued to harvest herring Spawn on Kelp in B.C. The new licenses were issued to Aboriginal Bands only and each new licence eligibility holder required to render inactive or retire equivalent gillnet or seine privileges from the Roe Herring fishery. This retirement measure was taken to ensure a sustainable level of Roe Herring harvest and to provide stability in both the Spawn on Kelp and Roe Herring fishery sectors. At that time, there were 38 licensed participants in this
fishery. A 39th licence was issued in 1993 for one year under an agreement with the Heiltsuk Indian Band.

**Licence Renewal Fee**
The annual renewal fee for a commercial category J licence is calculated as follows:
- $1,517.00 multiplied by 7.25 metric tonnes (mt) of Spawn on Kelp authorized to be taken under the licence, minus $1,000.00.

**EXAMPLE:** ($1,517.00 x 7.257478 mt) - $1,000.00 = $10,099.59

There is no annual renewal fee for a communal commercial category FJ licence.

**Zero Quota / Zero Fee Option**
Spawn on Kelp licence eligibility holders have the option of electing a zero quota option. The licence renewal fee associated with this option is zero dollars.

**Licence Issuance**
A commercial Spawn on Kelp licence must be renewed, and the renewal fee paid, every year by December 31st to retain the privilege to be issued the licence in the future. This means that licence eligibility holders must renew the licence whether they intend to fish or not. If the licence is not annually renewed by December 31st, the licence will cease and DFO will not be able to consider a request to issue that licence in the future.

Prior to licence issue, the licence eligibility holder must ensure that:
- any ministerial conditions placed on the licence eligibility have been met;
- any conditions of the previous year’s licence have been met, such as the completion, submission and approval of any logbook fish slip or quota overage requirements;
- the sales report for the previous year is submitted;
- participation in a DFO approved Spawn on Kelp monitoring program has been established;
- logbooks have been received from a DFO approved service provider; and
- a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel has been identified as the operating vessel (up to three operating vessels may be designated).

**Note:** Seine vessels used to capture and impound herring are not required to hold a vessel based commercial fishing licence eligibility on the vessel; however, they must be registered as Canadian commercial fishing vessels with DFO.

Pond set-up or harvesting is **NOT** permitted prior to licence issue.

**Licence Documents**
Spawn on Kelp licence documents are valid from the date of issue to December 31st annually.

Licence eligibility holders may reprint any lost or destroyed licence documents using the National Online Licensing System (NOLS).

**Vessel Redesignation**
Vessel redesignation after licence issuance is permitted, when required, by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at [www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm).
Nomination
There is currently no nomination process in place for commercial Spawn on Kelp licence eligibilities to be nominated from one licence eligibility holder to another.

Estate administrators may request that the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans grant a nomination exception for Spawn on Kelp licence eligibilities held in the name of estates, by presenting an appeal to the Pacific Region Licence Appeal Board (PRLAB).
Clam

Categories Z2 and Z2ACL

Licence Category
A commercial Clam licence (category Z2) or Aboriginal commercial Clam licence (category Z2ACL) and a Fisher Registration Card are required to commercially harvest Clam by hand picking or hand digging. Clam licence eligibilities are limited entry and party based. A party may hold only one Clam licence eligibility.

Five species of inter-tidal Clams are harvested in the Pacific Region: manila, native littleneck, butter, razor, and varnish. Harvesting is done by hand picking or hand digging in intertidal areas during opportunistic tides. Licence eligibility holders are required to wear a high-visibility vest while engaged in Clam harvesting.

A Clam licence is also required to harvest Clams on Oyster tenures.

Licence Category Background
Commercial Clam fishing began just before the turn of the century. Landings of individual species were not recorded until 1951.

Up to the mid-1970s, butter Clams dominated inter-tidal Clam landings. A change in market demands led steamer Clams (manila and littleneck) to dominate landings since 1981. There was a rapid escalation of the Clam fishery during the 1980s with coast-wide landings of all species reaching a peak of 4,360 tonnes in 1988. Landings then declined due to the removal of accumulated stock on most beaches. In 1998, landings of all species totalled 1,393 tonnes of which 1,115 tonnes were manila Clams.

Area licensing was introduced in 1989 to control fishing efforts by requiring Clam harvesters to annually select one of seven licence areas in which to harvest Clam. Despite this control measure, the number of commercial Clam harvesters remained high (approximately 1,900 annually) and increasingly restrictive management procedures were needed. As a result, some licence areas were open for only one or two days each season and the openings between licence areas were staggered to avoid harvest gluts and to maintain a year-round supply of fresh Clams to the market.

On April 22, 1997, the Minister announced licence eligibility limitations effective January 1, 1998. To be eligible for commercial access in Areas B, D, E, F, and G, applicants must have held a licence in five of the six years from 1989 to 1994. The Pacific Region Licence Appeal Board (PRLAB) also heard appeals from applicants who held a licence in at least three of the six years. To be eligible for an Area C licence, applicants must have held a licence in two of three years from 1991 to 1993. The Area A Clam fishery was directed at the razor Clam and licence limitation rules required holding a licence eligibility in three of four years from 1990 to 1994.

Licence limitations resulted in the establishment of approximately 1,165 licence eligibilities.

Aboriginal commercial Clam (category Z2ACL) licence eligibilities were introduced after consultation and negotiations with Aboriginal groups who requested access to the commercial Clam fishery in all areas consistent with traditional barter and trade. The number of Aboriginal commercial Clam licence eligibilities was negotiated to achieve a coast-wide approximate split of 50 per cent category Z2 and 50 per cent category Z2ACL. This split is based on the original number of commercial Clam licence eligibility holders established in 1998.
In 2003, negotiations with Quatsino First Nation resulted in the allocation of an additional fifteen Z2ACL licence eligibilities, effective for the 2004 fishing season, and the inception of a new area identified as F27. These licence eligibilities are eligible to harvest Clams in statistical area 27 (Koprino Harbour and portion of Klaskino Inlet).

### Fishing Areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Locations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>North Coast Subarea 1-15 and that portion of Subarea 102-1 inside a line drawn from Rose Point south to Fife Point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Johnstone Strait Area 13 and all intertidal zones surrounding Cortes Island and Twin Islands in Subareas 15-3 and 15-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Sunshine Coast Areas 15 (excluding intertidal zones surrounding Cortes Island and Twin Islands), Area 16 (excluding Subareas 16-9 and 16-20), Area 28 and Subarea 29-1</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Upper Strait of Georgia Area 14 and Subareas 16-19 and 16-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Lower Strait of Georgia Areas 17, 18, 19, 20 and Subareas 29-4 and 29-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>West Coast of Vancouver Island Areas 23 to 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F27</td>
<td>West Coast of Vancouver Island Area 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>Queen Charlotte Sound Areas 11 and 12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Licence Renewal Fee

The annual renewal fee for a clam licence is $30.00.

The Fisher Registration Card (FRC) renewal fee is $60.00.

### Licence Issuance

A commercial Clam licence must be renewed, and the renewal fee paid, every year by December 31st to retain the privilege to be issued the licence in the future. This means that licence eligibility holders must renew the licence whether they intend to fish or not. If the licence is not annually renewed by December 31st, the licence will cease and DFO will be unable to consider a request to issue that licence in the future.

### Licence Documents

Clam licence documents, a current Fisher Registration Card, and government issued photo identification must be carried at all times by the licence eligibility holder when harvesting Clams and produced upon demand of a fishery officer or guardian.

Licence eligibility holders may reprint any lost or destroyed licence documents using the National Online Licensing System (NOLS).

### Nomination

There is currently no nomination process in place for commercial Clam licence eligibilities to be nominated from one licence eligibility holder to another.

Estate administrators may request that the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans grant a nomination exception for Clam licence eligibilities held in the name of estates, by presenting an appeal to the Pacific Region Licence Appeal Board (PRLAB).
Green Sea Urchin

Categories ZA and FZA

Licence Category
A commercial or communal commercial Green Sea Urchin licence (category ZA or FZA) is required to commercially harvest Green Sea Urchins by dive. Green Sea Urchin licence eligibilities are limited entry and party based.

Licence Category Background
Limited entry was introduced in the Green Sea Urchin fishery in 1991. Licence eligibilities were issued to individuals who met a cumulative landing requirement of 9,072 kg (20,000 lbs.) over the two-year period of 1988 and 1989.

In 1995, a two-year pilot program of individual quota (IQ) and a licence nomination process was established. Under the pilot program, IQs included an equal allocation of catch among licence eligibility holders, north and south area licensing, and a limit of three licences designated per vessel. Maximum vessel length (MVL) restrictions were waived while the IQ pilot was in effect.

Individual quota remains in effect for this fishery. DFO reserves the right to reinstate the MVL restrictions at the lengths associated with each licence eligibility, at any time.

Licence Renewal Fee
The annual renewal fee for a commercial category ZA licence is $430.00.

There is no annual renewal fee for a communal commercial category FZA licence.

Licence Issuance
A commercial Green Sea Urchin licence must be renewed, and the renewal fee paid, every year by August 31st to retain the privilege to be issued the licence in the future. This means that licence eligibility holders must renew the licence whether they intend to fish or not. If the licence is not annually renewed by August 31st, the licence will cease and DFO will not be able to consider a request to issue that licence in the future.

Prior to licence issue, the licence eligibility holder must ensure that:
- any ministerial conditions placed on the licence eligibility have been met;
- any conditions of the previous year’s licence have been met, such as the completion, submission, and approval of any logbook fish slip or quota overage requirements; and
- a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel that is eligible for any valid limited entry vessel based licence, a valid communal commercial licence, or a valid Salmon category NAG licence has been designated by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm.

There is no maximum number of Green Sea Urchin licences which may be designated to a vessel.
**Licence Documents**
Green Sea Urchin licence documents are valid from the date of issue to August 31st of the next calendar year.

Licence eligibility holders may reprint any lost or destroyed licence documents using the National Online Licensing System (NOLS).

**Vessel Redesignations**
Redesignation of Green Sea Urchin licences is permitted at any time during the year as long as the licence conditions have been met, such as the completion, submission and acceptance of logbooks. **For example**, if a licence was issued on January 15th and a request to re-designate is received on March 10th, then logbooks and sales slips up to March 10th are required to be submitted to DFO.

Licence eligibility holders may only redesignate a fishing vessel to hold the licence by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at [www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm).

Prior to redesignation applications being processed, the licence eligibility holder must:
- confirm that the conditions of licence have been met; and
- designate a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel.
- ensure the designated vessel holds a limited entry vessel based licence eligibility with Schedule II Species privileges.

**Nominations**
Green Sea Urchin category ZA licence eligibilities may be nominated from one party to another. To do so, licence eligibility holders must indicate their intention to no longer apply for a Green Sea Urchin licence and name the nominated individual using DFO’s *Nomination for Category Z Licence Eligibility* form. The Minister may then consider issuing the licence to the nominated individual.

Prior to the nomination of a commercial Green Sea Urchin licence eligibility, the licence eligibility holder must ensure that any conditions of the current or previous year’s licence have been met and accepted by the Shellfish Data Unit.

Note that the nomination form must be signed by the licence eligibility holder on record and notarized by a lawyer or notary. If the licence eligibility holder is a company, the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit must have on record a copy of a recent B.C. Company Summary indicating the officers/directors associated with the company.


Communal commercial Green Sea Urchin category FZA licence eligibilities may not be nominated.

If you require further discussion or information on the above mentioned nomination policies, please contact the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit.

**Logbooks**
Logbooks may be obtained by calling D&D Fisheries (604) 886-4819 or ddpacific@dccnet.com.
Red Sea Urchin

Categories ZC and FZC

Licence Category
A commercial or communal commercial Red Sea Urchin licence (category ZC or FZC) is required to commercially harvest Red Sea Urchins by dive. Red Sea Urchin licence eligibilities are limited entry and party based.

Licence Category Background
The Red Sea Urchin by dive fishery began in the 1970s and has grown rapidly since 1982. The fishery became a limited entry category Z licence eligibility in 1991. Individual quotas were introduced in 1995.

Eligibility for licensing in this fishery was determined based on:
   a. A 34,020 kg (75,000 lb.) cumulative landing requirement over the three period 1987, 1988 and 1989 or;
   b. 20 days recorded harvest in any year from 1987, 1988 or 1989;
   c. 2,268 kg (5,000 lb.) landed in any year in the North Coast, Statistical Areas 1 to 10, from 1987, 1988 or 1989.

In 1997, an 18-month licence year, starting in July and ending in June of the next year, was implemented. Area licensing is also in effect, and licences are designated either North or South so that the fishery is not destructive to the species.

At present, licences retain a maximum vessel length (MVL) even though the MVL has been temporarily waived by DFO. Red Sea Urchin licence eligibilities may be designated to a vessel of any length permitted to harvest Schedule II Species. DFO reserves the right to reinstate the MVL restrictions at the lengths associated with each licence eligibility, at any time.

Since 2013, the maximum five licence stacking rule has been waived. As a result, there is no longer a limit to the number of licences which may be stacked on a vessel.

Fishing Areas
- North Coast – Areas 1 through 10, 101, 105, 106, 109 & 142
- South Coast – Areas 11 through to 29 & 123

Licence Renewal Fee
The annual renewal fee for a commercial category ZC licence is $530.00.

There is no annual renewal fee for a communal commercial category FZC licence.

Licence Issuance
A commercial Red Sea Urchin licence must be renewed, and the renewal fee paid, every year by July 31st to retain the privilege to be issued the licence in the future. This means that licence eligibility holders must renew the licence whether they intend to fish or not. If the licence is not annually renewed by July 31st, the licence will cease and DFO will not be able to consider a request to issue that licence in the future.
Prior to licence issue, the licence eligibility holder must ensure that a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel that is eligible for any valid limited entry vessel based licence, a valid communal commercial licence, or a valid Salmon category NAG licence has been designated by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at [www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm).

There is no maximum number of Red Sea Urchin licences which may be designated to a vessel.

**Licence Documents**

Red Sea Urchin licences are valid from the date of issue to July 31st of the next calendar year.

Licence eligibility holders may reprint any lost or destroyed licence documents using the National Online Licensing System (NOLS).

**Vessel Redesignations**

Redesignation of Red Sea Urchin licences is permitted at any time during the year as long as the licence conditions have been met, such as the completion, submission and acceptance of logbooks. For example, if a licence was issued on January 15th and a request to re-designate is received on March 10th, then logbooks and sales slips up to March 10th are required to be submitted to DFO.

Licence eligibility holders may only redesignate a fishing vessel to hold the licence by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at [www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm).

Prior to a redesignation being processed, the licence eligibility holder must:

- confirm that the conditions of licence have been met;
- designate a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel; and
- ensure the designated vessel holds a limited entry vessel based licence eligibility, with Schedule II Species privileges

**Nominations**

Red Sea Urchin category ZC licence eligibilities may be nominated from one party to another. To do so, licence eligibility holders must indicate their intention to no longer apply for a Red Sea Urchin licence and name the nominated individual using DFO’s *Nomination for Category Z Licence Eligibility* form. The Minister may then consider issuing the licence to the nominated individual.

Prior to the nomination of a commercial Red Sea Urchin licence eligibility, the licence eligibility holder must ensure that any conditions of the current or previous year’s licence have been met and accepted by the Shellfish Data Unit.

Note that the nomination form must be signed by the licence eligibility holder on record and notarized by a lawyer or notary. If the licence eligibility holder is a company, the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit must have on record a copy of a recent B.C. Company Summary indicating the officers/directors associated with the company.


Communal commercial Red Sea Urchin category FZC licence eligibilities may not be nominated.
If you require further discussion or information on the above mentioned nomination policies, please contact the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit.

**Logbooks**

Logbooks may be obtained by calling D&D Fisheries (604) 886-4819 or ddpacific@dccnet.com.
Sea Cucumber

Categories ZD and FZD

Licence Category
A commercial or communal commercial Sea Cucumber licence (category ZD or FZD) is required to commercially harvest Sea Cucumbers by dive. Sea Cucumber licence eligibilities are limited entry and party based.

Licence Category Background
The Sea Cucumber fishery began as an experimental fishery in 1980. It was licensed as category ZD in 1985 and became a limited entry fishery in 1991.

The licence eligibility criteria were based on:
- 22,680 kg (50,000 lbs.) cumulative landing requirement over the three-year period from 1987 to 1989 inclusive; or
- 20 days recorded harvest in any year from 1987, 1988 or 1989.

In 1993, quotas were assigned to five geographic areas: West Coast Vancouver Island, East Coast Vancouver Island, Central Coast, Prince Rupert District, and the Queen Charlotte Islands. In 1995, individual quotas were implemented as a pilot program to address conservation concerns. In 1998, these quotas were assigned to four geographic areas: West Coast Vancouver Island, East Coast Vancouver Island, Central Coast and Prince Rupert.

At present, licenses to harvest Sea Cucumbers under the individual quota pilot retain a Maximum Vessel Length (MVL) even though the MVL has been temporarily waived by DFO. Sea Cucumber licenses may be designated to a vessel of any length permitted to harvest Schedule II Species. DFO reserves the right to reinstate vessel length restrictions at the lengths associated with each licence eligibility in the future.

Fishing Areas
- Area C (Central Coast) – Portions of Areas 7, 8, 9 and 10
- Area W (West Coast Vancouver Island) – Portions of Areas 23 and 24
- Area P (North Coast) – Portions of Areas 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6
- Area G (East Coast Vancouver Island) – Portions of Areas 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 18

Licence Renewal Fee
The annual renewal fee for a commercial category ZD licence is $100.00.

There is no annual renewal fee for a communal commercial category FZD licence.

Licence Issuance
A commercial Sea Cucumber licence must be renewed, and the renewal fee paid, every year by September 30th to retain the privilege to be issued the licence in the future. This means that licence eligibility holders must renew the licence whether they intend to fish or not. If the licence is not annually renewed by September 30th, the licence will cease and DFO will not be able to consider a request to issue that licence in the future.
Prior to licence issue, a licence eligibility holder must ensure that:

- any ministerial conditions placed on the licence eligibility have been met;
- any conditions of the previous year’s licence have been met and accepted, such as the completion and submission of harvest logbooks or fish slips; and
- a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel that is eligible for any valid limited entry vessel based licence, a valid communal commercial licence, or a valid Salmon category NAG licence has been designated by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at [www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm).

There is no maximum number of Sea Cucumber licences which may be designated to a vessel.

**Licence Documents**

Sea Cucumber licence documents are valid from date of issuance to September 30th of the next calendar year.

Licence eligibility holders may reprint any lost or destroyed licence documents using the National Online Licensing System (NOLS).

**Vessel Redesignations**

Redesignation of Sea Cucumber licences is permitted at any time during the year as long as the licence conditions have been met, such as the completion, submission and acceptance of logbooks. For example, if a licence was issued on January 15th and a request to re-designate is received on March 10th, then logbooks and sales slips up to March 10th are required to be submitted to DFO.

Licence eligibility holders may only redesignate a fishing vessel to hold the licence by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at [www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm).

Prior to redesignation applications being processed, the licence eligibility holder must:

- confirm that the conditions of licence have been met;
- designate a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel; and
- ensure the designated vessel holds a limited entry vessel based licence eligibility, with Schedule II Species privileges.

**Nominations**

Sea Cucumber category ZD licence eligibilities may be nominated from one party to another; however, nominations are only accepted prior to licence issuance or after the Individual Quota has been obtained for that licence for that year.

To do so, the current licence eligibility holder must indicate their intention to no longer apply for a Sea Cucumber licence and name the nominated individual using DFO’s Nomination for Category Z Licence Eligibility form. The Minister may then consider issuing the licence to the nominated individual.

Prior to the nomination of a commercial Sea Cucumber licence eligibility, the licence eligibility holder must ensure that any conditions of the current or previous year’s licence have been met and accepted by the Shellfish Data Unit.
Note that the nomination form must be signed by the licence eligibility holder on record and notarized by a lawyer or notary. If the licence eligibility holder is a company, the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit must have on record a copy of a recent B.C. Company Summary indicating the officers/directors associated with the company.


Communal commercial Sea Cucumber category FZD licence eligibilities may not be nominated.

If you require further discussion or information on the above mentioned nomination policies, please contact the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit.

**Logbooks**

Logbooks may be obtained by calling D&D Fisheries (604) 886-4819 or ddpacific@dccnet.com.
Categories ZF and FZF

Licence Category
A commercial or communal commercial Euphausiid licence (category ZF or FZF) is required to commercially harvest Euphausiid by trawl. Euphausiid licence eligibilities are limited entry party based and designated to a commercial vessel annually.

Licence Category Background
The Euphausiid (otherwise known as krill) fishery began as an experimental fishery in the Strait of Georgia in 1970. The fishery was licensed as category ZF in 1983. Limited entry was introduced in 1993.

Individuals with landings of at least 20,000 lbs. during the 1988, 1989, or 1990 seasons were eligible for a personal licence. Licence limitation resulted in the establishment of 19 licence eligibilities. The maximum vessel length (MVL) for each licence eligibility is based on the surveyed overall length of the vessel which was designated in 1991.

The Euphausiid fishery is managed through periodic openings, conservative quotas, limited entry licensing, and a dockside validation program on the basis of area quotas. Confirmation of participation in a monitoring program was instituted in the 2003 fishing year.

Licence Renewal Fee
The annual renewal fee for a commercial category ZF licence is $100.00.

There is no annual renewal fee for a communal commercial category FZF licence.

Licence Issuance
A commercial Euphausiid licence must be renewed, and the renewal fee paid, every year by December 31st to retain the privilege to be issued the licence in the future. This means that licence eligibility holders must renew the licence whether they intend to fish or not. If the licence is not annually renewed by December 31st, the licence will cease and DFO will be unable to consider a request to issue that licence in the future.

Prior to licence issue, the licence eligibility holder must ensure that:
- arrangements have been made for service provision required by the conditions of licence, including (but not restricted to) logbook and coding, keypunching, and validation services.
- if the logbook and coding, and keypunching provided by the designated service bureau, are not used the Euphausiid harvesters must contact the Shellfish Data Unit at 250-756-7306 or 250-756-7022 to obtain the information necessary to fulfil these conditions of licence requirements.
- any conditions of the previous year’s licence have been met, such as the submission and approval of any logbook, fish slip or quota overage requirements;
- a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel that is eligible for any valid limited entry vessel based licence, a valid communal commercial licence, or a valid Salmon category NAG licence has been designated by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm; and
- the designated vessel's overall length does not exceed the maximum vessel length of the licence eligibility.

Note that designated vessels must have a survey on file with the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit, completed in accordance with DFO guidelines.

**Licence Documents**

Euphausiid licence documents are valid from the date of issue until December 31st of each calendar year.

Licence eligibility holders may reprint any lost or destroyed licence documents using the National Online Licensing System (NOLS).

**Vessel Redesignation**

Redesignation of Euphausiid licences is permitted at any time during the year as long as the licence conditions have been met, such as the completion, submission and acceptance of logbooks. For example, if a licence was issued on January 15th and a request to re-designate is received on March 10th, then logbooks and sales slips up to March 10th are required to be submitted to DFO.

Licence eligibility holders may only redesignate a fishing vessel to hold the licence by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at [www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm).

Prior to redesignation applications being processed, the licence eligibility holder must:

- confirm that the conditions of licence have been met; and
- designate a registered Canadian commercial fishing that is eligible for a vessel based licence.
- ensure the designated vessel's overall length does not exceed the maximum vessel length of the licence eligibility.

**Nomination**

Euphausiid category ZF licence eligibilities may be nominated from one party to another. To do so, licence eligibility holders must indicate their intention to no longer apply for a Euphausiid licence and name the nominated individual using DFO’s *Nomination for Category Z Licence Eligibility* form. The Minister may then consider issuing the licence to the nominated individual.

Note that the nomination form must be signed by the licence eligibility holder on record and notarized by a lawyer or notary. If the licence eligibility holder is a company, the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit must have on record a copy of a recent B.C. Company Summary indicating the officers/directors associated with the company.


Communal commercial Euphausiid category FZF licence eligibilities may not be nominated.

If you require further discussion or information on the above mentioned nomination policies, please contact the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit.

**Logbooks**

Logbooks may be obtained by calling D&D Fisheries (604) 886-4819 or ddpacific@dccnet.com.
Rockfish

Inside and Outside (Categories ZN and FZN)

Licence Category
A commercial or communal commercial Rockfish licence (category ZN or FZN) is required to commercially harvest Rockfish (inside and outside). Rockfish licence eligibilities are limited entry and party based.

Licence Category Background
In March 1992, the Minister announced a licence limitation program for the Rockfish species. This program was implemented in two phases based on area licensing. Rockfish fishing in the inside water of Georgia Strait was limited in the 1992 licence year with the balance of the coast becoming limited on January 1, 1993.

Licence eligibilities were established for individuals who:
- met a cumulative coastwide catch requirement of 15,000 lbs. of recorded commercial landings of Rockfish verified by sales slips in the years 1987 to 1990 inclusive;
- had a Rockfish licence and landings in two of the four years between 1987 and 1990; and
- specified an area choice, either the inside areas of the Strait of Georgia or the remainder of the coast.

Licence limitation resulted in the establishment of 74 inside licence eligibilities and 183 licence eligibilities for the remainder of the coast.

A maximum vessel length was established for each licence eligibility based on the surveyed overall length of the last vessel fished in 1991. A nomination process for allowing a licence eligibility holder to nominate another individual to hold the eligibility was also introduced.

Since 1999, vessels have been designated for both inside and outside Rockfish licences with the proviso that they would be issued only one amendment per fishing period. The designation of more than one inside Rockfish licence to a vessel was introduced for the 2002/03 fishing season to increase efficiencies for the fishery within the parameters of the conservation concern for inshore Rockfish stocks. Until 2008, five inside Rockfish licences could be designated to one vessel. In 2008, that number increased to eight.

Rockfish protection areas implemented in 1999 were expanded in 2002 and remain in effect. Since 2006, as part of a three-year pilot program, the Rockfish fishery has been managed through an individual quota regime and allowing unlimited annual reallocations between licences. Vessels participating in this fishery must acquire quota to account for all non-directed catch of Halibut and dogfish. Subject to species and area closures, vessels are permitted to retain and land non-directed catch.

Fishing Areas
- Inside
  - Areas 13 to 19 and 28 and Subareas 12-1 to 12-13, 12-15 to 12-48 and Subareas 20-4 to 20-7.
- Outside
  - Areas 1 to 11, 21, 23 to 27, 101 to 111, 121, 123 to 127, 130 and 142 and Subareas 12-14 and 20-1 to 20-3.
**Licence Renewal Fee**
The annual renewal fee for a commercial category ZN licence is $100.00.

There is no annual renewal fee for a communal commercial category FZN licence.

**Licence Issuance**
A commercial Rockfish licence must be renewed, and the renewal fee paid, every year by February 20\(^{th}\) to retain the privilege to be issued the licence in the future. This means that licence eligibility holders must renew the licence whether they intend to fish or not. If the licence is not annually renewed by February 20\(^{th}\), the licence will cease and DFO will not be able to consider a request to issue that licence in the future.

Prior to licence issue, the licence eligibility holder must:
- indicate if they do not intend to harvest under the authority of the Rockfish licence; and
- designate a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel that is eligible for any valid limited entry vessel based licence, a valid communal commercial licence, or a valid Salmon category NAG licence by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm.

**INSIDE ROCKFISH**
Vessels may:
- be designated with up to eight inside Rockfish licences in a year; and
- not exceed the maximum vessel length (MVL) for the initial inside Rockfish licence eligibility.

Once the initial inside Rockfish licence has been designated, the MVL requirement is waived for additional designated inside Rockfish licences whether Option N or not.

If Option N is selected, the designated vessel may exceed the MVL of the Rockfish licence eligibility. The licence holder may also choose to change to the option to participate in the directed fishery at a later date, as long as the vessel meets all the length requirements, where applicable.

**OUTSIDE ROCKFISH**
Vessels may:
- not be designated with more than one outside Rockfish licence in a year;
- be designated with an outside, and more than one inside, licence eligibility in a year;
- not exceed the MVL of the outside Rockfish licence eligibility (even when an initial inside Rockfish licence eligibility is already designated), unless the option to not participate in the directed ZN fishery is made at the time of licence issuance.

If Option N is selected, the designated vessel may exceed the MVL of the Rockfish licence eligibility. The licence holder may also choose to change to the option to participate in the directed fishery at a later date, as long as the vessel meets all the length requirements, where applicable.

**Amended Licence Documents**
Licence eligibility holders who elect not to harvest Rockfish may subsequently complete a licence amendment request in order to harvest Rockfish by hook and line. This request must be submitted through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm.
Prior to the issue of a licence amendment, the licence eligibility holder must ensure that:
- any ministerial conditions placed on the licence eligibility have been met;
- confirm that the conditions of licence have been met, such as the submission of logbooks or fish slips;
- a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel has been designated; and
- the designated vessel holds a vessel based licence eligibility and does not exceed the MVL of the licence eligibility to be redesignated.

**Licence Amendments**

Before beginning to harvest under the authority of a Rockfish licence, a *Request for Licence Amendment* form must be completed and submitted to the Groundfish Management Unit by fax at 604-666-8525. The form is available at [www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/commercial/ground-fond/form/amend_request-demande_modif-eng.pdf](http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/commercial/ground-fond/form/amend_request-demande_modif-eng.pdf). Contact the Quota Officer at 604-666-5865 for more information.

Stacking arrangements among licence eligibility holders must be completed prior to the issuance of a licence amendment.

**Licence Documents**

Rockfish licence documents are valid from the date of issue to February 20\(^{th}\) of the next calendar year.

Licence eligibility holders may reprint any lost or destroyed licence documents using the National Online Licensing System (NOLS).

**Vessel Redesignations**

Redesignation of Rockfish licences is permitted at any time during the year as long as the licence conditions have been met, such as the completion, submission and acceptance of logbooks. For example, if a licence was issued on January 15\(^{th}\) and a request to re-designate is received on March 10\(^{th}\), then logbooks and sales slips up to March 10\(^{th}\) are required to be submitted to DFO.

Licence eligibility holders may only redesignate a fishing vessel to hold the licence by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at [www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm).

Prior to redesignation applications being processed, the licence eligibility holder must:
- confirm that the conditions of licence have been met;
- designate a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel; and
- ensure that the designated vessel holds a vessel based licence eligibility and does not exceed the maximum vessel length of the licence eligibility to be redesignated.

**Nominations**

Rockfish, category ZN licence eligibilities may be nominated from one party to another. To do so, licence eligibility holders must indicate their intention to no longer apply for a Rockfish licence and name the nominated individual using DFO’s *Nomination for Category Z Licence Eligibility* form. The Minister may then consider issuing the licence to the nominated individual.

Prior to the nomination of a commercial Rockfish licence eligibility, the licence eligibility holder must ensure that any conditions of the current or previous year’s licence have been met.
Note that the nomination form must be signed by the licence eligibility holder on record and notarized by a lawyer or notary. If the licence eligibility holder is a company, the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit must have on record a copy of a recent B.C. Company Summary, indicating the officers/directors associated with the company.


Communal commercial Rockfish category FZN licence eligibilities may not be nominated.

If you require further discussion or information on the above mentioned nomination policies, please contact the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit.

**Logbooks**
Logbooks may be obtained by calling Archipelago Marine Research at 250-383-4535 (toll-free 1-888-383-4535).
Food and Bait Herring

Category ZM

Licence Category
A Food and Bait Herring licence (category ZM) is required to participate in this fishery. Food and Bait Herring licences are unlimited entry and party based. The total allowable catch and the areas available for fishing are determined annually.

The number of category ZM licenses continues to be set at 252. However, the number of licenses issued within a given year, will be based on the number of Roe Herring Seine licenses having selected the Food and Bait Herring option.

Licence Category Background
Food herring category Z licenses are restricted to eligible applicants and specified the allowable catch of the licence. Although a limited number of Food Herring (Category ZM) licenses are issued each year, it is not a limited entry fishery.

In previous years, eligible applicants were chosen by way of an annual lottery draw. Only one application per vessel was permitted to be submitted, with each licence issued to allow for a maximum harvest of 50 tons.

All lottery applicants were required to:
(a) Designate a vessel that has been designated for a Roe Herring Seine (category HS) licence eligibility or as a harvest vessel for a Spawn on Kelp (category J) licence eligibility within the past five years (2004 – 2008),
(b) Ensure that the designated vessel has functioning Refrigerated Seawater (R.S.W.) or Chilled Seawater (C.S.W.) capability,
(c) Select a fishing area (e.g. Prince Rupert or Strait of Georgia)

The Food and Bait Herring fishery occurs from November to February every year. Historically, category ZM licence holders have harvested from the season open date, typically November 7th, to the end of the fishing season, typically February 9th. With the fishery normally closing prior to the opening of the Roe Herring fishery, which typically was February 10th.

Herring stocks have fluctuated over the years. In the 1930s, catches dropped to 30,000 tons of which a major portion went into reduction products. Between 1968 and 1971, the fishery was curtailed due to stock concerns but was revived in 1977 in response to a collapse of European stocks.

As stocks rebounded, demand declined and the largest market was to supply bait for the Alaska king Crab fishery. By 1982, the industry was concerned that the large quantities being exported were affecting the high value Roe Herring fishery. A 50 ton individual quota system was implemented in 1988 with a total coast-wide quota of 1,500 tons. Since that time, catches have varied from six to 1,200 tons annually.

Since the 2017/2018 season, the number of category ZM licence eligibilities has been set to 252. Based on a one-to-one basis for each category HS and FHS licence eligibility; on a pilot basis. During this pilot process, the lottery process will not be utilized.
Fishing Areas
Prince Rupert (North) – Areas 3, 4 and 5
Strait of Georgia (Gulf) – Areas 13, 14, 17, 18 and 29

*As the fishing areas associated with the Food and Bait Herring fishery may change on an annual basis, please refer to the current year Integrated Fisheries Management Plan (IFMP) – Pacific Herring to view the current area selections.

As part of the Roe Herring area selection process, roe seine licence eligibility holders may select the option to harvest in the Strait of Georgia or Prince Rupert Food and Bait fisheries. The maximum number of roe seine licences for each area will be provided following the determination of fishery quotas for each area.

Licence Renewal Fees
The category ZM licence renewal fee is $30.00.

Licence Issuance
There is no limit on the number of category ZM licence eligibilities which may be designated to a vessel. It is the responsibility of vessel owners/masters to consider the carrying capacity of the vessel, when designating multiple licences to a vessel.

Prior to licence issue, the licence holder must ensure that the designated vessel:
• is a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel with functioning refrigerated seawater (RSW) or chilled seawater (CSW) capability.

Food and Bait Herring licence holders are required to designate the fishing vessel to hold the licence by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm.

The available quota for the Strait of Georgia will be shared on a percentage basis by the 252 Roe Herring Seine licence eligibility holders.

Roe seine licence holders who choose the Food and Bait fishery option will not be eligible to participate in the current year Roe Herring Seine fishery, and revised licence conditions will be issued with the share and fixed quota amounts specified. The fixed quota will be established at the time of Roe Herring Seine licence selection.

Under the Canada Shipping Act, all vessels fishing herring or capelin are required to have a valid stability certificate/booklet on board the vessel.

Service Provider
Licence holders must ensure that arrangements have been made with an approved service company to meet the notifications, catch verification, and catch sampling requirements of the licence conditions. DFO will provide the observer letter to the vessel master, based on information provided by the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit.

Licence Documents
Food and Bait Herring licence documents are valid from the date of issuance to February 12th of the next calendar year.
Licence holders may reprint any lost or destroyed licence documents using the National Online Licensing System (NOLS).

**Vessel Redesignation**

Category ZM licenses may be redesignated to another registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel at any time during the year, as long as the conditions of licence have been met, such as the completion, submission and acceptance of logbooks.

Licence holders may redesignate a fishing vessel to hold the licence by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at [www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm).

There is no limit in the number of category ZM licences that may be designated to a vessel. It is the responsibility of vessel owners/masters to consider the carrying capacity of the vessel when designating multiple licences to a vessel.
Pacific Sardine

Categories ZS and ZSF

*The Pacific Sardine fishery remains closed due to conservation concerns.*

Licence Category
A commercial or communal commercial Pacific Sardine licence (category ZS or ZSF) is required to commercially harvest Pacific Sardine. Pacific Sardine licences are party based.

Enquiries for experimental/exploratory licences to investigate alternative gear types may be made to DFO’s Pelagics Resource Manager.

Licence Category Background
In 2002, the Pacific Sardine fishery moved from an experimental/exploratory phase to a commercial fishery. With some remaining uncertainty about potential growth opportunities and the best management approach, DFO has taken an incremental approach to the development of this fishery and continues to follow the principles of the New and Emerging Fisheries policy.

Since 2003, up to 50 participants have been permitted in the fishery: 25 commercial and 25 communal commercial. In 2004, priority was given to applicants who participated in the previous year’s fishery, showed good stewardship of the resource, and demonstrated success in market development.

Two similar but separate processes for commercial licences and communal commercial licences have since been used to determine annual access to the fishery:

For the commercial fishery:
- Eligibility criteria has been based primarily on vessel suitability. In 2003, priority was given to vessels that participated in the experimental phases and annually thereafter. Remaining eligible applicants were placed in a lottery to determine a total of 25 eligible participants. Between 2007 and 2009, priority access was granted to 25 eligible participants based on licence issuance in the previous season.
- Between 2007 and 2009, eligible applicants were given a two-week period to apply for and meet licence application requirements, and to be issued a licence. If eligible participants did not apply for licences, the opportunity was given to the next eligible participant as determined by the lottery. This ensured that all 25 licences were issued to applicants committed to participating in the fishery.
- In May 2009, limited entry was introduced and 25 eligibilities were established with qualifying criteria as:
  - the ability of fish harvesters to make allocation changes to the licence within one business day;
  - the ability of the service provider to accurately match catch to licences;
  - no related enforcement issues; and
  - no increased cost to DFO.
- In May 2009, an appeal process was held and a nomination process was introduced for these commercial eligibilities.
For the communal commercial fishery:

- Applicants have been screened against eligibility criteria and then ranked based on adjacency and existing capacity. In 2007, priority access was granted to 18 communal commercial applicants and a lottery was held to determine a list of eligible applicants for the remaining seven licences. In 2008, 10 of the 21 participants with priority access completed the process by the deadline and a lottery was held to determine a list of eligible applicants for the remaining 15 licences. All 25 category ZSF licences were issued in 2008.

- Priority access for 2009 was provided to the 25 communal commercial participants issued licences in 2008. Applications and letters were sent to these 25 eligible applicants on May 19, 2009 with a deadline date of June 5, 2009 to meet application requirements. A lottery was planned to determine an eligibility list after the deadline; however, all 25 eligible applicants submitted applications by the deadline and no lottery was required or held.

Species
Pacific Sardine (*Sardinops sagax*), Chub mackerel (*Scomber japonicus*), and Jack mackerel (*Trachurus symmetricus*).

Gear
Pacific Sardine may be captured by purse seine or trap net. Gear specifications are outlined in the Integrated Fisheries Management Plan.

Licence Renewal Fee
As the fishery is closed for conservation concerns, there is currently no annual renewal fee for a category ZS licence. Should the fishery reopen, the annual licence renewal fee will be $30.00.

There is no annual renewal fee for a communal commercial category ZSF licence.

Licence Issuance
A commercial Pacific Sardine licence must be renewed, and the renewal fee paid, every year by February 9th to retain the privilege to be issued the licence in the future. This means that licence eligibility holders must renew the licence whether they intend to fish or not. If the licence is not annually renewed by February 9th, the licence will cease and DFO will not be able to consider a request to issue that licence in the future.

All Pacific Sardine licence eligibility holders are required to annually designate the fishing vessel to hold the licence by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at [www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm)

Prior to licence issue, applicants must:

- be on the list of eligible applicants for the Pacific Sardine fishery;
- designate a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel that is:
  - currently holds or has been designated with a valid Roe Herring Seine licence, a valid limited entry vessel based licence, a valid communal commercial licence, or a valid category NAG Salmon licence OR for communal commercial Pacific Sardine applicants only, be designated as a Spawn on Kelp catcher vessel.
  - able to accommodate a certified observer;
  - geared with a purse seine; and
  - equipped with at least one of the following freezer systems:
    - refrigerated seawater system
    - champagne system
A maximum of five commercial or communal commercial Pacific Sardine licences are permitted to be designated to a vessel.

Licences that have already been harvested to the maximum quota may stay on the same vessel and will not be counted against the maximum limit of licences allowed. When a vessel has not previously harvested under authority of a Pacific Sardine licence, further review may be required.

**Licence Documents**
Pacific Sardine licence documents are valid from the date of issue to February 9th of the next calendar year.

Licence eligibility holders may reprint any lost or destroyed licence documents using the National Online Licensing System (NOLS).

**Vessel Redesignation**
Redesignation of Pacific Sardine licences is permitted at any time during the year as long as the licence conditions have been met, such as the completion, submission and acceptance of logbooks.

Licence eligibility holders may only redesignate a fishing vessel to hold the licence by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at [www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm).

Prior to redesignation applications being processed, the licence eligibility holder must:
- confirm that up-to-date logbooks and landing information has been submitted to the service provider; and
- designate a suitable vessel that meets the application requirements and is currently holds or has been designated with a valid Roe Herring Seine licence, a valid limited entry vessel based licence, a valid communal commercial licence or a valid category NAG licence; OR, for communal commercial Pacific Sardine applicants only, be designated as a Spawn on Kelp catcher vessel.

**Nomination**
Pacific Sardine category ZS licence eligibilities may be nominated from one party to another at any time. To do so, licence eligibility holders must indicate their intention to no longer apply for a Pacific Sardine licence and name the nominated individual using DFO’s Nomination for Category Z Licence Eligibility form. The Minister may then consider issuing the licence to the nominated individual.

Prior to the nomination of a commercial Pacific Sardine licence eligibility, the licence eligibility holder must ensure that any conditions of the current or previous year’s licence have been met and accepted by the service provider.

Note that the nomination form must be signed by the licence eligibility holder on record and notarized by a lawyer or notary. If the licence eligibility holder is a company, the Pacific Fishery
Licence Unit must have on record a copy of a recent B.C. Company Summary indicating the officers/directors associated with the company.


Communal commercial Pacific Sardine category ZSF licence eligibilities may not be nominated.

If you require further discussion or information on the above mentioned nomination policies, please contact the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit.

**Logbooks**
Logbooks may be obtained through D & D Pacific Fisheries Ltd. by calling Darin Macey or Don Christian at 604-886-4819 or toll free at 1-800-775-5505.
**Eulachon**

**Category ZU**

*The Eulachon fishery remains closed due to conservation concerns.*

**Licence Category**
A Eulachon licence (category ZU) is required to commercially harvest Eulachon on the Fraser river. Eulachon licence eligibilities are limited entry and party based.

**Licence Category Background**
In the 1930s, Eulachon began to be commercially harvested on the Fraser River. Initially, anyone with a Schedule II Species (category C) or a limited entry, vessel based category licence was eligible to fish Eulachon. In 1995, due to concerns raised by Aboriginal groups and commercial fish harvesters that Eulachon stocks were at very low levels, an active management regime and stock assessment program were initiated. Eulachon fishing increased in 1996 due to speculation over licensing changes, diminished opportunities in other fisheries, changes to employment insurance, and an increase in the availability of Eulachon. There has not been a commercial or recreational fishery since 2001 due to conservation concerns.

Limited entry was introduced in 1998. Licence eligibilities were issued to individuals who met a cumulative landing requirement of 1,000 lbs. or greater in three out of six years from 1990 to 1995. Licence limitation resulted in the establishment of 16 licence eligibilities. A maximum vessel length was established for each licence eligibility based on the surveyed overall length of the vessel fished.

**Licence Renewal Fee**
As the fishery is closed for conservation concerns, there is currently no annual renewal fee for a category ZU licence. Should the fishery reopen, the annual licence renewal fee will be $30.00.

**Licence Issuance**
A commercial Eulachon licence must be renewed, and the renewal fee paid, every year by December 31st to retain the privilege to be issued the licence in the future. This means that licence eligibility holders must renew the licence whether they intend to fish or not. If the licence is not annually renewed by December 31st, the licence will cease and DFO will not be able to consider a request to issue that licence in the future.

Prior to licence issue, the licence eligibility holder must ensure that:
- any ministerial conditions placed on the licence eligibility have been met; and
- a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel has been designated.

As the fishery remains closed, the requirement for logbook approval has been waived.

**Nomination**
There is currently no nomination process in place for Eulachon licence eligibilities to be nominated from one licence eligibility holder to another.

Estate administrators may request that the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans grant a nomination exception for Eulachon licence eligibilities held in the name of estates, by presenting an appeal to the Pacific Region Licence Appeal Board (PRLAB).
**Pacific Wild Oyster**

**Categories ZWO and FZWO**

**Licence Category**
A commercial or communal commercial Pacific Wild Oyster licence (category ZWO or FZWO) is required to commercially harvest Pacific wild Oysters.

Pacific Wild Oyster licences are limited entry and party based.

A Category ZWO licence designates the authorized harvester named on the licence to harvest under the authority of the licence. Additional harvesters are permitted to assist the licence holder in harvesting on the beach. The licence holder and any additional harvesters must be in possession of a valid Fishers Registration Card (FRC).

A category FZWO licence designates the Aboriginal Organization to designate harvesters under the authority of the licence. Harvester(s) must be designated by the First Nation that holds the licence. The designation must be made in writing and include the person’s name and reference the Communal Commercial Licence.

Licence holders and those assisting are responsible for understanding all management measures and licence conditions before harvesting Pacific wild Oysters.

**Licence Category Background**
In October 2013, the Department announced future licence eligibility limitation for the commercial Pacific Oyster fishery. Past commercial licence holders having held a licence in at least one year during the period of 2009-2013 were able to apply for a one-time opportunity to establish eligibility.

As part of this process the Department also created 20 new communal commercial category FZWO licences for First Nation participation. Along with licence limitation, the Department announced new assessment and monitoring requirements for the fishery.

Licence limitation resulted in the establishment of approximately 136 licence eligibilities. The fishery operates under a Total Allowable Catch (TAC) and individual licence quotas. The current commercial fishery occurs within the south coast of British Columbia mainly along the mid portions of the east and west sides of Vancouver Island. Commercial harvest sites are divided into two licence areas.

Past commercial harvest opportunities under Provincial management have averaged 40 to 60 participants annually over the last ten years with a total allowable catch in 2011 of 417 tonnes. During the 2012 and 2013 season, DFO continued the Provincial management model while the transition was underway and the Department consulted and decided upon the future management and assessment frameworks for the fishery.

**Fishing Areas**
- West Coast Vancouver Island (WCVI) – Area 21 to 27
- East Coast Vancouver Island (ECVI) – Area 12 to 19
**Licence Renewal Fee**
The annual renewal fee for a commercial category ZWO licence is $30.00.

There is no annual renewal fee for a communal commercial category FZWO licence.

**Licence Issuance**
A commercial Pacific wild Oyster licence must be renewed, and the renewal fee paid, every year by February 28th to retain the privilege to be issued the licence in the future. This means that licence eligibility holders must renew the licence whether they intend to fish or not. If the licence is not annually renewed by February 28th the licence will cease and DFO will not be able to consider a request to issue that licence in the future.

Prior to licence issuance, licence eligibility holder(s) must ensure:
- ensure any Ministerial conditions placed on the licence eligibility are met,
- any conditions of the previous years’ licence, such as completion of logbooks, are met and accepted.

The licence eligibility holder of record for category ZWO licenses may annually choose to participate or redesignate another harvester to be named on the licence for the period of the annual licence. The annual licence fee must be paid and the licence obtained prior to requesting redesignation. Logbook/fish slip requirements must be met prior to redesignation.

Category FZWO licenses are issued in the name of the aboriginal organization that holds the licence. Harvesters must be designated by the First Nation that holds the licence. Designations must be made in writing and include the person’s name and reference licence.

There is currently no mechanism in place to accept an area change.

**Licence Documents**
Pacific wild Oyster licence documents, a current Fisher Registration Card, and government-issued photo identification must be carried at all times by the licence eligibility holder when harvesting Oysters and produced upon the demand of a fishery officer or guardian.

Pacific wild Oyster licence documents are valid from the date of issuance to February 28th of the next calendar year.

Licence eligibility holders may reprint any lost or destroyed licence documents using the National Online Licensing System (NOLS).

**Licence Eligibility Nominations**
Pacific Wild Oyster, category ZWO licence eligibilities may be nominated from one party to another. Licence eligibility holders may indicate their intention to no longer apply for a Pacific Wild Oyster licence by completing the *Nomination for Category Z Licence Eligibility* form. Where such an intention is stated, the Minister may consider issuance of the licence to a person nominated by the previous licence eligibility holder.
Prior to the nomination of a commercial Pacific Wild Oyster licence eligibility, licence eligibility holders are required to:

- Ensure any conditions of the current or previous year licence such as completion and submission of fishing logbooks are met
- Complete, sign and submit a nomination application. If the licence eligibility holder is a company, the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit must have on record a copy of a recent B.C. Company Summary indicating the officers/directors associated with the company.

Note that the nomination form must be signed by the licence eligibility holder on record and notarized by a lawyer or notary.


Communal commercial Pacific Wild Oyster category FZWO licence eligibilities may not be nominated.

If you require further discussion or information on the above mentioned nomination policies, please contact the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit.

Logbooks
Logbooks may be obtained by calling D&D Fisheries (604) 886-4819 or ddpacific@dccnet.com.
Special Use Bait Herring

Personal (1 Ton) Category ZX

Commercial (3 Ton)
  - Category ZY1 (Sport Bait)
  - Category ZY2 (Commercial Bait)
  - Category ZY3 (Domestic Food and Bait)
  - Category ZY4 (Zoo and Aquarium)

Licence Categories
A Special Use Bait Herring licence (category ZX or ZY) is required to harvest Special Use Herring. A category ZX licence is required for herring caught for personal use, while a category ZY licence is required for herring caught for commercial use. Special Use Herring licences are unlimited entry and party based.

Licences issued under these categories do not imply or confer a right or privilege to be issued a similar licence in future seasons.

ZX – Personal Use Herring
- **Licence purpose:** Fish caught under the authority of this licence cannot be sold and are for the sole use of the licence holder.
- One-ton licences are issued to anyone who owns or operates a licensed commercial vessel.
- Licences are issued on a “first come, first served” basis until the allocation for ZX licences has been reached.
- A landing report must be submitted to the Special Use Herring Resource Manager for each ZX licence issued, even if no fishing takes place.

ZY1 – Sport Bait Herring
- **Licence purpose:** Fish caught under the authority of this licence may only be sold as live bait to sport fishers or frozen for domestic or export sport fisheries.
- Three-ton licences are issued to anyone who owns or operates a licensed commercial vessel.
- In the Strait of Georgia, multiple three-ton ZY1 licences (up to five per vessel) will only be issued between November 7th to February 15th and October 1st to November 6th. Vessels may only stack licences from one licence category at a time.
- Licences are issued on a “first come, first served” basis until the allocation for ZY1 licences has been reached.

ZY2 – Commercial Bait Herring
- **Licence purpose:** Fish caught under authority of this licence may only be sold as fresh or frozen bait to commercial fish harvesters for commercial use.
- Three-ton licences issued to anyone who owns or operates a licensed commercial vessel.
- Licences that are not unique quota licences are issued on a “first come, first served” basis until the total allowable catch for ZY2 licences has been reached.
**ZY3 – Domestic Food and Bait Herring**
- **Licence purpose**: Fish caught under authority of this licence may only be sold fresh for non-commercial or non-sport use.
- Up to three ZY3 licences may be stacked on a vessel. Vessels may only stack licences from one category at a time. The vessel must meet the criteria for licence issuance.

**ZY4 – Zoo and Aquarium Animal Food**
- **Licence purpose**: Fish caught under authority of this licence may only be used to feed animal’s resident at the zoo or aquarium of the named licence holder.

**Licence Category Background**
The purpose of the special use bait herring fishery is to provide opportunities for licence holders to harvest herring for different uses, such as personal use bait, domestic food, sport fish bait, commercial bait, and zoo and aquarium animal food. Special use bait herring is not permitted to be harvested during other herring fisheries, such as the Roe Herring fishery, the Spawn on Kelp fishery, or the food and bait fishery.

**Sport Bait Herring (ZY1)**
In the late 1970s and through the 1980s, there were strong recreational herring bait fisheries. To supply these fisheries, three-ton impoundment permits were issued to the small live-bait operations that had become prolific throughout the Strait of Georgia, with scattered operations into the North Coast area. These permits were to be used in conjunction with fishing permits which allowed the harvest of herring for personal use or for the delivery of herring to a processor or operator who possessed a valid impoundment permit.

**Commercial Bait Herring (ZY2)**
The commercial bait licence category ZY2 was developed in 1995 to provide quota for bait that would be used in commercial fisheries, such as the Halibut fishery. Prior to this date, fishing activity for commercial bait had been underway for many years, especially in the Prince Rupert District, and was managed through the issuance of permits. The category ZY2 licence is operationally the same as the category ZY1 licence, permitting the ponding of herring using three-ton licences.

**Domestic Food and Bait Herring (ZY3)**
In the early 1980s, the opportunity to harvest herring for human food was provided through the issuance of three-ton permits for fresh, local sales only. When the licence category ZY3 was introduced in 1995, three-ton quotas and four 50-ton quotas continued to be issued through licences. Three-ton licences were available until 2006/07 and discontinued in 2007/08. In 2009, the allocation for category ZY3 licences was reduced to 150 tons.

**Zoo and Aquarium Animal Food (ZY4)**
Historically, the quota in licence category ZY4 has been available to any zoo or aquarium operating in Canada or the United States, upon request to DFO.

**Licence Renewal Fees**
The category ZX or ZY licence renewal fee is $30.00, per category.
Licence Application and Issuance
An Application for Special Use Bait Herring Category ZX and ZY form may be obtained by making a request through the National Online Licensing System or by calling the Special Use Herring Manager at 604-666-7851.

Eligible applicants may submit the completed application through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm. Only one type of licence may be applied for per application.

Licences will be processed in the order in which they are received and issued to applicants that meet all licence requirements, until the quota allocated for the requested licence category has been reached.

While stacking of licences is permitted, all catch landings must be validated against an issued licence. In the case of a vessel with stacked licences, all landings will be accounted for against the individual licences stacked on the vessel. A vessel may not stack licences from more than one category at a time.

No party may hold more than one active special use bait herring licence at a time. When a special use bait herring licence has been landed and validated, and all conditions of the licence have been met, the licence holder may apply for another special use bait herring licence. Proof of validation via correspondence from a service provider will be required prior to another licence being issued.

No fishing may take place until the licence documents are received and on board the vessel.

Licence Requirements
Prior to licence issue, applicants must:

- ensure that any conditions of a previous year’s licence have been met, such as the completion, submission, and approval of any landing reports and fish slips:
  o A log must be submitted even where no harvesting has occurred, e.g., for nil catch.
  o All landing reports and fish slips must be submitted to the DFO’s Pacific Regional Headquarters at 200-401 Burrard Street, Vancouver, BC, V6C 3S4.
  o Persons applying for a ZX licence must submit a landing record to DFO’s Pacific Regional Headquarters by November 15th each year.
- designate a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel that is eligible for any valid limited entry vessel based licence, a valid communal commercial licence, or a valid Salmon category NAG licence:
  o The applicant is not required to be the owner of the designated vessel as licences may be issued to an applicant who intends to use or receive the herring. For example, if the herring is to be impounded, then the applicant may be the impoundment operator.
- list the name and fisher identification number (FIN) of the vessel master.

Designated vessels may fish only one category ZX licence, and a maximum of five category ZY1 licences, at one time. When a licence has been fished, and all of the licence conditions have been met, the licence holder is eligible to apply for another licence.

Only category ZY3 and category ZY4 licences may be redesignated to different vessels, once the licences have been issued.

Under Transport Canada’s Small Fishing Vessel Inspection Regulations, all vessels carrying capelin or herring in bulk are required to have a stability booklet with a valid stamp aboard.
Please note that all category ZY applications received will be sent to the Regional Herring Officer for review and approval prior to licence issue.

**Licence Documents**
Special use bait herring licence documents are valid from the date of issue to November 6th of the next calendar year, unless otherwise specified on the licence conditions.

The special use bait herring fishery is closed from 00:01 hours on February 16th to 23:59 hours on April 30th for the Roe Herring season. Licences obtained before the February 16th closure that have remaining quota (e.g., have not fished out) may be used after the fishery re-opens on May 1st.

Licence holders may reprint any lost or destroyed licence documents using the National Online Licensing System (NOLS).

**Vessel Redesignations**
Vessel redesignation after licence issuance is only permitted for category ZY3 and category ZY4 licences.

**Logbooks**
Logbooks may be obtained by calling J.O. Thomas & Associates (604) 291-6340.
Commercial Salmon – Taku and Stikine River

Transboundary Commercial Salmon (Category ATBR)
- Full Fee
- Reduced Fee

Transboundary Aboriginal Commercial Salmon (Category ATBRF)

Transboundary Communal Commercial Salmon (Category FATBR)

Licence Category
The authority for this licence and category is found in the Pacific Fishery Regulations, 1993. Transboundary commercial and communal commercial salmon licence eligibilities are limited entry party based licences for specified licenced areas.

An Fisher Registration Card (FRC) is required to harvest with a Salmon Taku and Stikine River licence eligibility (categories ATBR and ATBRF). An FRC is not required to harvest under a category FATBR licence.

Licence Category Background
There are currently 17 limited entry party based commercial Salmon (category ATBR) licence eligibilities allocated for commercial fishing on the Stikine River.

There are currently 8 limited entry party based commercial salmon (category ATBR) licences allocated for commercial fishing on the Taku River.

There are three communal commercial (category FATBR) licence eligibilities allocated to the Taku River Tlingit First Nation (TRTFN) pursuant to the Aboriginal Communal Fishing Licences Regulations for participation in the general commercial fishery. These licence eligibilities must be designated to a fisher.

There are six Aboriginal commercial salmon (category ATBRF) licence eligibilities allocated to the Taku River Tlingit First Nation (TRTFN). Seven category ATBRF licence eligibilities are allocated to the Tahltan Indian Band. These licence eligibilities must be designated to a fisher.

Fishing Areas
- Taku River
- Stikine River – Upper and Lower

Licence Renewal Fees
Annual Salmon Taku and Stikine River licence (categories ATBR and ATBRF) renewal fees are available at full and reduced fee rates.

Reduced fee licence eligibilities must be held by Aboriginal individuals who have status under the Indian Act and who elect to pay a reduced fee for the Salmon licence eligibility.
There is no annual renewal fee for a communal commercial (category FATBR) licenses.

**Designation**

Commercial and communal commercial Salmon Taku and Stikine River (category ATBRF and FATBR) licence eligibility holders are required to annually designate a Fisher to hold the licence. This must be done by navigating to the ‘Submit a Request’ menu selection within the National Online Licensing System (NOLS). Full instructions are available at: [http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm).

**Licence Issuance**

A commercial Salmon Taku and Stikine River (category ATBR) licence may be renewed, and the renewal fee paid, every year by December 31st.

Prior to licence issue, licence eligibility holder must ensure that:
- any ministerial conditions placed on licence eligibility have been met; and
- any conditions of the previous year’s licence have been met.

**Licence Documents**

Salmon Taku and Stikine River licence documents are valid from the date of issuance until December 31st annually for the specified year of issuance.

Licence eligibility holders may reprint any lost or destroyed licence documents using the National Online Licensing System (NOLS).

**Nomination**

Commercial Salmon Taku and Stikine River (category ATBR) licence eligibilities may be nominated from one party to another. To do so, licence eligibility holders must indicate their intention to no longer apply for the licence eligibility and name the nominated individual using the *Nomination for Taku and Stikine River Salmon Licence Eligibility Application* form. When such intent is stated, the Minister may consider issuance of the licence eligibility to the nominated party.

Effective as of August 2004, the following is the current policy with respect to commercial Salmon fishing licences for the Taku and Stikine River.

This Policy is not intended to require any person who presently holds a commercial salmon fishing licence to relinquish the licence nor can it fetter the Minister’s absolute discretion with respect to the issuance of fishing licences. It has no force of law.

**1. Definitions**

In this policy,

“direct family members”, in respect of a person, means a spouse, child, brother, sister or parent of the person;
“spouse” includes a common law spouse and a same-sex partner;

“First Nation” refers to the Taku River Tlingit First Nation, the Iskut First Nation and/or the Tahltan First Nation; and

“Minister” means the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans or an appropriate departmental official.

2. Discretion of Minister
Subsection 7(1) of the *Fisheries Act* provides that the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans has absolute discretion to issue fishing licences. The Minister may decide to issue a licence to the party nominated by the licence holder or to someone else either before the 60 day period or after the 90 day period has elapsed.

3. Nomination of Another Party
This Policy sets out the process where the holder of a commercial salmon fishing licence for the Taku River or the Stikine River wishes to relinquish his privilege to fish under a licence he holds and nominates another party to be issued such a licence.

4. Direct Family Member
Where the party nominated is a direct family member of the licence holder, the Minister would consider issuing a commercial salmon fishing licence for the Taku River or the Stikine River to that direct family member.

5. Not Direct Family Member
Where a direct family member of the licence holder is not nominated, the Minister, would send a registered letter to the Taku River Tlingit First Nation (if the licence is for the Taku River) and to the Iskut First Nation and Tahltan First Nation (if the licence is for the Stikine River). The letter would advise the First Nation that a commercial salmon fishing licence for the river in question has or will be relinquished.

If, within 60 days of the date that the registered letter was mailed, the First Nation provides written notice that it wishes to be considered for the issuance of a commercial salmon fishing licence for the Taku River or the Stikine River and within 90 days of the date that the registered letter was mailed, the licence holder provides written notice nominating the First Nation to be issued such a licence, the Minister would consider issuing a commercial salmon fishing licence for the Taku River or the Stikine River to the First Nation.

If, within 60 days of the date that the registered letter was mailed, the First Nation does not provide written notice that it wishes to be considered for the issuance of a commercial salmon fishing licence for the Taku River or the Stikine River, or if the licence holder does not provide written notice nominating the First Nation within 90 days of the date that the registered letter was mailed, the Minister could consider issuing a commercial salmon fishing licence for the Taku River or the Stikine River to a third party nominated by the licence holder.

6. Licensing
Where a request to issue a commercial salmon fishing licence to another party is approved by the Minister, subject to the Minister’s absolute discretion in these matters, an appropriate licence will be issued through the Yukon/Transboundary Rivers Area of the Pacific Region to that party.

The Yukon/Transboundary Rivers Area will maintain an inventory of these licences.
7. General
Requests to relinquish a licence and nominate another party to be issued a licence should be sent to the following address:

Area Director
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
100 – 419 Range Road
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 3V1

Persons who wish to relinquish their licence and nominate another party for licence issuance should take into account that the process may take up to 130 days from the date that written notification is provided to the Area Director of Yukon/Transboundary Rivers Area of their intent to relinquish their licence.

A copy of the Nomination for Taku and Stikine River Salmon Licence Eligibility Application form may be obtained from the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit (PFLU). This may be done by navigating to the ‘Submit a Request’ menu selection within the National Online Licensing System (NOLS). Full instructions are available at: http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm

Logbooks
All catch must be report every 24 hours, via fish slips to Fisheries and Oceans, when participating in the fishery.
Salmon

Gillnet (Categories AG, FAG and NAG)

Seine (Categories AS and FAS)

Troll (Categories AT and FAT)

Licence Category
A commercial or communal commercial Salmon licence (any category A, FA or NAG) is required to commercially harvest Salmon. Category A licence eligibilities are limited entry and vessel based.

The licence eligibilities for category FA and NAG are party based and must be annually designated to a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel that meets established length restrictions. Vessels are required to have a survey either on file with the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit or the survey must be submitted with the vessel designation. Vessels must be surveyed according to DFO guidelines category FA licences are held by Aboriginal groups. Category NAG licence eligibilities are held by the Northern Native Fishing Corporation.

Vessels authorized to fish under the authority of a Salmon licence are also permitted to:
- fish for Schedule II Species, according to the conditions of each licence;
- transport fish caught by other vessels; and
- be designated to fish under the authority of a category Z licence.

Licence Category Background
Salmon has been a limited entry vessel based fishery since 1969.

Salmon Category A licenses were issued for fishing vessels which had a recorded catch of 10,000 lbs. or more of pink or chum Salmon, or equivalent, during 1967 or 1968.

The introduction of entry controls in the Salmon fishery in 1969 marked the beginning of licence limitation in Pacific fisheries in Canada. Salmon (A) licenses were issued for fishing vessels which had a recorded catch of 10,000 lbs. or more of pink or chum Salmon, or equivalent during 1967 or 1968. A total of 5870 Salmon (A) licenses were issued in 1969.

The fee for a Salmon (A) licence in 1969 was $10.00. Effective for the 1970 Salmon season, the licence fee was raised from $10 to $100 for Salmon (A) vessels less than 15 net tons in capacity. Vessels larger than this were charged $200 in annual fees in a rough attempt to make fee proportional to fishing capacity. The stated purpose of the fee increase was to fund a buy back program for the Salmon fleet. Effective for the 1971 season, these fees were doubled to $200 and $400 respectively; at the same time, another fee category was introduced; vessels under 30 ft. continued to pay a $100 annual fee. In 1981, Salmon licence fees in each of the three categories were increased again to $200, $400 and $800 respectively. The most recent increase in fees occurred in 1987, when licence fees were increased to $400, $800 and $1,600 respectively.

Between 1969 and 1977 there was no restriction on the type of gear (gillnet, seine or troll) which could be used on a Salmon licensed vessel. In 1977, a moratorium on the number of vessels allowed
to fish with seine gear was implemented. In 1982, Salmon vessels with a seine licence privilege were issued distinct Salmon validation tabs. Those Salmon vessels with a seine licence privilege were entitled to fish for Salmon with any gear. Those vessels without a seine licence privilege could use either gillnet or troll gear or both.

Aboriginal individuals may elect to pay a lower annual fee for a Salmon (A) licence, however, where this election has been made, the lower fee applies in all years thereafter and the vessel may only be sold to an Aboriginal individual. If a vessel has been issued a Salmon (A) licence, to which this restriction applies and is sold to a non-aboriginal individual, the licence eligibility ceases. This election and restriction in the Salmon (A) licence also applies to the Northern Native Fishing Corporation (NNFC), an aboriginal owned and operated company licence and section 19 – Registrations and Licenses of the Pacific Fishery Regulations, 1993.

The Salmon (B) licence initiated in 1969 with entry limitation and was issued to vessels that had a recorded catch during 1967 or 1968 of less than 10,000 lbs. of pink or chum Salmon, or equivalent. It was argued that these vessels traditionally participated in the Salmon fishery only during peak runs and that their exclusion from the fishery would detrimentally affect the vessel owner’s long term income and vessel values. There were 1062 Salmon (B) licenses issued originally.

In 1970, a phase-out period for these Salmon (B) licenses was announced; they would be issued annually only up to 10 years. The licence fee remained at $10. In 1978, when most of the Salmon (B) licenses were set to expire, the Minister extended them for an additional five years; a total of 103 licenses, which were still held by the original Salmon (B) vessel owners. The licence fee was doubled in 1981 to $20.00. At present, there are no Salmon (B) licenses still be issued by the Minister.

In 1982, B.C. Packers Ltd. sold 243 vessels and 254 licenses (most of its northern gillnet fleet) to the Northern Native Fishing Corporation (NNFC). The concept behind NNFC is that the corporation retains the licence privilege even though they may sell the vessels to individual Native fishers. In order to facilitate the corporation’s operation, the Minister created a Salmon (category N) licence. Salmon (N) licenses are personal licenses held by the NNFC.

Salmon (N) licenses are issued only to the Northern Native Fishing Corporation for vessels designated by the corporation. They were introduced in 1983 upon the relinquishment and retirement of a Salmon (A) licence by the NNFC for each Salmon (N) licence issued. At present, these licenses are now referred to as category NAG licenses as all 254 of these licenses are in the Salmon gillnet fleet.

In 1996, under the Pacific Salmon Revitalisation Plan, area and gear selection were introduced and Salmon licensed vessel owners were required to select a gear and an area for each licence eligibility. Gear selections were seine, gillnet or troll. Gear selection was permanent. Area selections were: Areas A or B for seine; Areas C, D or E for gillnet; and Areas F, G or H for troll. In addition, a vessel was only able to hold one licence eligibility per area.

Area licensing has been a feature of Salmon management for the past 10 years with area selections processes in 1996, 2000, 2006 and 2007. The initial area selection was for a four-year period. Licence stacking was also introduced in 1996 to help decrease the number of vessels actively participating in the fishery, while allowing vessel owners to fish in more than one area or with more than one gear.
**Fishing Areas**

**Seine**
- Area A – Areas 1 to 10, Subarea 101-7
- Area B – Areas 11 to 29 and 121

**Gillnet**
- Area C – Areas 1 to 10, Subarea 101-7
- Area D – Areas 11 to 15 and 23 to 27
- Area E – Areas 16 to 22, 28, 29 and 121

**Troll**
- Area F – Areas 1 to 10, 101 to 110, 130 and 142
- Area G – Areas 11, 20 to 27, 111, 121, 123 to 127 and Subareas 12-5 to 12-16
- Area H – Areas 12 to 19, 28 and 29

**Licence Renewal Fees**
Annual commercial Salmon licence (categories AG, AS and AT) renewal fees are available at full and reduced fee rates. Annual renewal fees are based on the length of the vessel.

Reduced fee licence eligibilities must be held on vessels owned by Aboriginal individuals who have status under the *Indian Act* and who elect to pay a reduced fee for a Salmon licence eligibility.

Commercial Salmon category NAG licence renewal fees are available at reduced fee rates. The renewal fees are based on the maximum vessel length (MVL) related to the category NAG licence eligibility.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Vessels under 9.14 meters (m)</th>
<th>Vessels 9.14 m and over</th>
<th>Seine Vessels</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full Fee</td>
<td>$430.00</td>
<td>$710.00</td>
<td>$3,880.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced Fee</td>
<td>$380.00</td>
<td>$650.00</td>
<td>$2,670.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There is no annual renewal fee for a communal commercial (category FAS, FAG or FAT) licenses.

**Licence Issuance**
A commercial Salmon licence must be renewed, and the renewal fee paid, every year by March 31st to retain the privilege to be issued the licence in the future. This means that vessel owners and category NAG licence eligibility holders must renew the licence whether they intend to fish or not. If the licence is not annually renewed by March 31st, the licence will cease and DFO will not be able to consider a request to issue that licence in the future.

Every year, category NAG and communal commercial category FA licence eligibility holders must also designate a fishing vessel to hold the licence. This may be done by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at [www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm).

Prior to licence issue, vessel owners and licence eligibility holder must ensure that:
- any ministerial conditions placed on licence eligibility have been met; and
- any conditions of the previous year’s licence have been met.
- the designated vessel's overall length does not exceed the maximum vessel length of the category NAG or category FA licence eligibility.
**Licence Documents**

Salmon licence documents are valid from the date of issuance until March 31st of the next calendar year.

Vessel owners and licence eligibility holders may reprint any lost or destroyed licence documents using the National Online Licensing System (NOLS).

**Vessel Replacement**

The owner(s) of a category AG, AS or AT licenced commercial Salmon vessel may make application to replace the commercial fishing vessel. Both the replacement vessel and the vessel being replaced must have a survey on file with the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit (PFLU) or submitted with the vessel replacement application. Vessels must be surveyed according to Fisheries and Oceans Canada guidelines.

A commercial Salmon licence eligibility may not be split from other vessel based licence eligibilities. When no stacking is involved, replacement vessels for Salmon licence eligibilities must remain at the exact overall length or smaller than the existing vessel.

Where a vessel is eligible for a reduced fee Salmon licence, an Aboriginal individual must own the replacing vessel.

If a vessel is eligible for more than one licence category, all licence eligibilities must be placed on the replacement vessel, except where the Integrated Fisheries Management Plan (IFMP) for a species allows.

Licences eligible for a temporary vessel replacement (e.g., total loss of vessel) will not be permitted to be stacked.

Salmon category NAG and communal commercial category FA licence eligibilities are not eligible for vessel replacement.

**Stacking**

DFO processing of Salmon licence eligibility stacking applications ends on May 31st every year. Stacking applications are not accepted from June 1st to November 30th.

For the purpose of stacking licences, a *single* Salmon licence eligibility may be stacked to a vessel that is up to 30 per cent longer in overall length than the overall length of the vessel from which the licence eligibility is being removed.

Salmon licence eligibilities that are married to other licence categories (or another Salmon licence) may be stacked, but the additional 30 per cent in overall length is not applicable, and the Salmon stacking cannot result in the stacking of other licence categories, except where permitted for that licence category.

Different gear and area licence eligibilities may be combined on one vessel. That is, one vessel may have a Salmon gillnet licence eligibility and a Salmon troll licence eligibility. Multiple Salmon licence eligibilities of the same gear may be held on one vessel so long as each licence eligibility has a different area, as a vessel may not hold more than one Salmon licence eligibility for the same area.
An area change request may only be made when an application for licence stacking is submitted and the area change may only be made for the licence eligibility that is being stacked. The owner of the receiving vessel must make the request by completing the applicable section on the form.

Reduced fee licence eligibilities for categories AG, AS and AT may be stacked with either another reduced fee licence eligibility or a full fee licence eligibility, but the receiving vessel must be owned by an Aboriginal individual.

Category NAG licence eligibilities may be stacked with any category A licence eligibility (full or reduced fee), a communal commercial category FA, or another category NAG licence eligibility, in compliance with all stacking rules, except that they will not be tied to the other Salmon licence eligibility. Stacking a category NAG licence eligibility does not result in a change of licence area for the category NAG licence eligibility.

Category FA licence eligibilities may be stacked with any category A or category NAG licence eligibility or another category FA licence eligibility, in compliance with all stacking rules, except that they will not be tied to the other Salmon licence eligibility. Stacking deadline dates may vary for category FA licence eligibilities due to the sign off dates of communal or contribution agreements. Stacking a category FA licence eligibility does not result in a change of licence area for the category FA licence eligibility.

**Stacking/Vessel Replacement Application Requirements**


The Application for Salmon Licence Eligibility Stacking may be obtained by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at [www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm).

Both of the vessels involved in the vessel replacement/stacking are required to have a survey either on file with the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit or the survey must be submitted with the vessel replacement application. Vessels must be surveyed according to DFO guidelines.

If the vessel being replaced, or from which the stacked Salmon licence eligibility originated, has been designated for limited entry category Z licence eligibilities, those licences must be redesignated to another suitable vessel.

If you require further discussion or information on the above mentioned vessel replacement policies, please contact the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit.

**Logbooks**

Logbooks may be obtained through Archipelago Marine Research by calling 250-383-4535 (toll-free 1-888-383-4535). Electronic Monitoring may be arranged through M.C. Wright & Associates Ltd. via telephone (250) 753-1055 or email [info@mcwrightonline.com](mailto:info@mcwrightonline.com).
Schedule II Species

Categories C and FC

Licence Category
A commercial or communal commercial Schedule II Species licence (category C or FC), or any other limited entry vessel based licence, is required to commercially harvest Schedule II Species except tuna and where fishing privileges for Schedule II Species have been relinquished (e.g., within the Groundfish Trawl or Geoduck by dive fisheries).

Category C licence eligibilities are limited entry and vessel based. Category FC eligibilities are party based and must be annually designated to a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel that meets length restrictions. Category FC licences are held by a First Nation.

Vessels fishing under the authority of a Schedule II Species licence may also be designated to fish under the authority of a category Z licence.

Licence Category Background
The Schedule II Other Species licence eligibility was introduced at the time of entry limitation in the Salmon fishery in 1968 and originally authorized commercial fishing of all non-Salmon species.

The Category C licence became subject to entry limitation in 1977. The limitation was based on evidence of landings of at least $500 value in the preceding two years 1975 and 1976. The requirement that Category C licensed vessels land $500 worth of fish at least every second year was maintained until 1982. In 1979, the practice of issuing a Category C licence to a vessel retired from the Salmon fishery was discontinued, hence, no new vessels were able to enter any fishery except as a replacement vessel.

The category C licence is described as a general species licence, because it permits fishing for a number of species of fish using varied types of gear for which no other category of licence is required.

“Schedule II” refers to Schedule II in Part II of the Pacific Fishery Regulations, 1993 which outlines the species covered.

Species
Lingcod, Spiny Dogfish, Rockfish, Halibut, Sablefish, Skate, Sole and Flounder, Tuna, and Pacific cod.

Gear
Fishing for Schedule II Species is permitted by hook and line gear; specifically, longline, jig, and troll. When conducting a directed lingcod fishing trip only troll and jig gear is permitted.

As of April 1, 2006, transporting commercial dogfish by any vessel other than the harvesting vessel (i.e., for transshipping) is prohibited. There are also new requirements specific to the transporting of live Rockfish.
Licences which met the qualifying criteria for a category C licence based on catch history, received an initial dogfish and lingcod quota allocation. Vessels not receiving an initial allocation had the opportunity to participate in the lingcod and/or dogfish fishery through a Schedule II Species privilege by acquiring an individual vessel quota for the lingcod or dogfish management area to be fished.

Prior to 2013, the harvest of tuna in Canadian fisheries waters and the high seas was included in the categories C and FC licence conditions. Tuna has since been removed from these licence conditions. Vessels holding any limited entry vessel based licence eligibility retaining Schedule II Species privileges must now apply for a separate category CT licence in order to harvest tuna in Canadian fisheries waters and the high seas.

**Licence Renewal Fee**
The annual renewal fee for a commercial category C licence is $30.00.

There is no annual renewal fee for a communal commercial category FC licence.

**Licence Issuance**
A commercial Schedule II Species licence must be renewed, and the renewal fee paid, every year by February 20th to retain the privilege to be issued the licence in the future. This means that vessel owners must renew the licence whether they intend to fish or not. If the licence is not annually renewed by February 20th, the licence will cease and DFO will not be able to consider a request to issue that licence in the future.

Every year, communal commercial Schedule II Species licence eligibility holders must also designate a fishing vessel to hold the licence by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at [www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm).

Prior to licence issue, vessel owners and licence eligibility holder must ensure that:

- any ministerial conditions placed on licence eligibility have been met; and
- any conditions of the previous year’s licence have been met.
- the designated vessel’s overall length does not exceed the maximum vessel length of the category FC licence eligibility.

**Licence Amendments**
Before beginning to harvest under the authority of a category C licence, the vessel owner, licence eligibility holder or an authorized representative must request and receive a licence amendment from the Groundfish Management Unit by submitting a completed [Request for Licence Amendment form](http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/commercial/ground-fond/form/amend_request-demande_modif-eng.pdf).

**Licence Documents**
Schedule II Species licence documents are valid from the date of issue to February 20th of the next calendar year.

Vessel owners or licence holders may reprint any lost or destroyed licence documents using the National Online Licensing System (NOLS).
Vessel Replacement
The owner(s) of a commercial Schedule II Species licensed vessel may apply to replace the commercial fishing vessel. Both the replacement vessel and the vessel being replaced must have a survey on file with the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit or the survey must be submitted with the vessel replacement application. Vessels must be surveyed according to DFO guidelines.

Vessel owner(s) must also adhere to the following rules:
- the replacement vessel may not exceed the overall length of the vessel being replaced;
- a vessel may hold only one Schedule II Species licence eligibility; and
- a Schedule II licence may not be combined with other vessel based licence eligibilities except where the Integrated Fishery Management Plan for that species allows:
  - when a replacing vessel is eligible for a Schedule II Species licence, it must be surrendered to DFO or placed on another vessel prior to the placement of vessel based licence eligibility on the vessel.


Communal commercial licences are not eligible for vessel replacement.

If you require further discussion or information on the above mentioned vessel replacement policies, please contact the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit.

Relinquishments
Should a married Halibut or Sablefish licence eligibility be permanently placed to a vessel holding a Schedule II Species (category C) licence eligibility, the category C licence eligibility will be relinquished (permanently retired), and the relinquishing vessel owner will be required to complete a personalized Commercial Fishing Vessel Licence Eligibility Relinquishment form. This form may be obtained by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm.

When the placement is temporary, then the category C licence eligibility is held until the Halibut or Sablefish licence eligibility is permanently placed to another vessel.
Geoduck and Horseclam

Categories G and FG

Licence Category
A commercial or communal commercial Geoduck and Horseclam licence (category G or FG) is required to commercially harvest Geoduck and Horseclam. Category G licence eligibilities are limited entry and vessel based. Category FG licence eligibilities are party based and must be annually designated to a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel that meets established length restrictions. Category FG licences are held by a First Nation.

Vessels authorized to fish under the authority of a Geoduck and Horseclam licence are also permitted to:
- fish for Schedule II Species according to the conditions of each licence, except when fishing privileges have been relinquished (permanently retired);
- transport fish caught by other vessels; and
- be designated to fish under the authority of a category Z licence.

Licence Category Background
In 1977, a review of the newly developed commercial Geoduck fishery was undertaken. Based on this review, starting July 1, 1977, the harvesting of Geoducks for commercial purposes was prohibited except under the terms of the permit issued pursuant to Section 6(6) of the British Columbia Fishery Regulations. At that time, the rate of growth of the Geoduck fishery was uncertain and limits to entry were not considered necessary. However, it was anticipated that a limited entry program would be necessary in future to balance fishing effort with the size of the resource.

The number of vessels landing Geoducks increased rapidly from five at the inception of the fishery in 1976, to 72 vessels with landings in 1979 when a moratorium on new permits was issued. Permits for 1981 were restricted to those fishers who landed more than 30,000 pounds in 1978 or 1979 including January 1 to March 31, 1980, depending on when the fisher was first licensed.

The Geoduck and Horse Clam category G licence was introduced in 1983. Licenses were issued to vessels that were authorized by the Pacific Region, Director General of Fisheries and Oceans, to harvest Geoduck and horse Clams by means of diving from a commercial fishing vessel and had marketed a minimum of 13,500 kg of both species in any combination during the year 1978 or during the period commencing January 1, 1979 and ending December 31, 1980.

In 1989, with the support of the commercial industry, a pilot project using individual vessel quota management and included a three year area rotation was started in the Geoduck fishery. This program was extended by the Minister and is still in effect. The coast is divided into three areas: North Coast, West Coast Vancouver Island, and waters inside Vancouver Island.

In 2007, the number of Geoduck and Horseclam licence eligibilities that may be ‘stacked’ on any one vessel was raised from three to five. The ability to participate in supplemental harvests of Geoduck and Horseclam from enhanced beds was also introduced.

A change to the licence expiry date was implemented in the 2016 fishing season, resulting in the Geoduck fishery now running for 14 months (from January 1st to February 28th of the following
year). As a result of the change, no extra quota were allocated to account for the new 14 month fishery and future fishing plans would now run from March 1 to the end of February the following year.

**Fishing Areas**
The coast is divided into three regions, the North Coast, West Coast Vancouver Island (WCVI), and Inside Waters (Gulf).

Since 2012 each quota block has been designated to a region and a licence will be able to fish in multiple regions relative to its quota blocks.

The coast-wide distribution of quota blocks will be as follows:
- Inside Waters - portions of Areas 12 through 19, and 29: 65 quota blocks or 11.8% of the Coastwide commercial TAC
- WCVI - portions of Areas 20, 23, 24, 25, 26, and 27, and related offshore areas: 75 quota blocks or 13.6% of the Coastwide commercial TAC.
- North Coast - portions of Areas 1 through 10, and related offshore areas: 410 quota blocks or 74.5% of the Coastwide commercial TAC.

**Licence Renewal Fee**
The annual renewal fee for a commercial category G licence is calculated as follows:
- $252.00 multiplied by the number of tonnes of Geoduck and Horseclam authorized to be taken under that licence, minus 40 per cent of that product, up to a maximum reduction of $1,000.00.

There is no annual renewal fee for a communal commercial category FG licence.

**Licence Issuance**
A Geoduck and Horseclam licence must be renewed, and the renewal fee paid, every year by February 28th to retain the privilege to be issued the licence in the future. This means that vessel owners must renew the licence whether they intend to fish or not. If the licence is not annually renewed by February 28th, the licence will cease and DFO will not be able to consider a request to issue that licence in the future.

Every year, communal commercial Geoduck and Horseclam licence eligibility holders must also designate a fishing vessel to hold the licence by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at [www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm)

Prior to licence issue, vessel owners and licence eligibility holders must ensure that:
- any ministerial conditions placed on the licence eligibility have been met; and
- any conditions of the previous year’s licence have been met, such as the completion, submission, and approval of any logbook fish slip or quota overage requirements.
- the designated vessel's overall length does not exceed the maximum vessel length of the category FG licence eligibility.

The limit for licence eligibilities held on a vessel has been waived. A vessel may hold a **maximum of 50 quota blocks**. These may all be for the same licence area or a combination of areas.
Licence Status Report
The licence status report provides a listing of all current Geoduck quota blocks and areas for category G or FG licensed vessels, including caps, reallocated quota, catch-to-date, and balance of uncaught quota for any given date. A licence status report may be obtained by calling Archipelago Marine Research at 250-383-4535 (toll-free 1-888-383-4535).

Quota Reallocations
In order to reallocate the quota blocks, a Request for Reallocation of Geoduck Quota form must be submitted to DFO using the National On-Line Licensing System (NOLS). For permanent reallocations, all owners of record must sign the form and provide notarized signature(s). For temporary reallocations, only one owner must sign the form.

Upon DFO approval Archipelago Marine Research processes requests for reallocations of Geoduck quota blocks

Should the quota reallocation be approved, a licence amendment will be issued to reflect the new individual vessel quota and/or by-catch holding amounts. All licence amendments must be attached to the licence conditions and on board the vessel when actively harvesting/fishing Geoduck by dive.

Licence Amendments
Before beginning to harvest under the authority of a Geoduck and Horseclam licence, the vessel owner/master must have on board a valid Geoduck licence amendment. This amendment provides the quota, so without it, the vessel is not permitted to land any fish. A licence amendment is provided when requested by a licence holder through the National Online Licensing System.

Licence Documents
Geoduck licence documents are valid from the date of issue until February 28th of the following calendar year.

Replacements for lost or destroyed licence documents may be obtained by reprinting the licence document through the National Online Licensing System (NOLS).

Vessel Replacement
The owner(s) of a commercial Geoduck and Horseclam licensed vessel may apply to replace the commercial fishing vessel. Both the replacement vessel and the vessel being replaced must have a survey on file with the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit or the survey must be submitted with the vessel replacement application. Vessels must be surveyed according to DFO guidelines.

Vessel owner(s) should also note the following rules:
- Geoduck and Horseclam licence eligibilities do not become (permanently) married to other vessel based licence eligibilities and may be separated.
- Geoduck and Horseclam licence eligibilities may be placed either permanently or temporarily (where applicable) on any registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel that does not exceed the original vessel length (OVL) of the Geoduck and Horseclam licence eligibility. This is subject to DFO policies governing the placement of other vessel based licence eligibilities also held on the vessel being replaced. The receiving vessel may exceed the OVL as long as the vessel holds another vessel based licence eligibility and remains eligible for that licence while the Geoduck and Horseclam licence is on the vessel. When the
receiving vessel holds a Schedule II Species licence eligibility, the Schedule II Species licence eligibility must be relinquished.

- When a Schedule II Species licence eligibility is relinquished, in conjunction with a Geoduck and Horseclam licence eligibility vessel replacement, and the overall length of the receiving vessel is greater than the OVL of the Geoduck and Horseclam licence eligibility, the OVL of the Geoduck and Horseclam licence eligibility shall be amended to the overall length of the receiving vessel. The OVL amendment shall not exceed the maximum vessel length of the Geoduck and Horseclam licence eligibility.

- When the receiving vessel does not already hold a vessel based licence eligibility, the Schedule II Species privileges associated with the Geoduck and Horseclam licence eligibility must be relinquished.

- Applications to place a Geoduck and Horseclam licence on a vessel that already holds one or more Geoduck and Horseclam licences that have relinquished the Schedule II Species privileges must be reviewed by DFO on a case-by-case basis.

- A maximum of 50 quota blocks may be placed on one vessel.

- Owners of vessels that currently hold both a Geoduck and Horseclam and a Schedule II Species licence eligibility may apply to place the Schedule II Species licence eligibility on a vessel that does not exceed the OVL of the original (1989) Geoduck and Horseclam licensed vessel. Such applications should be made within a reasonable time frame. When this occurs, the OVL of the remaining Geoduck and Horseclam licence eligibility will be amended to the OVL of the vessel that holds the eligibility and the maximum vessel length will be adjusted accordingly. This is consistent with the commitment made by DFO in the Geoduck Fishery – 1989 Enterprise Allocation document.


Communal commercial licences are not eligible for vessel replacement.

If you require further discussion or information on the above mentioned vessel replacement policies, please contact the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit.

**Logbooks**
Logbooks may be obtained through Archipelago Marine Research by telephone (250-752-7205) or email (GeoduckAMM@archipelago.ca).
Sablefish

Categories K and FK

Licence Category
A commercial or communal commercial Sablefish licence (category K or FK) is required to participate in the directed commercial Sablefish fishery. Category K licence eligibilities are limited entry and vessel based. Category FK eligibilities are party based and must be designated to a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel that meets established length restrictions. Category FK licences are held by First Nation groups.

Vessels authorized to fish under the authority of a Sablefish licence eligibility are also permitted to catch and retain other Groundfish species by hook and line gear or trap gear, as outlined in the licence conditions. These vessels are also permitted to:

- fish for Schedule II Species according to the conditions of each licence;
- catch and retain other Groundfish species;
- transport non-Groundfish species caught by other vessels; and
- be designated to fish under the authority of a category Z licence.

Licence Category Background
Prior to extended jurisdiction in 1977, Canada had a limited domestic offshore black cod fishery, and an extensive foreign offshore fishery. Canada phased out foreign effort in this fishery by 1980 as Canadians showed interest in this species. The new black cod fleet included a number of Canadian vessels phased out of the Alaska Halibut fishery.

On October 4, 1979, the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans announced that the fishery would become a limited entry fishery. The announcement noted that “because black cod is limited to an annual yield of 3500 metric tons, it is necessary to restrict the number of vessels participating in this fishery, to protect the resource” and “the dramatic influx of vessels in recent months threatens to disrupt this fishery.” The projected number of eligible vessels at the time of limitation was 16. The final number of licenses issued after appeals was 48.

Sablefish category K licenses were first issued in 1981 in respect of commercial fishing vessels if:

1) The vessel owner produced records showing that, while fishing by means of longline or trap gear in 1978, or up to October 5, 1979, the vessel was used to catch Sablefish, and made a recorded commercial catch of Sablefish in dressed head-off condition, equal to at least:
   a) $6800 kg (15,000 lbs.) in the case of a vessel 18.28 m (60 ft.) or less in overall length, or
   b) $22,680 kg (60,000 lbs.) in the case of a vessel more than 18.28 m (60 ft.) in overall length,

   or

2) A category C licence was issued in respect of that vessel in 1980 and the owner produced records showing expenditures during the period January 1, 1978 to October 5, 1979, for freezing equipment, and longline or trap gear, intended to be used to fish for Sablefish, amounting to at least:
   a. $20,000 in the case of a vessel 18.28 m (60 ft.) or less in overall length, or
   b. $100,000 in the case of a vessel more than 18.28 m (60 ft.) in overall length,
3) Vessels more than 18.28 m (60 ft.) in overall length which fished in the Alaska Halibut fishery in 1978 or 1979 but were excluded by the 1979 Halibut agreements and were issued 1980 Salmon (Category A) or Halibut (Category L) licence tabs.

For the years 1981 through to 1989 the Sablefish fishery operated with DFO setting the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) and the number of fishing days for the licensed fleet. The use of this open fishery management strategy/derby style, lead to consistent overrunning of the TAC, which in turn led to continued reductions in fishing days (from 245 in 1981 to 14 days in 1989) for the following year. Industry became alarmed at the prospect of a further reduction in the number of fishing days for 1990. After the industry had many lengthy discussions on alternate management strategies, the use of an Individual Vessel Quota System in the Sablefish fishery for 1990 was recommended to an approved by the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans.

In 1990, a two year trail period using individual vessel quota (IVQ) management commenced. Each licence holder has an individual quota which is a percentage of the TAC. The individual quota was calculated for each licence holder based 30% on the vessel’s overall length and 70% on historical performance.

The Sablefish IVQ’s has since been extended. Quota blocks have been identified as the annual quota block for each licence as determined by the set allocation formula defined in the 1990 management plan and shown as a percentage of the Sablefish TAC for the Sablefish Category K licensed fleet. Each quota block is broken into quota shares. For 1994, there were 692 quota shares. Of these, 644 shares were equal to 0.15% of the Sablefish TAC for the Sablefish licensed fleet. The remaining 48 quota shares were each less than 0.15% of the Sablefish TAC and represent the remainder of each licence holder’s quota block.

In 1999, a 19-month licence year was used in order to transition the Sablefish licence year to August 1st to July 31st from a calendar year. The new Sablefish licence year came into effect in 2000.

In 2006, a three-year pilot plan was introduced in the commercial Groundfish fisheries. The pilot was intended to strengthen conservation in commercial Groundfish fisheries in the Pacific Region through a range of measures, including improving bycatch monitoring, reducing discard, and making fish harvesters accountable for their bycatch.

A comprehensive management plan for all Groundfish fisheries (e.g., Schedule II Species, Groundfish Trawl, Rockfish hook and line, Halibut, and Sablefish) was also created to replace all of the individual plans that were produced in previous years. This new Integrated Fisheries Management Plan (IFMP) for Groundfish was released on April 26, 2006.

**Licence Renewal Fee**
The annual renewal fee for a commercial category K licence is calculated as follows:
- $241.00 multiplied by the number of tonnes of Sablefish initially allocated to the licence eligibility, less 40 per cent of that product, up to a maximum reduction of $1,000.00.

There is no annual renewal fee for a communal commercial FK licence.
**Licence Issuance**
A commercial Sablefish licence must be renewed, and the renewal fee paid, every year by February 20th to retain the privilege to be issued the licence in the future. This means that vessel owners must renew the licence whether they intend to fish or not. If the licence is not annually renewed by February 20th, the licence will cease and DFO will not be able to consider a request to issue that licence in the future.

Every year, communal commercial Sablefish licence eligibility holders must also designate a fishing vessel to hold the licence by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at [www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm).

Prior to licence issue, vessel owners and licence eligibility holder must ensure that:
- any ministerial conditions placed on licence eligibility have been met; and
- any conditions of the previous year’s licence have been met.
- the designated vessel’s overall length does not exceed the maximum vessel length of the category FK licence eligibility.

**Licence Amendments**
The Sablefish licence must be issued before a request for licence amendment or reallocation of individual transferable quota will be processed.

The vessel owner/master must have on board a valid Sablefish licence amendment prior to fishing. This amendment outlines the total amount of fish by species that the vessel may land for the fishing season, so without it, the vessel is not permitted to land any fish.


**Licence Documents**
Sablefish licence documents are valid from the date of issue to February 20th of the next calendar year.

Vessel owners or licence holders may reprint any lost or destroyed licence documents using the National Online Licensing System (NOLS).

**Vessel Replacement**
The owner(s) of a commercial Sablefish licensed vessel may apply to replace the commercial fishing vessel. Both the replacement vessel and the vessel being replaced must have a survey on file with the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit or the survey must be submitted with the vessel replacement application. Vessels must be surveyed according to DFO guidelines.

Vessel owner(s) should also note the following rules:
- A single commercial Sablefish licence eligibility may be placed on a vessel that does not hold another vessel based licence eligibility as long as the replacing vessel does not exceed the overall length of the existing vessel.
• A Sablefish licence eligibility may be separated from any combination of married licence eligibilities as long as it is placed on another commercially licensed fishing vessel, of any length, that holds a Salmon, Geoduck and Horseclam, Halibut, Crab, Shrimp by trawl, Groundfish Trawl, or Prawn and Shrimp by trap licence eligibility. Sablefish licence eligibilities may not be stacked.

• When the intention is to make the Sablefish licence a stand-alone licence and the replacing vessel has a Schedule II Species licence eligibility, the Schedule II Species licence eligibility must be relinquished (permanently retired).


Communal commercial licences are not eligible for vessel replacement.

**Temporary Vessel Replacement**

When a Sablefish licence is temporarily placed on a vessel which holds a Schedule II Species licence eligibility, then the Schedule II Species licence eligibility must be returned to DFO. The Schedule II Species licence will be held for the duration of the time the Sablefish licence is temporarily placed.

If you require further discussion or information on the above mentioned vessel replacement policies, please contact the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit.

**Logbooks**

Logbooks may be obtained through Archipelago Marine Research by calling 250-383-4535 (toll-free 1-888-383-4535).
Halibut

Categories L and FL

Licence Category
A commercial or communal commercial Halibut licence (category L or FL) is required to participate in the directed commercial Pacific Halibut fishery. Category L licence eligibilities are limited entry and vessel based. Category FL licence eligibilities are party based and the eligibility must be designated to a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel that meets established length restrictions. Category FL licences are held by a First Nation.

Vessels authorized to fish under authority of a Halibut licence are also permitted to:
- fish for Schedule II Species according to the conditions of each licence;
- catch and retain other Groundfish species as outlined in licence conditions;
- transport fish caught by other vessels; and
- be designated to fish under the authority of a category Z licence.

Licence Category Background
Limited entry was introduced in the Halibut fishery in 1979. To qualify, vessels must have recorded commercial catch of 1,360 kg (3,000 lb.) of Halibut (dressed head-off weight) during 1977 or 1978. Ten Halibut licences were issued to Aboriginal individuals who depended on Halibut for a major portion of their income and who utilized leased vessels owned by processing companies. These Halibut licences were initially party based eligibilities but were later converted to vessel based licence eligibilities.

A two-year trial of Individual Transferable Quota (IVQ) in the Halibut fishery began in 1991. IVQs were set for each licence eligibility based on a combination of vessel catch history and vessel length. In 1993, reallocation and stacking of Halibut IVQ were allowed on a trial basis. Each licence eligibility received quota in two equal shares and each share was expressed as a percentage of the total allowable catch (TAC). Shares were based upon the allocation formula adopted in 1990. The success of the Halibut IVQ program allowed for its continuation.

For 1994, the trial program for Halibut IVQ’s was again extended. There were further modifications for 1994. Again, the objective of the changes were to allow more flexibility for the fleet in the area of temporary quota transfers and in the area of permanent Halibut category L licence transfers.

The transfer and stacking of Halibut IVQ was allowed on a trail basis for the 1994 Halibut fishery as follows:
- Each initial Halibut licence quota has been split into two equal shares. A total of 870 IVQ shares is available among 435 licensed vessels. Each share can then be expressed as a percentage of the Halibut TAC and share will vary in size depending on the allocation formula adopted in 1990.
- Quota shares can be transferred among Halibut licensed vessels only and are not constrained by vessel size. Quota shares can be transferred without transferring the Halibut licence. It will be possible for a Halibut licence to exist without quota shares attached to it.
- A maximum of four shares can be held or fished by a Halibut licensed vessel in 1994.
- In 1994, the restrictions on the number of quota share transfers has been removed. It has been changed from the maximum of two share transfers per vessel, which was permitted in 1993.
A quota share transfer is defined as the transfer of one share from a licensed Halibut vessel onto a licensed Halibut vessel.

e. All quota share transfers must be approved by DFO prior to fishing those shares.

f. Once a quota share has had landings validated against it, the remainder of that quota share can not be transferred.

g. Quota share transfers will only be permitted on a temporary (annual) basis.

Due to a Federal Court Trial Division decision in 1996, DFO implemented a new IVQ formula in 1997. However, when the Federal Court of Appeal overturned this decision in 1998, the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans decided to return to the original formula. The changed IVQ formula in 1997 resulted in an average benefit of 9,145 pounds for 38 licence eligibilities and an average disadvantage of 880 pounds for the other 395 licence eligibilities. To compensate those who lost quota in 1997, IVQ adjustments were made in equal amounts over three years: 1999, 2000, and 2001.

During this time, a maximum of two quota share reallocations between Halibut licence eligibilities was permitted, vessels were limited to fishing four shares in a season, and it became possible for a licence eligibility to have nil shares attached. All quota share reallocations had to be approved by DFO prior to fishing those shares and, once a share had landings validated against it, the remainder of that quota could not be reallocated.

As of 1999, quota allocation was no longer based on shares; instead, it was negotiated on the basis of poundage. Quota may also be reallocated either temporarily or permanently. Vessel owners may permanently reallocate all quotas except for .01149 per cent of the TAC or they may temporarily reallocate as little as one pound of quota. A licence eligibility may not hold more than one per cent of the TAC, except licence eligibilities/vessels that fished more than one per cent of the TAC in any year from 1993 to 1998. These licence eligibilities may hold quota up to their individual maximum.

In 2006, a three-year pilot plan was introduced in the commercial Groundfish fisheries. The pilot was intended to strengthen conservation in commercial Groundfish fisheries in the Pacific Region through a range of measures, including improving bycatch monitoring, reducing discard, and making fish harvesters accountable for their bycatch.

A comprehensive management plan for all Groundfish fisheries (e.g., Schedule II Species, Groundfish Trawl, Rockfish hook and line, Halibut, and Sablefish) was also created to replace all of the individual plans that were produced in previous years. This new Integrated Fisheries Management Plan (IFMP) for Groundfish was released on April 26, 2006.

**Licence Renewal Fee**

The annual renewal fee for a commercial category L licence is calculated as follows:

- $310.00 multiplied by the number of tonnes of Halibut allocated, minus 40 per cent up of that product up to a maximum reduction of $1,000.00.

There is no annual licence fee for a communal commercial category FL licence.

**Licence Issuance**

A commercial Halibut licence must be renewed, and the renewal fee paid, every year by February 20th to retain the privilege to be issued the licence in the future. This means that vessel owners must renew the licence whether they intend to fish or not. If the licence is not renewed by February 20th,
the licence will cease and DFO will not be able to consider a request to issue that licence in the future.

Every year, communal commercial Halibut licence eligibility holders must also designate a fishing vessel to hold the licence by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-deman-de-eng.htm.

Prior to licence issue, vessel owners and licence eligibility holders must ensure that:
• any ministerial conditions placed on the licence eligibility have been met; and
• any conditions of the previous year’s licence have been met.
• the designated vessel's overall length does not exceed the maximum vessel length of the category FL licence eligibility.

**Licence Amendments**
The Halibut licence eligibility must be issued before a request for licence amendment or reallocation of individual transferable quota will be processed.

The vessel owner/master must have on board a valid Halibut licence amendment prior to fishing. This amendment outlines the total amount of fish by species that the vessel may land for the fishing season, so without it, the vessel is not permitted to catch, retain or land any fish.

A *Request for Licence Amendment* form must be completed by the vessel owner, licence eligibility holder, or designated agent and faxed to the Groundfish Management Unit at 604-666-8525. The form is available at www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/commercial/ground-fond/form/amend_request-demande_modif-eng.pdf.

**Licence Documents**
Halibut licence documents are valid from the date of issue to February 20th of the next calendar year.

Vessel owners or licence eligibility holders may reprint any lost or destroyed licence documents using the National Online Licensing System (NOLS).

**Licence Status Report**
The licence status report provides a listing of all current Halibut IVQ and Rockfish holdings for category L or FL licensed vessels, including caps, reallocated quota, catch-to-date, and balance of uncaught quota for any given date. A licence status report may be obtained by calling the Groundfish Management Unit at 604-666-5865.

**Vessel Replacement**
The owner(s) of a category L licensed Halibut vessel may apply to replace the commercial fishing vessel. Both the replacement vessel and the vessel being replaced must have a survey on file with the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit or the survey must be submitted with the vessel replacement application. Vessels must be surveyed according to DFO guidelines.
Vessel owner(s) should also note the following rules:

- A single category L Halibut licence eligibility may be placed on a vessel that does not hold another vessel based licence eligibility up to the overall vessel length (OAL) of the original vessel, which is the vessel licensed as of January 31, 1993.

- A single category L Halibut licence eligibility may be placed on a vessel that holds another vessel based licence eligibility with Schedule II Species privileges, up to the maximum vessel length (MVL) of the Halibut licence eligibility. The MVL being the length of the original vessel licensed as at January 31, 1993, plus 25 feet.

- A category L Halibut licence eligibility may be separated from other licence eligibilities and placed on a vessel that does not exceed the MVL, as long as the replacing vessel holds another vessel based licence eligibility with Schedule II Species privileges.

- When the intention is to make the Halibut licence a stand-alone licence and the replacing vessel has a Schedule II Species licence eligibility, the Schedule II Species licence eligibility must be relinquished (permanently retired). When the placement is temporary, the Schedule II Species licence eligibility is held until the Halibut licence eligibility is permanently placed on a vessel.

- When a Schedule II Species licence eligibility is relinquished from a vessel with an OAL less than the MVL but greater than the OAL of the vessel licensed as at January 31, 1993, the licence eligibility may be placed on an unlicensed vessel up to the OAL of the vessel that relinquished the Schedule II Species eligibility. There is no change to the MVL for the Halibut licence eligibility.

- Vessels may hold more than one Halibut licence eligibility in a year, but not at the same time.

- Vessels may not fish Halibut under the authority of more than one licence eligibility a year.

- When vessel owners wish to swap two married Halibut licence eligibilities, neither may exceed the MVL assigned to each licence eligibility.

Communal commercial licences are not eligible for vessel replacement.


**Temporary Vessel Replacement**

The temporary placement of Halibut licence eligibilities is only allowed when the vessel to be replaced becomes a total loss.

Temporary replacement vessels may not exceed the MVL of the Halibut licence eligibility. The MVL is the length of the original vessel licensed as of January 31, 1993, plus 25 feet.

Temporary replacement vessels may not have harvested Halibut in the current Halibut-fishing year.

If a Halibut licence eligibility is temporarily split from other licence eligibilities, the remaining eligibilities may not be placed on a third vessel.
If you require further discussion or information on the above mentioned vessel replacement policies, please contact the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit.

**Quota Reallocations**
The Groundfish Management Unit processes requests for reallocations of Halibut IVQ and Rockfish by-catch holdings. A completed *Request for Reallocation of Halibut IVQ and/or Rockfish Holdings* form (available at [www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/commercial/ground-fond/form-eng.html](http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/commercial/ground-fond/form-eng.html)) must be faxed to the Unit at 604-666-8525. For permanent reallocations, all vessel owners of record must sign the form. For temporary reallocations, only the licence eligibility holder or one vessel owner must sign the form.

**Note that licence amendments must be on board when fishing.**

Fish harvesters should refer to the current Integrated Fisheries Management Plan for guidelines regarding the reallocation of Halibut IVQ. Any questions with regard to these guidelines should be referred to the Groundfish Management Unit by calling 604-666-5865. Any matters relating directly to the management of the fishery or quota such as quota reallocations and caps will also be handled through the Unit.

**Logbooks**
Logbooks may be obtained through Archipelago Marine Research by calling 250-383-4535 (toll-free 1-888-383-4535).
Crab

Categories R and FR

Licence Category
A commercial or communal commercial Crab licence (category R or FR) is required to commercially harvest Crab by trap. Category R licence eligibilities are limited entry and vessel based. Category FR licence eligibilities are party based and must be annually designated to a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel that meets established length restrictions. Category FR licences are held by a First Nation.

Vessels authorized to fish under authority of a Crab licence are also permitted to:
- fish for Schedule II Species according to the conditions of each licence;
- transport fish caught by other vessels; and
- be designated to fish under the authority of a category Z licence.

Licence Category Background
Commercial Crab fishing is limited to the use of trap or ring net gear with specific restrictions.

Crab licences authorize the harvest of Dungeness Crab (*Cancer magister*) and Red Rock Crab (*Cancer productus*). Retention of King Crab, Red (*Paralithodes camtschatica*) and Golden (*Lithodes aequispina*) is permitted only by special arrangement which may be made after submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at [www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm).

Prior to 1990, Crab was a Schedule II Species fished under authority of limited entry vessel based licences (i.e. categories A, B, C, G, K, L, N, S or T). The crab licence category was not limited for 1990 and had an annual fee of $200 applied.

In August 1990, the Crab category R vessel based licence eligibility was established and in 1991, limited entry was introduced in this fishery. The criteria to establish Crab licence eligibility was:
- 6,804 kg (15,000 lbs.) cumulative recorded landings which continued over the three-year period from 1987 to 1989 inclusive; and,
- applicants must have held a 1990 Crab licence.

Annual area selection with five area choices applied until a three-year pilot area selection program was implemented in 1997, which increased the number of area choices to seven. Areas C and D were split into two sub-areas: Area C became Area G (north) and Area H (south); and Area D became Area I and Area J.

For the three-year (1997-2000) pilot program, Areas G and H were recombined into Area C. Areas I and J, however, were given annual area designation and were limited to a maximum of 300 traps.

Vessel owners selected new areas prior to the opening of the 2000 fishing season. Licence eligibilities issued in 1999 were valid for the period of January 1st to April 30, 2000 to facilitate the area selection process.

In 2008, as a result of varied management actions required within Area E, vessel owners in this area were required to select one of three area options:

- Sooke Option – Areas 20, 21, 22, 25, 26, 121, 125 and 126
- Tofino Option – Areas 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 121, 123, 124, 125 and 126
- Quatsino Option – Areas 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 121, 125, 126 and 127

Licences were not permitted to be re-designated or moved between areas within Area E.

A pilot trap tag program was implemented in Area B in 1999. Under this program, trap tags were required on all traps and a maximum of 400 traps per vessel was allowed. To facilitate the move towards trap limitation in all areas, the expiration date for the 1999 licence was extended to April 30, 2000.

Trap limits became a condition of the Crab licence in all areas on May 1, 2000. Trap limits were set at:

- Area A – from six to 1,200, based on vessel length;
- Area B – maximum 400;
- Areas E and G – maximum 500;
- Area H – maximum 436; and
- Areas I and J – maximum 300.

**Fishing Areas**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Management Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Queen Charlotte Islands</td>
<td>Areas 1, 2, 101 to 110 inclusive, 130 and 142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>North and Central Coast Mainland</td>
<td>Areas 3 to 10 inclusive and a portion of the Nass Estuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E – Quatsino</td>
<td>West Coast Vancouver Island (WCVI)</td>
<td>Areas 27, 127 and E-Common (Areas 21, 22, 25, 26, 121, 123-1, 125 and 126)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E – Sooke</td>
<td>West Coast Vancouver Island (WCVI)</td>
<td>Area 20 and E-Common (Areas 21, 22, 25, 26, 121, 123-1, 125 and 126)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E - Tofino</td>
<td>West Coast Vancouver Island (WCVI)</td>
<td>Areas 23, 24, 123-2 to 123-9, 124 and E-Common (Areas 21, 22, 25, 26, 121, 123-1, 125 and 126)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>Johnstone Strait</td>
<td>Areas 11, 12, 13, 15 and 111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>Strait of Georgia</td>
<td>Areas 14, 16 to 19 inclusive and Subarea 29-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Fraser River</td>
<td>Areas 28 and 29 excluding Subarea 29-5 and 29-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J</td>
<td>Boundary Bay</td>
<td>Subarea 29-8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Trap Reallocation**
Temporary crab trap reallocation will be permitted on an annual basis.

Where traps are reallocated to another vessel within the same fishing area, 100% of the traps associated with the crab licence eligibility reallocating the traps will be relinquished and the trap allocation will be zero for the licence year. Whereas the receiving vessel may then fish a maximum of 50% of the relinquished traps. All trap reallocations will be reverted back to the original crab licence eligibility at the end of the licence year.

All requests to temporarily reallocate the crab traps must be done prior to license issuance and the applicable deadline. Trap reallocations cannot be reversed once the transaction has been completed.

**Licence Renewal Fee**
The annual renewal fee for a commercial category R licence is $590.00.

There is no annual renewal fee for a communal commercial category FR licence.

**Licence Issuance**
A commercial Crab licence must be renewed, and the renewal fee paid, every year by March 31st to retain the privilege to be issued the licence in the future. This means that vessel owners must renew the licence whether they intend to fish or not. If the licence is not renewed by March 31st, the licence will cease and DFO will not be able to consider a request to issue that licence in the future.

Every year, communal commercial Crab licence eligibility holders must also designate a fishing vessel to hold the licence by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at [www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm).

Prior to licence issue, vessel owners and licence eligibility holders must ensure that:
- any ministerial conditions placed on the licence eligibility have been met;
- any conditions of the previous year’s licence have been met, such as the completion, submission, and approval of harvest logs and fish slips; and
- participation in a DFO-approved Crab trap limit compliance program has been established by indicating that arrangements have been made for a third party to:
  - receive hails of fishing activity;
  - issue logbooks and trap tags and replacements; and
  - provide an on-grounds inspection of gear for compliance with trap limits.
- the designated vessel's overall length does not exceed the maximum vessel length of the category FR licence eligibility.

**Licence Documents**
Crab licence documents are valid from the date of issue to March 31st of the next calendar year.

Vessel owners or licence holders may reprint any lost or destroyed licence documents using the National Online Licensing System (NOLS).
**Trap Limits**

Compliance with trap limits is monitored through several programs including electronic monitoring or at-sea observers, plastic trap tags, and on-ground compliance checks. Harvesters must take an active role in ensuring compliance with trap limits by meeting their trap tagging, reporting and monitoring requirements.

Trap limits have been established in each area coast wide. A listing of the trap limits for each area can be found within the Integrated Fisheries Management Plan (IFMP) – Crab, which can be found on the Fisheries and Oceans Canada Federal Science library page.

[https://science-libraries.canada.ca/eng/fisheries-oceans/](https://science-libraries.canada.ca/eng/fisheries-oceans/)

**Vessel Replacement**

The owner(s) of a Crab licensed vessel may apply to replace a commercial fishing vessel. Both the replacement vessel and the vessel being replaced must have a survey on file with the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit or the survey must be submitted with the vessel replacement application. Vessels must be surveyed according to DFO guidelines.

Vessel owner(s) should also note the following rules:
- the replacement vessel may not exceed the overall length of the vessel being replaced;
- any ministerial conditions placed on the licence eligibility must be met, as well as any application requirements and conditions of the licence;
- stacking of Crab licence eligibilities is not allowed;
- licence eligibility area changes are not permitted at the time of vessel replacement; and
- Crab licence eligibilities become married to other vessel based licence eligibilities when combined on a vessel and may not be separated.

Communal commercial licences are not eligible for vessel replacement.


**Temporary Vessel Replacement**

Temporary vessel replacements are allowed if the vessel has been declared a loss or the vessel is out of service due to an accident or unforeseen damage. Vessels that are in disrepair at the time of purchase, have engine problems, or have encountered delays in annual maintenance or rebuilding do not qualify for a temporary replacement.

Written confirmation from an insurance company, shipyard, or marine engineer explaining why the vessel is inoperative must be submitted to a Pacific Fishery Licence Unit when declaring the vessel a total loss.

Temporary replacement vessel may not exceed the overall vessel length plus 10 per cent of the Crab vessel.

Should the Crab licence eligibility be temporarily split from other licence eligibilities, the remaining eligibilities may not be placed on a third vessel.

If you require further discussion or information on the above mentioned vessel replacement policies, please contact the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit.
Logbooks
Logbooks for area A may be obtained through Ecotrust Canada by calling 250-624-4191.

Logbooks for all other areas may be obtained through Pacific Coast Fishery Services Inc. by calling (250) 390-1822.
Shrimp by Trawl

Categories S and FS

Licence Category
A commercial or communal commercial Shrimp by trawl licence (category S or FS) is required to commercially harvest Shrimp using trawl gear. Category S licence eligibilities are limited entry and vessel based. Category FS licence eligibilities are party based and must be designated to a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel that meets established length restrictions. Category FS licences are held by a First Nation.

Licence Category Background
Historically, fishing for Shrimp had occurred in the Strait of Georgia, the north coast inlets and waters off the lower west coast of Vancouver Island. Limited entry was introduced into the fishery in January 1977. To qualify, vessels must have had a record of landings in 1975 and/or 1976.

From 1989 to 1994, the number of active Shrimp vessels ranged from 164 to 175. This increased to 216 in 1995 and to 222 in 1996. In 1996, vessel owners were able to split Salmon licence eligibilities under the Voluntary Salmon Licence Retirement Program and this resulted in 65 additional vessels that held only Shrimp by trawl licences.

When a vessel holds both Shrimp by Trawl (category S) and a Prawn and Shrimp by trap (category W) licences, all catch taken under the authority of one licence category must be offloaded before the vessel may fish under the authority of the other licence category.

The licence limitation program for Shrimp Trawl fishing in British Columbia coastal waters was put into effect in January 1977, with a total of 237 licenses issued. The limitation was initiated in response to a rapid expansion of fishing and processing capacity directed at the offshore Tofino Shrimp stocks during 1975 and 1976. This increased effort was not sustained beyond a few years, however, as the stock declined to the point where it could not support a large offshore trawl fleet.

The reasons for this decline are not known, but do not appear to be linked to the fishing pressure on the stocks.

Since the implementation of Shrimp licence limitation, the main area of fishing activity has been the Strait of Georgia. Fishing effort on the norther coast has been low since Shrimp licenses were introduced. A small-scale fishing effort takes place in Barkley Sound, as well as a few other inlets on the west coast of Vancouver Island.

Licence Renewal Fee
The annual renewal fee for a commercial category S licence is $100.00.

There is no annual renewal fee for a communal commercial category FS licence.

Licence Issuance
A commercial Shrimp by trawl licence must be renewed, and the renewal fee paid, every year by March 31st to retain the privilege to be issued the licence in the future. This means that vessel owner must renew the licence whether they intend to fish or not. If the licence is not renewed by March
31st, the licence will cease and DFO will not be able to consider a request to issue that licence in the future.

Every year, communal commercial Shrimp by trawl licence eligibility holders must also designate a fishing vessel to hold the licence by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm.

Prior to licence issue, the vessel owner or licence eligibility holder must ensure that:
- any ministerial conditions placed on the licence eligibility have been met;
- any conditions of the previous year’s licence have been met, such as the submission and approval of Shrimp by trawl harvest logs and hail reports, or the submission of a Nil report to the Shellfish Data Unit if the licence was not fished; and
- if they do not use the harvest log, the approved service company has contacted the Shellfish Data Unit at 250-756-7306 or 250-756-7022 to obtain the information necessary to fulfil these requirements.
- the designated vessel’s overall length does not exceed the maximum vessel length of the category FS licence eligibility.

Licence Documents
Shrimp by trawl licence documents are valid from the date of issue to March 31st of the next calendar year.

Vessel owners or licence eligibility holders may reprint any lost or destroyed licence documents using the National Online Licensing System (NOLS).

Vessel Replacement
The owner(s) of a Shrimp by trawl licensed vessel may apply to replace a commercial fishing vessel. Both the replacement vessel and the vessel being replaced must have a survey on file with the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit or the survey must be submitted with the vessel replacement application. Vessels must be surveyed according to DFO guidelines.

Vessel owner(s) should also note the following rules:
- only one Shrimp by trawl licence is allowed on a vessel at a time;
- the replacement vessels may not exceed the overall length of the vessel being replaced;
- category S licence eligibilities become married to other vessel based licence eligibilities when combined on a vessel; and
- a Shrimp by trawl licence eligibility cannot be separated from other vessel based licence eligibilities.

Communal commercial licences are not eligible for vessel replacement.


Temporary Vessel Replacement
Temporary vessel replacements are allowed if the vessel has been declared a loss or the vessel is out of service due to an accident or unforeseen damage. Vessels that are in disrepair at the time of
purchase, have engine problems, or have encountered delays in annual maintenance, or rebuilding do 
not qualify for a temporary replacement.

Written confirmation from an insurance company, shipyard, or marine engineer explaining why the 
vessel is inoperative must be submitted to a Pacific Fishery Licence Unit when declaring the vessel a 
total loss.

Temporary replacement vessel may not exceed the overall vessel length plus 10 per cent of the 
Shrimp by trawl vessel.

Should the Shrimp by trawl licence eligibility be temporarily split from other licence eligibilities, the 
remaining eligibilities may not be placed on a third vessel.

If you require further discussion or information on the above mentioned vessel replacement policies, 
please contact the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit.

If you require further discussion or information on the above mentioned vessel replacement policies, 
please contact the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit.

**Logbooks**
Logbooks may be obtained through Pacific Coast Shrimpers Cooperative Association (PCSCA) by 
telephone (250-658-0179) or email (clayton@ieccorporate.com).
Groundfish Trawl

Categories T and FT

Licence Category
A commercial or communal commercial Groundfish Trawl licence (category T or FT) is required to commercially harvest Groundfish species using trawl gear. Category T licence eligibilities are limited entry and vessel based. Category FT licence eligibilities are party based and must be designated to a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel that meets established length restrictions. Category FT licences are held by a First Nation.

Vessels authorized to fish under the authority of a Groundfish Trawl licence are also permitted to:
- fish for Schedule II Species according to the conditions of each licence, except when fishing privileges have been relinquished;
- transport fish caught by other vessels; and
- be designated to fish under the authority of a category Z licence.

Licence Category Background
A number of events preceded limitation in the Groundfish Trawl fishery. The trawl fleet expanded in capacity between 1972 and 1974 partly as a result of government shipbuilding subsidies. The number of vessels increased from 44 to 66 and nine of these exceeded 80 feet in length.

Groundfish markets collapsed in 1974, which precipitated a series of subsidies, deficiency payments to vessel owners, and conditional grants to processors. To ensure that vessels which were most affected by the market collapse received financial assistance, DFO announced that deficiency payments would apply only to trawlers which had recorded 1973 or 1974 Groundfish landings.

Limited entry was introduced to the Groundfish Trawl fishery in January 1977, and 237 licence eligibilities were established. Eligibilities were established for vessels or replacement vessels that had a recorded commercial catch of Groundfish by trawl gear in 1973, 1974 or up to April 30, 1975. Eligibilities were also granted in appeal cases where landing criteria were not met but major expenditures directly associated with Groundfish Trawling had been incurred.

Quota and management measures to control the harvest of Pacific Groundfish stocks were implemented in 1979. Management measures included: the establishment of total allowable catch, species/area/time closures, and vessel trip limits. Since 1980, DFO has also consulted with industry through the Groundfish Trawl Advisory Committee to develop annual management plans and to plan and implement an individual transferable quota (IVQ) system in 1997. The resulting IVQ fishery had quotas that could be fully reallocated for 29 different species in 56 different management areas. No area or quota restrictions applied; however, trip limits could apply to certain species covered under this licence.

In April 2006, a three-year pilot integrated management plan was introduced. The objective of the pilot plan was to improve stock management through by-catch monitoring, reduced discarding, and requiring fish harvesters to be accountable for all catch. This was supported by new monitoring standards (100 per cent at-sea and dockside monitoring), individual vessel quotas (IVQs) in lingcod and dogfish, individual quotas in Rockfish fisheries (in addition to the rest of the Groundfish fisheries managed under IVQs), and a temporary quota reallocation process to address by-catch that is available between the various commercial Groundfish sectors.
Amended Groundfish Trawl vessel replacement rules were announced in Fishery Notice FN0640 on August 29, 2008. The two main changes were: the maximum vessel length was extended to original vessel length plus 50 per cent; and Groundfish Trawl eligibilities placed onto a vessel without an existing vessel based licence would have the Schedule II Species portion of the licence conditions relinquished (permanently retired).

**Licence Option Selection**

Prior to licence issuance, each Groundfish Trawl vessel owner/licence eligibility holder may choose to fish under the conditions of one of two options (A or B) for the current fishing year. By default, DFO sets the trawl licence option to the option issued as of the end of the previous season.

Option selection for each Groundfish Trawl licence may be done by navigating to the ‘Submit a Request’ menu selection within the National Online Licensing System (NOLS). Full instructions are available at [www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm).

A general description of the permitted activities under each option are:

**Option A**

- Permitted to fish with bottom trawl gear in all areas, except management Area 4B (Fisheries Management Areas 12 to 20 and 29) open to bottom trawling.
- Permitted to fish by mid-water trawl coast-wide.
- Subject to one hundred (100) percent dockside monitoring for all landings.
- Subject to one hundred (100) percent at sea observer coverage when fishing with bottom or mid-water gear except when mid-water trawling for hake and delivering all fish caught as fresh round product to land.
- Subject to one hundred (100) percent at sea monitoring coverage when fishing when mid-water trawling for hake.
- Permitted to fish throughout the year for Groundfish species subject to TAC up to the amount of the IVQ specified on the licence.
- Permitted to reallocate IVQ holdings subject to the rules governing such reallocations.
- Limited to 15,000 pound per trip for all combined Rockfish species not subject to TAC.
- Permitted to retain incidentally caught mackerel equal to six (6) percent of the offshore pacific hake IVQ portion of quota holdings.
- No trip limit for Groundfish species (excluding Rockfish) not subject to a TAC.
- Not permitted to fish for and retain Eulachon, wolf-eels, any Salmon species, Pacific Herring, Green Sturgeon, White Sturgeon, Pacific Basking Shark, Tope (Soupfin) Shark or Bluntnose Sixgill Shark.
- Halibut is not permitted to be retained. By-catch mortality caps for Halibut will be issued on an individual vessel basis. Licence holders will be responsible and accountable for all Halibut mortality incurred.
- Corals and Sponges are not permitted to be retained unless specifically authorized by Fisheries and Oceans Canada.
- A fleet wide habitat bycatch conservation limit (HBCL) for Corals and Sponges has been set and allocated as IVQ to individual Groundfish Trawl vessels. The HBCL IVQ is transferable among Groundfish Trawl licence holders within annual caps. Groundfish Trawl licence holders will be responsible and accountable for all coral and sponge mortality incurred.
Option B

- Required to request monthly amendments to Groundfish Trawl licence prior to fishing.
- Permitted to fish by bottom trawl in Area 4B (Areas 12 to 20 and 29) only.
- Not permitted to fish by mid-water trawl in any Area.
- Limited to a maximum of 15 landings per calendar month.
- Subject to one hundred (100) percent dockside monitoring for all landings.
- Subject to mandatory at-sea monitoring of all fishing activities.
- A 15,000 pound calendar month limit for all Groundfish species combined other than dogfish, lingcod and Rockfish; of which no more than 200 pounds shall be Sablefish, and of which no more than 200 pounds shall be Petrale sole, and of which no more than 500 pounds shall be Pacific Cod.
- Not permitted to fish for and retain Eulachon, Halibut, lingcod, any Rockfish, squid, octopus, wolf-eels any Salmon species, Pacific Herring, Green Sturgeon, White Sturgeon, Pacific Basking Shark, Tope (Soupfin) Shark or Bluntnose Sixgill Shark.
- No limit on the quantity of dogfish.

Licence Renewal Fee

The annual renewal fee for a commercial category T licence is calculated as follows:
- base licence fee of $500.00 plus the permanent individual vessel quota holdings of the licence on February 20th of the next calendar year measured in pounds.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IVQ Species</th>
<th>Fee Per Tonne of IVQ</th>
<th>Fee Per Pound of IVQ</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Rockfish Species</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
<td>$.0068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Sole Species</td>
<td>$16.00</td>
<td>$.0073</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lingcod</td>
<td>$16.00</td>
<td>$.0073</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pollock</td>
<td>$7.50</td>
<td>$.0034</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hake</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
<td>$.0018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There is no annual renewal fee for a communal commercial category FT licence.

Licence Issuance

A commercial Groundfish Trawl licence must be renewed, and the renewal fee paid, every year by February 20th to retain the privilege to be issued the licence in the future. This means that vessel owners must renew the licence whether they intend to fish or not. If the licence is not renewed by February 20th, the licence will cease and DFO will not be able to consider a request to issue that licence in the future.

Every year, communal commercial Groundfish Trawl licence eligibility holders must also designate a fishing vessel to hold the licence by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System (NOLS). Instructions are available at [www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm).

Prior to licence issue, vessel owners or licence eligibility holders must ensure that:
- they have chosen one of two fishing options for the fishing season: option A (Outside) or option B (Inside) by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System.
- any ministerial conditions placed on the licence eligibility have been met; and
- any conditions of the previous year’s licence have been met.
• the designated vessel's overall length does not exceed the maximum vessel length of the category FT licence eligibility.

Note that Groundfish Trawl vessel owners or licence eligibility holders who choose option B are permitted to make a change once each year to option A. Those who choose option A may not change their selection for the remainder of the fishing year.

**Licence Amendments**

a) **OPTION A** vessels must be in possession of a valid amendment to the vessels Groundfish Trawl licence prior to fishing. Contact the Quota Officer at 604-666-0010 for further information.

b) **OPTION B** vessels will be issued monthly amendments. The owner of an Option B vessel must submit a *Request for Licence Amendment* form for each month and be in possession of a valid amendment prior to fishing. Contact the Quota Officer at 604-666-0010 for further information.

**Quota Allocations**
Prior to quota reallocations, the current year’s licence must be issued and a reallocation request form, signed by all vessel owners of record for the vessel the IVQ is being reallocated from, must be submitted by fax to the Groundfish Management Unit at 604-666-8525.

All questions regarding IVQs and reallocation of IVQs or Total Allowable Catch must be referred to the Quota Officer at 604-666-0010.

**Licence Documents**
Groundfish Trawl licence documents are valid from the date of issue to February 20th of the next calendar year.

Vessel owners or licence eligibility holders may reprint any lost or destroyed licence documents using the National Online Licensing System.

**Vessel Replacement**
The owner(s) of a category T licensed vessel may apply to replace the commercial fishing vessel. Both the replacement vessel and the vessel being replaced must have a survey on file with the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit or the survey must be submitted with the vessel replacement application. Vessels must be surveyed according to DFO guidelines.

Vessel owner(s) should also note the following rules:

• A Groundfish Trawl licence eligibility may be placed either permanently or temporarily on any registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel which does not exceed the maximum vessel length (MVL), which is the overall length of the vessel that held the licence eligibility as of December 1, 1998 plus 50 per cent. This is subject to DFO policies governing the placement of other vessel based licence eligibilities also held on the vessel being replaced.
• When a single Groundfish Trawl licence eligibility is placed on a shorter vessel, there remains a future opportunity to place the licence eligibility on a registered Canadian commercial vessel which does not exceed the MVL.

• A Groundfish Trawl licence eligibility may be separated from other licence eligibilities and placed on a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel that does not exceed the MVL. When the receiving vessel does not already hold a vessel based licence eligibility, the Schedule II Species privileges associated with the Groundfish Trawl licence eligibility must be relinquished (permanently retired).

• Groundfish Trawl licensed vessel owners may swap Groundfish Trawl licence eligibilities within the Groundfish Trawl fleet, subject to the length restrictions outlined above. When swapping occurs, the IVQ and holdings caps follow each licence eligibility.

• Vessels involved in the swapping of Groundfish Trawl licence eligibilities may hold and fish under the authority of the swapped Groundfish Trawl licence eligibilities in the same fishing year, except when a vessel had begun fishing under the authority of the Groundfish Trawl licence, that vessel may not fish under the authority of another Groundfish Trawl licence in the same fishing year.

Communal commercial licences are not eligible for vessel replacement.


Temporary Vessel Replacement
Temporary vessel replacements are allowed if the vessel has been declared a loss or the vessel is out of service due to an accident or unforeseen damage. Vessels that are in disrepair at the time of purchase, have engine problems, or have encountered delays in annual maintenance or rebuilding do not qualify for a temporary replacement.

Written confirmation from an insurance company, shipyard, or marine engineer explaining why the vessel is inoperative must be submitted to a Pacific Fishery Licence Unit when declaring the vessel a total loss.

Temporary replacement vessel may not exceed the overall vessel length plus 10 per cent of the Groundfish Trawl vessel.

Should the Groundfish Trawl licence eligibility be temporarily split from other licence eligibilities, the remaining eligibilities may not be placed on a third vessel.

If you require further discussion or information on the above mentioned vessel replacement policies, please contact the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit.
Prawn and Shrimp by Trap

Categories W and FW

Licence Category
A commercial or communal commercial Prawn and Shrimp by trap licence (category W or FW) is required to commercially harvest Prawn and Shrimp using trap gear. Category W licence eligibilities are limited entry and vessel based. Category FW licence eligibilities are party based and must be annually designated to a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel that meets established length restrictions. Category FW licences are held by a First Nation.

Vessels authorized to fish under authority of a Prawn and Shrimp by trap licence are also permitted to:

- fish for Schedule II Species according to the conditions of each licence; and
- transport fish caught by other vessels; and

Species
- Shrimp or prawns (*Pandalus* species and *Pandalopsis dispar* [Sidestripe Shrimp]).
- The term Prawn refers solely to the spot Shrimp *Pandalus platyceros*, while the term Shrimp refers to all other species of Shrimp other than Prawns.

Licence Category Background
Prior to 1990, Prawn and Shrimp by trap fishing was authorized by a party based, category ZH licence eligibility designated to a vessel annually. In 1990, licence limitation was introduced into the fishery. Licence eligibilities were issued to individuals who landed a minimum of 1000 lbs. of Shrimp or Prawns by trap in any two of the 1986, 1987 or 1988 fishing seasons. Prior to appeals, 128 applicants were eligible and 276 licence eligibilities were established after the appeals were heard. A maximum vessel length (MVL) was established for each licence eligibility based on the surveyed length of the last vessel licensed to fish Prawn and Shrimp by trap prior to January 1, 1990.

In 1993, the limited entry length restricted category ZH licence eligibilities were converted to category W vessel based licence eligibilities. Vessels identified were required to be within the same MVL restriction and had to be eligible for a vessel based licence eligibility. When the vessel held a Schedule II Species eligibility, that eligibility was retired.

From 1991 on, trap limitations were considered as a means of control over the annual increase in gear that rose to more than 80,000 traps in 1994. Trap limits were adopted as a pilot program for the 1995 and 1996 seasons, with a limit of 300 traps per licence eligibility. Vessel owners have an annual option of combining two trap allocations on a single vessel. When combined, traps are limited to 500. To offset associated incremental monitoring and enforcement costs, vessel owners pay management fees. Trap limits were extended indefinitely as a management practice for this fishery. No area or quota restrictions apply.

Beginning in 2004, amended conditions were made available to participate in the Prince Rupert Harbour humpback Shrimp fishery anticipated to open September 1st annually. An amendment request is required to participate and this fishery will continue based on continued biological sampling and monitoring. Confirmation of having obtained service bureau services for additional observer sampling is also required.
Due to vessel stability and ship safety concerns, the maximum allowable wetted trap weight is 7 kg (15.4 lbs.). Fish harvesters who had trap inventory still in use exceeding this limit were required to register the number of “heavy traps” with DFO and were only permitted to use these traps until the 2012 fishing season.

In 2010, additional closure areas were established in the Gwaii Haanas National Marine Conservation Area under the Canada National Marine Conservations Areas Act. Additional closures and restrictions regarding octopus retention were also introduced.

At the same time, it was decided that commercial vessels were prohibited from having Prawn or Shrimp catch on board that was not caught under the authority of the commercial licence. This was to prevent commercial vessels from circumventing their licence restrictions and limits, retaining undersize prawns, and illegal sales. ‘Dual fishing’ (fishing for food, social and ceremonial purposes concurrently with commercial fishing) was also not allowed.

The use of solid sided traps was phased out completely by 2016. Solid-sided traps have been replaced by improved trap designs that better sort undersize prawns while on the sea floor.

**Licence Renewal Fee**
The annual renewal fee for a commercial category W licence is $320.00.

There is no annual renewal fee for a communal commercial category FW licence.

**Licence Issuance**
A commercial Prawn and Shrimp by trap licence must be renewed, and the renewal fee paid, every year by December 31st to retain the privilege to be issued the licence in the future. This means that vessel owners must renew the licence whether they intend to fish or not. If the licence is not renewed by December 31st, the licence will cease and DFO will not be able to consider a request to issue that licence in the future.

Every year, communal commercial Prawn and Shrimp by trap licence eligibility holders must also designate a fishing vessel to hold the licence by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at [www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm).

Prior to licence issue, the vessel owner must ensure that:
- any ministerial conditions placed on the licence eligibility have been met; and
- any conditions of the previous year’s licence have been met, such as the submission and approval of logbooks.
- the designated vessel’s overall length does not exceed the maximum vessel length of the category FW licence eligibility.

**Trap Reallocations**
All vessels are allocated 300 traps at the beginning of the season. Temporary trap reallocation is permitted on an annual basis when both licence eligibilities are allocated 300 traps at the time of application.
Trap reallocations are only accepted prior to licence issuance of both licence eligibilities. When traps are reallocated, 100 are temporarily relinquished and the receiving vessel may fish a maximum of 500 traps. Trap allocations revert to original licence eligibilities at the end of the season.

Traps may be reallocated to but not from owner/operator (“grandfathered”) restricted licence eligibilities.

**Licence Documents**
Prawn and Shrimp by trap licence documents are valid from the date of issue to December 31st annually.

Vessel owners and licence eligibility holders may reprint any lost or destroyed licence documents using the National Online Licensing System (NOLS).

**Vessel Replacement**
The owner(s) of a Prawn and Shrimp by trap licensed vessel may apply to replace a commercial fishing vessel. Both the replacement vessel and the vessel being replaced must have a survey on file with the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit or the survey must be submitted with the vessel replacement application. Vessels must be surveyed according to DFO guidelines.

Vessel owner(s) should also note the following rules:
- only one Prawn and Shrimp by trap licence is allowed on a vessel at a time;
- the replacement vessels may not exceed the overall length of the vessel being replaced; and
- Prawn and Shrimp by trap licence eligibilities become married to other vessel based licence eligibilities when combined on a vessel,

Communal commercial licences are not eligible for vessel replacement.


**Temporary Vessel Replacement**
Temporary vessel replacements are allowed if the vessel has been declared a loss or the vessel is out of service due to an accident or unforeseen damage. Vessels that are in disrepair at the time of purchase, have engine problems, or have encountered delays in annual maintenance or rebuilding do not qualify for a temporary replacement.

Written confirmation from an insurance company, shipyard, or marine engineer explaining why the vessel is inoperative must be submitted to a Pacific Fishery Licence Unit when declaring the vessel a total loss.

Temporary replacement vessel may not exceed the overall vessel length plus 10 per cent of the Prawn and Shrimp by trap vessel.

Should the Prawn and Shrimp by trap licence eligibility be temporarily split from other licence eligibilities, the remaining eligibilities may not be placed on a third vessel.

If you require further discussion or information on the above mentioned vessel replacement policies, please contact the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit.
Fish Buying Station Licence and Transporting Licence Requirements
When product is transferred from one vessel to another vessel or a vehicle, that vessel or vehicle requires a provincial Fish Buying Station licence. This licence is required for all types of vessels and vehicles, including aircraft. The licence may also be required for personal vehicles in some instances, when a vehicle is carrying the catch from more than one vessel, even if the licence holder owns both vessels. Fish harvesters should contact the B.C. Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries Courtenay Access Centre at 250 897-7541 for additional information.

If catch is transferred from a Prawn and Shrimp by trap licensed vessel to another vessel, the receiving vessel must have a commercial fishing licence or a transporting licence according to the Pacific Fishery Regulations, Part II, Section 24.

Multi-Licensed Vessels
When a Prawn and Shrimp by trap (category W or FW) licensed vessel also holds a Shrimp by trawl (category S or FS) licence eligibility, all Shrimp including Prawns caught under the authority of the category S or FS licence eligibility must be offloaded before that vessel may fish under the authority of the category W or FW licence eligibility. Likewise, all prawns caught under the authority of the category W or FW licence eligibility must be offloaded before fishing may begin under the authority of the category S or FS licence eligibility.

Logbooks
Logbooks may be obtained through J.O. Thomas and Associates Ltd. by calling 604-291-6340
USA68 – Albacore Tuna

Category USA68

Licence Category
A licence issued pursuant to Section 68 of the Fishery (General) Regulations is required for all vessels fishing albacore tuna in the waters of the United States of America (USA). Limited entry vessel based licences which authorize an application for a tuna (category CT) licence do not authorize fishing for albacore tuna in the waters of the USA.

Licence Category Background
From 2000 to 2002, applicants for a Section 68 licence to fish for tuna were given conditions based on the gear type indicated on their application: troll (aka jig), longline, or troll and longline. The current conditions of licence have incorporated all three gear types.

In 2004, under the revised Canada/USA Pacific Albacore Tuna Treaty, a vessel’s effort in vessel-fishing months is monitored from the date in any calendar month of entry into the USA zone for the purpose of fishing for albacore tuna. This includes any day in a calendar month, so notification of fishing on June 30th would constitute one vessel month in June. Scouting or looking for fish is also considered fishing. The only exception is if a vessel has declared its intent to transit.

In 2005, new management measures for fishing albacore tuna in USA fisheries waters were introduced. The treaty on Pacific coast albacore tuna vessels and port privileges required a three-year phased reduction in access by Canadian vessels operating in USA waters.

As a result, DFO introduced a limitation regime to manage the fishing fleet’s effort with a monthly system that allocates the available fishing months yearly to a limited number of licence eligibilities so that treaty limits are not exceeded.

The licence eligibility criteria took into account past participation before and after the control date of April 15, 2000, and provided priority access to the most consistently active vessels fishing in USA waters. A list of vessels eligible for a Section 68 licence for fishing in USA waters was established for 2005 and onward. Vessels that qualified for placement on the eligibility list were those that were commercially licensed as of December 31, 2004 with recorded albacore tuna catch in USA waters during the period between 1995 and 1999 and continued participation between 2000 and 2002.

In 2007, the default access level of 75 per cent of the year three limits established under the Canada/USA Pacific Albacore Tuna Treaty was utilized, which meant 94 vessels or 376 vessel fishing months could be used from licence issuance to March 31, 2008. The remaining 85 licence eligibility holders (179 in total) were able to obtain vessel fishing months through a reallocation process. Issuance of a USA68 licence was required prior to fishing in USA waters and prior to reallocating vessel fishing months to another USA68 licence holder.

In 2007, tuna harvesters were required by the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission and the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission to install and maintain a vessel monitoring system to fish for tuna in the Pacific Ocean. To minimize the impact on tuna harvesters, DFO developed general technological requirements which allow the harvesters to obtain one system to satisfy both of the commission’s resolutions.
In 2009, as per the revised *Canada/USA Pacific Albacore Tuna Treaty*, there was an increase in access for Canadian vessels into USA waters from 94 vessels to 110 vessels. The previously used vessel month system was changed to a defined fishing season of 4.5 months, such as June 15th to October 31st.

Licence eligibility holders are now able to reallocate the entire season by means of a permanent vessel replacement.

**Licence Renewal Fee**
The annual renewal fee for a category USA68 licence ranked 1 through 45 on the eligibility list is $500.00.

There is no fee for those category USA68 licenses ranked 46 through 179, as these licenses do not permit access to fish.

**Licence Issuance**
Those USA68 licenses that have been ranked 1 through 45 on the eligibility list must be renewed, and the renewal fee paid, every year should the harvest of tuna be permitted.

Prior to licence issue, vessel owners must:
- contact the Canadian Highly Migratory Species Foundation at 250-658-0179 (fax: 250-658-4709) to arrange for associated forms, logbooks, and related keypunching/data transmission services.

**Vessel Identification**
While in the USA fishing zone, Canadian vessels must display the vessel name, the vessel identification number (VRN), and a letter C in contrasting colours at least 12 inches high, so that they are clearly visible to both aircraft and surface vessels. The letter C must be positioned at the end of each place the VRN appears on the vessel.

Under the *Canada/USA Pacific Albacore Tuna Treaty*, each country is required to submit a list of its tuna vessels for approval before these vessels begin fishing operations. Only vessels holding a Section 68 USA tuna licence will be on the list provided to the USA government. Vessel owners who do not have the licence on board their vessel, or are not on the list, may be prosecuted by USA authorities.

All Canadian tuna vessels operating in the Pacific Ocean, including within Canada’s Pacific EEZ, must be listed on the IATTC Regional Vessel Registry. Harvesters can check the IATTC Regional Vessel Registry ([www.iattc.org/VesselDataBaseENG.htm](http://www.iattc.org/VesselDataBaseENG.htm)) to ensure that their vessel is registered. Registration forms are available from the Tuna Resource Manager.

**Licence Documents**
Licences issued pursuant to Section 68 for tuna are valid from the date of issue to March 31st of the next calendar year.

Vessel owners may reprint any lost or destroyed licence documents using the National Online Licensing System (NOLS).
Vessel Replacement
The owner(s) of a category USA68 licensed vessel may apply to replace the commercial fishing vessel.

Both the replacement vessel and the vessel being replaced must have a survey on file with the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit or the survey must be submitted with the vessel replacement application. Vessels must be surveyed according to DFO guidelines.

The owner(s) should also note the following rules:
- USA68 licences are not married to any other vessel based licences;
- a single vessel may hold more than one USA68 licence eligibility;
- vessel replacements are not permitted during the fishing period of June 15th to September 15th;
- increases in overall vessel length are not permitted in association with any USA68 licence replacements;
- vessel replacements related to USA68 licences 1 through 45 must be placed on a vessel that already holds a USA68 licence (e.g., USA68 1 through 179); and
- vessel replacements related to USA68 licences 46 through 179 may be placed on a vessel that does not already hold a USA68 licence.

All vessel replacements must be approved by DFO prior to being processed.

If you require further discussion or information on the above mentioned vessel replacement policies, please contact the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit.
Transporting

**Category D**
*also known as a Packing Licence*

**Licence Category**
Section 24 of the *Pacific Fishery Regulations, 1993* does not permit the transport of fish harvested during commercial fishing unless the vessel is registered and licensed to be used in commercial fishing in Canada or a transporting licence (category D) has been issued to the vessel.

Transporting licences are unlimited entry and vessel based. A transporting licence may only be issued to an unlicensed vessel. Limited entry vessel based licences allow the transport of Roe Herring, Prawn and Shrimp by trap, and Salmon caught by other vessels.

Vessels that will be transporting only Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning (PSP) Geoduck sampling product, or any product that will not be sold commercially, are not eligible for a transporting licence. This must be done under authority of a licence issued under Section 4 (1) of the *Contaminated Fisheries Regulations*. Vessels that will be PSP sampling as well as serving as back-up transport vessels for Geoduck or other harvested species must meet all category D transporting licence issue requirements, such as proof of transporting activity at least once in the previous three years.

Applicants should contact the applicable resource manager for a licence issued under Section 4 (1) of the *Contaminated Fisheries Regulations* for an Experimental, Scientific or Special Access licence, as appropriate.

A transporting licence is not required and will not be issued to vessels planning to transport only Oysters, Clams, gooseneck barnacle or aquaculture stock (e.g., farmed fish and shellfish).

Red Sea Urchin, Green Sea Urchin, Sea Cucumber, and Geoduck harvests must be validated prior to being transported. The transport of Sablefish, Halibut, Groundfish Trawl, Rockfish, Schedule II Species, Eulachon, Crab, Shrimp by trawl, and Pacific Sardine is prohibited, as the licensed fishing vessel must land the harvest.

Transport licences do not allow freezing of fish. Fish may be frozen on the licensed fishing vessel and transhipped to another vessel for transport.

**Licence Category Background**
The transporting category D licence, also known as a packing licence, has been issued in respect of commercial vessels as an open entry licence category since 1972. This licence does not enable commercial harvesting of any species and licenses the vessel for only packing or transport of fish caught by commercial fishing vessels. No species or area restrictions apply.

**Licence Renewal Fee**
The category D licence renewal fee is $30.00.
Licence Application and Issuance
A copy of the Application for Transporting Licence - Category D may be obtained by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm.

The Application for Transporting Licence - Category D must be completed and submitted to DFO using the National Online Licensing System. The vessel owner or any authorized representative may sign the application. The vessel identified on the application must meet DFO’s vessel registration requirements.

A confirmation letter from the party for whom the vessel will be providing packing services must indicate the expected commercial packing activity. This confirmation letter must be submitted along with the application.

Commercial transporting licences are issued with the reasonable expectation that transporting activities will occur throughout the commercial fishing season.

Only legitimately active commercial transporting vessels will be issued licences. Issuance in future years will be dependent on the submission of sales slips to track the commercial transporting activity associated with the transporting vessel.

All vessels not previously registered as a transporting vessel with the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit must submit through the National Online Licensing System:
1. A completed Application for Commercial Fishing Vessel Registration and the required $50.00 registration fee.
2. A Marine survey report, dated after May 1, 1989, that has been conducted in accordance with DFO’s current guidelines for vessel measurement.
3. A copy of vessel ownership documents (i.e., for vessels registered with Transport Canada, a copy of the Certificate of Registry or Registered Bill of Sale).

Licence Documents
Transporting licence documents are valid from the date of issue to December 31st of each calendar year.

Vessel owners may reprint any lost or destroyed licence documents using the National Online Licensing System (NOLS).

Fish Slip Books
Commercial transporting licences are issued with the expectation that transporting activities will occur throughout the commercial fishing season.

Blank fish slips are available at www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/stats/fishslips-carnets/index-eng.html. Fish slip books with or without company name printed may also be ordered directly from Proforma Business Forms at 604-596-6133. Note that custom orders may take six to eight weeks to process.
Schedule II Species – Tuna

Category CT

Licence Category
A Schedule II Species – Tuna licence (category CT) is required to commercially harvest tuna in Canadian fisheries waters and the high seas.

Category CT licence eligibilities are unlimited entry and vessel based.

The conditions of a category CT licence allow for any limited entry vessel based licence eligibility that has not relinquished its Schedule II Species portion, to apply for and obtain a category CT licence.

Vessels that do not hold a limited entry vessel based licence may still apply for a SEC68 tuna licence to harvest tuna on the high seas; this would exclude fishing for tuna in Canada’s Exclusive Economic Zone waters.

Licence Category Background
Prior to 2013, the harvest of tuna in Canadian fisheries waters and the high seas was included within the Schedule II Species portion of vessel based licence eligibilities.

Licence Renewal Fee
The category CT licence renewal fee is $30.00.

Licence Application and Issuance
Vessel owners who have not previously applied for a category CT licence may request one using the National Online Licensing System. The vessel must hold a limited entry, vessel based licence eligibility that has not relinquished (permanently retired) the Schedule II Species portion of the licence.

Prior to licence issue, the vessel owners must ensure that any ministerial conditions placed on the licence have been met.

Licence Documents
Schedule II Species – tuna licence documents are valid from the date of issue to March 31st of the following year.

Vessel owners may reprint any lost or destroyed licence documents using the National Online Licensing System (NOLS).
SEC68 – High Seas

Category SEC68

Licence Category
A licence issued pursuant to Section 68 of the Fishery (General) Regulations is required to authorize fishing or trans-shipping on the high seas of the Pacific Ocean, which are beyond the Exclusive Economic Zones of Canada and the United States of America (USA). This includes:
- Canadian fishing vessels that do not hold a licence eligibility as detailed in the Licence Application and Issuance section below; and
- applicants who have been selected through the annual lottery draw to fish in the offshore Seamount Sablefish fishery.

Vessels with a valid category CT licence do not require a separate Section 68 licence to fish for tuna species on the high seas.

Licence Renewal Fee
The category SEC68 licence renewal fee is $500.00.

Licence Application and Issuance
A copy of the Application for a Licence to Fish or Trans-ship in Waters other than Canadian Fisheries Waters may be obtained by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System. Instructions are available at www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.htm.

Completed applications for high seas licences must be submitted by email (fishing-peche@dfo-mpo.gc.ca) or through the National Online Licensing System.

The vessel owner or authorized representative must sign the application form. Where the vessel owner is a company, the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit must have on record a copy of a recent B.C. Company Summary indicating the officers/directors associated with the company.

Where the vessel owner is a First Nation, the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit must have on record a Confirmation of Band or First Nation Group Signing Authorities form listing the signing authorities. A copy of the Confirmation of Band or First Nation Group Signing Authorities form is available by submitting a request through the National Online Licensing System.

High Seas applications for species other than tuna will be forwarded to the appropriate DFO Fishery Manager or Co-ordinator for review and approval prior to licence issue.

Prior to licence issuance, applicants must designate a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel according to the following rules:
- For tuna, a vessel that is NOT eligible for vessel based commercial licences for Salmon, Schedule II Species, Geoduck, Sablefish, Halibut, Crab, Shrimp by trawl, Groundfish Trawl or Prawn and Shrimp by trap OR a vessel that has been designated to fish a category NAG or eligible category F licence for the current year.
- For offshore Seamount Sablefish fishery, a vessel that is eligible for a Sablefish licence.
To designate a vessel that is not currently registered as a Canadian commercial fishing vessel, applicants must first submit a completed Application for Commercial Vessel Registration form. The registration requirements are outlined on the reverse of the application form. For example, the registration requirement for a marine survey report does not have to be met by vessels designated solely to a high seas licence.

**Fishing Area Definitions**
Northeast Pacific – Outside Convention area
Northeast Pacific – Inside Convention
Northwest Pacific – Inside Convention

**Fishing Area Definitions**
Eastern Central Pacific – Inside Convention
Eastern Central Pacific – Outside Convention area
Southeast Pacific
Southwest Pacific
Western Central Pacific

**Licence Documents**
High seas licences issued pursuant to Section 68 for tuna are valid from the date of issue to March 31st of the next calendar year or the expiry date indicated on the licence document.

Vessel owners may reprint any lost or destroyed licence documents using the National Online Licensing System (NOLS).
An electronic copy of the map above and/or species specific area maps, may be found at http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/maps-cartes/index-eng.html.

The current descriptions of Licence Areas for all the Commercial Fisheries in the Pacific Region may be found at http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/licence-permis/areas-secteurs-eng.html
Vessel Replacement/Nomination of Licence Eligibilities

Vessel Replacements – Vessel Based Licence Eligibilities

Except where licence policy or the applicable Integrated Fisheries Management Plan (IFMP) allows:

- the replacement vessel may not exceed the overall length (OAL) of the vessel being replaced.
- all vessel based licence eligibilities must be placed on the replacement vessel
- licence area changes are not permitted.

If the vessel to be replaced is no longer eligible for commercial fishing licence eligibilities as a result of the Application to Replace a Commercial Vessel, any party based licenses (i.e. category Z, communal commercial etc.) designated to the vessel being replaced must be redesignated to a suitable vessel or relinquished to the DFO.

Where the replacing vessel has a Transporting, category D licence, the licence will be expired and the vessel must be registered or reregistered as a commercial fishing vessel prior to placing a commercial licence eligibility on the vessel.

Logbook/fish slip requirements must be met where applicable; either for the previous year or the current year to date.

All vessel replacements must be marked as permanent on the Application to Replace a Commercial Vessel.

An Application to Replace a Commercial Vessel temporarily may be made if the vessel has been declared a loss or the vessel is out of service due to an accident or unforeseen damage. Written confirmation from an insurance company, shipyard, or marine engineer explaining why the vessel is inoperative is required. Vessels that are in disrepair at the time of purchase, have engine problems, have encountered delays in annual maintenance or rebuilding do not qualify for a temporary vessel replacement.

An Application to Replace a Commercial Fishing Vessel must be made and signed by all the owner(s) on record of the vessel to be replaced. All signatures must be notarized by a lawyer or notary public. If the vessel owner is a company, the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit must have on record a copy of a recent B.C. Company Summary indicating the officers/directors associated with the company. The contact vessel owner of the replacement vessel must also sign the application, however, the signature is not required to be notarized.

Both vessels are required to have a marine survey report either on record or submitted with the Application to Replace a Commercial Vessel. The marine survey report must be dated after May 1, 1989 and be conducted by a certified Marine Surveyor according to the DFO Guidelines for Vessel Measurement. Only original surveys will be accepted.


If the vessel replacement is accepted a letter confirming the acceptance will be sent to original vessel owner(s) and the contact vessel owner of the replacing vessel.
Nominations – Party Based Licence Eligibilities

Category Z licence eligibilities are applicable to the Green Sea Urchin (category ZA), Red Sea Urchin (category ZC), Sea Cucumber (category ZD), Euphausiid (category ZF), Rockfish (category ZN), Pacific Sardine (category ZS), and Pacific Oyster (category ZWO) fisheries.

Category Z licence eligibility holders may complete the *Nomination for Category Z Licence Eligibility form* to indicate that they no longer intend to apply for the licence eligibility. When such intent is stated, the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans may consider issuance of the licence eligibility to the nominated party.

Nominations may be considered:
- Euphausiid (category ZF) and Rockfish (category ZN) throughout the year
- Green Sea Urchin (category ZA), Red Sea Urchin (category ZC) and Sea Cucumber (category ZD) are considered only prior to current year licence issuance or after the individual quota has been achieved

Roe Herring licence eligibility holders (category HG and HS) may complete the *Nomination for Roe Herring Licence Eligibility form* to indicate that they no longer intend to apply for the licence eligibility.

Roe Herring licence eligibility (category HG and HS) nominations are only accepted annually from April 1 to October 31 inclusive. Postmarks will not be accepted.

Reduced fee Roe Herring licence eligibility holders (Aboriginal Individuals) may only nominate an Aboriginal Individual that is considered a Status Indian as defined under the *Indian Act*, R.S., c. 149 s. 1.

Nominations of communal commercial licenses (category F) are not accepted.

The applicable nomination form must:
- be completed and submitted to a Pacific Fishery Licence Unit
- clearly identify the licence eligibility to be nominated
- be signed by the licence eligibility holder of record and must be notarized by a lawyer or notary public. If the licence eligibility holder is a company, the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit must have on record a copy of a recent B.C. Company Summary indicating the officers/directors associated with the company.
- Only one party may be nominated (an individual, company or First Nation). Multiple nominees will not be accepted.
- Logbook/fish slip requirements must be met where applicable; either for the previous year or the current year to date.


If the nomination is accepted, a letter confirming the acceptance will be sent to Nominator and the Nominee.
Change of Vessel Ownership

The *Notice of Change of Ownership (NCO)* form may be used to advise of the changes to a vessel registered with Fisheries and Oceans Canada as a registered Canadian commercial fishing vessel.

Ownership changes must be reported to the Department of Transport (DOT) prior to informing the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit.

In accordance with section 18 of the *Fishery (General) Regulations*, where there is a transfer of ownership of a registered vessel or a loss, destruction, dismantling or other removal of a registered vessel from use as a fishing vessel, the person in whose name the vessel is registered shall:

- notify the Minister in writing of the event within fifteen days after the occurrence of the event,
- report the name and address of the new owner(s)

In accordance with section 20 of the *Fishery (General) Regulations*, where it is not intended that the vessel will be used in any activity that requires the vessel to be registered, remove the Vessel Registration Number (VRN) that is painted on or affixed to the vessel.

The following documents must be submitted with the Notice of Change of Ownership form:

- A copy of the registered bill of sale
- A copy of the Declaration of Transmission (estates)
- Amended Certificate of Registry (blue book)
- Copy of Certified true transcript

A copy of the *Notice of Change of Ownership form* may be obtained by contacting the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit.

Once the Notice of Change of Ownership is processed, a letter confirming the ownership change will be sent to both the new vessel owner(s) and the previous vessel owner(s).
Vessel Registration

All vessels that are to be used in commercial fishing must be registered as a commercial fishing vessel with Transport Canada and obtain a Vessel Registration Number (VRN) from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

For New Commercial Vessels
Vessels not previously registered with DFO, the following must be submitted:
- A completed Application for Commercial Vessel Registration and the registration fee of $50.00.
- Proof of ownership; for vessels registered under the Canada Shipping Act, a copy of the Certificate of Registry or a registered Bill of Sale.
- An official marine survey report, dated after May 1, 1989 that has been conducted by a Marine Surveyor in accordance with the current DFO Guidelines for Vessel Measurement.

For Previously Registered Commercial Fishing Vessels
Vessels previously registered with DFO that have been unlicensed for more than 15 days must submit the following:
- A completed Application for Commercial Vessel Registration. If a new VRN does not have to be issued or there are no vessel data changes, the $50.00 registration fee is not required.
- An official marine survey report, dated after May 1, 1989 that has been conducted by a Marine Surveyor in accordance with the current DFO Guidelines for Vessel Measurement must be on record or submitted along with the Application for Commercial Vessel Registration.

For Previously Registered Commercial Fishing Vessels Reporting Data Changes
- Vessels registered with DFO that have a change of vessel name, Transport Canada DOT number, vessel dimensions to be recorded or a change in activity (from fishing to transporting or transporting to fishing), must submit:
  - A completed Application for Commercial Vessel Registration and the registration fee of $50.00
  - For changes in vessel name and data (other than overall length) for vessels registered with DOT, a copy of the amended Certificate of Registry
  - For changes in DOT number for vessels registered with Transport Canada, a Certificate of Registry.

Changes to overall length of a previously registered vessel will only be considered where a marine survey has been reviewed and accepted by the DFO and changes have been done in accordance with policies.

Vessel owners are expected to make every effort to meet the guidelines as set in the regulations.

New Vessel Identification Requirements

All vessel owners must ensure that the Vessel Registration Number (VRN) assigned to their vessel is painted or fixed securely onto their vessel. The VRN must be placed on the vessel where it is clearly visible. It must also be displayed in solid block numerals of a certain size (see chart below) in white on a black background or vice versa.

\[ A = \text{Minimum height of numerals} \]
\[ B = \text{Spacing of numerals} \]
\[ C = \text{Stroke width of numerals} \]
\[ D = \text{Minimum border width} \]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall Length of Vessel</th>
<th>( A )</th>
<th>( B )</th>
<th>( C )</th>
<th>( D )</th>
<th>Location of Numerals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 5 m</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1.7-2.5</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>Vessels without a superstructure, as high as possible on both sides of the vessel.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 m or more but less than 12 m</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>5-7.5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Vessels with a superstructure, as high as possible on both sides of the superstructure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 m or more but less than 15 m</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>6.7-10</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>on the top of the superstructure with the top of the numerals towards the bow.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 m or more but less than 20 m</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>10-15</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 m or more but less than 25 m</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>13.3-20</td>
<td>13.3</td>
<td>13.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25m or more</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>16.7-25</td>
<td>16.7</td>
<td>16.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Guidelines for Vessel Measurements**

**General Information**
The Pacific Fishery Licence Unit (PFLU) will only review original copies of survey reports dated after May 1, 1989, which:

- state that the measurements were done in accordance to DFO guidelines using metal tape;
- identify the points used for the measurements on photographs;
- record measurements in metric, so if the measurements were taken in imperial, the measurement and conversion must be indicated; and
- are accompanied by the photographs that meet the requirements outlined below.

Evaluation and Condition surveys are not usually accepted, as vessel measurements are often not taken when an evaluation survey is done or the measurements have not been taken in accordance with these guidelines.

When the PFLU already has a survey on file for a vessel, it will not review another survey unless vessel modifications have been undertaken with the knowledge of the Unit. See modifications below for further information.

For DFO licensing purposes, definitions of the required measurements are:

**Overall Length**
The horizontal distance measured between perpendiculars erected at the extreme outside ends of the vessel. This includes any bow or stern additions or modifications that are airtight or may be made airtight at any time simply by adding plugs, caps, or lids.

Overall length measurements are **NOT** to include items such as bowsprits, anchor rollers or leads, stern rollers, hull guards, or bow bulbs that are attached under the waterline for fuel efficiency.

A deck extension platform at either the bow or stern with the following design are excluded from overall length measurement:

- only an open framework of braces/brackets supports the platform;
- the platform has no solid plating surrounding it, either above or below the deck level (note that an open frame or rails may be added above the deckline of the platform); or
- there are no watertight compartments associated with the platform, above or below the waterline.

When bows are modified to include a forward bulkhead, airtight or not, this bow must be included in the overall length. In order to be excluded from a vessel’s overall length, bow modifications must meet the definition of a deck extension as defined above. Vessel owners or builders should consult with the PFLU prior to modifying vessels.

Vessels equipped with water jet drive(s) are to be measured from the bow to the extreme ends of the hull and not to the transom where the jets emerge.

Any attachments that are questionable should be clearly photographed, measured and noted in the survey report. DFO will review these attachments to determine whether or not they will be included in the overall length.
**Beam**
Beam is measured at the widest point of the hull and to the outside edge of the hull excluding side guards, fenders, and capping. The widest point will normally be amidships.

**Depth**
Depth is measured from top of deck at the side amidships to bottom of keel. Note that this is an outside measurement. If a vessel is registered under the *Canada Shipping Act*, depth measurements may be obtained from the vessel’s *Certificate of Registry*.

**Photographs**
Survey reports must be accompanied by a minimum of three 4 x 6 or 5 x 7 photographs, which show:

1. A full “head on” stern photograph.
2. A full side view photograph of the vessel that clearly shows the bow to the stern. The vessel must be identifiable in the photo by having the name or Transport Canada licence number properly affixed to the vessel.
3. A full “head on” bow photograph.
4. Photographs of any vessel attachments that may be questionable as to whether they should be included in the overall length or not.

Additional photographs are also required if vessel modifications have been undertaken. These photographs should clearly show “before and after” shots of where modifications were done.

All photographs must be signed and dated by the surveyor except when they are submitted separately from the survey. In this case, photographs may be signed and dated by the vessel owner.

Photographs for newly constructed vessels must include photos that clearly indicate decking is in place. Polaroid and landscape-style photographs are no longer accepted.

**Modifications**

*Vessel modifications may not be undertaken while the vessel is licensed.*

Where the Department has a vessel survey on file and the vessel is unlicensed, it will be unable to accept a new survey unless vessel modifications have been conducted in accordance with all vessel measurement guidelines.

Once modifications are completed, the following items are required:
- a new marine survey report that is accompanied by additional photographs which indicate before and after photographs of the area where the vessel was modified.
- Written confirmation that modifications have been accepted by Transport Canada
- Written confirmation that modifications have not affected the seaworthiness of the vessel.
- A completed *Application to Register a Commercial Fishing Vessel form* and the $50 vessel registration fee.
Fishing Vessel Safety

Vessel owners and masters have a duty to ensure the safety of their crew and vessel. Adherence to safety regulations and good practices by owners, masters and crew of fishing vessels will help save lives, prevent vessel damage and protect the environment. All fishing vessels must be in a seaworthy condition and maintained as required by Transport Canada (TC), WorkSafeBC, and other applicable agencies. Vessels subject to inspection should ensure that the certificate of inspection is valid for the area of intended operation.

In the federal government, responsibility for shipping, navigation, and vessel safety regulations and inspections lies with TC; emergency response with the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) and DFO has responsibility for management of the fisheries resources. In BC, WorkSafeBC also regulates health and safety issues in commercial fishing. This includes requirements to ensure the health and safety of the crew and safe operation of the vessel.

Before departing on a voyage the owner, master or operator must ensure that the fishing vessel is capable of and safe for the intended voyage and fishing operations. Critical factors for a safe voyage include the seaworthiness of the vessel, having the required personal protective and life-saving equipment in good working order, crew training, and knowledge of current and forecasted weather conditions. As safety requirements and guidelines may change, the vessel owner, crew, and other workers must be aware of the latest legislation, policies and guidelines prior to each trip.

For further information see:  www.tc.gc.ca/eng/marinesafety/menu.htm
www.fishsafebc.com
www.worksafebc.com

Important Priorities for Vessel Safety
There are three areas of fishing vessel safety that should be considered a priority. These are: vessel stability, emergency drills, and cold water immersion.

Fishing Vessel Stability
Vessel stability is paramount for safety. Care must be given to the stowage and securing of all cargo, skiffs, equipment, fuel containers and supplies, and also to correct ballasting. Fish harvesters must be familiar with their vessel’s centre of gravity, the effect of liquid free surfaces on stability (i.e. loose water or fish on deck), loading and unloading operations, watertight integrity and the vessel’s freeboard. Know the limitations of your vessel; if you are unsure contact a reputable naval architect, marine surveyor or the local Transport Canada Marine Safety Office.

Fishing vessel owners are required to develop detailed instructions addressing the limits of stability for each of their vessels. These instructions must include detailed safe operation documentation kept on board the vessel. Examples of detailed documentation include: engine room procedures; maintenance schedules to ensure watertight integrity; and, instructions for regular practice of emergency drills.

The Fishing Vessel Safety Regulations currently require, with certain exceptions, a full stability assessment for vessels between 15 and 150 gross tons that do not exceed 24.4 metres in length and include fishing vessels involved in the catch of herring or capelin. In 2017, Transport Canada Marine Safety (TC) issued Ship Safety Bulletin (SSB) No. 03/2017 announcing the coming into force of the New Fishing Vessel Safety Regulations. The initial regulations were published in the Canada
Gazette Part II on July 13, 2016 and came into force on July 13, 2017. The bulletin includes important information on changes to requirements for Written Safety Procedures, Safety Equipment and Vessel Stability.

A fishing vessel that is not required to undergo a stability assessment shall have adequate stability to safely carry out the vessel’s intended operations. Guidelines are still being developed to help small fishing vessel owners and operators meet their regulatory requirements. Additionally, Transport Canada published a Stability Questionnaire (SSB No. 04/2006) and Fishing Vessel Modifications Form (SSB No. 01/2008) which enable operators to identify the criteria which will trigger a stability assessment. Please contact the nearest Transport Canada office if you need to determine whether your vessel requires one, or to receive guidance on obtaining competent assessor.

Vessel masters are advised to carefully consider stability when transporting gear. Care must be given to the stowage and securing of all traps, cargo, skiffs, equipment, fuel containers and supplies and also to correct ballasting. Know the limitations of your vessel; if you are unsure contact a reputable marine surveyor, naval architect or the local Transport Canada Marine Safety office.

Please contact Ryan Ford at Fish Safe for a copy of the program materials they developed to address safety and vessel stability in these fisheries. Ryan Ford – Cell phone: (604) 739-0540 - Email: ryan@fishsafebc.com.

**Emergency Drill Requirements**

The Canada Shipping Act, 2001 requires that the Authorized Representative of a Canadian Vessel shall develop procedures for the safe operation of the vessel and for dealing with emergencies. The Act also requires that crew and passengers receive safety training. The Marine Personnel Regulations require that all personnel on board required to meet the minimum safe manning levels have received MED (Marine Emergency Duties) training to an A1 or A3 level, depending on the vessel’s voyage limits, within 6 months of serving aboard. MED A3 training is 8 hours in duration and is applicable to seafarers on fishing vessels less than 150 GRT that are within 25 miles from shore (NC2). MED A1 training is 19.5 hours duration and is applicable to all other fishing vessels.

MED provides a basic understanding of the hazards associated with the marine environment; the prevention of shipboard incidents; raising and reacting to alarms; fire and abandonment situations; and the skills necessary for survival and rescue.

**Cold Water Immersion**

Drowning is the number one cause of death in BC’s fishing industry. Cold water is defined as water below 25 degrees Celsius, but the greatest effects occur below 15 degrees C. BC waters are usually below 15 degrees C. Normal body temperature is around 37 degrees Celsius; cold water rapidly draws heat away from the body. The effects of cold water on the body occur in four stages: cold shock, swimming failure, hypothermia and post-rescue collapse. Know what to do to prevent you or your crew from falling into the water and what to do if that occurs. More information is available in the WorkSafe Bulletin Cold Water Immersion (available from the WorkSafeBC website at www.worksafebc.com) where the need to don PFD’s while working in or near the water during fishing operations is clearly emphasized.
Other Issues - Weather
Vessel owners and masters are reminded of the importance of paying close attention to current weather trends and forecasts during the voyage. Marine weather information and forecasts can be obtained on VHF channels 21B, Wx1, Wx2, Wx3, or Wx4. Weather information is also available from Environment Canada website at: http://www.weatheroffice.gc.ca/marine/index_e.html

Emergency Radio Procedures
Vessel owners and masters should ensure that all crew are able to activate the Search and Rescue (SAR) system early rather than later by contacting the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG). It is strongly recommended that all fish harvesters carry a registered 406 MHz Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB). These beacons should be registered with the National Search and Rescue secretariat. When activated, an EPIRB transmits a distress call that is picked up or relayed by satellites and transmitted via land earth stations to the Joint Rescue Co-ordination Centre (JRCC), which will task and coordinate rescue resources.

WORKSAFEBC
WorkSafeBC exercises jurisdiction over workplace health and safety, including the activities of crews of fishing vessels. Commercial fishing and diving are subject to the provisions of the Workers Compensation Act (WCA) and requirements in Part 24 of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation (OHSR). Examples of Part 24 regulatory requirements related to fishing include, but are not limited to, the requirement to establish emergency procedures, to conduct emergency drills, to provide immersion suits for the crew, to provide stability documentation for the vessel, safe work procedures, injury reporting, correction of unsafe working conditions, etc. Other sections of the OHSR also apply to commercial fishing operations. For example, Part 3 addresses training of young and new workers, first aid, and employer incident/accident investigations. Part 4 addresses general conditions such as maintenance of equipment, workplace conduct and impairment. Part 8 addresses issues related to safety headgear, safety footwear, and personal flotation devices (PFDs). Part 12 addresses issues related to tools, machinery and equipment, including safeguarding. Part 15 addresses issues related to rigging.

Additionally, Part 3 of the WCA also defines the roles and responsibilities of owners, employers, supervisors, and workers (Fishing vessel masters are considered to be employers under the WCA). The OHSR and the WCA are available from the Provincial Crown Printers or by visiting the WorkSafeBC website: www.worksafebc.com

FISH SAFE
Fish Safe encourages Vessel masters and crew to take ownership of fishing vessel safety. Through this industry driven and funded program Fish Safe provides fishing relevant tools and programs to assist fishers in this goal. The Fish Safe Stability Education Program and 1 Day Stability Workshop are available to all fishers who want to improve their understanding of stability and find practical application to their vessel’s operation. The SVOP/Safe on the Wheel Course is designed to equip crew with the skills they need to safely navigate during their wheel watch. The Safest Catch Program, along with fisher-trained Safety Advisors, is designed to give fishers the tools they need to create a vessel specific safety management system.

For further information contact Ryan Ford, Program Manager via:
Cell: (604) 739-0540
Office: (604) 261-9700
Email: ryan@fishsafebc.com
www.fishsafebc.com
TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
The Transportation Safety Board (TSB) is not a regulatory board. The TSB is an independent agency that investigates marine, pipeline, railway and aviation transportation occurrences to determine the underlying risks and contributing factors. Its sole aim is the advancement of transportation safety by reporting publicly through Accident Investigation Reports or Marine Safety Information Letters or Advisors.
It is not the function of the Board to assign fault or determine civil or criminal liability. Under the TSB Act, all information collected during an investigation is completely confidential.

For more information about the TSB, visit the website at www.tsb.gc.ca

Reporting an Occurrence: www.tsb.gc.ca/eng/incidents-occurrence/marine/

A full description of the fishing vessel safety requirements can be found in the Integrated Fisheries Management Plan for each species.
Pacific Region Licence Appeal Board (PRLAB)

The Minister established the Pacific Region Licence Appeal Board (PRLAB) in 1979 as the last administrative level of appeal for fish harvesters who are dissatisfied with licensing decisions made by DFO.

Mandate
The PRLAB is at arm’s length from DFO. Their mandate is to consider all information provided to:

- determine if the appellant was treated fairly in accordance with DFO licensing policies, practices, and procedures;
- determine if extenuating circumstances exist for deviation from established policies, practices, and procedures; and
- provide a full rationale with any recommendation when exceptions to licensing policies, practices, and procedures have been recommended in individual cases.

The PRLAB then makes a written recommendation to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans who makes the final decision.

Questions on whether policies are reasonable or appropriate, or suggestions for policy changes, should be raised through the fisheries management advisory process. The PRLAB does not make decisions on licence policy, although, if requested, they may provide advice to the Minister on changes to licensing practices and procedures.

Reasons for Requesting an Appeal
The PRLAB only hears appeals relating to elements of fact and process, or involving extenuating circumstances.

The PRLAB has the discretion to refuse to grant an appeal, if the appeal is determined to be made on unwarranted grounds or there is no acceptable reason for non-attendance at a previously scheduled appeal hearing.

Deadlines
PRLAB will only hear appeals resulting from licensing decisions which occurred within two years; that is, from the time a grievance is alleged to the date a notice of intent to appeal is filed. Licence limitation appeals must be filed within two years from January 1st of the year following the announcement of the limitation program.

Requesting an Appeal Hearing
Appellants are referred to the PRLAB by receipt of a letter that denies issuance of a licence or an exemption from licensing rules and policies.

If you wish to request an appeal, a written request must be submitted which includes detailed reasons for the appeal and any additional relevant information.

The decision to grant an appeal to be reheard rests entirely with the PRLAB. However, this may only be requested should new information be presented.

Once the written request is received, the PRLAB Liaison Officer will schedule an appointment for the appellant’s appeal to be heard at the next scheduled meeting or the next meeting this person is
able to attend. The appellant will be notified of the date, time and location of their appointment with the PRLAB. Each appointment is scheduled for 45 minutes.

**Preparing for a Hearing**
If the appellant has other documents or relevant information they wish the PRLAB to consider, it should be provided to the PRLAB Liaison Officer a minimum of 10 days before the hearing date.

**Attending a Hearing**
Appellants may appear either in person or via conference call. An appellant may request that PRLAB make a recommendation to the Minister based on a written submission only.

The appellant will be given an opportunity to summarize their appeal and supporting documentation. PRLAB members may then ask questions on any points which they would like clarification. Material presented both in writing and orally at the hearing is considered part of the appeal record.

Appellants may be required to submit a statutory declaration under Fishery (General) Regulations Section 8. (1)(b) verifying that the information and documentation provided is complete, accurate and true. If an appellant provides falsified documents, evidence of previously under-reported fish or other illegal activities, the PRLAB will be required to provide this information to DFO or any other investigative body responsible for enforcing the laws of Canada or a province.

Hearings are generally held once or twice a year and are held at DFO’s Pacific Regional Headquarters at 200 – 401 Burrard Street in Vancouver.

**Withdrawing an Appeal**
An appeal may be withdrawn at any time by notifying DFO in writing.

**Appeal Decisions**
All appellants will be advised in writing of the Minister's decision. As under Section 7 of the *Fisheries Act*, the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans has absolute discretion in the issuance of licences so the decision of the Minister is final.

**For More Information**
To obtain more information about the Pacific Region Licence Appeal Board, contact the PRLAB Liaison Officer. Submissions may be mailed or sent by fax to:

**Fisheries and Oceans**
**Pacific Region Licence Appeal Board**
**200 – 401 Burrard Street**
**Vancouver, BC V6C 3S4**
**Tel: 604-666-1640**
**Fax: 604-666-5855**