

October 7th, 2022

LFA 25 Lobster Fishers Ports of:

- Victoria
- Borden
- Summerside
- Cape Egmont
- Egmont Bay
- Higgin's Wharf
- West Point
- West Point
- Howard's Cove
- Miminegash
- Skinner's Pond
- Seacow Pond
- Tignish Run

SUBJECT: 2022 LFA 25 POST-SEASON FISHING GEAR CLEAN-UP EXERCISE

It is the intent of the Prince Edward Island Fisherman's Association and Prince County Fisherman Association, in partnership with the PEI Area Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Conservation and Protection, to organize a voluntary fishing gear clean-up immediately following the 2022 LFA 25 lobster season.

The 2022 post-season fishing gear clean-up is scheduled to be held on two separate days, one day for each zone. The "Southern Zone" exercise, covering Victoria to south of West Point south, will be conducted on one day and the "Northern Zone" exercise, covering the area from West Point north to the LFA 25-24 line and LFA 25-23 line on the second day from your respective port. The clean-up will take place on the two best weather days between Friday, October 14th and Tuesday, October 18th. Additional days within that timeframe may be organized depending on the level of interest and amount of gear remaining. Final decision on zones and dates will be made on Thursday and relayed to participants at that time.

It is also important that you read the information page and have completed the waiver form submitted to the PEIFA prior to the information session if you intend to take part. New for this year's clean up, is the issuance of Section 52 license conditions to approved participants, which enables Captains to bring found gear on board their vessels and land it at their respective homeports. Grappling is also allowed through the license. In the event that you register for this exercise and are later unavailable to participate, you are in no way legally bound to take part.

Safety is paramount during these clean up exercises and we ask all fishers to exercise caution when handling lost gear. If gear is found but unsafe to bring on board, please notify DFO on VHF Channel #1 during the exercise and relay the coordinates and details of the gear found.

The PEIFA, PCFA and DFO Conservation and Protection believe this gear clean-up is of great benefit to the local fishers in this area and the aquatic resources and environment as a whole.

We would like to thank all of those who participate in this exercise.

For more information contact your local PCFA Harbour Representative, or the PEI Fishermen's Association via Laura Ramsay 902-393-2281 or Jennifer Dewland 902-330-3580.

**2022 LFA 25 Post-Season Fishing Gear Clean-Up Exercise
FISHER PRE-REGISTRATION SHEET**

Terms of 2022 post-season fishing gear clean-up:

1. You must be pre-registered to take part in this exercise by sending the completed waiver via email or text (photo) to the PEIFA at laura@peifa.org (902-393-2281) or jennifer@peifa.org (902-330-3580) before noon, Tuesday, October 11th. The list of Captains/vessels will be submitted to DFO for vetting and final approval.
2. Participating Captains will be issued a special Section 52 license for the purpose of the clean-up exercise during the specified dates. The Section 52 license issued to the Captain will allow the retrieval of any gear found in LFA 25 during the exercise to be brought on board the Captain's vessel and taken to their respective homeports for landing. Grappling for lost gear will also be permitted under this section 52 license. Captains are asked to read and adhere to the conditions of your section 52 license before leaving port.
3. Participants are required to attend the information session conference call prior to the exercise day. The date of the Southern Zone and Northern Zone calls is TBA but will be held at 8pm, the evening before the clean-up exercise in that zone. Call in number for the information sessions is 1-833-573-1854 and passcode is 711120885#.
4. Captains should plan to leave their respective ports no earlier than 8AM the day of the exercise.
5. The exercise will end at the time of the volunteer's choice. A per-diem will be offered to assist with compensation of basic costs such as fuel through PEIFA Pre & Post LFA 25 Wide-Scale Gear Retrieval Project. The per-diem will be available to all registered and approved Captains who participate for a minimum of 5 hours in their respective zones.

Please note that participation in this pre-season fishing gear clean-up is completely voluntary. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Prince Edward Island Fishermen's Association or Prince County Fishermen's Association is in no way responsible for any costs incurred by you or your crew and is in no way liable for any expenses, injury or damage you may incur.

Vessel Name: _____ VRN Number: _____

Operator of Vessel: _____ Cell phone #: _____

Homeport: _____

General Description of the Area You Intend to Cover: _____

I agree to the above terms:

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____