

Notice to Fish Harvesters

October 03, 2019
EKME # 4098550

UPDATE - 2019 Prince Edward Island Bluefin Tuna Season

Charlottetown, PE. - Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) today announces that new licence conditions will be issued for eligible Prince Edward Island (PEI) Bluefin Tuna licence holders. Licence conditions will be valid from October 04th until December 31st, 2019.

SEASON DATES: The fishery will remain open until December 31st, 2019 or until the quota nears 0 mt.

MANAGEMENT MEASURES:

- **Licence holders should note that having a Bluefin Tuna tag in your possession allows access to fish but does not guarantee your quota.**
- Partnerships will be valid for the whole season, unless DFO is notified otherwise.
- The Prince Edward Island Bluefin Tuna fleet will have access to a portion of quota transferred from Mexico to Canada.
- For licence holders to hail out, they must call the Vessel Hail-Out System at 1-800-561-2467, prior to departure for any fishing trip. Licences holders must select an At Sea Observer Company in the IVR system, even though an observer will not be deployed.
- Licence holders that are request a temporary dart tag, must record the dart tag number in Annex II, prior to fishing. Dart tags are non-transferrable.
- Licence Holders will have to print Licence Conditions for 4RST and 4WD separately.

Requirement to report interactions with Marine Mammals

The Marine Mammal Interaction Form will remain included with the licence conditions and must be completed and submitted by email to: DFO.NAT.InteractionsMM-InteractionsMM.NAT.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca unless it is filled out online at: <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species-especes/mammals-mammiferes/report-rapport/fish-harvester-pecheur-eng.asp>. The form must be submitted within 48 hours of the end of a fishing trip.

All other management measures are similar to 2018, including the use of Electronic Monitoring Systems (cameras) in both the commercial and hook and release fisheries.

TAG AVAILABILITY: Bluefin Tuna tags and temporary dart tags will be available at the DFO PEI Area office from 8:00am to 4:00pm, on Monday through Friday. There will be a maximum of one dart to every Bluefin Tuna tag, depending on availability. Temporary dart tags will be free of charge, compliments of, The Prince Edward Island Fishermen's Association.

For more information, please contact:

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