**Gulf Region** 

# Notice to Fish Harvesters

### 2020 PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND CATCH AND RELEASE BLUEFIN TUNA SEASON

EKME: 4176689

**Charlottetown, PEI– July 14, 2020** – Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) today announces that fishing will be authorized for the 2020 Prince Edward Island (PEI) Catch and Release Bluefin Tuna season.

**SEASON DATES:** In 2020, the fishery will open on July 15 and end on October 31, 2020.

### **MANAGEMENT MEASURES:**

NEW management measures in place for the 2020 fishing season:

Management measures to minimize interactions with North Atlantic Right Whales

The management measures to protect the right whales are available at the following Internet address: <a href="http://dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/commercial-commerciale/atl-arc/narw-bnan/management-gestion-eng.html">http://dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/commercial-commerciale/atl-arc/narw-bnan/management-gestion-eng.html</a>

## Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) - Information for industry

Canadian fisheries and aquaculture sectors provide the world with sustainably-sourced, high quality, high value, fish and seafood.

Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard is committed to supporting our fisheries and aquaculture industry during these difficult times. The Government of Canada is taking the necessary steps to ensure that you can continue to operate safely and effectively and we will continue to keep you informed of the latest developments.

Visit our website to find out more:

http://dfo-mpo.gc.ca/covid19/industry-industrie/index-eng.html

The management measures remain unchanged from the 2019 season and are reflective of the National Guidelines for the Bluefin Tuna Catch and Release fishery.



DFO would like to remind fishers of the requirement to fill out a log sheet after **each fishing trip** and to submit the log sheets weekly to the DFO Area Office as per the instructions on the licence conditions. This information is mandatory for our science reporting obligations to ICCAT.

Fishers are reminded to forward a copy of their agreement with an at-sea observer company to Dana Kok at the DFO PEI Area Office (contact information below) as this is a requirement for licence issuance.

Fishers are also reminded to forward a copy of any recent Transport Canada certification (blue decal) renewals to Dana Kok at the DFO PEI Area Office (contact information below) as this is a requirement for licence issuance.

**REQUIRED TRAINING:** Mandatory training on safe fish handling is required for fishers to take part in this fishery. During 2017, DFO undertook training for the existing Catch and Release fisher fleet. New fishers who have yet to do this training must register with DFO for the required training. DFO will coordinate and administer the training for these fishers. Licence conditions will only be issued once the training is complete.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Dana Kok Resource Management Gulf Region Fisheries and Oceans Canada Charlottetown, PEI (902) 314-5535 Dana.Kok@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

