



CALL FOR CAPTAINS

Ocean Tracking Network/Dalhousie University – Atlantic Mackerel Tagging Project 2026

CAPTAINS/VESSELS FOR HIRE

The Ocean Tracking Network (OTN) and Dalhousie University (DAL) are working on a mackerel tagging/tracking project and have a couple of hundred tags they would like to deploy off Prince Edward Island in late June (dependent on approval of the Section 52 permit).

PEIFA members in LFA 25 in good standing with an area 16 mackerel license (bait or commercial) are eligible for this project. Captain must depart from the following harbours: Tignish, Seacow Pond or Skinner's Pond.

The PEIFA is seeking 1 Captain for this project:

Hired Captain will use handline/rod and reel to collect the required samples (total to be determined by OTN/DAL team). The project will take place in late June over approximately 5 days (a maximum of 7 days if necessary).

The following are a list of details/requirements for the participants interested in this project:

- **Payment: \$1200/day + HST.**
- **Boat must accommodate the Captain, 1 PEIFA biologist and a 4-5 member team from OTN/DAL (additional life raft may be necessary).**
- **Vessel is required to meet all standard Transport Canada requirements.**
- **Captain must provide fishing gear:**
 - **Up to 6 rods with 5 barbless hooks per rod.**
- **Captain must have a live well to hold live mackerel for tagging, or an equivalent to maintain mackerel health.**
- **Vessel must have bathroom facilities.**
- **The Captain will be required to have third-party liability insurance on their vessel (in the amount of \$2,000,000.00 per occurrence on their vessel).**
- **The Captain will be required to sign a contract with the PEIFA (agreeing on protocol, rate of pay and insurance).**
- **Captain must be willing to work closely with the project staff.**
- **A draw of qualified applicants will be made if more than 1 persons apply.**
- **Live Well (blue insulated tank with deck hose or equivalent).**
- **Captain must operate from the following harbours: Tignish, Seacow Pond or Skinner's Pond.**

A registration and draw will be administered by the PEIFA to determine the participant.

Registration Dates: 9:00 AM, May 14th, 2026, until 4:30 PM, May 21st, 2026.
Fee: No fee for registration.
How to Register: Fishers can register online at www.peifa.org by clicking the “Mackerel Tagging Registration 2026” link under “Registrations and Renewals” or contact the PEIFA Office to register by phone or in person.
Required Information: Fisher’s Name, Phone #, FIN #, Homeport, Vessel Name, VRN #.

The draw will be held immediately after the completion of the Registration on Friday, May 22nd, 2026.

For additional information, please contact Melanie Giffin, Marine Biologist with the PEIFA @ 902-330-4466 or melanie@peifa.org.