



Fisheries and Oceans
Canada

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Gulf Region

Notice to Fish Harvesters

EKME: 4377102

2024 PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND – ATLANTIC HALIBUT FISHERY

Charlottetown, PEI – July 08, 2024 - Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is announcing the fisheries management measures for the Prince Edward Island (PEI) groundfish fixed-gear licence holders, with vessels less than 13.1716 metres (45 feet) in overall length that have registered to fish Atlantic Halibut in 2024.

Individual Allocation: The Atlantic Halibut allocation for the PEI fixed gear fleet in 2024 will be 76.052 metric tonnes. Based on the number of registered participants, an individual catch limit of **306 kg round weight** will be implemented. To convert dressed (head on, gutted) weight to round weight, multiply dressed weight by 1.14.

Season: In 2024, the PEI Atlantic halibut fishery will be four openings of four days, from Tuesday to Friday for each opening **or until the quota is caught**. The openings will occur on July 16 to 19, July 30 to August 02, September 10 to 13 and September 24 to September 27. **During open periods, the fishery will occur from 4 a.m. until 4 p.m. on the last day of each opening. Licence holders are not permitted to leave port until 2 a.m. on the day of an opening and must return to port by 6 p.m. the last day of the opening.**

The Atlantic Halibut fishery will close when the quota nears zero metric tonne or the quota is captured. If more than 10% of the quota remains after the fourth opening, a list of eligible licence holders will be created and the quota redistributed based on the individual catch limit.

Harvesters are requested to document every encounter with specific discarded species, as listed in the licence conditions, by recording them in the comment section of the Fixed Gear (Groundfish) logbook. The species' to be recorded include: Winter flounder (blackback) less than 25 cm in length, Atlantic halibut less than 85 cm in length, Skate, Dogfish and Lumpfish.

Following a request from the Prince Edward Island Fishermen's Association (PEIFA), the department has authorized halibut fishing in areas 4T5 and 4T7 for the 2024 season.

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For more information:

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