



Gulf Region

Notice to Fish Harvesters

For Immediate Release

2021 PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND – ATLANTIC HALIBUT FISHERY

July 5, 2021

Charlottetown, PE

Fisheries and Oceans Canada

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 2021.

Individual Allocation: The Atlantic Halibut allocation for the PEI fixed gear fleet in 2021 will be 71.729 metric tonnes. Based on the number of registered participants, an individual catch limit of **307 kg round weight** will be implemented. To convert dressed (head on, gutted) weight to round weight, multiply dressed weight by 1.14.

Season: In 2021, 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 13th to 16th, July 20th to 23rd, September 14th to 17th and September 28th to October 1st. **During open periods, the fishery will occur from 4 a.m. until 4 p.m. on the last day of each opening. Licences 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.**

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.

NEW management measures in place for the 2021 fishing season:

Crew Registry

The inshore regulations require inshore commercial licence holders, and their approved Substitute Operators, to keep records of all the crew members working aboard the vessel on every fishing trip. These records must be maintained by the licence holder for a period of five (5) years. More information can be found at:

<https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/commercial-commercial/atl-arc/inshore-regulations-reglement-peche-cotiere-eng.html#toc03>

Pilot Project in 4T5 / 4T7

Following a request from the Prince Edward Island Fishermen's Association (PEIFA), the department will allow a limited fishery (10 licence holders) in the groundfish fishing area 4T5 and 4T7. Electronic monitoring system (camera) and at sea observers will be used to monitor this activity. Fishers will be required to fish their gear based on a specific protocol.

For more information:

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