

Notice to Fish Harvesters

EKME # 3804242

2017 Prince Edward Island Bluefin Tuna Season

Charlottetown, PE. – August 1, 2017 - Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) today announces that fishing will be authorized for the 2017 Prince Edward Island (PEI) Bluefin Tuna season.

SEASON DATES: In 2017, the first fishing period of the Prince Edward Island Bluefin Tuna fishery will take place starting August 2, ending on September 26. Remaining quota will be allocated as in previous years. The fishery will reopen on September 29th and will continue until December 31 or until all the quota is caught.

MANAGEMENT MEASURES:

New for 2017:

- There will be a requirement to hail in to a Dockside monitoring company a minimum of one hour prior to returning to port for every trip, regardless if you have caught a fish.
- 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. Tags will be valid for the whole fishing season.
- New licence condition regarding tail cuts:

While fishing under authority of this license, the following is prohibited until the fish has been offloaded:

- a) The extraction of flesh from a tuna between the second dorsal fin and tail cut
- b) The removal of tail and

Notwithstanding a and b, an incision or puncture is permitted for the sole purpose of bleeding the fish

All other management measures are similar to 2016, including the use of Electronic Monitoring Systems (cameras) in both the commercial and hook and release fisheries.

TAG AVAILABILITY: Bluefin Tuna tags will be available at the DFO PEI Area office on Tuesdays to Thursdays.

The Prince Edward Island Fishermen's Association are supplying temporary dart tags to fishers who wish to use them. These are available at the PEIFA office.

For more information contact:

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