



Gulf Region

Notice to Fish Harvesters

For Immediate Release

2021 PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND CATCH AND RELEASE BLUEFIN TUNA SEASON

July 9, 2021

Charlottetown, PE

Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) today announces that fishing will be authorized for the 2021 Prince Edward Island (PEI) Catch and Release Bluefin Tuna season.

SEASON DATES: In 2021, the fishery will open on July 15th and end on October 31st, 2021.

MANAGEMENT MEASURES:

The management measures remain unchanged from the 2020 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 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.

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-commerciale/atl-arc/inshore-regulations-reglement-peche-cotiere-eng.html#toc03>

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

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