



P.E.I. Area Conservation & Protection Reminder to Fishers

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Conservation and Protection would like to remind all fishers who fish commercially for bluefin tuna in the Province of Prince Edward Island of the following license conditions;

TAGGING REQUIREMENTS

4.4.1 At least one (1) valid unused tuna tag, which has been issued to the licence holder/operator shall be on board the vessel in order to fish for tuna.

4.4.3 For the purposes of section 4.4, a dart tag is defined as a tag affixed with a plastic barbed head. The tag shall have a clear and legible unique number.

4.4.4 All bluefin tuna shall be tagged as per item 4.4.5 below immediately after the fish is caught. A fish is considered caught when the fish is brought next to the vessel and includes swimming it to cool it down. The tag shall be attached to the ninth finlet from the tail of the bluefin tuna in accordance to the design of the tag and so that it cannot be removed without tampering with the lock or seal, breaking or cutting the tag or cutting or tearing any part of the tuna.

4.4.5 The initially installed tag may be either a dart tag with a unique identifier number OR a valid numbered tuna tag issued by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

4.4.6 Should the licence holder/operator choose to utilize a dart tag, a valid numbered tuna tag issued by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans shall be affixed to the tuna once it has been killed and prior to the tuna being landed and monitored.

4.4.7 Each Record of Tags (Annex II) given out with a tag shall be kept current and it shall be produced on the demand of a fishery officer or fishery guardian.

4.4.8 For licence holders who choose to use dart tags they shall have a complete and legible record of all dart tags carried on board the vessel and shall be able to produce it on demand by a fishery officer or a fishery guardian. The record of the dart tags shall have the following information on it: the dart tag number and the date it was used.

Conservation and Protection will be strictly enforcing the above license conditions with regard to the tagging of tuna and recording of both issued and dart tags. Fishers are reminded that the initial tag which can be utilized to legally tag a Bluefin Tuna upon being caught may be either an issued tuna tag or a dart tag. A dart tag can be affixed in the location of choice by the fisher when utilized in the



commercial fishery. If fishers utilize a dart tag for initial use, an issued tuna tag must be affixed to the ninth finlet from the tail prior to the tuna being landed and monitored.

Tuna fishers are also reminded that a record of all tags kept onboard, including dart tags, must be kept as per license condition. Fishers who utilize a dart tag must hail in the dart tag number and valid issued tuna tag number if a dart tag is utilized to tag a commercially caught tuna.

For any questions regarding the tagging of Bluefin Tuna or any other license condition, please consult your local fishery officer.

PEI Conservation and Protection Offices:

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