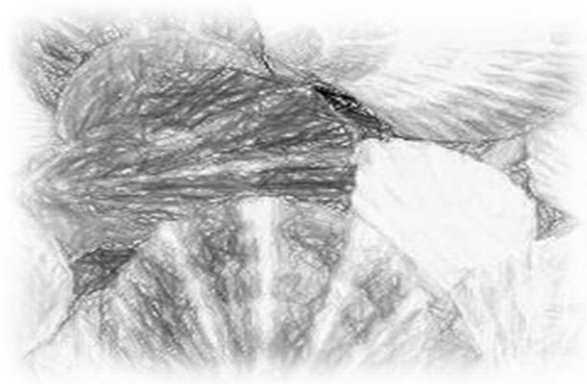


PACIFIC REGION

**INTEGRATED FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT PLAN**

SCALLOP BY TRAWL

**MAY 22, 2020 TO
APRIL 30, 2021**



Chlamys spp.



Fisheries and Oceans
Canada

Pêches et Océans
Canada

Canada

This Integrated Fisheries Management Plan is intended for general purposes only. Where there is a discrepancy between the Plan and the regulations, the regulations are the final authority. A description of Areas and Subareas referenced in this Plan can be found in the Pacific Fishery Management Area Regulations.

FOREWORD

The purpose of this Integrated Fisheries Management Plan (IFMP) is to identify the main objectives and requirements for the Scallop by Trawl fishery in the Pacific Region, as well as the management measures that will be used to achieve these objectives. This document also serves to communicate the basic information on the fishery and its management to Fisheries & Oceans Canada (DFO) staff, legislated co-management boards and other stakeholders. This IFMP provides a common understanding of the basic “rules” for the sustainable management of the fisheries resource.

This IFMP is not a legally binding instrument which can form the basis of a legal challenge. The IFMP can be modified at any time and does not fetter the Minister's discretionary powers set out in the *Fisheries Act*. The Minister can, for reasons of conservation or for any other valid reasons, modify any provision of the IFMP in accordance with the powers granted pursuant to the *Fisheries Act*.

Where DFO is responsible for implementing obligations under land claims agreements, the IFMP will be implemented in a manner consistent with these obligations. In the event that an IFMP is inconsistent with obligations under land claims agreements, the provisions of the land claims agreements will prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.

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1. OVERVIEW

1.1. Introduction

This IFMP for Scallop by Trawl covers the period May 22, 2020 to April 30, 2021.

This IFMP provides a broad context to the management and interrelationships of all fishing sectors of the Spiny Scallop (*Chlamys hastata*) and Pink Scallop (*Chlamys rubida*) fishery in the Pacific Region (British Columbia, Canada).

Section 1 provides an overview of the commercial, recreational and First Nations fisheries. Section 2 presents a biological synopsis and stock assessment. Section 3 provides a socio-economic profile. Section 4 describes the emerging management issues that may impact management measures in the fishery. Section 5 describes objectives for the fishery, reflecting stock status presented in Section 2 and to address the issues identified in Section 4. Section 6 discusses access and allocation. Section 7 directs to the Appendices for the fishery management procedures that will be employed during the year to meet the objectives. Section 8 describes shared stewardship arrangements to achieve objectives. Section 9 describes the enforcement measures to achieve the objectives. Section 10 describes the ways and means by which the achievement of the objectives will be assessed in the following year. Sections 11, 12 and 13 provide references, internet sites and a glossary to define terms. Sections 14 and 15 provide contacts and information on the Scallop by Trawl Advisory Board, the main consultation process for the fishery. In future, Section 16 will provide an annual review of the previous year of the fisheries based on the performance measures provided in Section 10.

The Commercial Harvest Plan for Scallop by Trawl is attached to this IFMP as Appendix 1. For information about First Nations harvest of scallops for food, social and ceremonial (FSC) purposes and the recreational fishery, please refer to Section 1 and 7 (this document). Appendix 2 provides descriptions of commercial Scallop Management Areas and other information related to harvesting areas. Appendix 3 is an example of a Scallop by Trawl commercial harvest log. Appendix 4 discusses vessel safety.

1.2. History

Two species of scallops, Pink Scallop (*Chlamys rubida*) and Spiny Scallop (*Chlamys hastata*) are harvested from in-shore waters in the trawl fishery. The Pink and Spiny Scallop fisheries began in 1982 and Experimental or Exploratory Guidelines for the fisheries have been in place since 2000.

The scallop fishery began under a commercial ZI licence that allowed for harvest of both Pink and Spiny Scallops by dive and trawl gear. In 1993, the dive and trawl fisheries were split. The dive fishery continued under the ZI licence and a separate licence category, ZR, was created for the trawl fishery. There was no limit to the number of licences issued annually in either fishery.

Historically, there were few management controls on the commercial fishery. A minimum size limit of 55 mm measured through the longest diameter of the shell perpendicular to the hinge was in effect for both species of commercially harvested scallops and some area closures existed.

The Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada discontinued the commercial scallop fisheries following the 1999 fishing season because the fisheries were data-limited with few management controls.

Since 2000, there has been a limited experimental harvest of Pink and Spiny Scallops by a small number of harvesters. In 2001, this experimental fishery was developed as part of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)'s New Emerging Fisheries Policy (NEFP) that allows gradual expansion of the fishery in order to develop a biologically-based assessment and management framework. The NEFP is precautionary in its approach to the development of new fisheries and thus harvests are relatively small-scale. Generally new fisheries development follows three stages – feasibility, exploratory and commercial.

In 2000, a 'Framework for Pink and Spiny Scallop Fisheries off the West Coast of Canada' was presented to the Pacific Science Advice Review Committee (now Canadian Science Advice Secretariat, CSAS) (Lauzier et al. 2000) and protocols for scallop dive and trawl surveys were developed based on this document. In 2005, a subsequent paper was presented to CSAS which analysed data from 2000–2002 from the experimental scallop fisheries and provided preliminary biological reference points as well as recommendations for the continued assessment and management of the fisheries (Lauzier et al. 2005). A report by Surry et al. (2012) provided updated information on natural mortality and growth rates of Pink and Spiny Scallops in British Columbia. Most recently, the Scallop by Trawl assessment plan was reviewed in 2014 (DFO 2015).

Since August 2007, the Department has licensed the Scallop by Trawl harvest using a non-transferable exploratory fishing licence. Beginning in early 2009, DFO started consultations with all harvesters to discuss the possibility of moving to an IFMP-managed fishery using regular commercial licences.

Historical information in addition to that presented here is available in the Canadian Manuscript Report of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences series (Harbo and Wylie 2006).

Information on the New Emerging Fisheries Policy is available at:

<http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/reports-rapports/regs/efp-pnp-eng.htm>

CSAS reports are available at:

<http://www.isdm-gdsi.gc.ca/csas-sccs/applications/Publications/index-eng.asp>

1.2.1 Fishery Outlook

DFO will not undertake new commercial fisheries without having industry self-funding arrangements in place. Participants will be required to develop arrangements wherein they pay directly for the cost of services and any incremental costs to DFO.

DFO has reviewed the exploratory fishery and determined that the stocks can sustain a commercially viable fishery under the current assessment and management framework, and that the industry is able to fund its own management and assessment programs. The IFMP will be “adaptive” in nature; it will recognize past participation and work to date, it will establish a potential licensing pool, and it will develop criteria for future increases to licence opportunities. Permanent licence eligibility is not yet established.

No expansion in the footprint of the fishing area or participation will occur without stock assessment surveys and habitat assessments. Development of fisheries in new areas, not historically fished, may be considered in future, and will follow the framework provided by Lauzier et al. (2000, 2005). Prior to any new fishing location being approved by DFO for a biomass survey or harvest opportunities, a habitat assessment of the area will be required. A new habitat assessment protocol is being developed by DFO and will require harvesters to conduct a video

survey of the proposed harvest location. Fisheries Management and Fisheries Enforcement staff from DFO will evaluate the video to determine if trawl activity poses a risk to the benthic community.

This “adaptive management plan process” will evolve in future seasons to meet the principles of the Sustainable Fisheries Framework (SFF).

In addition, as part of an IFMP-managed scallop trawl fishery, DFO requires biologically-based quotas, assessment against the National Fishery Monitoring Policy (Section 4.1.2), a licence limitation process, an enforcement framework, and a public consultation and advisory process.

Additional information about the Sustainable Fisheries Framework is available at:

<http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/reports-rapports/regs/sff-cpd/overview-cadre-eng.htm>

1.3. Type of Fishery and Participants

The Pacific Region scallop fisheries include commercial, First Nations and recreational fisheries.

1.3.1 First Nations

First Nations’ harvest for FSC purposes may occur coast-wide where authorized by an Aboriginal communal licence or, under treaty, a harvest document for domestic purposes. There are currently no communal licences or harvest documents issued for the use of scallop trawl gear.

Scallops harvested by hand-picking may be allocated under treaty, but were unallocated under the Maa-nulth, Tsawwassen, Tla’amin (Sliammon) and Nisga’a Treaties. Beaches were set aside on the west coast of Vancouver Island for intertidal bivalve harvest for domestic purposes under the Maa-nulth final agreement (treaty), where recreational and commercial fishing for intertidal bivalves is closed.

1.3.2 Commercial

Two species of scallop, Pink Scallop (*Chlamys rubida*) and Spiny Scallop (*Chlamys hastata*) are harvested from in-shore waters in the commercial trawl fishery. Up to and including the 2014/15 season, DFO licensed the commercial scallop by trawl fishery with a non-transferable exploratory licence. Seven participants have been eligible for the exploratory fishery opportunity and less than five have been active in recent years.

1.3.3 Aquaculture

DFO licenses aquaculture activities for scallop but harvest of cultured product is not conducted by trawl gear. In 2017, 201 of the 463 aquaculture sites in B.C. are licensed to culture scallops. The focus of aquaculture effort on scallop is Weathervane Scallop (*Patinopecten caurinus*), Pacific Scallop (*Patinopecten* spp), and Japanese Scallop (*Mizuhopecten yessoensis*).

1.3.4 Recreational

A British Columbia Tidal Waters Sport Fishing Licence is required for the recreational harvest of all species of fish, including scallops, but the use of trawl gear is not permitted.

1.4. Location of Fishery

Commercial fishing for Pink and Spiny Scallop has generally taken place along the southern B.C. coastline in Pacific Fishery Management Areas 13 and 14. The fishery continues in these areas,

subject to biotoxin and sanitary contamination closures under the Canadian Shellfish Sanitation Program (CSSP). As the adaptive management strategy progresses, DFO will establish the criteria for potential expansion of the commercial fishing opportunity into other areas.

Permanent area closures are listed in Appendix 1 for the commercial fishery.

Aboriginal and recreational harvest may occur in areas approved for harvest under the CSSP and authorized under either a communal licence or recreational licence. The B.C. coast north of Cape Caution (Areas 1 to 11 inclusive) is closed for the harvest of bivalves, unless the appropriate testing is in place to ensure safe harvest. Several First Nations and some commercial interests have established the necessary sampling required for small-scale harvest openings for all three sectors.

Information about sanitary and biotoxin closures is available at:

<http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/contamination/index-eng.html>

1.5. Fishery Characteristics

1.5.1 Commercial

The commercial fishery operates under the licensing term “priority-access” (as opposed to limited entry) meaning permanent licence eligibility is not currently established (Section 1.3). It is a competitive fishery managed by survey-based biomass estimates and area quotas. Pink and Spiny Scallops (“swimming scallops”), *Chlamys rubida* and *C. hastate*, are two of 23 scallop species found in B.C., and are the only scallop species to occur in sufficient abundance to have supported successful commercial fisheries in B.C. waters (Bourne 1987). They are smaller than other scallop species, rarely exceeding a maximum shell height of 70 mm and 80 mm, respectively, measured perpendicular to the hinge (Bourne and Harbo 1987), and as such, are marketed whole, in the shell, fresh or frozen.

1.5.2 Aquaculture

In December 2010, the *Pacific Aquaculture Regulations* came into effect, giving DFO the authority to govern the management and regulation of aquaculture activities at marine finfish, shellfish, freshwater/land-based and enhancement facilities. The Province of British Columbia continues to have authority over land tenures and workplace safety related to aquaculture in B.C. New applications, amendments and related referrals are coordinated through Front Counter BC. DFO approves and issues aquaculture licences.

The focus of aquaculture effort on scallop is Weathervane Scallop (*Patinopecten caurinus*), Pacific Scallop (*Patinopecten* spp), and Japanese Scallop (*Mizuhopecten yessoensis*).

Information is available from the Front Counter BC at:

<http://www.frontcounterbc.gov.bc.ca/>

More information on Integrated Management of Aquaculture Plans and Aquaculture Management Committee Meetings is available by email from IMAPS@dfo-mpo.gc.ca.

1.5.3 First Nations

First Nation’s harvest for FSC or domestic purposes may be open year round, subject to available sanitary and biotoxin contamination sampling and results, and is limited to the gear specified for bivalve harvest in the communal licence or, under treaty, the harvest document. Scallop trawl gear is not specified.

1.5.4 Recreational

The recreational fishery may be open year round, subject to available sanitary and biotoxin contamination sampling and results, and is limited to hand picking and diving.

1.6. Governance

The scallop fisheries are governed by the *Fisheries Act* (R.S., 1985, c. F-14) and regulations made thereunder, including the *Fishery (General) Regulations* (e.g., conditions of licence), the *Pacific Fishery Regulations* (e.g., open times), the *British Columbia Sport Fishing Regulations (1996)*, the *Aboriginal Communal Fishing Licences Regulations* and the *Pacific Aquaculture Regulations*. Areas and Subareas are described in the *Pacific Fishery Management Area Regulations*.

Marine Protected Areas may be established under the *Oceans Act* (1996, c. 31). National marine conservation areas may be established under the *Canada National Marine Conservation Areas Act* (2002, c. 18).

Species listed as extirpated, endangered, threatened or special concern are governed by the *Species At Risk Act* (2002, c. 29)(SARA) which has implications for the management of fisheries that impact listed species. In addition to existing prohibitions under the *Fisheries Act*, it is illegal under the SARA to kill, harm, harass, capture, take, possess, collect, buy, sell or trade any listed endangered or threatened animal or any part or derivative of an individual.

These documents are available at:

<http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/acts-lois/index-eng.htm>

More information on the SARA is available at:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry.html>

In addition, the Sustainable Fisheries Framework is a toolbox of policies for DFO to sustainably manage Canadian fisheries by conserving fish stocks while supporting the industries that rely on healthy fish populations. It provides planning and operational tools that allow these goals to be achieved in a clear, predictable, transparent, inclusive manner, and provides the foundation for new conservation policies to implement the ecosystem and precautionary approaches to fisheries management. These policies include: A Fishery Decision-Making Framework Incorporating the Precautionary Approach (PA), Policy for Managing the Impacts of Fishing on Sensitive Benthic Areas, Ecological Risk Assessment Framework for Coldwater Corals and Sponge Dominated Communities, Policy on New Fisheries for Forage Species, Policy on Managing Bycatch, Guidance on Implementation of the Policy on Managing Bycatch, and Guidance for the Development of Rebuilding Plans under the Precautionary Approach Framework: Growing Stocks out of the Critical Zone. Along with existing economic and shared stewardship policies, these policies help DFO meet objectives for long-term sustainability, economic prosperity, and improved governance.

Information on the Sustainable Fisheries Framework is available at:

<http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/reports-rapports/regs/sff-cpd/overview-cadre-eng.htm>

Scientific advice for this fishery is peer-reviewed primarily through a process managed under the CSAS.

DFO engages in a variety of consultation, engagement and collaborative harvest planning processes with First Nations. These exchanges and involvement may include bilateral consultations, advisory processes, management boards, technical groups and other roundtable forums. Consultation is an important part of good governance, sound policy development and decision-making. It is also a component of modern treaties established between First Nations and the provincial and federal governments. In addition to good governance objectives, Canada has statutory, contractual, and common law obligations to consult with Aboriginal groups.

1.7. Approval Process

The Regional Director General for the Pacific Region approves this plan.

2. STOCK ASSESSMENT, SCIENCE AND TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE

2.1. Biological Synopsis

Pink and Spiny Scallops are discontinuously distributed throughout B.C. in small discrete beds. Aggregations may be found within close proximity of each other (within 10 km) or in relative isolation. Pink and Spiny Scallops are found sub-tidally to depths of 200 m (Bernard 1983). The distribution of the two species overlaps, and a single scallop aggregation or bed often contains both species. In general, Pink Scallops tend to be found on softer substrates than Spiny Scallops, and have a broader depth distribution, extending to 200 m, compared to 150 m for Spiny Scallops. There have been no detailed studies of natural populations of Pink and Spiny Scallops in B.C., and the complete distribution and degree of exchange or dispersal between and among discrete aggregations is unknown.

Pink and Spiny Scallops are smaller than other scallop species, and rarely exceed a maximum shell height of 80 mm. Sexes are separate with spawning occurring twice per year in spring and fall for Pink Scallops, and once per year in the summer for Spiny Scallops (MacDonald et al. 1991). Larvae are pelagic, with settlement thought to occur within 5-6 weeks. Both species are sexually mature at 25-35 mm shell height or approximately two years old. Pink Scallops grow more slowly than Spiny Scallops and achieve a smaller maximum shell height. Both species are approximately 3-4 years old when they reach a shell height of 55 mm. Maximum age for both species is estimated to be six years (Bourne and Harbo 1987, MacDonald et al. 1991). For both species, reproductive effort increases with age, with annual gamete production continuing to steadily increase in Spiny Scallops, exceeding somatic production after five years; while for Pink scallops annual gamete production reaches an asymptotic maximum after four years and never exceeds somatic production (MacDonald et al. 1991).

2.2. Ecosystem Interactions

Scallops are suspension feeders, feeding on single-celled algae. As larvae, scallops are assumed to be vulnerable to predation from larger zooplankton and planktivorous fish. Predators of adult Pink and Spiny Scallops are known to include sea stars, as well as octopus (Gillespie et al. 1998b) and Sea Otters (Wolt, C.M., unpublished data). Large fluctuations in scallop abundance would likely affect the abundance and foraging strategy of their predators as well as the structure of the benthic food web.

Live scallops are frequently encrusted on both valves by one of two sponges, *Myxilla incrustans* or *Mycale adhaerens*, with which they share a mutualistic relationship. The sponges provide some protection for scallops from predation by sea stars (Bloom 1975, Farren and Donovan 2007), while living on scallop valves increases sponge survival by providing protection from predators such as *dorid nudibranchs* (Bloom 1975) and by reducing the effects of sediment accumulation (Burns and Bingham 2002).

2.3. Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge/Traditional Ecological Knowledge

Both Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge (ATK) and Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) are cumulative knowledge gathered over generations and encompass regional, local and spiritual connections to ecosystems and all forms of plant and animal life. ATK is knowledge held by Aboriginal peoples and communities, while TEK is local knowledge held by non-Aboriginal communities, including industry, academia, and public sectors. While qualitatively different, both are cumulative knowledge that may be gathered over generations and are regionally and locally specific and can often be utilized to improve the management process. The growing awareness of the value of ATK and TEK is reflected in the increasing requirements for them to be included in environmental assessments, co-management arrangements, species at risk recovery plans, and coastal management decision-making processes. Government and the scientific community acknowledge the need to access and consider ATK and TEK in meaningful and respectful ways. However, the challenge for resource managers is how to engage knowledge holders and how to ensure that the information can be accessed and considered in a mutually acceptable manner, by both knowledge holders, and the broader community of First Nations, stakeholders, resource managers, and policy makers involved in fisheries.

2.4. Stock Assessment

Scallop trawl biomass surveys are conducted in collaboration with the West Coast Scallop Harvesters Association. Estimates of biomass are based on fishery independent surveys of known harvestable populations of Pink and Spiny Scallops on a bed-by-bed basis. Although assessment on a larger scale is desirable due to the limited resources available for estimating biomass, a consistent time series of biomass surveys and biological data from a variety of areas is necessary to investigate whether changes in biomass and populations dynamics appear correlated between different areas. To date, repeat surveys have been conducted at the following locations:

Location	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2017	2018	2019
Cape Lazo	*							*							
Elk Point	*		*			*	*		*		*		*		*
Granite Point	*				*		*					*			*
Hole in the Wall	*		*		*			*		*		*			
Moriarty Point	*		*			*	*		*		*		*		*
Octopus Islands	*						*								
Okisollo	*					*	*					*			
SW Quadra	*					*		*		*	*		*		*
Wilby Shoal	*		*				*			*					*
Willow Point	*		*				*								

See Appendix 1 and 2 for full descriptions of these areas and the Total Allowable Catch applied as a result of survey.

2.5. Stock Scenarios

Long-term trends in Pink and Spiny Scallop stock abundance are not available yet. A sufficient time-series, if implemented on an annual basis, is necessary to determine stock status using the current assessment framework. Survey results to date for some areas indicate high variation in stock sizes.

2.6. Precautionary Approach

The Sustainable Fisheries Framework (SFF) includes a decision-making framework incorporating a Precautionary Approach (PA) to commercial, recreational, and FSC fishing:

<http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/reports-rapports/regs/sff-cpd/precaution-eng.htm>

In general, the precautionary approach in fisheries management is about being cautious when scientific knowledge is uncertain, and not using the absence of adequate scientific information as a reason to postpone action or failure to take action to avoid serious harm to fish stocks or their ecosystem. This approach is widely accepted internationally as an essential part of sustainable fisheries management.

Applying the PA to fisheries management decisions entails establishing a harvest strategy that:

- identifies three stock status zones – Healthy, Cautious, and Critical – according to upper stock reference points and limit reference points;
- sets the removal rate at which fish may be harvested within each stock status zone; and

- adjusts the removal rate according to fish stock status variations (i.e., spawning stock biomass or another index/metric relevant to population productivity), based on pre-agreed decision rules.

The PA framework requires that a harvest strategy be incorporated into respective fisheries management plans to keep the removal rate moderate when the stock status is healthy, to promote rebuilding when stock status is low, and to ensure a low risk of serious or irreversible harm to the stock. A key component of the PA requires that when a stock has declined to the Critical Zone, a rebuilding plan must be in place with the aim of having a high probability of the stock growing out of the Critical Zone within a reasonable timeframe.

The development of a harvest strategy compliant with the PA is required for Pink and Spiny Scallops. The minimum elements of the harvest strategy component of the DFO PA include a removal reference for three stock status zones delineated by a Limit Reference Point (LRP) and an Upper Stock Reference (USR) (DFO 2015).

Unfortunately, for B.C. Pink and Spiny Scallops stocks, there is a paucity of biological and time series data so moving forward on this requirement will need to take place over several years. The current assessment framework, if implemented on an annual basis, will facilitate the development of PA compliant provisional reference points which can then be evaluated to test for robustness to various stock size scenarios.

Amendments are proposed to the *Fisheries Act* (Bill C-68) that include new authorities to amend the *Fishery (General) Regulations* and requirements to maintain major fish stocks at sustainable levels and develop and implement rebuilding plans for stocks that have declined to their critical zone. The proposed regulatory amendments draw upon the 2013 *Guidance for Developing Rebuilding Plans Under the Precautionary Approach*.

Information on the regulatory proposal regarding fish stocks and rebuilding plans is available at:

<http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/consultation/consult-maj-pri-eng.html>

2.7. Research

The primary source of uncertainty in the assessment of Pink and Spiny Scallop stocks is the paucity of biological and time series data. Fishery independent surveys are the main source of stock abundance and research data.

Additional scientific information on Pink and Spiny Scallop stocks and the fishery is available at:

<http://www.isdm-gdsi.gc.ca/csas-sccs/applications/Publications/index-eng.asp>

See references in Section 11.

DFO may investigate the establishment of closed areas to serve as scallop refugia or no harvest “control” sites. Benefits of establishing such closures would include the potential for comparative studies of harvest rates for use in stock assessments and, in addition, such areas would serve as potential sources of spawning recruitment. Input from experienced scallop harvesters will be sought in identifying these areas.

3. ECONOMIC PROFILE OF THE FISHERY

The intent of this section is illustrative, and it provides a socio-economic context of the Scallop by Trawl fisheries in B.C.

In recent years up to seven commercial licences have been issued annually, with three licences active. Landings have been in the order of 25,000 to 35,000 lb/year.

There is little or no information that can be provided publicly about the fishery at this time as the participation has been low and the data is protected by confidentiality policies. Future IFMPs will include an expanded summary of the history and current economic state of the commercial fishery.

The Scallop by Trawl fishery is market-driven. To date there has been limited participation in the fishery. As the regularity of harvest increases, it is expected that the market for the scallops will increase.

4. MANAGEMENT ISSUES

The following emerging issues may impact the management measures in place for the Scallop by Trawl fisheries.

4.1. Conservation and Sustainability

4.1.1 Stock Status

While there are abundance estimates for some scallop management areas, not all are assessed in a consistent fashion. This lack of stock assessment information is an ongoing issue, hampers DFO's ability to monitor the status of populations, and limits the commercial industry's opportunity to expand. It is not currently practical to assess every scallop bed in B.C. and future efforts may be required to explore options for alternative assessment frameworks for the fishery while meeting the objectives under the Sustainable Fisheries Framework Policy.

4.1.2 National Fishery Monitoring Policy

The national Fishery Monitoring Policy aims to bring consistency in the development, delivery and evaluation of monitoring programs for all federally-managed wild capture fisheries in Canada, and will supersede the existing Pacific Region Strategic Framework for Fishery Monitoring and Catch Reporting. DFO will be working to transition over to the national policy in the coming months.

The national Fishery Monitoring Policy has recently been finalized and is available at:

<http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/reports-rapports/regs/sff-cpd/fishery-monitoring-surveillance-des-peches-eng.htm>

4.2. Social, Cultural and Economic

4.2.1 Commercial

There are a number of issues impacting the economic viability of the commercial scallop fishery. These issues include the limited area permitted for harvest as a result of survey requirements, the potential loss of area as a result of the expansion of aquaculture tenures, treaty settlements and water quality concerns. DFO will work with licence eligibility holders to develop solutions to these

issues and adapt the fishery accordingly. Advice from harvesters and other interested parties will continue to be considered.

4.2.2 First Nations

Opportunity for scallop harvest by hand-picking is typically provided coincident with the CSSP sampling for commercial purposes, and the CSSP is not implemented in all areas. However, DFO is not aware of any issues with First Nations' access to scallop.

4.2.3 Recreational

Opportunity for scallop harvest by hand picking and diving is typically provided coincident with CSSP sampling for commercial purposes, and the CSSP is not implemented in all areas. However, DFO is not aware of any issues with recreational access to scallop.

4.3. Compliance

The CSSP requires DFO to monitor and patrol all harvesting activities, however resources are becoming limited for such activities. Processing plants must be able to ensure that the commercial product they receive has been harvested legally in approved growing waters.

4.4. Ecosystem

4.4.1 Canada's Marine and Coastal Areas Conservation Mandate

In October 2017, the Government of Canada announced that it had reached its first milestone of protecting 5% of marine and coastal areas. On August 1st 2019, the government announced that Canada had surpassed its 2020 marine conservation target of 10 percent. To date, Canada has established 14 Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) under the Oceans Act, three National Marine Conservation Areas (NMCAs), one marine National Wildlife Area and 59 marine refuges. These areas protect 13.81% of Canada's marine and coastal areas. The 2020 target is both a domestic target (Canada's Biodiversity Target 1) and an international target as reflected in the Convention on Biological Diversity's Aichi Target 11 and the United Nations General Assembly's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development under Goal 14.

More information on the background and drivers for Canada's marine conservation targets is available at:

<http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/oceans/conservation/index-eng.html>.

A description of the protection standards and marine refuges is available at:

<http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/oceans/mpa-zpm-aoi-si-eng.html>

Northern Shelf Bioregion Marine Protected Areas Network

The Province of BC, the Government of Canada and 16 First Nations are working together to develop a Network of marine protected areas for the Northern Shelf Bioregion which extends from the top of Vancouver Island (Quadra Island/Bute Inlet) and reaches north to the Canada - Alaska border. This bioregion has the same footprint as the Pacific North Coast Integrated Management Area. The planning process is being developed under the policy direction outlined in the National Framework for Canada's Network of MPAs as well as the Canada-British Columbia MPA Network Strategy.

A draft MPA network design, which consists of a map of areas proposed for conservation as well as potential management measures for proposed sites, was shared with First Nations, who are currently not part of the collaborative governance arrangement, and with members of the Network Advisory Committees in February 2019. Various sectors are engaged in a review of the draft network design; the deadline for input is January 30, 2020. Thereafter, the governance partners will consider all input received and anticipate sharing a revised network design with sectors and the general public for further review in late Fall 2020.

Following endorsement of a MPA Network Action Plan, implementation of sites is anticipated to occur over time and there will be additional site specific assessment and consultation prior to introduction of regulatory measures.

More information on MPA Network Planning is available at:

<http://www.mpanetwork.ca>

Rockfish Conservation Areas

Between 2003 and 2007, DFO established 164 Rockfish Conservation Areas (RCAs) in the Pacific Region for the long-term protection and conservation of a portion of inshore rockfish populations and their habitat. As of May 1, 2019, South Moresby and Lyell Island RCAs have been superseded and replaced by the strict protection zones of the Gwaii Haanas National Marine Conservation Area Reserve. There are currently 162 RCAs.

DFO is undertaking a multi-year review of the conservation effectiveness of RCAs in order to determine whether some RCAs can meet the Other Effective Area Based Conservation Measures criteria. The conservation effectiveness of RCAs might be improved by adjusting boundaries or through relocation, changing management measures, conducting more research, and increasing monitoring and compliance.

RCAs in the Northern Shelf Bioregion have been selected for the first phase of engagement to align with the MPA network planning process in that area. Engagement in other bioregions will occur in subsequent years.

A risk assessment of activities currently permitted in RCAs was reviewed by the CSAS in 2019 (CSAS 2019/057) and is available at:

http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/csas-sccs/Publications/SAR-AS/2019/2019_057-eng.html

More information about RCAs is available at:

<http://dfo-mpo.gc.ca/rockfish-conservation>

Strait of Georgia and Howe Sound Glass Sponge Reef Conservation Areas

Effective April 1, 2019, all commercial, recreational and Aboriginal Food, Social and Ceremonial (FSC) bottom-contact fishing activities for prawn, shrimp, crab and groundfish, as well as the use of downrigger gear for recreational salmon trolling (restricted via Condition of Licence) are prohibited within portions of Subareas 28-2 and 28-4 to protect nine Howe Sound glass sponge reefs as marine refuges. Nine remaining areas in Howe Sound require ground-truthing to assess their ecological significance and additional management measures may be considered in the future. These eight new closures are in addition to the nine areas closed to all commercial, recreational

and Aboriginal FSC bottom-contact fishing activities in the Strait of Georgia and Howe Sound (Areas 14 (Subareas 14-2, 14-3 and 14-6), 17, 18, 29 and 29) in 2015.

These areas do not currently overlap with scallop by trawl fishing areas (Appendix 2).

More information about the Strait of Georgia and Howe Sound Sponge Reefs is available at:

<http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/oceans/ceccsr-cerceef/closures-fermetures-eng.html>

Southern Strait of Georgia National Marine Conservation Area Reserve

Parks Canada, in partnership with the Government of British Columbia, launched a feasibility assessment for a National Marine Conservation Area Reserve (NMCAR) in the southern Strait of Georgia in 2004. Since then, consultations with First Nations, key stakeholders, communities and the public have occurred. Informed by those discussions, a proposed boundary for consultation was announced by the provincial and federal Ministers of Environment in 2011.

Since 2011, the two governments have been consulting with First Nations, local governments and industry. A preliminary concept is currently being developed to help advance consultations on the feasibility assessment. If the results of the feasibility assessment indicate that establishment of a NMCAR is practical and feasible, an establishment agreement between the Governments of Canada and British Columbia will be negotiated and an interim management plan developed. If the NMCAR is determined to be feasible, further consultations related to establishment agreements and Indigenous rights will also take place with First Nations. Commercial and recreational fishing sectors, communities, landowners, recreation and environmental organizations and other stakeholders will also have opportunities to provide input to the development of the interim management plan.

Parks Canada information on the proposed NMCAR in the southern Strait of Georgia is available at:

<https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/amnc-nmca/cnamnc-cnnmca/dgs-ssg>

4.4.2 Gear Impacts

The trawl used in B.C. is called a butterfly scallop trawl and is different than the drags and dredges used in other scallop fisheries (Lauzier et al. 2005). The butterfly scallop trawl is designed to capture Pink and Spiny Scallops as they are swimming, and to minimize habitat impacts and the bycatch of non-target species as the crossbar and the bottom on the trawl net is usually 20 cm off the bottom. The trawl frame sits on several steel runners that contact the bottom. Most mobile organisms are able to avoid the trawl as the tow speed is approximately 0.5-0.7 knots (Lauzier et al. 2005).

The Government of Canada has made a strong commitment towards addressing marine pollution issues, especially in the area of plastic waste. Recent milestones include Canada's G7 commitment to the 2015 Oceans Plastic Charter and the 2018 Charlevoix Blueprint for Healthy Oceans, Seas and Resilient Coastal Communities. The Minister's mandate letter (August 28th, 2018) commits the Minister to implement, with support from the Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) Minister, the provisions of both the G7 Oceans Plastic Charter and the Charlevoix Blueprint. For the DFO Fisheries Management Program there are two key areas of focus with respect to marine pollution:


- Abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG), also referred to as ghost fishing gear (GG). The department has signed (Sept. 2018) on to the Global Ghost Gear Initiative (GGGI), which commits DFO to taking concrete steps toward addressing ghost gear issues.
- Implementing fishing vessel-based marine litter management programs. For more information on combatting marine litter please visit: <https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/speciesespeces/mammals-mammiferes/ghostgear-equipementfantome/index-eng.html>.
- For more information on Canada's Zero Plastic Waste Strategy, *The Sustainable Fisheries Solutions and Retrieval Support Contribution Program* has officially been launched and is now accepting expressions of interest and applications.

4.4.3 Whale, Sea Turtle and Basking Shark Entanglements and Sightings

DFO welcomes assistance in the reporting of any whale, leatherback sea turtle or basking shark entanglement or sighting. While there are many whale species found in Pacific Canadian waters, sightings of Basking Shark and Leatherback Sea Turtles are infrequent. The collection of sighting data is useful to scientists in determining population size and species distribution and aids in recovery efforts under the SARA.

Marine Mammal Incident Reporting Hotline

DFO is responsible for assisting marine mammals and sea turtles in distress. If your vessel strikes a whale, or if you observe an entangled, sick, injured, distressed, or dead marine mammal in B.C. waters, please contact the B.C. Marine Mammal Response Network Incident Reporting Hotline immediately:

<p>1-800-465-4336 OR VHF CHANNEL 16</p> <p>What to report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your name and contact information • Date and time of incident • Species • Animal alive/dead • Nature of injury • Location: Latitude/Longitude coordinates, landmarks • Pictures/Video taken 	 <p>The poster features a blue and green design with the title 'Marine Mammal Incident Reporting Hotline' in white. Below the title is an illustration of a whale and a sea turtle. Text on the poster includes 'British Columbia Marine Mammal Response Network', 'Please report sick, injured, distressed or dead marine mammals and sea turtles', and the phone number '1-800-465-4336'. Logos for the Canadian flag, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and the word 'Canada' are at the bottom.</p>
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To report whale or turtle sightings contact the BC Cetacean Sighting Network:

Toll free: 1.866.I.SAW.ONE (1-866-472-9663)

Email: <mailto:sightings@ocean.org>

Internet: <http://wildwhales.org/>

App: WhaleReport

To report basking shark sightings contact the Basking Shark Sightings Network:

Toll free: 1-877-50-SHARK (1-877-507-4275)

Email: BaskingShark@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Internet: www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/SharkSightings

5. OBJECTIVES

Sections 5.1 to 5.3, 5.5 and 5.6 outline the “longer term” objectives for this and other invertebrate fisheries in the Pacific Region. Section 5.4 describes the species-specific “shorter-term” objectives for the Pink and Spiny Scallop trawl fisheries.

5.1. National

DFO aims to:

- Meet conservation objectives and ensure healthy and productive fisheries and ecosystems;
- Manage fisheries to provide opportunities for economic prosperity;
- Provide stability, transparency, and predictability in fisheries management and improved governance.

5.2. Pacific Region

In 1994, the Biological Objective Working Group of the Pacific Scientific Advice Review Committee (PSARC, now CSAS) identified three biological objectives for management of Pacific Region fish and invertebrate stocks (Rice et al, 1995). The objectives remain relevant today, particularly in light of development of the national objectives around sustainable fisheries.

- Ensure that subpopulations over as broad a geographical and ecological range as possible do not become biologically threatened (in the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) sense of “threatened”);
- Operationally, the above objective requires at least that management allow enough spawners to survive, after accounting for all sources of mortality (including all fisheries and natural mortality), to ensure production of enough progeny that they will, themselves, be able to replace themselves when mature;
- Fisheries may have collateral effects on other species, mediated by the ecological relationships of the target species. Fisheries should be managed in ways that do not violate the above objectives for ecologically related species, as well as target species.

5.3. Invertebrate Resource Management

Management goals and objectives have been defined for invertebrate fisheries in annual management plans produced by DFO since 1990. The management goals and objectives, as written by Invertebrate Fisheries Management and revised in 1997, are:

- To ensure conservation and protection of invertebrate stocks and their habitat through the application of scientific management principles applied in a risk averse and precautionary manner based on the best scientific advice available;
- To meet the federal Crown’s obligations regarding Aboriginal fisheries for FSC purposes;
- To develop sustainable fisheries through partnership and co-management arrangements with client groups and stakeholders to share in decision making, responsibilities, costs, and benefits;
- To develop fishing plans and co-operative research programs which will contribute to improving the knowledge base and understanding of the resource;

- To consider the goals of stakeholders with respect to social, cultural and economic value of the fishery;
- To consider health and safety in the development and implementation of management plans, fishery openings and closures;
- To consider opportunity for the development of the aquaculture industry;
- To provide opportunities for a recreational fishery.

5.4. Scallop by Trawl

5.4.1 Conservation and Sustainability

Objectives developed during the exploratory fishery remain relevant:

- To develop an understanding of the stock distribution and abundance of Pink and Spiny Scallops and to establish scallop management and assessment units.
- To collect biological information, including age, growth and mortality data, for use in the development of biologically based assessment and management frameworks for Pink and Spiny Scallops.
- To develop and establish PA compliant reference points and harvest control rules for Pink and Spiny Scallops under the SFF.

5.4.2 Social, Cultural and Economic

DFO's objective is to continue to work collaboratively with the Scallop by Trawl Advisory Board to ensure sustainable fisheries and to collect input from all fishing sectors and First Nations in the annual development of the IFMP.

First Nations Fishery: DFO's objective is to continue to provide opportunities for First Nations to harvest fish for FSC purposes, in a manner consistent with the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada in *R. vs. Sparrow* and subsequent court decisions.

Collaborative management strategies are also being developed through the Aboriginal Aquatic Resource Oceans Management Program, (AAROM).

First Nations involvement in the commercial fishery is a shared goal between DFO and Aboriginal people. First Nation participation in the commercial fisheries is being addressed through DFO Aboriginal fisheries programs. For more information on the Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy Allocation Transfer Program, contact a resource manager listed in Section 14.

Information about Indigenous fisheries and reconciliation is available at:

<http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/abor-autoc/index-eng.html>

More information on the Pacific Integrated Commercial Fishery Initiative is available at:

<http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/picfi-ipcip/index-eng.html>

DFO will continue to develop catch monitoring programs and standards in collaboration with First Nations organizations:

- To discuss conservation, proper management and control, reasonable FSC needs, and options to meet shared interests;
- To encourage First Nation representatives to share any issues or needs pertaining to FSC fishing in their communal areas;
- To create an environment within the advisory process in which First Nation representatives can express their concerns and opinions at the table and to establish working mechanisms in conjunction with the other fishing sectors to reduce conflict and mitigate issues.

Commercial Fishery: DFO's objective is to continue to work collaboratively with the commercial industry on sustainable resource use and long-term economic viability of the scallop seafood industry recognizing that commercial fisheries play a vital role in Canada's economy. This will include adapting to changing resource and market conditions and extracting optimal value from world markets.

Vessel safety is an objective shared between DFO, Transport Canada, Transportation Safety Board, and WorkSafeBC (Appendix 4). All parties acknowledge the role of vessel masters and crew in responsibility for their own decisions regarding fishing vessel operations. DFO's objective, in conjunction with other responsible agencies, is to adopt an affirmative action profile in respect of vessel safety considerations.

First Nations involvement in the commercial fishery is a shared goal between DFO and Aboriginal people. First Nation participation in the commercial fisheries is being addressed through DFO Aboriginal fisheries programs (above).

Recreational Fishery: DFO's objective is to affirm the social and economic importance of the recreational fishery, provide sustainable recreational harvesting opportunities as part of integrated management plans consistent with DFO's policies, and to establish working mechanisms in conjunction with the other fishing sectors to reduce conflict and mitigate issues.

The document "*Recreational Fisheries in Canada, An Operational Policy Framework*" may be requested from any fishery manager listed in this plan or is available on the internet at:

<http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/reports-rapports/regs/op-pc-eng.htm>

Recreational fisheries in the Pacific Region are also guided by "*A Vision for Recreational Fisheries in British Columbia 2009-2013*" developed cooperatively by DFO, the Province of B.C. and the Sport Fishing Advisory Board (SFAB).

To improve recreational fishery monitoring and catch reporting, catch reporting was made mandatory in April, 2013.

5.5 Compliance and Food Safety

DFO's objective is to pursue opportunities to monitor and enforce these fisheries, in conjunction with the monitoring and enforcement priorities in the Pacific Region. Dedicated patrols by fishery officers are the main enforcement tool for this fishery. In addition, fishery officers respond to complaints from the general public. The general public are encouraged to call the DFO reporting line at 1-800-465-4336.

The CSSP was established to co-ordinate the efforts of federal government agencies concerning the standards for sanitary shellfish practices. The purpose of the CSSP is to ensure that bivalve molluscs are safe for human consumption. To achieve this, the CSSP:

- sets standards for the harvest and handling of all bivalves within Canadian tidal waters;
- commits, by Agreement, to improve sanitary practices within the shellfish industry;
- designates the responsibilities of DFO, Environment and Climate Change Canada and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to properly facilitate the mandate of the CSSP to Canadians and foreign governments; and
- strives to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the CSSP by co-operation, communication, and participation.

More information about the CSSP is available at:

<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/food/archived-food-guidance/fish-and-seafood/shellfish-sanitation/eng/1299826806807/1299826912745>

5.6 Ecosystem

DFO's objective is to use the Ecological Risk Assessment Framework for Coldwater Corals and Sponge Dominated Communities, guided by the Policy for Managing the Impacts of Fishing on Sensitive Benthic Areas (Section 1.6), to determine the level of risk in these fisheries and whether mitigation measures are required in any areas.

DFO's objective is to support, in conjunction with Environment and Climate Change Canada and Parks Canada, the Government of Canada's strategy for reaching its domestic and international marine conservation targets.

6. ACCESS AND ALLOCATION

The Minister can, for reasons of conservation or for any other valid reasons, modify access, allocations, and sharing arrangements outlined in this IFMP in accordance with the powers granted pursuant to the *Fisheries Act*.

6.1. First Nations

To date, few limits have been placed on First Nations' harvest for FSC purposes. Scallops harvested by hand-picking may be allocated under treaty, but were unallocated under the Maa-nulth, Tsawwassen, Tla'amin (Sliammon) and Nisga'a Treaties.

Information on Treaties and status updates on current treaty negotiations can be found at:

<http://www.bctreaty.ca/>

6.2. Commercial

The commercial fishery operates under the licensing term "priority-access" (as opposed to limited entry), meaning permanent licence eligibility is not currently established (Section 1.3). In addition there are area closures, gear and fishing depth limitations, minimum size limits, and requirements to conduct fishery-independent surveys of biomass in all fished areas.

6.3. Recreational

The recreational daily limit for Pink and Spiny Scallops combined by hand-picking is 75 per day. The possession limit is two-times the daily limit.

6.4. Aquaculture

Consideration is given for aquaculturist access to relatively low numbers of wild juvenile or adult scallops (e.g. for broodstock development) for limited time periods where populations would face insignificant to low risk from the additional harvest pressure (DFO 2004).

For information on aquaculture or access to broodstock, contact the Aquaculture Management Division (Section 14 Contacts).

6.5. Experimental, Scientific, Educational or Public Display

DFO supports and facilitates scientific investigations related to scallops. Scientific licence requests received from scientific, educational, and public display institutions, including biological collecting firms, are considered. Existing policies with respect to scientific licences and new policies on the use-of-fish apply.

6.6. Requests for Access

Through the Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy Program, DFO provides FSC fishery access to aggregate groups or individual First Nations through fisheries agreements and communal licences (harvest documents under Treaty). From time to time, DFO receives requests from First Nations to improve access to shellfish for FSC purposes. First Nations interested in bilateral discussion with DFO regarding FSC access issues should contact the resource manager for their area (Section 14 Contacts).

Discussions about recreational access are directed to DFO through the SFAB process and the representatives to the Scallop by Trawl Advisory Board (Section 15). The SFAB usually meets twice a year (in the late spring and mid-winter) to discuss and advise DFO on recreational fishing plans, recreational fishery regulations, and any areas of concern to the recreational fishing community.

Information about the SFAB is available at:

<http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/consultation/smon/sfab-ccps/index-eng.html>

7. MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR THE DURATION OF THE PLAN

See the Commercial Harvest Plan, Appendix 1, for detail on the following:

- Fishing Seasons/Areas;
- Control and Monitoring of Removals;
- Decision Rules;
- Licensing.

Fisheries & Oceans Canada's policy on the management of First Nations fishing identifies First Nations harvests for FSC purposes as the first priority after conservation. Fisheries & Oceans

Canada seeks to provide for the effective management and regulation of the First Nation fishery through negotiation of mutually acceptable and time-limited agreements which outline provisions pertaining to the fisheries and co-management activities. The agreements include provisions by which First Nations manage fishing by their members for FSC purposes, in addition to outlining First Nation involvement in a range of co-management activities and economic development opportunities which may include, but not be limited to, habitat enhancement, FSC catch monitoring and enforcement, fish management and community research.

First Nations' may fish for scallop by hand-picking in areas that are not closed due to contamination. There are currently no communal licences and harvest documents (under treaty) issued to First Nations for the use of trawl gear to harvest scallops.

For recreational harvesters, a Tidal Waters Sport Fishing Licence is required to fish and retain shellfish, including scallop. Hand-picking is permitted but the use of trawl gear is not permitted for recreational fishing.

8. SHARED STEWARDSHIP ARRANGEMENTS

8.1. Commercial Fishery

Industry members and/or their association are responsible for coordinating all biomass surveys, while following DFO's methodology and data transfer protocols. Vessel owners/licence eligibility holders are required to make arrangements with an industry-funded service provider for the delivery of in-season information to DFO as required by conditions of licence regarding monitoring, biosampling, and catch reporting.

8.2. Fisheries & Oceans Canada

Contributions to the IFMP are provided by Fisheries Management in the areas and regional headquarters, Science Branch, the Shellfish Data Unit, Conservation and Enforcement, the Policy Analysis and Treaty Support Unit, the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit, the Recreational Fisheries Division, the Oceans Directorate and numerous administrative personnel.

9. COMPLIANCE PLAN

General information about the Fisheries Enforcement program is available at:

<http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/enf-loi/index-eng.htm>

Enforcement staff will pursue opportunities to monitor and enforce this fishery, in conjunction with the monitoring and enforcement priorities directed by senior managers in the Pacific Region.

Users of the resource have a responsibility to report violations. Any suspected or actual fisheries, wildlife, or pollution violations can be quickly and discretely reported to the appropriate enforcement officer by using the toll free Observe, Record, and Report hotline. This toll free number is available 24 hours a day.

**OBSERVE, RECORD AND REPORT - 1-800-465-4336
Or 604 607-4186 (Lower Mainland)**

Enforcement enquiries can also be directed to the local field offices during regular office hours.

10. PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Performance indicators are reported in the Post-season Review (Section 16).

10.1. Stock Assessment

The number of biomass surveys will be compared to previous years.

10.2. Commercial Fishery

The delivery of the commercial fishery will be assessed by performance measures including the number of days fished, landed value compared to previous years, input from representatives at Scallop by Trawl Advisory Board meetings and other DFO program measures and assessments.

10.3. First Nations Fishery

The review will include the numbers and outcomes of meetings with First Nations on specific issues.

10.4. Recreational Fishery

The evaluation will include input from SFAB representatives at Scallop by Trawl Advisory Board meetings.

10.5. Compliance

Evaluation will include time spent attending to enforcement of the fishery, counts of infractions by type, and counts of prosecutions initiated. It should be noted that low numbers of violations may be indicative of a successful proactive program, establishing a visible presence of enforcement authority as a deterrent to non-compliance.

10.6. Ecosystem

Changes arising as a result of initiatives under the *Oceans Act* or the Ecological Risk Assessment Framework for Coldwater Coral and Sponge Dominated Communities under the Policy for Managing the Impacts of Fishing on Sensitive Benthic Areas will be described where appropriate.

11. OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION

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Bourne, N.F. 1987. Scallops *in* Status of invertebrate fisheries off the Pacific Coast of Canada (1985/86). Can. Tech. Rep. Fish. Aquat. Sci. No. 1576. P. 107-112.

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12. INTERNET SITES

Fisheries & Oceans Canada Pacific Region Scallop page:

<http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/commercial/shellfish-mollusques/scallop-petonce/index-eng.html>

Federal Science Library, including collection of Integrated Fisheries Management Plans:

<https://science-libraries.canada.ca/eng/home/>

Pacific Region Fishery Management Area and Subarea maps:

<http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/maps-cartes/areas-secteurs/index-eng.html>

Pacific Region, Fisheries Management, Fishery Openings and Closures:

<http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/commercial-commerciale/pac-yukon-eng.html>

BC Sport Fishing Guide:

<http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/rec/index-eng.html>

Centre for Scientific Advice, Pacific, research documents, proceedings and Invertebrate stock status reports, including scallop:

<http://www.isdm-gdsi.gc.ca/csas-sccs/applications/publications/index-eng.asp>

13. GLOSSARY

AAROM	Aboriginal Aquatic Resources and Oceans Management (AAROM) program - DFO's AAROM funds aggregations of First Nation groups to
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	build the capacity required to coordinate fishery planning and program initiatives and is focused on developing affiliations between First Nations to work together at a broad watershed or ecosystem level where there are common interests and where decisions and solutions can be based on integrated knowledge of several Aboriginal communities.
Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge (ATK)	Knowledge that is held by, and unique to Aboriginal peoples. It is a living body of knowledge that is cumulative and dynamic and adapted over time to reflect changes in the social, economic, environmental, spiritual, and political spheres of the Aboriginal knowledge holders. It often includes knowledge about the land and its resources, spiritual beliefs, language, mythology, culture, laws, customs and medicines.
aquaculture	As defined by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), aquaculture is the culture of aquatic organisms, including fish, molluscs, crustaceans and aquatic plants. Aquaculture implies some form of intervention in the rearing process to increase production, such as regular stocking, feeding, protection from predators, etc. It also implies individual or corporate ownership of the cultivated stock.
Area and Subarea	Defined in Section 2 of the Pacific Fishery Management Area Regulations. A map of Pacific Fishery Management Areas is available on the DFO internet site at: www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/maps-cartes/areas-secteurs/index-eng.htm
ASP	Amnesiac Shellfish Poisoning: a toxic plankton bloom (biotoxin).
Bivalve mollusc	Shellfish with two valves that are hinged (clams, oysters, scallops, mussels).
C&P	Fisheries & Oceans Canada, Conservation and Protection Branch.
CFIA	Canadian Food Inspection Agency.
Centre for Scientific Advice - Pacific (CSAP)	Centre for Scientific Advice - Pacific (formerly, Pacific Scientific Advice Review Committee), chaired by DFO and including other federal and provincial government agency representatives and external participants.
CSSP	Canadian Shellfish Sanitation Program.
communal licence	Issued to First Nation's organizations pursuant to the Aboriginal Communal Fishing Licences Regulations to carry on fishing and related activities for food, social and ceremonial (FSC) purposes.
Department	See DFO.
DFO	Fisheries & Oceans Canada. On behalf of the Government of Canada, DFO is responsible for developing and implementing policies and programs in support of Canada's scientific, ecological, social and economic interests in oceans and fresh waters.
Food, Social and Ceremonial (FSC)	A fishery conducted by First Nations for food, social and ceremonial purposes.

Invertebrate	An animal without a backbone.
PICFI	Pacific Integrated Commercial Fisheries Initiative - DFO's PICFI is an initiative aimed at achieving environmentally sustainable and economically viable commercial fisheries, where conservation is the first priority and First Nations' aspirations to be more involved are supported.
Precautionary Approach (PA)	In resource management, the PA is, in general, about being cautious when scientific information is uncertain, unreliable or inadequate and not using the absence of adequate scientific information as a reason to postpone or fail to take action to avoid serious harm to the resource. Information on the adoption of a PA framework for fisheries management in Canada is available at: http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/reports-rapports/regs/sff-cpd/precaution-eng.htm
PSHA	Pacific Scallop Harvesters Association.
PSP	Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning. A toxic plankton that is ingested and concentrated by bivalve molluscs, commonly known as "red tide".
Quota	Total allowable catch. The amount of catch which may be taken from a stock, determined by analytical procedures, to achieve management objectives.
SFAB	Sport Fishing Advisory Board, which provides advice to DFO on matters of recreational (sport) fishing.
Stakeholder	People with an interest in the fisheries resources, such as recreational and commercial harvesters, processors, and non-consumptive users.
Stock Assessment	Analyses of fisheries and research data used to estimate stock abundance and health, or evaluate the effects of fishing on a stock or population and predict the reactions of populations to alternative management choices.
Subarea	A subdivision of an Area, as described in the Pacific Fishery Management Area Regulations. (See maps at Area or Subarea internet link above).
TAC	Total allowable catch or Quota. The amount of catch which may be taken from a stock, determined by analytical procedures, to achieve management objectives.
Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK)	A cumulative body of knowledge and beliefs, handed down through generations by cultural transmission, about the relationship of living beings (including humans) with one another and with their environment.

14. CONTACTS

Observe, Record, and Report	1-800-465-4336
Fisheries Information and Shellfish Contamination Closure Update (24 Hours):	
Toll free	1-866-431-3474
Lower Mainland	(604) 666-2828

Marine Mammal Incident Reporting Hotline

1-800-465-4336
or VHF Channel 16

DFO is responsible for assisting marine mammals and sea turtles in distress. If your vessel strikes a whale, or if you observe an entangled, sick, injured, distressed, or dead marine mammal in B.C. waters, contact the Marine Mammal Incident Reporting Hotline immediately and report your name and contact information, date and time of the incident, species, whether the animal is alive or dead, nature of injury, location latitude/longitude coordinates and landmarks, and whether any pictures or video were taken.

Fisheries Management

Regional Coordinator - Invertebrates	Lisa Mijacika	(604) 666-3869
Regional Fisheries Management Officer	Karen Vaudry	(604) 666-7089
A/Regional Recreational Co-ordinator	Greg Hornby	(250) 286-5886

North Coast (Areas 1 through 10)	General inquiries	(250) 627-3499
417 2nd Avenue West, Prince Rupert, B.C. V8J 1G8	Fax	(250) 627-3427
Resource Management Biologist	Steven Groves	(250) 627-3455
Resource Manager - First Nations Fisheries	Amy Wakelin	(250) 627-3492
Resource Manager - Recreational Fisheries	Darren Chow	(250) 627-3441

South Coast (Areas 11 through 27 & 29-5)	General Inquiries	(250) 756-7270
3225 Stephenson Point Road, Nanaimo, B.C. V9T 1K3	Fax	(250) 756-7162
Resource Management Biologist	Laurie Convey	(250) 756-7233
Resource Manager - Comox	David Fogtmann	(250) 339-3799
Resource Manager - First Nations Fisheries	Kent Spencer	(250) 285-5885
Resource Manager - Recreational Fisheries	Erica Watkins	(250) 286-5882

Lower Fraser Area	General Inquiries	(604) 666-7575
Unit 3, 100 Annacis Parkway, Delta, B.C. V3M 6A2	Fax	(604) 666-7112
A/Resource Manager – Shellfish Fisheries	Marisa Keefe	(604) 666-6390
Resource Manager - First Nations Fisheries	Brian Matts	(604) 666-2096
Resource Manager - Recreational Fisheries	Barbara Mueller	(604) 666-2370

Science		
Stock Assessment & Research Division	Amy Ganton	(250) 756-7055
Pacific Biological Station	Leslie Barton	(250) 756-7306
Hammond Bay Road, Nanaimo, B.C. V9T 6N7		

Conservation and Enforcement

Chief, South Coast Area	Monte Bromley	(250) 674-1241
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Licensing

Pacific Fishery Licence Unit	Phone	1-877-535-7307
401 Burrard Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6C 3S4	Fax	(604) 666-5855
E-Mail: fishing-peche@dfo-mpo.gc.ca		

Aquaculture

Shellfish Advisor, Aquaculture Division Gabrielle Kosmider (250) 754-0404

Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)

Pacific Shellfish Operations (604) 666-3737

Environment and Climate Change Canada

Growing Water Quality Classification and Surveys (604) 903-4475

B.C. Ministry of Environment

Industry Specialist, Marine Fisheries & Seafood Darah Gibson (604) 893 0260

WorkSafe BC

Regional Prevention Manager, Courtenay	Pat Olsen	(250) 334 8777
Occupational Safety Officer, Courtenay	Mark Lunny	(250) 334 8732
Occupational Safety Officer, Courtenay	Greg Matthews	(250) 334 8734
Occupational Safety Officer, Courtenay	Cody King	(250) 334 8733
Occupational Safety Officer, Victoria	Jessie Kunce	(250) 881 3461
Occupational Safety Officer, Lower Mainland	Bruce Logan	(604) 244 6477
Manager of Interest for Marine	Pat Olsen	(250) 334 8777
	toll free	1 888 621 7233 (ext. 8777)
Projects related to commercial fishing	Bruce Logan	(604) 244 6477
	toll free	1 888 621 7233 (ext. 6477)

Sighting Networks

BC Cetacean and Sea Turtle Sighting Network (866) 472-9663

Email: sightings@ocean.org

On the internet at: <http://wildwhales.org/>

Basking Shark Sighting Network

1 (877) 50 SHARK

Email: BaskingShark@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

On the internet at: <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species-especes/sharks/report-eng.html>

DFO welcomes assistance in the reporting of any whale, leatherback sea turtle or basking shark entanglement or sighting. While there are many whale species found in Pacific Canadian waters, sightings of Basking Shark and Leatherback Sea Turtles are infrequent. The collection of sighting data is useful to scientists in determining population size and species distribution and aids in recovery efforts under the SARA.

15. CONSULTATION

DFO undertakes consultations in order to improve decision-making processes, promote understanding of fisheries, oceans and marine transport issues, and strengthen relationships. Policy guidance and strategic direction for DFO's consultation activities is provided by the DFO Consultation Secretariat in the Policy Branch.

The Scallop by Trawl Advisory Board is the primary consultative body that provides a forum for the exchange of information and views between First Nation, commercial and recreational representatives, other stakeholders and DFO on issues important to the management of the fishery. DFO, however, remains the decision-making authority for the management of the fishery.

The advisory board meets once annually to provide advice to DFO, usually in January.

Additional information is available from DFO Resource Managers (Section 14 Contacts) or from DFO's consultation secretariat at:

<http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/consultation/index-eng.html>

16. POST-SEASON REVIEW

Five biomass surveys were conducted in 2019 resulting in harvestable commercial quota opportunities for Elk Point, Granite Point, Moriarty Point, SW Quadra and Wilby Shoals.

Appendix 1: 2020/21 Scallop by Trawl Commercial Harvest Plan

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1. MANAGEMENT CHANGES AND HIGHLIGHTS 2020/21

- 1.1. The IFMP and licence will be in effect from May 22, 2020 to April 30, 2021.
- 1.2. The collection of data required for stock assessment will be obtained through industry-funded trawl surveys. As surveys may occur at any time, quotas set within this plan are subject to in-season adjustment based on new survey results. See Section 2.
- 1.3. Biomass surveys are required in order to establish biologically-based harvest quotas by fishing area. New quotas need to be established for all designated fishing areas. Overages to harvest quotas that occur in one year will be deducted from the following year's quotas. Harvest of scallops over the quota is subject to prosecution and seizure of the overage. See Section 2.
- 1.4. Commercial quotas calculated for each fishing location will be allocated and available to all harvesters with a valid commercial licence. See Section 2.
- 1.5. Canadian Shellfish Sanitation Program information has been updated. See Section 3.
- 1.6. A "ZR" party-based licence is required, and must be designated to a vessel. Vessel designations will be issued on a "semi-permanent" basis to simplify the annual licence renewal. Vessels may still be re-designated in-season where necessary. See Section 5.
- 1.7. All persons onboard the fishing vessel during harvesting activities must carry photo identification. See Section 5.
- 1.8. To monitor and track quotas, all licence eligibility holders must make arrangements to participate in an industry-funded catch monitoring and hail program. See Section 6.
- 1.9. All vessel masters are required to have a DFO certified at-sea observer onboard their vessel when requested to do so by the Regional Director General for the Pacific Region. See Section 6.3.
- 1.10. Information regarding all interactions with marine mammals must be reported. Interactions refer to cases of incidental mortality and serious injury to marine mammals. This includes accidental drowning, bycatch, entanglements, collisions, and fatalities. See Section 6.4.2.
- 1.11. New in 2020, reporting of any lost fishing gear and the retrieval of any of your own lost gear is required within 24 hours of landing in port. See Section 6.4.3.
- 1.12. Fish harvesters are reminded to verify licensing requirements under the *Safe Food for Canadians Act* and *Safe Food for Canadians Regulations*. For those interested in freezing whole scallops on board the vessel please contact the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. See Section 6.2.

2. OPEN TIMES AND AREAS

The commercial season will run from May 22 to April 30. Research and permanent area closures are listed in Section 3. Based on sampling conducted through the Canadian Shellfish Sanitation Program (CSSP), Pacific Fishery Management Subareas will be opened by Variation Order and announced by Fishery Notice on the internet at:

<https://notices.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fns-sap/index-eng.cfm>

Harvesters are permitted to fish only in locations authorized by their commercial licence and attached conditions. Areas will be monitored and closed upon completion of the harvest quota. It is the responsibility of the licence holder and the vessel master to ensure that fishing is permitted at a location prior to commencement of fishing activity and that an area is not closed for biotoxin or sanitary contamination prior to each day's fishing (see Section 3.1).

Surveys will continue to be required for each fishing location. Surveys provide the only means of estimating scallop biomass upon which a biologically-based harvest quota can be based. A continuous time series of biomass surveys at harvest locations is desirable and will provide a means to study the effects of harvest and to further refine our survey protocols. Biological information will also continue to be collected to provide information on whether harvest rates are sustainable and to refine biological parameters.

Quotas will only be allocated for the survey areas (Scallop Management Areas) identified below. All surveys should be coordinated through the industry association. Quota not completed in a previous year may be carried over for one season. Harvest of scallops over the quota is subject to prosecution and seizure of the overage.

Harvest opportunities may be added in-season if surveys are completed and data can be analyzed by DFO in time to set harvest quotas for the season.

Each Scallop Management Area is a defined portion of Pacific fisheries waters. Areas and Subareas, as described in the *Pacific Fishery Management Area Regulations*, are referenced for the purpose of locating the defined Scallop Management Area. Each Scallop Management Area has a name (e.g. 14A, Cape Lazo), and is assigned a quota. Complete descriptions of Scallop Management Areas are provided in Appendix 2.

Area	Name	Short Description (see Appendix 2 for full descriptions)	Quota*
14A	Cape Lazo	A portion of Subarea 14- 9 and 14-12	Survey required
13A	Elk Point	A portion of Subarea 13-9	1,249 kg
13B	Granite Point	A portion of Subareas 13-9 and 13-10	1,768 kg
13C	Hole in the Wall	A portion of Subarea 13-18	Survey required
13D	Moriarty Point	A portion of Subareas 13-8 and 13-9	3,927 kg
13E	Okisollo	A portion of Subarea 13-10	Survey required
13F	Octopus Islands	A portion of Subarea 13-12	Survey required
13G	SW Quadra	A portion of Subarea 13-1	8,555 kg
13H	Wilby Shoal	A portion of Subarea 13-1 and 13-2	3,115 kg
13I	Willow Point	A portion of Subarea 13-1 and 12-2	Survey required

* See up-to-date landings reports to confirm quota remaining since time of publication

3. CLOSURES

Closures to the commercial fishery may be in place for a variety of reasons including First Nations and recreational access, Parks, Marine Reserves, research, navigation, protected areas, or sanitary and marine biotoxin contamination.

3.1. Canadian Shellfish Sanitation Program

Closures may be implemented on short notice in the event of changes to contamination status, including sanitary and biotoxin events. Licence holders, vessel masters, and harvesters are reminded that:

- It remains the responsibility of the licence holders and harvesters to ensure that an area is not closed for harvest due to sanitary or biotoxin contamination. Fishing in a closed area is an offence under the *Fisheries Act*. Consumption of product harvested from within a closed area poses a serious health risk.
- Prior to commencement of each day's fishing, the licence holder must take care to confirm that an area is open for harvesting either through the DFO internet site at:

<http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/contamination/index-eng.html>

or the toll-free information line at 1-866-431-3474, or by contacting a local DFO office directly. Contact information is available in section 14 of the main IFMP document.

- Information may also be available through weekly broadcasts over a commercial or marine radio station ("the weather channel").

3.1.1. Sanitary Contamination Closures

Shellfish may not be harvested from closed contaminated areas except by special permit licence under the *Management of Contaminated Fisheries Regulations*. There are both seasonal and permanent sanitary contamination closures.

Descriptions and maps of contaminated closures may be found at the following DFO internet site:

<http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/contamination/index-eng.html>

Sanitary closures are amended annually in May and November, and may also be amended in-season. Consequently, harvesters are advised to check the website, prior to harvesting in an area, to ensure that they have the most recent contamination closure information.

Permanent bivalve harvesting closures are in place for Canadian fisheries waters of the Pacific Ocean within:

1. 300 m radius around industrial, municipal and sewage treatment plant outfall discharges;
2. 125 m radius of any marina, ferry, wharf, any floating living accommodation facility (other than a floating living accommodation described in subsection (3) or fishfish net pen described in subsection (4);
3. 25 m radius of any floating living accommodation facility located within a shellfish aquaculture tenure where a zero-discharge waste management plan is a

condition of the aquaculture licence and is approved by the Regional Interdepartmental Committee; and

4. Zero (0) metres of any finfish net pen within an aquaculture tenure where an Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture Management Plan approved by the Regional Interdepartmental Committee is in operation.

3.1.2. Biotxin Contamination Closures

Shellfish may not be harvested from closed areas except by special permit licence issued under the *Management of Contaminated Fisheries Regulations*. Shellfish may not be harvested for consumption from any area closed due to biotoxin contamination.

Descriptions of biotoxin closures may be found at the following DFO internet site:

<http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/contamination/index-eng.html>

Areas will be opened and fished according to protocols required by the Biotxin Monitoring Program, approved by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA).

Three consecutive weekly samples containing acceptable levels of biotoxin must be received in order for CFIA to lift a harvest restriction in an area. CFIA will make recommendation to lift the biotoxin (Paralytic Shellfish Poison (PSP)/red tide, Domoic Acid Poisoning) (ASP) or Diarrhetic Shellfish Poisoning (DSP) prohibition and a harvest site can then be considered by DFO for Aboriginal, commercial or recreational harvesting. The resource manager will prepare the documentation necessary for an area opening for approval by the Regional Director General.

For further details on the CSSP, see the internet at:

<https://www.inspection.gc.ca/food/food-specific-requirements-and-guidance/fish/canadian-shellfish-sanitation-program/eng/1527251566006/1527251566942?chap=0>

3.1.3. Harvesting Bivalves in the Vicinity of Wastewater Treatment Plants

Concerns have been raised regarding bivalve shellfish harvested in the vicinity of wastewater treatment plants. Increased controls were implemented in 2009 to prevent shellfish harvest in areas where a trigger event at a wastewater treatment plan may potentially cause contamination.

Conditional Management Plans are being developed at some of the priority wastewater treatment plants to manage harvest activities in the vicinity of the wastewater treatment plants.

DFO will be consulting with shellfish harvesters in areas where Conditional Management Plans must be developed.

For further information, contact Elysha Gordon at (250) 756-7192.

3.1.4. Legal Sourcing and Harvest of Bivalve Shellfish

The safety of consumers is a top priority for the Government of Canada. The reputation of Canada's food supply is a responsibility shared by all parties, including industry and federal and provincial governments.

As partners for delivery of the Canadian Shellfish Sanitation Program (CSSP), DFO and the CFIA collaborate to prevent illegal harvesting and selling of bivalve shellfish, including suspected laundering of illegal products through legitimate aquaculture businesses. DFO also remains committed to meeting conservation objectives for bivalves as well as supporting priority for Food, Social and Ceremonial fisheries. Any harvest occurring in conflict with established management measures and controls has the potential of negatively impacting the conservation of bivalve populations.

DFO will investigate reports of illegal harvesting violations and will take appropriate enforcement actions, including prosecution. Furthermore, DFO may consider more restrictive management approaches if needed to protect public health. Commercial growers and harvesters are reminded that they are required, by law, to follow specific record-keeping and tagging requirements. Records of shellfish movement through the growing cycle and to the point of distribution provide evidence to support public health, regulatory decisions and closure recommendations.

Commercial harvesters and aquaculture operators are required to:

- Understand and abide by the conditions of licence;
- Keep complete, clear and legible records and be able to produce them to a DFO fishery officer when requested;
- Ensure bivalve product destined for market sale is appropriately tagged with complete and accurate harvest information and is processed by an operator licenced by the CFIA to process shellfish;
- Harvest only from open and approved areas and check our website before heading out for the latest information (www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/CheckBeforeYouHarvest).

If you are aware of illegal bivalve harvest activities and/or are aware of violations, please call the DFO Observe, Record and Report (ORR) phone line at 1-800-465-4336.

More information on the policies and criteria for harvesting shellfish can be found in the CSSP manual. See also Fishery Notice FN1142 (2019) available at:

https://notices.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fns-sap/index-eng.cfm?pg=view_notice&DOC_ID=227228&ID=all

3.1.5. Human Waste Containment Regulations

Disposal of human waste into waters where shellfish are harvested or adjacent to shellfish harvest areas creates unnecessary and potentially serious health risks for shellfish consumers. In accordance with the CSSP and Transport Canada Regulations, raw sewage (human wastes, sewage or refuse) shall not be discharged from vessels while in or adjacent to shellfish areas. Vessels operating at a distance which does not allow for timely access to on-shore washroom facilities are expected to have a designated human waste receptacle on board. Receptacles could include a portable toilet, a fixed toilet, or other containment device as appropriate. Such devices must be made of impervious, cleanable materials and have a tight-fitting lid. (Refer to Transport Canada's Regulations for Vessel Pollution and Dangerous Chemicals Regulations under the Canada Shipping Act):

1. Portable toilets or other designated human waste receptacles shall be used only for the purpose intended, and shall be so secured and located as to prevent

contamination of the shellfish area or any harvested shellfish on board by spillage or leakage.

2. The contents of toilets or other designated human waste receptacles shall be emptied only into an approved sewage disposal system.
3. Every person onboard a shellfish harvest vessel must wash and sanitize their hands after using or cleaning a waste receptacle, or after using an onshore washroom facility.

Information on Human Waste Containment Receptacle Requirements can be found at the following CFIA internet site:

<https://www.inspection.gc.ca/preventive-controls/fish/cssp/questions-and-answers/eng/1563470479199/1563470589053>

3.2. Permanent Area Closures

3.2.1. Area 13

Discovery Passage: Subareas 13-3, 13-4, 13-5 and a portion of 13-6. Those waters of Discovery Passage bounded on the north by a straight line drawn true west from North Bluff on Quadra Island, across Seymour Narrows to a fishing boundary sign on Vancouver Island, and on the south by a line from the Cape Mudge light true west to Vancouver Island. (Marine Reserve and Research Closure)

Deep Water Bay: A portion of Subarea 13-7 inside a line from a fishing boundary sign at Separation Head to a fishing boundary sign at the north-westerly entrance to Deepwater Bay. (Salmon Holding Area)

Kelsey Bay: Subarea 13-34. (Navigational Closure)

Mitlenatch Island: As described in Area 15 Closures.

3.2.2. Area 14

Parksville: Those portions of Subareas 14-2 and 14-3 that lie inside a line that begins at 49°21.680'N and 124°19.762'W, then southeasterly to 49°21.514'N and 124°18.893'W, then to 49°21.191'N and 124°17.723'W, then to 49°21.064'N and 124°17.724'W, then to 49°20.725'N and 124°18.380'W, then to 49°21.432'N and 124°19.811'W, then to the beginning point. (Glass Sponge Reef Conservation Area)

Achilles Bank: That portion of Subarea 14-6 that lies inside a line that begins at 49°33.490'N and 124°29.230'W, then southerly to 49°32.701'N and 124°28.760'W, then to 49°31.657'N and 124°29.434'W, then to 49°31.663'N and 124°29.896'W, then to 49°32.651'N and 124°29.752'W, then to 49°33.340'N and 124°29.935'W, then to 49°33.498'N and 124°29.773'W, then to the beginning point. (Glass Sponge Reef Conservation Area)

Hornby Island: Those waters of Lambert Channel and the Strait of Georgia, Subarea 14-7, inside a line commencing at Shingle Spit on Hornby Island, thence 239° true for 0.5 nautical miles, thence 126° true for 3.5 nautical miles, thence 64° true for 4.9 nautical miles, thence 304° true for 2.9 nautical miles, thence 213° true for 0.5 nautical miles to Cape Gurney on Hornby Island. (Marine Reserve)

Mitlenatch Island: As described in Area 15 Closures.

Upper Baynes Sound (Subarea 14-11) and Comox Harbour (Subarea 14-14). (Navigational Closure)

3.2.3. Area 15

Vivian Island: Those waters of Subarea 15-2 within 0.5 nautical miles of Vivian Island, located approximately 5.0 nautical miles west of Powell River. (Marine Reserve)

Rebecca Rock: Those waters of Subarea 15-2 within 0.25 nautical miles of Vivian Rock, located 2.5 nautical miles west of Powell River. (Marine Reserve)

Dinner Rock: Those waters of Subarea 15-2 within 0.25 nautical miles of Dinner Rock, located 2.5 nautical miles south of Lund. (Marine Reserve)

Emmonds Beach: Those waters of Subarea 15-2 within 0.5 nautical miles of the unnamed reef off Emmonds Beach, located approximately 4.0 nautical miles south of Lund. (Marine Reserve)

Mitlenatch Island: Those waters of Subarea 15-2, 13-1, 13-3, and 14-13 within 1.0 nautical mile of Mitlenatch Island, located in the upper Strait of Georgia. (Marine Reserve)

Beach Gardens: Those waters of Subarea 15-2 within a 0.25 nautical mile radius of the southerly end of the Beach Gardens breakwater. (Marine Reserve)

3.2.4. Area 16

Skookumchuck Narrows Provincial Park: Those waters of Skookumchuck Narrows and Sechelt Rapids in Subarea 16-9 bounded on the west by a line from a point on the foreshore at the westerly limit of Secret Bay on Sechelt Peninsula thence 50° true to a point on the foreshore on the mainland; and the east by a line from Raland Point on Sechelt Peninsula, thence 50° true to a point on the foreshore on the mainland. (Park)

Bargain Bay (Subarea 16-3), Pender Harbour (Subarea 16-4); and Head of Sechelt Inlet (Subarea 16-5). (Navigational Closure)

3.2.5. Area 17

Gabriola (Entrance) Island: That portion of Subarea 17-11 that lies inside a line that begins at 49°13.672'N and 123°47.577'W, then southerly to 49°13.235'N and 123°47.429'W, then to 49°13.185'N and 123°47.882'W, then to 49°13.391'N and 123°48.119'W, then to 49°13.623'N and 123°48.166'W, then to the beginning point. (Glass Sponge Reef Conservation Area)

Saskatchewan and Cape Breton artificial reefs: Those waters of Subarea 17-12 within 100m of the marker buoys at the artificial reef “Saskatchewan” on the east coast of Snake Island and those waters within 100m of the marker buoys at the artificial reef “Cape Breton”. (Commercial Closure)

Ladysmith Harbour (Subarea 17-7) and Nanaimo Harbour (Subarea 17-14). (Navigational Closure)

Subarea 17-10, the eastern shore of Gabriola Island.

3.2.6. Area 18

Subarea 18-1, north-east shore of Mayne Island.

Sansum Narrows, Burgoyne Bay and Maple Bay (Subareas 18-7) and Cowichan Bay (Subarea 18-8) and Fulford Harbour (Subarea 18-10). (Navigational closure for net fisheries)

Subarea 18-11, north-east shore of Saturna Island.

Outer Gulf Islands #1: That portion of Subarea 18-1 that lies inside the following lines: begins at 48°52.588'N and 123°15.261'W, then easterly to 48°52.520'N and 123°14.537'W, then to 48°51.971'N and 123°13.768'W, then to 48°51.795'N and 123°13.947'W, then to 48°52.150'N and 123°14.444'W, then to 48°52.038'N and 123°14.678'W, then to 48°52.479'N and 123°15.521'W, then to the beginning point. (Glass Sponge Reef Conservation Area)

Outer Gulf Islands #2: That portion of Subarea 18-1 that lies inside the following lines: begins at 48°51.602'N and 123°13.233'W, then southerly to 48°51.309'N and 123°12.751'W, then to 48°50.913'N and 123°12.938'W, then to 48°50.844'N and 123°13.059'W, then to 48°51.163'N and 123°13.662'W, then to 48°51.579'N and 123°13.378'W, then to the beginning point. (Glass Sponge Reef Conservation Area)

Outer Gulf Islands #3: That portion of Subarea 18-1 that lies inside the following lines: begins at 48°50.999'N and 123°12.391'W, then southerly to 48°50.608'N and 123°11.603'W, then to 48°50.097'N and 123°10.956'W, then to 48°49.959'N and 123°11.182'W, then to 48°50.857'N and 123°12.654'W, then to 48°50.959'N and 123°12.566'W, then to the beginning point. (Glass Sponge Reef Conservation Area)

3.2.7. Area 19

Victoria Harbour: Subarea 19-1 and Esquimalt Harbour, Subarea 19-2. (Navigational Closure)

Sidney Spit Marine Park: Subarea 19-6. (Park)

Saanich Inlet: Subareas 19-7 to 19-12. (Commercial Closure)

Mackenzie artificial reef: Those waters of Subarea 19-5 within 100m of the marker buoys at the artificial reef “Mackenzie”, near Rum Island. (Commercial Closure)

Ogden Point: Those waters of Subarea 19-3 inside a line from the navigation light at the western end of the Ogden Point Causeway thence to Brothie Ledge Light, thence to Holland Point on Vancouver Island. (Marine Reserve)

Race Rocks: Those waters of Subareas 19-3 and 20-5 within 0.5 nautical miles of Great Race Rocks. (Marine Reserve)

10 Mile Point: Those waters of Subareas 19-4 and 19-5 within 0.4 nautical miles of Cadboro Pt. navigation light. (Marine Reserve)

4. MANAGEMENT MEASURES

4.1. Species

Spiny scallop (*Chlamys hastata*)

Pink scallop (*Chlamys rubida*)

4.2. Size Limit

The minimum size limit for scallop by trawl for pink and spiny scallops is 48 mm shell height, measured perpendicular to the hinge.

4.3. Gear

The butterfly scallop trawl is designed to capture Pink and Spiny Scallops as they are swimming, and to minimize habitat impacts and the bycatch of non-target species as the crossbar and the bottom on the trawl net is usually 20 cm off the bottom. The trawl frame sits on several steel runners that contact the bottom. Most mobile organisms are able to avoid the trawl as the tow speed is approximately 0.5 - 0.7 knots (Lauzier et al. 2005). The size of the trawl net is limited to a maximum width of two metres.

Harvesters are required to have all gear approved by DFO prior to fishing and receiving a licence. Gear will only be approved if it meets standards for eliminating by-catch and habitat impacts set by DFO Science. Testing of new gear will be required at the harvester's expense.

4.4. Depth

Scallop trawl harvesters are required to fish at depths greater than 20 m below chart datum.

4.5. Biological Sampling

Sub-samples of the commercial catch or the collection of biological samples in addition to those required during stock assessment surveys may be required at various times throughout the duration of this plan. Samples will provide DFO with information on size, age, and sex of scallops stocks being harvested. This biological information is an important component of the stock assessment program.

5. LICENSING

5.1. National Online Licensing System (NOLS) Client Support - Licensing Services

All fish harvesters/licence holders/vessel owners are now required to use the National Online Licensing System (NOLS) to view, pay for and print their commercial fishing licences, licence conditions and/or receipts.

Training materials, including step-by-step guides and a detailed user training manual, are available online (<http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/FM-GP/SDC-CPS/licence-permis-eng.htm>) to guide users of the system in completing their licensing transactions. DFO also provides client support and assistance on how to use the system via e-mail at fishing-peche@dfo-

mpo.gc.ca or by calling toll-free at 1-877-535-7307 (7:00 AM to 8:00 PM Eastern, Monday to Friday).

For more information on how to register and use the system, visit DFO's website at the address above, or contact client support.

5.2. Licence Category

A commercial scallop by trawl (ZR) licence is required to commercially harvest scallops by trawl.

5.3. Licence Issuance

Renewal of a category ZR licence and payment of the fee must be done on an annual basis to retain the privilege to be issued the licence in the future, regardless of whether or not fishing is carried out. Those category ZR licences not renewed by April 30, 2020 will cease and licence issuance requests will be unable to be considered in future.

Prior to annual licence issuance licence eligibility holders are required to:

- a) Meet any Ministerial conditions placed on the licence eligibility;
- b) Ensure any conditions of the previous year's licence such as submission and approval of logbooks, have been met;
- c) Designate a registered commercial fishing vessel eligible for a commercial or communal commercial licence for salmon, schedule II, sablefish, halibut, crab, shrimp, prawn, geoduck or groundfish trawl.

Scallop by Trawl licence eligibilities have a maximum vessel length (MVL); the MVL restriction has been temporarily waived. DFO reserves the authority to reinstate vessel length restrictions if necessary.

Designated vessels must have a vessel survey on record with the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit, dated subsequent to May 1989.

5.4. Licence Documents

Scallop by Trawl licence documents are valid from the date of issue to April 30, 2021. Replacements for a lost or destroyed licence documents may be obtained by reprinting the licence documents through the NOLS.

5.5. Licensed Vessel

All fishing operations must take place from the licensed vessel. All products must be brought directly onto the licensed vessel following harvest. Vessels used to hold or transport scallops must also meet the *Safe Food for Canadians Act and Regulations* and have appropriate licences.

5.6. Area Licensing

Following full review of the New and Emerging Fisheries Policy (NEFP) Stage III fishery, the commercial scallop fishery may be licensed over several geographic areas. For the interim, all licence eligibilities are assigned to the East Coast of Vancouver Island (PFMA

13 to 19).

5.7. Licence to Transport Scallops

Any registered vessel with a commercial or communal commercial salmon, Schedule II, geoduck, sablefish, halibut, crab, shrimp, groundfish trawl and prawn licence; a current year transporting, category D, or a herring seine (HS) licence may transport scallops under Conditions of Licence which are included with all vessel-based licences. For further information contact the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit.

Vessels used to transport scallops must also meet the *Safe Food for Canadians Act* and *Regulations* and have appropriate licences.

Note: When product is transferred from one vessel to another vessel or a vehicle, that vessel or vehicle requires a provincial Fish Receiver licence. This licence is required for all types of vessels and vehicles including aircraft. The licence may also be required for personal vehicles in some instances, when a vehicle is carrying the catch from more than one vessel, even if the licence holder owns both vessels. Fish harvesters should contact the BC Ministry of Agriculture, Courtenay Access Centre (250-897-7540) for additional information.

Provincial seafood licensing information is available at:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/agriculture-seafood/fisheries-and-aquaculture/seafood-industry-licensing>

5.8. Vessel Re-designation

Re-designation of scallop by trawl licences, in-season, is allowed as long as any Condition of Licence, such as the completion of logbooks, have been met and accepted by the Shellfish Data Unit.

Re-designation requests are submitted via the National Online Licensing System in the same manner as the original designation request was submitted.

5.9. Licence Eligibility Nominations

Whereas permanent licence eligibility is not currently established, the priority-access eligibility held by experimental fishery participant's category ZR may be nominated from one party to another under certain conditions. Any party nominated must understand that there is no commitment to permanent licence eligibility at this time.

Nomination forms are available at a PFLU or on the internet at:

www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/licence-permis/index-eng.htm

The following requirements must be met:

- a) Any Condition of Licence such as the completion of logbooks have been submitted and approved by the Shellfish Data Unit.

The nomination form must be signed by the licence eligibility holder on record; if the licence eligibility holder on record is a company or Indigenous group, the PFLU must have on record a current BC Company Summary and a copy of the Confirmation of Signing

Authorities form, advising who the signing authorities are.

Only one nominee (i.e. an individual, Indigenous group or company) may be nominated. Multiple nominees will not be accepted.

Nomination forms can be submitted to the PFLU via:

Fax: 604-666-5855

E-mail: fishing-peche@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

NOLS

Communal commercial licence eligibilities may not be nominated as these are allocated annually, when available, to First Nations groups.

6. CONTROL AND MONITORING OF COMMERCIAL FISHING ACTIVITIES

Harvesters are responsible for making arrangements with a DFO approved service provider at their own expense for the following reports.

6.1. Notification Procedures

6.1.1. Before Fishing or Moving to a New Area

The vessel master shall notify the service provider, at least 24 hours before commencing fishing or before moving to a new fishing area, with the following information:

- a) vessel name;
- b) vessel master's name;
- c) vessel registration number (VRN);
- d) species to be fished (i.e. Pink and Spiny Scallops);
- e) Subareas to be fished;
- f) date and time that fishing will begin or end; and
- g) estimate of the number of days to be fished.

If the vessel is unable to arrive in the declared Scallop Management Area within 24 hours of the stated time, the vessel master shall so notify the service provider:

- a) vessel master's name, vessel name, VRN; and
- b) details of change in fishing plans.

The vessel master shall notify the service provider at least 24 hours prior to moving to a new Scallop Management Area.

6.1.2. Daily While Fishing

The vessel master shall report to the service provider by the end of each day during a fishing trip:

- a) vessel master's name, vessel name and VRN;
- b) species fished;
- c) number of days fished;
- d) Scallop Management Area(s) fished;
- e) Subareas fished; and
- f) estimated catch in pounds.

6.1.3. Prior to Landing

Prior to landing Pink and Spiny Scallops, the vessel master shall report to the service provider:

- a) vessel master's name, vessel name and VRN;
- b) species to be landed;
- c) name of the designated port and location therein where the catch shall be landed;
- d) anticipated time of landing;
- e) name of the processor, buyer or other person who will be transporting the catch; and
- f) the method of transporting the catch from the designated landing port and the destination of the product.

6.1.4. Monthly and Scallop Management Area Quota Achieved

The vessel master shall arrange the service provider to report to DFO monthly and immediately when any Scallop Management Area quota has been achieved:

- a) species fished (i.e. Pink and Spiny Scallops);
- b) Scallop Management Area(s) fished; and
- c) estimated catch in pounds.

6.1.5. When Fishing has Stopped

After a fishing trip when a vessel will not be fishing again within a period of 24 hours, the vessel master shall report to the service provider:

- a) vessel master's name, vessel name and vessel registration number;
- b) species fished (i.e. Pink or Spiny Scallop); and
- c) date and time that fishing stopped.

6.2. Delivery, Handling and Tagging Requirements

All scallops must be delivered live and whole. The shucking of scallops on board a vessel is not permitted. Scallops must be delivered whole as a condition of the scallop by trawl licence for compliance enforcement of the size limit.

The direct sale of scallops to the public, restaurants, or retail stores without first having been processed by a person licensed to do so under the *Safe Food for Canadian Act and Regulations* is prohibited by law in the Province of BC.

At harvest, all containers or sacks containing scallops must be **individually tagged** with the following information:

- a) Subarea and location of harvest;
- b) Date of harvest; and
- c) Vessel name and VRN.

Fish harvesters are reminded to verify licensing requirements under the *Safe Food for Canadians Act and Regulations*. See "Food business activities that require a licence under the *Safe Food for Canadians Regulations*" at:

<https://inspection.gc.ca/food/requirements-and-guidance/food-licences/food-business-activities/eng/1524074697160/1524074697425#a511>

If you wish to hold scallops live in seawater or freeze whole scallops on board your vessel, please contact the CFIA to determine if a license is required under the *Safe Food for Canadian Act and Regulations*.

6.3. At-Sea Observers

During past fishing seasons some problems occurred with harvesters failing to properly hail prior to conducting fishing operations. Harvesters who are unable to comply with the hail requirements necessary for the monitoring of area quotas will be required to carry a certified at-sea observer on their vessel at their own expense to ensure proper monitoring of the fishery. All vessel masters are required to have a DFO certified at-sea observer onboard their vessel when requested to do so by the Regional Director General for the Pacific Region.

6.4. Catch Reporting

6.4.1. Harvest Log Data

The vessel master/licence holder is responsible for the provision and maintenance of an accurate record, a “log” of daily harvest operations. This log must be completed and a copy submitted in both hard (paper) copy and electronic form in an approved format as defined by Fisheries and Oceans Canada Stock Assessment and Research Division’s Shellfish Data Unit.

To fulfil stock assessment objectives it is imperative that a fine resolution of fishing location be reported in this fishery. The vessel master/licence holder is responsible for reporting latitude/longitude position on harvest logs in the “location” field for fishing event.

Logbooks meeting the requirements of DFO are available from service providers who, for a fee, will provide the logbook coding and data entry service, thus complying with the requirements for a hard (paper) copy and an electronic copy of harvest data.

The original white page copy of the log and the electronic copy must be forwarded within 28 days following the end of each month in which fishing occurred. This information must be sent to:

Fisheries & Oceans Canada
Shellfish Data Unit
Pacific Biological Station
3190 Hammond Bay Road
Nanaimo, B.C., V9T 6N7
Phone: (250) 756-7022 or (250) 756-7306

As an alternative to logbook provision through a service provider, the vessel master/licence holder may provide a hard copy logbook in the same form and providing the same particulars as shown in the logbook sample attached as Appendix 3: Example of Scallop by Trawl Log. The vessel master/licence holder must also provide an electronic copy of the harvest data, which is required to be a true and accurate transcription of the hard copy data, delivered to the Shellfish Data Unit on Shellfish Data Unit approved media. Submissions remain the property of DFO. The electronic copy must be a database table of specific design created by Microsoft Access 2016 (or earlier version).

Contact the Shellfish Data Unit at the above address to obtain the requirements and acceptable data formats for supplying logbook and electronic data in a format that meets the Conditions of Licence. The paper copy of the logbook and the electronic data must be forwarded within 28 days following the end of each month in which fishing occurred. This information must be sent to the above address.

Logbook harvest information must be recorded in the harvest log by 23:59 hours of the day of fishing. The logbook must be kept aboard the licensed vessel. Logbooks must be produced for examination on demand of a fishery officer, guardian, or a fishery observer designated under the *Fisheries Act*.

6.4.1.1. Submission and Release of Harvest Log Data

The licence eligibility holder is responsible to ensure that the vessel master has completed and submitted a copy of the harvest log data. DFO can only release harvest log data to the licence eligibility holder of record reported with the DFO National Online Licencing System, and only upon written request.

6.4.1.2. Nil Report for Harvest Log - License Issued but not Fished

In the event that a licence is issued but not fished, the licence eligibility holder is responsible for submitting a Nil Report for the season. The Nil Report must be submitted prior to the issue of approval for licence renewal. One page from the harvest logbook identifying the vessel, licence tab number, and the year with “Nil” entered in the body of the log and signed by the vessel owner constitutes a Nil Report.

DFO reminds harvesters that harvest logs must be completed accurately during fishing operations and submitted to DFO in accordance with the timing set out in Conditions of Licence. Delay of completion or submission of logs is a violation of the Conditions of Licence.

6.4.1.3. Confidentiality of Harvest Data

Harvest data, including fishing location data supplied through latitude/longitude coordinates, collected for use under the harvest logbooks for shellfish fisheries programs are used by DFO in the proper assessment, management and control of the fisheries. Upon receipt by DFO of harvest log data and/or fishing location information, supplied by the harvester in accordance with Conditions of License, Section 20(1)(b) of the *Access to Information Act* prevents DFO from disclosing to a third party records containing financial, commercial, scientific or technical information that is confidential information. Further, Section 20(1)(c) of the *Act* prevents DFO from giving out information, the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to prejudice the competitive position of the license holder.

6.4.2. Marine Mammal Interactions Reporting

The vessel master shall provide information regarding all interactions with marine mammals during fishing trips. Interactions refer to cases of incidental mortality and serious injury to marine mammals. This includes accidental drowning, bycatch, entanglements, collisions, and fatalities.

The Marine Mammal Interaction Form shall be submitted as per the instructions provided on the form. The Marine Mammal Interaction Form is available from the internet at:

<http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species-especes/mammals-mammiferes/report-rapport/fish-harvester-pecheur-eng.asp>

6.4.3. Reporting Lost Gear and Retrieval of Lost Gear

The vessel master shall report any lost fishing gear by completing and submitting a 'Lost Fishing Gear' form within 24 hours of landing in port after determining the gear was lost.

The vessel master shall also report the retrieval of any of their own previously reported lost gear by completing and submitting a 'Retrieval of Previously Reported Fishing Gear' form within 24 hours of landing in port after retrieving gear previously reported as lost.

The 'Lost Fishing Gear' form is available from the internet at:

<http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/reports-rapports/documents/pacific-lost-gear-form-mobile-en.pdf>

The 'Retrieval of Previously Reported Fishing Gear' form is available from the internet at:

<http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/reports-rapports/retrieval-pac-recuperation/index-eng.html>

Retrieval of gear can only occur under a valid fishing licence and only in relation to the specific type of gear authorized to be used by the fishing licence. Please be reminded that a vessel may not be used to recover another vessel's gear.

6.4.4. Fish Slips

An accurate written report shall be furnished on a fish slip of all fish and shellfish caught. A report must be made even if the fish and shellfish landed are used for bait, personal consumption, or otherwise disposed. The written report shall be posted not later than seven days after the offloading and sent to:

Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Fisheries Management Branch, Regional Data Unit
200 - 401 Burrard St.
Vancouver, B.C. V6C 3S4

Fish slips may be downloaded and printed or may also be ordered from the printer at user cost on the internet at:

<http://dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/sdc-cps/fishslips-carnets/index-eng.html>

Phone (604) 666-2716 for more information.

7. GENERAL INFORMATION

7.1. Sponge Reefs

In accordance with the Sensitive Benthic Areas Policy and its Ecological Risk Assessment Framework for Cold-water Corals and Sponge Dominated Communities, DFO has conducted a risk assessment regarding the potential impacts of bottom-contact fisheries on glass sponge reef areas in the Strait of Georgia and Howe Sound. All commercial, recreational and FSC/domestic bottom contact fishing activities are prohibited in these

areas (Section 3). The reefs are located in Pacific Fisheries Management Subareas 14-2, 14-3, 14-6, 17-11, 18-1, 28-2, 28-4, 29-2, 29-3 and 29-4.

Information about the Strait of Georgia and Howe Sound Glass Sponge Reefs Conservation Areas is available at:

<http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/oceans/ceccsr-cerceef/closures-fermetures-eng.html>

Appendix 2: Scallop Trawl Scallop Management Area Descriptions

Harvesters are reminded that these maps and the area descriptions in Appendix 1 are to be used for reference only. The final authority of these descriptions of Pacific Fishery Management Areas, Subareas and portions thereof is as set out in the *Pacific Fishery Management Area Regulations*. More detailed maps and descriptions of Areas and Subareas are available on the internet at:

<http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/maps-cartes/areas-secteurs/index-eng.html>

Please note permanent area closures listed in Appendix 1, Section 3. **Not all permanent area closures are illustrated on these maps.**

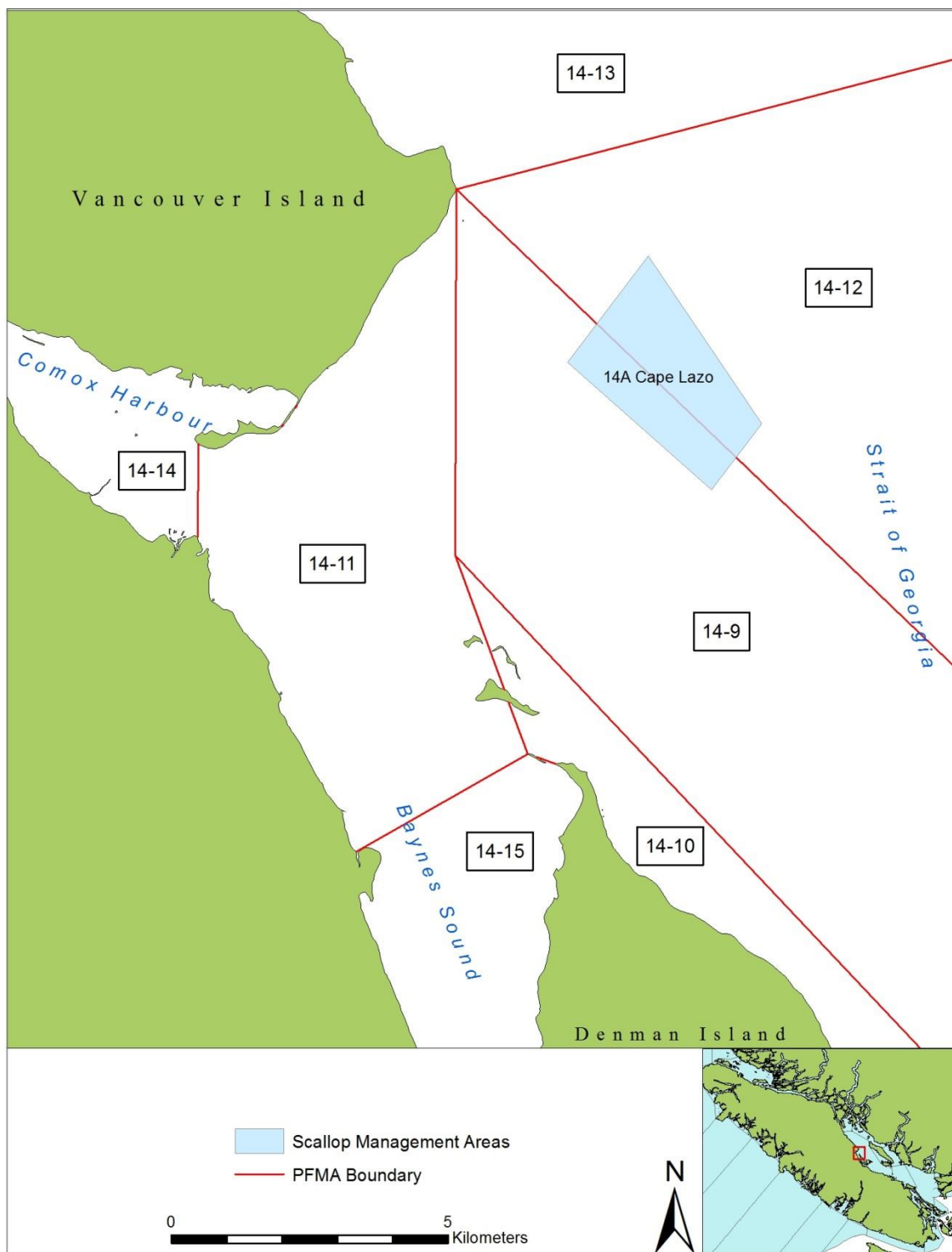


Figure 1. Scallop Management Area 14A Cape Lazo

That portion of Subareas 14- 9 and 14-12 starting at 49° 41.379'N and 124° 48.716'W then to 49° 39.723' N and 124° 47.058' W then to 49° 39.088'N and 124° 47.828'W then to 49° 40.352'N and 124° 49.957'W then to the beginning point.



Figure 2. Scallop Management Area 13A Elk Point

That portion of Subarea 13-9 starting at a point on land N of Elk Point at $50^{\circ} 17.807'N$ and $125^{\circ} 26.335'W$ then to $50^{\circ} 17.850'N$ and $125^{\circ} 25.898'W$ then to $50^{\circ} 16.894'N$ and $125^{\circ} 25.338'W$ then to $50^{\circ} 16.831'N$ and $125^{\circ} 26.014'W$ then to $50^{\circ} 17.215'N$ and $125^{\circ} 25.984'W$ then to the beginning point.

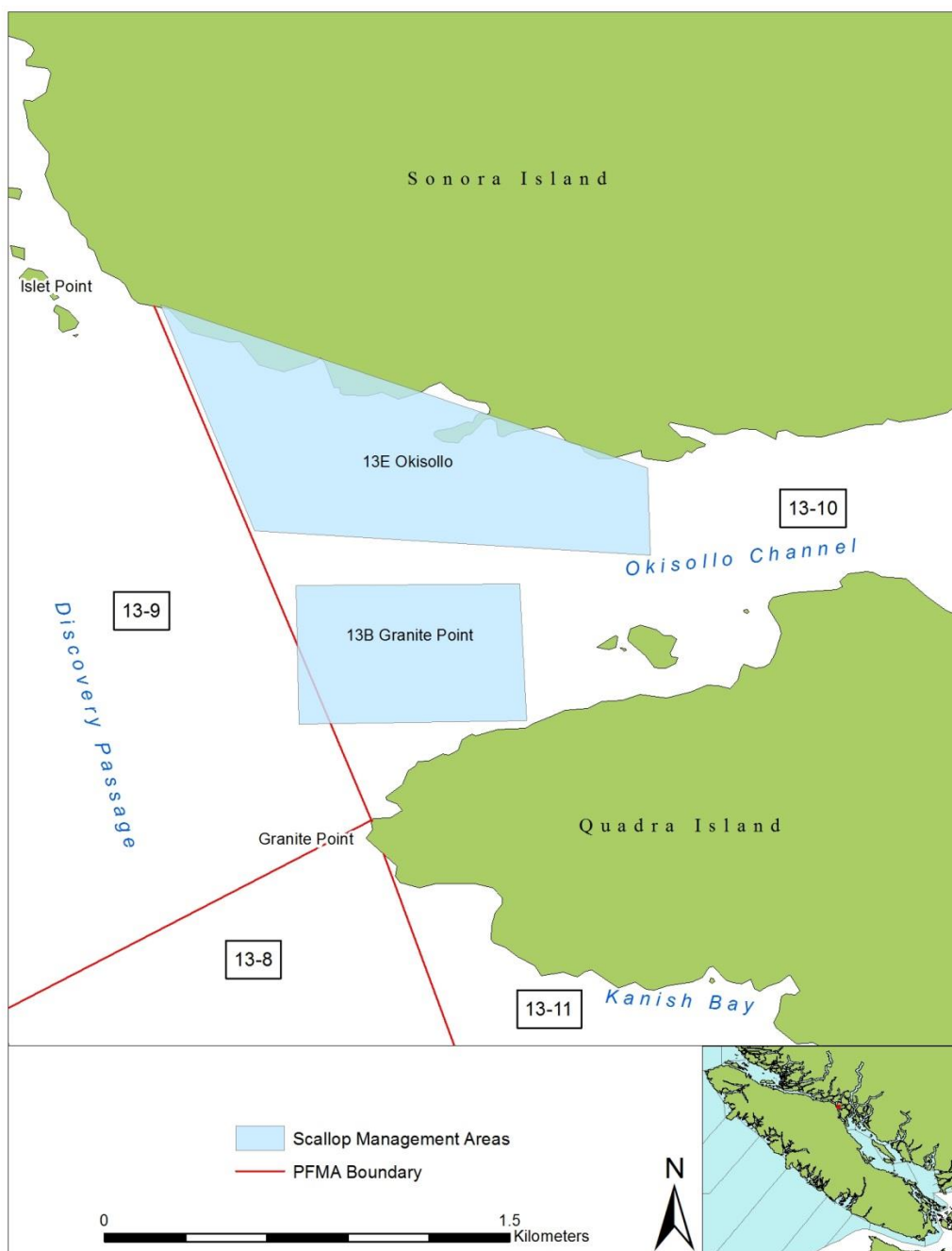


Figure 3. Scallop Management Areas Granite Point and Okisollo

13B Granite Point

Those portions of Subareas 13-9 and 13-10 starting a point at just east of Granite Point, at 50° 16.841'N and 125° 22.514'W then to 50° 16.838'N and 125° 23.224'W then to 50° 17.115'N and 125° 23.228'W then to 50° 17.115'N and 125° 22.531'W then to the beginning point.

13E Okisollo

That portion of Subarea 13-10 near Islet Point at 50° 17.680'N and 125° 23.643'W then to 50° 17.345'N and 125° 22.129'W then to 50° 17.170'N and 125° 22.124'W then to 50° 17.226'N and 125° 23.357'W then to the beginning point.



Figure 4. Scallop Management Area 13C Hole in the Wall

That portion of Subarea 13-18 starting at a point at 50° 18.444'N and 125° 11.835'W then to 50° 18.128'N and 125° 11.761'W then to 50° 18.453'N and 125° 10.399'W then to 50° 19.270'N and 125° 09.152'W then to 50° 19.530'N and 125° 09.480'W then to 50° 19.475'N and 125° 10.193'W then to the beginning point.

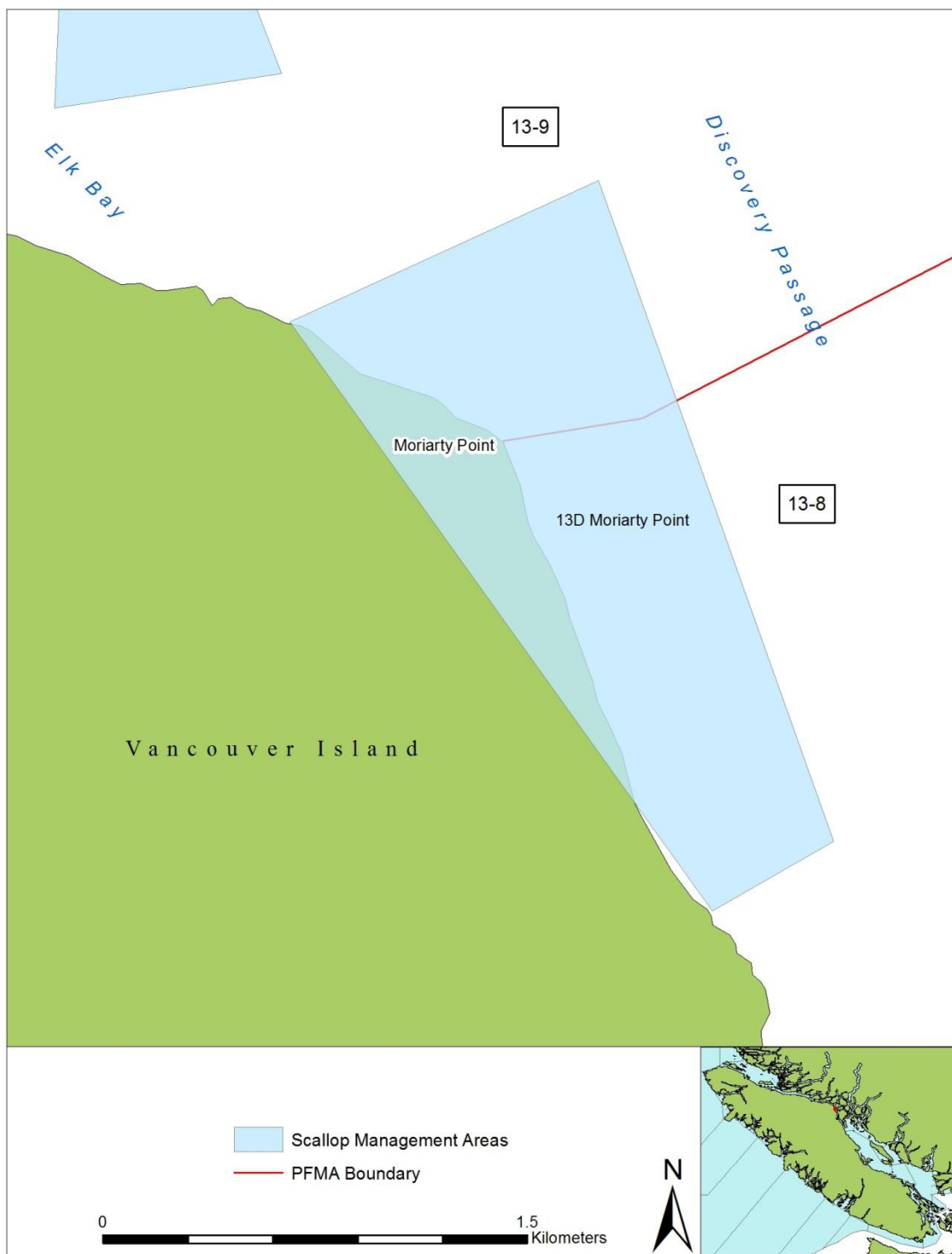


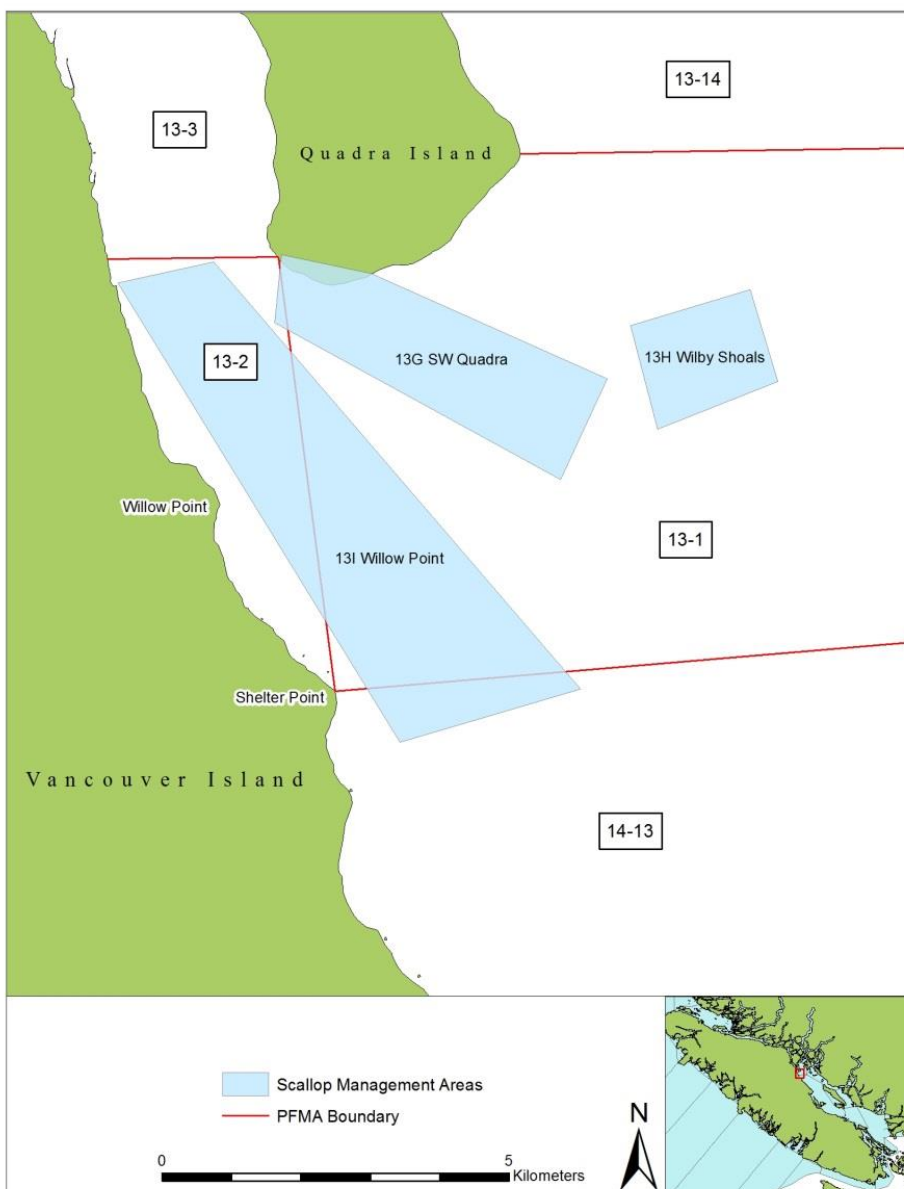
Figure 5. Scallop Management Area 13D Moriarty Point

Those portions of Subareas 13-8 and 13-9 from a point of land at 50° 16.421'N and 125° 25.319'W then to 50° 16.685'N and 125° 24.397'W then to 50° 15.423'N and 125° 23.713'W then westerly to a point on land at 50° 15.293'N and 125° 24.076'W then to the beginning point.



Figure 6. Scallop Management Area 13F Octopus Islands

That portion of Subarea 13-12 starting just south of Francisco Island at a point at 50°17.324'N and 125° 12.818'W then to 50° 16.815'N and 125° 12.424'W then to 50°16.693'N and 125°12.617'W then to 50° 17.091'N and 125° 13.282'W then to the beginning point.



**Figure 7. Scallop Management Areas SW Quadra, Wilby Shoals and Willow Point
13G S W Quadra**

That portion of Subarea 13-1 near Cape Mudge at 49° 59.778'N and 125° 10.622'W then to 49° 58.937'N and 125° 07.788'W then to 49° 58.157'N and 125° 08.365'W then to 49° 59.403'N and 125° 11.791'W then to 49° 59.930'N and 125° 11.702'W then to the beginning point.

13H Wilby Shoals

That portion of Subarea 13-1 starting at a point at 49° 59.348'N and 125° 07.498'W then to 49° 58.539'N and 125° 07.185'W then to 49° 58.898'N and 125° 05.730'W then to 49° 59.615'N and 125° 06.050'W then to the beginning point.

13I Willow Point

Those portions of Subareas 13-1, 13-2 and 14-13 starting at a point at 49° 59.725'N and 125° 13.673'W then to 49° 59.881'N and 125° 12.518'W then to 49° 56.529'N and 125° 08.155'W then to 49° 56.129'N and 125° 10.335'W then to the beginning point.

Strait of Georgia and Howe Sound Glass Sponge Reef Marine Refuges



Figure 8. Strait of Georgia and Howe Sound Glass Sponge Reef Marine Refuges

Map showing the Strait of Georgia and Howe Sound Glass Sponge Reef Marine Refuges. All commercial, recreational, and FSC bottom-contact fishing activities are prohibited within these conservation areas.

More information is available at:

<http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/oceans/ceccsr-cerceef/closures-fermetures-eng.html>

Appendix 3. Example of “Z” licence fishery harvest log

SCALLOP BY TRAWL HARVEST LOG

VRN Vessel Name _____ Vessel Master Name _____ Year page No. _____

Licence No. _____ Vessel Master FIN

Weights: (check one) ☐ Pounds ☐ Kilograms Depths: (check one) ☐ Feet ☐ Fathoms ☐ Meters Gear

mail to: Shellfish Stock Assessment
Pacific Biological Station
3190 Hammond Bay Road
Nanaimo, BC V9T 6N7

Section A: Fishing Information - make a new entry for each day, where location and depth range are constant

Fishing Hail Number	Month	Day	Location (chart ref.)	Latitude	Longitude	Stat Area	Sub Area	Start Time (hr)	Hours Fished	Depth Min.	Depth Max.	Number of Tows	Landed Weight	Discard Weight	Company
1 34567	10	12	Hole in the wall	50 18.245	125 11.581	13	18	0800	4	100	180	10	400	100	HappyGuy
2 12345	10	13	Wilby Shoal	49 59.09	125 7.99	13	1	1100	6	90	120	8	200	10	HappyGuy
3 24689	10	15	Hole in the wall	50 18.245	125 11.581	13	18	0900	8	85	150	17	820	240	HappyGuy
4															
5															
6															
7															
8															
9															
10															
11															
12															

Section B: Incidental Catch Information - report by species, number and weight

Line No.*	Species	No. Pieces	Total Weight
1	sponge	3	5
1	sea cucumber	2	2
2	starfish	1	2
2	red urchin	4	1
3	starfish	7	20
3	squat lobster	60	1
3	sponge	5	5

Line No.*	Species	No. Pieces	Total Weight
3	shrimp	4	trace
3	sea cucumber	8	2
Note: one entry in section A may generate several entries in section B			

Line No.*	Species	No. Pieces	Total Weight

Appendix 4: Fishing Vessel Safety

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1. OVERVIEW – FISHING SAFETY

Vessel owners and masters have a duty to ensure the safety of their crew and vessel. Adherence to safety regulations and good practices by owners, masters and crew of fishing vessels will help save lives, prevent vessel damage and protect the environment. All fishing vessels must be in a seaworthy condition and maintained as required by Transport Canada (TC), WorkSafeBC and other applicable agencies. Vessels subject to inspection should ensure that the certificate of inspection is valid for the area of intended operation.

In the federal government, responsibility for shipping, navigation and vessel safety regulations and inspections lies with TC; emergency response with the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) and DFO has responsibility for management of the fisheries resources. The Transportation Safety Board is an independent agency that advances transportation safety by investigating selected occurrences in the air, marine, pipeline and rail modes of transportation including fishing vessel occurrences. In BC, WorkSafeBC exercises jurisdiction over workplace health and safety and conducts inspections on commercial fishing vessels in order to ascertain compliance with the Workers Compensation Act (WCA) and the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation (OHSR).

Before departing on a voyage the owner, master, or operator must ensure that the fishing vessel is capable of and safe for the intended voyage and fishing operations. Critical factors for a safe voyage include the seaworthiness of the vessel, having the required personal protective and life-saving equipment in good working order, crew training, and knowledge of current and forecasted weather conditions. As safety requirements and guidelines may change, the vessel owner, crew and other workers must be aware of the latest legislation, policies and guidelines prior to each trip.

There are many useful tools available for ensuring a safe voyage. These include:

Education and training programs

Marine emergency duties training

Fish Safe – Stability Education Program & 1 Day Stability Workshop

Fish Safe – SVOP (Subsidized rate for BC commercial fishers provided)

Fish Safe – Safest Catch Program – **FREE** for BC commercial fishers

First Aid training

Radio Operators Course (Subsidized rate for BC commercial fishers provided)

Fishing Masters Certificate training

Small Vessel Operators Certificate training

Publications:

- Transport Canada Publication TP 10038 *Small Fishing Vessel Safety Manual* (can be obtained at Transport Canada Offices from their website at: <http://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/marinesafety/tp-tp10038-menu-548.htm>)
- Amendments to the *Small Fishing Vessel Inspection Regulations* (can be obtained from: <http://www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p2/2016/2016-07-13/html/sor-dors163-eng.php>)
- Transportation Safety Board's investigation into fishing safety in Canada: <http://www.bst-tsb.gc.ca/eng/rapports-reports/marine/etudes-etudes/M09Z0001/M09Z0001.html>
- Gearing Up for Safety – WorkSafeBC

- Safe At Sea DVD Series – Fish Safe
- Stability Handbook – Safe at Sea and Safest Catch – DVD Series
- Safest Catch Log Book
- Safety Quick

For further information see:

www.tc.gc.ca/eng/marinesafety/menu.htm

www.fishsafebc.com

www.worksafebc.com

www.tsb.gc.ca

2. IMPORTANT PRIORITIES FOR VESSEL SAFETY

There are three areas of fishing vessel safety that should be considered a priority. These are: vessel stability, emergency drills and cold water immersion.

2.1 Fishing Vessel Stability

Vessel stability is paramount for safety. Care must be given to the stowage and securing of all cargo, skiffs, equipment, fuel containers and supplies and to correct ballasting. Fish harvesters must be familiar with their vessel's centre of gravity, the effect of liquid free surfaces on stability (e.g. loose water or fish on deck), loading and unloading operations, watertight integrity and the vessel's freeboard. Know the limitations of your vessel; if you are unsure, contact a naval architect, marine surveyor or the local Transport Canada Marine Safety Office.

Fishing vessel owners are required to develop detailed instructions addressing the limits of stability for each of their vessels. These instructions must include detailed safe operation documentation kept on board the vessel.

The *Fishing Vessel Safety Regulations* currently require, with certain exceptions, a full stability assessment for vessels between 15 and 150 gross tons that do not exceed 24.4 metres in length for fishing vessels involved in the catch of Herring or Capelin. In 2017, Transport Canada Marine Safety (TC) issued Ship Safety Bulletin (SSB) [No. 03/2017](#) announcing the coming into force of the *New Fishing Vessel Safety Regulations*. The initial regulations were published in the Canada Gazette Part II on July 13, 2016 and came into force on July 13, 2017. The bulletin includes important information on changes to requirements for Written Safety Procedures, Safety Equipment and Vessel Stability.

As of July 13, 2017, new regulations pertaining to stability assessments to be performed by a competent person came into force, as follows:

- A new fishing vessel that has a hull length of more than 9 m – where the vessel construction was started or that a contract was signed for the construction after July 13, 2018;
- A fishing vessel more than 9 m and that has undergone a major modification or a change in activity that is likely to adversely affect its stability;
- A fishing vessel that is fitted with an anti-roll tank at any time;
- A fishing vessel more than 15 gross tonnage and used for catching herring or capelin during the period beginning on July 6, 1977 and ending on July 13, 2017.

A fishing vessel that is not required to undergo a stability assessment shall have adequate stability to safely carry out the vessel's intended operations. Guidelines have been developed and are available online to help small fishing vessel owners and operators meet their regulatory requirements. Additionally, Transport Canada published a Stability Questionnaire ([SSB No. 04/2006](#)) and Fishing Vessel Modifications Form ([SSB No. 01/2008](#)) which enable operators to identify the criteria which will trigger a stability assessment. Please contact the nearest Transport Canada office if you need to determine whether your vessel requires one or to receive guidance on obtaining competent assessor.

In 2008, TC is updating [SSB No. 01/2008](#), which sets out a voluntary record of modifications for the benefit of owners/masters of any fishing vessels. For vessels of more than 15 gross tons, the record of modifications was to be reviewed by TC inspectors during regular inspections and entered on the vessel's inspection record. However, information gathered during the Transportation Safety Board's (TSB) Safety Issues Investigation into the fishing industry showed minimal recording of vessel modifications prior to this date.

The TSB has investigated several fishing vessel accidents since 2005 and found a variety of factors that effected the vessel's stability were identified as contributing factors in vessels capsizing, such as with: [M05W0110](#) - *Morning Sunrise*, [M07M0088](#) - *Big Sisters*, [M08W0189](#) - *Love and Anarchy*, [M09L0074](#) - *Le Marsouin I*, [M10M0014](#) - *Craig and Justin*, [M12W0054](#) - *Jessie G*, [M12W0062](#) - *Pacific Siren*, [M14P0121](#) - *Five Star*, [M15P0286](#) - *Caledonian*, [M16A0140](#) - *C19496NB*, [M17C0061](#) - *Emma Joan*, [M17P0052](#) - *Miss Cory* and [M18P0073](#) - *Western Commander*.

Vessel masters are advised to carefully consider stability when transporting gear. Care must be given to the stowage and securing of all traps, cargo, skiffs, equipment, fuel containers and supplies and also to correct ballasting. Know the limitations of your vessel; if you are unsure contact a reputable marine surveyor, naval architect or the local Transport Canada Marine Safety office.

WorkSafeBC's Occupational Health and Safety Regulation (OHSR) require owners of fishing vessels to provide documentation on board, readily accessible to crew members, which describes vessel characteristics, including stability.

Fish Safe has developed a code of best practices for the food and bait/roe herring fisheries and the prawn fishery: These Best Practices are available on Fish Safe's website for convenient download here: <https://www.fishsafebc.com/best-practices>. Alternatively, please contact Ryan Ford at Fish Safe for a copy of the program materials they developed to address safety and vessel stability in these fisheries. Ryan Ford – Cell phone: (604) 739-0540 - Email: ryan@fishsafebc.com.

2.2 Emergency Drill Requirements

The Canada Shipping Act 2001 requires that the Authorized Representative of a Canadian Vessel shall develop procedures for the safe operation of the vessel and for dealing with emergencies. The Act also requires that crew and passengers receive safety training. The Marine Personnel Regulations require that all personnel on board required to meet the minimum safe manning levels have received MED (Marine Emergency Duties) training to an A1 or A3 level, depending on the vessel's voyage limits, within 6 months of serving aboard. MED A3 training is 8 hours in duration and is applicable to seafarers on fishing vessels less than 150 GRT that are within 25 miles from shore (NC2). MED A1 training is 19.5 hours duration and is applicable to all other fishing vessels.

To assist fishers in meeting their crew training requirements, Fish Safe has created a downloadable 'New Crew Orientation Form and How To Guide' available on Fish Safe's website here:

<https://www.fishsafebc.com/downloadable-tools>

MED provides a basic understanding of the hazards associated with the marine environment; the prevention of shipboard incidents; raising and reacting to alarms; fire and abandonment situations; and the skills necessary for survival and rescue.

WorkSafeBC's Occupational Health and Safety Regulation (OHSR) requires written rescue and evacuation procedures for work on or over water. Additionally, fishing vessel masters must establish procedures and assign responsibilities to each crew member to cover all emergencies, including the following: crew member overboard, fire on board, flooding of the vessel, abandoning ship, and calling for help. Fishing vessel masters are also required to conduct emergency drills at the start of each fishing season, when there is a change of crew, and at periodic intervals to ensure that crewmembers are familiar with emergency procedures.

Between 2011 and 2015 the TSB investigated 17 fishing vessel accidents which resulted in 17 fatalities. The reports findings highlighted the lack of safety drills and safety procedures and practices.

The Safest Catch program, delivered by Fish Safe and **free** to BC commercial fishers, includes comprehensive practice of drills such as abandon ship, man overboard and firefighting drills.

2.3 Cold Water Immersion

Drowning is the number one cause of death in BC's fishing industry. Cold water is defined as water below 25 degrees Celsius, but the greatest effects occur below 15 degrees C. BC waters are usually below 15 degrees C. Normal body temperature is around 37 degrees Celsius; cold water rapidly draws heat away from the body. The effects of cold water on the body occur in four stages: cold shock, swimming failure, hypothermia and post-rescue collapse. Know what to do to prevent you or your crew from falling into the water and what to do if that occurs. More information is available in the WorkSafeBC Bulletin *Cold Water Immersion* (available from the WorkSafeBC website at www.worksafebc.com)

Under the recently amended (June 2019) OHS Regulation, section 24.96.1, a crewmember must wear a PFD or lifejacket when on board a fishing vessel that has no deck or deck structure or when on the deck of a fishing vessel that has a deck or deck structure.

Section 8.26, which requires workers to wear a PFD or lifejacket when working "under conditions which involve a risk of drowning", would continue to apply to fishing crewmembers and other workers (e.g. when they are working on shore, docks and other vessels).

Current WorkSafeBC regulations essentially require fishers to always wear a PFD when working on deck. The specific requirements can be found on WorkSafeBC's PFD Primer provided on Fish Safe's website at: <https://www.fishsafebc.com/cold-water-survival>. The use of a PFD will prepare a crew member to remain afloat, to survive the effects of cold shock, reduce the need to swim and give rescuers time to respond.

It has been demonstrated time and again that, when worn, PFD's save lives - and the chance of surviving a mishap increases significantly when these devices are worn while working on deck.

Resulting from the TSB investigations into the *Diane Louise* - [M14P0110](#) and the *Caledonian* – [M15P0286](#) fishing vessel accidents, the Board recommended that both TC and WorksafeBC require that persons wear a suitable personal flotation devices (PFDs) at all times when: on the deck of a commercial fishing vessel; or, when on board a commercial fishing vessel without a deck or deck structure, and ensure that programs are developed to confirm compliance.

2.4 Other Issues

2.4.1 Weather

Vessel owners and masters are reminded of the importance of paying close attention to current weather trends and forecasts during the voyage. Marine weather information and forecasts can be obtained on VHF channels 21B, Wx1, Wx2, Wx3, or Wx4.

Weather information is also available from the Environment Canada website at:

http://www.weatheroffice.gc.ca/marine/index_e.html

2.4.2 Emergency Radio Procedures

Vessel owners and masters should ensure that all crew are able to activate the Search and Rescue (SAR) system early rather than later by contacting the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG). It is strongly recommended that all fish harvesters carry a registered 406 MHz Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB). These beacons should be registered with the National Search and Rescue secretariat. When activated, an EPIRB transmits a distress call that is picked up or relayed by satellites and transmitted via land earth stations to the Joint Rescue Co-ordination Centre (JRCC), which will task and co-ordinate rescue resources.

Fish harvesters should monitor VHF channel 16 or MF 2182 KHz and make themselves and their crews familiar with other radio frequencies. All crew should know how to make a distress call and should obtain their restricted operator certificate from Industry Canada. However, whenever possible, masters should contact the nearest Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) Marine Communications and Traffic Services (MCTS) station (on VHF channel 16 or MF 2182 kHz) prior to a distress situation developing. Correct radio procedures are important for communications in an emergency. Incorrect or misunderstood communications may hinder a rescue response.

Since August 1, 2003, all commercial vessels greater than 8 metres in length are required to carry a Class D VHF Digital Selective Calling (DSC) radio. A registered DSC VHF radio has the capability to alert other DSC equipped vessels in your immediate area and MCTS that your vessel is in distress. Masters should be aware that they should register their DSC radios with Industry Canada to obtain a Marine Mobile Services Identity (MMSI) number or the automatic distress calling feature of the radio may not work.

For further information see the Coast Guard website at:

<http://www.ccg-gcc.gc.ca/eng/CCG/Home>

or go directly to the Industry Canada web page:

www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf01032.html

A DSC radio that is connected to a GPS unit will also automatically include your vessel's current position in the distress message. More detailed information on MCTS and DSC can be obtained by contacting a local Coast Guard MCTS centre (located in **Victoria or Prince Rupert** or from the Coast Guard website: <https://www.ccg-gcc.gc.ca/mcts-sctm/index-eng.html>).

2.4.3 Collision Regulations

Fish harvesters must be knowledgeable of the *Collision Regulations* and the responsibilities between vessels where risk of collision exists. Navigation lights must be kept in good working order and must be displayed from sunset to sunrise and during all times of restricted visibility. To help reduce the potential for collision or close quarters situations which may also result in the loss of fishing gear, fish harvesters are encouraged to monitor the appropriate local Vessel Traffic Services (VTS) VHF channel when travelling or fishing.

near shipping lanes or other areas frequented by large commercial vessels. Vessels required to participate in VTS include:

- a) every ship twenty metres or more in length,
- b) every ship engaged in towing or pushing any vessel or object, other than fishing gear,
- c) where the combined length of the ship and any vessel or object towed or pushed by the ship is forty five metres or more in length; or
- d) where the length of the vessel or object being towed or pushed by the ship is twenty metres or more in length.

Exceptions include:

- a) a ship towing or pushing inside a log booming ground,
- b) a pleasure yacht *less than* 30 metres in length, and
- c) a fishing vessel that is *less than* 24 metres in length and not *more than* 150 tons gross.

More detailed information on VTS can be obtained by calling (250) 363-8904 or from the Coast Guard website: <http://www.ccg-gcc.gc.ca/eng/CCG/Home>.

2.4.4. Buddy System

Fish harvesters are encouraged to use the buddy system when transiting and fishing as this allows for the ability to provide mutual aid. An important trip consideration is the use of a sail/voyage plan which includes the particulars of the vessel, crew and voyage. The sail plan should be left with a responsible person on shore or filed with the local MCTS. After leaving port the fish harvester should contact the holder of the sail plan daily or as per another schedule. The sail plan should ensure notification to JRCC when communication is not maintained which might indicate your vessel is in distress. Be sure to cancel the sail plan upon completion of the voyage.

3. WORKSAFEBC

WorkSafeBC exercises jurisdiction over workplace health and safety, including the activities of crews of fishing vessels. Commercial fishing, diving and other marine operations are subject to the provisions of the *Workers Compensation Act (WCA)*, and requirements in Part 24 of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation (OHSR).

Examples of Part 24 regulatory requirements related to fishing include, but are not limited to, the requirement to establish emergency procedures, to conduct emergency drills, to provide immersion suits for the crew, to provide stability documentation for the vessel, safe work procedures, injury reporting, correction of unsafe working conditions, the requirement to wear personal flotation devices (PFDs), etc.

Other sections of the OHSR also apply to commercial fishing operations. For example, Part 3 addresses training of young and new workers, first aid and employer incident/accident investigations. Part 4 addresses general conditions such as maintenance of equipment, workplace conduct and impairment. Part 8 addresses issues related to safety headgear, safety footwear, eye and face protection, limb and body protection and personal flotation devices (PFDs) when working on the dock. Part 12 addresses issues related to tools, machinery and equipment, including safeguarding. Part 15 addresses issues related to rigging.

Both owners and masters of fishing vessels are considered to be employers. Under the *Workers Compensation Act* and the OHS Regulation (OHSR) they have varying and overlapping duties and

responsibilities. Masters, because they have the most control during fishing and related activities, are considered to be the employer with primary responsibility for the health and safety of the crew.

The OHSR and the WCA are available from the Provincial Crown Printers or by visiting the WorkSafeBC website: www.worksafebc.com

NOTE: Regarding the OHSR requirement to wear PFD's, WorkSafeBC has produced a video entitled "Turning the Tide – PFD's in the Fishing Industry". For more information on PFD use, including a link to the video, please access the following site:

<https://www.worksafebc.com/en/about-us/news-events/news-releases/2018/November/new-fishing-industry-safety-video?origin=s&returnurl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.worksafebc.com%2Fen%2Fsearch%23q%3DTurning%2520the%2520Tide%26sort%3Drelevancy%26f%3Alanguage-facet%3D%5BEnglish%5D>

For further information, contact an Occupational Safety Officer:

Bruce Logan	Vancouver/ Richmond/Delta	(604) 244-6477
Mark Lunny	Courtenay	(250) 334-8732
Cody King	Courtenay	(250) 334-8733
Gregory Matthews	Courtenay	(250) 334-8734
Jessie Kunce	Victoria	(250) 881-3461
Paul Matthews	Courtenay	(250) 334-8741
Wayne Tracy	Port Moody	(604) 232-1939

Or the Manager of Interest for Marine and Fishing, Pat Olsen (250) 334-8777

For information on projects and initiatives related to commercial fishing health and safety please contact Tom Pawlowski, Manager, Industry and Labour Services, at (604) 233-4062 or by email: tom.pawlowski@worksafebc.com

4. FISH SAFE BC

Fish Safe encourages Vessel masters and crew to take ownership of fishing vessel safety. Through this industry driven and funded program, Fish Safe provides fishing relevant tools and programs to assist fishers in this goal. The Fish Safe Stability Education Program and 1 Day Stability Workshop are available to all fishers who want to improve their understanding of stability and find practical application to their vessel's operation. The SVOP (Small Vessel Operator Proficiency) Course is designed to equip crew with the skills they need to safely navigate during their wheel watch. The Safest Catch Program, along with fisher-trained Safety Advisors, is designed to give fishers the tools they need to create a vessel specific safety management system.

As referenced throughout the above documentation, Fish Safe provides a broad range of courses, programs and services that are either free for BC commercial fishers or highly subsidized.

Fish Safe is managed by Ryan Ford, Program Manager and support staff including John Krgovich, Program Coordinator, Stephanie Nguyen, Program Assistant, Rhoda Huey, Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant and an experienced team of fisher Safety Advisors. All activities and program development is directed by the Fish Safe Advisory Committee (membership is open to all interested in improving safety on board fishing vessels). The Advisory Committee meets two to three times annually to discuss safety issues and give direction to Fish Safe in the development of education and tools for fish harvesters.

Fish Safe also works closely with WorkSafeBC to improve the fishing injury claims process. For further information contact:

Ryan Ford	Cell: (604) 739-0540
Program Manager	Office: (604) 261-9700
Fish Safe	Email: ryan@fishsafebc.com
#100, 12051 Horseshoe Way	www.fishsafebc.com
Richmond, BC V7A 4V4	

5. TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

The Transportation Safety Board (TSB) is not a regulatory board. The TSB is an independent agency that investigates marine, pipeline, railway and aviation transportation occurrences to determine the underlying risks and contributing factors. Its sole aim is the advancement of transportation safety by reporting publicly through Accident Investigation Reports or Marine Safety Information Letters or Advisors. It is not the function of the Board to assign fault or determine civil or criminal liability. Under the TSB Act, all information collected during an investigation is completely confidential.

In 2014 the TSB released three investigation reports:

- the collision between trawl fishing vessel [Viking Storm](#) and US long line fishing vessel *Maverick* and the subsequent fatality,
- the person over board off the prawn fishing vessel [Diane Louise](#) and the subsequent fatality, and
- the capsizing of the crab fishing vessel [Five Star](#) and subsequent fatality.

In 2016 the TSB released one investigation report:

- the capsizing of the trawl [Caledonian](#) and subsequent fatalities.

In 2018 the TSB released two investigation reports:

- the capsizing and sinking of the [Miss Cory](#) and subsequent fatality.
- the sinking of the [Western Commander](#) and loss of life.

The TSB issued five recommendations following the *Caledonian* report. Three recommendations issued are aimed at ensuring all crews have access to adequate stability information that meets their needs. That means:

- All commercial fishing vessels should have a stability assessment appropriate for their size and operation.
- The information from that assessment must then be kept current, and it must be used to determine safe operating limits.

Moreover, these operating limits must be easily measurable, and relevant to the vessel's operation. For example, that could mean marking the sides of a vessel's hull to indicate the maximum operating waterline. Or maximum permitted loads can be specified in the most relevant unit of measure—total catch weight for

instance, or the safe number of traps. Regardless, for it to be of real, practical use, the information must be presented in a format that is clearly understood and easily accessible to crew.

The other two recommendations address the most basic step that fishers can take: wearing a personal flotation device. Here in British Columbia, roughly 70 percent of all fishing-related fatalities in the past decade came while not wearing a PFD. Yet many fishers still don't wear them. TC regulations currently require that PFDs be worn only if fishers identify a risk, however; you never know when you could end up in the water. So the TSB is recommending to TC to require persons to wear suitable personal flotation devices at all times when on the deck of a commercial fishing vessel or when on board a commercial fishing vessel without a deck or deck structure and that programs are developed to confirm compliance. In June 2019, WorksafeBC amended its fishing regulation related to the use of PFDs. Under the new amendments, crewmembers must wear a PFD or lifejacket when on board a fishing vessel that has no deck or deck structure, or when on the deck of a fishing vessel that has a deck or deck structure. Crewmembers are not required to wear lifejackets or PFDs below deck or when inside a deck structure where there is risk of entrapment. This amendment removes the need for a risk of drowning to be present before a PFD must be worn.

For more information about the TSB, visit:

www.tsb.gc.ca

For information about the TSB's investigation into fishing safety, or to view a brief video, visit:

<http://www.tsb.gc.ca/eng/medias-media/videos/marine/m09z0001/index.asp>

To view information on the TSB's recent safety Watchlist, visit:

<http://www.bst-tsb.gc.ca/eng/surveillance-watchlist/marine/2018/marine.html>

Reporting an Occurrence:

www.tsb.gc.ca/eng/incidents-occurrence/marine/

After a reportable occurrence happens; you can fill out the TSB 1808 form or call the TSB at the contact information below.

Recently the TSB produced a Safe at Sea: Activity book on fishing safety intended for the next generation of fish harvesters (ages 4-7). Download a copy at:

www.tsb.gc.ca/eng/medias-media/prudence-safe/safe-at-sea

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