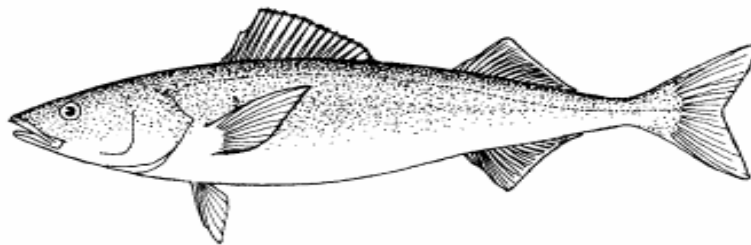


# PACIFIC REGION

# INTEGRATED FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PLAN

## SABLEFISH

**August 1, 2003 to  
July 31, 2004**



**SABLEFISH (*ANOPLPOMA FIMBRIA*)**



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 Fisheries Act and Regulations, the Act and 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.*



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	CONTACTS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.....	3
2.	GLOSSARY.....	6
3.	INTRODUCTION.....	8
4.	PROSPECTS FOR THE SEASON.....	8
5.	RESEARCH.....	9
	5.1. Sablefish Research and Assessment Survey.....	9
	5.2. Stock Assessment.....	9
	5.3. Other Projects.....	9
6.	AQUACULTURE.....	9
	6.1. Broodstock Capture.....	10
	6.2. Aquaculture Development.....	10
	6.3. Live Groundfish Penning.....	10
7.	CURRENT MANAGEMENT ISSUES.....	11
	7.1. General.....	11
	7.1.1. Inshore Rockfish Conservation.....	11
	7.1.2. Bocaccio.....	11
	7.1.3. Fishery Monitoring.....	12
	7.2. Commercial.....	12
	7.2.1. Integration of Groundfish Management.....	12
	7.2.2. Seamount Fishery.....	12
	7.2.3. Bowie Seamount.....	13
	7.2.4. Seabird By-catch.....	13
	7.2.5. Selective Fishing.....	13
8.	SPECIFIC MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES.....	14
	8.1. General.....	14
	8.2. Commercial.....	14
	8.3. First Nations.....	15
	8.4. Recreational.....	15
9.	EVALUATION OF 2002/2003 MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES.....	16
	9.1. General.....	16
	9.2. Commercial.....	17
	9.3. First Nations.....	18
	9.4. Recreational.....	18
10.	FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES.....	18
	10.1. Commercial Fishery.....	18
11.	ENFORCEMENT MEASURES.....	19
	11.1. Overview.....	19
	11.2. Enforcement Strategies and Resources.....	19
	11.2.1. Commercial.....	19
	11.2.2. First Nations.....	19
	11.2.3. Fishery Patrol Vessels and Aerial Surveillance.....	19
	11.2.4. Resources.....	20
	11.3. Enforcement Priorities for 2003/2004.....	20
	11.4. Evaluation of 2002/2003 Enforcement Strategies.....	20

12.	MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR THE DURATION OF THE PLAN .....	21
12.1.	2003/2004 Total Allowable Catch .....	21
12.2.	Commercial Harvest Plan .....	22
12.3.	Recreational Harvest Plan .....	22
12.4.	First Nations Harvest Plan .....	22
13.	ATTACHMENTS .....	22

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### **Web Sites**

#### **Fisheries and Oceans Canada Pacific Region:**

<http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/>

#### **Fisheries and Oceans Canada Groundfish:**

[http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/ops/fm/Groundfish/default\\_e.htm](http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/ops/fm/Groundfish/default_e.htm)

#### **Pacific Region, Fisheries Management, Openings and Closures, fishery notices**

<http://www-ops2.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fnsreports/rptmain.cfm>

#### **Archipelago Marine Research:**

<http://www.archipelago.ca>

#### **Canadian Sablefish Association:**

<http://www.canadiansablefish.com>

#### **General Information on Sablefish:**

<http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/sci/sa-mfpd/english/Sablefish.htm>

## 2. GLOSSARY

Area/Subarea	A division of Canadian fisheries waters as described in the Pacific Fishery Management Area Regulations.
at-sea observer	An individual who has been certified as an at-sea observer by the Regional Director General for Pacific Region, Fisheries and Oceans Canada pursuant to section 39 of the Fishery (General) Regulations.
AMR	Archipelago Marine Research
ATP	Allocation Transfer Program
BC	British Columbia Canada
CCG	Canadian Coast Guard
by-catch	Incidental or unintentional catch of non-target stocks or species.
communal licence	Issued to First Nation organizations pursuant to the Aboriginal Communal Fishing Licences Regulations, to carry on fishing and related activities.
communal commercial Licence	Issued to First Nation organizations pursuant to the Aboriginal Communal Fishing Licences Regulations for participation in the general commercial fishery. Licences issued are equivalent to the capacity of licences that have been retired under the Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy (AFS) Licence Retirement/Allocation Transfer Program.
CSA	Canadian Sablefish Association. The CSA is a legally constituted organization representing Canadian commercial sablefish licence holders.
DFO	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
DMP	Dockside Monitoring Program
dockside observer	An individual who has been certified as dockside observer by the Regional Director General for Pacific Region, Fisheries and Oceans Canada pursuant to section 39 of the Fishery (General) Regulations.
GMU	Groundfish Management Unit, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
IFMP	Integrated Fisheries Management Plan

IVQ	Individual Vessel Quota
JPA	Joint Project Agreement
mt	metric tonnes
MPA	Marine Protected Area
PSARC	Pacific Scientific Advice Review Committee
RPA	Rockfish Protection Area
Stakeholder	Used interchangeably with the term “resource-user”, to include all users of fisheries resources including First Nations, recreational and commercial harvesters of fish, marine mammals and aquatic plants. Depending on the fishery, it may also include crew members or charter services, and other parties that provide support to the various fisheries.
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.
Stock	A biologically discrete population. Fish species are made up of an aggregate of stocks.
TAC	Total Allowable Catch
Tonne	Metric tonne, 1,000 kg, or 2,204.6 lbs.
U.S.	United States of America
validated	Fish that have been weighed by an observer.
WCVI	West Coast of Vancouver Island

### 3. INTRODUCTION

This Integrated Fisheries Management Plan (IFMP) for sablefish (*Anoplopoma fimbria*) covers the period August 1, 2003 to July 31, 2004. The IFMP addresses management issues for all fishing sectors (commercial, recreational and First Nations) in British Columbia (B.C.) related to the harvest of sablefish, and includes a detailed harvest plan for the commercial fishery. Additional information on the sablefish resource and fisheries is available at:

<http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/ops/fm/Groundfish/Sablefish/>

Stock status reports, research documents, and proceedings of the Pacific Scientific Review Committee (PSARC) pertaining to groundfish resources in B.C. are produced through the PSARC secretariat and may be obtained from the secretariat or the Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) website:

[http://www-sci.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/sci/psarc/default\\_e.htm](http://www-sci.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/sci/psarc/default_e.htm)

### 4. PROSPECTS FOR THE SEASON

A sablefish stock assessment is prepared collaboratively by DFO and the Canadian Sablefish Association (CSA) and reviewed through the PSARC process.

The primary sources of data considered in the current assessment of sablefish stock status are fishery-independent survey series, commercial logbook records, and tag recovery information.

Sablefish recruitment during the 1990s was regarded as below average in B.C. and for United States (U.S.) stocks in the eastern Gulf of Alaska and off the southern U.S. coast north of Point Conception. Recent analyses of sablefish recruitment indicators from various sources in B.C. and the U.S. suggest that future production of sablefish should improve over the below average levels experienced in the 1990s. Exploitable biomass is expected to increase about 6 % for the gulf of Alaska stock in 2003, due primarily to an above average 1997 year class. Relatively strong 1999 and 2000 year classes have been detected by the 2001 shelf and slope surveys off the continental U.S. Similarly, by-catch of sablefish in a west coast Vancouver Shrimp Island survey increased in 2001 and 2002, due to the 1999 and 2000 year classes; however, the relative contribution of these year classes will not be evident until recruitment into the fishery in 2004 or 2005.

The PSARC assessment recommended pursuing fishery objectives that will increase the sablefish population from current levels. To guide setting a Total Allowable Catch (TAC) that would allow for such an increase, a simple biomass dynamics model was used that combined stock indices and examined the consequences of assumed levels of future production on a projected biomass. The 2003 assessment documents are available from the DFO Internet site:

[http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/sci/psarc/default\\_e.htm](http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/sci/psarc/default_e.htm)

## 5. RESEARCH

Stock assessment activities and research for sablefish are planned and conducted collaboratively under the auspices of a Joint Project Agreement (JPA) between the CSA and DFO. In 2003/2004, the CSA contributed funding for salaries, contracts and purchases for activities identified by the CSA and DFO. The following research projects are planned for the 2003/2004 fishing year.

### 5.1. Sablefish Research and Assessment Survey

A fall survey has been conducted annually since 1988 to collect standardized catch rate data, biological measurements, and release tagged sablefish. These data are used in the preparation of stock assessments. The survey has been conducted using commercial charter vessels since the early 1990s. The next survey charter is scheduled for the fall of 2003.

### 5.2. Stock Assessment

An assessment of sablefish was completed in January 2003 and reviewed by PSARC. The next stock assessment of sablefish is scheduled for review in January 2004.

### 5.3. Other Projects

Collation, archiving, and quality review of historical sablefish survey, tagging, and fishery data occurs annually. Maintenance and improvements to sablefish databases and access procedures are ongoing. Work in 2003/2004 will include experiments to evaluate fishing gear suitable for capturing juvenile sablefish for tag and release.

## 6. AQUACULTURE

The Department released an Aquaculture Policy Framework that guides development of the aquaculture industry in Canada. To provide reasonable and equitable access to the resource for aquaculture purposes a review and development of operational guidelines and programs consistent with the framework will be an on-going process. The Department will work with other federal government departments and the provincial government to co-ordinate policy development. For more information on the Aquaculture Policy Framework see Internet site:

[http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/aquaculture/policy/pg001\\_e.htm](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/aquaculture/policy/pg001_e.htm)

For 2003/2004, the Department will provide reasonable access, by scientific licence, to the wild sablefish resource to assist industry development (growth and diversification). The level of access will be no higher than 2,000 pieces. Requests to access the wild resource will be prioritized and contingent upon stakeholders providing detailed project proposals for review and approval by the Department. Applications for the **2003/2004** fishing season will only be accepted until **November 1, 2003**. For the *2004/2005* fishery, the deadline for proposals will be *September 15, 2004*.

For 2003/2004, the Department **will require observers** on all vessels conducting collection trips and dockside monitoring of all sablefish harvested for aquaculture purposes at the vessel's own expense.

To account for sablefish retained for aquaculture research the total amount of sablefish harvested will be deducted from the TAC in the following year.

### **6.1. Broodstock Capture**

Limited success with the rearing of sablefish from wild broodstock has occurred over the last few years. More research is needed to evaluate potential growth of the sablefish aquaculture industry. Applications for broodstock capture need to include:

- a) Proposed time and location(s) where the fish will be captured.
- b) Name, VRN # and licence number of the vessel to be used.
- c) Description and location of the facility where the fish are to be held (including aquaculture permit number if a fish farm).
- d) Transplant permit application number.
- e) Detailed project description.
- f) Detailed reporting framework.

### **6.2. Aquaculture Development**

The Department supports aquaculture development and is committed to provide limited access to the wild sablefish stock to increase the scientific knowledge of aquaculture development. Applications to access the wild stock for improving scientific research need to include the information requested in section 6.1.

### **6.3. Live Groundfish Penning**

Commercial participants have expressed an interest to hold commercially caught groundfish of wild origin at licensed marine aquaculture sites. To monitor this activity, the Department developed a framework with the provincial government on protocols for a pilot study that would include accountability measures such as monitoring by bookkeeping and tagging fish, and observer validation in and out of the pens. The purpose of the project is to evaluate the feasibility of holding commercially caught fish in a sea pen as a value added fisheries activity.

For more information contact the Halibut/Sablefish Co-ordinator at (604) 666-3279.

## 7. CURRENT MANAGEMENT ISSUES

### 7.1. General

#### 7.1.1. Inshore Rockfish Conservation

In 2002, an inshore rockfish conservation strategy was established with initial measures introduced for recreational and commercial fisheries. The strategy addresses four areas under the fisheries management and stock assessment regime:

- protect a part of inshore rockfish populations from harvest through the use of rockfish conservation areas,
- collect information on total fishery mortalities through improved catch monitoring programs,
- reduce harvests to levels that are less than the estimates of natural mortality (ie. less than two %), and
- improve the ability to assess the status of inshore rockfish populations and monitor changes in abundance.

Further changes and improvements to the measures currently in effect may be anticipated as the conservation strategy develops. In particular, additional areas are under consideration for closure and may be implemented in-season. Consultations with First Nations will continue so that management of their fisheries will be consistent with conservation objectives and Departmental obligations with respect to priority access for food, social, and ceremonial purposes.

Further information is provided on Internet site:

[http://www-comm.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pages/consultations/fisheriesmgmt/rockfish/default\\_e.htm](http://www-comm.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pages/consultations/fisheriesmgmt/rockfish/default_e.htm)

#### 7.1.2. Bocaccio

The status of Bocaccio rockfish was designated as “threatened” by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) in November 2002. The designation was based on a new status report that indicated a combination of low recruitment and impact by harvest has resulted in severe declines and low spawning abundance of this species.

A number of science and fishery management initiatives are under way that will improve information for stock assessment and fisheries management of Bocaccio. These initiatives include development of multi-species survey assessments, expansion of the at-sea observer program for the commercial hook and line fishery, and an increased emphasis on the estimation of groundfish species by the recreational fishery.

The Department will continue to work with stakeholders to address the obligations associated with the Bocaccio designation.

Further information is provided at websites of Environment Canada and COSEWIC:

<http://www.speciesatrisk.gc.ca/>  
<http://www.cosewic.gc.ca/index.htm>

#### 7.1.3. Fishery Monitoring

Timely and accurate information on catch retention and at-sea releases are required to assess the status of the sablefish resource, address conservation and sustainability issues, and manage the fisheries. The Department is currently working with all fishery sectors to assess and improve the current methods of fishery monitoring and reporting.

## 7.2. Commercial

### 7.2.1. Integration of Groundfish Management

Management of the groundfish resource is complex and challenging. The groundfish fisheries are currently managed under six licence categories. The Department and stakeholders are currently considering the development of measures for a more comprehensive and integrated approach to the management of commercial groundfish fisheries. Existing examples include combination fishing privileges between halibut and outside rockfish licence holders and limited temporary reallocations of sablefish from sablefish licensed vessels to trawl licensed vessels.

### 7.2.2. Seamount Fishery

The Department has allowed a limited fishery for sablefish since 1983 on seamounts located within Canada's 200 mile limit between 100 to 200 miles offshore. The fishery was initiated to assess the potential of the seamounts to support a sustainable commercial fishery, and to obtain biological information on sablefish populations located on the seamounts.

No recent analysis has been conducted and previous work suggest that catch information from the four major seamounts indicated a decline in CPUE since 1990 suggesting that populations of sablefish on these seamounts may not be sustainable at current fishing levels (Murie et al. 1996). In 1992 the seamount fishery was restricted to the months of April to November. The fishing period

was further restricted to the months of May to October in the mid to late nineties. However, it is unknown whether the abundance of sablefish populations are being depleted within a fishing season of any one year or that the availability of the fish changed during the year through recruitment or increased aggregation of sablefish on the seamount.

A review and analysis of the current seamount management regime and biological and harvest information collected from the seamount fishery is required and has been identified in the PSARC planning process.

#### 7.2.3. Bowie Seamount

Bowie Seamount was identified as a pilot Marine Protected Area (MPA) in 1998. The objectives are to protect a unique environment and ecosystem-based scientific research. The Department continues to conduct consultations to develop MPA designation regulations and a Management Plan for the area with First Nations, stakeholders, local government and communities.

For more information on the Bowie Seamount see Internet site:

[http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/oceans/mpa/bowie\\_e.htm](http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/oceans/mpa/bowie_e.htm)

#### 7.2.4. Seabird By-catch

The incidental catch of seabirds by fishing gear is a worldwide concern. Primarily three north pacific albatross species, Short-tailed Albatross (*Phoebastria albatrus*), Black-footed Albatross (*P. nigripes*) and the Laysan Albatross (*P. immutabilis*) have been incidentally caught in the demersal long line groundfish fisheries. Canada is involved in an international plan, endorsed by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (UNFAO), to reduce the incidental mortality of seabirds by longline fisheries.

The Department requires mandatory seabird avoidance measures in the 2003/2004 commercial sablefish fishery.

#### 7.2.5. Selective Fishing

The Department is continuing work with the CSA to address by-catch issues in the sablefish fishery and examine and explore selective fishing strategies to minimize mortalities of non-target fish, invertebrates, seabirds and marine mammals. For example, escape rings for sablefish traps have been introduced to reduce juvenile sablefish by-catch. Another example is the implementation of seabird avoidance measures for the sablefish long line fleet. The CSA have taken a very proactive position to implement the mandatory use of mitigation devices in the commercial sablefish fleet.

## 8. SPECIFIC MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES

### 8.1. General

8.1.1. Address conservation and protection of sablefish stocks through the application of scientific management principles applied in a risk averse and precautionary manner based on the best scientific advice available.

**Performance Measure:** Ensure scientific management principles are in place for a conservative approach to the managing of the sablefish fishery.

8.1.1. Implement measures for the conservation and rebuilding of inshore rockfish stocks including area closures, reduced harvest rates, increased catch monitoring and an improved stock assessment framework.

**Performance Measure:** The rockfish conservation strategy continues and goals and objectives are met.

8.1.1. Account for total mortality of sablefish by all fishing sectors. Support ecological, scientific and economic interests for the conservation and sustainable utilization of Canadian fisheries.

**Performance Measure:** Maintain and improved data collection for all fishing sectors.

### 8.2. Commercial

8.2.1. Provide opportunities for the commercial fishery to harvest sablefish and ensure the commercial TAC is not exceeded.

**Performance Measure:** Total landed harvest of sablefish is within the TAC.

8.2.2. Continue to review the data collected to date to assess the seamount fishery.

**Performance Measure:** The status of the seamount fishery is assessed and objectives and an approach for the fishery outlined.

8.2.3. Review current commercial groundfish management regimes and explore potential improvements through consultations with industry and other stakeholders.

**Performance Measure:** Initiate consultations with commercial groundfish advisors and other stakeholders to develop progressive approaches for improved conservation of groundfish resources and management of groundfish fisheries.

- 8.2.4. Continue to co-operatively work with the commercial sablefish fishing industry in fisheries management.

**Performance Measure:** The JPA between DFO and the CSA continues.

- 8.2.5. To account for mortality of all species in the commercial sablefish fishery.

**Performance Measure:** 100% monitoring of all commercially landed catch and at-sea monitoring coverage for 15% of the fishing days of the commercial sablefish fleet.

- 8.2.6. DFO, Canadian Wildlife Service and the CSA will continue to collaborate to ensure incidental catch of seabirds is minimized. This will include the continuation of mitigation measures in the 2003/2004 fishery, and education of the fleet on the issues surrounding declining seabird populations.

**Performance Measure:** Implementation and compliance of mandatory seabird avoidance devices and measures in the commercial sablefish fishery.

### 8.3. First Nations

- 8.3.1. Provide opportunities for First Nations to harvest sablefish for food, social and ceremonial purposes in a manner consistent with conservation objectives and Department obligations with respect to priority access to the resource.

**Performance Measure:** Subject to conservation needs, First Nations are provided opportunities to harvest fish for food, social and ceremonial purposes and any treaty obligations.

### 8.4. Recreational

- 8.4.1. Provide recreational opportunities to retain sablefish.

**Performance Measure:** Recreational opportunities are provided. See the 2003-2005 British Columbia Tidal Waters Sport Fishing Guide on the Internet for further information:

[http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/reefish/default\\_e.htm](http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/reefish/default_e.htm)

## 9. EVALUATION OF 2002/2003 MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

Evaluation of the management objectives for the 2002/2003 season is based on the performance measures specified in the 2002/2003 IFMP.

### 9.1. General

- 9.1.1. **Performance Measure:** To ensure conservation and protection of sablefish stocks through the application of scientific management principles applied in a risk averse and precautionary manner based on the best scientific advice available.

**Assessment:** Stock assessment programs were conducted jointly by DFO and the CSA to ensure a conservative approach to harvesting sablefish while allowing for a successful fishing industry. Many management principles were in place (i.e. closed areas, IVQ).

- 9.1.2. **Performance measure:** Each element of the Inshore Rockfish Conservation Strategy was implemented to achieve a precautionary sustainable fishing mortality rate for inshore rockfish species.

**Assessment:** In 2002/2003, thirty-two areas (four have since been removed) of restricted fishing were established to protect inshore rockfish by minimizing mortality from directed and incidental fisheries. Candidates for restricted fishing areas were identified on the basis of a number of factors, including current protection/conservation areas, ability to implement and enforce, advice from consultations, and distribution of areas throughout the coast. Recreational and commercial fishing in the selected areas were limited to activities having little or no impact on inshore rockfish. First Nations were encouraged to employ fishing methods or fish in locations to minimize inshore rockfish harvests; consultations with First Nations are on-going with respect to the implementation of the closed area strategy and their food, social and ceremonial fisheries.

Harvest levels of inshore rockfish were reduced in 2002/2003. For the recreational fishery, daily limits for inshore rockfish were lowered coast-wide; and for the commercial fishery, the inshore rockfish quotas were reduced by 50% from 2001/2002 levels.

Catch monitoring in the commercial fishery was improved last year. Monitoring activities for the commercial fishery included an increased number of fishery observers, use of experimental camera technology, dockside monitoring, logbook data and biological sampling at landing sites. Improvements to the coverage of recreational creel surveys were developed, and consultations are on-going with First Nations to develop or improve catch monitoring programs. Such improvements for each fishery will also assist in the development of stock assessment programs.

New non-intrusive approaches for stock assessments are being developed and will be used in conjunction with traditional fishery dependent catch indices and biological sampling programs to monitor population status and evaluate management measures over time.

## 9.2. Commercial

9.2.1. **Performance Measure:** Total landed harvest of sablefish was within the TAC.

**Assessment:** The total landed coast-wide sablefish retained in 2002/2003 was 95% of the TAC.

9.2.2. **Performance Measure:** The status of the seamount fishery is assessed and objectives and an approach for the 2003/2004 fishery outlined.

**Assessment:** Seamount data was collected but was not assessed in time for the 2003/2004 fishery. Data will continue to be collected in season and will be analysed as soon as possible.

9.2.3. **Performance Measure:** Integrated commercial groundfish measures continued to be developed.

**Assessment:** In 2002/2003 consultations were initiated with industry and other stakeholders to review the current management regime and consider development of a comprehensive and integrated approach for the management of commercial groundfish fisheries.

9.2.4. **Performance Measure:** A JPA between DFO and the CSA is ongoing.

**Assessment:** The JPA continues to guide the sablefish fishery.

9.2.5. **Performance Measure:** 100% monitoring of all commercially landed catch and at-sea monitoring coverage for 15% of the fishing days of the commercial sablefish fleet.

**Assessment:** 100% of all commercially landed sablefish was recorded. Of the possible 1355 commercial sablefish fishing days 7.7% (105 days) were observed. Of the total fishing days observed 6.6% (59 days) were hook and line fishing days and 10.0% (46 days) were trap fishing days.

9.2.6. **Performance Measure:** Mandatory seabird avoidance devices and measures were implemented in the commercial sablefish fishery in 2002/2003.

**Assessment:** Vessels were required to have seabird avoidance devices on board when fishing by hook and line gear during the 2002/2003 fishing season.

### 9.3. First Nations

9.3.1. **Performance Measure:** Subject to conservation needs, First Nations were provided opportunities to harvest fish for food, social and ceremonial purposes and any treaty obligations.

**Assessment:** First Nations were allocated 100,000 pounds of sablefish for food, social and ceremonial purposes and opportunities were provided.

9.3.2. **Performance Measure:** The Department consulted with First Nations to assess the current methods of catch monitoring, and set standards to improve the accuracy and timeliness of catch reporting of sablefish fisheries for food, social and ceremonial purposes.

**Assessment:** The Department continued to consult with First Nations to improve monitoring and data collection in their fisheries and will continue consultation for the 2003/2004 season.

### 9.4. Recreational

9.4.1. **Performance Measure:** To continue to provide recreational opportunities to retain sablefish.

**Assessment:** Opportunities were provided.

## 10. FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

### 10.1. Commercial Fishery

Through the JPA, DFO and the CSA have established roles and responsibilities and planned expenditures for both parties. The JPA runs from August 1, 2001 to July 31, 2006. The expenditures are renewed annually. The CSA expenditures towards the management of the fishery include the following programs and activities:

- a) Dockside Monitoring Program
- b) Sablefish Advisory Committee (consultative process)
- c) At-Sea Monitoring Program
- d) Biological Sampling Program
- e) Biological Data Collection Program
- f) Stock Assessment Program
- g) Seamount Program
- h) Fishing Log Program
- i) Cost Recovery Funding
- j) Fishery Management Program

The annual expenditures of the Department and the CSA on the management of the fishery are outlined in detail in the JPA.

## **11. ENFORCEMENT MEASURES**

### **11.1. Overview**

The enforcement policy and activities of the Department are the responsibility of the Conservation and Protection (C&P) program within Fisheries Management Branch. Regional fishery officers, dedicated halibut/sablefish officers, as well as area-based fishery officers and marine enforcement officers, carry out enforcement activities throughout coastal areas of B.C. First Nations fishery guardians assist departmental fishery officers in a number of locations where joint enforcement protocols are in place. At-sea and dockside observers, designated by the Department, complement enforcement staff by performing a monitoring, verification and sampling function. Archipelago Marine Research (AMR) presently performs this function in the commercial sablefish fishery.

### **11.2. Enforcement Strategies and Resources**

#### **11.2.1. Commercial**

At-sea patrols will be conducted at key times. Fishery officers using Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) patrol vessels as platforms may conduct additional patrols of key sablefish fishing grounds. Patrol vessels may be tasked on occasion to respond to sightings of vessels fishing, that have not “hailed out”.

#### **11.2.2. First Nations**

Where possible, enforcement protocols are developed between the Department and First Nations groups for the management and control of food, social and ceremonial fisheries. These protocols vary between individual First Nations and fisheries, but where they are in place First Nation’s guardians work with fishery officers to ensure regulations are enforced.

#### **11.2.3. Fishery Patrol Vessels and Aerial Surveillance**

At-sea patrols are conducted using various C&P program vessels and CCG patrol vessels. Air surveillance is done under two different programs. For shore-oriented, localised enforcement and monitoring needs, local air charters are contracted on an as-needed basis. In addition, there is a more comprehensive offshore air surveillance program. The purpose of this program is to obtain vessel counts from recreational, commercial, and in some cases, First Nation’s fisheries, and to detect suspicious vessels (e.g. those suspected of fishing in closed areas). Aircraft are tasked on a daily basis for specific surveillance duties. On occasion, CCG fixed wing aircraft and helicopters are also employed depending on availability.

#### 11.2.4. Resources

The commercial sablefish fleet annually contributes a substantial amount of funds to cover the costs of enforcement, at-sea observers and dockside monitoring. These funds include payment (20%) of five dedicated halibut/sablefish fishery officers' salaries and operating costs. The core enforcement function will continue to be conducted by five fishery officers. Other area-based fishery officers are also responsible for carrying out enforcement and monitoring functions.

### 11.3. Enforcement Priorities for 2003/2004

11.3.1. Increased surveillance, enforcement and monitoring of aquaculture sites to ensure that sablefish are not being illegally retained, harvested, processed or sold, and measures are being taken to communicate reporting and regulatory requirements to aquaculture sites and related operations to minimize violations.

11.3.2. Pursuing illegal harvest and sale activities on a broader regional basis. Officers will be concentrating on processors and individuals that buy and/or sell illegal sablefish.

11.3.3. Fishery officers to continue to conduct random processor/storage facility audits throughout the region. Officers will also look for sablefish while conducting inspections of retail and wholesale outlets.

11.3.4. Providing higher visibility and support to the DMP and at-sea observer programs.

11.3.5. Continue to conduct dedicated at-sea patrols to ensure compliance with the *Fisheries Act*, regulations and licence conditions.

### 11.4. Evaluation of 2002/2003 Enforcement Strategies

The results of enforcement strategies identified as priorities in 2002/2003 are briefly described below.

11.4.1. Increased surveillance, enforcement and monitoring of aquaculture sites to ensure that sablefish are not being illegally retained, harvested, processed or sold and that measures are being taken to communicate reporting and regulatory requirements to aquaculture sites and related operations to minimize violations.

**Assessment:** Fishery Officers have spent 122 field hours on two aquaculture site inspections and one investigation that resulted in a conviction on several counts against an individual who failed to comply with the terms of an experimental (scientific) sablefish collection licence.

11.4.2. Pursuing illegal harvest and sale activities on a broader regional basis using forensic auditing techniques. Officers will be concentrating on processors and individuals that buy and/or sell illegal sablefish.

**Assessment:** No forensic auditing has been conducted.

11.4.3. Officers will continue to conduct random processor/storage facility audits throughout the region. Officers will also look for sablefish while conducting inspections of retail and wholesale outlets.

**Assessment:** Regular inspections of processors, restaurants, and retail and wholesale outlets are ongoing. Seventy-one Section 61 “*Requests for information respecting to details of fish suppliers*” have been issued to retail establishments.

11.4.4. Providing higher visibility and support to the DMP and at-sea observer programs.

**Assessment:** Fishery Officers attended 42 offloads reported as landing sablefish. 31 occurrences of undersize sablefish landed in quantities ranging from 50 - 300 lbs. resulted in one charge laid and several warnings. Fishery officers work closely with dockside observers and provided enforcement responses as time and proximity and severity permitted.

11.4.5. Continue to conduct dedicated at-sea patrols to ensure compliance with the *Fisheries Act*, regulations and licence conditions.

**Assessment:** Fishery Officers conducted a total of six sea day patrols targeting vessels harvesting groundfish and sablefish. Coastal aerial surveillance patrols and maintenance of the fishing vessel sightings database is ongoing.

## 12. MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR THE DURATION OF THE PLAN

### 12.1. 2003/2004 Total Allowable Catch

The Canadian coast-wide TAC for the 2003/2004 fishing year is 3000 metric tonnes. Allocations of the TAC are provided in Table 1. The allocation from the sablefish TAC available for harvest by the K and FK licensed fleet during the fishing season identified in this management plan is **2646.62** metric tonnes (mt) fresh round weight.

Table 1: Sablefish TAC for 2003/2004 Fishing Season

<b>2003/2004 TAC Parameters</b>	mt	lb
Coast-wide TAC	3000	6,613,800
Research Allocation	53.70	118,387
Aquaculture Research	.53	1,168
First Nation Allocation	45.36	100,000
<b>Total Commercial TAC</b>	<b>2900.41</b>	<b>6,394,243</b>
Trawl Allocation (8.75%)	253.79	559,505
<b>K &amp; FK Allocation (91.25%)</b>	<b>2646.62</b>	<b>5,834,738</b>

## **12.2. Commercial Harvest Plan**

Appendix 1 contains the category K and FK commercial harvest plan for the 2003/2004 coastal fishery (part I) and the 2004 offshore seamount fishery (part II).

The 2003/2004 Groundfish Trawl IFMP, which outlines management of sablefish caught under a Category T licence, is available at the DFO website:

<http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/ops/fm/mplans/plans03/Trawl03pl.PDF>

## **12.3. Recreational Harvest Plan**

A British Columbia tidal waters sport fishing licence is required to fish, spearfish or net, or to capture any species of fish. Sport fishing licences are issued annually from April 1 or the date of issue to the following March 31. A complete description of the fishing regulations and fees is provided in a sport fishing guide issued by DFO or at the DFO website:

[http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/recfish/default\\_e.htm](http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/recfish/default_e.htm)

## **12.4. First Nations Harvest Plan**

First Nations access to fish for food, social and ceremonial purposes is managed through a communal licence which permits the harvest of sablefish. Participation by First Nations in the commercial fisheries is currently accommodated through a Licence Retirement/Allocation Transfer Program (ATP) of DFO. Under the ATP, existing commercial licence eligibilities of licence holders are retired on a voluntary basis and re-issued to eligible First Nations' organizations as Communal Commercial Licences.

## **13. ATTACHMENTS**

Appendix 1: 2003/2004 Category K Commercial Harvest Plan

Appendix 2: Closed Areas

Appendix 3: Sablefish Fishing Information Log

Appendix 4: Seabird Handling Guidelines

## APPENDIX 1: 2003/2004 CATEGORY K COMMERCIAL HARVEST PLAN

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	PART 1 – COASTAL FISHERY .....	3
1.1.	MANAGEMENT CHANGES FOR 2003/2004 .....	3
1.2.	QUOTAS AND OPEN TIMES .....	4
1.2.1.	Open Times .....	4
1.2.2.	Total Allowable Catch .....	4
1.3.	AREA CLOSURES .....	4
1.4.	LICENSING .....	4
1.4.1.	Licence Category .....	4
1.4.2.	Licence Fees .....	4
1.4.3.	Licence Application and Issuance .....	5
1.4.4.	Licence Documents .....	5
1.4.5.	Vessel Replacement .....	5
1.4.6.	Licence Amendments .....	6
1.4.7.	Gear .....	6
1.4.8.	Size Limits .....	7
1.5.	INDIVIDUAL VESSEL QUOTA .....	7
1.5.1.	Allocation of Individual Vessel Quota for 2003/2004 .....	7
1.5.2.	Individual Vessel Quota Reallocations Between K Licensed Vessels .....	7
1.5.3.	Quota Overages/Underages .....	8
1.6.	SEABIRD AVOIDANCE MEASURES AND DEVICES .....	10
1.7.	PORT MONITORING AND VALIDATION .....	10
1.8.	DESIGNATED OFFLOADING LOCATIONS .....	10
1.9.	OFFLOADING AT NET PENS .....	11
1.10.	AT SEA MONITORING .....	11
1.10.1.	Designation of At-sea Observers .....	11
1.10.2.	Selection of Vessels for At-sea Sampling Program .....	11
1.10.3.	Requests for Observer Coverage .....	11
1.11.	HARVEST LOG DATA .....	12
1.12.	FISH SLIP REQUIREMENTS .....	12
2.	PART II – 2004 OFFSHORE SEAMOUNT FISHERY .....	13
2.1.	BACKGROUND .....	13
2.2.	QUOTAS AND OPEN TIMES .....	13
2.2.1.	Total Allowable Catch .....	13
2.2.2.	Open Times .....	13
2.3.	AUTHORIZED AREAS .....	13
2.4.	LICENSING .....	14
2.4.1.	Licensing Category .....	14
2.4.2.	Species .....	14
2.4.3.	Gear .....	14
2.4.4.	Seabird Avoidance Measures and Devices .....	15
2.4.5.	Licence Fees .....	15
2.4.6.	Licence Issuance and Selection Process .....	15

2.4.7. Biological Sampling Requirements .....16  
2.4.8. General.....16  
2.5. ROCKFISH BY-CATCH .....16  
2.6. PORT MONITORING VALIDATION.....16  
2.7. DESIGNATED OFFLOADING LOCATIONS .....17  
2.8. AT SEA MONITORING.....17  
2.8.1. Observers and Electronic Monitoring Systems .....17  
2.9. HARVEST LOG DATA.....17  
2.10. FISH SLIP REQUIREMENTS.....17

## 1. PART 1 – COASTAL FISHERY

### 1.1. MANAGEMENT CHANGES FOR 2003/2004

- 1.1.1. The allocation from the sablefish TAC available for harvest by the K and FK licensed fleet during the 2003/2004 fishing season is **2,646.62** mt fresh round weight.
- 1.1.2. The trap soak time while fishing on the limited entry **seamounts** has been increased from four days to seven days. This change allows vessels adequate time to offload catch, repair vessel equipment and return to the seamount. The soak time when fishing under normal licensing conditions remains at four days.
- 1.1.3. A new separate form for **permanent** reallocation has been created. The vessel owner(s) of the licensed vessel (from which the IVQ is being permanently reallocated from) must have the signature(s) **notarized** and the original copy sent into the Groundfish Management Unit, DFO. All temporary reallocations will continue to follow the rules of the previous season. See section 1.5.2 for more information.
- 1.1.4. The opportunity for the vessels selected in the seamount draws to fish outside the 200 mile limit remains in effect. The opportunity for one other vessel per month to fish for sablefish beyond the 200 mile limit north of 50° 52'N will also be permitted. Applications and a \$500 fee must be sent to the Pacific Region Licensing Unit.
- 1.1.5. For 2003/2004, the Department will continue to provide reasonable access, by scientific licence, to the wild sablefish resource to assist industry development for aquaculture research. The level of access will be no higher than 2,000 pieces.
- 1.1.6. Requests to access the wild resource will be prioritized and contingent upon stakeholders providing detailed project proposals for review and approval by the Department. Applications for the **2003/2004** fishing season will only be accepted until **November 1, 2003**. For the *2004/2005* fishery, the deadline for proposals requests will be *September 15, 2004*.

## **1.2. QUOTAS AND OPEN TIMES**

### **1.2.1. Open Times**

The 2003/2004 sablefish fishery will open August 1, 2003 and will remain open until July 31, 2004. Although the fishery is open until July 31, 2004, all fish must be landed prior to midnight July 31, 2004.

### **1.2.2. Total Allowable Catch**

The allocation from the sablefish TAC available for harvest by the K and FK licensed fleet during the fishing season, identified in this management plan, is **2,646.62** mt fresh round weight.

## **1.3. AREA CLOSURES**

All closures, Rockfish Protection Areas, and Interim Areas of Restricted fishing are listed in Appendix 2.

## **1.4. LICENSING**

### **1.4.1. Licence Category**

A category K or a communal commercial FK, sablefish licence is required to harvest sablefish species. Sablefish licence eligibilities are limited entry and vessel based. Vessels authorized to fish under the authority of a sablefish licence are also permitted to fish for species described in Schedule II, Part 2 of the *Pacific Fishery Regulations, 1993* and transport fish caught by other vessels. Conditions of licence for these species and for transporting fish are included with all the sablefish licences. For information regarding the harvest of Schedule II, Other Species, please refer to the IFMP for lingcod, dogfish, skate, pacific cod, sole and flounder. For information regarding transporting, please refer to Part III under the conditions of licence.

### **1.4.2. Licence Fees**

Currently, annual licence application fees are \$241.00 multiplied by the number of tonnes of sablefish authorized to be taken under the licence, minus 40 % of that product where the product is less than \$2,500.00, or minus \$1,000.00 where the product is \$2,500.00 or more. In other words, fees are \$241 per tonne based on the initial allocation of a licence, less 40 % up to a maximum reduction of \$1,000.

#### 1.4.3. Licence Application and Issuance

Applications must be completed and submitted with the required fees to a Pacific Fishery Licence Unit by July 31, of the next calendar year, regardless that no fishing may be carried out.

The vessel owner must sign the application. If the vessel owner is a company, the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit must have on record a copy of either a Confirmation of Signing Authorities or an Amendment to Confirmation of Signing Authorities form advising who the signing authorities for the company are.

Prior to annual application for either a category K or FK licence, please ensure:

- Any Ministerial conditions placed on the licence eligibility are met, and
- Vessel owners are able to provide a copy of a document of notice that they have entered into an agreement for 2003/2004 with a service provider, acknowledging they are participants in a system for verifying the poundage of sablefish caught and offloaded by sablefish licensed vessels that is acceptable to the Department.

#### 1.4.4. Licence Documents

Sablefish licence documents are valid from the date of issue to July 31, of the next calendar year.

Replacement for lost or destroyed licence documents may be obtained by completing a Declaration Concerning Licence Documents form. Please contact a Pacific Fishery Licence Unit for further details.

#### 1.4.5. Vessel Replacement

A category K sablefish licence eligibility may be separated from any combination of married licence eligibilities as long as it is placed on another commercially licensed fishing vessel of any length, that holds a category A, G, L, R, S, T, or W licence eligibility. Sablefish licence eligibilities may not be stacked.

An existing single category K sablefish licenced vessel may be replaced with an unlicensed vessel but the replacing vessel cannot exceed the overall length of the existing vessel.

Where the sablefish licence eligibility is permanently placed on a vessel which holds a Schedule II (category C) licence eligibility, then the category C licence must be returned to a Pacific Fishery Licence Unit. The schedule II licence will be held for the duration of the time the sablefish licence is temporarily placed.

Vessel owners wishing to make permanent or temporary vessel replacements for category K licence eligibilities must apply to a Pacific Fishery Licence Unit.

#### 1.4.6. Licence Amendments

The sablefish licence must be issued prior to any licence amendment issuance or processing of a 'Request for Reallocation of Sablefish IVQ'.

Vessel owners must request a sablefish licence amendment prior to fishing. A 'Request for a Category K Licence Amendment' form must be completed by the vessel owner and faxed to the Groundfish Management Unit at (604) 666-8525. Request forms are available on the internet at:

<http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/ops/fm/Groundfish/Sablefish/forms.htm>.

The Groundfish Management Unit (GMU) requirements prior to any quota reallocations are as follows:

- a) The Department must have received all sablefish fishing logbook pages and fish slips containing 2002/2003 information.
- b) All relinquishments of claim for sablefish IVQ overages have been paid to the Receiver General of Canada.
- c) A valid licence amendment, issued by the Groundfish Management Unit, must be onboard while the vessel is engaging in any fishing activity.

#### 1.4.7. Gear

Fishing for sablefish is permitted only by trap and/or hook and line gear.

By regulation, no person shall fish for sablefish with a trap, unless the trap has in a side wall a section that has been laced, sewn or otherwise secured by a single length of untreated natural fibre not larger than 2 mm in diameter and that, on deterioration or parting, produces in the side wall an opening with four sides, each of which is at least 20 cm in length.

No person shall fish for sablefish with a trap unless the trap has in the side walls at least two escape openings each having an inside diameter of not less than 8.89 cm (3.5 inches) which creates an unrestricted exit out of the trap.

No person shall set a trap and leave the trap in the water for more than four consecutive days without lifting the trap from the water and removing all of the sablefish from it. Vessels leaving gear unattended must notify AMR upon leaving the gear and identify gear location, time and date gear was set and estimated return time. Vessels must notify AMR upon returning to unattended gear. **Vessels leaving unattended gear in the water for more than four consecutive days will be required to take an at sea observer at the vessel's expense for the remainder of the season.**

#### 1.4.8. Size Limits

By regulation, no person shall catch and retain a sablefish that is less than 55 cm in length, measured from the tip of the nose to the fork of the tail or where the head has been removed, 39 cm in length measured from the origin of the first dorsal fin to the fork of the tail.

### 1.5. INDIVIDUAL VESSEL QUOTA

#### 1.5.1. Allocation of Individual Vessel Quota for 2003/2004

At the commencement of the 2003/2004 fishing year, the percentage of each vessel's IVQ for sablefish as of midnight July 31, 2003 following the automatic return of all temporary IVQ reallocations, will be applied against the 2003/2004 sablefish TAC available for harvest by the K and FK licensed fleet to determine the actual poundage of sablefish initially allocated to the vessel for the year.

To allow for adequate time to process all permanent transfers prior to the start of the 2003/2004 commercial sablefish fisheries, permanent transfers will not be permitted between July 17, 2004 and July 31, 2004. Further, vessels landing after July 27, 2004 may not be able to have their licence issued by August 1, 2004.

#### 1.5.2. Individual Vessel Quota Reallocations Between K Licensed Vessels

The following guidelines for the reallocation of sablefish IVQ will be implemented for the 2003/2004 sablefish fishery:

- a) Upon application, vessel owners will be permitted to make unlimited permanent and temporary reallocations of sablefish IVQ.
- b) Sablefish licence fees must be paid prior to any sablefish IVQ being reallocated.
- c) IVQ can only be reallocated between vessels holding a valid commercial sablefish licence.
- d) IVQ that has already been caught cannot be reallocated.
- e) Permanent reallocations will be expressed as a percentage of the TAC, and will be added to the receiving vessel's percentage of the TAC. (For example, the poundage held by any licence is dependent on the total TAC for the year, and the percent of the allocation that vessel holds at any give time).
- f) Temporary reallocation of IVQ will only be valid for the current fishing year and will automatically be allocated back to the original vessel prior to midnight of July 31, 2004.
- g) The minimum quantity of sablefish IVQ that may be reallocated is the percentage that corresponds to one (1) pound.

- h) Reallocations of IVQ will be permitted while the vessel is hailed out.
- i) Vessel owners wanting to temporary reallocate sablefish IVQ will be required to complete a Request for a K (FK) Licence Amendment for the Temporary Reallocation of Sablefish IVQ form, and have this form delivered in person, or by fax, to the GMU (604) 666-8525. Upon receipt of this form and approval of the quota reallocation, DFO will issue a licence amendment to each vessel involved reflecting adjusted IVQ amounts.
- j) Vessel owners wanting to **permanently** reallocate sablefish IVQ will be required to complete a Request for a K Licence Amendment for the Permanent Reallocation of Sablefish IVQ form and have the vessel owner(s) (where quota is being permanently reallocated from) signature(s) **notarized**. The completed and notarized form must be delivered in person or by mail to the GMU (Suite 200 - 401 Burrard Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6C 3S4). Upon receipt of this form and approval of the quota reallocation, DFO will issue a licence amendment to each vessel involved reflecting adjusted IVQ amounts.

For permanent sablefish reallocations all owners of record must sign this form and all signatures must be notarized. For temporary reallocations of sablefish only one owner is required to sign this form.

**Vessel masters are reminded that the vessel's current licence amendment must be carried on-board the vessel when fishing.**

### 1.5.3. Quota Overages/Underages

Vessel owners and fishers are reminded that in all cases **the vessel licence** which fished the quota, and had an underage or overage, will have its IVQ reduced or increased in the next licence year by the full amount of the overage, or applicable underage associated with the entire quota fished by that vessel. The rules for the carryover of sablefish, individual vessel quota underages or overages are as follows:

- a) Licensed sablefish vessels landing up to five % or 1,000 pounds (whichever is greater) over the vessel's total sablefish IVQ may keep the proceeds from the overage, but will have the equivalent poundage of the overage subtracted from the vessel's IVQ in the following year.
- b) Licensed sablefish vessels landing more than five % or 1,000 pounds (whichever is greater) over the vessel's total sablefish IVQ, may keep the proceeds from the landed weight of the five % of the total sablefish IVQ or 1,000 pounds (whichever is greater) of the overage, and must relinquish the remainder to the Crown. Further the total poundage of the overage (the five % or 1,000 pounds plus the extra) will be subtracted from the vessel's sablefish IVQ in the following year.

- c) Vessels in an overage situation can avoid a relinquishment by reallocating applicable IVQ prior to hailing out for the vessel's next trip or within 30 days, whichever comes first.
- d) Licensed sablefish vessels at the end of the season that are **10 % or less under the vessel's total** sablefish IVQ may have the equivalent poundage of the underage added to the **vessel's** sablefish IVQ in the following year.
- e) Licensed sablefish vessels at the end of the season that are **more than 10 % under** the vessel's **total** sablefish IVQ, may have the equivalent poundage for 10 % of the vessel's IVQ for that year added to the **vessel's** IVQ in the following year and will forego the remainder.
- f) Determination of IVQ overages and relinquishments shall be based on the IVQ indicated on the vessel licence at the time of offloading. Vessels reallocating additional quota shares onto the vessel following a quota overage and relinquishment (after the vessel has hailed out for another trip or following 30 days after the offload), will have the total overage (the five % plus any relinquished amount) subtracted from the IVQ added to the vessel and shown on the reissued K licence. The vessel's Sablefish Validation Record Book shall be adjusted by the certified dockside observer at the next offloading. Relinquishments for prior overages of more than five % or 1,000 pounds of the vessel's total IVQ will not be returned.
- g) The carryover of underages or overages expires at the end of the year following the underage or overage by the licensed sablefish vessel (i.e. underages or overages cannot be carried over more than one year).
- h) Relinquishment of claim cheques for sablefish overages should be addressed and mailed to:

Receiver General of Canada  
Fisheries and Ocean Canada  
Groundfish Management Unit  
Suite 200 – 401 Burrard Street  
Vancouver B.C.  
V6C 3S4

## **1.6. SEABIRD AVOIDANCE MEASURES AND DEVICES**

By licence condition all sablefish hook and line vessels must use mandatory seabird avoidance measures and devices to avoid the incidental catch of seabirds. There are three major requirements outlined in the licence conditions:

- a) All hook and line vessels must use the avoidance measures listed in detail in the licence conditions, including the use of weighted ground lines, thawed bait and additional weights on the ground line. Vessels must ensure that the discharge of bait and offal is handled in a reasonable manner such that it does not attract seabirds to fishing hooks.
- b) All hook and line vessels must release all birds caught in the least harmful manner and record birds caught in logbooks as by-catch. A record shall be kept as to the quantity caught, species, and condition (alive or dead) of birds upon release; this record shall be made daily.
- c) Based on vessel size and location of fishing activity, hook and line vessels must use seabird avoidance devices including the use of single and paired streamers and a towed buoy.

Licence holders are required to ensure they refer to their licence conditions for specific avoidance requirements.

See appendix 4 for Seabird Handling Guidelines.

## **1.7. PORT MONITORING AND VALIDATION**

Sablefish catches shall be monitored at designated offloading locations through a comprehensive dockside validation system. AMR of Victoria, B.C. is the designated contractor for this program and will supply dockside observers to provide the port monitoring services. Arrangements for observers can be made by calling 1-800-663-7152. Fishers operating under the authority of the K or FK licence must follow the monitoring requirements set out in the 'Conditions of Sablefish Licence'. These conditions include hail-out and hail-in requirements.

Vessel masters are reminded of their responsibility to abide by all 'Conditions of Sablefish Licence', and to ensure that they are fully aware of the reporting and fishing requirements.

## **1.8. DESIGNATED OFFLOADING LOCATIONS**

There will be 100 % coverage of all sablefish offloads by certified dockside observers. Sablefish can be offloaded only at the following designated offloading locations:

Coal Harbour	Port Edward	Prince Rupert	Ucluelet
Port Alberni	Port Hardy	Tofino	Vancouver (Greater)

## 1.9. OFFLOADING AT NET PENS

Vessels wishing to offload live sablefish at a net pen site must apply to DFO by contacting the Sablefish Co-ordinator a minimum of two weeks prior to any such offloading. The vessel owner will be required to cover any additional monitoring, validation and tagging costs incurred. Subject to approval by the Department, the vessel owner should also contact AMR a minimum of seven days prior to any such offload to determine approximate costs and arrange for monitoring service.

## 1.10. AT SEA MONITORING

Information on retained and released catch by the commercial sablefish fishery is necessary for management of the fishery and the resource. DFO will require at-sea observer monitoring of 15 % of the fishing days for the 2003/2004 fishing season. Information from at-sea monitoring will be collected to determine the level and species composition of catch and by-catch. The at-sea monitoring program will be managed and co-ordinated by CSA and DFO and will use certified at-sea observers. All vessels are required to carry an at-sea observer each trip that the vessel embarks upon unless they have been given an exemption. Vessel masters will be notified at the time of hail-out of the requirement to take an at-sea observer.

Prior to commencement of fishing the vessel owner shall have a signed agreement with the contractor providing the services of a certified observer.

### 1.10.1. Designation of At-sea Observers

Certified at-sea observers will be designated to monitor fishing activity, examine fishing gear, record scientific data and observations, take samples, estimate the weight and identify species of fish caught, and inspect fishing records.

### 1.10.2. Selection of Vessels for At-sea Sampling Program

Vessels will be selected for catch sampling, depending on sampling requirements by area and time period. The number of days of coverage will be determined in-season according to area fished, gear type used and fishing effort.

### 1.10.3. Requests for Observer Coverage

Under Section 46 of the *Fisheries (General) Regulations*, the licence holder or master of a fishing vessel shall, at the request of the Regional Director General, permit an observer to go on board that vessel to perform the designated duties for the period of time specified and arrange for embarkation or disembarkation of the observer at the times and places specified. The vessel master shall provide all reasonable assistance to the observer. Responsibilities with respect to this assistance are specified in Section 46 of the *Fishery (General) Regulations*.

**In addition, vessels can only hail out between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. seven days a week.** The vessel owner or vessel master will be notified by AMR, the CSA, or by DFO of the requirement to take an observer during the season.

### **1.11. HARVEST LOG DATA**

The requirements are as follows:

- a) A Sablefish Fishing Information Logbook is required and available from AMR by contacting (250) 383-4535.
- b) The vessel master shall keep a record of all fishing activity carried out under the authority of this licence in the Sablefish Fishing Information Logbook.
- c) The information shall be recorded in the logbook by midnight on each day fished.
- d) The vessel master shall ensure that the logbook is available for use prior to fishing and that sufficient pages are available to cover any fishing trip.
- e) The logbook shall be kept on board the vessel at all times and shall be made available for inspection upon request of an observer.
- f) At completion of each landing, the completed original logbook sheet(s) from the Sablefish Fishing Information Logbook shall be provided to the dockside observer attending the landing of fish, or shall be forwarded by the Master, within seven days of the landing date to the following designated representative:

Archipelago Marine Research Ltd.  
525 Head Street  
Victoria, B.C. V9A 5S1

### **1.12. FISH SLIP REQUIREMENTS**

It is a condition of the Category K and FK licence that an accurate written report shall be furnished on a fish slip of all fish caught under the authority of this licence. A report must be made even if the fish 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  
Regional Data Unit  
Suite 200 – 401 Burrard Street  
Vancouver B.C. V6C 3S4  
(604) 666-3784

Fish slip books may be purchased at the above address, or at most Fisheries and Oceans offices. Phone (604) 666-2716.

## **2. PART II – 2004 OFFSHORE SEAMOUNT FISHERY**

### **2.1. BACKGROUND**

The Department has allowed a limited experimental fishery for sablefish on seamounts located within Canada's 200 mile limit between 100 to 200 miles offshore. This experimental fishery was initiated to assess the potential of the seamounts to support a sustainable commercial fishery, and to obtain biological information on sablefish populations located on the seamounts. Limited information collected suggests that populations found on the seamounts are a separate management unit from the commercial populations found further inshore along the continental slope (Whitaker and McFarlane 1997).

The seamount fishery is no longer considered an experimental fishery and is incorporated within the regular IFMP planning process for sablefish. The seamount fishery will continue on a limited basis, with sample collection requirements in order to continue to monitor the fishery.

In consultation with the CSA and other interested parties, DFO is currently developing a MPA plan for the Bowie Seamount, including a research and management program. Implementation of a Bowie Seamount MPA plan may result in Bowie Seamount being removed from the Seamount Fishery.

### **2.2. QUOTAS AND OPEN TIMES**

#### **2.2.1. Total Allowable Catch**

Vessels are permitted to retain all sablefish caught each trip.

#### **2.2.2. Open Times**

The 2004 seamount fishery will open May 1, 2004 and will remain open until October 31, 2004. Licence amendments issued by DFO will be valid for a calendar month.

### **2.3. AUTHORIZED AREAS**

For the purpose of the sablefish seamount fishery, Canada's Pacific offshore waters have been divided into two areas (north and south). A description of the areas is as follows:

Within Canadian waters not less than 100 nautical miles due west of all points of land and due west of a line drawn between Triangle Island (50°51'20" N 129°05'24" W) and Kerouard Islands (51°54'20" N 130°58'12" W) and either north or south of 50°52' N.

## 2.4. LICENSING

### 2.4.1. Licensing Category

This plan applies to all commercial sablefish vessels licensed under a category K or a communal commercial FK licence. Any vessel eligible for a K or FK licence may apply for a licence amendment to fish for sablefish from the seamounts. Licences granted will allow a vessel to obtain sablefish from seamount areas and in quantities additional to the individual quota issued to that vessel.

Amendment application forms for seamount fishing are available from the address below and must be submitted or faxed to the following:

Sablefish Co-ordinator  
Groundfish Management Unit  
Department of Fisheries and Oceans  
Suite 200 – 401 Burrard Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V6C 3S4  
Phone (604) 666-3279  
Fax (604) 666-8525

Eligible vessels wishing to fish outside the 200 mile limit must complete a “Application For Licence to Fish or Trans-Ship Fish in Waters Other Than Canadian Fishing Waters” available from the Commercial Licence Unit and submit it along with a \$500 licence fee.

### 2.4.2. Species

Sablefish (*Anoplopoma fimbria*) and rockfish (*Sebastes and Sebastolobus*)

### 2.4.3. Gear

Fishing for sablefish on the seamounts is permitted only by trap and/or hook and line gear.

By regulation, no person shall fish for sablefish with a trap, unless the trap has in a side wall a section that has been laced, sewn or otherwise secured by a single length of untreated natural fibre not larger than 2 mm in diameter and that, on deterioration or parting, produces in the side wall an opening with four sides, each of which is at least 20 cm in length.

No person shall fish for sablefish with a trap unless the trap has in the side walls at least two escape openings each having an inside diameter of not less than 8.89 cm (3.5 inches) which creates an unrestricted exit out of the trap.

No person shall set a trap and leave the trap in the water for more than seven consecutive days without lifting the trap from the water and removing all of the

sablefish from it. Vessels leaving gear unattended must notify AMR upon leaving the gear and identify gear location, time and date gear was set and estimated return time. Vessels must notify AMR upon returning to unattended gear. Vessels leaving unattended gear in the water for more than seven consecutive days will be required to take an onboard observer at the vessel's expense for the remainder of the season.

#### 2.4.4. Seabird Avoidance Measures and Devices

By licence condition all sablefish hook and line vessels must use mandatory seabird avoidance measures and devices to avoid the incidental catch of seabirds (see section 1.6.).

#### 2.4.5. Licence Fees

There is no additional fee for participating in the seamount fishery in Canadian waters. Vessels wishing to obtain a licence to fish seamounts outside of the 200 mile limit must pay a \$500.00 licence fee, (see section 2.4.1 above).

#### 2.4.6. Licence Issuance and Selection Process

Due to the limited number of seamounts available and the productivity of the seamounts, only one licence amendment will be issued in the Northern and Southern areas for each month.

DFO will conduct a draw of sablefish amendment applications received by month and area to select participants for the fishery. The draw generates a priority list of vessels eligible for sablefish seamount licence amendments for each month and area. The first vessel drawn will have first option on participating in the fishery for that area and month. Each vessel is eligible to be drawn for each month and each area. Vessels may apply for amendments for either or both areas during any fishing period; however should a vessel be selected for two areas in the same month, the amendment issued will be on the basis of the order of preference indicated by the vessel owner in the application.

For 2004 AMR will co-ordinate, document and notify vessels from the amendment eligibility list of their option to participate in the sablefish seamount fishery. AMR will notify successful candidates as fishing opportunities become available. The first vessels (north and south) on the list for each fishing period will be given ten working days from the time of notification to decide whether they wish to exercise their option to participate. In the event that the initial vessel for a fishing period declines the fishing opportunity, each subsequent vessel provided the opportunity to participate shall be given 48 hours to decide whether they will accept. It is the vessel owner's responsibility to inform AMR of their decision. Vessel owners not contacting AMR in the prescribed time or deciding not to participate will be declared ineligible and the licence amendment eligibility will be offered to the next eligible vessel.

Should all vessels eligible elect to not exercise their option when requested, DFO reserves the right to issue a sablefish seamount licence amendment to any other K or FK licensed vessel.

#### 2.4.7. Biological Sampling Requirements

Vessels operating under a sablefish seamount licence amendment are required to collect one random sample of approximately 60 fish from each seamount fished each month. Sampling instructions will be provided by AMR prior to fishing.

#### 2.4.8. General

Prior to fishing under authority of the sablefish seamount licence amendment, all fish, other than fish used for bait purposes, shall be offloaded from the vessel. Additionally, all fish taken from the authorized areas shall be offloaded prior to the commencement of any other fishing activity.

### 2.5. **ROCKFISH BY-CATCH**

Rockfish by-catch is permitted subject to the following:

- a) Vessels fishing with trap gear are permitted to land an amount of rockfish equivalent to 10 % of the landed weight of sablefish each trip.
- b) Vessels fishing with hook and line gear are permitted to land an amount of rockfish equivalent to 40 % of the landed weight of sablefish each trip.
- c) Vessels landing rockfish in excess of the permitted rockfish by-catch amount shall relinquish the overage to the Crown.
- d) For any trip, trap vessels landing rockfish in excess of 20 % of the landed round weight of sablefish, or hook and line vessels landing rockfish in excess of 50 % of the landed round weight of sablefish shall not be permitted to participate in the remainder of the 2004 Sablefish Seamount Fishery or in the 2005 Sablefish Seamount Fishery.

### 2.6. **PORT MONITORING VALIDATION**

Sablefish seamount catches shall be monitored at designated offloading locations through a comprehensive dockside validation system as outlined for the K and FK licence in section 1.7.

Participants operating under the authority of the K or FK licence must follow the monitoring requirements set out in the 'Conditions of Sablefish Licence'. These conditions include hail-out and hail-in requirements.

## **2.7. DESIGNATED OFFLOADING LOCATIONS**

There will be 100 % coverage of all sablefish offloads by certified observers. The designated offloading locations for the seamount fishery are the same as outlined in section 1.8.

## **2.8. AT SEA MONITORING**

### **2.8.1. Observers and Electronic Monitoring Systems**

To assess compliance and for biological sampling requirements, the Department requires **all** permitted vessels to carry either an electronic monitoring system or a certified at-sea observer. DFO may specifically request vessel masters to take an at-sea observer. Vessels fishing with hook and line gear will be required to carry an at-sea observer. All related costs must be borne by the vessel.

When the vessel master elects to carry an electronic monitoring device, that device must be capable of recording continuously for a minimum 960 hour period. If for any reason the installed electronic monitoring system becomes non-functional for a period exceeding 24 hours, the licence amendment becomes null and void. It is the vessel's responsibility to ensure the recording unit is properly and securely mounted on the vessel.

For vessels carrying an at-sea observer, the observer shall remain on board the vessel until offloading has commenced and a DFO certified dockside observer is present.

Prior to commencement of fishing the vessel owner shall have either a signed agreement with the contractor providing the services of a certified observer or produce verification of the installation and good operating condition of the electronic monitoring system from the CSA. Observer and monitoring services are supplied by and can be arranged through:

Archipelago Marine Research  
525 Head Street  
Victoria, BC V9A 5S1  
Phone (250) 383-4535  
Fax (250) 383-0103

## **2.9. HARVEST LOG DATA**

The requirements for the seamount fishery are the same as outlined in Section 1.11.

## **2.10. FISH SLIP REQUIREMENTS**

Fish slip requirements for the seamount fishery are the same as outlined in Section 1.12.

## APPENDIX 2: CLOSURES

### 1. AREA CLOSURES

#### 1.1. Sablefish Fishery Closures

The following area closures shall be in effect for K and FK licensed vessels in 2003/2004.

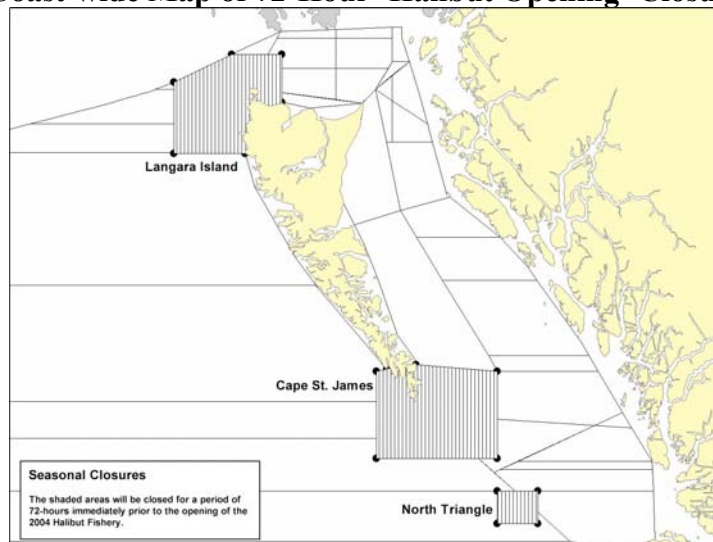
The Sablefish Advisory Committee recommended the following areas be closed again in 2003/2004 for conservation reasons. This recommendation was based on stock assessment and research cruises completed in the fall of 1994 that indicated a high proportion of juvenile sablefish in these areas:

- a) Johnstone, Georgia and Juan De Fuca Straits and Waters Adjacent to the West Coast of Vancouver Island inside the surfline. Closed year-round in Areas 11 to 29 inclusive except for Area 22.
- b) North coast and central coast. Closed year-round Areas 3 through 10.
- c) Hecate Strait and Central Queen Charlotte Sound. Closed year-round in Areas 103 to 107, Subareas 102-1 and in that portion of 102-2 that lies northerly of a line from 52°10.000' north latitude and 130°57.395' west longitude to 52°27.020' north latitude and 130°16.621' west longitude.

#### 1.2. Halibut Fishery Opening Closures

In order to maintain a fair and orderly opening for the 2004 pacific halibut fishery, the following areas are closed by licence condition to hook and line fishing 72 hours prior to the date and time of the opening of the 2004 halibut fishery. Hook and line sablefish vessels wishing to fish in these areas during those times must carry a certified at-sea observer and request an amendment to their licence conditions.

#### Coast-wide Map of 72-Hour 'Halibut Opening' Closure



1.2.1. Langara Island

Those portions of Area 101 that are:

east of the meridian passing through 134°00.0' west longitude;  
west of the meridian passing through 132°40.0' west longitude; and  
south of the parallel passing through 54°30.0' north latitude.

1.2.2. Cape St. James

Those portions of Subareas 102-2, 102-3, 108-2, 130-2, 130-3 and 142-1 that are inside a line that:

that begins at	52°11.0'N	131°22.16'W
then westerly to	52°10.0'N	131°30.0'W
then true south to	51°30.0'N	131°30.0'W
then true east to	51°30.0'N	130°00.0'W
then true north to	52°10.0'N	130°00.0'W
then westerly to	52°13.0'N	131°00.3'W

1.2.3. North Triangle

Those portions of Area 111 and Subarea 130-1 that lie inside a line that:

begins at	51°15.0' N	130°00.0' W
then true east to	51°15.0' N	129°30.0' W
then true south to	51°00.0' N	129°30.0' W
then true west to	51°00.0' N	130°00.0' W
then true north to the beginning point.		

**1.3. Queen Charlottes**

Closed year round in Subareas 2-1, 2-63 to 2-68 and those portions of Subarea 2-69 Hunter Point to Fame Point shoreward of the 50 fathom contour line as shown on Chart 3869 as published by the Canadian Hydrographic Service of the Department. The intent of the closure is to reduce harvesting pressure on localized stocks of fish, and to provide improved access for First Nations food, social and ceremonial purposes.

**1.4. Swiftsure Area**

The following “swiftsure area” is closed to all hook and line fishing for any species:

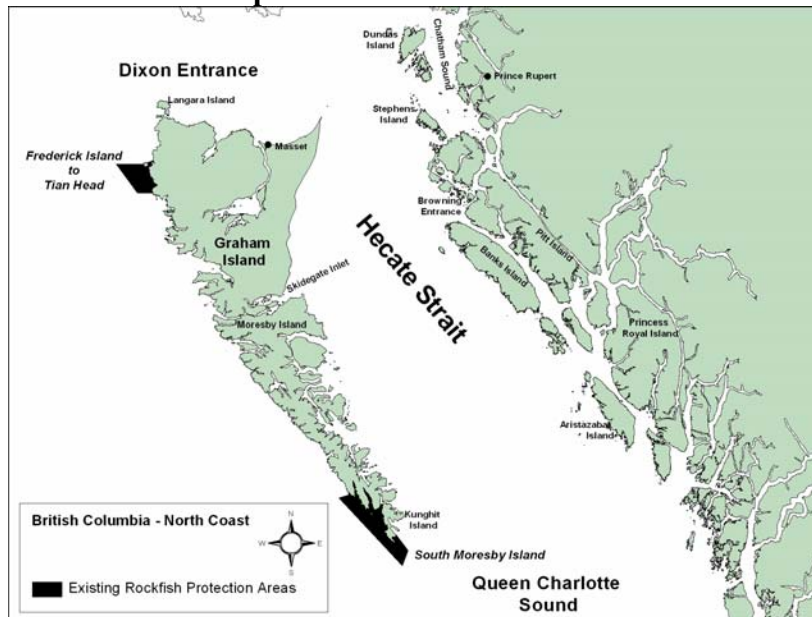
Those portions of Subareas 121-1 and 121-2 inside a line:

that begins at	48°34.0' N	125°06.0' W
then true east to	48°34.0' N	124°54.2' W
then to	48°29.62'N	124°43.4' W
then following the International Boundary between Canada and the United States of America to	48°29.3' N	124°58.0' W
then to the beginning point.		

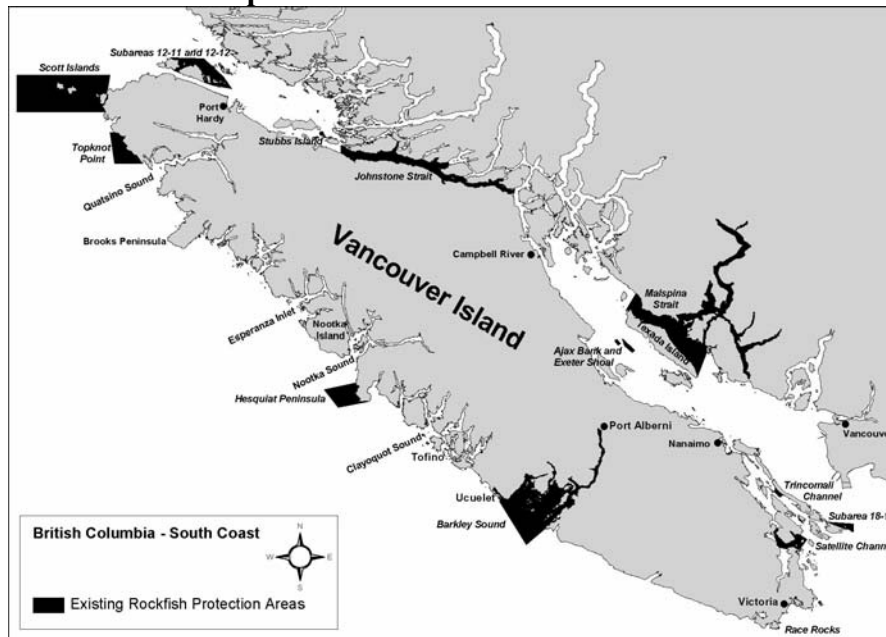
## 2. ROCKFISH PROTECTION AREAS

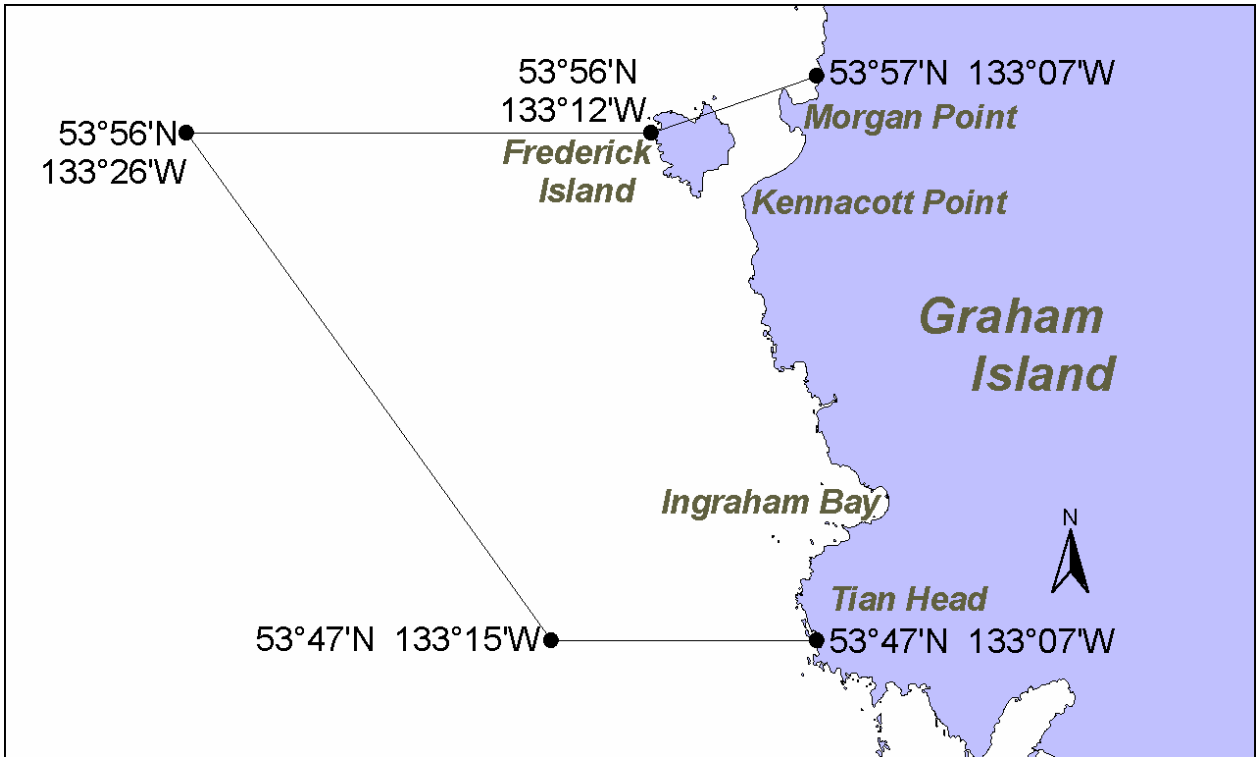
Rockfish Protection Areas (RPA's) are closed to category K and FK licence holders year-round for inshore rockfish conservation. The two maps below show the RPA's coast-wide. Individual maps and boundary area descriptions for each RPA are provided in the following subsections. Additional area closures to address inshore rockfish conservation concerns are expected to be implemented in-season.

**Coast-wide Map of Rockfish Protection Areas – North**



**Coast-wide Map of Rockfish Protection Areas – South Coast**

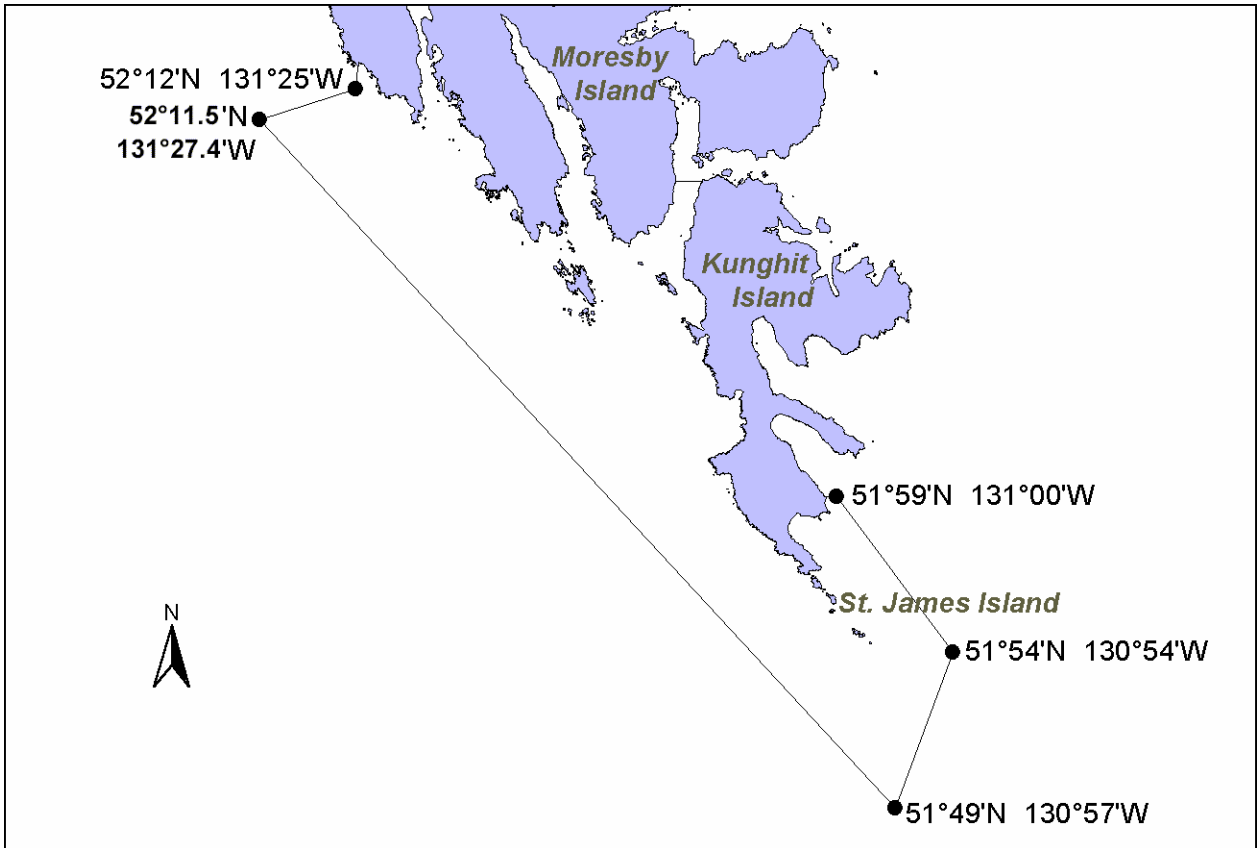




**2.1. Frederick Island to Tian Head**

Those portions of Subareas 1-1 and 101-1 that are inside a line that:

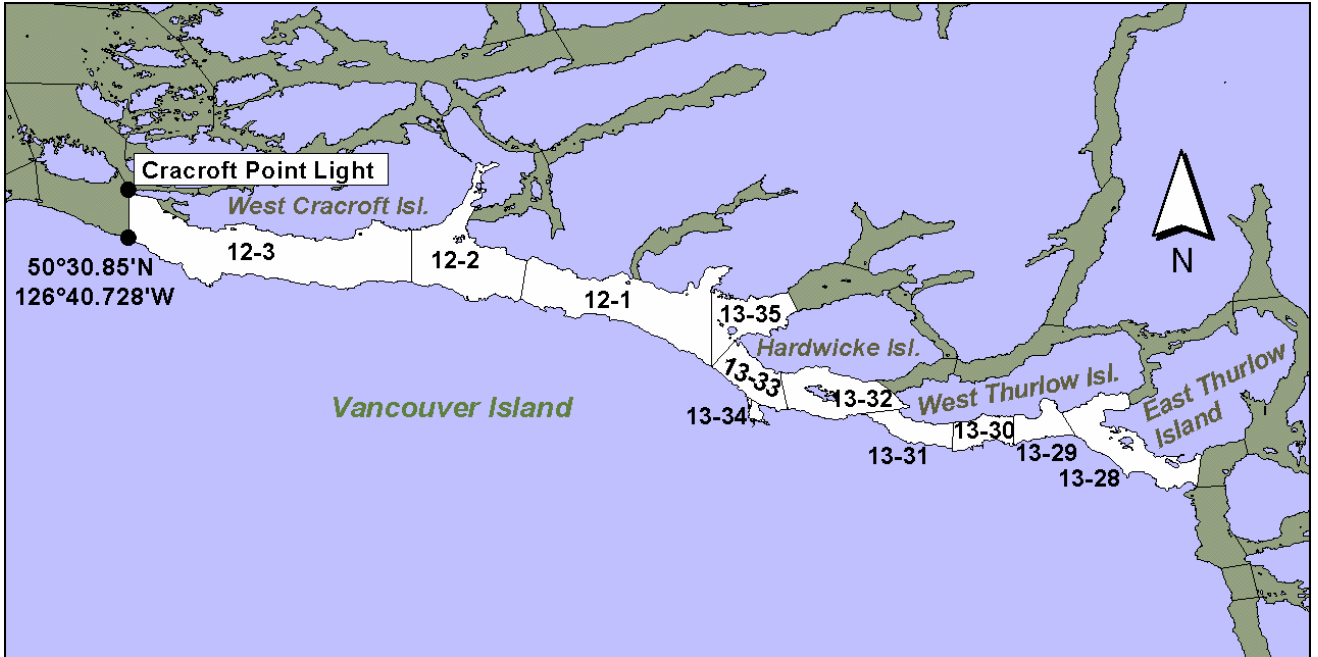
begins at	54°57.0' N	133°07.0' W
then to	53°56.0' N	133°12.0' W
then true west to	53°56.0' N	133°26.0' W
then to	53°47.0' N	133°15.0' W
then true east to	53°47.0' N	133°07.0' W



## 2.2. South Moresby Island

Subareas 2-31 to 2-37 and those portions of Subareas 102-3, 130-3 and 142-1 that are inside of a line that:

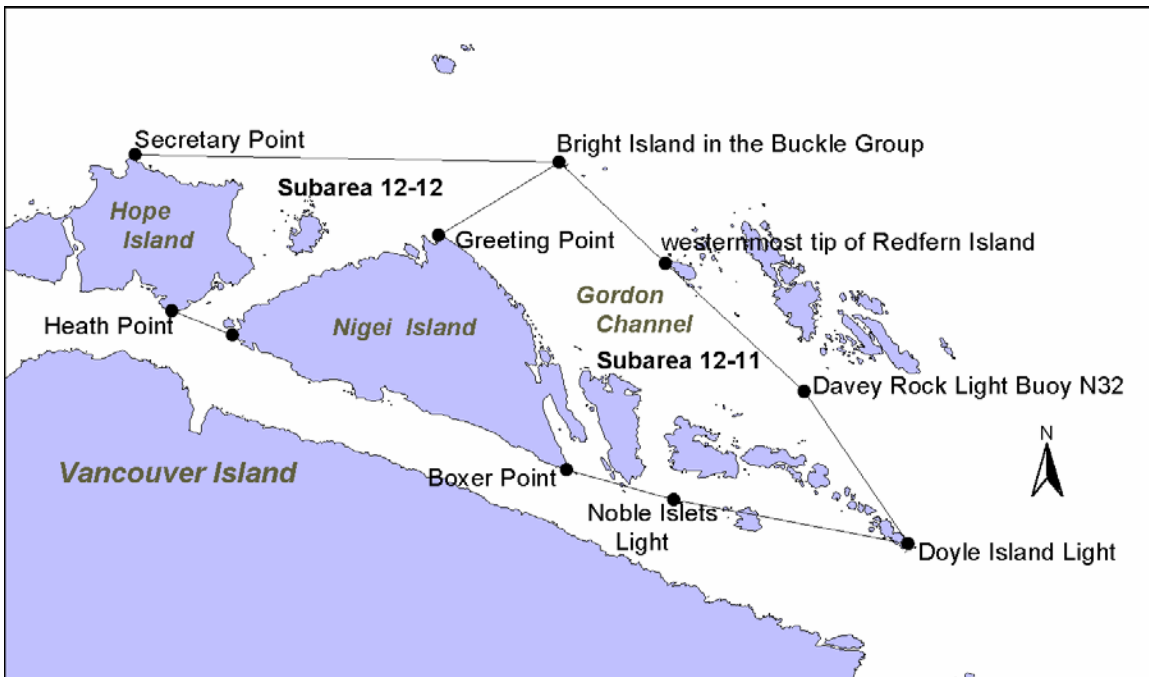
begins at	52°12.0' N	131°25.0' W
then to	52°11.5' N	131°27.4' W
then to	51°49.0' N	130°57.0' W
then to	51°54.0' N	130°54.0' W
then to	51°59.0' N	131°00.0' W



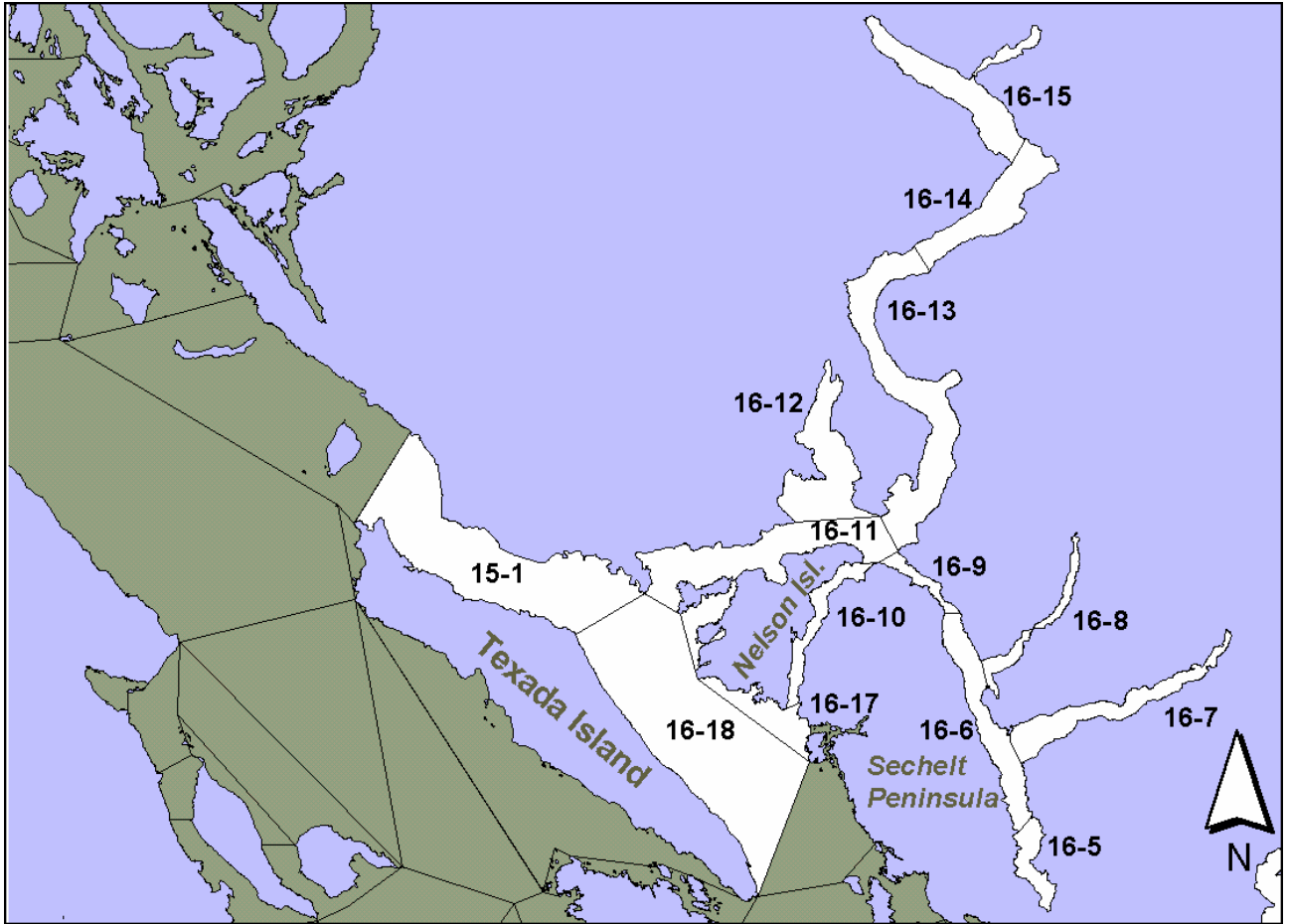
**2.3. Johnstone Strait**

Subareas 12-1, 12-2, 12-21, 13-28 to 13-35, and that portion of 12-3 that is east of a line that:

that begins at	50°32.988'N	126°40.728'W	[Cracroft Point Light]
then true south to	50°30.850'N	126°40.728'W	[Vancouver Island]

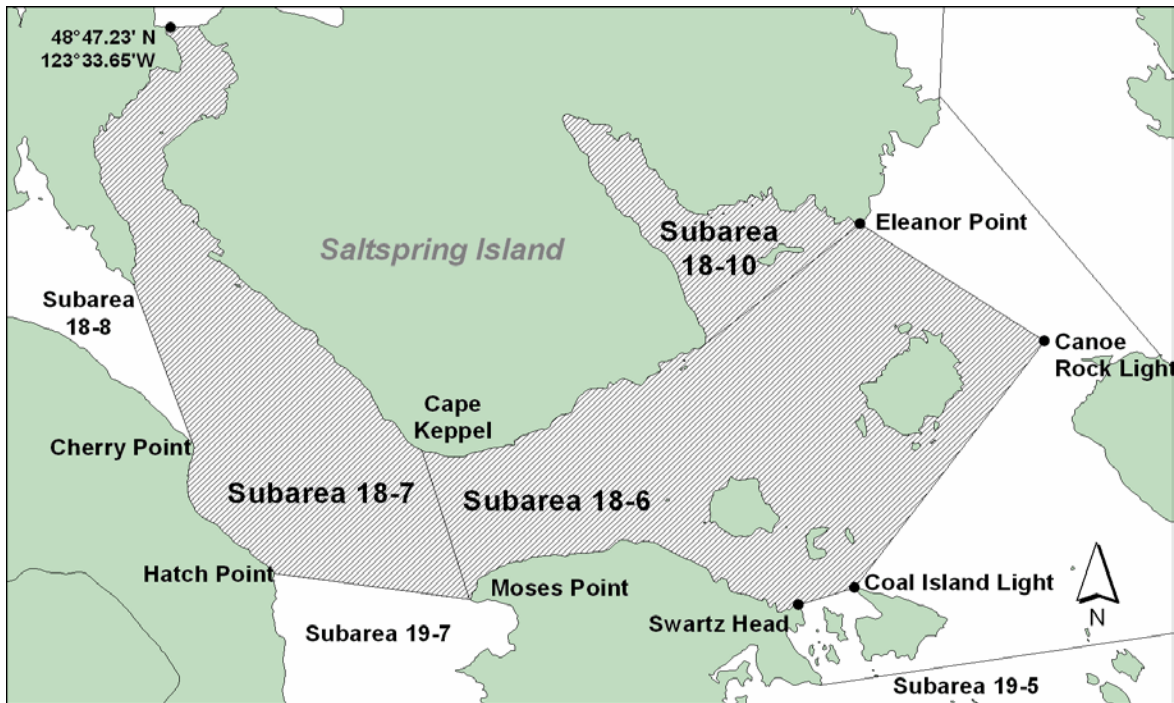


**2.4. Subareas 12-11 and 12-12**



**2.5. Malaspina Strait**

Subareas 15-1 and 16-5 to 16-18 inclusive.

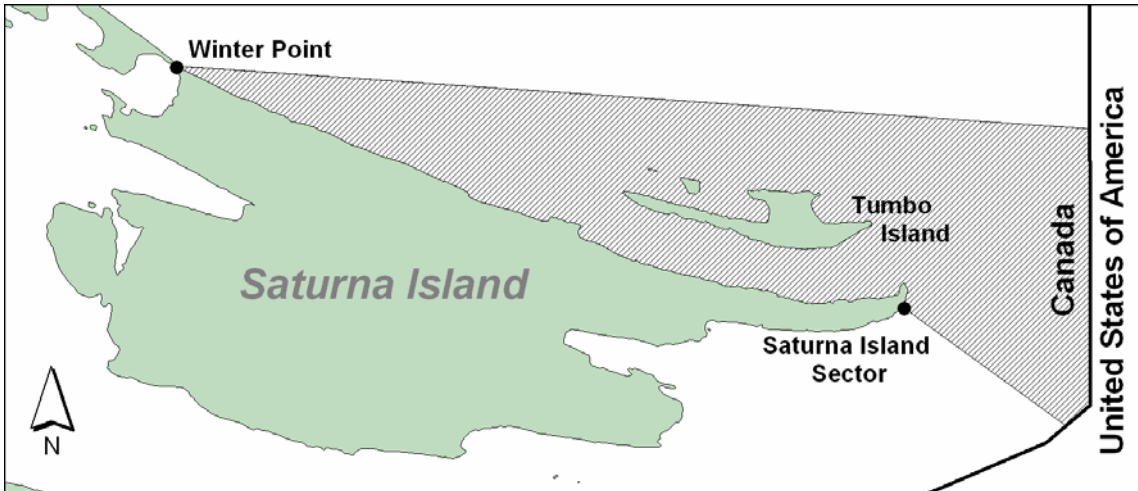


**2.6. Bold Bluff Point**

That portion of Subarea 18-7 that is south of a line that:  
 begins at 48°47.230'N 123°33.650'W  
 then runs to 48°47.263'N 123°33.243'W

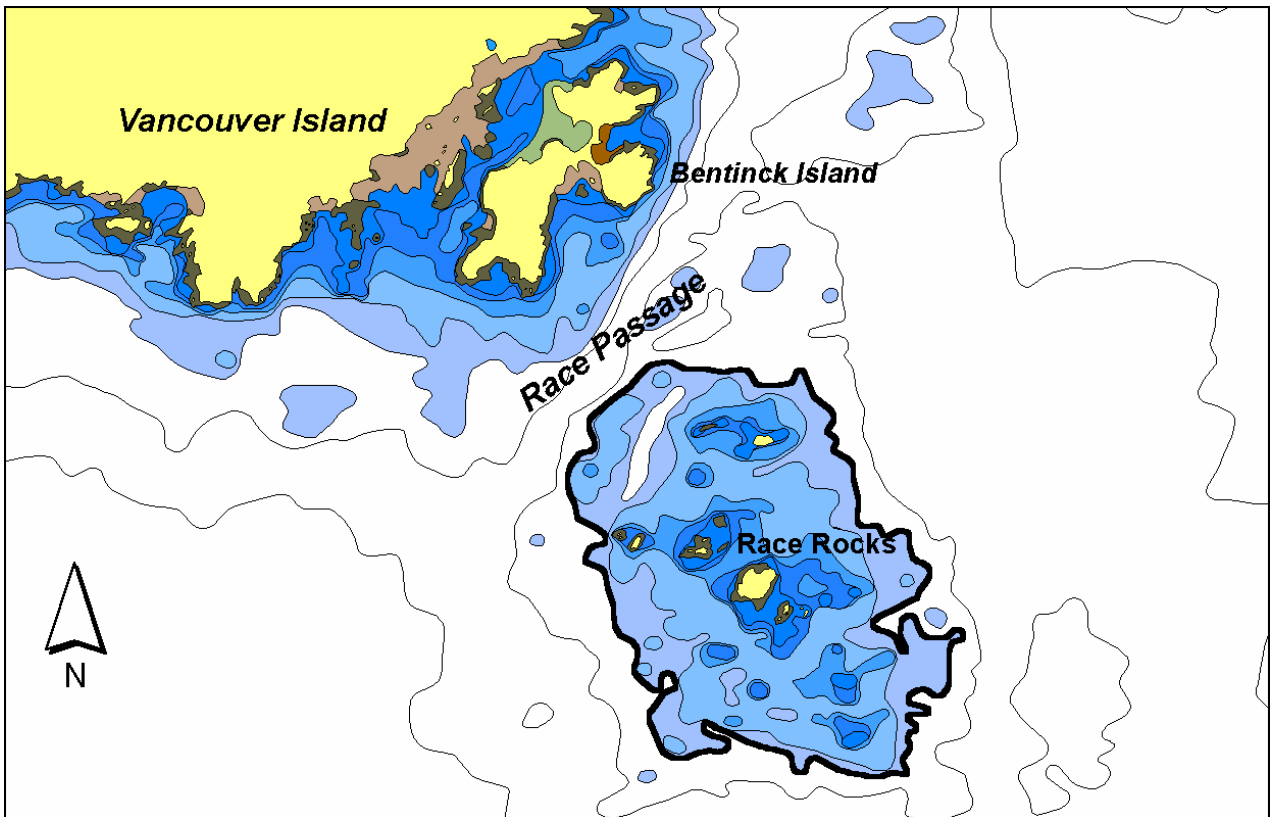
**2.7. Satellite Channel/Fulford Harbour**

Subarea 18-10 and that portion of Subarea 18-6 that is east of a line:  
 that begins at 48°45.212'N 123°23.198'W [Eleanor Point]  
 then to 48°44.012'N 123°20.403'W [Canoe Rock Light]  
 then to 48°41.472'N 123°23.287'W [Coal Island Light on Fir Cone Point]  
 then to 48°41.300'N 123°24.127'W [Swartz Head]



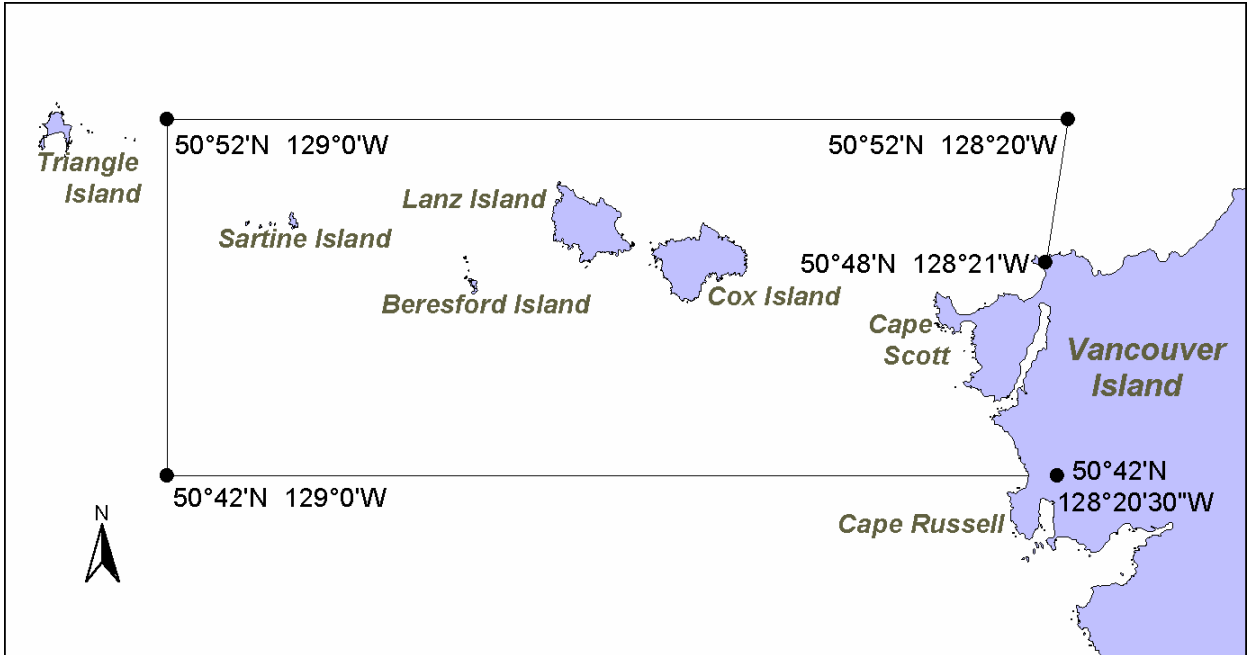
**2.8. Saturna and Tumbo Islands**

Subarea 18-11, Saturna and Tumbo Islands



**2.9. Race Rocks**

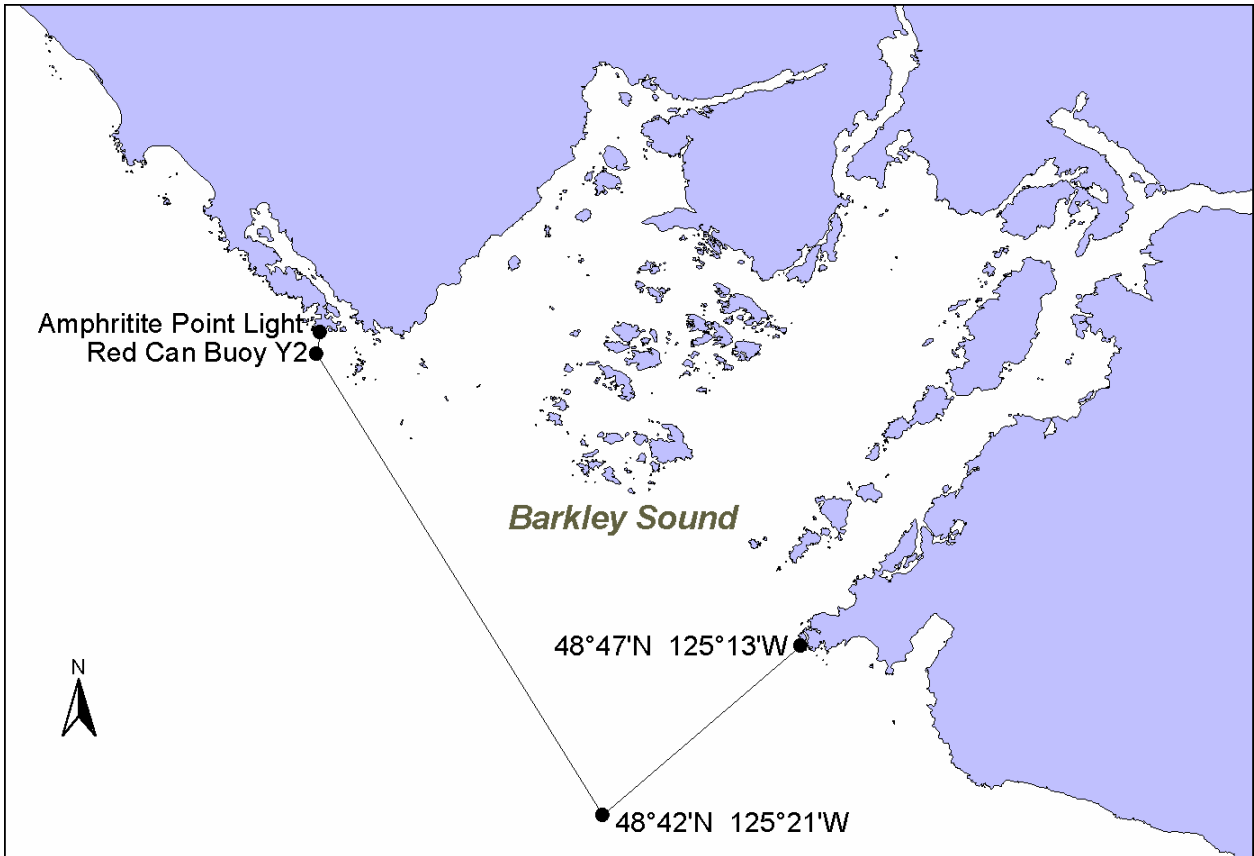
Those portions of Subareas 19-3 and 20-5 inside the 40-meter contour line surrounding Great Race Rock and Rosedale Rock as shown on Chart No. 3461 and Chart No. 3606 as published by the Canadian Hydrographic Service of the Department.



**2.10. Scott Islands**

Those portions of Area 111 and Subareas 12-14, 27-1, 127-3 and 127-4 that are inside a line that:

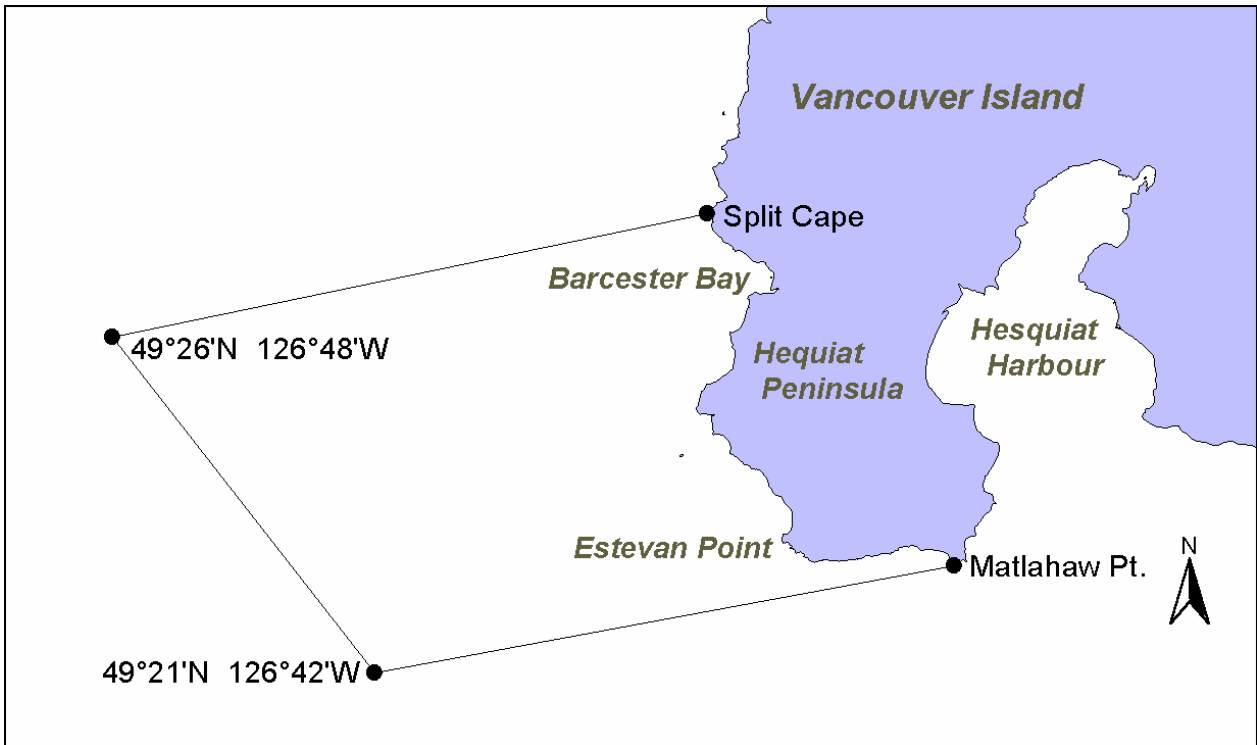
begins at	50°48.0' N	128°21.0' W
then to	50°52.0' N	128°20.0' W
then true west to	50°52.0' N	129°00.0' W
then true south to	50°42.0' N	129°00.0' W
then true east to	50°42.0' N	128°20.5' W



## 2.11. Barkley Sound

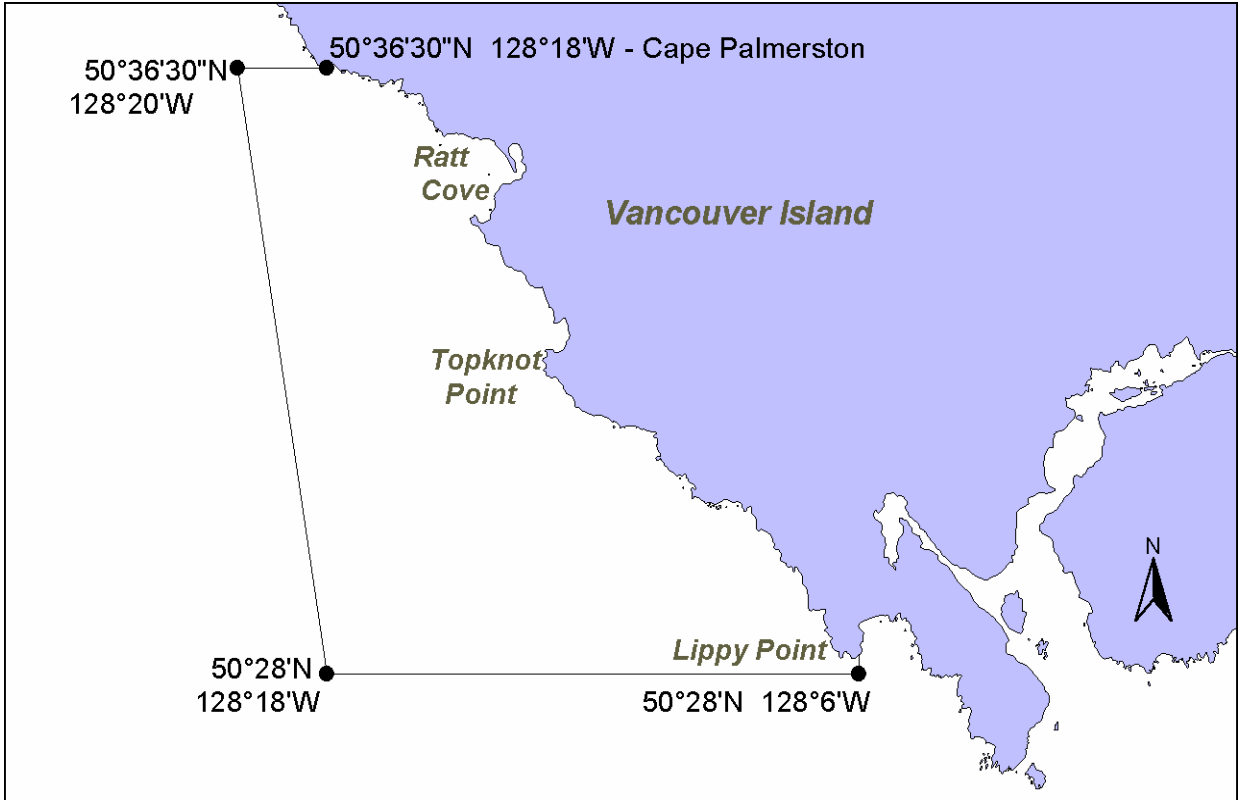
Area 23 and those portions of Subareas 123-1 and 123-3 that are inside a line that:

begins at	48°47.0' N	125°13.0' W	
then to	48°42.0' N	125°21.0' W	
then to	48°54.71' N	125°32.63' W	[Carolina Channel light and whistle buoy Y42]
then to	48°55.27' N	125°32.47' W	[Amphitrite Point Light]



## 2.12. Hesquiat Peninsula

Those portions of Subareas 124-4, 125-1, 125-2, and 125-5 inside a line:  
 that begins at Split Cape  
 then to 49°26.0' N 126°48.0' W  
 then to 49°21.0' N 126°42.0' W  
 then to 49°22.5' N 126°28.5' W  
 then follows the shoreline to the beginning point.



### 2.13. Topknot

Those portions of Subareas 27-2, 127-1 and 127-3 that are inside a line that:

begins at	50°36.5' N	128°18.0' W
then true west to	50°36.5' N	128°20.0' W
then to	50°28.0' N	128°18.0' W
then true east to	50°28.0' N	128°06.0' W

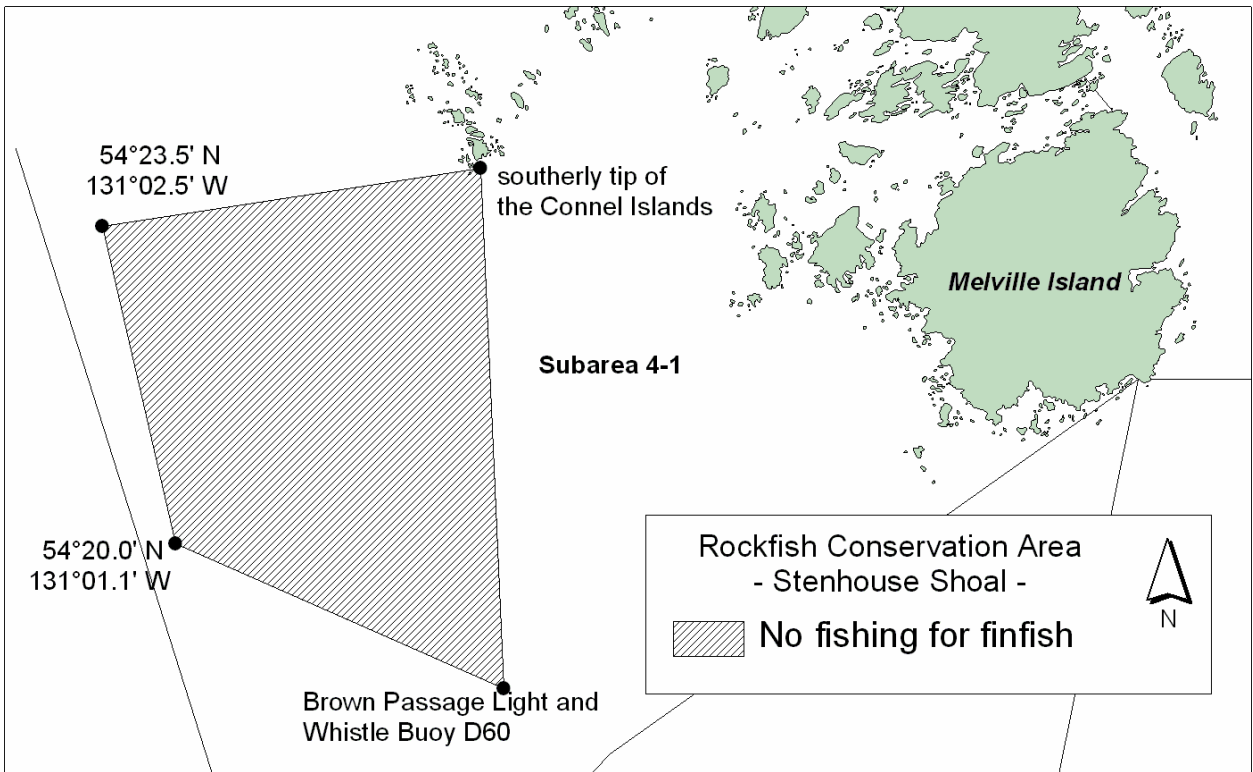
### 3. INTERIM AREAS OF RESTRICTED FISHING

Interim areas of restricted fishing established for the 2002/2003 fishing season will remain in effect for the 2003/2004 season. Through consultation processes, additional areas will be considered for possible implementation in 2004.

For the 2003/2004 season, the following fishing activities will be permitted in the Interim Areas of Restricted Fishing:

<b>RECREATIONAL</b>	<b>COMMERCIAL</b>
Invertebrates by hand picking, dive or trap	Invertebrates by hand picking, dive or trap Scallops – Trawl Euphausiid – Mid-water trawl Groundfish – Mid-water trawl Opal Squid – Seine Herring – Gillnet, seine and spawn-on-kelp Sardine – Gillnet, seine and trap Smelt – Gillnet

First Nations are encouraged to employ fishing methods or fish in locations to avoid the harvest of inshore rockfish. Further consultations with First Nations will occur prior to the implementation of protection strategies that may impact food, social and ceremonial fishing opportunities.



### 3.1. Stenhouse Shoal

That portion of Subarea 4-1 that lies inside a line that:

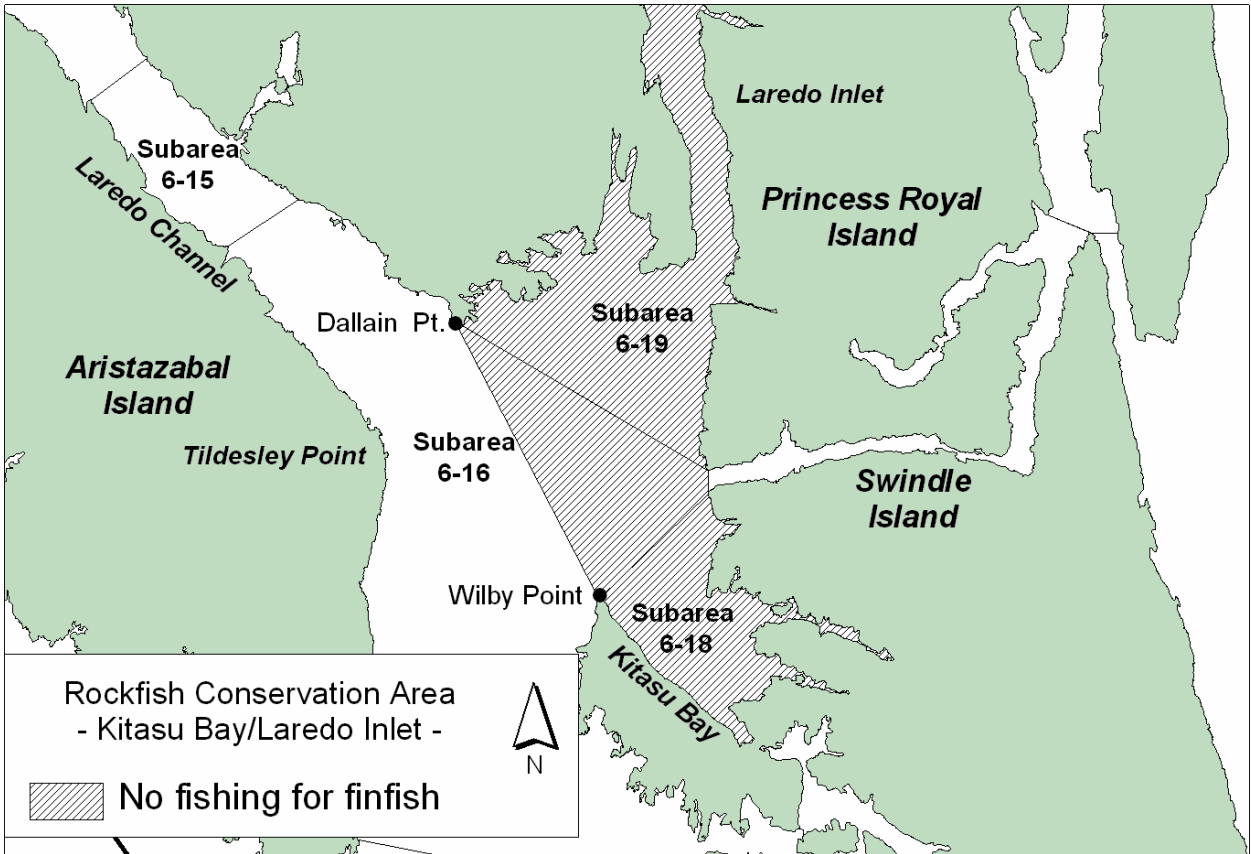
begins at 54°23.5' N 131°02.5' W

then to 54°24.15' N 130°55.3' W [Southerly tip of the Connel Islands]

then to 54°18.397' N 130°54.862' W [Brown Passage Light and Whistle Buoy D60]

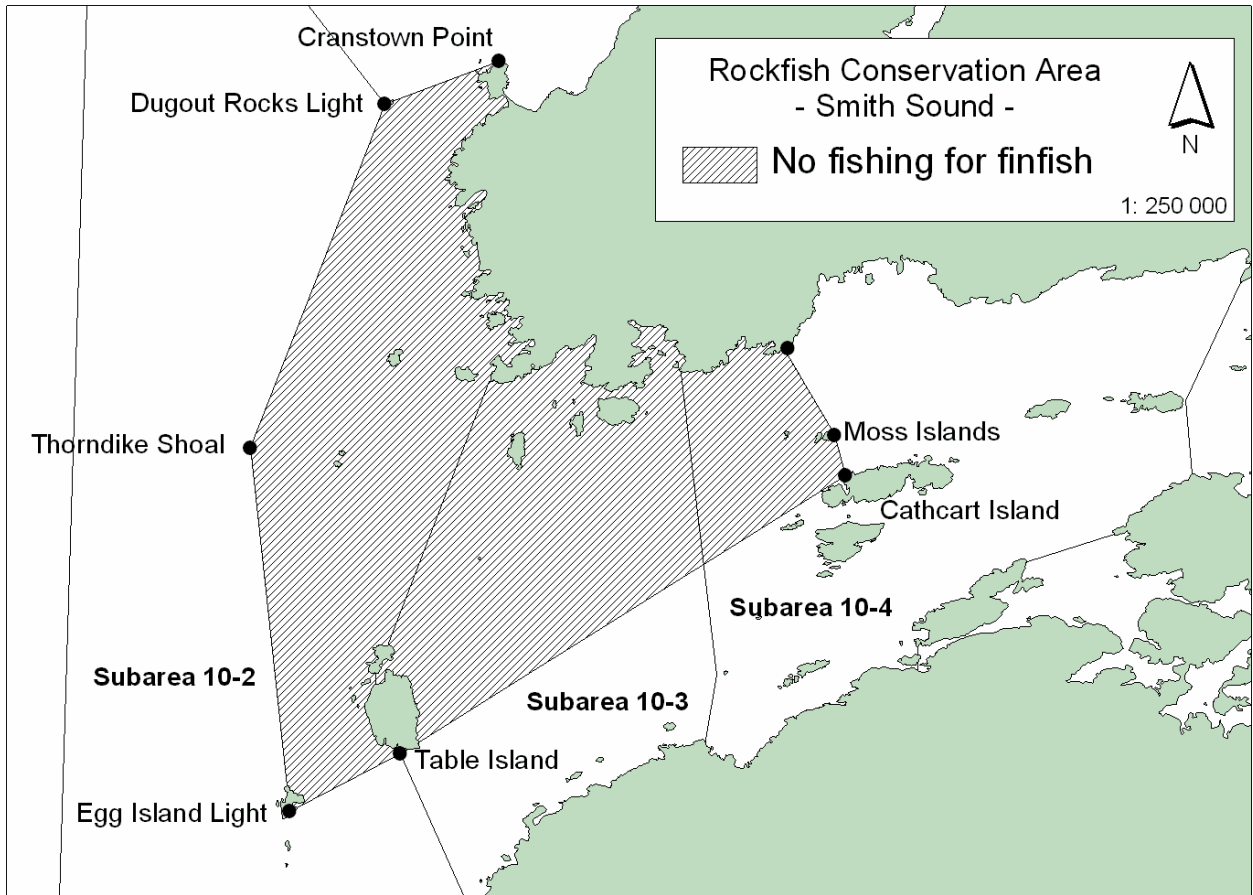
then to 54°20.0' N 131°01.1' W

then to the beginning point.



### 3.2. Kitasu Bay/Laredo Inlet

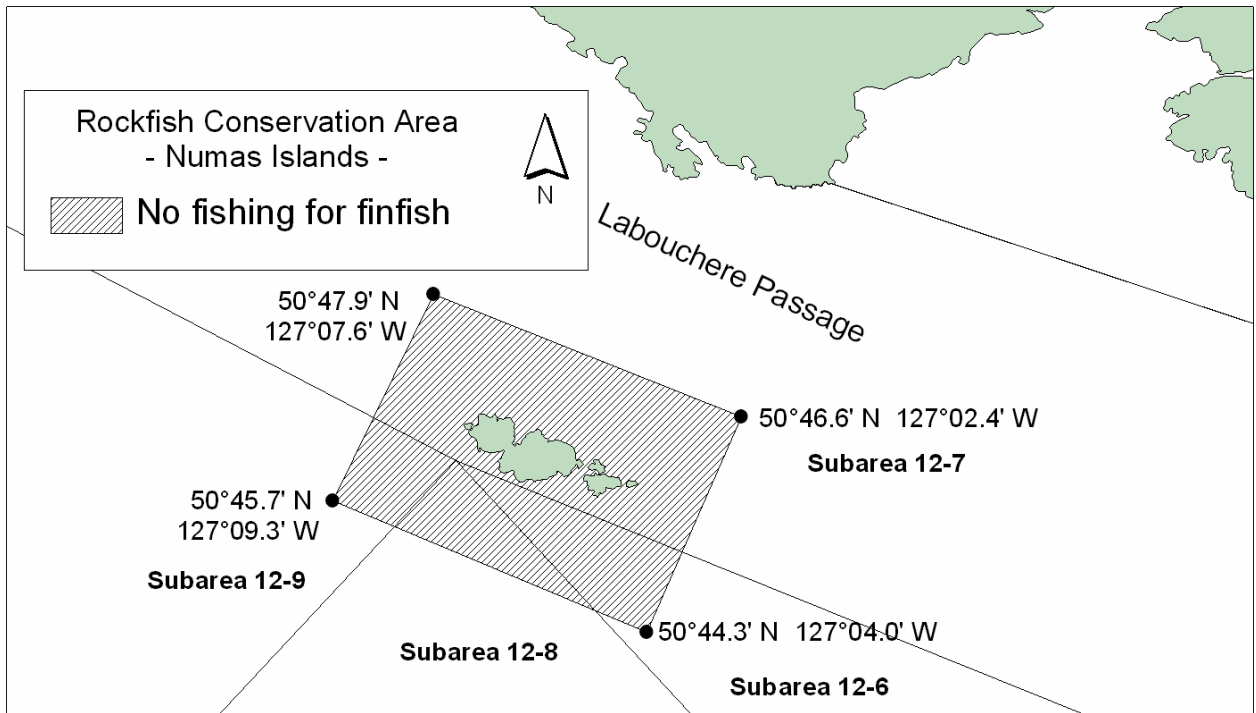
Subareas 6-18, 6-19 and that portion of Subarea 6-16 that is easterly of a straight line from Dallain Point on Princess Royal Island to Wilby Point on Swindle Island.



### 3.3. Smith Sound

Those portions of Subareas 10-2 to 10-4 that lie shoreward of a line that:

begins at	51°22.45' N	127°46.656' W	[Cranstown Point]
then to	51°22.015' N	127°48.488' W	[Dugout Rocks Light]
then to	51°18.56' N	127°50.66' W	[Thorndike Shoal]
then to	51°14.895' N	127°50.025' W	[Egg Island Light]
then to	51°15.477' N	127°48.238' W	[Table Island]
then to	51°18.283' N	127°41.067' W	[Cathcart Island]
then to	51°18.683' N	127°41.25' W	[Moss Islands]
then to	51°19.55' N	127°42.004' W	[Mainland]

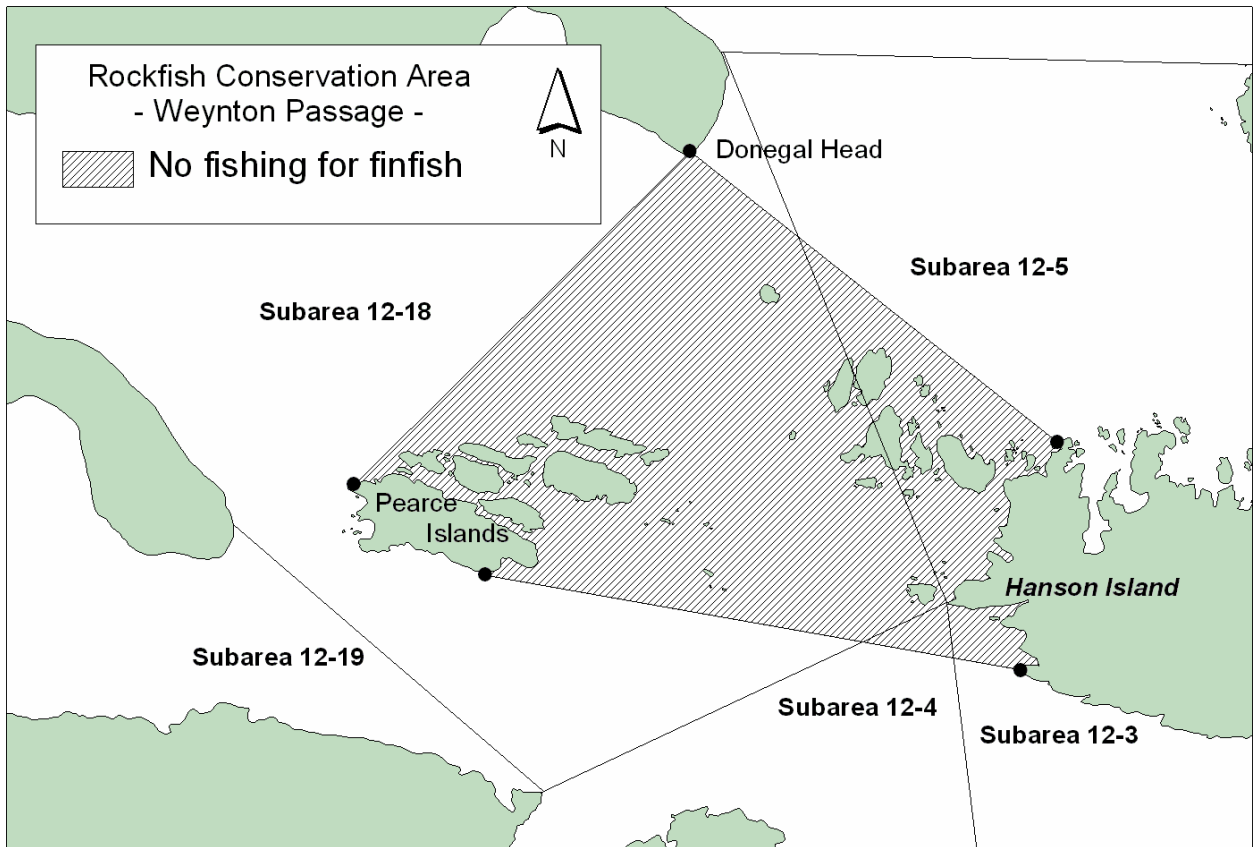


### 3.4. Numas Islands

In Area 12, those waters in the vicinity of the Numas Islands that lie inside a line that:

begins at	50°47.9' N	127°07.6' W
then to	50°46.6' N	127°02.4' W
then to	50°44.3' N	127°04.0' W
then to	50°45.7' N	127°09.3' W

then to the beginning point.

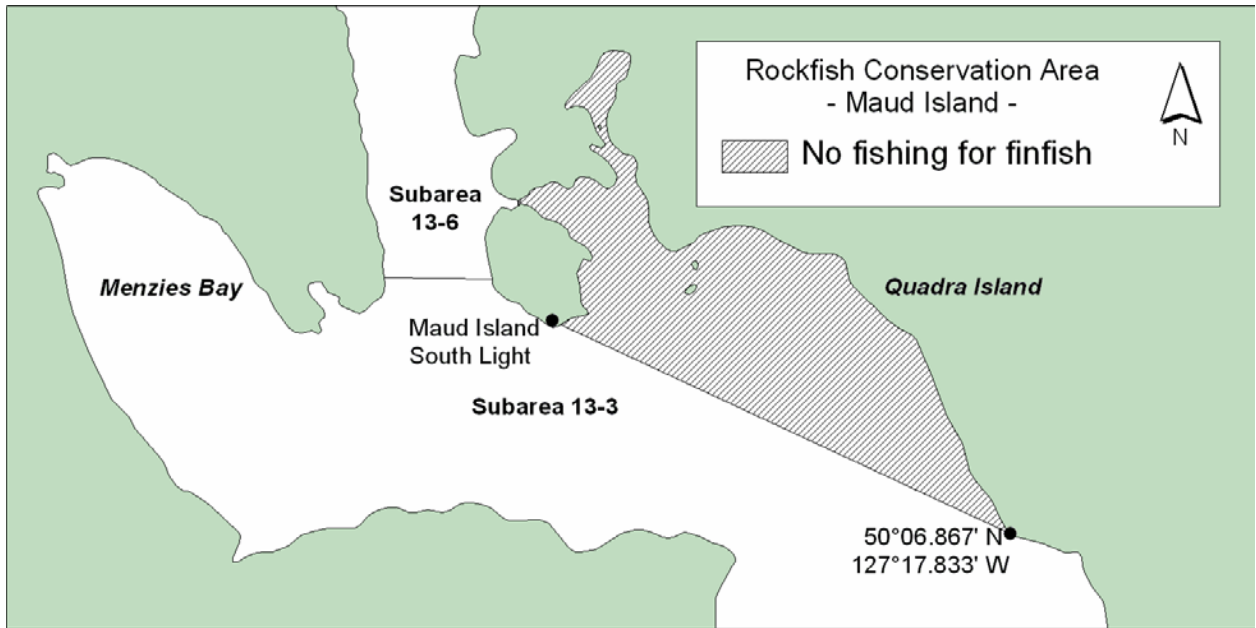


### 3.5. Weynton Passage

In Area 12, those waters of Weynton Passage that lie within a line that:

begins at	50°37.122'N	126°49.8' W	[Donegal Head]
then to	50°35.3' N	126°46.172'W	[Hanson Island]
then following the westerly shore of Hanson Island to	50°33.867'N	126°46.533'W	[Hanson Island]
then to	50°34.467'N	126°51.833'W	[Pearse Islands]
Then following the northerly shore of Pearse Island to	50°35.033'N	126°53.133'W	[Pearse Islands]

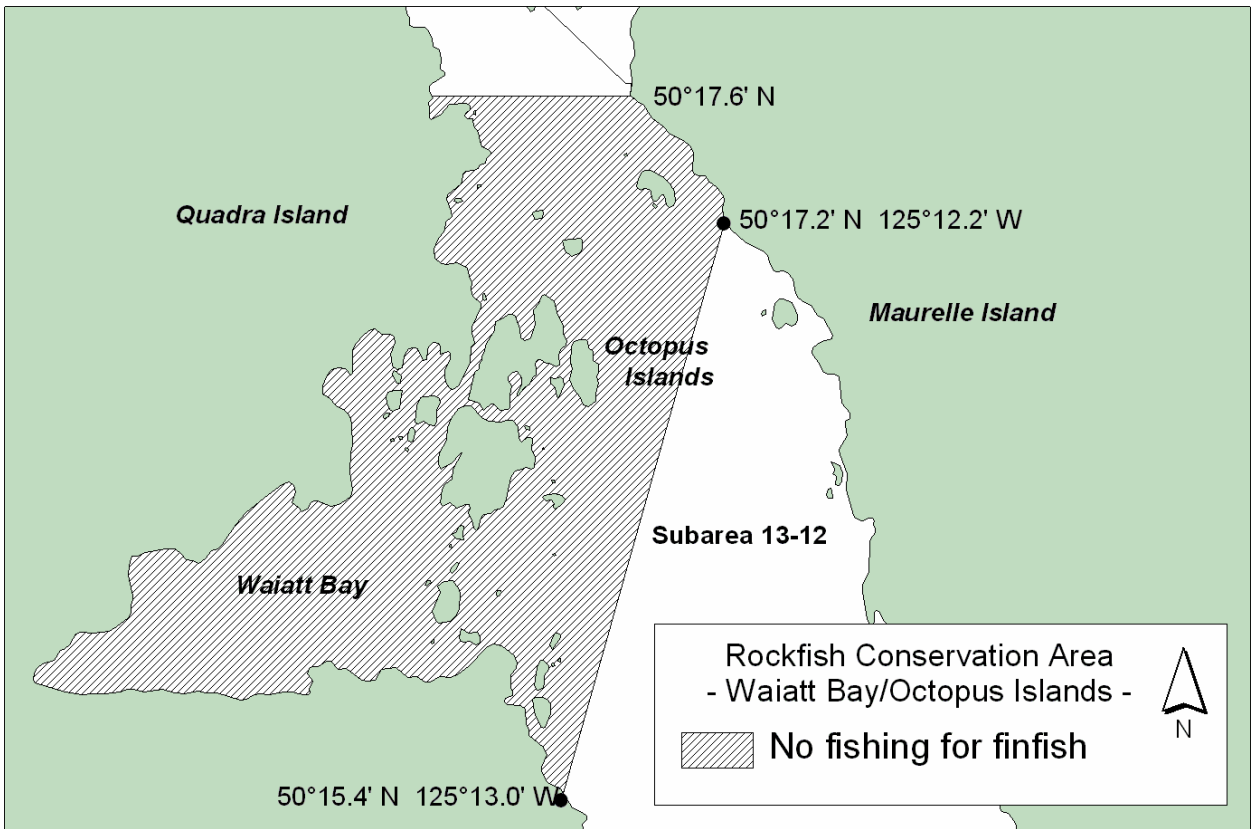
then to the beginning point.



**3.6. Maud Island**

Those waters of Subarea 13-3 that lie northerly of a line:

from	50°07.677'N	125°20.540'W	[Maud Island South Light]
to	50°06.867'N	125°17.833'W	[Quadra Island]

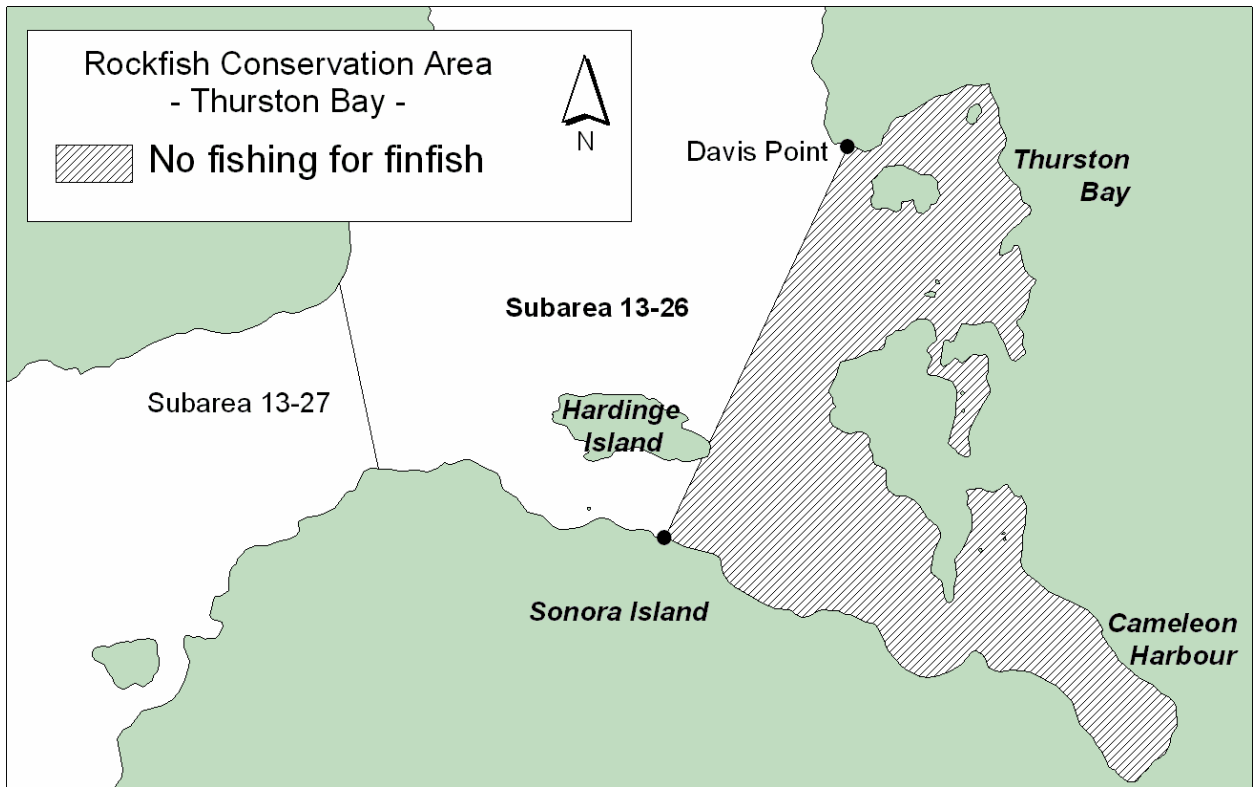


**3.7. Waiatt Bay/Octopus Islands**

Those waters of Subarea 13-12 that lie southerly of the parallel passing through 50°17.6' north latitude and northwesterly of a line:

from	50°17.2' N	125°12.2' W	[Maurelle Island]
to	50°15.4' N	125°13.0' W	[Quadra Island]

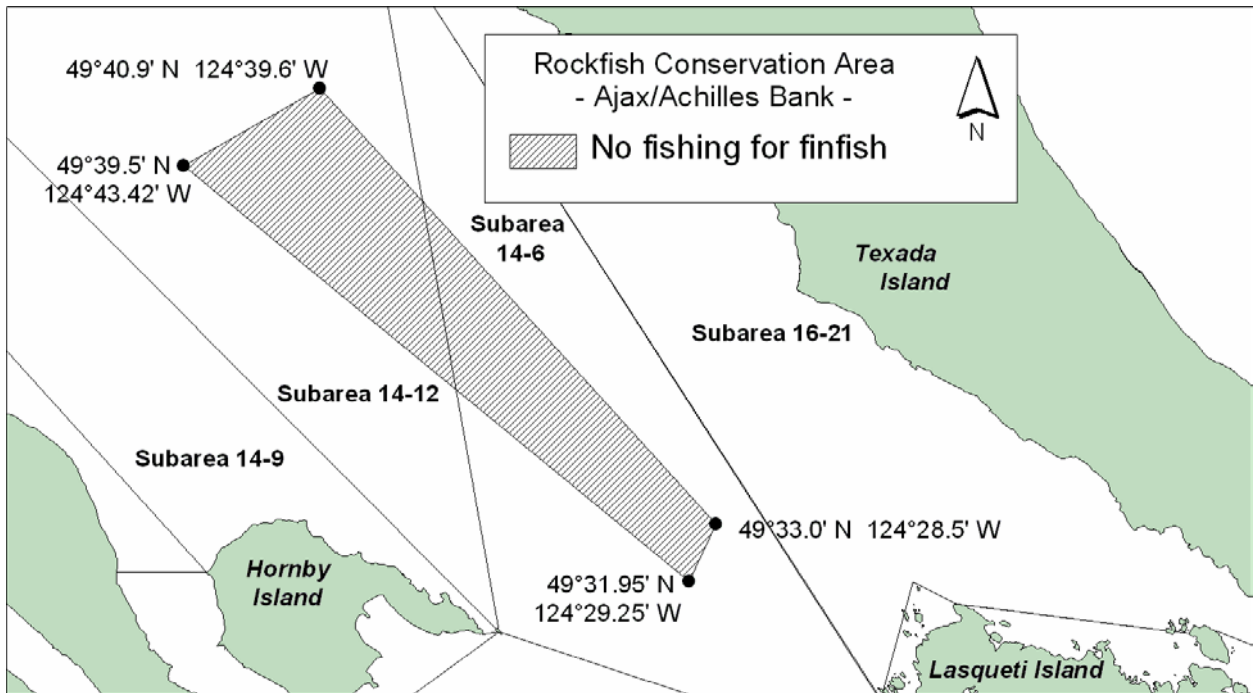
This includes all of Waiatt Bay.



### 3.8. Thurston Bay

In Subarea 13-26, the waters of Thurston Bay and Cameleon Harbour that lie westerly of a line:

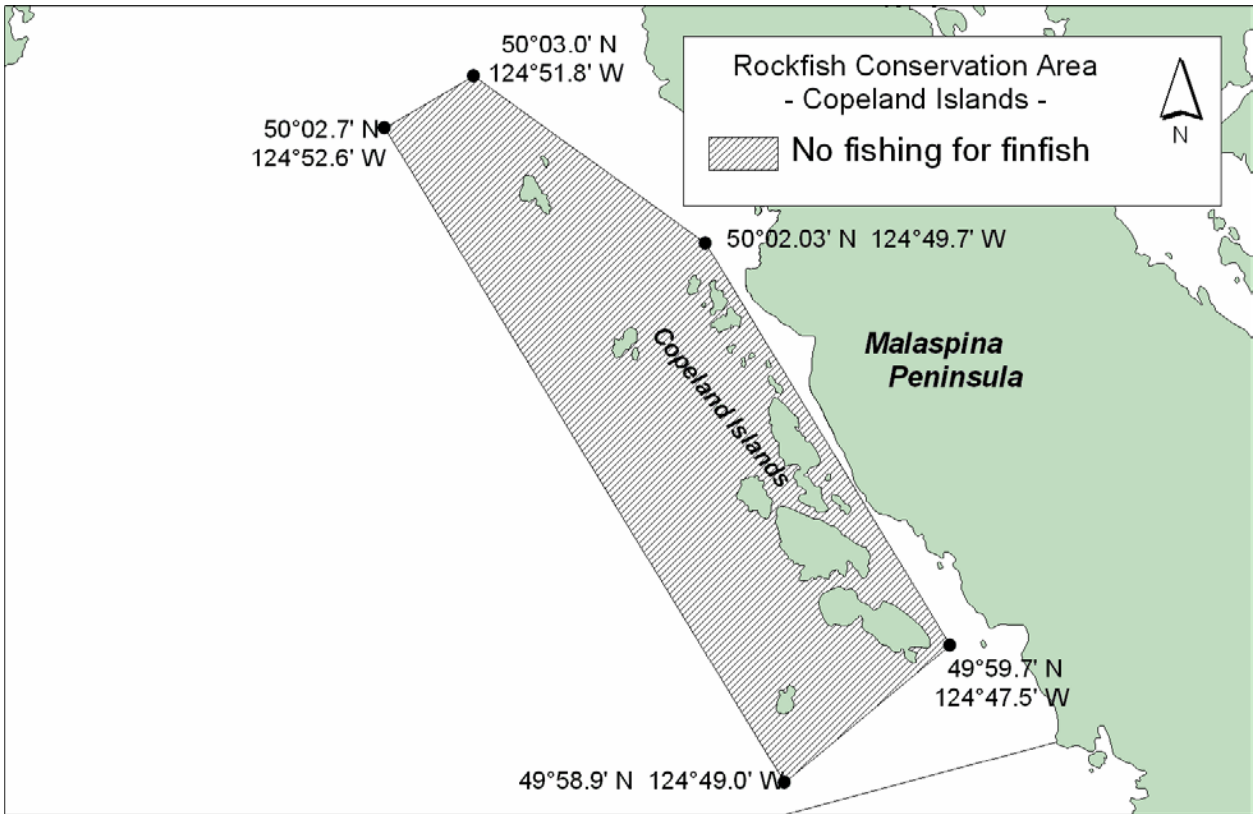
from	50°22.524'N	125°19.872'W	[Davis Point]
to	50°20.988'N	125°21.0' W	[Sonora Island]



### 3.9. Ajax/Achilles Bank

Those waters of Subarea 14-6 and 14-12 that lie inside a line that:

- begins at                    49°39.5' N            124°43.42' W
- then to                     49°40.9' N            124°39.6' W
- then to                     49°33.0' N            124°28.5' W
- then to                     49°31.95' N          124°29.25' W
- then to the beginning point.

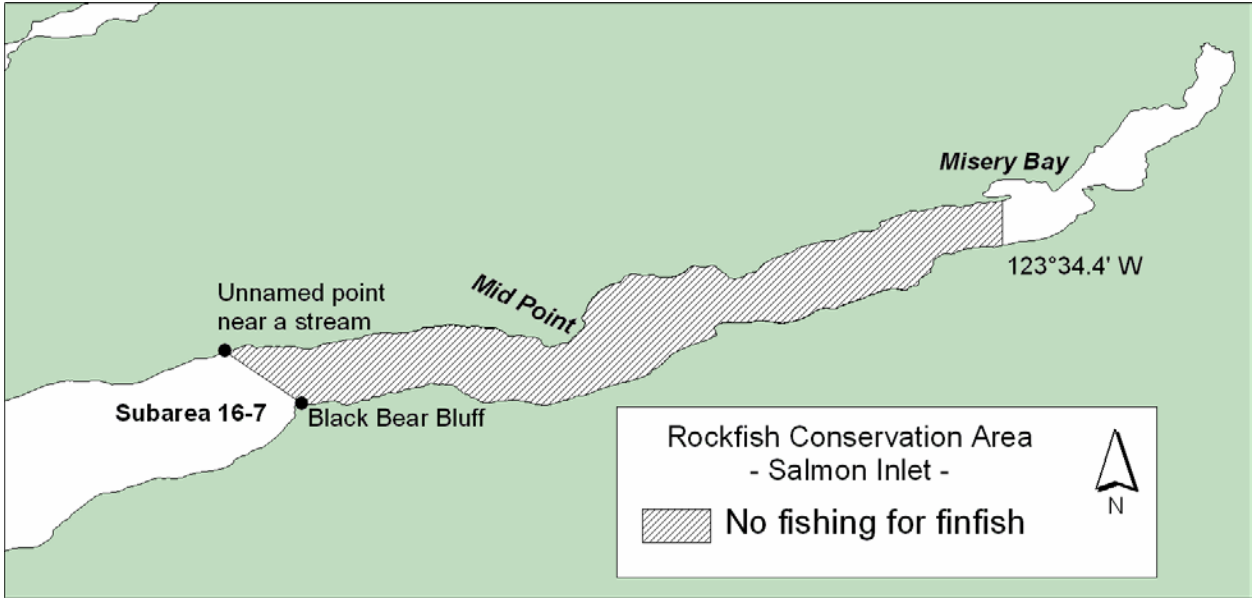


### 3.10. Copeland Islands

In Subarea 15-3 those waters in the vicinity of the Copeland Islands that lie inside a line that:

begins at	50°02.7' N	124°52.6' W
then to	50°03.0' N	124°51.8' W
then to	50°02.03' N	124°49.7' W
then to	49°59.7' N	124°47.5' W
then to	49°58.9' N	124°49.0' W

then to the beginning point. This includes all the waters of the Copelands Island Marine Park shown on Chart No. 3538, published by the Canadian Hydrographic Service of the Department.



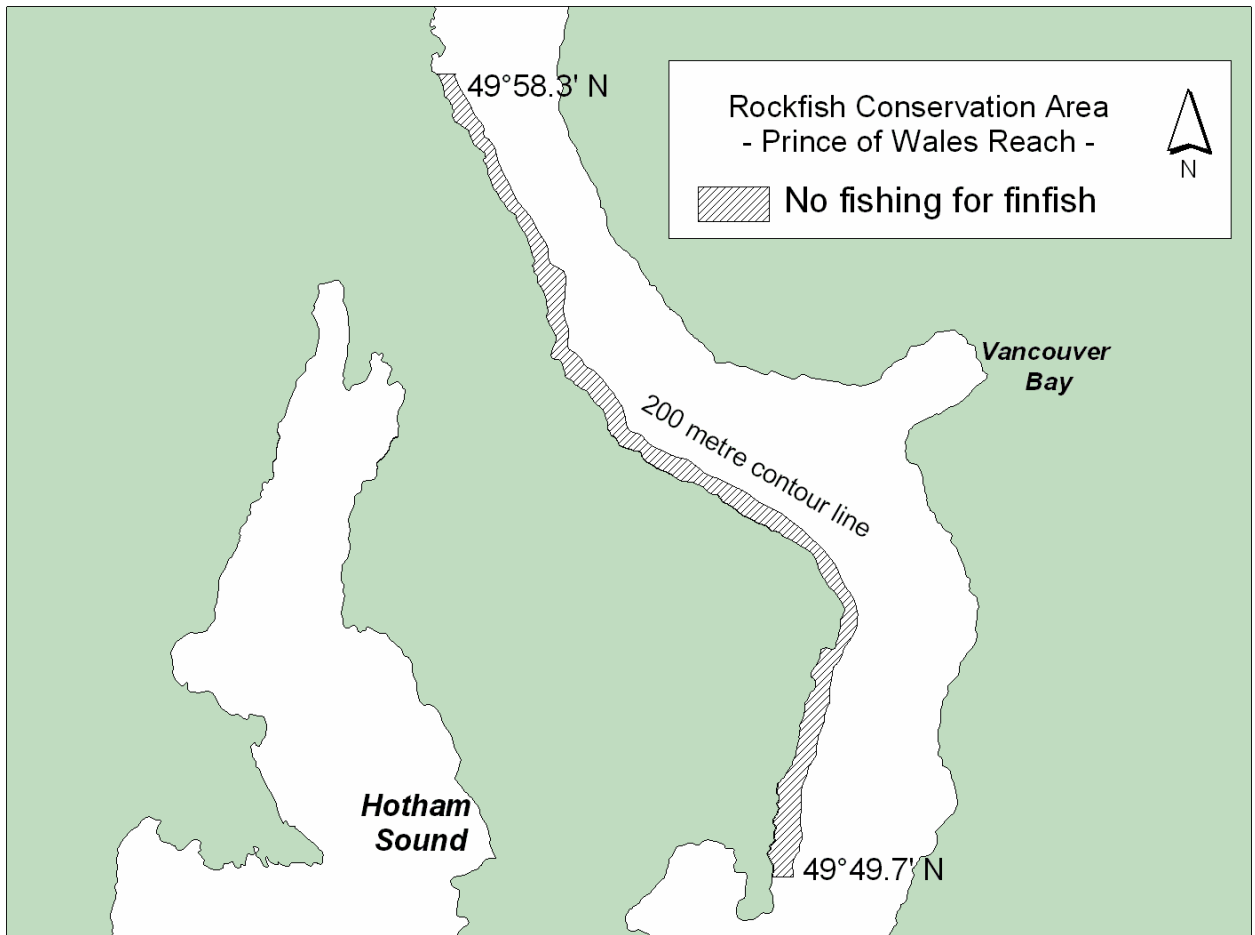
### 3.11. Salmon Inlet

That portion of Subarea 16-7 that lies easterly of a line that:

begins at  $49^{\circ}38.857'N$   $123^{\circ}44.040'W$

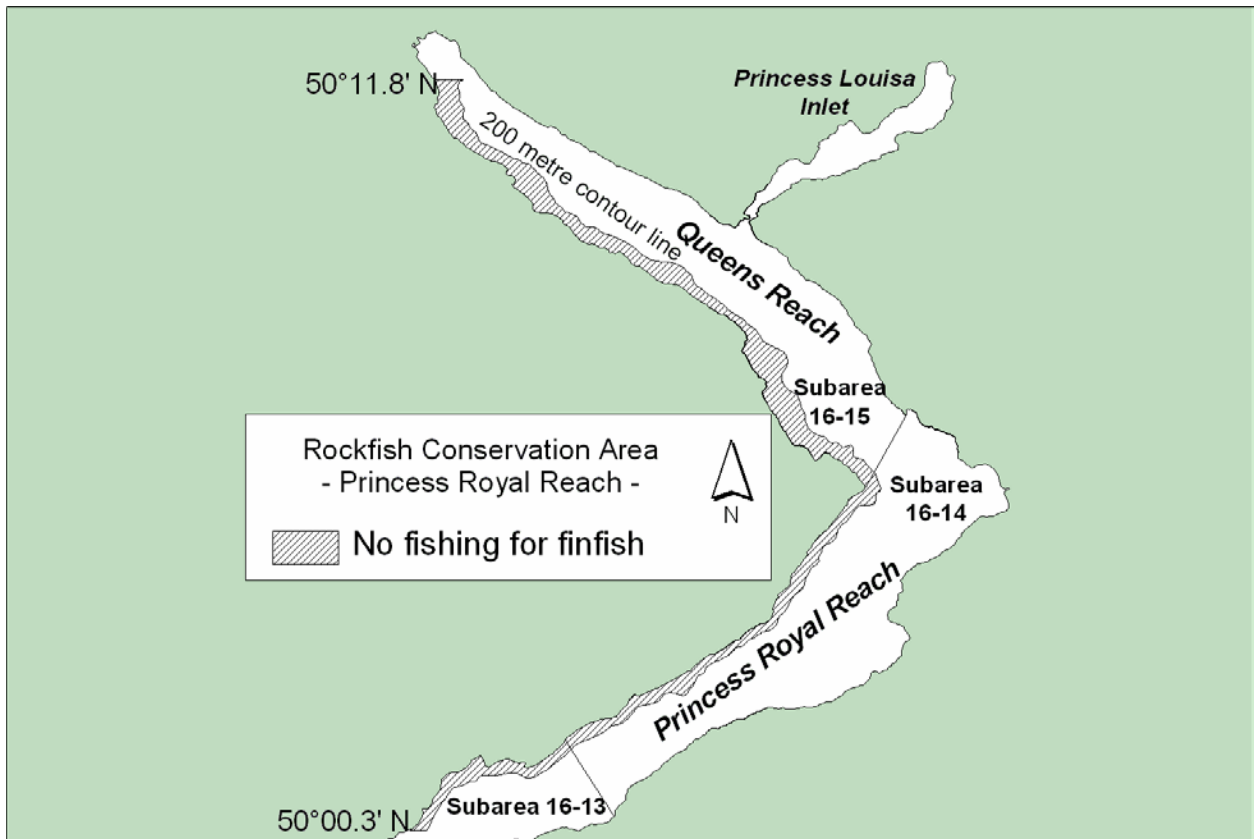
then to  $49^{\circ}38.2' N$   $123^{\circ}43.085'W$  [Black Bear Bluff]

and westerly of the meridian passing through  $123^{\circ}34.4'$  west longitude.



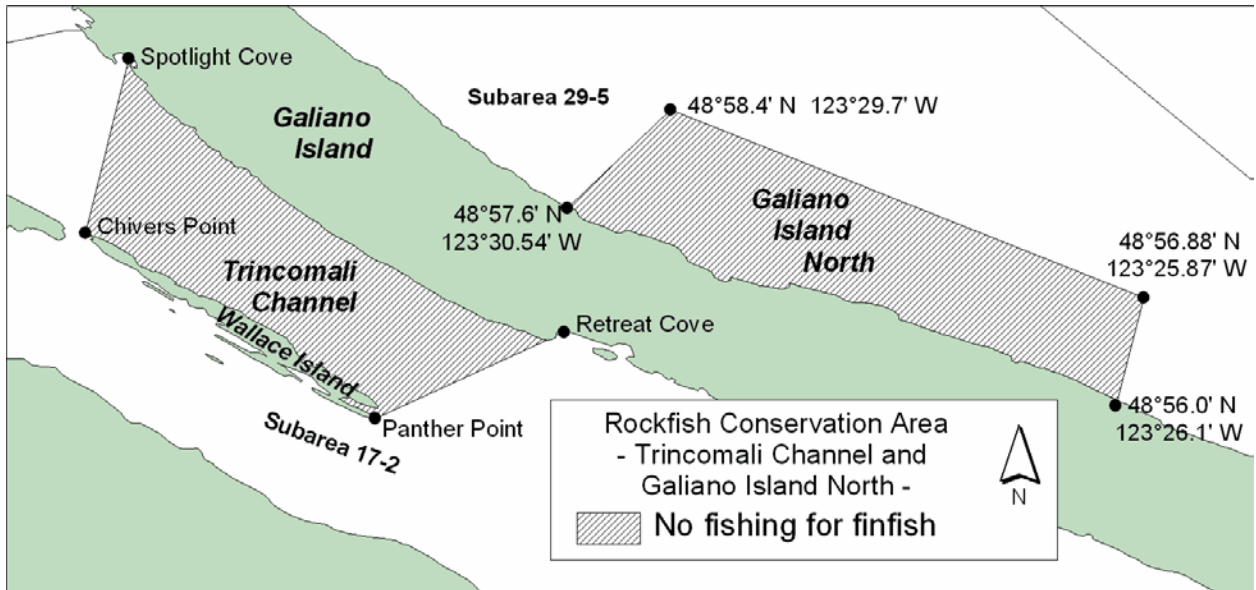
### 3.12. Prince of Wales Reach

The waters of Subarea 16-13 that lie southerly of the parallel passing through 49°58.3' north latitude near McMurray Bay, northerly of the parallel passing through 49°49.7' north latitude near Dacres Point and westerly of the 200 metre contour line that follows the westerly shoreline of Prince of Wales Reach as shown on Chart No. 3514, published by the Canadian Hydrographic Service of the Department.



### 3.13. Princess Royal Reach

The waters of Subareas 16-13, 16-14 and 16-15 that lie southerly of the parallel passing through 50°11.8' north latitude near the mouth of Lausmann Creek, northerly of the parallel passing through 50°00.3' north latitude and westerly of the 200 metre contour line that follows the westerly shoreline of Queens Reach and Princess Royal Reach as shown on Chart No. 3514, published by the Canadian Hydrographic Service of the Department.



### 3.14. Trincomali Channel

That portion of Subarea 17-2 that lies southeasterly of a line:

from	48°58.810'N	123°34.1' W	[Spotlight Cove, Galiano Island]
to	48°57.398'N	123°34.453'W	[Chivers Point]

And northwesterly of a line

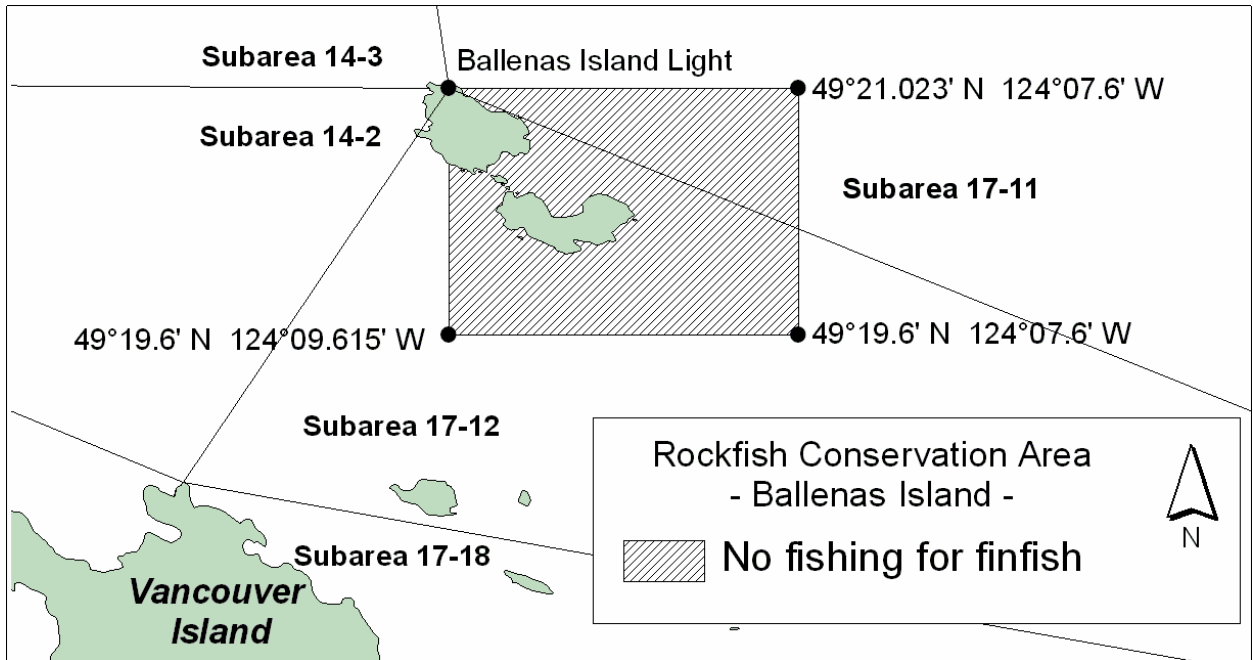
from	48°56.600'N	123°30.570'W	[Retreat Cove, Galiano Island]
to	48°55.895'N	123°32.102'W	[Panther Point]

### 3.15. Galiano Island North

That portion of Subarea 29-5 that lies inside a line that:

begins at	48°57.6' N	123°30.54' W	[Shore of Galiano Island]
then to	48°58.4' N	123°29.7' W	
then to	48°56.88' N	123°25.87' W	
then to	48°56.0' N	123°26.10' W	[Shore of Galiano Island]

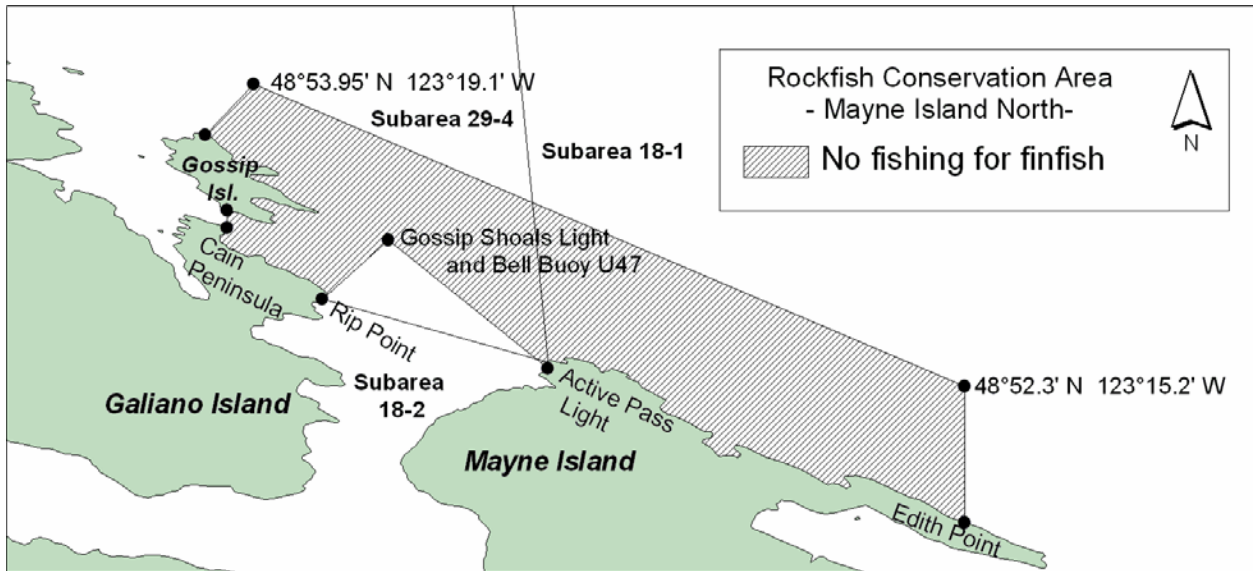
then follows the Galiano Island shoreline in a northwesterly direction to the beginning point.



### 3.16. Ballenas Island

The waters of Subareas 17-11 and 17-12 that lie inside a line that:

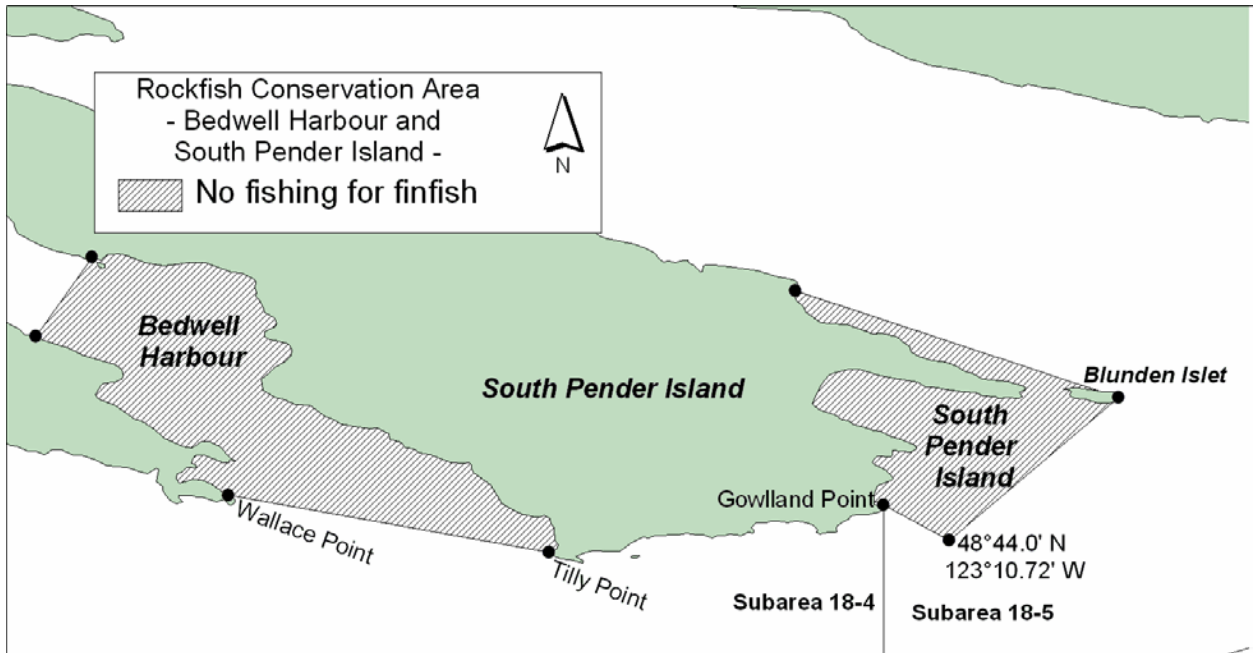
begins at	49°21.023'N	124°09.615'W	[Ballenas Island Light]
then true east to	49°21.023'N	124°07.6' W	
then true south to	49°19.6' N	124°07.6' W	
then true west to	49°19.6' N	124°09.615'W	
then true north to the beginning point.			



### 3.17. Mayne Island North

Those portions of Subareas 18-1 and 29-4 that lie inside a line that:

- begins at 48°53.163' N 123°19.25' W [Cain Peninsula]
- then true north to 48°53.259' N 123°19.25' W [Gossip Island]
- then following the easterly shoreline of Gossip Island to 48°53.671' N 123°19.367' W [Gossip Island]
- then to 48°53.95' N 123°19.1' W
- then to 48°52.3' N 123°15.2' W
- then true south to 48°51.55' N 123°15.2' W [Mayne Island, near Edith Point]
- then northwesterly following the Mayne Island shoreline to 48°52.398' N 123°17.487' W [Active Pass Light]
- then to 48°53.099' N 123°18.362' W [Gossip Shoals Light and Bell Buoy U47]
- then to 48°52.778' N 123°18.724' W [Rip Point]
- then northwesterly following the shoreline of Galiano Island to the beginning point.



### 3.18. Bedwell Harbour

In Subarea 18-4 that portion of Bedwell Harbour that lies northerly of a line:

from	48°44.2' N	123°13.9' W	[Wallace Point]
to	48°43.95' N	123°12.483' W	[Tilly Point]

and southeasterly of a line

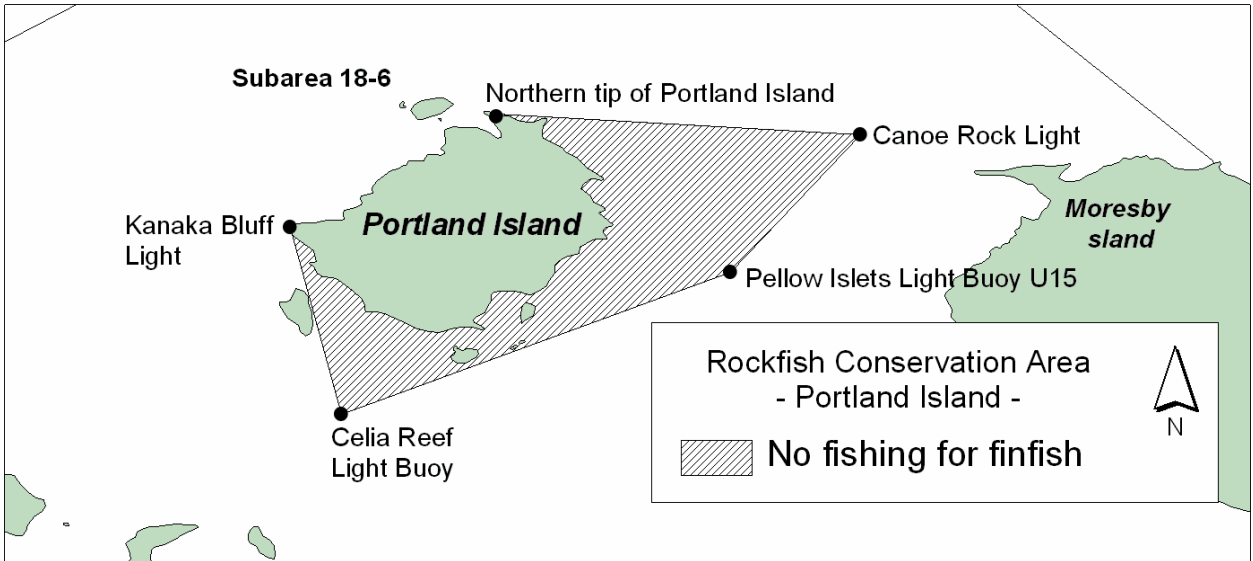
from	48°45.25' N	123°14.5' W	[South Pender Island]
to	48°44.9' N	123°14.75' W	[North Pender Island]

### 3.19. South Pender Island

That portion of Subarea 18-5 that lies inside a line that:

begins at	48°45.1' N	123°11.4' W	[South Pender Island]
then to	48°44.633' N	123°09.973' W	[Eastern tip of Blunden Island]
then to	48°44.0' N	123°10.72' W	
then to	48°44.156' N	123°11.008' W	[Gowlland Point Light]

then northerly following the shoreline of South Pender Island to the beginning point.

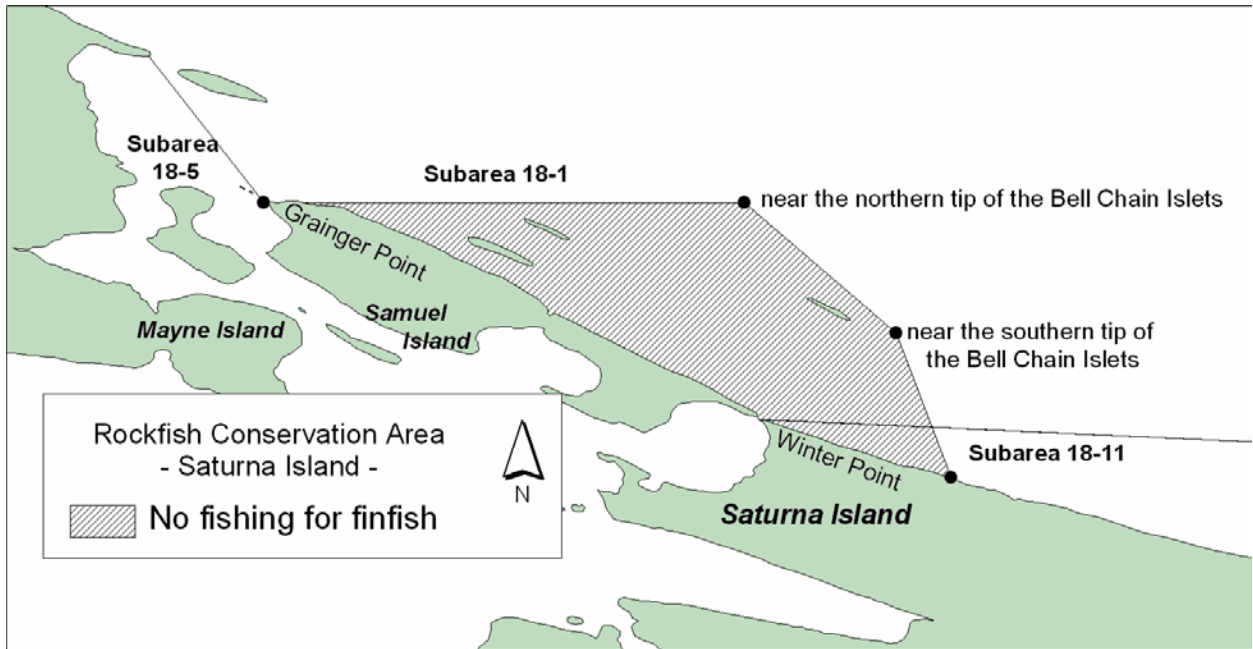


### 3.20. Portland Island

That portion of Subarea 18-6 that lies inside a line that:

begins at	48°44.1' N	123°22.2' W	[Northern tip of Portland Island]
then to	48°44.012'N	123°20.404'W	[Canoe Rock Light]
then to	48°43.339'N	123°21.045'W	[Pellow Islets Light Buoy U15]
then to	48°42.639'N	123°22.962'W	[Celia Reef Light Buoy U14]
then to	48°43.559'N	123°23.215'W	[Kanaka Bluff Light]

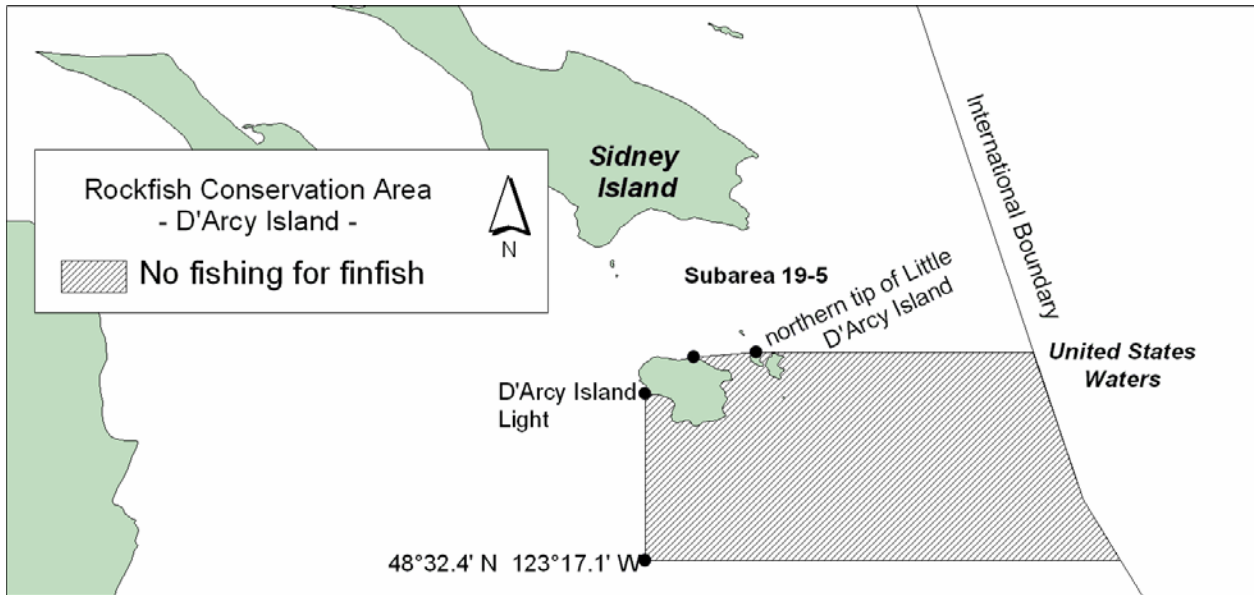
then following the southwesterly shoreline of Portland Island to the beginning point.



### 3.21. Saturna Island

Those waters of Subareas 18-1 and 18-11 that lie southerly of a line that:

- |   |              |               |  |
|---|--------------|---------------|--|
| begins at   | 48°50.0' N   | 123°14.008' W | [Grainger Point]                                 |
| then true east to   | 48°50.0' N   | 123°11.42' W  | [near the northern tip of the Bell Chain Islets] |
| then to   | 48°49.3' N   | 123°10.6' W   | [near the southern tip of the Bell Chain Islets] |
| then to   | 48°48.52' N  | 123°10.3' W   | [Saturna Island]                                 |
| then following the northerly shoreline of Saturna Island to                     | 48°48.834' N | 123°11.342' W | [Winter Point]                                   |
| then to   | 48°48.862' N | 123°11.351' W | [Ralph Grey Point]                               |
| then following the northerly shoreline of Samuel Island to the beginning point. |              |               |  |



### 3.22. D'Arcy Island

That portion of Subarea 19-5 that lies inside a line that:

begins at                    48°34.253'N    123°16.671'W            [Northern tip of D'Arcy Island]

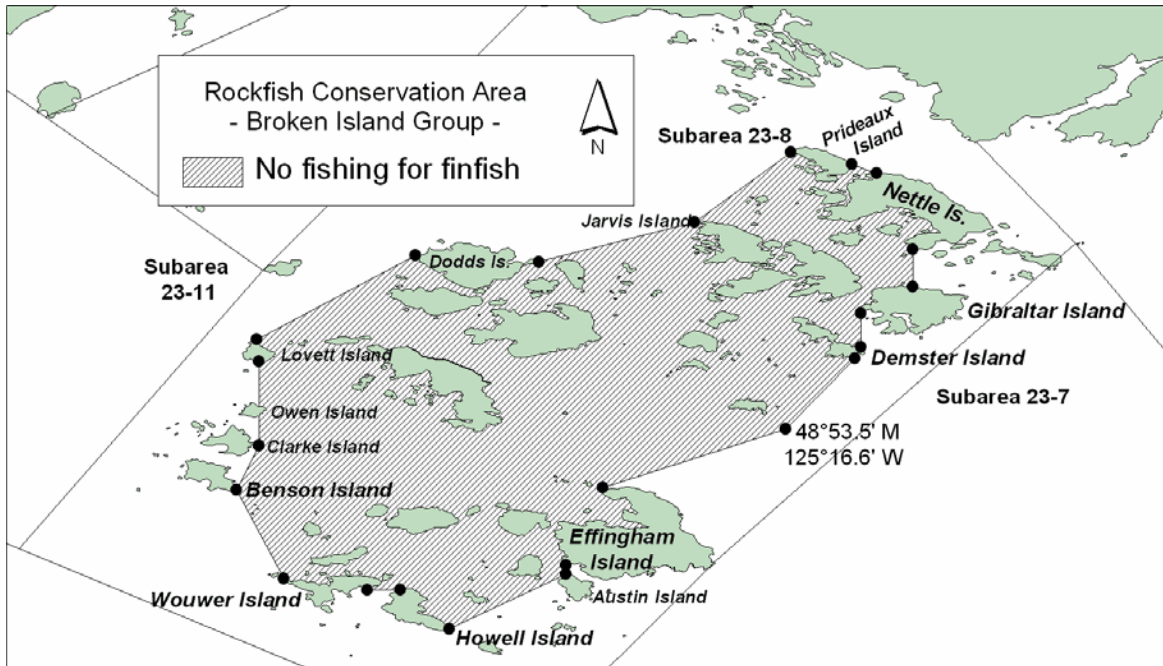
then to                      48°34.30'N     123°16.10' W            [Northern tip of Little D'Arcy Island]

then true east to the intersection with the International Boundary between Canada and the United States of America, then following the International Boundary until the intersection with the parallel passing through 48°32.4' north latitude,

then true west to    48°32.4' N     123°17.1' W

then true north to    48°33.924'N    123°17.1' W            [D'Arcy Island Light]

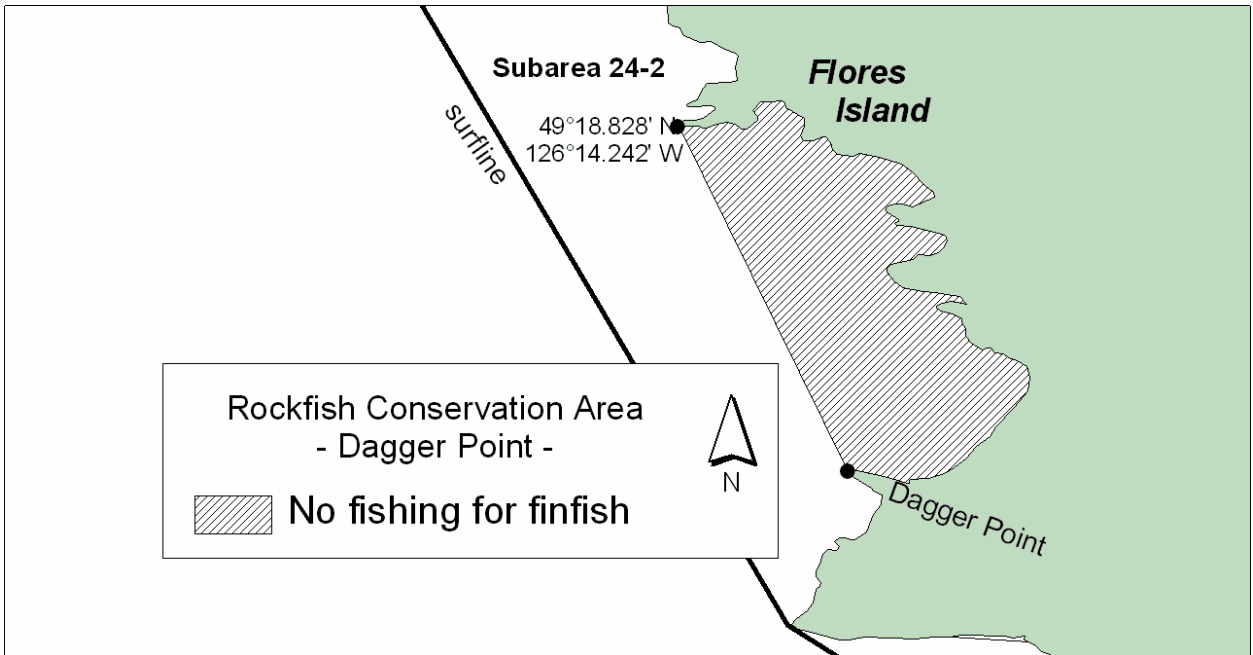
then following the southwesterly shoreline of D'Arcy Island to the beginning point.



### 3.23. Broken Group

That portion of Subarea 23-8 that lies inside a line that:

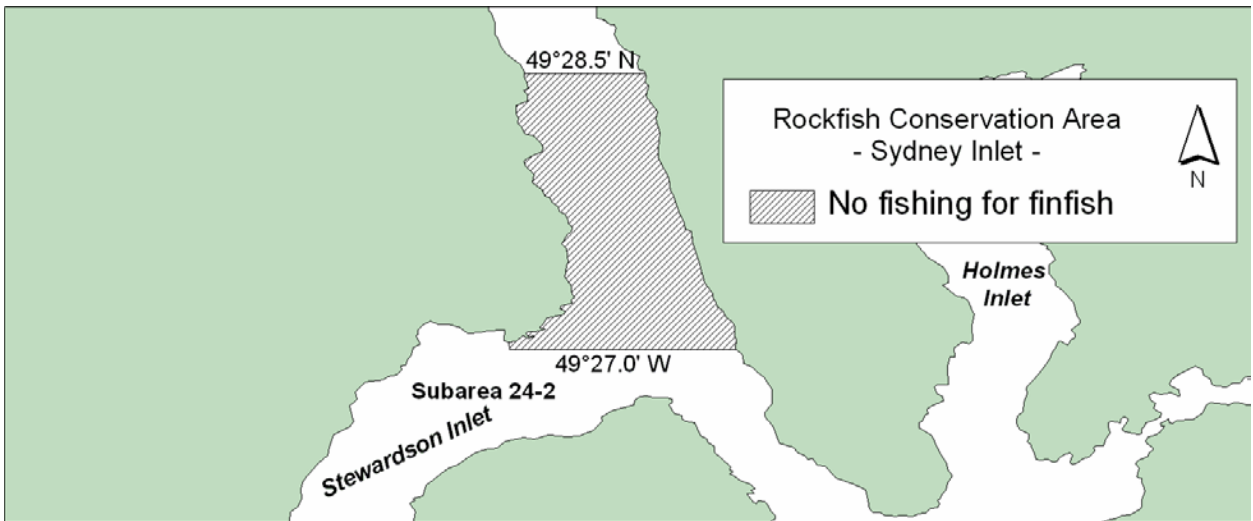
begins at	48°55.329' N	125°19.3' W	[Eastern tip of Dodd Island]
then to	48°55.767' N	125°17.6' W	[Northwest tip of Jarvis Island]
then to	48°56.533' N	125°16.537' W	[Western tip of Prideaux Island]
then follows the southerly shoreline to			[Eastern tip of Prideaux Island]
	48°56.4' N	125°15.867' W	
then true east to	48°56.3' N	125°15.6' W	[Northwest tip of Nettle Island]
then follows the southerly shoreline to			
	48°55.463' N	125°15.2' W	[Southern tip of Nettle Island]
then true south to	48°55.056' N	125°15.2' W	[Gibraltar Island]
then follows the westerly shoreline to			[Southwestern tip of Gibraltar Island]
	48°54.767' N	125°15.767' W	
then true south to	48°54.4' N	125°15.767' W	[Dempster Island]
then follows the easterly shoreline to			[Southeastern tip of Dempster Island]
	48°54.275' N	125°15.833' W	
then to	48°53.5' N	125°16.6' W	
then to	48°52.853' N	125°18.6' W	[NW tip of Effingham Is]
then follows the westerly shoreline to			[Southwestern tip of Effingham Island]
	48°52.0' N	125°19.0' W	
then true south to	48°51.9' N	125°19.0' W	[Austin Island]
then to	48°51.3' N	125°20.283' W	[SE tip of Howell Island]
then follows the northerly shoreline to			[Western tip of Howell Island]
	48°51.733' N	125°20.817' W	
then true west to	48°51.733' N	125°21.186' W	[Wouwer Island]
then follows the northerly shoreline to			[Western tip of Wouwer Island]
	48°51.85' N	125°22.1' W	
then to	48°52.833' N	125°22.622' W	[Eastern tip of Benson Island]
then to	48°53.317' N	125°22.376' W	[Eastern tip of Clarke Island]
then true north through Owens Island to			
	48°54.243' N	125°22.376' W	[Southern tip of Lovett Island]
then follows the easterly shoreline to			[Northern tip of Lovett Island]
	48°54.472' N	125°22.4' W	
then to	48°55.4' N	125°20.65' W	[Western tip of Dodds Island]
then follows the southerly shoreline to the beginning point			



**3.24. Dagger Point**

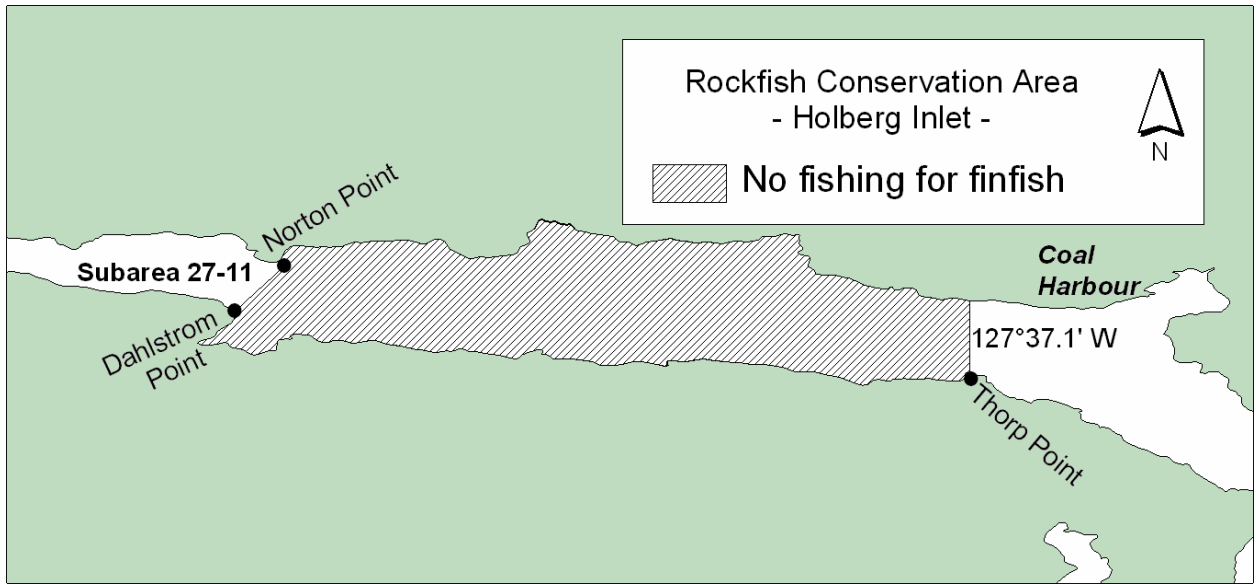
In Subarea 24-2 those waters that lie easterly of a line:

from	49°18.828'N	126°14.242'W	[Flores Island]
to	49°17.575'N	126°13.626'W	[Dagger Point]



**3.25. Sydney Inlet**

That portion of Subarea 24-2 that lies southerly of the parallel passing through 49°28.5' north latitude and northerly of the parallel passing through 49°27' north latitude near Darr Island.



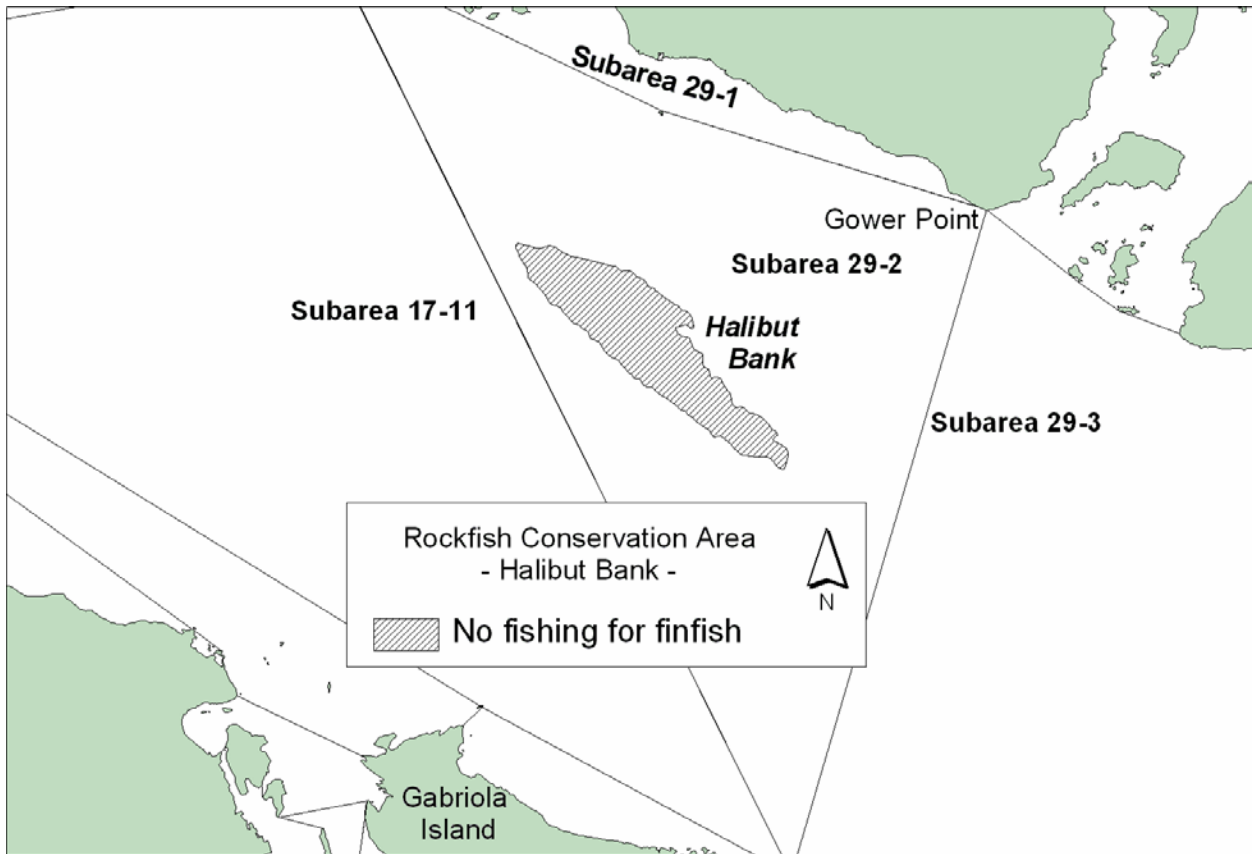
### 3.26. Holberg Inlet

That portion of Subarea 27-11 that lies easterly of a line:

from 50°36.117'N 127°45.013'W [Norton Point]

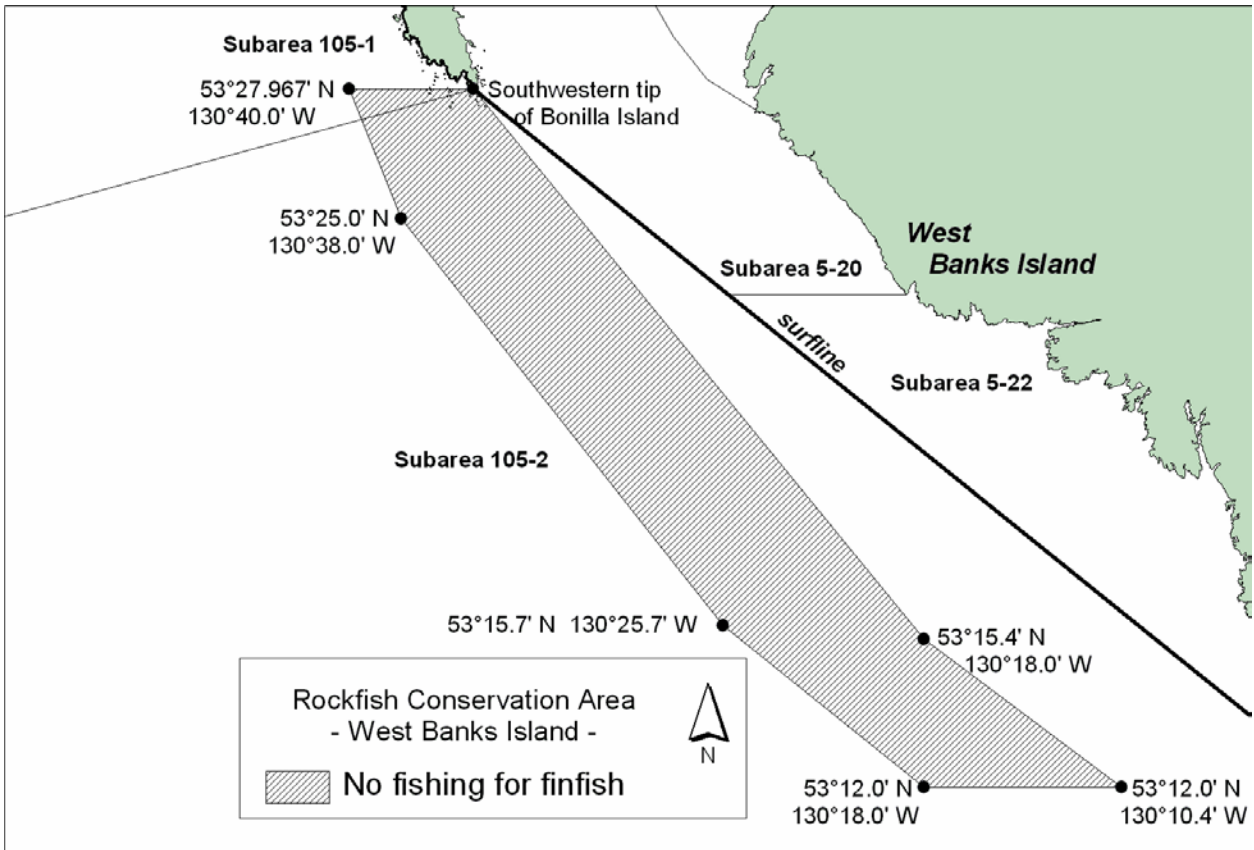
to 50°35.6' N 127°45.590'W [Dahlstrom Point]

and westerly of the meridian passing through 127°37.1' west longitude at Thorp Point.



### 3.27. Halibut Bank

The waters of Subarea 29-2 that lie inside of the 180 metre contour line that surrounds Halibut Bank as shown on Chart No. 3512, published by the Canadian Hydrographic Service of the Department.



### 3.28. West Banks Island

Those waters of Area 105 that lie inside a line that:

- |                              |              |               |                                      |
|------------------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| begins at                    | 53°27.967' N | 130°40.0' W   |                                      |
| then true east to            | 53°27.967' N | 130°35.241' W | [southwestern tip of Bonilla Island] |
| then to                      | 53°15.4' N   | 130°18.0' W   | [near North Danger Rocks]            |
| then to                      | 53°12.0' N   | 130°10.4' W   |                                      |
| then true west to            | 53°12.0' N   | 130°18.0' W   |                                      |
| then to                      | 53°15.7' N   | 130°25.7' W   |                                      |
| then to                      | 53°25.0' N   | 130°38.0' W   | [near South Rocks]                   |
| then to the beginning point. |              |               |                                      |



#### **Appendix 4: 2003/2004 Seabird Handling Guidelines**

All vessels must release any birds caught in the least harmful manner and record birds caught in logbooks as by-catch. The Canadian Wildlife Service provides the following bird handling guidelines:

Seabirds have strongly pointed or hooked bills and will inflict damage to a person's hand or body. Before handling a bird, it may be advisable to put on a pair of gloves. **NEVER HOLD A BIRD CLOSE TO YOUR EYES.** Get the bird on board as quickly and gently as possible and, depending upon the size of the bird, seize the bill (large birds like an albatross) or immobilize their wings (medium to small birds like fulmars, shearwaters, auks, gulls).

- a) Grab the bill.
- b) Restrain the wings to prevent flapping.
- c) Determine location of hook.
- d) Cut barbed end off with pliers.
- e) Remove hook from body or bill.
- f) If hooks were swallowed, do not remove hook backward up a bird's throat.
- g) First, attempt to reach down the bird's throat and remove the hook.
- h) If unable to reach hook, make a **small** (1-2 cm) incision in the bird's neck and pull out the hook.
- i) If an incision is made, place bird in a **dark, clean, dry box** for 1-2 hours to let it recover. Return to the water only during the daylight hours.