PACIFIC REGION

COUNCIL OF THE HAIDA NATION / FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA

JOINT MANAGEMENT PLAN

RAZOR CLAM

MARCH 14 TO DECEMBER 31, 2014

Canada

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

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1. OVERVIEW

1.1 Introduction

The 2014 Pacific Region Council of the Haida Nation/Fisheries and Oceans Canada Joint Razor Clam Management Plan (JMP) encompasses the period of March 14th to December 31st 2014.

The Commercial Harvest Plan is attached as Appendix 1 to this JMP. All commercial harvesters are advised to review the attachments for harvest information.

1.2 Goals and Objectives

1.2.1 To ensure conservation and protection of invertebrate stocks and their habitat through the application of scientific management principles applied in a risk averse and precautionary manner based on the best scientific advice available.

1.2.2 To meet the federal Crown's obligations regarding First Nations fisheries for food, social and ceremonial purposes.

1.2.3 To develop sustainable fisheries through partnership and co-management arrangements with client groups and stakeholders to share in decision making, responsibilities, costs, and benefits.

1.2.4 To develop fishing plans and co-operative research programs which will contribute to improving the knowledge base and understanding of the resource.

1.2.5 To consider the goals of stakeholders with respect to social, cultural and economic value of the fishery.

1.2.6 To consider health and safety in the development and implementation of Integrated Fisheries Management Plans, fishery openings and closures.

1.3 History

Shellfish are an important food and trade item for coastal First Nations and are used fresh or preserved by drying. A pilot razor clam canning operation was undertaken at Tow Hill near Masset in 1923 and resulted in a commercial razor clam fishery and canning operation in 1924. In that year, 5000 cases (22,539 kg of whole clams) were processed. Production increased rapidly to a high of 730 t (1.6 million lb) in 1925 and then dropped sharply. Highs of 390 t and 430 t (0.87 and 0.95 million lb) were landed in 1930 and 1938 respectively. Although landings have been made in most months of the year, the major part of the catch is taken from March to June when daylight low tides occur (<1.2 m or approximately 4 feet above datum).

Historically, the razor clam fishery was controlled through clam leases held by the cannery. In 1968, these leases lapsed and the beaches were opened to other harvesters. The only regulation governing the collection of razor clams in the commercial fishery was a minimum shell length of 3.5 inches (88.9 mm) that continues to this day, with a minor change to 90 mm.

The razor clam fishery is currently managed jointly between the Council of the Haida Nation (CHN) and Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) through a Razor Clam Subagreement first signed on August 14, 1994 and renewed as part of a Comprehensive Fisheries Agreement. In 2014, the CHN will continue to designate Haida participants in the commercial fishery under a Communal Licence issued to the CHN. Fisheries and Oceans Canada will continue to licence individual commercial harvesters (licensees). The number of commercial licenses issued by Fisheries and Oceans Canada was limited in 1995.

Most commercially harvested razor clams are used as bait in the crab fishery. In recent years, there has been a growing demand for razor clams as a food product. This demand along with high clam abundances resulted in record catches in 2000 (since 1941) and 2008 that coincided with peaks in razor clam biomass. After 2000 recruitment returned to normal levels for several years and catch ceilings were adjusted to reflect the available stock.

2. STOCK STATUS

Razor clams (*Siliqua patula*) are found between California and the Aleutian Islands on exposed, surf-pounded, sandy beaches. In British Columbia, they occur in concentrations at two localities; Long Beach on the west coast of Vancouver Island between Clayoquot Sound and Barkley Sound, and on Haida Gwaii on the northeast coast of Graham Island, between Masset and Rose Spit. The population on Haida Gwaii is the largest in BC and supports commercial, recreational and Haida non-commercial (i.e. Haida food, social and ceremonial) fisheries.

2.1. Stock Assessment

The Haida Fisheries Program has conducted standardized surveys of the beach since 1994. Until recently, the catch ceiling was estimated based on a best estimate of exploitable biomass that accounted for recruitment, unsurveyed beaches, and a sustainable harvest rate of 12.3 percent. The sustainable harvest rate (2/3 of maximum sustainable yield (MSY) or 12.3 percent) was based on a 1994 study that estimated the MSY to be 118 tonnes which was 19 percent of the harvestable biomass. For more information see, *Report on the results of surveys of intertidal razor clams (Siliqua patula) on beaches near Massett, Haida Gwaii and recommendations on fishery management* (Jones et al., Research Document 2001-152). This document is available from the contacts listed in Apendix 1 or from the Canadian Science Advisory Secretariat (CSAS) Internet site at:
http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/csas-sccs/publications/resdocs-docrech/2001/2001_152-eng.htm

In 2009 a more recent analysis of the sustainable harvest rate using data from the past 14 years of biomass surveys, including clam ageing data, was analyzed in the research document, *Estimation of reference points and a precautionary harvest strategy for the razor clam (Siliqua patula) fishery at Haida Gwaii* (Jones et al. 2009, document to be numbered). Using this updated information, and encompassing the Department's Sustainable Fisheries Framework, catch ceilings will be determined through use of a new maximum harvest rate of 22% as was approved by the CSAP Invertebrate Subcommittee. This maximum harvest rate will be decreased if the

biomass falls below 510 tonnes. No harvest will be allowed if the biomass falls below 255 tonnes. Recruitment estimates are not being used in calculating biomass forecasts until the methods for determination are analyzed in future CSAS documents.

The length of beach surveyed has increased slightly over time. From 1994 to 2000, surveys were conducted on three sections of beach totalling 24.35 km in length. In 2001, surveys were expanded to include a further 6.75 km section of beach at the east end of North Beach where there was significant fishing effort in 2000. Also, beginning in 2001, harvesters began to report landings on fish slips by beach section. Since 2001 a modest proportion of razor clam landings has been from 2.17 km long Agate Beach, and transects of this section of beach have been included in the survey since 2007.

Beginning in 2002, a new section of beach in Hecate Strait between Rose Spit and Cape Fife (East Beach 1, Subarea 102-1) was approved for harvesting subject to biotoxin monitoring. This beach section was opened to the commercial fishery in 2003 but few if any landings have been recorded since then.

The biomass of razor clams in Subarea 1-5 has fluctuated over time. Through annual surveys it has been shown that the biomass approximately doubled from 1994 to 2000, but then declined and remained relatively stable at levels near the long term average from 2004 to 2010. Biomass increased in 2007 due to several years of good recruitment, decreased slightly in 2008 and changed little in 2009 and 2010. Biomass at the end of the 2011 season was estimated to be 475 tonnes which was the basis for the 2012 forecast. As this estimate was below the threshold of 510 t described above, the harvest rate for the 2012 season was dropped from 22% to 19% to reflect the needed caution. Stocks have since returned to and have maintained a level above the 510 t threshold.

Razor clam populations in Subarea 1-5 have been assessed on a beach-by-beach basis since 1995 and catches have been monitored by individual beaches since 2001 (see Appendix 3). However, the commercial fishery is currently not managed in-season on a beach-by-beach basis. The commercial fishery annual catch ceiling is established pre-season as a sum of the individual beach catch ceilings. Harvesters are requested to report landings by beach section, but to date, there has not been a need to close individual beach sections in-season once their associated catch ceilings have been reached. It is a goal of the Haida Joint Shellfish Technical Committee and the Razor Clam Diggers Association to continue to assess and monitor the commercial fishery on a beach-by-beach basis.

2.2. Economics

Catches have fluctuated over the years due to changes in biomass and market demand. Poor markets, a rising Canadian dollar, and a downturn in the commercial crab fishery in 2007 resulted in only 20 tonnes from a catch ceiling of 142.9 tonnes being harvested. In 2008 market conditions improved somewhat and 205 tonnes of the 207 tonne catch ceiling were harvested although the price per pound received by harvesters was lower than previous years. In 2013 the fishery was closed for the majority of the season due to persistently elevated levels of the paralytic shellfish poisoning toxin. As a result, only 58 tonnes out of a quota of 162 tonnes was harvested.

3. RESEARCH AND CONSULTATION

CHN and Fisheries and Oceans Canada will continue with co-operative programs to monitor the fishery and assess sustainable harvest levels in 2014.

4. MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Haida food, social and ceremonial and commercial razor clam harvesters have expressed concern over the effort by recreational diggers on clam stocks on North Beach. Since 2005 creel surveys have been conducted by Haida Fisheries Program staff during the June to August period to estimate catch. These studies indicate that recreational catch has been less than 1,000 pounds annually from North Beach 1 and 2. Fishing effort on the other beaches is thought to be low. A second goal of the Haida Joint Shellfish Technical Committee and the Razor Clam Diggers Association is to begin discussions with the Haida Gwaii Sport Fishery Advisory Board on further monitoring and managing of the recreational fishing effort in Subarea 1-5.

In 2005, an in-season management committee was created to allow for a more transparent and collaborative process between all parties involved in the commercial fishery. The Razor Clam In-Season Management Committee has membership from the Razor Clam Diggers Association, Council of the Haida Nation, Old Massett Village Council, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Resource Management, Conservation and Protection), and Masset razor clam processors, and will continue to meet throughout the 2014 commercial fishing season to deal with in-season management issues.

5. MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR THE DURATION OF THE PLAN

See the Commercial, First Nations and Recreational Harvest Plans, Appendices 1 to 3 for detail on the following:

- Total Allowable Catch (TAC), Subarea Thresholds;
- Fishing Season/Areas;
- Control and Monitoring of Removals
- Licensing

6. ENFORCEMENT PLAN

DFO has the responsibility to enforce the *Fisheries Act* and associated regulations, to address conservation, health and safety issues and to maintain proper management and control of the various fisheries.

Any suspected or actual fisheries, wildlife or pollution violations can be quickly and discretely reported to the appropriate Enforcement Officer by using the toll free Observe, Record and Report hotline. This toll free number is available 24 hours a day. Confidentiality is assured.

OBSERVE, RECORD AND REPORT - 1-800-465-4DFO (1-800-465-4336)

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

7. PERFORMANCE REVIEW

All aspects of the fishery, including pre-season planning, quota and threshold establishment, and post-season review, are discussed at Haida Joint Shellfish Technical Committee meetings held annually.

8. REFERENCES

Bourne, N. 1969. Population studies on the razor clam at Masset, British Columbia, (Fisheries Research Board of Canada. Technical report no. 118. 24p.

Bourne, N. 1979. Razor clam, Siliqua patula Dixon, breeding and recruitment at Masset, British Columbia. Proc. Natl. Shellfish. Assoc. 69: 21-29.

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Bourne, N., and D.B. Quayle. 1970. Breeding and growth of razor clams in British Columbia. Fish. Res. Board Can. Tech. Rep. 232: 42 p.

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Gillespie, G.E. and A.R. Kronlund. 1999. A manual for intertidal clam surveys. Can. Manuscr. Rep. Fish. Aquat. Sci. 2270. 144p.

Jamieson, G.S. 1986. Paralytic shellfish poisoning, p. 44-46. In G.S. Jamieson and K. Francis [ed.] Invertebrate and marine plant resources of British Columbia. Can. Spec. Publ. Fish. Aquat. Sci. 91.

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(Jones et al. 2009, document to be numbered). Estimation of reference points and a precautionary harvest strategy for the razor clam (Siliqua patula) fishery at Haida Gwaii

Kenchington. E.. R. Duggan and T. Riddell. 1998. Early life history characteristics of tile razor clan1 (Etzsis directus) and the moonsnails (Euspiru spp.) with applications to fisheries and aquaculture. Can. Tech. Rep. Fish. Aquat. Sci. 2223: vii + 32 p.

Appendix 1: 2014 Razor Clam Commercial Harvest Plan

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1. Definition of Terms

"Area A" means Fisheries and Oceans Canada Pacific Fishery Management Subarea 1-5 and a portion of Subarea 102-1 (as described in the Pacific Fishery Management Area Regulations) which includes McIntyre Bay from Rose Point to Wiah Point and Rose Point south to Fife Point.

"Communal licence" means the communal licence issued to the CHN, through the Secretariat of the Haida Nation, for the commercial harvesting of razor clams by Participants.

"CHN Fisheries Guardian" means a person hired by the CHN and designated by the Minister pursuant to *Section 5* of the *Fisheries Act* and by the CHN.

"Islands" means the land area and adjacent water known variously as Haida Gwaii and the Queen Charlotte Islands.

"Licensee" means a holder of a category Z-2 license eligibility issued by Fisheries and Oceans Canada authorizing commercial harvest of razor clams in the Islands.

"Participants" means Citizens of the Haida Nation, as per the Constitution of the Haida Nation, who are designated by CHN to commercially harvest razor clams under the Communal Licence.

2. MANAGEMENT FOR THE COMMERCIAL FISHERY

2.1. Management Changes for 2014

- The anticipated opening date is March 14 (see section 2.7).
- Openings will occur on days when the tide is 5.0 feet and under.
- The catch ceiling for 2014 is 137 tonnes (302,000 pounds) (see section 2.6).
- East Beach will be open only if PSP sampling is completed and levels are acceptable to CFIA. East Beach will not have a separate quota allocation (see section 2.6).

2.2. Licensing and Designation of Harvesters

When harvesting razor clams (*Siliqua patula*) for sale, each participant must be in possession of a non-transferable designation card from the CHN and each Licensee must be in possession of a current year Area A clam "Z-2" licence from Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Identification and designation cards or licences must be carried at all times when harvesting clams and must be produced upon request of a CHN fisheries guardian, Fisheries and Oceans Canada Fishery Officer, or Fisheries and Oceans Canada fishery guardian.

Since 1995, Area A clam "Z-2" licences eligibilities are non-transferable and subject to limited entry. Licence eligibilities were allocated to individuals who held a Fisheries and Oceans Canada category "Z-2" clam licence for Haida Gwaii, personally fished the licence, and provided records of razor clam landings during at least three years from 1990 to 1994. Both a category "Z-2" clam licence and a Fisher's Registration Card (FRC) are required to participate in commercially harvesting razor clams.

For complete information in regards to category "Z-2" licence eligibilities please contact the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit at toll-free 1-877-535-7307 or by email at fishing-peche@dfo-mpo.gc.ca.

2.3. Size Limit

No person shall commercially harvest razor clams that measure less than ninety (90) millimetres through the greatest breadth of the shell (see Appendix 4).

2.4. Harvest Area

Participants and licensees will harvest only in Clam Licence Area A (Pacific Fishery Management Subarea 1-5 and a portion of Subarea 102-1).
Harvesters are asked to report effort using the following definitions (a map is shown in Appendix 3 and is available from the Haida Fisheries Program):
Subarea 1-5:

a) **North 1**: the beach between Tow Hill and a point 7.2 km east of Tow Hill.
b) **North 2**: the beach between points 7.2 km and 13.0 km east of Tow Hill.
c) **South 1**: the beach between Yakan Point and White Creek (Kliki River).
d) **South 2**: the beach between White Creek and a point on the beach 400 m (1/4 mile) east of the Sangan River/Chown Brook estuary.
e) **Agate Beach**: the beach between Tow Hill and Yakan Point also known as the Horseshoe.

Subarea 102-1:

a) **East 1**: the beach north of Fife Point

2.5. Fishing Gear

All harvesters will be restricted to digging for razor clams by hand.

2.6. Catch Ceiling

The annual catch ceiling for 2014 is 137 tonnes (302,000 pounds). This catch ceiling will encompass landings for both Subarea 1-5 and Subarea 102-1.

East Beach will not have a separate quota allocation. East Beach will be open only if PSP sampling is completed and levels are acceptable to CFIA.

2.7. Open Times

To promote harvest efficiency and avoid impact on juvenile clams that appear to be more prevalent in the higher areas of the beach, the Razor Clam Diggers Association has recommended that the fishery be managed in-season to the following opening dates: these are the days when the tide level is 5.0 feet and under, based on the Prince Rupert tide tables. The Razor Clam In-season Management Committee may make recommendation to change these dates; **all openings and closures will be announced by Fisheries and Oceans Canada Fishery Notice in 2014**. Diggers are reminded to check these notices on a regular basis. Fishery Notices are available on the Internet at: www-ops2.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/xnet/content/fns/index.cfm?pg=search_options&lang=en&id=commercial

The Fishery Notices will also be posted at the DFO Masset office, the Haida Fisheries Program office, and the Old Massett Village Council office.

Month	**Recommended opening dates**
January	Closed
February	Closed
March	14-21; 26-31;
April	1-4; 13-21; 26-30;
May	1-4; 12-21; 25-31;
June	1-2; 10-19; 23-30;
July	1-2; 9-17; 23-31;
August	Closed
September	5-13; 22-28;
October	5-12; 22-28;
November	3-11; 20-27;
December	2-10; 19-27.

For 2014, the opening date for the fishery was recommended by the In-Season Management Committee with advice from local processors.

It is anticipated that the commercial fishery will open no earlier than March 14th, 2014 and will close when the annual catch ceiling has been reached.

The Haida Fisheries Program will monitor the catch and effort each month and in collaboration with Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the Razor Clam In-Season Management Committee, will make recommendation for openings and closures (see Section 4.7).

The fishery could be closed for other reasons including shellfish contamination, unacceptable levels of marine biotoxins (PSP or ASP), and/or conservation. In addition, the Razor Clam Diggers Association has recommended that the commercial fishery be closed during the summer spawning period; the fishery will be closed from August 1 to 31, 2014.

The Razor Clam In-season Management Committee, on behalf of participants and licensees, will co-ordinate area openings with Fisheries and Oceans Canada. The

Department requires a minimum of 48 hours notice from the committee (not including weekends and holidays), to open a new area.

2.8. Closures

Intertidal clam fisheries are limited by programs for monitoring marine biotoxins, sanitary growing water surveys, and DFO capability to enforce closures. These requirements are defined under the Canadian Sanitary Shellfish Program (CSSP) which has been put in place to ensure public heath and safety.

Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning or Domoic Acid

Shellfish harvesters must "check before they harvest" to ensure that an area is not closed for PSP (red tide).

For information on the location of current marine biotoxin closures either:

call the toll free number 1-866-431-3474

check the Shellfish Contamination Closures page on the Department website at:
www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/contamination/index-eng.htm

- check with the nearest DFO office

Sewage Contaminated Closures

Participants and licensees will not harvest razor clams in areas which are closed due to risk of sewage contamination. **For information on the location of current sanitary shellfish closures please check with the nearest Fisheries and Oceans Canada office or refer to the Shellfish Contamination page on the Fisheries and Oceans Canada Internet site at:**
www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/contamination/index-eng.htm
Permanent bivalve harvesting closures are in place for Canadian fisheries waters of the Pacific Ocean within:

a) 300 m radius around industrial, municipal and sewage treatment plant outfall discharges;
b) 125 m radius of any marina, ferry wharf, finfish net pen, and, subject to subsection (c), any floating living accommodation facility; and
c) 25 m of any floating living accommodation facility located within a shellfish aquaculture tenure where a zero-discharge waste management plan is a condition of the Provincial aquaculture licence and is approved by the Regional Interdepartmental Committee.

3. BIOTOXIN / WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT

3.1. Biotoxin Monitoring: Area openings are dependent upon regular submission and analysis of samples for PSP, ASP and DSP analysis, as set out in a biotoxin monitoring protocol administered by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA). Areas will be closed to fishing if unacceptable levels of marine biotoxins (PSP, ASP or DSP) are detected. Closed areas will be opened to fishing according to protocols required by the Biotoxin Monitoring Program, approved by CFIA, and overseen by the Haida Fisheries Program.

Three consecutive samples containing acceptable levels of biotoxin must be received in order for CFIA to lift a harvest restriction in an area. CFIA will recommend lifting the biotoxin prohibition and a harvest site can then be considered by DFO for fisheries openings. Once an area is open, on-going submission of samples is required to maintain the opening. CFIA will recommend closure of the harvest area to DFO if there is a lapse in sample submissions or if unacceptable levels of PSP, ASP or DSP are detected (>80 ug/100g PSP; >20 ppm domoic acid (ASP); >0.2 ug /g Okadaic Acid /DTX Toxin and/or Pectenotoxin (DSP)).

3.2. Water Quality Assessment: Environment Canada conducts water quality surveys to assess the sanitary conditions in shellfish growing waters. These surveys are a requirement under the Canadian Shellfish Sanitation Program to establish and/or maintain approved growing area classification.

4. CATCH REPORTING

4.1. Fish Slip Requirements

Participants and licensees must record all landings on a Clam Fish Slip or Clam Slip Aboriginal (in the case of First Nations harvested clams). A report must be completed even if the clams landed are used for bait, personal consumption, or otherwise disposed. The true return shall be mailed not later than seven days after the offloading and sent to:

Regional Data Unit
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
200 - 401 Burrard Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6C 3S4
Phone: (604) 666-3784

Fish slip books may be purchased at the above address.
Fish slips will be collected by the Haida Fisheries Program to compile catch and effort in the fishery (see Appendix 2).

4.2. Landings Reports

As agreed to in the Razor Clam Sub-agreement, the Haida Fisheries Program will forward catch and effort data on a regular basis to the Department on behalf of all participants and licensees. This information will be sent to:

Fisheries and Oceans Canada
North Coast Resource Management - Shellfish Unit
417 2nd Avenue West
Prince Rupert, BC V8J 1G8
Phone: (250) 627-3426
Fax: (250) 627-3427
Email: Sandra.Davies@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

5. OTHER RESTRICTIONS AND GENERAL INFORMATION

5.1. Tagging of Clam Product Containers or Sacks

Prior to placing clams in a sack or container participants and licensees will label the sack or container with tags showing:

a) Name of the clam harvester.
b) Clam harvester's licence or designation card number.
c) Beach location (e.g. Area A).
d) Pacific Fishery Management Area and Subarea (e.g. Subarea 1-5).
e) Beach section (e.g. North 1, North 2, South 1, South 2, Agate (Horseshoe), East 1).
f) Date of harvest.

According to Provincial requirements, the tag must be affixed and remain attached to the sack or container and may only be removed after the clams have entered the federally registered processing plant.

5.2. Harvester Responsibility

All clams shall be inspected and processed at an approved shellfish processing plant. Participants and licensees shall not sell clams directly to the public, restaurants, retail outlets, or distributors. Under Provincial and Federal Regulations, all shellfish harvested must be processed through a federally registered plant whether it is for domestic or international consumption. As well, product destined for a bait market must be processed through a federally registered plant.

For further information regarding processing requirements please contact the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), see Section 1 Contacts.

5.3. Product Handling and Transportation

To ensure product quality, care must be exercised to protect razor clams from contamination and exposure to the sun, weather, temperature, etc. Clams may be rinsed at the harvest site to remove excess mud or sand, but shall not be rinsed elsewhere before delivery because of risk of contamination.

5.4. Wet Storage

Wet storage of razor clams on the beach, alongside a boat, in unapproved live tanks, or any body of water is illegal. Such practices may expose the clams to contamination.

5.5. Beach Traffic

Harvesters are reminded that traffic on the beach can damage shellfish stocks and degrade the local habitat. Vehicles, including ATVs, should **not be driven on the beach below the 1.5 m (5.0 foot) tide level**. This is approximately 100 m above a 0 foot tide.

In addition, the Razor Clam Diggers Association recommends that vehicles not be driven between the five foot and eight foot tide level as juvenile razor clams can be prevalent in this area and may be impacted by vehicle traffic. The eight foot tide level is approximately 160 m above a 0 foot tide. The In-Season Management Committee also recommends that vehicle operators regularly inspect

their vehicles to ensure that they are in sound working condition and not leaking any fluids onto the beach environment.

Appendix 2: 2014 Haida Razor Clam Food, Social, and Ceremonial Fishery

HAIDA NON-COMMERCIAL FISHERY

There is no daily, possession, or size limit for razor clams harvested in the Haida non-commercial (food, social and ceremonial) fishery. However, the In-Season Management Committee strongly urges all razor clam harvesters to respect the commercial fishery minimum size limit of 90mm or greater through the greatest breadth of the shell (see Appendix 4). Respecting this minimum size limit will ensure conservation of juvenile clam stocks and allow them to reproduce before they are recruited into the fishery.

There were numerous closures of Subarea 1-5 due to elevated ASP levels and PSP levels in both 2012 and 2013 which resulted in limited access to all bivalve shellfish in this Subarea. The Haida Fisheries Program will continue to collect samples for the marine biotoxin monitoring program on a regular basis throughout the year to facilitate Haida access to traditional food sources. Any closures will be announced by fisheries notice, through signage on North Beach, by public notice and will be broadcast on local radio.

There were no other issues identified during 2013 for the Haida non-commercial fishery.

Appendix 3: Razor Clam Recreational Harvest Plan

RECREATIONAL FISHERY

The recreational fishery for Razor clams is supported by the Council of the Haida Nation who provide biotoxin monitoring on a year round basis. Recreational harvesters are required to hold a valid British Columbia Tidal Waters Sport Fishing Licence to harvest razor clams. The recreational harvest of razor clams is restricted to a daily limit of 50 clams and a total possession limit of 100 clams. There is no size limit for razor clams harvested recreationally. However, the In-Season Management Committee strongly urges all razor clam harvesters to respect the commercial fishery minimum size limit of 90mm or greater through the greatest breadth of the shell (see Appendix 4). Respecting this minimum size limit will ensure conservation of juvenile clam stocks and allow them to reproduce before they are recruited into the fishery.

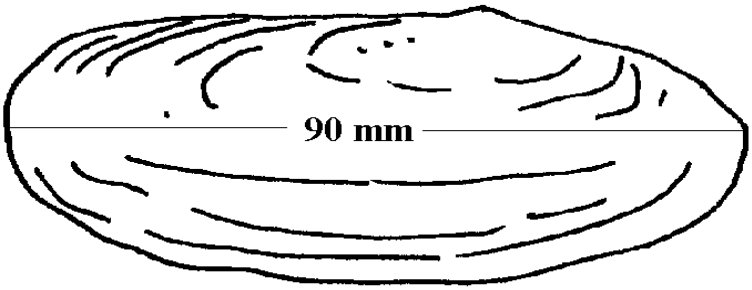
Since 2005, creel surveys have been conducted during the June to August period to estimate catch. These studies indicate that recreational catch has been less than 1,000 pounds annually from North Beach 1 and 2. Fishing effort on the other beaches is thought to be low.

Recreational fishery regulations are outlined in the British Columbia Tidal Waters Sport Fishing Guide, available on the Internet at:
http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/rec/species-especes/shelltable-tableaucoquille-eng.htm

During 2012 and 2013 there was limited recreational access to razor clams due to numerous and persistent elevated levels of paralytic and amnesic shellfish poisoning (ASP and PSP) detected in the marine biotoxin monitoring program. The Haida Fisheries Program will continue to submit samples for analysis and notification of any elevated biotoxin levels will be announced through fisheries notice, public notice and on local radio.

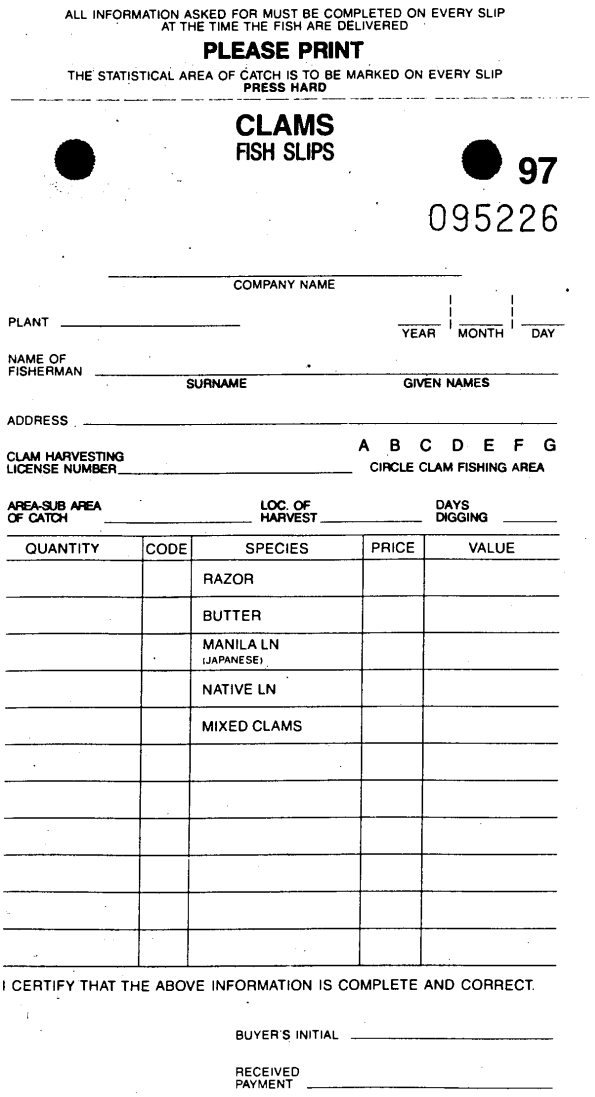
There were no other issues identified for the recreational razor clam fishery in 2013.

Appendix 4 : Minimum Size Limit - Razor Clam



No person shall commercially harvest razor clams that measure less than ninety (90) millimetres through the greatest breadth of the shell.

Appendix 5: Clam Slip and Clam Slip - Aboriginal



ALL INFORMATION ASKED FOR MUST BE COMPLETED ON EVERY SLIP AT THE TIME THE FISH ARE DELIVERED

PLEASE PRINT

THE STATISTICAL AREA OF CATCH IS TO BE MARKED ON EVERY SLIP

PRESS HARD

CLAMS
FISH SLIPS

97
095226

COMPANY NAME

PLANT _____ YEAR | MONTH | DAY

NAME OF FISHERMAN _____
SURNAME GIVEN NAMES

ADDRESS _____

CLAM HARVESTING LICENSE NUMBER _____ A B C D E F G CIRCLE CLAM FISHING AREA

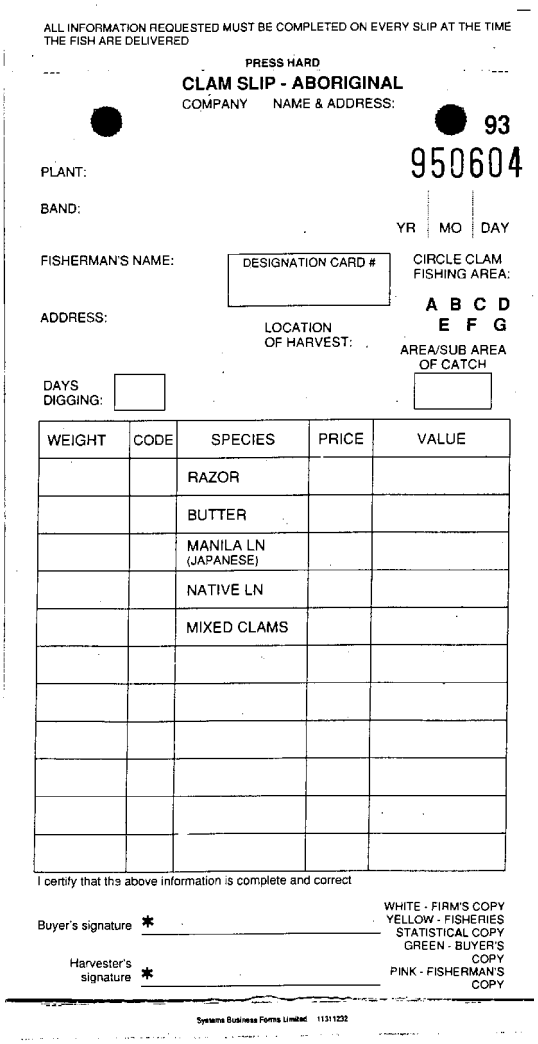
AREA-SUB AREA OF CATCH _____ LOC. OF HARVEST _____ DAYS DIGGING _____

QUANTITY	CODE	SPECIES	PRICE	VALUE
		RAZOR		
		BUTTER		
		MANILA LN (JAPANESE)		
		NATIVE LN		
		MIXED CLAMS		

I CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS COMPLETE AND CORRECT.

BUYER'S INITIAL _____

RECEIVED PAYMENT _____



ALL INFORMATION REQUESTED MUST BE COMPLETED ON EVERY SLIP AT THE TIME THE FISH ARE DELIVERED

PRESS HARD

CLAM SLIP - ABORIGINAL

COMPANY NAME & ADDRESS:

93
950604

PLANT:

BAND:

YR | MO | DAY

FISHERMAN'S NAME: DESIGNATION CARD #

CIRCLE CLAM FISHING AREA: A B C D E F G

ADDRESS:

LOCATION OF HARVEST:

AREA/SUB AREA OF CATCH

DAYS DIGGING:

WEIGHT	CODE	SPECIES	PRICE	VALUE
		RAZOR		
		BUTTER		
		MANILA LN (JAPANESE)		
		NATIVE LN		
		MIXED CLAMS		

I certify that the above information is complete and correct

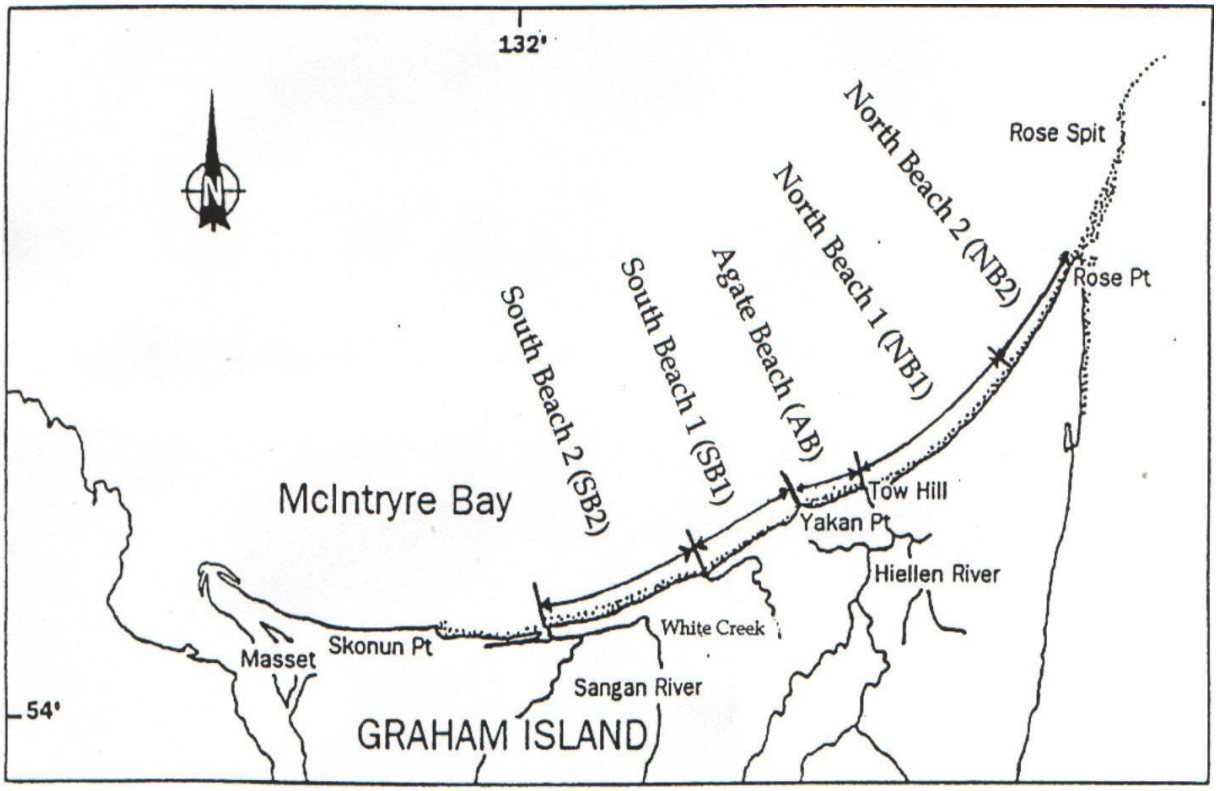
Buyer's signature * _____

Harvester's signature * _____

WHITE - FIRM'S COPY
YELLOW - FISHERIES STATISTICAL COPY
GREEN - BUYER'S COPY
PINK - FISHERMAN'S COPY

Systems Business Forms Limited 11311232

Appendix 6: Clam Management Areas, North Beach



Appendix 7: CONTACTS

Observe, Record and Report (Enforcement Line)		(800) 465-4336
Fisheries Information and Shellfish Contamination Closure Update (24 Hours)		(866) 431-3474
	or (for Greater Vancouver)	(604) 666-2828
Invertebrate Internet Page	www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/ops/fm/shellfish/default_e.htm	

Haida Fisheries Program

Council of the Haida Nation	Agathe Cangardel	(250) 626-3302
PO Box 589	Brad Setso	Fax: (250) 626-3309
Massett, B.C. VOT 1M0		

Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Regional Resource Manager - Invertebrates	Jeff Johansen	(604) 666-3869
200 - 401 Burrard Street		Fax: (604) 666-9136
Vancouver, B.C. V6C 3S4		
Stock Assessment	Tammy Norgard	(250) 756-7005
3190 Hammond Bay Road		Fax: (250) 756-7138
Nanaimo, B.C. V9T 6N7		
Resource Management	Sandra Davies	(250) 627-3426
417 2nd Avenue West		Fax: (250) 627-3427
Prince Rupert, B.C. V8J 1G8		
Conservation and Protection	Doug Cowan	(250) 559-8580
137 Bay Street, Box 99		Fax: (250) 559-4678
Queen Charlotte, B.C. V0T 1S0		

Canadian Food Inspection Agency		
Fish Inspection Directorate	Andre Youssef	(604) 666-3737
4321 Still Creek Drive		
Burnaby, B.C. V5C 6S7		
Environment Canada		
North Coast Water Quality Co-ordinator	Albert Leung	(604) 903-4425
201-401 Burrard Street		
Vancouver, B.C. V6C 3S5		