

August 21st, 2019

EKME #4085213

**Gulf Nova Scotia
Indigenous Bluefin Tuna Fishery Pilot Project
2019 Conservation Harvesting Plan**

Overview:

The Indigenous Bluefin Tuna Fishery Pilot Project has been approved for the 2019 Commercial Bluefin tuna fishing season and will consist of 5 Indigenous groups holding 7 Commercial Communal Bluefin Tuna licenses. The project will apply a precise weight based system to manage their share of the GNS tuna quota. The share of GNS quota received is based on the percentage of quota associated with each license taking part in this project as well as each license's share of Mexican quota. Tags will be issued to the group based on the estimated average weight of fish for the 2019 season.

Opening Date:

August 7, 2019 – at 06:00 hours

Closing Date:

December 1, 2019 at 18:00 hours.

Quota /Tags

For the purpose of tag distribution in 2019, the estimated average weight used will be 261 kg (575 lbs) per fish.

Quota = 3.019 t (52.878 t initial GNS Fleet + 5.346 t carry forward – 55.205 t GNS Tuna Association)

Mexican Quota

Quota = 0.353 t (6.812 t Initial GNS Fleet- GNS Tuna Association 6.459 t)

Total Quota= 3.372 t /7 licences = .481 t (1061 lbs) per License

Tag Availability:

- **Tags will be available at the Gulf Nova Scotia Area Office on Tuesdays from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm and Thursdays from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm. If licence holders are unavailable to pick up tags during these periods they are to contact Licensing by calling 1-855-634-2355 or by emailing GulfInfoGolfe@dfp-mpo.gc.ca to make alternative arrangements for tag pick up during these periods.**

- **Dart tags shall be recorded in the Record of Tags along with the DFO issued tags prior to any fishing activity.**
- **Landings will be monitored and should additional tags be available they will be allocated to the identified representative(s) for the Indigenous tuna pilot group.**
- **Should the members taking part in this pilot project want to transfer a tag from one license within the group to another license within the group the licence holder must notify Nadia MacInnis, Area Aboriginal Coordinator of this change.**

Designates:

The identified representative(s) on behalf of the group will be responsible for providing DFO with information on the designated operator, vessel and number of tags associated to each license taking part in this pilot project. This information is to be provided to Nadia MacInnis, Area Aboriginal Coordinator.

Quota Reconciliation:

If the 2019 quota for the indigenous tuna pilot fleet is exceeded, the 2020 quota will be reduced by the same amount.

Carry Forward:

Any uncaught quota up to 10% of the initial allocation will be carried forward to 2020 for the Indigenous tuna pilot fleet. Any amount above this level will be rolled into the 2020 Canadian quota.

Hail- in/ Hail -out

Licence holders are required to hail out prior to all fishing trips to the vessel Hail-out System at 1-800-561-2467 and hail-in to a Dockside monitoring company prior to returning to port for every trip, regardless if a fish has been caught.

Ex-Sector:

Licence holders wishing to participate in the Ex-Sector Fishery must contact Nadia MacInnis, Area Aboriginal Coordinator.



Approved by: Ron Pumphrey
Area Director, Gulf Nova Scotia