Gulf Nova Scotia Indigenous Bluefin Tuna Fishery 2021 Conservation Harvesting Plan

Overview:

The fishery currently consists of five Indigenous groups holding seven Commercial Communal Bluefin Tuna licenses. The fishery applies a precise weight based system to manage their share of the Gulf Nova Scotia (GNS) tuna quota. The share of GNS quota received is based on the percentage of quota associated with each license taking part in this fishery 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 2021 season.

Opening Date:

July 19, 2021 - at 0600 hours.

Closing Date:

December 31, 2021 - at 18:00 hours.

Quota /Tags

For the purpose of tag distribution in 2021, the estimated average weight used will be 237 kgs (523 lbs) per fish.

Quota = 3.887 t (5.19 % of 56.145 t initial GNS Fleet quota + 0 .976 t Carry Forward from 2020)

Mexican Quota (GNS 11.315 t) Quota = 0.587 t (0.0838 t *7 License)

Total Quota= 4.474 t

Tag Availability:

- Contact Nicole Sampson, GNS Indigenous Programs Coordinator, for further details and to arrange tag delivery.
 - o E-mail address: Nicole.Sampson@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
 - o Phone:: 902-870-4722
- 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 group.
- Should the members taking part in this Indigenous Bluefin Tuna fishery want to transfer a tag from one license within the group to another license within the group the licence holder must notify Nicole Sampson, GNS Indigenous Programs 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 fishery. This information is to be provided to Nicole Sampson, GNS Indigenous Programs Coordinator.

Quota Reconciliation:

If the 2021 quota for the indigenous tuna fishery is exceeded, the 2022 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 2022 for the Indigenous tuna fishery. Any amount above this level will be rolled into the 2022 Gulf Nova Scotia fleet quota or 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 Nicole Sampson, GNS Indigenous Programs Coordinator.

Approved by: Alan Dwyer

Area Manager, Resource Management Gulf Nova Scotia Area, Gulf Region

Fisheries & Oceans Canada