

**Gulf Nova Scotia Fleet
2022 Tuna Conservation Harvesting Plan
Catch and Release Fishery**

- Objective:**
- To provide increased economic opportunities for GNS commercial Bluefin Tuna licence holders.
- Description:**
- Catch and release charter fishery for Bluefin Tuna.
 - **Eligibility:** - Must be a Gulf Nova Scotia commercial Bluefin licence holder (includes Dhaliwal 10 licence holders).
 - Must meet Transport Canada requirements for carrying passengers on board.
 - Must have completed a DFO charter training session.
- Season:**
- July 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022
- Definitions:**
- *Hook-up* – A fish that is either brought to the boat or a minimum fight time of 10 minutes.
- Management Measures:**
- A maximum of one trip per day.
 - A maximum of three hook-ups per trip are permitted.
 - After 60 minutes of total fight time, the license holder or registered/certified crew members must make every effort to bring the Bluefin tuna alongside the vessel as quickly as possible.
- Gear:**
- Rod and Reel
 - A maximum of four fishing rod lines may be in the water at any given time during tuna fishing activities. Lines shall be attended at all times and each line shall not have more than one barbless circle hook attached. When a Bluefin Tuna is hooked all other lines shall be removed from the water.
 - The minimum main line strength permitted on board the vessel is 130 lb and the minimum leader strength permitted is 180 lb.

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- Monitoring of Activity:**
- **Electronic Monitoring System (EMS) – This fishery may be subject to EMS coverage as outlined in the Conditions of Licence.**
 - **Each licence holder is required to provide information regarding all fishing activities by completing the Catch & Release Bluefin Tuna Fishery Daily Log Sheet. The documents detailing catch and effort are to be completed for each trip in accordance with the instructions detailed in the Catch & Release Bluefin Tuna Fishery Daily Log Sheet. They are to be submitted weekly to:
Barbara MacArthur
Fisheries and Oceans Canada,
2920, Hwy 104,
Antigonish, NS, B2G 2K6.**
- E-mail address:**
Barbara.MacArthur@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
- Mackerel Bait:**
- **Licence holders are permitted to catch and retain 20 live mackerel per fishing trip for bait purposes. This will be reflected in conditions of licence.**
- By-catch:**
- **All incidentally caught species will be returned immediately to the water in a manner that causes the animal least harm.**
- Catch and Release Fishery Guidelines:**
- **The licence holder shall post in plain view, from the deck of the vessel, Catch and Release Fishery Guidelines issued by the Department of Fisheries & Oceans. The licence holder shall instruct the client(s) to review the approved Charter Fishery Guidelines prior to commencing fishing activities.**

Approved by: Alan Dwyer
Area Manager, Resource Management
Gulf Nova Scotia Area, Gulf Region
Fisheries & Oceans Canada