



*Gulf Region*

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# *Notice to Fish Harvesters*

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**2022-2023 GULF NOVA SCOTIA – ATLANTIC HALIBUT (4T)  
FIXED GEAR FLEET, VESSEL CLASS A69  
SPRING FISHERY OPENING DATE**

**Antigonish, NS – June 07, 2022** – Fisheries and Oceans Canada announces that the Atlantic halibut fishery will open for Gulf Nova Scotia fixed-gear licence holders, using vessel class A69 in the portions of NAFO Division 4T known as 4T1, 4T8, 4T2a, 4T2b, 4T9a and 4T9b.

This fishery will open for 16 hours from 05:00 hrs, June 8, 2022 to 21:00 hrs, June 8, 2022.

Replacement vessels or vessel transfers will only be authorized from another fisher whose homeport is in the Gulf Nova Scotia administrative area.

Should portions or all of 4T1, 4T8, 4T2a, 4T2b, 4T9a or 4T9b close due to the North Atlantic right whales dynamic closure protocol, Atlantic halibut fishing for the vessel class A69 will be permitted but it will be mandatory to closely attend fishing gear as identified in the conditions of licence.

Fishers are reminded that during the period where fishing is authorized, it is the responsibility of the licence holder to take into account the marine safety notices issued, among others, by Environment and Climate Change Canada and Transport Canada, as well as the standards and best practices in marine safety, and to take all measures to ensure a safe fishery.

**New in 2022:**

**Management**

There will only be one Condition of Licence and vessel class for fishers participating in the 2022-2023 GNS halibut fishing season. All eligible licence holders will be able to participate when the season is open by Variation Order in the respective areas. Any quota set aside for the summer fishery that is not landed by December 31 will be available the next spring, until the management cycle ends May 14.

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### **Fishing Gear Reporting System (or Lost Gear Reporting)**

A new online system was launched in July 2021 to allow commercial harvesters to conveniently input lost and retrieved gear information from any smart electronic device. The system is able to capture information such as descriptions, cause of loss and location of the lost gear. Harvesters can create their account and begin reporting through the system at this website: [Sign in \(dfo-mpo.gc.ca\)](https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

### **Discarding Waste**

In 2022, all commercial fisheries in Canada have a new condition of licence relating to the discharge of garbage from Canadian fishing vessels. The licence holder/operator is prohibited from discarding in Canadian fisheries waters from their vessel any time that may be harmful to fish or fish habitat. Refer to the Notice to Fish Harvesters sent on April 7, 2022 for further details: <https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/sdc-cps/index-eng.html>

### **2022 Management measures to minimize interactions with North Atlantic right whales**

The Management measures to minimize interactions with North Atlantic Right Whales (NARW) can be found at the following address: <http://dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/commercial-commerciale/atl-arc/narw-bnan/management-gestion-eng.html>.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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