

APPENDIX 6: 2022/23 GREEN SEA URCHIN COMMERCIAL HARVEST PLAN

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1. MANAGEMENT CHANGES AND HIGHLIGHTS

This Commercial Harvest Plan will be in effect from September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2023. Previous IFMPs have run multiple years. In order to address changes in biomass and markets in a timely manner an annual plan has been implemented since 2021. There may be updates to many sections of the Commercial Harvest Plan. Fish harvesters are advised to carefully review all information.

- **Fishing Season:** The 2022/23 IFMP will be in effect from September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2023. See Section 3.
- **Commercial Total Allowable Catch (TAC) (changed):** An annual commercial TAC has been set at 308.9 tonnes (681,100 lbs). Increased from last management plan set at 293.4 tonnes (646,800 lbs). See Section 3.
- **Individual Quota (changed):** The annual individual quotas (IQ) will equal 1/49th of the coast-wide commercial TAC or 6.30 tonnes (13,900 lbs) per licence. Increased from last management plan set at 5.99 tonnes (13,200). See Section 3.
- **New Quota Areas:** Quota has been added to Cape Lazo (ptn Area 14), previously an exploratory quota .
- **Exploratory Quotas:** Allison Harbour (Area 11) and the Sunshine Coast (ptn of Area 14, Area 16 and 28) remain as exploratory quotas. Cape Lazo (ptn. Area 14) will also hold an exploratory option above the set quota. These areas will be fished under an exploratory protocol. Opening these areas does not increase the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) but allows for opportunity to look for new fishing locations. Any product harvested from these areas will remove quota from existing areas. See Section 3.3
- **Licence Stacking (unchanged):** The licence stacking limit will continue to be waived for the 2022/23 IFMP.
- **Seasonal Research Closures:** Specific areas of the coast may be closed temporarily or be delayed in opening to allow for research surveys. Area descriptions Section 6. Notification of closure will be through Fishery Notices.

2. MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR THE COMMERCIAL FISHERY

2.1. Minimum Size Limit

A minimum size limit of 55 mm test diameter is in effect for the commercial Green Sea Urchin fishery. This size limit is precautionary and is intended to allow Green Sea Urchins several years of spawning before becoming available for the commercial fishery.

2.2. Limited Entry Licensing

Limited entry licensing was implemented in January 1991 to address concerns regarding uncontrolled effort observed in the fishery at that time. Green Sea Urchins are commercially harvested under the authority of a commercial licence (ZA or FZA).

Currently there is one licence designated as Communal commercial FZA. This license is monitored with the commercial fishery and has the same management constraints and Conditions of Licence as other commercial licences. For more information on the Licence Retirement/Allocation Transfer Program contact a Resource Manager listed in Appendix 10.

Currently there are 49 total (ZA and FZA) licences eligible for this fishery.

2.3. Individual Quota Program

IQs were implemented for the Green Sea Urchin fishery, starting as a pilot in November 1995. The IQ program includes an equal allocation of the coast-wide TAC among licences. A third party service provider was hired to monitor catch.

Under the IQ program, two percent of the coast-wide TAC is reserved, for planning purposes, for First Nations fisheries for food, social and ceremonial (FSC) purposes. Additional allocations of Green Sea Urchins will be provided to First Nations who demonstrate that their food, social and ceremonial needs are not being met.

2.4. Area Quotas

The coast-wide commercial TAC is the sum of Area quotas. Quota Areas are comprised of Areas, Subareas and/or portions of Subareas. Survey information is incorporated into Bayesian biomass dynamic model from which estimates of MSY are obtained for PFMA 11, 12 & 13 (combined) and PFMAs 18, 19 & 20 (combined). Then the PFMA quota is based on the proportion that area contributed to aggregate landings.

3. OPEN TIMES AND QUOTA AREAS

The commercial fishery will open no earlier than September 1, and close no later than August 31, of the following year. The commercial fishery generally opens early in the fall depending on market demand and generally closes in the spring of the following year. Markets generally guide harvest. The majority of the harvesting effort has historically occurred in December and January, however, more recently effort has been higher earlier in the season to get the most benefits from market conditions. Commercial harvest schedules are determined in consultation with the Pacific Urchin Harvesters Association (PUHA).

The Department would like to remind all fish harvesters of the importance of providing accurate harvest information. If problems of misreported landing or harvest locations to the Department and/or dockside validators exist, the openings for this fishery may be adjusted in-season to limited rotational openings. These limited openings will restrict the fleet to fish small areas as a group in order to concentrate the fleet for monitoring purposes. At-sea observers may also be required if obtaining accurate harvest information remains problematic.

Harvesters are encouraged to fish throughout the quota areas to prevent localized overharvesting. Localized overharvesting may result in quota decreases or quota areas may need to be split and portions may be closed.

3.1. South Coast

The South Coast commercial Total Allowable Catch (TAC) is 308.9 tonnes (684,100 lbs) apportioned between the Quota Areas shown below. All weights referred to in the tables below are the weights that are determined during validation at the first point of landing (in pounds).

Quota Area	Name	Description	2022/23 Quota
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11*	Allison Harbour	All of area 11	3,000
12A	12 West	12-1 to 12-21, 12-24, 12-26, 12-39	250,100
12B	12 East	12-22, 12-23, 12-27 to 12-38, 12-40 to 12-48	40,000
13A	Cape Mudge	13-1, 13-14 and 13-15	75,000
13B	S. Johnstone St.	13-27 to 13-35	56,000
13C	Cordero Channel	13-23 to 13-26 & 13-36 to 13-43	30,000
13D	Discovery Pass North/Sonora Island	13-7 to 13-13 and 13-16 to 13-22	13,000
13E	Willow Point	13-2	36,000
13F	Discovery Pass South	13-3, 13-4, 13-5 and 13-6	25,000
14**	Cape Lazo	Area 14 excluding 14-3	20,000
16*	Sunshine Coast	14-03, 15-01 to 15-05, 16-01 to 16-04, 16-09 to 16-12, 16-16 to 16-22, 28	16,000
18	Southern Gulf Islands	Area 18; plus subarea 19-6 and that portion of subarea 19-5 north of a line running due east from Cormorant Point	30,000
19A	19 East	Area 19 except subareas 19-3, 19-6 and ptn of 19-5 north of a line running east from Cormorant Pt	40,000
19B	19 West	19-3	10,000
20A	Sooke East	Ptn of Area 20-5 East of Otter Pt. 20-6, 20-7	40,000
20B	Sooke West	Area 20-1 to 20-4 and ptn of 20-5 West of Otter Pt.	16,000
Coastwide Total			681,100

* **Exploratory See Section 3.3**

** **Exploratory Option of 10,000 lbs in addition to the set quota**

Any Quota Area overages may be deducted from the next year's quota for the Quota Area.

3.2. Urchin Barren Management

The Department, A-Tlegay Fisheries Society and PUHA are piloting an Urchin Barren Management Approach for both Red Sea Urchins and Green Sea Urchins as part of an ecosystem management approach in Management Area 13. Urchin barrens exist around Management Area 13 and may be negatively impacting the growth of kelp and sessile invertebrates. In order to reduce the number of Green Sea Urchins in this area, for the past three seasons a TAC has been allocated to a previously closed area in Discovery Passage. Discussions involving DFO, A-Tlegay Fisheries Society and PUHA will be ongoing to determine the future of the pilot program.

3.3. Exploratory Quota Protocol

The Green Sea Urchin fishery has been limited for many years due to poor market conditions. In recent years market conditions have improved and at the same time urchin populations have increased due to changes in ocean conditions and a decrease in predators. This increase in urchin populations has been detrimental to the local ecosystem. In order to meet the increased market demand and attempt to reduce urchin numbers, a number of areas have been recently

added to allow harvesters to explore beyond current quota area boundaries. Any quota taken from exploratory areas will not increase the overall TAC but will allow harvesters to determine the feasibility of fishing in these areas. Feedback from harvesters will inform whether surveys should be undertaken and if quota should be added on a longer term basis moving forward.

3.4. Other Areas

Areas of the coast not listed in the Quota Areas above may be considered for openings upon discussion with PUHA. An independent stock assessment survey of the area that demonstrate a sustainable harvest quota can be established may be required to include quota options within the TAC outside the exploratory protocol. Fish harvesters will be required to fund any stock assessment surveys. Proposals for new areas may be sent to the Department for review.

4. LICENSING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE COMMERCIAL FISHERY

4.1. National Online Licensing System (NOLS) – Licensing Services

All fish harvesters/licence holders/vessel owners are required to use the National Online Licensing System (NOLS) to view, pay for and print their commercial fishing licences, licence conditions and/or receipts. NOLS website: <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/licence-permis-eng.htm>

Training materials, including step-by-step guides and a detailed user training manual, are available online (<http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/FM-GP/SDC-CPS/licence-permis-eng.htm>) to guide users of the system in completing their licensing transactions. The Department also provides client support and assistance on how to use the system via email at fishing-peche@dfo-mpo.gc.ca or by calling toll-free at 1-877-535-7307 (7:00AM to 8:00PM Eastern, Monday to Friday).

Information on the National Online system may be found on the DFO internet site at: <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/licence-permis-eng.htm>:

For more information on how to register and use the system, visit the Department's website at the website address above, or contact our client support.

4.2. Licence Category

A commercial Green Sea Urchin by dive (category ZA) or communal commercial (category FZA) licence eligibility is required to commercially harvest Green Sea Urchins by dive.

Category ZA licence eligibilities are limited entry and party-based. Category FZA licence; a First Nations group is the licence eligibility holder.

4.3. Licence Renewal Fees

In accordance with the Service Fees Act, annual licence renewal fees will be adjusted by the annual rate of inflation determined by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) published by Statistics Canada.

The commercial Green Sea Urchin Species (Category ZA) licence renewal fee may be found on the following link: [Commercial fishing licence renewal fees 2022-2023| Pacific Region | Fisheries and Oceans Canada \(dfo-mpo.gc.ca\)](#)

There is no annual licence renewal fee for communal commercial category FZA licences.

4.4. Licence Application and Issuance

Renewal of a commercial Green Sea Urchin licence and payment of the fees must be done on an annual basis to retain the privilege to be issued the licence in the future, regardless of whether or not fishing is carried out. Those commercial green sea urchin licences not renewed by August 31st will cease and licence issuance requests will be unable to be considered in future.

Prior to annual licence issuance licence eligibility holders are required to annually designate the fishing vessel to hold the licence. This must be done by navigating to the ‘Submit a Request’ menu selection within the National Online Licensing System (NOLS). Full instructions are available at:

<http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/sdc-cps/products-produits/request-demande-eng.html>

Prior to licence issuance, licence eligibility holder(s) must:

- Meet any Ministerial conditions placed on the licence eligibility.
- Ensure any conditions of the previous year’s licence such as submission and approval of logbooks have been met.
- Designate a registered commercial fishing vessel eligible for a commercial or communal commercial licence for salmon, schedule II, Sablefish, Halibut, crab, shrimp, prawn, Geoduck or groundfish trawl.

To avoid delays please ensure the payment and vessel designation information is submitted all at the same time through the ‘Submit a Request’ menu selection within the NOLS.

Vessel length restrictions for vessels used to harvest Red Sea Urchins under the IQ program have been waived by Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Fisheries and Oceans Canada reserves the right to reinstate vessel length restrictions at the lengths associated with each licence eligibility.

4.5. Designation of Harvesters to Fish a Communal Commercial Licence

Under the *Aboriginal Communal Fishing Licence Regulations*, every person working on a vessel that is fishing under authority of a Communal Commercial Licence must be designated by the First Nation that holds the licence. The designation must be made in writing and include the person's name and reference the Communal Commercial Licence.

The designation must be carried on-board and be produced on request of any Fishery Officer.

First Nations licence holders interested in obtaining an example template to use to designate their fish harvesters may contact a DFO Resource Manager or Pacific Fishery Licensing Unit office (see Contacts in Appendix 10).

4.6. Individual Quotas

The holder of the licence eligibility to the commercial harvest of Green Sea Urchins is provided the opportunity to harvest up to 6.3 tonnes (13,900 lbs.) of Green Sea Urchins.

4.7. Licence Documents

Green Sea Urchin licence documents are valid from the date of issue to August 31 of the following year.

Replacements for lost or destroyed licence documents may be obtained by reprinting the licence document through the National Online Licensing System.

4.8. Vessel Re-designations

Re-designation of Green Sea Urchin licenses is allowed as long as any Conditions of Licence, such as the completion of logbooks, have been met and accepted by the Shellfish Data Unit.

Navigate to ‘Submit a Request’ Re-Designate a vessel. Full instructions can be found at [Online Licensing - Submitting a Request and Checking the Request Status \(dfo-mpo.gc.ca\)](https://dfo-mpo.gc.ca/online-licensing-submitting-a-request-and-checking-the-request-status)

4.9. Licence Eligibility Nominations

Category ZA Green Sea Urchin licence eligibilities may be nominated from one party to another. Nominations must be completed and submitted to the Pacific Fishery Licence Unit via the National Online Licensing System (NOLS) by the licence holder. Notarize the application ‘Nomination for Party-Based Licence Eligibility’. Scan the document and attach it to a ‘Submit Request’ in NOLS. PDF or standard picture formats are accepted (jpg, etc.).

The following requirements must be met:

- a.) Any Condition of Licence such as the completion of logbooks have been submitted and approved by the Shellfish Data Unit.
- b.) Communal commercial (category FZA) licence eligibilities are not eligible for Nomination.

4.10. Vessels

All diving and fishing operations for Green Sea Urchins must take place from the ZA or FZA licensed vessel. All product harvested under a ZA or FZA licence must be harvested from and retrieved by the vessel designated on the licence. Vessels used to hold or transport Green Sea Urchins must conform to Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) inspection regulations for holding or transporting fish and have appropriate licences.

4.11. Licence to Transport Green Sea Urchins

Any registered vessel with a commercial or communal commercial Salmon, Schedule II, Geoduck, Sablefish, Crab, Shrimp, Groundfish or Prawn licence, a transporting, category D or a Herring seine licence, category HS may transport Green Sea Urchins under special Conditions of Licence which are included with all vessel-based licences issued for the current fishing year. For further information contact a Pacific Fishery Licence Unit.

Note: When product is transferred from one vessel to another vessel or a vehicle, that vessel or vehicle requires a provincial Fish Buying Station licence. This licence is required for all types of vessels and vehicles including aircraft. The licence may also be required for personal vehicles in some instances, when a vehicle is carrying the catch from more than one vessel, even if the licence holder owns both vessels.

Fish harvesters should check the Province of British Columbia’s website for additional information: <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/agriculture-seafood/fisheries-and-aquaculture/seafood-industry-licensing>.

4.12. Processing

Effective June 1998, any processing beyond that permitted in Section 14 *Fish Inspection Regulations* (FIR) must be done in a registered fish processing facility and in full compliance with a Quality Management Program (QMP).

5. CONTROL AND MONITORING OF COMMERCIAL FISHING ACTIVITIES

To accompany the IQ program, an industry-funded monitoring and validation program was developed collaboratively between the Pacific Urchin Harvesters Association (PUHA) and Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

Fish harvesters are required to report harvest time and location information to a service provider prior to fishing, following fishing, and prior to landing Green Sea Urchins. In order to track daily harvests and ensure that area quotas are not exceeded, all catch must be weighed and validated at the first point of landing by a Fisheries and Oceans Canada certified observer.

The service provider contracted by the PUHA to provide notification, validation, biological sampling and data services for the Green Sea Urchin fishery is:

D&D Pacific Fisheries Ltd.
Box 1445, Gibsons, B.C. V0N 1V0
Phone: (604) 886-4819
Fax: (604) 886-8288
Hail-in Line: (800) 775-5055

The following sections complement those in the Conditions of Licence (issued with each commercial licence), that outline the requirements for fishery control and monitoring. See Appendix 9.

5.1. Quantities Permitted

Annual IQ for the period of this management plan has been set at 6.3 tonnes (13,900 lbs).

Harvest of Green Sea Urchins over the IQ, after the permitted quota overage adjustments, may be subject to prosecution and seizure of the overage.

5.2. Gear

Hand picking by divers. Suction devices are not permitted.

5.3. Containers used to Hold or Transport Green Sea Urchins

There are several requirements for the type, size and marking of containers used to hold or transport sea urchins and the condition of containers for food inspection purposes.

Any containers used in the transport of “fish” (including urchins) for export must meet the requirements outlined in Part 4 of the Safe Food for Canadians Regulations (SFCR). See CFIA’s website for further information: <https://inspection.canada.ca/food-safety-for-industry/toolkit-for-food-businesses/sfcr-handbook-for-food-businesses/eng/1481560206153/1481560532540?chap=0>

5.3.1. Tagging of Green Sea Urchin Containers

All Green Sea Urchins delivered to packers, or to designated landing ports, shall be in containers which are tagged. The tags must clearly display the fishing vessel’s name and VRN#.

5.3.2. Marking of “Pick Bags”

“Pick Bags,” or any other type of enclosures containing Green Sea Urchins left unattended in the water must be tagged with bag tags displaying the vessel registration number (VRN#), and name of the vessel used to harvest the product. All floats attached to pick bags or other types of enclosures must be labelled with the VRN# of the vessel harvesting the product.

5.4. Transshipment

All product harvested under a green sea urchin licence must be harvested from and retrieved by the vessel designated on the licence. If that product is to be retrieved at a later time by the licensed vessel, it must be appropriately tagged. If that product is going to be transhipped to another vessel (i.e. for landing purposes), that vessel must be appropriately licensed for packing purposes. At no time should unlicensed vessels be used to harvest, retrieve, store, or tranship product

5.5. Landing Locations

All Green Sea Urchins must be landed at one of the designated landing ports listed in the Conditions of Licence. Specific landing ports have been established as part of the IQ validation program. Fisheries and Oceans Canada certified observers are available at these ports to oversee offloading and validation of Green Sea Urchin catch.

5.6. Validation

All Green Sea Urchins harvested or removed from the sea bed floor must be validated at the point and time they are landed.

The vessel master must be in possession of a Fisheries and Oceans Canada approved catch Validation & Harvest Logbook assigned to the Green Sea Urchin licence. The Validation & Harvest Logbook must be on board the licensed vessel while fishing for Green Sea Urchins, or while Green Sea Urchins are on board. Validation & Harvest Logbooks that meet the Department’s approval are available from the service provider or from the PUHA.

5.6.1. Validation & Harvest Logbook Entries

At the first point of off-loading, all Green Sea Urchins will be weighed with a government-certified scale and the weight entered on the Validation & Harvest Logbook. The vessel master is responsible for completing sections A and C of the Validation & Harvest Logbook. The vessel master shall also ensure that chart entries are completed showing all locations fished for that validation. All harvest information must be fully entered and complete before validation takes place. The Validation & Harvest Logbook will remain with the licensed vessel, with one copy accompanying the product to its destination and one copy handed over to the observer at the time of validation, along with the harvest charts. The observer shall compare harvest charts to Validation & Harvest Logbooks to ensure that harvest information is consistent between both. The original white copy of the Validation & Harvest Logbook handed to the observer, along with the harvest charts, must be received by the Fisheries and Oceans Canada Shellfish Data Unit within 28 days following the end of the month in which harvesting took place.

5.6.2. Examination of Logbooks

The Validation & Harvest Logbook must be produced by the vessel master on request by a fishery officer, fishery guardian, or an observer.

5.6.3. Quota Confirmation

Prior to fishing, the vessel master must confirm the remaining vessel quota from the Validation & Harvest Logbook. Harvesters taking product in excess of the individual licence quota are subject to prosecution.

5.6.4. Lost Product

Product lost or wasted at sea will use the following protocol.

- i. The weight of product lost from the deck of the catcher vessel and/or packer vessel during transport will be applied to both the catcher vessel's individual quota and the applicable area quota.
- ii. The weight of product spoiled or wasted because of weather-related delays will also be applied to both the catcher vessel's individual quota and the applicable area quota.
- iii. The Department, in consultation with the service provider, will use the estimated packer or ground weight and appropriate water loss calculation for the harvest site to determine an estimated dock weight.

Situations requiring use of this protocol will be discussed with the PUHA prior to implementation.

5.6.5. Conditions and Procedures for Quota Overage Transfer

5.6.5.1. Quota Area Quota Overages

Any Quota Area overages may be deducted from the next year's quota for the Quota Area.

5.6.5.2. IQ Overages

Small quantities of Green Sea Urchins, which exceed the licence's annual quota (up to 90.7 kg or 200 lbs), can be transferred to another Green Sea Urchin licence provided certain conditions are fulfilled. If all of these conditions are not met, observers will not transfer the overage to another licence. In the following explanation, the Green Sea Urchin licence which has exceeded its quota is called Licence "A" and the licence to which quota is transferred is called Licence "B".

Harvest of Green Sea Urchins over the IQ after the permitted quota overages adjustments may result in prosecution and seizure of the overage.

Transfer of Quota to a Second Licence on the Same Vessel - If two or more licences are assigned to the same vessel then a quota overage from one licence may be transferred to the Green Sea Urchin licence which has quota remaining. Overage of the last Green Sea Urchin licence quota on the same vessel may be transferred to another vessel's Green Sea Urchin licence in accordance with procedure described below.

Maximum Allowable Transfer of Quotas Between Licences on Different Vessels - In the event of a quota overage on Green Sea Urchin Licence "A", a maximum of 90.7 kg (200 lbs) of Green Sea Urchins may be transferred to another vessel's Green Sea Urchin licence (Licence "B"). Only one transfer of quota overage is allowed. The quota overage cannot be divided between a number of licences.

Remaining Quota on Second Licence - The amount transferred cannot exceed the remaining quota of Green Sea Urchin Licence "B".

Green Sea Urchin Licence Area - Both vessels involved in the transfer must be licensed to fish in the same licence area and have active licences for that licence year (the provision for landing at the same port has been removed).

Documentation - The Green Sea Urchin Validation & Harvest Logbook for each of the licences involved in the transfer must be present at the time of the validation. Both vessel masters must make their intention to transfer or receive quota overage clear to the observer prior to unloading. In the event of a packer landing, a note signed by both vessel masters should accompany the product to advise the observer that there is a mutual agreement to transfer.

5.7. Oral Reports

The Conditions of Licence detail fishing notification requirements that must be followed by each licensed vessel in order for the service provider and the Department to track fishing effort and landing on a daily basis to ensure that harvest area quotas are not exceeded. This becomes imperative when a harvest area quota is near completion and remaining quota is divided amongst hailed vessels. When vessels do not hail into a harvest area, there is a risk of exceeding the area quota. In order to maintain a sustainable fishery, it is extremely important that effort and landings in a particular harvest area be reported and recorded accurately.

Please review the conditions of licence for further details on hailing requirements.

5.8. Harvest Logs and Chart Data

It is a Condition of Licence and the responsibility of the licence holder to ensure that harvest and chart information is received by Fisheries and Oceans Canada Shellfish Data Unit and meets the conditions outlined below.

5.8.1. Harvest Data

The vessel master is responsible for the provision and maintenance of an accurate record, a “log”, of daily harvest operations. This log must be completed and a copy submitted in both hard (paper) copy and electronic form in an approved format as defined by Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Shellfish Data Unit.

The vessel master is responsible for the provision of a daily harvest chart record for each location fished by each diver. This harvest chart must have marked directly on it the Vessel Registration Number (VRN), the licence tab number, and the validation ID numbers. The harvest site must be clearly marked on the chart with dive or record numbers pertaining to each harvest catch record and with dates that fishing activity occurred at each site. The vessel master is also responsible for the electronic capture of harvest location data into the Shellfish Data Unit Geographic Information System (GIS).

Validation & Harvest Logbooks meeting Fisheries and Oceans Canada requirements are available from the service provider contracted by the PUHA to provide data services for the Green Sea Urchin Fishery. The service provider will provide the Validation & Harvest Logbook coding and data entry service, including the electronic capture of harvest chart information into GIS, thus complying with the requirements for submission of a hard (paper) copy and electronic copy including fishing location information, for harvest data.

The original white page copy of the log, the accompanying chart record, and the electronic copies must be forwarded within 28 days following the end of the month in which fishing occurred. Fish harvesters having validation services completed by the service provider

contracted by the PUHA will receive this service as part of that contract. The information must be sent to:

Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Shellfish Data Unit
Pacific Biological Station
Hammond Bay Road
Nanaimo, B.C., V9T 6N7
Phone: (250) 756-7022 or PACSDU@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Catch information must be recorded in the harvest log by midnight of the day of fishing. The logbook must be kept aboard the licensed vessel. Logbooks must be produced for examination on demand of a fishery officer, guardian, or a fishery observer designated under the *Fisheries Act*.

5.8.2. Submission and Release of Harvest Log Data

The licence holder of record reported with the Pacific Fishery Licence System is responsible to ensure that the vessel master has completed and submitted a copy of the harvest data. Fisheries and Oceans Canada can only release harvest data to the reported licence holder and only upon written request.

5.8.3. Nil Report for Harvest Log – Licence Issued but Not Fished

In the event that a licence is issued but not fished, the licence holder is responsible for submitting a nil report for the season. The nil report must be submitted prior to the issuing of approval for licence renewal. One page from the harvest logbook identifying the vessel, licence tab number and the year with “nil” entered in the body of the log and signed by the licence holder constitutes a nil report.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada wishes to remind fish harvesters that harvest logs must be completed accurately during fishing operations and submitted to Fisheries and Oceans Canada in accordance with the timing set out in Conditions of Licence. Failure to complete or submit logs in a timely manner is a violation of Condition of Licence.

5.8.4. Confidentiality of Harvest Data

Harvest data (including fishing location data supplied through latitude and longitude coordinates, loran or chart records) collected under the Validation & Harvest Logbooks for Shellfish Fisheries programs are collected for use by Fisheries and Oceans Canada in the proper assessment, management and control of the fisheries. Upon receipt by Fisheries and Oceans Canada of harvest data and/or fishing location information supplied by the fish harvester in accordance with Conditions of Licence, Section 20(1)(b) of the *Access to Information Act* prevents the Department from disclosing to a third party, records containing financial, commercial, scientific or technical information that is confidential information. Further, Section 20(1)(c) of the *Act* prevents the Department from giving out information, the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to result in material financial loss or could reasonably be expected to prejudice the competitive position of the harvester.

5.9. Fish Slip Requirements

It is a condition of this licence that an accurate written report shall be furnished on a fish slip of all fish and shellfish caught under the authority of this licence. A report must be made even

if the fish and shellfish landed are used for bait, personal consumption, or otherwise disposed. The written report shall be posted not later than seven days after the offloading and sent to:

Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Catch Statistics Unit
200-401 Burrard Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6C 3S4

For more information: [Fish slip information \(dfo-mpo.gc.ca\)](https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fish-slip-information).

5.10. Export of Green Sea Urchins

Licence conditions regarding Validation & Harvest Logbooks and fish slips must be complied with for all sea urchins.

It is important to note that Green Sea Urchins being processed for export out of the province must be processed at a federally registered facility. Each country receiving Green Sea Urchins may have different import requirements. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency posts export requirements on the following website: <https://inspection.canada.ca/food-safety-for-industry/eng/1299092387033/1299093490225>. However, as these requirements can vary, exporters of sea urchins are encouraged to verify foreign country import requirements through their customers prior to export.

6. CLOSURES

It is the harvester's responsibility to ensure that an area is open to harvesting.

6.1. Human Waste Containment Regulation

Disposal of human waste into waters where shellfish are harvested or adjacent to shellfish harvest areas creates unnecessary and potentially serious health risks for shellfish consumers. In accordance with the Canadian Shellfish Sanitation Program (CSSP) and Regulations administered by Transport Canada, raw sewage (Human wastes, sewage or refuse) shall not be discharged from vessels while in or adjacent to shellfish areas. Vessels operating at a distance which does not allow for timely access to on-shore washroom facilities are expected to have a designated human waste receptacle on board. Receptacles could include a portable toilet, a fixed toilet, or other containment device as appropriate. Such devices must be made of impervious, cleanable materials and have a tight-fitting lid. (Refer to Division 4 of the Vessel Pollution and Dangerous Chemicals Regulations under the *Canada Shipping Act*):

1. Portable toilets or other designated human waste receptacles shall be used only for the purpose intended, and shall be so secured and located as to prevent contamination of the shellfish area or any harvested shellfish on board by spillage or leakage.
2. The contents of toilets or other designated human waste receptacles shall be emptied only into an approved sewage disposal system.
3. Every person onboard a shellfish harvest vessel must wash and sanitize their hands after using or cleaning a waste receptacle, or after using an onshore washroom facility.

Information on Human Waste Containment Receptacle Requirements under the CSSP can be found at the following Canadian Food Inspection Agency internet site:
<https://www.inspection.gc.ca/preventive-controls/fish/cssp/questions-and-answers/eng/1563470479199/1563470589053>

6.2. Notification of Area Closures

Additional closures may be announced in-season by Fishery Notice. Prior to fishing in an area, fish harvesters are advised to consult the local Fisheries and Oceans Canada office or to contact a fishery manager listed in Appendix 10.

6.3. Research Closures

Some areas have been designated as research or study areas and as such are closed to commercial fishing. Fishing is permitted in these areas only under a scientific licence. Research undertaken in these areas are a co-operative effort between Fisheries and Oceans Canada, PUHA, and local First Nations and are aimed at quantifying variability in population structure and density over time in commercially unfished areas. For further information on the research areas please contact the Science Branch (see Appendix 10).

6.3.1. Year Round Research Closures

Area 12: Stubbs Island/Plumber Islands: Portion of Subareas 12-5 and 12-18. All waters within 0.25 nautical miles of Stubbs Island. Those waters of the Plumper Islands commencing at the most westerly point on Ksuiladas Island thence in a straight line to Stubbs Island thence due east for 1.4 nautical miles, thence in a straight line to the most northerly point on Ksuiladas Island, thence following the western shore of said island to the point of commencement.

Area 13: Kelsey Bay: The waters of Subarea 13-34 (Salmon Bay) and that portion of Subarea 13-33 lying southerly or inside of a line from the ferry landing at the Kelsey Bay Government Dock easterly to Petersen Islet Light.

Area 18: Java Islets Research Closure: Those waters of Subarea 18-5 within 0.25 nautical miles of Java Islets.

Area 26: Kyuquot Sound Marine Communities Study Area: A portion of 26-6 inside or northerly of a line from White Cliff Head to Racoon Point (Kyuquot Bay). A portion of 26-6 on the west side of Union Island commencing at position 50°0.4' N, 127°19.3' W (Entrance to Crowther Channel)

6.3.2. Seasonal Research Closures

Seasonal research closures will be determined in season. Larger areas around research closures may be closed prior to the survey to prevent pre-survey fishing effort to affect the survey results. These will be announced in-season by Fishery Notice.

Area 12: Stephenson Islets/Stubbs Island/Plumber Islands: Portion of Subareas 12-3, 12-4, 12-5 and 12-18 inside a line commencing on Malcolm Island at 50°37.13' N, 126°49.75' W to the most westerly point on Pearse Islands 50°35.04' N, 126°53.19' W along the shore to 50°34.51' N, 126°51.70' W then easterly to a point of Hanson Island at 50°33.88' N, 126°46.52' W along the shore to 50°35.37' N, 126°45.06' W to the point of commencement. (See Figure 4, Appendix 8)

Area 19: Chain Islets: That portion of Subarea 19-4 inside a line commencing at 48°25.62' N, 123°16.90' W south to 48°24.89' N, 123°16.63' W east to 48°24.99' N, 123°14.99' W northwest to 48°25.83' N, 123°16.11' W then back to the point of commencement. (See Figure 6, Appendix 5)

Area 19: Fulford Reef: That portion of Subarea 19-4 inside a line commencing at the North Cardinal Buoy located at 48°26.89' N, 123°14.38' W southwest to 48°26.74' N, 123°14.75' W southeast to 48°26.52' N, 123°14.13' W northeast to 48°26.62' N, 123°13.98' W northwest to the point of commencement the North Cardinal Buoy. (See Figure 7, Appendix 5)

6.4. Permanent Closures

The following areas will be closed for Green Sea Urchins.

6.4.1. Area 1

Subarea 1-6. (First Nations access for food, social and ceremonial purposes)

6.4.2. Area 2

Gwaii Haanas National Marine Conservation Area Reserve and Haida Heritage Site, Burnaby Narrows: Those waters of Subareas 2-13 and 2-16 inside a line commencing at 52°23.071' N and 131°20.427' W, east to a point at 52°23.079' N and 131°22.790' W, then following the southern shoreline of Kat Island east to a point at 52°23.104' N and 131°22.193' W, then east to a point at 52°23.303' N and 131°22.277' W, then following the western shoreline of Burnaby Island south to a point at 52°20.982' N and 131°20.427' W, then west to a point at 52°20.733' N and 131°21.063' W, then north following the eastern shoreline of Moresby Island back to the point of commencement. (National Marine Conservation Area).

Gwaii Haanas National Marine Conservation Area Reserve and Haida Heritage Site, Louscoone Estuary: Those waters of Subareas 2-33 and 2-34 north of a line drawn from 52°11.828' N and 131°15.662' W east to 52°12.269' N and 131°14.579' W. (National Marine Conservation Area).

Gwaii Haanas National Marine Conservation Area Reserve and Haida Heritage Site, Flamingo Estuary: Those waters of Subarea 2-37 north of a line drawn from 52°14.523' N and 131°22.24' W southeast to 52°14.245' N and 131°21.481' W. (National Marine Conservation Area).

Gwaii Haanas National Marine Conservation Area Reserve and Haida Heritage Site, Gowgaia Estuary: Those waters of Subarea 2-41 east of a line drawn from 52°24.947' N and 131°32.13' W southeast to 52°24.233' N and 131°32.021' W. (National Marine Conservation Area).

Gwaii Haanas National Marine Conservation Area Reserve and Haida Heritage Site, Cape Saint James: Those waters of Subareas 2-19, 102-3, 130-3 and 142-1 inside a line commencing at 51°56.509' N and 131°01.547' W, southwest to a point at 51°55.499' N and 131°02.468' W, then southeast to a point at 51°52.493' N and 130°57.907' W, then south to a point at 51°51.655' N and 130°57.780' W, then southeast to a point at 51°50.395' N and 130°56.561' W, then northeast to a point at 51°51.054' N and 130°54.702' W, then north to a point at 51°53.826' N and 130°55.640' W, then northwest to a point at 51°58.517' N and 130°59.468' W, then west to a point at 51°58.727' N and 131°00.620' W then west following the southern

shoreline of Kungit Island back to the point of commencement. (National Marine Conservation Area).

Gwaii Haanas National Marine Conservation Area Reserve and Haida Heritage Site, SGang Gwaay: Those waters of Subareas 2-31 and 142-1 inside a 3 km radius from the centre point on Anthony Island located at 52°05.655' N and 131°13.178' W. (National Marine Conservation Area).

6.4.3. Area 5

Kitkatla Inlet and adjacent waters: Subarea 5-3 and that portion of Subarea 5-10 excluding the area of Beaver Passage and Schooner Passage inside of a line commencing at a fishing boundary sign at the northwest point of Spicer Island to the northwest point of McCauley Island, then following the shoreline of McCauley Island to Baird Point, then to Sentinel Islet, then to Boys Point, then to a boundary sign on the east side of Spicer Island. (First Nations access for food, social and ceremonial purposes)

6.4.4. Area 12

Port Neville: Subarea 12-25. (Marine Reserve Area/Research Area)

6.4.5. Area 13, 14, 15

All waters within 1.0 nautical mile of Mitlenatch Island, located in the upper Strait of Georgia intersected by the Subareas 15-2, 13-1, 13-3 and 14-13. (Marine Reserve)

6.4.6. Area 14

Hornby Island: Those waters of Lambert Channel and the Strait of Georgia, Subarea 14-7, inside a line commencing at Shingle Spit on Hornby Island, thence 239° true for 0.5 nautical miles, thence 126° true for 3.5 nautical miles, thence 64° true for 4.9 nautical miles, thence 304° true for 2.9 nautical miles, thence 213° true for 0.5 nautical miles to Cape Gurney on Hornby Island. (Marine Reserve)

6.4.7. Area 15

All waters within 0.5 nautical miles of Vivian Island, located approximately 5.0 nautical miles west of Powell River in Subarea 15-2. (Marine Reserve)

All waters within 0.25 nautical miles of Rebecca Rock, located 2.5 nautical miles west of Powell River in Subarea 15-2. (Marine Reserve)

All waters within 0.25 nautical miles of Dinner Rock, located 2.5 nautical miles south of Lund in Subarea 15-2. (Marine Reserve)

All waters within 0.5 nautical miles of the unnamed reef off Emmonds Beach, located approximately 4.0 nautical miles south of Lund in Subarea 15-2. (Marine Reserve)

All waters within a 0.25 nautical mile radius of the southerly end of the Beach Gardens breakwater in Subarea 15-2. (Marine Reserve)

6.4.8. Area 16

Skookumchuck Narrows Provincial Park: Those waters of Skookumchuck Narrows and Sechelt Rapids in Subarea 16-9 bounded on the west by a line from a point on the foreshore at the westerly limit of Secret Bay on Sechelt Peninsula thence 50° true to a point on the

foreshore on the mainland; and the east by a line from Raland Point on Sechelt Peninsula, thence 50° true to a point on the foreshore on the mainland. (Park)

6.4.9. Area 18

Subareas 18-7 (Sansum Narrows, Burgoyne Bay and Maple Bay) and 18-8 (Cowichan Bay): (Conservation)

6.4.10. Area 19

Ogden Point: Those waters of Subarea 19-3 inside a line from the navigation light at the western end of the Ogden Point Causeway thence to Brotchie Ledge Light, thence to Holland Point on Vancouver Island. (Marine Reserve)

10 Mile Point: Those waters of Subareas 19-4 and 19-5 within 0.4 nautical miles of Cadboro Pt. navigation light. (Marine Reserve)

Race Rocks: Those waters of Subareas 19-3 and 20-5 within 0.5 nautical miles of Great Race Rock. (Marine Reserve) This area is being considered for a Marine Protected Area (MPA). The closure boundary description may change.

6.4.11. Area 20

Botanical Beach Provincial Park: That portion of Subarea 20-3 between the lowest low water on record and the highest high water on record from San Juan Point thence following the Vancouver Island shoreline easterly to the mouth of Tom Baird Creek. (Marine Reserve)

Pacific Rim National Park, Juan de Fuca: That portion of Subarea 20-1 between the lowest low water on record and the highest high water on record from Bonilla Light thence following the shoreline of Vancouver Island easterly to Owen Point. (Park)

Beecher Bay: Those waters of Subarea 20-5 north of a line running from Church Point to Beechy Head. (First Nations access for food, social and ceremonial purposes)

6.4.12. Area 23

Pacific Rim National Park: Those waters lying within Park Boundaries as shown, since 1989, on Canadian Hydrographic Service Chart 3671. (Park)

Bamfield Marine Station Research Area Closure: Those waters of Pacific Fishery Management Subareas 23-4, 23-6 and 23-7 bounded by a line commencing at the light at Whittlestone Point and running directly to the southern tip of Haines Island; from the northwestern tip of Haines Island to the southern tip of Seppings Island; from the northwestern tip of Seppings Island to Kirby Point on Diana Island; from Kirby Point directly to the northwest tip of Fry Island; from the northwestern tip of Fry Island to the nearest adjacent point on Tzartus Island; from Foucault Bluff on Tzartus Island to the northwest tip of Nanat Island; from the eastern tip of Nanat Island to the nearest adjacent point on Vancouver Island and thence along the coastline of Vancouver Island to the point of commencement. (Research Area)

6.4.13. Area 24

Barney Rocks: Those waters of Subarea 24-2 and 24-3 within 25 m of Barney Rocks. (First Nations access for food, social and ceremonial purposes)

Pacific Rim National Park, Grice Bay & McBey Islets: The waters of Tofino Inlet within Pacific Rim National Park including McBey Islets and Dinner Island in Tsapee Narrows, Browning Passage in Subarea 24-9 and Grice Bay west and south of Indian Island in Subarea 24-11. (Park)

6.4.14. Area 25

Friendly Cove and Santa Gertrudis Cove: That portion of Subareas 25-6 and 25-7 inside a line from a white triangular fishing boundary sign on Nootka Island near the northerly entrance to Santa Gertrudis Cove, thence true east 0.25 nautical miles, thence true south one nautical mile, thence westerly to Yuquot Point on Nootka Island, thence to the point of commencement. (First Nations access for food, social and ceremonial purposes)

6.4.15. Area 26

Checleset Bay Fishery Closure Area: Those portions of Areas 26 and 126 enclosed by a line drawn from a point on the Brooks Peninsula (at 127°49.58' W long., 50°05.18' N lat.), thence due south to the 50° parallel, thence due east to Alert Point on Lookout Island, thence northeasterly to a point on Vancouver Island near McLean Island (at 127°25.03' W long., 50°02.1' N lat.), thence northwesterly along the shore of Vancouver Island to Malksope Point (at 127°28.95' W long., 50°05.53' N lat.), thence due west to a point mid-channel on the southeast end of Gay Passage (at 127°30.1' W long., 50°05.53' N lat.), thence mid-channel through Gay Passage to a point mid-channel on the northwest end of Gay Passage (at 127°31.8' W long., 50°06.7' N lat.), thence northwesterly to the shore of Vancouver Island, just west of Theodore Point (at 127°32.8' W long., 50°07.7' N lat.), thence westerly along the Vancouver Island shore to an unnamed point on the east side of Nasparti Inlet (at 127°38.6' W long., 50°08.75' N lat.), thence westerly across Nasparti Inlet to an unnamed point on Vancouver Island (at 127°37.8' W long., 50°08.7' N lat.), thence along the Vancouver Island shore to the point of commencement

6.4.16. Area 28

Porteau Cove: That portion of Subarea 28-4, east of a line drawn from a white fishing boundary sign located on the south shore of Porteau Cove to a white fishing boundary sign located on the north shore of Porteau Cove. (Marine Reserve)

Whytecliff Park: That portion of Subarea 28-2 bounded by a line commencing from the most southerly point of Whytecliff Park; thence in a straight line to a point located 100 m east of the most southeasterly point of Whyte It.; thence following the southern shoreline of Whyte It. at a distance of 100 m to a point lying 100 m from the most southwesterly point of Whyte It.; thence in a straight line to a point lying 100 m west of White Cliff Point; thence following the shoreline at a distance of 100 m in a northerly direction to a point 100 m north of Lookout Point; thence following the shoreline at a distance of 100 m in an easterly direction to a point 100 m perpendicular to the most northerly point of Whytecliff Park; thence to the most northerly point of Whytecliff Park on the mainland. (Marine Reserve)

6.4.17. Portions of Subareas 101-1 and 142-2

Area bounded by a series of rhumb lines drawn from a point 53°03'07.6" N, 135°50'25.9" W, to a point 53°16'20.9" N, 134°59'55.4" W, then to a point 53°39'49.2" N, 135°17'04.9" W, then to a point 53°39'18.0" N, 135°53'46.5" W, then to a point 53°52'16.7" N, 136°30'23.1" W, then to a point 53°49'19.6" N, 136°47'33.1" W, then to a point 53°40'02.5" N, 136°57'03.5" W, then to a point 53°13'59.2" N, 136°10'00.0" W, then back to the point of

commencement as laid out in the Bowie Seamount Marine Protected Area Regulations.
(Marine Protected Area)

7. WORKSAFE BC

WorkSafeBC exercises jurisdiction over workplace health and safety, including the activities of crews of fishing vessels. Commercial fishing, diving and other marine operations are subject to the provisions of the *Workers Compensation Act (WCA)* and requirements in Part 24 of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation (OHSR). Examples of Part 24 regulatory requirements related to fishing include, but are not limited to, the requirement to establish emergency procedures, to conduct emergency drills, to provide immersion suits for the crew, to provide stability documentation for the vessel, safe work procedures, injury reporting, correction of unsafe working conditions, the requirement to wear personal floatation devices (PFDs), etc.

Other sections of the OHSR also apply to commercial fishing operations. For example, Part 3 addresses training of young and new workers, first aid, and employer incident/accident investigations. Part 4 addresses general conditions such as maintenance of equipment, workplace conduct and impairment. Part 8 addresses issues related to safety headgear, safety footwear, eye and face protection, limb and body protection and personal floatation devices (PFDs) when working on the dock. Part 12 addresses issues related to tools, machinery and equipment, including safeguarding. Part 15 addresses issues related to rigging.

Both owners and masters of fishing vessels are considered to be employers. Under the *Workers Compensation Act* and the OHS Regulation (OHSR) they have varying and overlapping duties and responsibilities. Masters, because they have the most control during fishing and related activities, are considered to be the employer with primary responsibility for the health and safety of the crew.

The OHSR and the *WCA* are available from the Provincial Crown Printers or by visiting the WorkSafeBC website: www.worksafebc.com

NOTE: Regarding the OHSR requirement to wear PFD's, WorkSafeBC has produced a video entitled "Turning the Tide – PFD's in the Fishing Industry". For more information on PFD use, including a link to the video, please access the following site:

<https://www.worksafebc.com/en/about-us/news-events/news-releases/2018/November/new-fishing-industry-safety-video?origin=s&returnurl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.worksafebc.com%2Fen%2Fsearch%23q%3DTurning%2520the%2520Tide%26sort%3Drelevancy%26f%3Alanguage-facet%3D%5BEnglish%5D>

For further information, contact an Occupational Safety Officer:

Bruce Logan Field Services Vancouver/Richmond/Delta (604) 244-6477
Cody King Field Services Courtenay (250) 334-8733
Paul Matthews Field Services Courtenay (250) 334-8741
Wayne Tracey Field Services Central (604) 232-1939
or the Manager of Interest for Marine and Fishing, Pat Olsen (250) 334-8777

For information on projects and initiatives related to commercial fishing health and safety please contact Tom Pawlowski, Manager, OHS Consultation and Education Services, at (604) 233-4062 or

by email: tom.pawlowski@worksafebc.com or Helen Chandler, OHS Consultant at (604) 276-3174
or by email: helen.chandler@worksafebc.com.