

AREA B and AREA H FRASER SOCKEYE AND PINK ITQ DEMONSTRATION FISHERY

2015 GUIDELINES

The following information is provided as a guide to the Area B and Area H Individual Transferable Quota Demonstration fishery. These guidelines are intended for general purposes only. Where there is a discrepancy between the guidelines and the licence conditions, the 2015/2016 Area B Seine Licence Conditions or the 2015/2016 Area H Troll Licence Conditions are the final authority.

Total mortality approach for managing Area B and H Individual Transferable Quota shares for Fraser sockeye and pink salmon:

- Individual licence holders will have the flexibility to decide how to use their available quotas (ITQs) of sockeye and pink salmon during fishery openings and subject to conditions of licence.
- Accounting of ITQs for Fraser River sockeye will be based on total mortalities, including retained catch and assessed release mortalities; for Fraser pink salmon accounting will only include retained catch (release mortalities will not be tracked).
- For any pink or sockeye retained, catches will be attributed to available vessel ITQ on a 1 for 1 basis.
- All Fraser sockeye and pink salmon retained will be verified by 100% mandatory landing and independent dockside monitoring.
- Sockeye release mortality will also be attributed to available vessel ITQ based on the steps below.
- **All sockeye retained and sockeye release mortalities will be attributed to ITQs. Sockeye Release mortalities will be assessed as follows:**

Step 1. The ratio of sockeye: pink salmon encounters (i.e. % sockeye) will be assessed for both Area B and H fleets. The sockeye: pink encounters will be based on independent at-sea observer data. Different encounter rates will be used for each fleet (B vs. H), Area (e.g. Area 12, 13, 18, 29) and time (daily). Note: The same encounter rates will be applied to all vessels in each fleet in each Area on a given day, except those vessels with a stationary observer that have an encounter rate less than the fleet average (see Appendix E).

Step 2. The validated pink catch for a vessel will be used to calculate the sockeye encounters.

- i) if no sockeye were retained, then sockeye release mortality will be assessed against the sockeye ITQ and calculated as the fleet-wide sockeye encounter rate multiplied by the total pink landing multiplied by the sockeye release mortality rate.
- ii) if sockeye were retained:

- a) in excess of the expected fleet-wide sockeye encounter rate based on the validated pink catch for the vessel, then the vessel's sockeye ITQ is reduced by the number of sockeye retained on a 1 for 1 basis and no sockeye release mortality will be applied;
- b) less than what would be expected based on the fleet-wide sockeye encounter rate applied to the validated pink catch for the vessel, then the vessel's sockeye ITQ will be reduced by the number of sockeye retained on a 1 for 1 basis, plus the sockeye release mortality applied to the difference between the number retained and what would be expected based on the fleet-wide sockeye encounter rate.

Step 3. Sockeye release mortality rates will be fixed at 10% for Area H Troll and 25% for Area B Seine.

For example:

1. A troll vessel landing 400 pink salmon and no sockeye from Area 12 on August 20 with a fleet-wide sockeye encounter rate from observer data of 15% sockeye for that day and area would be assessed a release mortality of 6 sockeye against their quota as follows:

$$400 \text{ pinks} \times 0.15 \text{ encounter rate} \times 0.10 \text{ release mortality} = 6 \text{ sockeye mortalities}$$

2. A seine vessel landing 10,000 pink salmon and 400 sockeye from Area 12 on August 28 with a fleet-wide sockeye encounter rate from observer data of 7% sockeye for that day and area would be assessed 475 sockeye against their quota as follows:

$$10,000 \text{ pinks} \times 0.07 \text{ encounter rate} = 700 \text{ expected sockeye encounters}$$

$$700 \text{ expected sockeye} - 400 \text{ landed sockeye} = 300 \text{ releases}$$

$$300 \text{ releases} \times 0.25 \text{ release mortality} = 75 \text{ sockeye release mortalities}$$

$$400 \text{ landed sockeye} + 75 \text{ sockeye release mortalities} = 475 \text{ total sockeye mortalities}$$

(See additional examples in Appendix F)

This approach allows for direct transferability of sockeye and pink ITQs between Area B and Area H vessels and allows for different release mortality rates for the Area B and H fleets.

Setting TAC and Associated Quota Shares:

- The Area B Seine Fraser River sockeye quota will be determined by DFO by dividing the Area B Seine Fraser River sockeye allocation (percent), by the total number of licensed vessels for Area B multiplied by the available Fraser River sockeye commercial Total Allowable Catch (TAC) determined in-season.

- The Area H Troll Fraser River sockeye quota will be determined using the same formula, i.e. by dividing the Area H Fraser River sockeye allocation (percent), by the total number of licensed vessels for Area H multiplied by the available Fraser River sockeye commercial TAC determined in-season.
- The Fraser River pink quota will be determined for both the Area B Seine and Area H Troll fleets using a similar approach to the above.
- The quota share will remain fixed in-season subject to amendments for seasonal quota transactions and will be expressed as a percentage of the commercial TAC.
- The commercial TAC for both sockeye and pink will be distributed over the course of the fishery in increments and will be cumulative over the course of the season.
- The commercial TAC will be announced by fishery notice and adjusted if necessary following Fraser River Panel meetings (usually Tuesday and Friday) depending on abundance and stock composition. Note, the commercial TAC announced will be for the purpose of determining shares in pieces of salmon for the ITQ demonstration fishery only.
- The pink commercial TAC may be adjusted to account for the proportion of the catch attributable to non-Fraser pinks.

Sockeye	Area B	Area H
No. of licences	168	76
Fleet share of SK	48.5%	4.8%
Individual licence share (Fleet Share/# licences)	0.28869%	0.06316%

Pink	Area B	Area H
No. of licences	168	76
Fleet share of Pink	82.5%	10%
Individual licence share (Fleet Share/# licences)	0.49107%	0.13158%

Calculating Sockeye Encounters

- Encounter rates based on observer data will be assessed daily by gear type and area, and applied to all vessels in each fleet in a given area.
- Encounter rates estimated from individual observers on the same gear in the same area in the same day will be averaged to provide a single estimated encounter rate (e.g. a single data point below).
- The encounter rates for a given day will be entered into the ITQ database on the next day.
- For same day trips, the encounter rate from the previous day or a projection may be used if the encounter rate is not yet available for the day the catch was landed.
- Examples are provided in Appendix F.

Catch Monitoring and Validation:

- Verification of at-sea releases is essential to the continued MSC certification of Fraser River sockeye and pink fisheries. Data collected by at-sea observers will be used to calculate fleet-wide releases. Poor compliance with permitting observers on-board to collect this data will impact future fishing opportunities.
- The level of coverage for at-sea observers will be determined in-season based on areas open to fishing, effort, and gear type for each day of fishing.
- Start, end, pause, cancel, and daily catch reports (as per conditions of licence) must be made by or on behalf of all Area B and Area H vessel masters by cellular (call or text), land line, or satellite phone to the salmon catch monitoring service provider or by E-log (please refer to your conditions of licence).
- Vessel masters must complete a logbook or E-log entry for each day of fishing.
- Catch validation, which will include dockside and designated packer landings, is a requirement of ITQ fisheries and must be arranged in advance by or on behalf of Area B and Area H vessel masters.
- Upon validation of the catch (including by-catch species) the vessel master must review and sign the validation form. The catch (including by-catch species) data will be entered into the ITQ database no later than 12 hours after the validation is complete. Release mortalities of Fraser sockeye will be calculated by the database and assessed against the sockeye ITQ based on pink catches, fleet wide sockeye encounter rates by area, and gear specific release mortality rates from observer data.
- Mandatory fish hold checks will be performed.
- Conditions of Licence list the designated offload ports.

For reference purposes, seine catch reporting requirements are attached in Appendix A (Johnstone Strait Seine Fishery and Catch Reporting Requirements), Appendix B (Area 20 Seine Fishery and Catch Reporting Requirements), and Appendix C (Area 29 Seine Fishery and Catch Reporting Requirements). The appendices also include further information regarding restrictions when fishing in designated seine test fishing locations (Appendix D), the management approach for this fishery (Appendix E), and examples of quota calculations for illustrative purposes (Appendix F).

Opening and Closing the Fishery:

- Areas will open normally, using Variation Orders and Fishery Notices.
- Area B and Area H fisheries will open after a Commercial TAC is identified.
- Certain fishing areas may be restricted to fisheries in order to avoid stocks of concern and to move the fleets into areas of lesser impact.
- Areas 12 and 13 as well as Areas 16, 18, 20, and 29 may not be open at the same time due to species and stock composition, diversion rate, observer coverage, and/or sockeye encounter rate.
- If at any point at the start of or during the season there is no commercial TAC available for Fraser sockeye or a conservation constraint (e.g. Cultus sockeye exploitation rate constraint) limits further commercial sockeye harvest, then the Department may close the fishery to retention of sockeye. In this situation, any fishing opportunities for retention of pink salmon will continue to be managed using

the ITQ demonstration fishery guidelines and sockeye release mortalities may continue to be tracked. Specific information for this situation will be communicated in-season via fishery notice.

Area Fishing Plans:

Appendices A, B, and C contain more detailed fishing plans, however at this time all fishing plans are very general and subject to change in-season following Fraser River Panel meetings. Fishery notices will be posted throughout the season to ensure the most up to date information regarding the Area B and Area H fishing plans is available on a timely basis.

Areas 12 and 13: Anticipated start date for the Area B and Area H fisheries is mid-August, and will be confirmed by Fishery Notice dependant on in-season information. Area B and Area H fisheries are planned for five to seven days per week, to be confirmed by Fishery Notice. If there are consecutive weeks of fishing available, Area B may be limited to a maximum of 5 days of fishing per week at the start of the season; additional days may be considered in-season. Fishing restrictions in test fishing areas are outlined in Appendix D and will be confirmed by Fishery Notice in-season.

Area 16: Consideration may be given in-season for Fraser River sockeye and pink fisheries in Sabine Channel subject to Sakinaw constraints as well as constraints for other stocks of concern.

Area 20: In 2014, the Area B Harvest Committee requested the Department review the coho release mortality rate previously set at 70%; the release mortality rate was set at 50%. The coho release mortality rate will remain at 50% for the 2015 fishing season and observer coverage will be mandatory.

The anticipated start date for the Area B fishery will be confirmed by Fishery Notice. Opportunities in this fishery will be dependent on in-season assessment information, diversion rate, and coho impacts.

Areas 18 and 29: Options for fishing off the river in Area 29 and in Area 18 for Area B and Area H will be confirmed by Fishery Notice. A proposal for an Area 29 in-river demonstration fishery for the Area B fishery is outlined in the IFMP.

Test Fishing: To ensure test fishing information is not compromised during the ITQ fishery, restrictions are in effect when fishing near assessment boats (Appendix D). **Sub-area and opening times will be modified in-season and announced on the grounds by DFO representatives and by Fishery Notice. If any conflicts arise changes to the opening times and fishing areas will be announced by Fishery Notice.**

Quota Transfers:

- Licence holders or designates are encouraged to register with the Quota Transfer Officer prior to the fishing season. The contact information will be used in season to

contact the licence holder, designate or skipper in the event of an overage or discrepancy with catch data. Licence holders/designates can confirm their available quota by contacting the Quota Transfer Officer:

Christine Bukta

Phone: (250) 286-5888

Fax: (250) 286-5898

Email: Christine.Bukta@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

- Quota may be reallocated as a percent (for the season) or by pieces (for example, to temporarily cover an overage). Note that once any pieces have been transferred from a licence you can no longer transfer the entire remaining percentage.
- Quota will be transferable within each licence area (e.g. Area B to Area B or Area H to Area H) as well as between licence areas (e.g. Area B to Area H or Area H to Area B). The Department may consider transfers outside of Area B and Area H. Refer to Appendix 7, Section 7.16 of the 2015-2016 South Coast Salmon IFMP for more details.
- Where the Department has received for processing two or more conflicting requests for trading, all of the requests for trading will be denied.
- Given the short window of fishing opportunity, quota transfers will be permitted while vessels are on-grounds, however if a vessel is in an overage situation they cannot continue to fish until that overage has been covered.
- DFO staff will enter the quota transfer into the ITQ database during normal working hours (8am to 4pm Monday to Friday). If required, additional hours will be available in-season.
- Quota reallocation forms will be available from:
 - Christine Bukta (250) 286-5888 or Christine.Bukta@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
 - Matt Mortimer (250) 286-5814 or Matt.Mortimer@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
 - Beth Pechter (250) 286-5880 or Beth.Pechter@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Overages:

- Overages must be covered by a quota reallocation within **24 hours of landing and validation** (the '24 hour rule'). Vessels are not permitted to recommence fishing until all overages have been covered.
- An increase in the TAC cannot be used to cover an overage. The quota being transferred to a vessel in an overage situation must be quota that was available prior to the TAC increase.
- Overages as a result of a run downgrade must be covered by a quota reallocation.
- An overage occurring as a consequence of a decrease in the TAC will not have to be covered if the fishery is closed for the duration of the season.
- If a vessel recommences fishing when in an overage situation, Conservation and Protection (C&P) will be notified immediately. Vessels are not permitted to recommence fishing until all overages have been covered.

Transshipping:

- Area B and Area H vessels will be permitted to move fish from one vessel to another on the grounds.

- If a vessel transports and lands fish from other vessels, quota reallocations must be made within 24 hours of landing with the catch assigned to the landing vessel only when the landing vessel has a quota overage.
- All vessels are required to document in the Offload Catch Report section of the logbook or E-log, when fish has been pooled (transhipped) onto another vessel or vessels.
- Transporting vessels must document, and provide to the landing observer service provider, detailed information on the name of the vessel that caught the fish, the date the fish were caught, the location (subarea) in which the fish were caught and the amount of each species retained and landed.

Packer-based Validation Information:

- On-board validators will follow the landing observer service provider's established procedures for verifying catch and performing mandatory hold checks.
- Packers without on-board validators will have the total catch validated by dock-side validators. These packers will need to contact the landing observer service provider when all catch is loaded onto the packer and provide the vessel name and company, date, time and location of landing site, total number of pieces by species and product weight by species.
- Vessel masters using packers must ensure that individual vessel catch numbers are phoned in to the catch reporting service provider on a daily basis.
- Packers must document, and provide to the landing observer service provider, detailed information on the name of the vessel that caught the fish, the date the fish were caught, the location (subarea) in which the fish were caught and the amount of each species retained and landed.

Vessel Validation Information:

- **To avoid discrepancies in quota and validation records, vessel masters must review and sign the validation slip.**
- When reporting catch to the service provider, vessel masters must provide an accurate breakdown of daily catch so that the service provider can enter the data in the ITQ database.

Service Provider Requirements:

- The service provider is to provide DFO with copies of all validation forms. Validations must be provided to DFO within 24 hours of completing the validation.
- The catch (including by-catch species) validation data will be entered into the ITQ database no later than 12 hours after the validation is complete.
- The service provider is required to perform quality assurance and quality control on all data entered into the ITQ database. Regular checks must be completed to verify the accuracy of the data entry.

APPENDIX A

Johnstone Strait Seine Fishery and Catch Reporting Requirements

This document is for information purposes only. Where there is a discrepancy between this document and the Conditions of 2015/2016 Area B Seine Licence, the Conditions of Licence shall prevail.

Opening dates/times

Fishers must have a valid 2015/2016 Salmon Area B licence, complete with *Conditions of 2015/2016 Salmon Area B Licence*.

Seines open, as per in-season Fishery Notices, in portions of Areas 12 and 13. Fishery openings and closures will also be announced on the grounds by the Charter Patrol vessel.

In Areas 12 and 13, the target species in the fishery is Fraser River sockeye and pink salmon, subject to in-season abundance information. The incidental catch and retention of chum may be permitted in the areas open to fishing. There will be non-retention of coho, chinook and steelhead.

Seine vessel masters are reminded that mandatory brailing and sorting of catch is required, as is the use of revival tanks.

Min Bunt Mesh 70 mm. The use of power skiffs is not permitted.

Test-fishing

Vessel masters are reminded that test fishing vessels will be operating during the fishery in Areas 12 and 13. Vessels planning to fish near the test fishing locations are not to interfere with test fishing operations. Test fishing information is a key component of the in-season assessment of Fraser River sockeye and pink returns. If interference with test fishing activities occurs, fishery closures in test fishing locations will be considered. Please see the attached Appendix D for more detail pertaining to fishing in the Test-Fishing Zones.

Catch reporting requirements

When fishing in Area 12 and 13 the following on-grounds catch reporting information must be reported during the fishery as specified in Conditions of 2015/2016 Salmon Area B Licence:

(1) **Start fishing report**: Vessel masters must, prior to leaving for the fishing grounds, phone Archipelago Marine Research Ltd. (AMR) at 1-888-387-0007 and provide a start fishing report and announce their intention to fish by providing the following information to the catch reporting service provider: harvest log identification number, Salmon Licence Area, vessel master's name and Fisher

Identification Number, intended fishing start date, areas to be fished and on board contact information.

(2) Daily catch reports: At the end of each fishing day prior to 08:00 hours of the next day, the vessel master must, as a condition of licence, record their catch information in their Salmon Logbook and report their catch by calling 1-888-387-0007.

(3) End fishing report: Within 24 hours of the end of a fishing trip and prior to commencing a subsequent fishing trip, the vessel master shall phone 1-888-387-0007 to provide an End Fishing Report.

(4) Trip cancellation report: Should a vessel master decide not to fish after having obtained a Trip Identification Number (for a Start Fishing Report) the vessel master shall phone 1-888-387-0007 to provide a Trip Cancellation Report.

(5) Test-fishing zone catch reports: Additional catch reporting requirements may be in effect while fishing in the Test-Fishing Zones. Please see Appendix D for more information.

Notes:

- For a complete list of reporting requirements refer to the Conditions of 2015/2016 Salmon Area B Licence.
- Vessels with operational E-logs are not required to call or record catch reports in a Salmon Logbook; however the data, as outlined in the requirements in items 1-5 above, must be submitted electronically as per the conditions of licence.
- **When fishing in Subarea 12-3, it is important to differentiate between fishing in Subarea 12-3W (west of Robson Bight) and 12-3E (east of Robson Bight).**

Catch Validation Requirements

(1) Catch validation is mandatory and individual licence holders are required to make their own arrangements with a landing observer service provider authorized by the Department. Licence holders that plan to harvest sockeye and pink salmon are encouraged to register with the landing observer service provider in advance of the fishery to confirm arrangements. For further information contact J.O. Thomas and Associates (ph: 1-866-930-4000).

(a) Prior to any dockside landing of fish, the vessel master shall hail in to the landing observer service provider at 1-866-930-4000 between 06:00 hours and 18:00 hours seven days per week and provide the following information:

- vessel name;

- vessel registration number;
- name and Fisher Identification Number of the vessel master;
- contact phone number;
- date, time, port and location of landing of the fish;
- name of fish buying station where fish are to be landed;
- product type;
- estimated number of pieces by species, by day;
- area fished; and
- number of sets made.

Note: As much notice as possible should be given so the landing observer service provider can make arrangements for a landing observer to be present for the landing which is a mandatory licence requirement.

(b) A salmon landing observer shall be present during all landings of catch to record the number and weight of each species of salmon delivered. This information will be entered into the ITQ database not later than 12 hours after validation has occurred.

(c) All salmon shall be landed at one of the following locations: Campbell River, French Creek, Greater Vancouver, Port Hardy, Port McNeill, Port Renfrew, or Quadra Island.

DFO contacts:

For additional information please contact:

Matt Mortimer	250-286-5814
Beth Pechter	250-286-5880

APPENDIX B

Area 20 Seine Fishery and Catch Reporting Requirements

This document is for information purposes only. Where there is a discrepancy between this document and the Conditions of 2015/2016 Area B Seine Licence, the Conditions of Licence shall prevail.

Opening dates/times

Fishers must have a valid 2015/2016 Salmon Area B licence, complete with Conditions of 2015/2016 Salmon Area B Licence.

Seines open, as per in-season Fishery Notices, in a portion of Subareas 20-1, 20-3 and 20-4 in waters deeper than 55 meters (30 fathoms).

In Area 20, the target species in this fishery is Fraser River sockeye and pink salmon, subject to in-season abundance information. There will be non-retention of coho, chum, chinook and steelhead.

Seine vessel masters are reminded that mandatory brailing and sorting of catch are required, as is the use of revival tanks. Power skiffs are permitted to be used.

Min Bunt Mesh 100 mm.

Test-fishing

Vessel masters are reminded that test fishing vessels will be operating during the fishery in Area 20. Vessels planning to fish near the test fishing locations are not to interfere with test fishing operations. Test fishing information is a key component of the in-season assessment of Fraser River sockeye and pink returns. If interference with test fishing activities occurs, fishery closures in test fishing locations will be implemented.

Catch reporting requirements

When fishing in Area 20 the following additional on-grounds catch reporting information must be reported during the fishery as specified in Conditions of 2015/2016 Salmon Area B Licence:

(1) Start fishing report: Vessel masters must, prior to leaving for the fishing grounds, phone Archipelago Marine Research Ltd. (AMR) at 1-888-387-0007 and provide a start fishing report and announce their intention to fish by providing the following information to the catch reporting service provider: harvest log identification number, Salmon Licence Area, vessel master's name and Fisher Identification Number, intended fishing start date, areas to be fished and on board contact information.

(2) On-Grounds Reporting: Upon completion of a set (after brailing is completed), the Vessel Master shall report, to the at-sea observer, the **set number** for the current day's fishing, **time** the set was made, **set location** (grid area) and the **number of all species** of fish caught and retained or released. Log sheets for recording and reporting individual set information will be provided by DFO or the at-sea observer prior to commencement of the fishery. The observer will relay the information to the DFO manager upon completion of the set. As communications may be limited, the set by set information may need to be provided to the DFO manager at the end of each fishing day.

(a) The observer or DFO will provide the fishing vessel skippers participating in this fishery a chart prior to the commencement of the fishery. This chart divides the fishing area into grid areas and catches by set will be recorded in correspondence to the grid areas.

(3) Daily catch reports: At the end of each fishing day prior to 08:00 hours of the next day, the vessel master must, as a condition of licence, record their catch information in their Salmon Logbook and report their catch by calling 1-888-387-0007.

(4) End fishing report: Within 24 hours of the end of a fishing trip and prior to commencing a subsequent fishing trip, the vessel master shall phone 1-888-387-0007 to provide an End Fishing Report.

(5) Trip cancellation report: Should a vessel master decide not to fish after having obtained a Trip Identification Number (for a Start Fishing Report) the vessel master shall phone 1-888-387-0007 to provide a Trip Cancellation Report.

Notes:

- For a complete list of reporting requirements refer to the Conditions of 2015/2016 Salmon Area B Licence.
- Vessels with operational E-logs are not required to call or record catch reports in a Salmon Logbook; however the data, as outlined in the requirements in items 1-5 above, must be submitted electronically as per the conditions of licence.

Catch Validation Requirements

(1) Catch validation is mandatory and individual licence holders are required to make their own arrangements with a landing observer service provider authorized by the Department. Licence holders that plan to harvest sockeye and pink salmon are encouraged to register with the landing observer service provider in advance of the fishery to confirm arrangements. For further information contact J.O. Thomas and Associates (ph: 1-866-930-4000).

(a) Prior to any dockside landing of fish, the vessel master shall hail in to the authorized landing observer service provider at 1-866-930-4000 between 06:00 hours and 18:00 hours seven days per week and provide the following information:

- vessel name;
- vessel registration number;
- name and Fisher Identification Number of the vessel master;
- contact phone number;
- date, time, port and location of landing of the fish;
- name of fish buying station where fish are to be landed;
- product type;
- estimated number of pieces by species, by day;
- area fished; and
- number of sets made.

Note: As much notice as possible should be given so the landing observer service provider can make arrangements for a landing observer to be present for the landing which is a mandatory licence requirement.

(b) A landing observer shall be present during all landings of catch to record the number and weight of each species of salmon delivered. This information will be entered into the ITQ database not later than 12 hours after validation has occurred.

(c) All salmon shall be landed at one of the following locations: Campbell River, French Creek, Greater Vancouver, Port Hardy, Port McNeill, Port Renfrew, or Quadra Island.

DFO contacts:

For additional information please contact:

Matt Mortimer	250-286-5814
Beth Pechter	250-286-5880

APPENDIX C

Area 29 Seine Fishery and Catch Reporting Requirements

This document is for information purposes only. Where there is a discrepancy between this document and the Conditions of 2015/2016 Area B Seine Licence, the Conditions of Licence shall prevail.

Opening dates/times

Fishers must have a valid 2015/2016 Salmon Area B licence, complete with Conditions of 2015/2016 Salmon Area B Licence.

Seines open, as per in-season Fishery Notices, in portions of Area 29. Typical Subareas that may open include 29-3, 29-4, and 29-6. Options to fish in the latter Subareas, as well as portions of Subareas 29-7, 29-9, and 29-10 will be determined in-season and announced by Fishery Notice. Fishery openings and closures will also be announced by Fishery Notice.

In Area 29, the target species in this fishery is Fraser River sockeye and pink salmon, subject to in-season abundance information. The incidental catch of chum may be retained in the areas open to fishing. There will be non-retention of coho, chinook and steelhead. Increased observer coverage may be required for fisheries in this area.

Seine vessel masters are reminded that mandatory brailing and sorting of catch are required, as is the use of revival tanks. Power skiffs are permitted to be used.

Min Bunt Mesh 70 mm.

Catch reporting requirements

When fishing in Area 29 the following on-grounds catch reporting information must be reported during the fishery as specified in Conditions of 2015/2016 Salmon Area B Licence:

(1) Start fishing report: Vessel masters must, prior to leaving for the fishing grounds, phone Archipelago Marine Research Ltd. (AMR) at 1-888-387-0007 and provide a start fishing report and announce their intention to fish by providing the following information to the catch reporting service provider: harvest log identification number, Salmon Licence Area, vessel master's name and Fisher Identification Number, intended fishing start date, areas to be fished and on board contact information.

(2) Daily catch reports: At the end of each fishing day prior to 08:00 hours of the next day, the vessel master must, as a condition of licence, record their catch information in their Salmon Logbook and report their catch by calling

1-888-387-0007.

(3) End fishing report: Within 24 hours of the end of a fishing trip and prior to commencing a subsequent fishing trip, the vessel master shall phone 1-888-387-0007 to provide an End Fishing Report.

(4) Trip cancellation report: Should a vessel master decide not to fish after having obtained a Trip Identification Number (for a Start Fishing Report) the vessel master shall phone 1-888-387-0007 to provide a Trip Cancellation Report.

Notes:

- For a complete list of reporting requirements refer to the Conditions of 2015/2016 Salmon Area B Licence.
- Vessels with operational E-logs are not required to call or record catch reports in a Salmon Logbook; however the data, as outlined in the requirements in items 1-5 above, must be submitted electronically as per the conditions of licence.

Catch Validation Requirements

(1) Catch validation is mandatory and individual licence holders are required to make their own arrangements with a landing observer service provider authorized by the Department. Licence holders that plan to harvest sockeye and pink salmon are encouraged to register with the landing observer service provider in advance of the fishery to confirm arrangements. For further information contact J.O. Thomas and Associates (ph: 1-866-930-4000).

(a) Prior to any dockside landing of fish, the vessel master shall hail in to the authorized landing observer service provider at 1-866-930-4000 between 06:00 hours and 18:00 hours seven days per week and provide the following information:

- vessel name;
- vessel registration number;
- name and Fisher Identification Number of the vessel master;
- contact phone number;
- date, time, port and location of landing of the fish;
- name of fish buying station where fish are to be landed;
- product type;
- estimated number of pieces by species, by day;
- area fished; and
- number of sets made.

Note: As much notice as possible should be given so the landing observer service provider can make arrangements for a landing observer to be present for the landing which is a mandatory licence requirement.

(b) A salmon landing observer shall be present during all landings of catch to record the number and weight of each species of salmon delivered. This information will be entered into the ITQ database not later than 12 hours after validation has occurred.

(c) All salmon shall be landed at one of the following locations: Campbell River, French Creek, Greater Vancouver, Port Hardy, Port McNeill, Port Renfrew, or Quadra Island.

DFO contacts:

For additional information please contact:

Barb Mueller	604-666-2370
Matt Mortimer	250-286-5814
Beth Pechter	250-286-5880

APPENDIX D

2015 Fraser Sockeye Commercial Fishery Restrictions in Designated Seine Test Fishing Locations

- In-season test-fishing assessment information in the marine approach areas is critical in estimating abundances of returning Fraser River sockeye and pink stocks and identifying available harvest levels.
- Commercial fisheries are anticipated in the marine areas in 2015. Commercial fisheries must be structured and scheduled to ensure that test fishing assessment information is not compromised.
- This is particularly critical in the Area B Seine Individual Transferable Quota (ITQ) fishery which provides for additional days of fishing than would be permitted under a derby-style fishery.

Johnstone Strait:

Area 12

Area B Seine ITQ Fishery Restrictions:

- Subarea 12-3 is a Test Fishing Zone. **Catch reports must differentiate between fish caught in 12-3W (west of Robson Bight) and 12-3E (east of Robson Bight).**
- DFO and the PSC will need the cooperation from as many ITQ vessels as possible fishing in the Test Fishing Zone to record set-by-set information. All ITQ vessels must have set-by-set data sheets or E-logs onboard while fishing in the Test Fishing Zone. Data sheets will be available for pickup from the test vessel or from the Charter Patrol in that area. **ITQ vessels fishing in the Test Fishing Zone are required to record set-by-set catch and effort information;** this includes the duration of set times from time when the net goes in the water until the time when the rings are up (closed). E-log software has been modified so that vessel masters are able to send individual set-by-set information. **Please note:** E-log software can handle set-by-set catch information, but at this time, set times and duration of sets cannot be reported by the E-log software. Vessel masters are requested to record set times and set durations separate from the E-log entries.
- Test-fishing vessels will announce their fishing pattern on the grounds for each 4 day test-fishing period.
- Test-fishing vessel will start at the lower areas 1st (Fine Beach or Robson Bight) and work seaward towards Blinkhorn.
- Test-fishing vessel will start fishing 1 hour earlier each day from the previous years (net in the water by 07:00 hours).

- Below Robson Bight will be assessed every 2nd day; Robson Bight will be assessed every day.
- Test-fishing vessel's first set each day will be 07:00 hours at either Fine Beach or Robson Bight and proceed seaward towards Blinkhorn. During this time no vessel will be permitted to fish in front of the test fishing vessel, within 1 net length of the beach. The test-fishing vessel will announce when they have closed their net, after which ITQ vessels can commence fishing in that location. **Please note: Commercial opening times and areas will be announced by Fishery Notice.**
- **ITQ vessels must hail their intention to fish to the test-fishing vessel or to the on-grounds Charter Patrol vessel prior to conducting any fishing in the Test Fishing Zone.**
- **If there is interference with the test fishing vessel additional time and area closures will be implemented during the fishery between Fine Beach and Blinkhorn.**

Area 13

Area B Seine ITQ Fishery Restrictions:

- Loggers Pt to Little Bear Bight is a Test Fishing Zone.
- Regular lower boundary in effect at Loggers Pt.
- **ITQ vessels must hail their intention to fish to the test-fishing vessel or to the on-grounds Charter Patrol vessel prior to conducting any fishing in the Test Fishing Zone.**
- All ITQ vessels must have set-by-set data sheets or E-logs onboard while fishing in the Test Fishing Zone. Data sheets will be available for pickup from the test vessel or from the charter patrol in that area. **ITQ vessels fishing in the Test Fishing Zone are required to record set-by-set catch and effort information**; this includes the duration of set times from time when the net goes in the water until the time when the rings are up (closed). E-log software has been modified so that vessel masters are able to send individual set-by-set information. **Please note:** E-log software can handle set-by-set catch information, but at this time, set times and duration of sets cannot be reported by the E-log software. Vessel masters are requested to record set times and set durations separate from the E-log entries.
- Priority access for the test vessel is required in all designated test fishing locations.
- **If there is poor compliance, additional closures will be implemented during the fishery starting with a lower boundary at Bodega Pt.**

APPENDIX E

2015 FRASER RIVER SOCKEYE AND PINK INDIVIDUAL TRANSFERABLE QUOTA AREA B SEINE AND AREA H TROLL DEMONSTRATION FISHERY MANAGEMENT APPROACH

Fisheries and Oceans Canada has created this working document at the request of the Area B and H Salmon Harvest Committees to help guide pre-season Fraser sockeye and pink fishery planning. This document outlines some of the management approaches that will be used by the Department, but ultimately the management structure must remain flexible in order to respond to in-season information.

AREAS

The following Areas may be open to commercial sockeye and/or pink directed fisheries:

- Area H Troll- Areas 12, 13, 18, and 29.
- Area B Seine- Areas 12, 13, 16, 18, 20, and 29.

OBSERVERS

In 2011, Area H Troll vessels had very limited observer coverage. After preliminary review of the observer data early in the fishery, it was assumed that the sockeye encounter rate for troll vessels was less than the sockeye encounter rate for seine vessels. An additional observer day in late August lends support to this assumption. As troll vessels did not provide observers for most of the fishery the sockeye encounter rate for Area B Seines was applied; this procedure may have in fact penalized troll vessels as the seine encounter rate was assumed to be higher.

Area B Seine vessels provided observers in Areas 12, 13, and 29. The observers in Area 12 were split between Area 12 North (Subareas north of 12-4) and Area 12 South (Subareas 12-4, 12-3, and 12-1), with additional observers for some vessels that experimented with shallow seine gear modifications. Area 29 observers were placed on vessels fishing outside the 45m contour line and on vessels with shallow seine gear modifications fishing the "flats" (inside the 45m contour line). Those vessels fishing the flats with shallow seine nets had increased observer coverage to address concerns with coho, Chinook, and steelhead by-catch, and to monitor and record crab encounters and release condition (of crabs and coho).

For 2013, the Department required daily observer coverage in each Area where vessels were actively fishing. The number of observers required was based on the estimated fleet size fishing in a given Area on a given day. Given that sockeye were not to be retained, and the sockeye quota was to account for releases during the pink fisheries, observer coverage was critical in determining the sockeye encounter rates by areas. Observer coverage in Areas 12 and 29 were adequate, but the observer coverage in Area 13 was poor, with vessels avoiding taking observers during the opening.

For 2015, the Department will require daily observer coverage in each Area where vessels are actively fishing. The number of observers required will be based on the estimated fleet size fishing in a given Area on a given day, with a requirement for more observers early in the fishery when the sockeye encounter rates are high (>10%, assuming there is sufficient sockeye quota) and the sockeye/pink composition is fluctuating, as well as in transition areas (moving from Johnstone Strait to Area 29 fisheries). As the fishery progresses and sockeye encounter rates decrease and stabilize, the requirement for observer coverage may decrease, except those areas of special concern (due to stocks or species present or any habitat concerns).

For Area H troll vessels, observers will be necessary periodically during the fishery to verify the assumption that Area H vessels have a lower sockeye encounter rate versus seines. For those days on which Area H vessels take observers, the average fleet-wide encounter rate will be based on the Area H observer data for that fishing Area. If the assumption that Area H vessels have a lower sockeye encounter rate than Area B vessels continues, for those days and areas fished by troll vessels without any observer coverage, the average sockeye encounter rate for seines will be applied. If it is determined that the sockeye encounter rate is higher for troll vessels than for seine vessels, the Department will require the troll fleet to provide additional observers to determine the daily sockeye encounter rates. The additional observer coverage will be subject to fleet size and areas actively being fished.

For Area B seine vessels fishing in Johnstone Strait two to four observers will be required daily in each Area early in the fishery as determined by the Department. As the fishery progresses and the sockeye encounter rates decrease and stabilize this requirement may decrease. A decrease in observers will be subject to fleet size and in-season assessments of risks to sockeye by area managers. As fisheries transition to the mouth of the Fraser River, increased observer coverage will be required to confirm sockeye encounter rates and to monitor by-catch species (coho, Chinook, and steelhead) and crab encounters. Those vessels fishing shallower depth will require increased observer coverage. This increased observer coverage will extend to those vessels that may potentially fish in-river.

Fishing opportunities may also exist for Area B seine vessels in Areas 16, 18 and 20. Participation in these areas is likely to be limited however observer coverage will be required when vessels are actively fishing in these areas.

DEPLOYING OBSERVERS

The Department will work with the Area B and H Harvest Committee representatives and the at-sea observer service provider to determine how best to deploy observers based on Areas open to fishing, predicted fleet-size and previous sockeye encounter rate estimates. The final decision for deploying observers rests with the Department.

ROVING VS. STATIONARY OBSERVERS

Observers in Johnstone Strait may be stationary or roving. Roving observers are defined as observers that board a vessel after a set is completely closed prior to the brailing of any fish from the net and remain on that vessel until the last fish is removed from the net. Stationary observers are defined as observers that board a vessel at the start of a fishing trip prior to the commencement of any fishing and remain on the vessel for the entire fishing trip until the vessel has ended the fishing trip by landing the catch.

CALCULATION OF SOCKEYE ENCOUNTER RATE

Encounter rates based on observer data will be assessed daily by gear type and area, and applied to all vessels in each fleet in a given area. Encounter rates estimated from individual observers on the same gear in the same area in the same day will be averaged to provide a single estimated encounter rate for that Area and gear. The encounter rates for a given day will be entered into the ITQ database on the next day.

Note, those vessels with stationary observers will receive the lower of two options:

- Their vessels daily sockeye encounter rate; OR
- The average fleet-wide sockeye encounter rate.

TEST FISHERY DATA

Now that the Department has transitioned back to the use-of-fish to finance salmon test fishery activities, test fishery data may be more reliable than recent years as some fish will be taken on board.

The test fishery data may be used to supplement or augment the sockeye encounter rate data generated by the seine fleet. For example, in 2011 the test fishery data was used to supplement the observer data from Area 12 on September 6 as the stationary observer vessel had very poor fishing, catching 0 sockeye and 8 pinks vs. the Area 12 seine test vessel which caught 35 sockeye and 1,571 pinks.

DFO CONTACTS

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Appendix F

NOTE: These examples are for illustration purposes only. Actual quota amounts (in pieces) could vary substantially from those used in the examples and will be determined based on in-season assessment information.

Example 1: Cumulative TAC with Sockeye & Pink retention

	Week 1 - 1st week August				Week 2				Week 3				Week 4				Week 5 - last week Aug/1st week Sep				Week 6			
Hypothetical Sockeye TAC-Cumulative	224,000		PK "catch": 20,600		235,000		PK "catch": 7,600		235,500		PK "catch": 38,000		270,500		PK "catch": 1,794,000		277,500		PK "catch": 1,794,000		278,000		PK "catch": 60,800	
Hypothetical Pink TAC-Cumulative	2,000,000		PK "avail": 30,000		2,000,000		PK "avail": 275,000		4,000,000		PK "avail": 1,100,000		8,400,000		PK "avail": 2,200,000		8,400,000		PK "avail": 1,900,000		8,400,000		PK "avail": 560,000	
	Area B		Area H		Area B		Area H		Area B		Area H		Area B		Area H		Area B		Area H		Area B		Area H	
Calculations	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink
Initial ITQ allocation	0.2887%	0.4911%	0.0632%	0.1316%	0.2887%	0.4911%	0.0632%	0.1316%	0.2887%	0.4911%	0.0632%	0.1316%	0.2887%	0.4911%	0.0632%	0.1316%	0.2887%	0.4911%	0.0632%	0.1316%	0.2887%	0.4911%	0.0632%	0.1316%
Initial ITQ (pieces)	647	9,821	141	2,632	678	9,821	148	2,632	680	19,643	149	5,263	781	41,250	171	11,053	801	41,250	175	11,053	803	41,250	176	11,053
ITQ Remaining (pieces)	647	9,821	141	2,632	33	9,721	25	2,582	35	19,543	23	5,113	136	41,150	40	10,403	81	31,150	40	8,903	58	21,150	25	7,403
<i>Sockeye Encounters</i>																								
Fleet-wide sockeye encounter rate	55%	n/a	55%	n/a	30%	n/a	30%	n/a	10%	n/a	10%	n/a	3%	n/a	3%	n/a	1%	n/a	1%	n/a	0.1%	n/a	0.1%	n/a
Sockeye release mortality rate	25%	n/a	10%	n/a	25%	n/a	10%	n/a	25%	n/a	10%	n/a	25%	n/a	10%	n/a	25%	n/a	10%	n/a	25%	n/a	10%	n/a
<i>Hypothetical Weekly Landing</i>																								
Retained Catch	645	100	123	50	-	-	-	100	-	-	-	500	-	10,000	-	1,500	-	10,000	15	1,500	-	-	-	800
<i>Release mortalities Charged</i>																								
Expected sockeye encounters	55		27.5		0		30		0		50		300		45		100		15		0		0.8	
Assessed sockeye released	0		0		0		30		0		50		300		45		100		0		0		0.8	
Additional Release Mortality Assessed	0		0		0		3		0		5		75		5		25		0		0		0	
Total Mortality (catch plus release mortality assessed)	645	100	123	50	-	-	3	100	-	-	5	500	75	10,000	5	1,500	25	10,000	15	1,500	-	-	0	800
Cumulative Catch	645	100	123	50	645	100	126	150	645	100	131	650	720	10,100	136	2,150	745	20,100	151	3,650	745	20,100	151	4,450
ITQ Remaining at end of week	2	9,721	18	2,582	33	9,721	22	2,482	35	19,543	18	4,613	61	31,150	35	8,903	56	21,150	25	7,403	58	21,150	25	6,603

Example 2: Cumulative TAC with Pink retention only (sockeye released)

	Week 1 - 1st week August				Week 2				Week 3				Week 4				Week 5 - last week Aug/1st week Sep				Week 6			
Hypothetical Sockeye TAC-Cumulative	224,000		PK "catch": 3,800		235,000		PK "catch": 259,600		235,500		PK "catch": 962,000		270,500		PK "catch": 1,794,000		277,500		PK "catch": 1,794,000		278,000		PK "catch": 542,000	
Hypothetical Pink TAC-Cumulative	2,000,000		PK "avail": 30,000		2,000,000		PK "avail": 275,000		4,000,000		PK "avail": 1,100,000		8,400,000		PK "avail": 2,200,000		8,400,000		PK "avail": 1,900,000		8,400,000		PK "avail": 560,000	
	Area B		Area H		Area B		Area H		Area B		Area H		Area B		Area H		Area B		Area H		Area B		Area H	
Calculations	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink
Initial ITQ allocation	0.2887%	0.4911%	0.0632%	0.1316%	0.2887%	0.4911%	0.0632%	0.1316%	0.2887%	0.4911%	0.0632%	0.1316%	0.2887%	0.4911%	0.0632%	0.1316%	0.2887%	0.4911%	0.0632%	0.1316%	0.2887%	0.4911%	0.0632%	0.1316%
Initial ITQ (pieces)	647	9,821	141	2,632	678	9,821	148	2,632	680	19,643	149	5,263	781	41,250	171	11,053	801	41,250	175	11,053	803	41,250	176	11,053
ITQ Remaining (pieces)	647	9,821	141	2,632	678	9,821	146	2,582	664	18,143	143	5,113	516	34,250	160	10,403	454	24,250	160	8,903	430	14,250	135	7,403
<i>Sockeye Encounters</i>																								
Fleet-wide sockeye encounter rate	55%	n/a	55%	n/a	30%	n/a	30%	n/a	10%	n/a	10%	n/a	3%	n/a	3%	n/a	1%	n/a	1%	n/a	0.1%	n/a	0.1%	n/a
Sockeye release mortality rate	25%	n/a	10%	n/a	25%	n/a	10%	n/a	25%	n/a	10%	n/a	25%	n/a	10%	n/a	25%	n/a	10%	n/a	25%	n/a	10%	n/a
<i>Hypothetical Weekly Landing</i>																								
Retained Catch	-	-	-	50	5	1,500	-	100	15	5,500	-	500	10	10,000	-	1,500	-	10,000	25	1,500	-	3,000	25	500
<i>Release mortalities Charged</i>																								
Expected sockeye encounters	0		27.5		450		30		550		50		300		45		100		15		3		0.5	
Assessed sockeye released	0		27.5		445		30		535		50		290		45		100		0		3		0	
Additional Release Mortality Assessed	0		3		111		3		134		5		73		5		25		0		1		0	
Total Mortality (catch plus release mortality assessed)	-	-	3	50	116	1,500	3	100	149	5,500	5	500	83	10,000	5	1,500	25	10,000	25	1,500	1	3,000	25	500
Cumulative Catch	-	-	3	50	116	1,500	6	150	265	7,000	11	650	348	17,000	15	2,150	373	27,000	40	3,650	373	30,000	65	4,150
ITQ Remaining at end of week	647	9,821	139	2,582	562	8,321	143	2,482	415	12,643	138	4,613	433	24,250	156	8,903	429	14,250	135	7,403	429	11,250	110	6,903

Example 3: Cumulative TAC with Sockeye & Pink retention and 15% drop in sockeye TAC in week 2

	Week 1 - 1st week August				Week 2				Week 3				Week 4				Week 5 - last week Aug/1st week Sep				Week 6			
Hypothetical Sockeye TAC-Cumulative	224,000				190,400				190,900				225,900				232,900				233,400			
Hypothetical Pink TAC-Cumulative	2,000,000				2,000,000				4,000,000				8,400,000				8,400,000				8,400,000			
	PK "catch": 20,600				PK "catch": -				PK "catch": -				PK "catch": 248,400				PK "catch": 1,839,600				PK "catch": 542,000			
	PK "avail": 30,000				PK "avail": 275,000				PK "avail": 1,100,000				PK "avail": 2,200,000				PK "avail": 1,900,000				PK "avail": 560,000			
	Area B		Area H		Area B		Area H		Area B		Area H		Area B		Area H		Area B		Area H		Area B		Area H	
	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink	sockeye	pink
Initial ITQ allocation	0.2887%	0.4911%	0.0632%	0.1316%	0.2887%	0.4911%	0.0632%	0.1316%	0.2887%	0.4911%	0.0632%	0.1316%	0.2887%	0.4911%	0.0632%	0.1316%	0.2887%	0.4911%	0.0632%	0.1316%	0.2887%	0.4911%	0.0632%	0.1316%
Initial ITQ (pieces)	647	9,821	141	2,632	550	9,821	120	2,632	551	19,643	121	5,263	652	41,250	143	11,053	672	41,250	147	11,053	674	41,250	147	11,053
ITQ Remaining (pieces)	647	9,821	141	2,632	(95)	9,721	(3)	2,582	(94)	19,543	(2)	5,213	7	41,150	20	11,003	21	40,350	20	9,503	(2)	30,350	18	7,403
<u>Sockeye Encounters</u>																								
Fleet-wide sockeye encounter rate	55%	n/a	55%	n/a	30%	n/a	30%	n/a	10%	n/a	10%	n/a	3%	n/a	3%	n/a	1%	n/a	1%	n/a	0.1%	n/a	0.1%	n/a
Sockeye release mortality rate	25%	n/a	10%	n/a	25%	n/a	10%	n/a	25%	n/a	10%	n/a	25%	n/a	10%	n/a	25%	n/a	10%	n/a	25%	n/a	10%	n/a
<u>Hypothetical Weekly Landing</u>																								
Retained Catch	645	100	123	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	800	-	1,500	-	10,000	-	2,100	-	3,000	-	500
<u>Release mortalities Charged</u>																								
Expected sockeye encounters	55		27.5		0		0		0		0		24		45		100		21		3		0.5	
Assessed sockeye released	0		0		0		0		0		0		24		45		100		21		3		0.5	
Additional Release Mortality Assessed	0		0		0		0		0		0		6		5		25		2		1		0	
Total Mortality (catch plus release mortality assessed)	645	100	123	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	800	5	1,500	25	10,000	2	2,100	1	3,000	0	500
Cumulative Catch	645	100	123	50	645	100	123	50	645	100	123	50	651	900	128	1,550	676	10,900	130	3,650	677	13,900	130	4,150
ITQ Remaining at end of week	2	9,721	18	2,582	(95)	9,721	(3)	2,582	(94)	19,543	(2)	5,213	1	40,350	15	9,503	(4)	30,350	17	7,403	(3)	27,350	18	6,903