

2008 Area H Troll Johnstone Strait Chum Demonstration Fishery

In May 2008, 70 per cent of the respondents to a poll conducted of Area H licenceholders indicated their preference for an individual transferable defined share demonstration fishery for the 2008 chum season. Of those who supported the individual transferable defined share demonstration fishery, 88 per cent were in favour of allowing for the transfer of shares between and among the seine, gillnet and troll fleets.

In the ensuing months, the Area H Harvest Committee worked with the DFO resource managers to design such a demonstration fishery. The Area B Harvest Committee participated in the process because the Area B licenceholders also supported both a transferable defined share demonstration fishery and inter-fleet transfer.

To adopt a piece-based quota fishery required that a preseason estimate of run size be made with the opportunity to provide for inseason adjustment if the projected abundance proved to be either lower or higher than actual returns. Having historically managed the Johnstone Strait Chum fishery on effort rather than abundance, required that DFO take a risk averse approach in forecasting run size that would see the initial estimate of run size at the low end of the range of possible returns (with a corresponding low ITQ allocation). In addition, there was a reluctance to entertain inseason adjustment because of the difficulty in determining a reliable estimate of run size prior to the end of the fishing season.

It was therefore proposed that Areas H and B consider as a compromise, a transferable effort-based fishery (the Area B Harvest Committee rejected this approach because of the challenge of managing the small but high-impact individual time allocations i.e. as an example, it was proposed that each Area B licenceholder might receive 126 minutes of fishing time). This concept had been considered in prior seasons by the Area H Harvest Committee as a method of accommodating the different requirements of ice and freezer boats by affording each the flexibility to use their allocated boat-days as they saw fit. An ice boat, for instance, might fish in three boat-day increments (delivering after each) while a freezer boat would be more inclined to fish continuously for an entire six to nine boat-day season.

Facilitating the transfer of boat-days between licenceholders should also allow those interested in extending their season to do so by acquiring boat-days from those licenceholders who are involved in other fisheries or, for some other reason, are unable or not interested in using their own

boat-days (for 2008, approximately 450 boat-days will be made available to the 89 Area H licenceholders). As well, extending the time over which the harvest is conducted should enable higher value to be obtained for the fish than would be the case if all the fish came onto the market at the same time as has been the case in the past. Facilitating the transfer of boat-days also presents an opportunity to address the record high operating costs (fuel and crew, for instance) by enabling licenceholders to pool their boat-days and send one vessel to do the job of two or three. Beyond the direct financial benefits, the transferable effort-based fishery should afford a basis for evaluating share-based management and transfer while abundance-based forecast models are developed to replace the effort-based management models that have been used historically.

To assist with the matchmaking of those looking for boat-days with those holding available boat-days, Tom Kasmer has offered to make available the Quota Exchange (<http://www.itq.ca>) at no cost for the 2008 fishery. Attached is a document prepared by Tom explaining how you can place a listing and how you can be automatically notified when a listing of interest is entered.

Guidelines for the 2008 Area H Johnstone Strait Chum demonstration fishery are also attached.

September 2008

The Quota Exchange

To facilitate the transfer of Area H boat days for the 2008 chum fishery, I am offering the use of the Quota Exchange <http://www.itq.ca> for free for the balance of 2008 (beginning September 22). To place an ad simply go to the Quota Exchange and log in if you are an existing user, or register for free if you are new to the Quota Exchange. To place an ad, follow these steps:

1. Select [listings](#) from the menu
2. Select [post a new ad](#) from the right sidebar
3. Fill out the form on the page and press submit

You can enter as many ads as you like.

You can also set up weekly emails, or automatic emails to be sent to you when someone lists salmon quota on the Quota Exchange. To do this:

1. Select [account management](#) from the menu
2. Select [manage my email updates](#) from the account management page
3. For weekly updates select [send me weekly updates](#)
4. For automatic updates when a new listing is entered select [smart update](#)
5. Select Quota Offered or Quota Wanted
6. Select Salmon from the dropdown list
7. Press Submit

Whenever a new listing for salmon wanted or offered (depending on your selection) is posted to the Quota Exchange you will be sent an email notifying you. You can enter as many smart updates as you like. You can also use the account management page to manage all other aspects of your account.

Tom Kasmer

**Troll - Area H - 2008 Johnstone Strait Chum Individual Transferable
Boat Day Demonstration Fishery**

In 2008, Area H Troll Johnstone Strait chum harvest opportunities will be managed as an Individual Transferable Boat Day demonstration fishery.

Key elements of the Individual Transferable Boat Day Demonstration Fishery are as follows:

1. The demonstration fishery will involve all Area H licence holders.
2. The fishery will be divided into two fishing blocks. Block one will be September 29 to October 11, 2008 and block two will be October 14-29, 2008. No fishing will be permitted on October 12 and 13, 2008. In addition, the troll fishery will be closed during the seine fishery scheduled for Oct. 1 and Oct. 20, 2008. Deepwater Bay (Subarea 13-7) will be closed on weekends.
3. Each Area H licence eligibility holder will be assigned three boat days in block one and two boat days in block two. Boat days may be fished at any time within each block.
4. Boat days are transferable within a block but not between blocks. Transfers are only permitted between other Area H vessels.
5. Start and end fishing reports are required for each day of fishing. These reports are required on a daily basis even if days are fished consecutively.
The start and end fishing reports will be used to monitor fishing activity.
Vessels will be monitored on the grounds to ensure that start fishing reports have been filed prior to commencement of fishing. Once a start fishing report is made, that fishing day is considered to be used. End fishing reports must also be made on a daily basis.
6. Daily catch reporting must be completed according to the conditions of licence (e.g. phone in by 0800 hours of the day after fishing for the previous day's catch, etc.).
7. Catch validation will be mandatory and individual licence holders will be required to cover the cost of catch validation provided by a salmon offload observer service provider authorized by the Department.
8. A vessel monitoring system (VMS) will be piloted by approximately 15 Area H vessels during the chum fishery to monitor fishing activity.
9. Area H Troll vessels are reminded that in order to participate in the Johnstone Strait mixed stock chum fishery amended Conditions of 2008/2009 Salmon Area H Licence are required. The request for amendment form is available at any Pacific Fishery Licence Unit or online at: http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/ops/fm/Licensing/Default_e.htm.
10. Licence eligibility holders are strongly encouraged to designate a signing authority prior to the start of the fishery. This designation permits someone else to authorize a boat day transfer if you are out fishing and are unable to complete the required transfer application.

The designation and reallocation forms will also be available at any Pacific Fishery Licence Unit or online at:
http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/ops/fm/Licensing/Default_e.htm.

11. Further details on fishery boundaries, times etc will be provided by fishery notice on Thursday Sept 25.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Andrea Goruk at 250-756-7287

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Visit us on the Web at <http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca>