



Fishery Notice

Category(s): COMMERCIAL - Invertebrates: Prawn and Shrimp by Trap
Subject: FN0287-Prawn and Shrimp: by Trap - South Coast/Fraser River - Season Opens

Open 12:00 May 7, 2009 until further notice for all species of shrimp, including prawns in the following areas:

1. Area 11.
2. Area 12 except for the Robson Bight - Michael Bigg Ecological Reserve closure area (Section 3.2.5 of the Commercial Harvest Plan).
3. Areas 13 to 17. (Note Special Management Area in Salmon and Sechelt Inlets: Subareas 16-5 to 16-8 where reduced trap and string limits apply.)
4. Area 18 except for the Satellite Channel Ecological Reserve closure area (Section 3.2.10 of the Commercial Harvest Plan).
5. Area 19. Note advisory for Sponge Reefs in Section 3.2.11 and "Venus" scientific array outside of Pat Bay at the location described in Section 3.2.12 of the Commercial Harvest Plan. (Note Special Management Area in Saanich Inlet - Subareas 19-7 to 19-12 where reduced trap and string limits apply.)
6. Subareas 20-1 to 20-5. (Note moorage buoy advisory on Constance Bank at 48°18.00' N and 123° 22.50' W in 117 meters in Section 3.2.14 of the Commercial Harvest Plan).
7. Areas 21 and 22.
8. Area 23 except for the Pacific Rim National Park, Broken Group Islands closure area (Section 3.2.17 of the Commercial Harvest Plan). Note Neptune Project Advisory in Section 3.2.19 of the Commercial Harvest Plan. (Note Special Management Area in Alberni Inlet - Subareas 23-1 to 23-3 where reduced trap and string limits apply.)
9. Area 24.
10. Area 25. Note advisory for Sponge Reefs in Section 3.2.20 of the Commercial Harvest Plan in Tahsis Narrows in the vicinity of Mozino Point in waters less than 80 meters in depth.
11. Areas 26 to 27.
12. Subareas 28-1 to 28-7, 28-9, 28-11 to 28-14 except for the Porteau Cove, Whytecliffe Park, and Point Atkinson Reef closure areas (Section 3.2.22 of the Commercial Harvest Plan). (Note Special Management Areas in Howe Sound and Indian Arm: Subareas 28-1 to 28-5 and 28-11 to 28-14 where reduced trap and string limits apply.)
13. Subareas 29-1 to 29-7, 29-9 and 29-10. Note advisory for Sponge Reefs in Section 3.2.23 of the Commercial Harvest Plan approximately 12 kilometers offshore of Sturgeon Bank at: 49°09.5'N 123°23.0'W in 220 meters.
14. Areas 111, 121, 123, 124, 125, 126, and 127.

Subareas are described in the Pacific Fishery Management Area Regulations.

Variation Order No. 2009-132.

Note:

- This notice applies to South Coast and Fraser River Areas 11 to 29 and Offshore Areas 111, 121, and 123 to 127 inclusive. Please refer to the North Coast notice for Areas 1 to 10, 101 to 110, 130, and 142.
- On the first day of the fishery, May 7/09, fishers will be permitted to set their gear and haul and reset it once only, provided they do so by 1900 hrs.
- Effective May 8/09 hauling of prawn and shrimp by trap gear, line and buoys is permitted only once per day as a condition of licence in all areas of the coast. This is referred to as single hauling.

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- In all areas, after opening day, all setting and hauling of prawn and shrimp traps will be permitted only between 0700 h (7:00 am) and 1900 h (7:00 pm) and hauling of traps will be permitted only once per day.
- All in season area closures will be implemented at 1900 hrs unless otherwise announced.
- Vessel masters are advised to carefully consider stability and weather conditions when loading their vessels and packing gear.
- J.O. Thomas is the service company selected by industry to provide: trap tags, logbooks, hail in, and the in season charter vessel monitoring program. The hail in number is 1-866-930-4000. Timely and accurate hails by Subarea are required by condition of licence.
- Fishers are reminded that the conditions of licence require the string location and the haul time are to be recorded in the "Time of Haul" column within ½ hour of hauling, and before the next string are hauled.
- The minimum size limit for prawns is 33 mm measured as carapace length. The minimum size for tailed prawns is 22 mm telson length.
- Traps must be sorted and undersized prawns released as each trap comes on board.
- All berried prawns must be released from opening day May 07 and until June 30/09.
- Fishers may fish a total of 500 traps on 10 strings if they stack two licences on one vessel for the season, or 300 traps on 6 strings in regular coastal areas. These trap and string limits do not apply in the special management areas.
- Trap and string limits are reduced in Special Management Areas in: Howe Sound and Indian Arm (Subareas 28-1 to 28-5 and 28-11 to 28-14); Alberni Inlet (Subareas 23-1 to 23-3); Salmon Sechelt Inlets (Subareas 16 -5 to 16-08); and Saanich Inlet (Subareas 19-7 to 19-12). Individual "W" licenced vessels may fish 150 traps in three ground lines and those vessels with two "W" licences (stacked) licences are permitted to fish 250 traps on 5 ground lines.
- The Sooke Harbour and Basin Coonstripe shrimp fishery in Subareas 20-6 and 20-7 is expected to open 1200 hrs Nov 01/2009. Fishers will be limited to 50 traps as a condition of licence. This opening will be confirmed by a Fishery Notice in late October.
- All W and FW licence holders other than those with zero trap allocations due to transfers may fish and report octopus. All fishers are required to accurately report information about the octopus catch.
- Fishers are reminded that section 25(1) of the fisheries act prohibits all pre-fishery fishing efforts or the setting of any fishing gear or apparatus prior to the opening time at 1200 h May 07/2009.
- All frozen and fresh product on board must be in a condition that it can be readily measured and identified by species. Freezing of whole or tailed product in solid blocks or tubs of ice will require that the fisher provide randomly selected samples to be thawed for inspection by Fishery Officers.
- Fishers are advised of a sponge reef advisory for the protection of sponges in Saanich Inlet (cloud sponges), Subarea 29-4 (sponge reefs) and Tahsis Inlet (corals and sponges).

Refer to the 2009/10 Prawn and Shrimp by Trap Integrated Fishery Management Plan for the detailed fishing plan, closed area descriptions, Special Management Area (SMA) restrictions and contact numbers for further information or clarification. The 2009/10 Integrated Fishery Management Plan for Prawn and Shrimp by Trap is available on the internet at:

[http://www-ops2.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/xnet/content/MPLANS/MPlans.htm? <=en](http://www-ops2.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/xnet/content/MPLANS/MPlans.htm?<=en)

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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