



Fisheries
and Oceans

Pêches
et Océans

Regional Director General
Pacific Region
Suite 200 - 401 Burrard Street
Vancouver, B.C.
V6C 3S4

Directeur général régional
Région du Pacifique
Pièce 200 - 401 rue Burrard
Vancouver (C.-B.)
V6C 3S4

Your file Votre référence

Our file Notre référence

MAR 13 2007

Dear Salmon Vessel Owner/License Eligibility Holder:

DATE(S) AND DURATION FOR LICENSE AREA RESELECTION

This letter outlines the date(s) and time period for licence area reselection. As you know area licensing was introduced as part of the 1996 Pacific Salmon Revitalization Strategy. This strategy stated that area licensing was a long term feature of the plan. Since then license eligibility holders have had the opportunity to undertake periodic area reselection – the last one being in 2006 for a one year period.

In arriving at its decision on the date(s) and time period for area reselection, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans has relied on the advice supplied by the Commercial Salmon Advisory Board (CSAB) which has been meeting recently on this matter. The majority advice from members of the CSAB was that area reselection proceed in 2007 for an indefinite period with a review of area reselection prior to the 2012 fishing season. The majority view also recommended that net areas select in March and April of 2007 and the troll fleet areas select in October, 2007. These dates are a reflection of the fact that chinook allocations for offshore troll areas are made effective October 1 of each year and some of the allocations have already been harvested.

Enclosed please find an information package describing the process, a question and answer sheet, overview of recent catches and an application form to change the current licence area.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Sprout
Regional Director General
Pacific Region

enclosures

Canada



APPLICATION FOR SALMON AREA SELECTION 2007

1. VESSEL DETAILS: (See Notes, Section 1 on the reverse) **VRN:** _____
VESSEL DOT _____

2. VESSEL OWNERSHIP: (See Notes, Section 2 on the reverse)
 The department has the following owner(s) on record for this vessel:

3. LICENCE INFORMATION: (See Notes, Section 3 on the reverse)
 The information shown is taken from our records.

Gear	Licence #	Previous Area

4. AREA SELECTION FOR 2007: (See Notes, Section 4 on the reverse)
 You must indicate the area(s) you wish to fish in for the salmon fishing seasons

Gear	Licence #	Area Selection

5. OWNER(S) SIGNATURES: (See Notes, Section 5 on the reverse)
The contact vessel owner must sign this form.
 I/We hereby certify that I am the contact vessel owner/ authorized signing officer for a company indicated as the contact vessel owner.

NAME : _____
 ADDRESS : _____

SIGNATURE: _____	DATE: _____	PRINT NAME: _____
SIGNATURE: _____	DATE: _____	PRINT NAME: _____
SIGNATURE: _____	DATE: _____	PRINT NAME: _____
SIGNATURE: _____	DATE: _____	PRINT NAME: _____
SIGNATURE: _____	DATE: _____	PRINT NAME: _____

**Industry is reminded that licences are only a privilege to fish issued at the Minister's discretion.
 Licences are not an asset and do not convey any property rights to the licence holder.**

DEPARTMENT USE ONLY

Date Received: _____ Date Entered: _____ By: _____

Lic#/Area Entered: _____ Lic#/Area Entered: _____ Lic#/Area Entered: _____

Comments: _____



GENERAL INFORMATION AND NOTES: AREA RESELECTION 2007

- The salmon licence area reselection will be proceeding in two phases; net areas (Area A, B, C, D, E) may reselect areas until April 16th, 2007 while the troll areas (Area F, G, H) may select between September 17th, and October 16th, 2007.
- The results of the 2007 area reselection will be in effect for an indefinite period.
- The number of areas will remain the same.
- There will be no change to the boundaries for seine and gillnet areas.
- Pacific Fishery Management Areas 11 and 111 will remain part of the Area G licence area subject to allocation sharing arrangements
- Area G licensed vessels will continue to be permitted access to Fraser River sockeye and pink salmon along the West Coast of Vancouver Island . Area G licensed vessels will also be permitted access to Fraser sockeye and pink in Area 12 north of the boundary of Sub area 12-5 where there is a high diversion rate of these fish through Johnstone Strait.
- Area selections may only be made within the gear type indicated for each licence eligibility.
- The deadline for receipt of net area selection applications is April 16th, 2007
- The deadline for receipt of troll area selection applications is October 16th, 2007.
- Postmarks are acceptable.
- More than one application for area reselection may be submitted for each licence eligibility. The last application received by the Department or postmarked by each deadline for submission (April 16th, 2007 for net areas and October 16th, 2007 for troll areas) will be the final selection.
- If no application for area reselection is received by the Department or postmarked by each of the deadlines the previous area selection made in 2006 will be retained.

Applications received or postmarked after the deadline for submission will not be recorded. Vessel owners will be referred to an Internal Review Committee or the Pacific Region Licence Appeal Board for review.

APPLICATION NOTES:

All pre-printed data on the application has been taken from our records. Application forms are mailed only to contact owner on record. Please contact us at 604-666-0566 or 1-800-663-1660 if there are any errors in this information.

Section 1- Vessel name, DOT number, Overall length are taken from our current records. The overall length shown may be a surveyed or estimated length.

Section 2 – The names of all vessel owners on our records are indicated here.

Section 3 – Licence gear and area information are indicated.

Section 4 – You must enter the new area(s) in the spaces provided if you are reselecting an area for one or all of the licenses. Remember that area reselections may only be made within the gear type indicated for each licence.

Section 5 – All vessel owners must sign and date in this area. Only authorised company or First Nations signatories may sign. To ensure accuracy in this regard, we require that the following be on file with DFO or submitted with this application for all companies:

- Written acknowledgement from the company listing all signing authorities whose signatures DFO may accept with respect to the company.

Reselection applications may be submitted by mail or facsimile to:

Salmon Area Reselection
200- 401 Burrard Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6C 3S4
Facsimile: 604-666-5855

All reselection applications must be received or postmarked by April 16th, 2007 for net areas and October 16th, 2007 for troll areas.

Further information is available on the website at:

http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/ops/fm/Licensing/Default_e.htm

Or contact a Pacific Fishery Licence Unit:

Vancouver (604) 666-0566 Nanaimo (250) 754-0400 Prince Rupert (250) 627-3413

2007 SALMON AREA SELECTION SUMMARY OF PROCESS

INTRODUCTION

Area licencing has been a feature of salmon management for commercial salmon fisheries along the Pacific coast for the past 10 years. During this time there was an opportunity for harvesters to initially select areas in 1996 and to reselect areas in 2000 and in 2006 to address changing conditions. In announcing the last licence area reselection, the Department advised that it would be in place for a one year period. The Commercial Salmon Advisory Board has considered the approach for 2007. The majority of the CSAB has recommended that, given all the uncertainties, area reselection proceed in 2007 for an indefinite period. The majority view also recommended that net areas select in March and April and the troll fleet areas select in October. From now until Tuesday April 16, net licence holders can make application to change the current licence area and select a new licence area for fishing.

SCOPE OF LICENCE AREA RESELECTION FOR 2007

- Licence area reselection will be open to owners of salmon licensed vessels (category A), licence eligibilities held by the Northern Native Fishing Association (category N) and communal commercial licence eligibility holders of record (category F).
- Licence area reselection is to permit salmon area changes. There is no opportunity to change gear.
- This licence area reselection will be valid for an indefinite period. The CSAB have identified the following criterion to be considered in making a recommendation for area reselection:
 - a) When the CSAB reaches consensus on a new revised management approach for the Pacific salmon fishery, this will go to the fleet for endorsement. As a consequence of adopting a new management regime, an area reselection may be triggered.
 - b) CSAB may, upon consensus, recommend the need for area reselection.
 - c) In the situation where a new management regime is not identified and adopted after five years, the Department will conduct a review and evaluate whether area reselection should occur prior to the 2012 fishing season.
- Reselection will be based on the current licence areas.

2007 SALMON AREA SELECTION SUMMARY OF PROCESS

- The current allocation arrangements will continue. For example, to achieve allocation targets, Area G will have access to Areas 11 and 111 as well as in Area 12 north of the boundary of Subarea 12-5 to harvest Fraser sockeye and pink salmon during years of high diversion.

2007 SALMON LICENCE AREA RESELECTION PROCESS

- Reselection applications may be submitted by mail or facsimile to: Salmon Area Reselection, 200- 401 Burrard Street, Vancouver, B.C.V6C 3S4. Facsimile: 604-666-5855.
- Applications for area reselection from seine and gillnet areas must be postmarked no later than April 16, 2007
- Applications for area reselection from troll areas will be accepted from September 17 until October 16, 2007. Applications must be postmarked no later than October 16, 2007.
- More than one application can be submitted. The last application for licence area reselection received by the Department will be considered the final choice.
- The Department will provide weekly updates by Fishery Notice and updates on the commercial licensing web page, at: www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/ops/fm/Licensing/Default_e.htm
- If you do not wish to reselect an area (or if you are unable because you or your vessel is already licenced for all areas) an application for licence area reselection does not have to be submitted. In this case, licence eligibilities will be automatically assigned 2006/07 area selection.
- Applications for licence area reselection received by the Department after final dates noted above will be automatically assigned the 2006/07 area selection unless accompanied by a written explanation for the late submission setting out extenuating circumstances.
- An Internal Review Committee (IRC) will review late submissions and consider extenuating circumstances. Acceptable extenuating circumstances for late applications include:
 - The vessel owner has been away or ill and there is documentation to substantiate this (e.g. Doctors certificate).

2007 SALMON AREA SELECTION SUMMARY OF PROCESS

- The vessel owner did not receive the Area Selection Information and the registered mail process verifies this.
- Language, education or other difficulties prevented the vessel owner from understanding the material and thereby the deadline
- Any instances other than noted above will be referred to the Pacific Region Appeal Board (PRLAB).
- For Category F licences, area reselections will be subject to conclusion of AFS agreements.
- If you have any questions, please call Kelly Binning (604) 666-4902 or any Pacific Fishery Licence Unit:

60 Front Street
Nanaimo, BC V9R 5H7
Ph: (250) 754-0400
Fax: (250) 754-0403

200 - 401 Burrard Street
Vancouver, BC V6C 3S4
Ph: (604) 666-0566
Fax: (604) 666-5855

112 - 417 2nd Avenue West
Prince Rupert, BC V8J 1G8
Ph: (250) 627-3413
Fax: (250) 627-3496.

Frequently Asked Questions 2007 SALMON TROLL AREA SELECTION

How many licences are in the salmon fleet at this time?

There are *2221 salmon licence eligibilities in the fleet. Area breakdowns are:

- Area A 108
- Area B 168
- Area C 658
- Area D 355
- Area E 393
- Area F 248
- Area G 168
- Area H 122

* One licence does not have a gear or area designated.

Will the salmon licence areas remain the same?

The number of areas for each gear type will remain the same. Pacific Fishery Management Areas 11 and 111 will remain part of Area G, as established in 2000.

What does it mean that the term for area reselection is indefinite?

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) recognizes that there will be the need to evaluate whether conditions have changed in the salmon fishery and license holders may need an area reselection option in the future. Accordingly, the Department commits to review and evaluate the need for area reselection prior to the 2012 fishing season. Area reselection could occur sooner based upon a consensus recommendation from the CSAB. Notwithstanding, this commitment, it is conceivable that re-selection prior to that time may be necessary, in which case the Department will consult with the CSAB prior to considering further changes.

When can area reselections occur? Is there a final date?

Vessel owners/licence eligibility holders from troll areas F, G and H will select new areas from September 17 until October 16, 2007.

Why the difference for the troll areas?

This is in recognition of concern raised by some trollers and supported by the majority of the CSAB that the area reselection for net fleets occurred mid way through the chinook season for offshore areas. The September/October period is being provided at a time when all troll areas are at the start of the chinook fishing year.



Will Area G licence holders be eligible for access to Fraser River sockeye and pink salmon?

Yes, subject to allocation arrangements. For example, access to Fraser River sockeye is unlikely in years when chinook catches for Area G are good while sockeye abundance is low. When appropriate, Area G licensed vessels will continue to be permitted harvesting opportunities on Fraser River sockeye and pink salmon along the West Coast of Vancouver Island. As in the past, under some circumstances, harvesting opportunities on Fraser sockeye and pink in Area 12 north of the boundary of Subarea 12-5 will be provided in years where there is a high diversion rate of these fish through Johnstone Strait.

What are the salmon catch projections for the next three years?

Historically, the ability to predict catches with any accuracy has proven to be a difficult task. In recent years we have observed marine survival rates for B.C. salmon to be increasingly variable and as a result the uncertainty in forecasts has increased. Information regarding recent catches is set out in Table 1.

What is the current status of intrasectoral (i.e. among commercial gear types) salmon allocation?

The current intrasector allocation arrangements (40% Seine, 38% Gill net and 22% Troll) will remain in place. A mediator is working with the CSAB to develop recommendations regarding alternative management approaches and licence valuation.

Can I change my gear selection this year?

No. Gear selections made in 1996 were permanent. This selection process is only for area selection within each gear type.

If I apply to stack a salmon licence eligibility in the near future, does the option to re-select the area of the new licence still exist?

Yes.

My vessel is currently licensed to fish in two areas. Can I reselect so that there are two or more eligibilities for the same area on my vessel?

Yes, as long as the gear type is different. A vessel may have multiple licences of the same gear in different areas or different gear in the same area, such as a gillnet and a troll licence on the same vessel, fishing in the same area. A vessel may not have two licences for the same area and same gear (e.g. two Area F troll licences). DFO is in the process of implementing a series of reforms in the salmon fishery which may include changes to licencing policy. The impacts to the fleet of changes to licence policy will have to be carefully evaluated prior to implementation.

If I select a new licence area, when does it come into effect?

For trollers selecting in September and October, the new area will be in effect starting October 1st or the day a new area selection is processed up to the deadline for area selections of October 16, 2007. Note that any previously issued 2007/2008 licence documents must be returned to the Department prior to a new selection being processed and replacement licence documents being issued.

What is the application deadline for salmon area selection?

1. Troll vessel owners/licence eligibility holders who wish to select a new area must submit area selections from September 17, 2007 to midnight October 16, 2007. Postmarks are acceptable.

IMPORTANT: THOSE AREA SELECTION APPLICATIONS NOT SUBMITTED OR THAT MISS THE DEADLINE DATE OF MIDNIGHT OCTOBER 16, 2007 WILL BE REFERRED TO THE INTERNAL REVIEW COMMITTEE OR THE PACIFIC REGION LICENCE APPEAL BOARD DEPENDING ON CIRCUMSTANCES.

If I apply for area selection, can I change my mind?

Yes, provided it is done before the deadline. Area selections will be accepted up to the deadline date for each selection process. Please ensure these forms are signed and dated. The last application received by the deadline date will be considered your final choice.

Will my area selection application be considered if it is submitted by facsimile?

Yes. We recommend you keep a copy of the application submitted for your records. Any of our field offices would be happy to assist you by making a copy for you. The facsimile number for submitting applications is 604-666-5855.

If I wish to retain my previous salmon fishing area, do I need to complete an application?

No, where applications are not received the previously selected area will be assigned to a licence eligibility.

Where can I obtain area selection application forms?

These application forms have been mailed to the contact owner for each category A salmon licensed troll vessel. In the case of category N and F salmon licenses, they have been sent to the licence eligibility holders. Blank application forms will be available from a Pacific Fishery Licence Unit.

How can I get help to complete my area selection application forms?

Contact one of the Pacific Fishery Licence units or our program information line toll free at 1-800-663-1660 and we will be happy to help you.

When will I know the results of the area selection?

Results will be published weekly in a Fisheries Notice commencing September 24, 2007. This information will also be available by calling our toll free information line 1-800-663-1660 or through any Pacific Fishery Licence Unit or field office. A web-site has been established and results information will also be available at:

www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/ops/fm/Licensing/Default_e.htm