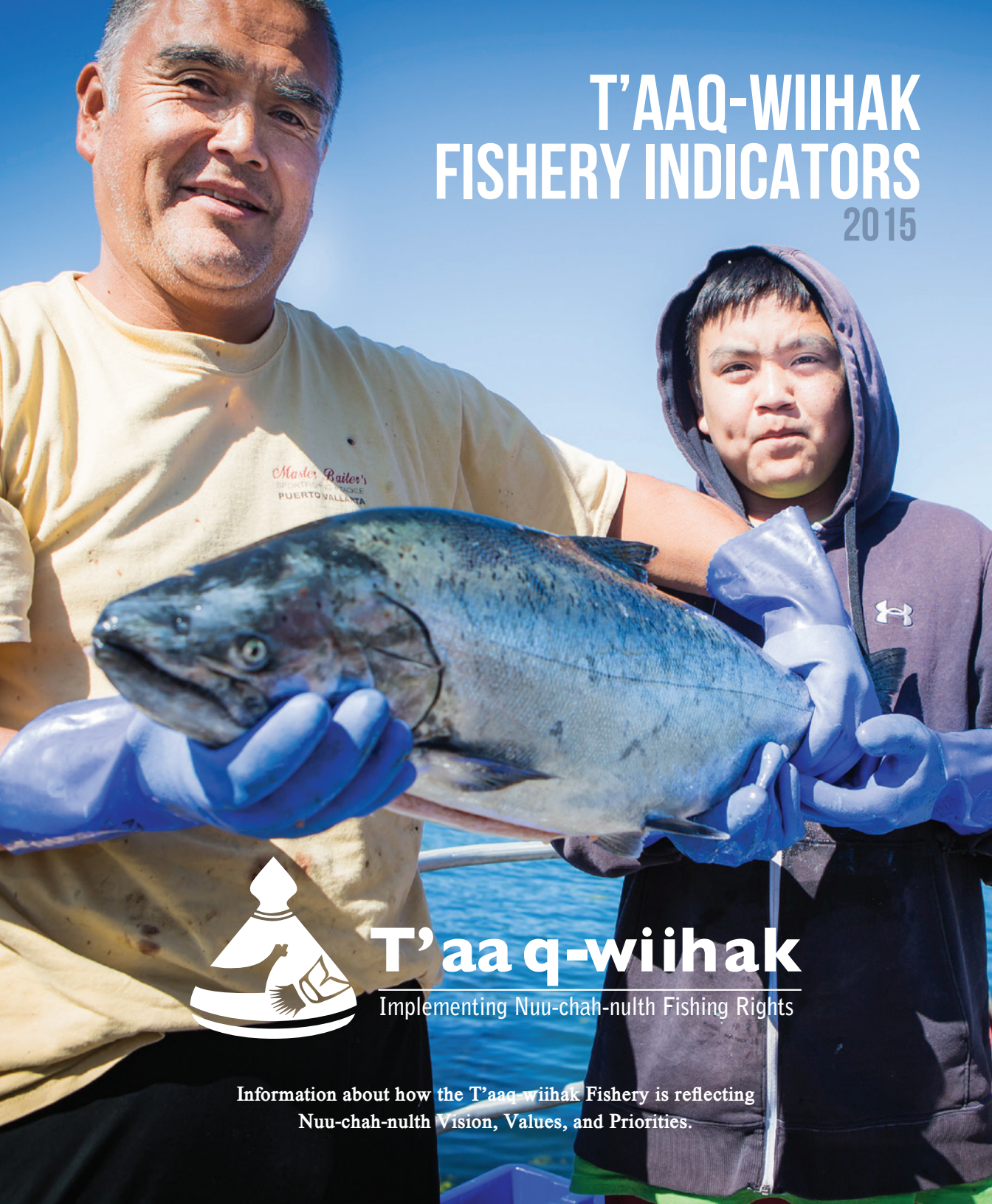


T'AAQ-WIIHAK FISHERY INDICATORS

2015



T'aa q-wiihak

Implementing Nuu-chah-nulth Fishing Rights

Information about how the T'aaq-wiihak Fishery is reflecting
Nuu-chah-nulth Vision, Values, and Priorities.

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HISTORY OF THE T'AAQ-WIIHAK FISHERIES

In 2009, a BC Supreme Court decision ruled that five Nuu-chah-nulth Nations (Ahousaht, Ehattesaht/Chinehkint, Hesquiaht, Mowachaht/Muchalaht and Tla-o-qui-aht) have Aboriginal rights to fish and sell any species of fish and shellfish within their territories. The five Nations adopted the name T'aaq-wiihak, meaning fishing with permission of the Ha'wiih (hereditary Chiefs). As a step towards implementing their rights-based fisheries, the Nations developed fishing and management plans for most of the important commercial species in the territories.

From 2012 to 2015, DFO has authorized “demonstration” fisheries for ca?inwa, ocean suuha and more recently for terminal suuhaa (in Matchlee Bay and Tlupana Inlet). There are significant differences between the fisheries offered by DFO and the fisheries proposed by the Nations. The Ha'wiih do not consider the DFO “demonstration” fisheries as rights-based fisheries since they do not reflect the principles and objectives outlined in the Nations’ fishing plans. In the interim, the Ha'wiih and Nations have accepted aspects of DFO’s “demonstration” fishery offers in order to create opportunities, however limited, for their fishers, while continuing with negotiations for true rights-based fisheries.

After more than five years negotiating with DFO, issues over priority and allocation are still unresolved. The unsuccessful negotiations and the refusal of DFO to authorize fisheries that are in line with the Nations’ Aboriginal rights compelled the Nations to return to court for a third phase of litigation (under the same ruling) called the “justification trial.” In this phase, Canada must justify its past and on-going infringements of the fishing rights of the five Nations.

OBJECTIVES

The long term objective for all T'aaq-wiihak Fisheries is to have sustainable fisheries that provide viable opportunities and help sustain the Nuu-chah-nulth fishing culture.

T'aaq-wiihak fishing plans propose sustainable access for the Nations while respecting conservation and otherwise fully accommodate Canada's legislative objectives, societal interests and international obligations.

The primary objective for T'aaq-wiihak fisheries is to implement sustainable rights-based fisheries on fish populations with sufficient abundance for directed harvest while mitigating the harvest of other species that have conservation concerns given:

- The recognition and priority of our Aboriginal rights
- The populations of our Nations
- Our population relative to the population of non-Nuu-chah-nulth living in our territories
- The growing interest among community members in participating in community-based fishing opportunities
- The economic significance of fishing opportunities to our people, who have limited incomes and employment opportunities.

COMMUNITY VALUES AND PRIORITIES

The following ‘wordle’ shows the community priorities and values from 2013 and 2014 post-season meetings. The larger the word, the more often it was brought forward at the meetings.



BACKGROUND

Nuu-chah-nulth communities have outlined goals, objectives, and priorities for the T'aaq-wiihak fisheries. But how will we know if the fisheries is producing positive results? What information will we use to determine we are heading in the direction we want to go?

Fishers use various indicators, such as weather patterns, wildlife behaviour, and fishing results to shape their fishing behaviours to maximize catch.

In the same way, indicators can provide information to what extent the T'aaq-wiihak fisheries are reflecting Nuuchah-nulth's goals, objectives, and priorities.

T'aaq-wiihak Ha'wiih have agreed that using indicators is an important approach to sustainably manage the Ha-ha-houlthee, consistent with Nuuchah-nulth knowledge and values.

A set of indicators were developed and reviewed at a T'aaq-wiihak meeting based on the following criteria:

- Relevant and useful to decision-making
- Easy to interpret
- Sensitive to change
- Feasible and cost-effective to measure
- Easily communicated

T'aaq-wiihak fisheries indicators summarize the information about the fisheries from a variety of sources, including:

- Fisheries data (landing logs, fishing logs, fisher and vessel applications, fishery licences)
- Communication with fishers, managers, staff, buyers and contractors
- Surveys distributed among T'aaq-wiihak fishers

GROUP 1: SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC BASE FOR PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES

INDICATOR 1: FISHER PARTICIPATION

HOW MANY NUU-CHAH-NULTH COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE REGISTERED?

HOW MANY ARE ACTIVELY FISHING?

WHAT ARE THE COMMUNITY DYNAMICS OF T'AAQ-WIIHAK FISHERS?



46

31% of the 229 T'aaq-wiihak fishers that registered in 2015 actually fished.

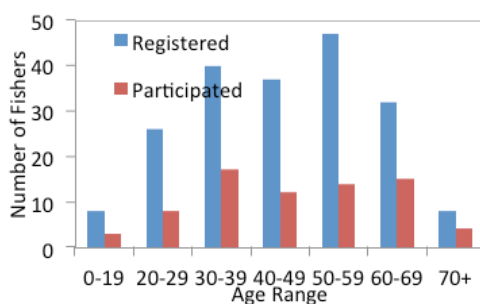
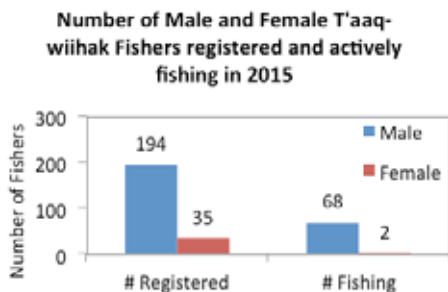
An additional estimate of 55 Nu-u-chah-nulth fishers participated as deckhands.

The average age for participating T'aaq-wiihak fishers is 46 years.

Number of T'aaq-wiihak fishers registered in 2015 (number actively fishing).

Nation	2012	2013	2014	2015
AFN	38 (20)	72 (24)	82 (34)	98 (28)
ECFN	6 (2)	15 (1)	15 (3)	20 (4)
HFN	21 (9)	23 (11)	31 (17)	30 (13)
MMFN	14 (2)	19 (3)	37 (16)(*14)	39 (10)(*8)
TFN	17 (9)	37 (14)	35 (21)	42 (15)
Total	96 (42)	166 (53)	200 (91)	229 (70)

**number actively fishing the Matchlee Bay and Thupana Inlet Fishing Opportunities*



INDICATOR 2: OCEAN FISHERY CATCH DATA

HOW MUCH FISH IS BEING CAUGHT?

HOW LONG ARE FISHERS OUT FISHING?

Total catch by species in 2015

Species	Catch for sale (pieces)	Final DFO allocation
Suuha (<i>target</i>)	6,234	7,767
Cuʻūt (<i>bycatch</i>)	574	<i>n/a</i>
Tūskuuh (<i>bycatch</i>)	187 lbs (32)	<i>n/a</i>
Total	6,840	<i>n/a</i>

80% of the final DFO allocation for suuha was caught.

This was in part due to:

- Few days the fishery was open
- Poor weather during September openings
- Not enough fish available to make a trip economical once divided among the number of fishers that hailed out

**12% SUUHA CAUGHT BY
MOSQUITO FLEET**

Cuʻūt bycatch was permitted for sale during the September 16-19 opening only. Cuʻūt comprised of 8% of the total pieces caught for the 2015 ocean fisheries.

Tūskuuh bycatch comprised of <1% of the total pieces caught for the 2015 ocean fisheries.

**88% SUUHA CAUGHT BY
MID-SIZED TROLLERS**

Catch rates and fishing effort by vessel type (includes catch for home-use)

Vessel Type	Avg suuha catch	Avg days per trip	Avg hours fishing per day
Trollers*	214** suuha per trip	2-3 days	12 hrs
Mosquito fleet	8 suuha per day	1 day	9 hrs

*Data was used from only the first July 24-27 opening which had a 190 per vessel piece-cap. Per-vessel caps were much lower for all later openings

**When including home-use

INDICATOR 3: TERMINAL FISHERY CATCH DATA

SUUHA CATCH:

- **Matchlee Bay:** 98% of the total suuha allocation was caught.
- **Tlupana Inlet:** 10% of the total suuha allocation was caught.

GEAR:

- **Matchlee Bay:** 91% of suuha were gillnet caught, 9% were troll caught.
- **Tlupana Inlet:** 100% of suuha were troll caught.

BYCATCH:

- **Matchlee Bay:** <1% of the total pieces caught were bycatch.
- **Tlupana Inlet:** 8% of the total pieces caught were bycatch.

Total catch by species for the Matchlee Bay fishery in 2015

Species	Catch for Sale (pieces)	DFO Allocation
Suuha (target)	978	1,000 pieces
Cuʻūt (bycatch)	2	<i>n/a</i>
Hinkuʻas (bycatch)	6	<i>n/a</i>
Total	986	

Total Catch by Species for the Tlupana Inlet Fishery in 2015

Species	Catch for Sale (pieces)	DFO Allocation
Suuha (target)	54	551 pieces
Cuʻūt (bycatch)	5	<i>n/a</i>
Total	59	

Catch rates and fishing effort by gear type during the terminal suuha fisheries in 2015

Gear Type	Avg. Catch/landing	# Trips per landing	Avg. Hours Fishing/trip
Matchlee Bay gillnet	68 suuha per landing	1	9 hrs
Matchlee Bay troll	13 suuha per landing	2-4	unknown
Tlupana Inlet troll	11 suuha per landing	2-4	unknown

INDICATOR 4: BARRIERS AND FISHING EXPENSES

WHAT ARE THE MAIN BARRIERS THAT AFFECT FISHERS’ PROFITABILITY?
WHAT ARE THE MAIN BARRIERS THAT AFFECT FISHERS’ WILLINGNESS TO FISH?

COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH FISHING

- Fuel
- Vessel maintenance (oil changes, tune-ups)
- Repairs and maintenance (boat, engine, electrical)
- Bait, ice
- Gear (fishing, navigation, safety)
- Food
- Certifications (MBFA, MED-A3, ROC-M, SVOP)
- Licences (Transport Canada – commercial registration)
- Motor vehicle expenses (driving to earn fishing income, e.g., driving from residence to home port)
- Wages, salary and shares for crew/deckhand(s)
- Moorage fees
- Insurance
- Taxes
- E.I. deductions
- Market fee charged by buyer (0.5% of gross earnings)
- Legal, accounting and other professional fees
- Contribution for management

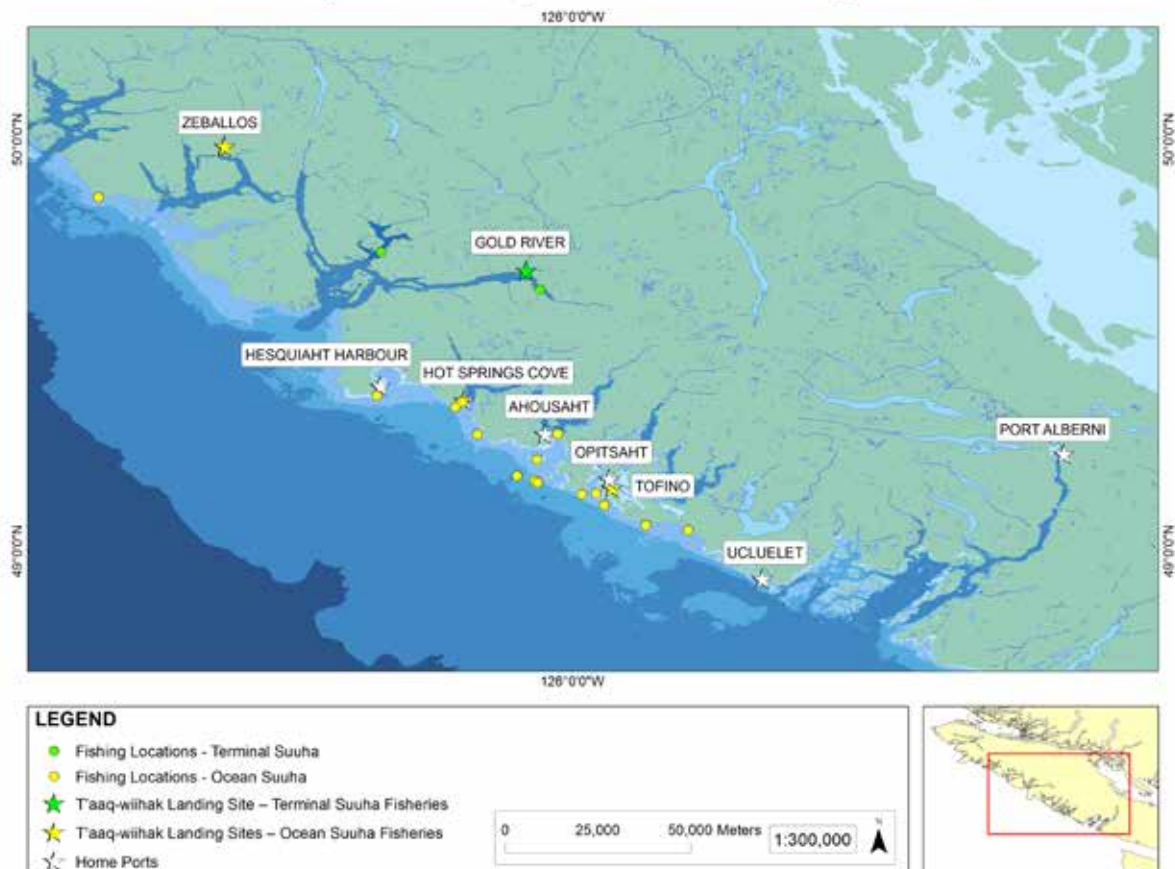
Fuel costs per trip for fishers from surveys

Vessel Type	Trollers (multi-day trips)	Mosquito Fleet (day-trips)
Number of fishers surveyed	8	14
Average fuel costs per trip	\$656	\$113
Range of fuel costs per trip	\$500-900	\$40-150

Estimated vessel maintenance costs per year for fishers from surveys

Vessel Type	Trollers (multi-day trips)	Mosquito Fleet (day-trips)
Number of fishers surveyed	7	12
Average vessel maintenance costs per year	\$4,143	\$1,006
Range of fuel costs per trip	\$3,000-8,000	\$150-3,500

T'aaq-wiihak Fishing Locations and Landing Sites



Estimated distances between home ports, landing sites and ice facilities for T'aaq-wiihak ocean fisheries

Landing Sites	Tofino	Zeballos
Ahousaht (gas, sometimes ice)	28 kms	155 kms
Gold River (gas, sometimes ice)	125 kms	80 kms
Hesquiaht Harbour	60 kms	112 kms
Hot Springs Cove	48 kms	124 kms
Opitsaht	2.5 kms	158 kms
Tofino (gas, ice)		160 kms
Ucluelet (gas, ice)	50 kms	195 kms
Zeballos (gas, ice)	160 kms	

Sixteen fishers who registered but did not actively fish in 2015 were interviewed to explain their reasons for not participating in the fisheries.

Barriers to fishing identified by fishers who registered but did not fish in 2015

- Not worth fishing due to the low DFO allocation (not economical)
- T'aaq-wiihak openings were too short/poorly timed/ poor weather/ not enough notice
- Fisher lives outside of territory – too far away from T'aaq-wiihak fishing area for fishing to be economical for quantity of fish available or duration of fishery
- Fishing vessel is not adequate for ocean fisheries (e.g., too small to travel offshore)
- Fishing vessel engine not working
- Fisher does not have a vessel/cannot afford one
- Fisher had other work/priorities – not enough time to fish
- Fisher cannot afford new fishing gear
- Fisher was dealing with personal/family matters – not able to leave and go fishing
- Fisher had health problems

SUMMARY

Without assured, predictable and reasonable allocations, fishers are not willing to invest time or money without a reasonable expectation of a successful fishery.

When divided among the number of fishers registered in 2015, the suuha allocation equated to **27 fish per fisher**.

The 2015 Terminal Suuha Fishery was open for only **17 days** during 3 Matchlee Bay openings and 4 Tlupana Inlet openings

The 2015 Ocean Suuha Fishery was open for only **19 days** during 6 openings.

INDICATOR 5: FISHERS' TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION

DO NUU-CHAH-NULTH FISHERS HAVE UP-TO-DATE TRAINING, CERTIFICATION AND BUSINESS SKILLS?

Number of participating T'aaq-wiihak fishers with required marine safety training courses in 2015

	SVOP	MED A3	ROC-M	MBFA
Number	51	37	36	34
Percent	73%	53%	51%	49%

Number of marine safety courses offered to T'aaq-wiihak fishers in 2015

	SVOP	MED A3	ROC-M	MBFA	Stability (trollers)	Stability (small vessels)
Number	9	5	8	2	3	2
Locations	Tofino x 2 Port Alberni x 3 Tsaxana x 2 Ehatis Ucluelet	Tofino Port Alberni Tsaxana Ehatis	Tofino x 2 Port Alberni x 2 Tsaxana x 2 Ehatis Ucluelet	Port Alberni x 2	Tofino Port Alberni Tsaxana	Ehatis Hot Springs Cove

*courses were led by Hayu and NETP and supported/promoted by Uu-a-thluk



Industry
Canada



Transport
Canada



COURSES:

SVOP: Small Vessel Operator Proficiency

MED A3: Marine Emergency Duties

ROC-M: Restricted Operator Certificate –
Maritime

MBFA: Marine Basic First Aid

Stability: 4 day workshop for trollers & 1
day workshop for small vessels

INDICATOR 6: COMMUNITY BENEFITS

HOW DO COMMUNITIES BENEFIT FROM THE FISHERY OTHER THAN BY DIRECT FISHING JOBS?

Jobs/Work Created by T'aaq-wiihak Fisheries in 2015

Job	~ # Jobs	Notes
T'aaq-wiihak Fisheries Coordinator	1	full-time
T'aaq-wiihak Coordinator	1	half-time
T'aaq-wiihak Fisheries Technician	1	3/4 time
T'aaq-wiihak Dockside Monitors	7	19 days (ocean fishery) + 17 days (MMFN terminal fisheries)
7 Seas Dockside Buyer(+assistants)	4	19 days during ocean fishery openings - paid as percentage of sales
Fish Processing by buyers (e.g. 7 Seas, Lions Gate)	10	6-8 weeks full-time
Fisheries Implementation (C#’s, decals, stickers)	2	10 days/year
Marketing/Social Media (Facebook, signage, Ha-Shilth-Sa)	2	20 days/year
Catch Monitoring (J.O. Thomas)	4	25-30 days/year

Percent of each species sold to buyers during ocean fishery in 2015

Species/Buyers	Suuha % pcs	Cuʷit % pcs	ᑦᑦᑦᑦᑦ % lbs
7 Seas (PASCO)	66%	2%	42%
Lions Gate	32%	81%	29%
Hub City	unknown	unknown	unknown
French Creek	<1%	17%	0%
Local	2%	<1%	29%

- 100% of the Matchlee Bay and Tlupana Inlet Fishery Fish were bought by Pacific Point Foods Ltd.
- 100% of T'aaq-wiihak ocean fish were bought and processed by a BC business or person.

LOCAL BUYERS INCLUDE:

First Nations

Restaurant

- Sea Shanty

Other Local

Restaurants

- Wildside Grill
- Wolf in the Fog

Fish Stores

- Fishful Thinking
- The Fish Store

Tourists and Local

Buyers

GROUP 2: COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY

INDICATOR 7: CULTURAL CONTINUITY WITHIN FAMILIES

IS KNOWLEDGE BEING PASSED DOWN WITHIN FISHING FAMILIES?

26 out of 28 T'aaq-wiihak mid-sized troll vessel operators were able to use T'aaq-wiihak fishing trips to pass down fishing knowledge and skills to younger fishers by having them on-board as deckhands. Fishers who were not able to teach younger fishers during T'aaq-wiihak trips reported that they would have liked to have been able to, and have in past years, but the 2015 T'aaq-wiihak season was too short to provide this opportunity (one trip for most trollers).

24% of participating T'aaq-wiihak fishers did not own a boat but were able to participate in the fishery by borrowing or leasing a boat (and gear) from another T'aaq-wiihak fisher (generally family)

An estimated **55** Nuu-chah-nulth people participated in T'aaq-wiihak fisheries as a deckhand.

T'aaq-wiihak deckhands included:

- Sons/daughters
- Grandson/granddaughters
- Nephews/nieces
- Cousins
- Brothers/sisters
- Spouses/partners
- Sons/daughters-in-law
- Friends/family friends



INDICATOR 8: CONFLICT AND COOPERATION AMONG FISHERS

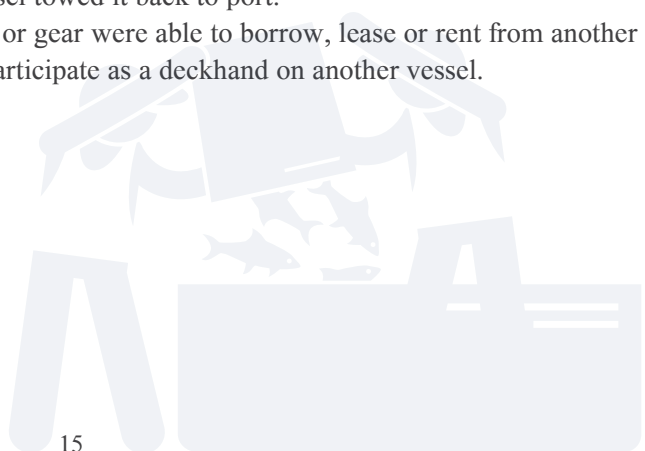
HOW MUCH CONFLICT AND COOPERATION IS HAPPENING AMONGST FISHERS?

Conflict noted during T'aaq-wiihak fisheries:

- T'aaq-wiihak fishers expressed frustrated when trolling next to recreational fishers who are not restricted to the same gear, opening and area restrictions or monitoring requirements.
- T'aaq-wiihak fishers expressed frustrated by the Area G commercial sector that did not have the same area restrictions and had a much larger allocation.
- MMFN fishers expressed frustration by the Area D Commercial Sector fishing at the same time as their Burman and Conuma opening, but were not restricted to the same vessel and gear restrictions.

Cooperation noted during T'aaq-wiihak fisheries:

- Fishers worked together during fishing trips for safety and efficiency
- Information sharing among T'aaq-wiihak fishers (e.g., to locate fish)
- Fishers landed fish on behalf of another fisher to save them the trip back to the landing site (important for Nations far away from landing sites e.g., Hesquiaht).
- Vessels with text-anywhere devices relayed catch data to the T'aaq-wiihak Fisheries Coordinator on behalf of fishers without direct communication with the TFC.
- AFN vessels brought ice out to Ahousaht for the mosquito fleet to use.
- When an overdue vessel was late returning to port in foggy weather after electronic system failure, fishers worked together to locate the missing troller in a timely fashion.
- When a vessel engine died, another vessel towed it back to port.
- Many fishers who did not have a vessel or gear were able to borrow, lease or rent from another fisher to participate in the fisheries or participate as a deckhand on another vessel.



GROUP 3: INSTITUTIONAL SUSTAINABILITY (GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT)

INDICATOR 9: PRIORITIZATION OF ABORIGINAL COMMERCIAL FISHING RIGHTS

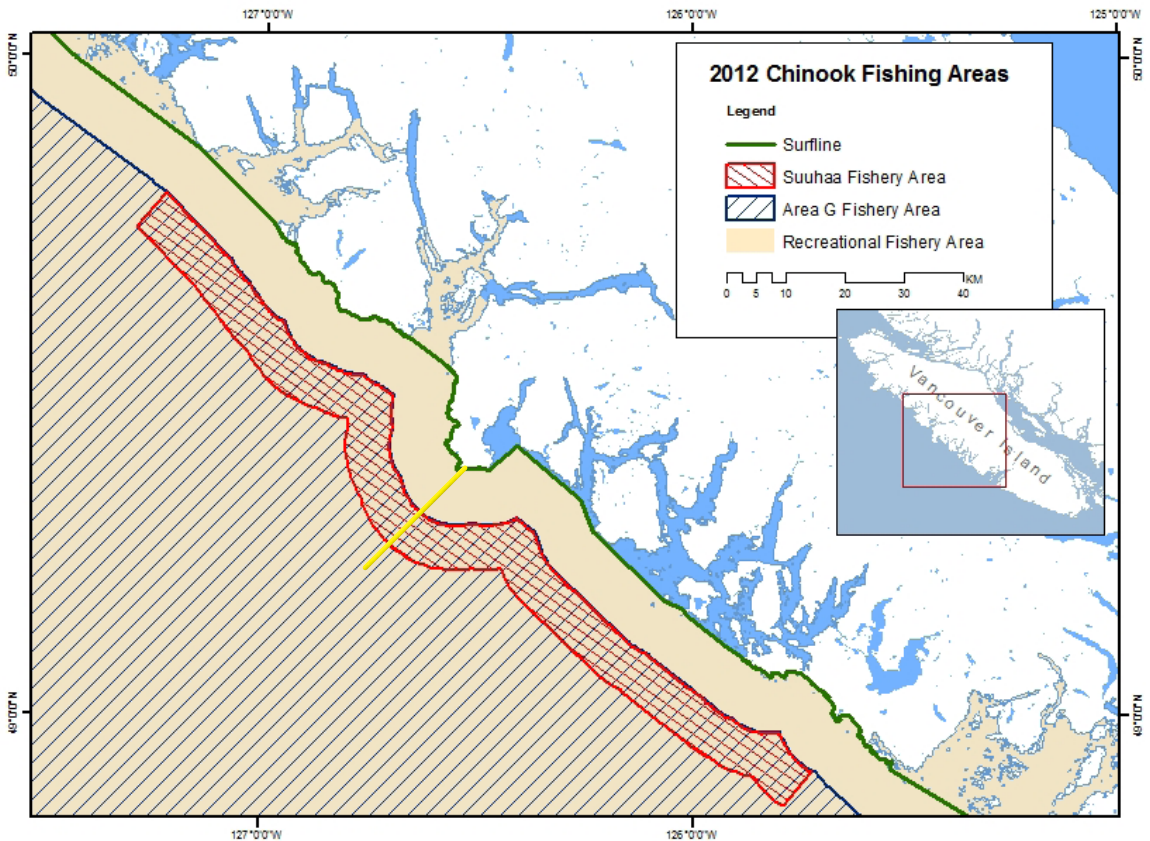
ARE NUU-CHAH-NULTH ECONOMIC FISHING RIGHTS RECEIVING PRIORITY AHEAD OF RECREATIONAL AND COMMERCIAL FISHING SECTORS?

Comparison between Nuu-chah-nulth T’aaq-wiihak and other sectors for the percent of the total allocation and harvest of AABM Chinook, fishing areas and fishery openings in 2015.

	Nuu-chah-nulth FSC (including Maa-nulth)	T’aaq-wiihak Demonstration	Area G Commercial Troll	Recreational
% of Total Suuha Allocation (final)	7%	6%	43%	44%
% of Total Suuha Harvested	3%	5%	45%	46%
% of Cuwít harvested before Sept. 15th	unknown	0%	0%	100% (minus unknown FSC allocation)
Fishing Areas	all tidal waters within Nuu-chah-nulth Territory	24, 124, 25, 125 small portion of 26 & 126 vessels under 25’ = 1-9nm vessels over 25’ = 5-9nm	11, 20-27 111, 121, 123- 127 Subareas 12-5 & 12-16	All tidal waters (except closed and conservation areas)
Fishery Openings (days)	year-round	19 days between July 24 and Sept 30	various openings year-round closed during June and July	year-round

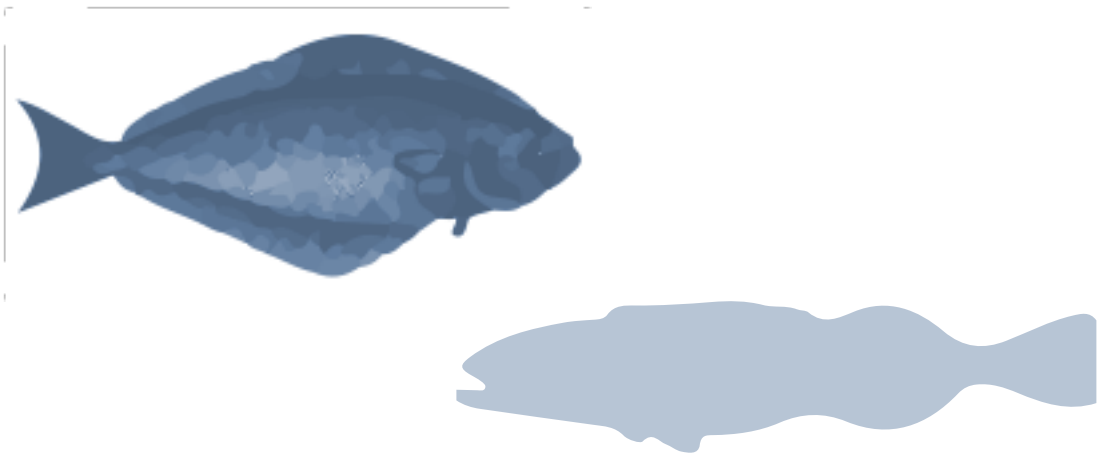


Ocean Suuha Fishing Area map from 2012, that still largely stands in 2015. Map shows the fishing areas by sector. The red highlighted area was the area that vessels over 25 feet were restricted to in the 2015 season. For the July 24-27 fishery, fishers on vessels over 25 feet were further restricted to only fishing in the red-shaded area NORTH of the yellow line. Vessels under 25 feet were permitted to fish “inside” (closer to shore) of the red shaded area, to an inner boundary of 1 nm from the surfline.



Comparison between Nuu-chah-nulth and other sectors for the percent of the total allocation and fishing areas.

	Nuu-chah-nulth	Other sectors	
	T'aaq-wiihak	Commercial	Recreational
Halibut (Coastwide)	1%	84%	15%
Sablefish (Coastwide)	<1%	99%	unknown
Dogfish (Coastwide)	<1%	~100%	unknown
Lingcod (Area 3C & 3D)	1%	99%	unknown
Fishing areas	all tidal waters within the T'aaq-wiihak Fishing Area (except closed and conservation areas)	all tidal waters (except closed and conservation areas)	all tidal waters (except closed and conservation areas)



Shellfish licenses and quota available to the different sectors in 2015

Species		Nuu-chah-nulth FSC (including Maa-nulth)	T'aaq-wiihak	Commercial	Recreational
Gooseneck Barnacle	Allocation	no limit specified	~12,000 lbs per year	no licences	2kg daily limit
	Fishing areas	all tidal waters within Nuu-chah-nulth First Nation Territories	52 Rocks in Area 24 & 124 (Clayoquot Sound)	n/a	Area 1-27 (except closed and contaminated areas)
	Fishery openings	year-round	Jan. 1 - Dec. 31	n/a	April 1- March 31
Dungeness Crab	Allocation	no limit specified	no access (other than one regular commercial)	32 licenses - Tofino option 7 licences - Sooke option 2 licences - Quatsino option	up to 6 crab daily limit (varies by area)
	Fishing areas	all tidal waters within Nuu-chah-nulth First Nation Territories	n/a	all tidal waters (except closed and contaminated areas)	Area 1-29 (except closed and contaminated areas)
	Fishery openings	year-round	n/a	Jan. 1 - Dec. 31	April 1- March 31
Prawn	Allocation	no limit specified	no access	250 licences coastwide	200 prawn daily limit
	Fishing areas	all tidal waters within Nuu-chah-nulth First Nation Territories	n/a	all tidal waters (except closed and contaminated areas)	Area 1-29 (except closed and contaminated areas)
	Fishery openings	year-round	n/a	early May - mid/late June	April 1- to Spawner Index close early/late fall

INDICATOR 10: NUU-CHAH-NULTH FISHERY MANAGEMENT EXPECTATIONS

ARE NUU-CHAH-NULTH EXPECTATIONS AND INTERESTS REFLECTED IN FISHERY MANAGEMENT RULES?

Level of reasonableness of fishery management rules:	Average rating out of 5	Definition of “0”	Definition of “5”	# of fishers surveyed
Season to season consistency and predictability	1.5	rules change every year with no clear reason	rule changes are consistent and predictable	21
Fishing boundaries	2.3	totally unreasonable restrictive and seriously undermine my fishing operations and safety	totally reasonable in balancing conservation and fishing opportunities	8
Species available to harvest	1.2	number and type of species available to harvest are totally not economical or reasonable for the number of T’aaq-wiihak fishers	number and type of species available to harvest are totally economical and reasonable for the number of T’aaq-wiihak fishers	26
By-catch retention	2	rules around retaining by-catch are not economic and totally unreasonable from a conservation viewpoint	rules around retaining by-catch are totally reasonable from an economic and conservation viewpoint	21
Monitoring requirements	2.3	rules around catch monitoring are not economical and totally unreasonable from a conservation viewpoint	rules around catch monitoring are totally reasonable from an economic and conservation viewpoint	13

INDICATOR 11:

WORKING RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN NUU-CHAH-NULTH FISHERS AND MANAGERS

ARE NUU-CHAH-NULTH FISHERS AND MANAGERS WORKING TOGETHER IN A PRODUCTIVE AND RESPECTFUL MANNER? IS COMMUNICATION TIMELY, ACCESSIBLE AND CLEAR?

Average Rating in the level of productivity and respect in the relationship between Nuu-chah-nulth fishers and Managers:

(0 = disrespectful and totally unproductive, 5 = totally respectful and productive)

Relationships	Rating	# of fishers surveyed	Comments
On the water: fishers AND fisheries guardians and dockside monitors	3.2	21	
Fishery planning meetings: fishers AND fishery managers and biologists	2.9	20	Would like a fishers only meeting, then meet at Main Table. Not enough communication with fishers.
Fisheries rights and IFMP discussions: fishers AND negotiators	1.8	22	Would like to receive the IFMP. Not enough communication with fishers.



SUMMARY

The 2015 suuha fisheries (ocean, Matchlee Bay and Tlupana Inlet) were an opportunity to build and grow upon the experiences of the previous three fishing seasons. As a result of insufficient access being provided by DFO for suuha in 2015, the suuha demonstration fishery was not enough to be economically viable for many participants, and in fact this was the reason many fishers decided not to participate in 2015. The single-species fisheries (and a meager cuwit fishery) are still a long way from the rights-based fisheries proposed by the Nations. The number of interested members and participants continues to grow as capacity is rebuilt. There is much still to be done, including increasing allocations and implementing fisheries for other target species, to make fishing opportunities more accessible to the large number of Nation members who want to get on the water and participate in rights-based community fisheries.

The largest barriers continue to be the low DFO allocations, and no recognition of the priority of the right-based fisheries of the five Nations. The focus on single species fisheries, which is contrary to the Nations' aboriginal rights and goals for T'aaq-wiihak fisheries that are integrated, multi-species, year-round fisheries is another barrier. Fishers, managers and Ha'wiih continue to be frustrated by the lack of movement on other fisheries and the continued reliance by DFO on suuha opportunities as the "demonstration fishery." The lack of appropriate allocations, measurable accommodations and flexibilities to implement or test what the Nations have described as their initial rights-based fisheries continue to widen the implementation of right-based fisheries. These factors have been consistent barriers since 2011, and the lack of mandate from DFO to expand upon the fisheries year-to-year continues to dishearten and frustrate fishers, Ha'wiih and negotiating teams.



T'AAQ-WIIHAK FISHERY INDICATORS 2015



T'aa q-wiihak
Implementing Nuu-chah-nulth Fishing Rights

Information about how the T'aaq-wiihak Fishery is reflecting
Nuu-chah-nulth Vision, Values, and Priorities.