



HA'OOM FISHERIES NOTICE Winter Suuhaa Fishery 2023-24

The leadership of the Five Nations is authorizing a fishery to open on the terms set out in this notice. It is important for fishers to be aware that DFO is imposing some licence conditions on this fishery opening that the leadership of the five Nations are not including as a requirement for the aboriginal-rights based fishery.

The areas highlighted in blue in this notice indicate those licence conditions by DFO. Fishers should be aware of these conditions. Fishers who choose not to follow licence conditions imposed by DFO may face potential ramifications, including charges and prosecution from DFO, including for violations of the Fisheries Act and regulations.

OPENING TIME: Start: December 1, 2023, End: TBD. (subject to closures based on catch rates)

FISHING AREA:

Winter Suuhaa: Area 124, Area 125, a portion of Area 126, Areas 24, Area 25, and Area 26-1. Rockfish conservation areas are closed (see map on Page 4).

DESIGNATION:

Fishers **MUST** have a valid 2021 T'aaq-wiihak card **AND** be fishing on a registered T'aaq-wiihak vessel with a valid 2021 T'aaq-wiihak decal. Participating vessels **MUST** fly a red T'aaq-wiihak flag while on a Five Nations fishing trip and **MUST** hail out for each trip **AND** hail in before each landing.

ALL FISHER AND VESSEL REGISTRATIONS MUST BE VAILD FOR 2023

Registration can be completed online at www.aaq.ca.

GEAR: Hook and Line, Troll

SPECIES ALLOWED FOR SALE (Size Limits & Trip Limits):

Species	Size Limits and Restrictions	T'aaq-wiihak Trip Limits
		Suuhaa Directed
Suuhaa (Chinook)	Minimum Size: 55 cm fork length	No Limit.
Cu'wit (Coho)	Marked	No Limit.
Hinkuwas (chum) Čaapi (pink)	No size limit	May be kept for home use.
Miřaat (Sockeye)	No size limit	May be kept for home use.
Puu?i (halibut)	81.3 cm (head-on), 61 cm (head-off)	May be kept for home use.
T'uskuuḥ (lingcod)	65 cm (head-on), 50 cm (head-off)	May be kept for home use.
Rockfish	No size limit	All rockfish must be retained Yellow-eye Rockfish for home use Quillback rockfish 50lbs may be sold

Fishers are required to retain 100% of the fish they catch (including all rockfish), with the exception that fishers can release undersized salmon, halibut, lingcod, and all dogfish. Fish that cannot be sold may be taken for home use.

HAIL OUT PROCEDURES:

Fishers are required to hail out for each trip. "Hailing out" is when a Five Nations skipper communicates that they are heading out into a Five Nations fishery to our monitoring company, Ecotrust Canada. Hail outs can be made up to 12 hours before leaving the dock. Landings will not be authorized if you do not hail out. **Hail outs to our Facebook page, left on our office phone line, or sent to our Fisheries Coordinators, will not be accepted.** Hail outs can be made 24 hours/day using our website (www.taaq.ca) or by calling the hail phone:

HAIL PHONE (call/text/voicemail): 250-266-0418

LANDING / HAIL IN PROCEDURES:

Fishers **MUST HAIL IN** to 250-266-0418 to confirm a landing time at least **24hrs in ADVANCE** of landing to arrange for a designated monitor to be present at your landing. Please understand that the monitors need time to arrange this. The hail phone is monitored from Monday to Friday, 9am – 5pm. Please call the hail phone and pre-arrange a time before Friday at 5pm if you are landing on the weekend.

A designated Ecotrust monitor must be present at all landings. An Ecotrust monitor will validate your catch, collect fishing logs, and provide you with a landing slip. Twenty percent of landings will also be CWT sampled by Ecotrust monitors in Tofino.

PLEASE NOTE: Designated monitors will only be available to validate catch from Monday to Friday but must be pre-arranged for Winter Opening. (No scheduled evening offloads until April)

LANDINGS CAN OCCUR ONLY AT THE DESIGNATED LANDING SITES OUTLINED BELOW:

Tofino	4 th Street Dock	Buyers need to be pre-arranged by the fisher before landing.
	Lions Gate Fisheries	Buyers need to be pre-arranged by the fisher before landing.
Zeballos	Mid Island Ice	Not open for landings.
Gold River	Gold River Dock/Ahminaquis Boat Launch	Buyers need to be pre-arranged by the fisher before landing.
Ucluelet	Tinlet Fish co.	Buyers need to be pre-arranged by the fisher before landing.

FISHING LOGS: Fishers must fill out a Fishing Logs daily (one page per fishing day), recording all kept **AND** released fish. This fishing log must be submitted to the Ecotrust monitor at the time of landing.

PACKING FISH: Packing, or landing catch for another vessel, is only authorized in cases where the combined catch onboard the vessel does not exceed the trip limit. If the catch does exceed the trip limit, written authorization from your fisheries manager will be required. The packer must produce a signed fishing log (completed by the fisher) for the catch.

MONITORING:

- 100% of landings and catch must be monitored by a designated monitor prior to sale. A landing slip is required before any fish can be sold.
- Fishers must provide Ecotrust monitors access to their catch for validation and CWT sampling. In Zeballos, CWT sampling will be performed by J.O. Thomas.
- All halibut being sold will be tagged with a white **HA'OOM tag** prior to sale to support traceability and accountability of Five Nations fish and to mark it as unique in the marketplace.
- Home use fish may be offloaded prior to landing at the designated landing site if your fisheries manager verifies the catch and provides you with an offload record to be provided to the Ecotrust monitor at the time of landing.
- Your Nations' Guardians and DFO will be doing on-water patrols.

COVID-19 LANDING PROCEDURES

Please refer to the COVID-19 notices posted at the landing sites for landing procedures.

FISHER REQUIREMENTS

- Fishers are required to secure their own ice (salted) and ensure that their fish are delivered dressed and properly chilled. Failure to do so may affect the price received and/or the ability to sell their catch.
- Fishers are required to adhere to the conditions and restrictions defined in the T'aaq-wiihak Requirements & Responsibilities Agreement with their Ha'wiih.
- Fishers are required to ensure their vessels comply with Transport Canada, CFIA, and WorkSafeBC regulations.

BUYERS:

It is the business of each fisher who they sell to and at what price. There will not be buyers present for evening offloads during the winter fishery. **Please see the website for a list of buyer contacts.** <https://taaqwiihakfisheries.ca/buyers/>

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT TAAQ.CA OR CONTACT:

Five Nations Fisheries Managers

Luke Swan (AFN)	250-670-9535 (office)
Dave Miller (ECFN)	778-350-0476 (office)
Jaquynn Titian (HFN)	250-670-1122 (office)
Roger Dunlop (MMFN)	250-283-2015 (office)
Andrew Jackson (TFN)	250-725-3350 (office)

Ha'oom Fisheries Society

Office Location: 200 Grice Rd, Tofino BC	250-725-2802 (office)
Vanessa Buchanan (Fisheries Coordinator)	604-349-0494 (cell)
Kadin Snook (Fisheries Coordinator)	250-204-1522 (cell)

DFO Staff

Eamon Miyagi (Salmon Resource Manager)	250-286-5896
Amy Greenwood (Hook & Line Coordinator)	604-679-5158

