T'AAQ-WIIHAK FISHERIES NOTICE
Groundfish Directed Fishery
Notice Valid from October 16- November 1, 2026

The Ha'wiih of the Five Nations are authorizing a fishery to open on the terms set out in this notice. Fishers must be aware that DFO is imposing some licence conditions on this fishery opening that the Ha'wiih are not including as requirements for the Aboriginal rights-based fishery. 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, for violations of the Fisheries Act and other regulations.

The areas highlighted in blue in this notice indicate licence conditions that are in dispute between the Nations and DFO.

OPENING TIME: **Start:** March 26th, 2026 **End:** December 7th, 2026.

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

GEAR: Troll, Jig, Hook and Line, Longline, Commercial Longline (with Hydraulic Block)

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

Species	Size Limits and Restrictions	T'aaq-wiihak Trip Limits
Suuhaa (Chinook)	**Min Size: 55 cm fork length**	**May be kept for home use.**
Cuẃit (Coho)	30 cm fork length Marked and unmarked	**May be sold. No limit.**
Hinkuuas (chum)	No size limit	May be kept for home use.
Čaapi (pink)	No size limit	May be kept for home use.
Miʕaat (Sockeye)	No size limit	May be kept for home use.
P̓uuʔi (halibut)	81.3 cm (head-on), 61 cm (head-off)	**Reach out to fisheries manager or a fisheries coordinator.**
Bixwaas (sablefish)	55 cm (head-on) 39cm (head-off)	**Reach out to fisheries manager or a fisheries coordinator.**
Tu̓skuuḥ (lingcod)	65 cm (head-on), 50 cm (head-off)	**May be sold. No limit.**
Rockfish	No size limit. **May be sold as by-catch only. NO DIRECTED TRIPS.**	**Yelloweye**: 200 lbs per trip or 10% of landed catch lbs **Other rockfish:** 100lbs per day (species listed on DFO license) **ALL ROCKFISH MUST BE RETAINED. NO RELEASES.** Rockfish may be landed live for sale.
Non-quota Species	No size limit.	**Sculpin/Cabezon:** 100lbs per trip **Pacific Cod:** 100lbs per trip **Sole and Flounder:** No Limit

Hail Phone (call/text/voicemail): 250-266-0418

DESIGNATION: Participating fishers **MUST:**

- have a valid 2025/26 T'aaq-wiihak card, **AND**
- **MUST** be fishing on a registered T'aaq-wiihak vessel with a valid 2025/26 T'aaq-wiihak decal.

Participating vessels **MUST:**

- fly a red T'aaq-wiihak flag while on a T'aaq-wiihak 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.taaq.ca.

HAIL OUT PROCEDURES: **Fishers are required to hail out for each trip**. **"Hailing out"** occurs when a participating 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 seven days a week, 7 am – 7 pm.

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.

Landings can occur only at the designated landing sites outlined below:

	Location	Information
Tofino	**4th 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**	**Call ahead before Landing**
Gold River	**Gold River Dock/Ahminaquis Boat Launch**	**Buyers need to be pre-arranged by the fisher before landing.**
Ucluelet	**Ucluelet Harbour Seafoods (UHS)**	**Buyers need to be pre-arranged by the fisher before landing.**

FISHING LOGS: Fishers must fill out a Fishing Log on a daily basis (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.
- 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.
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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.

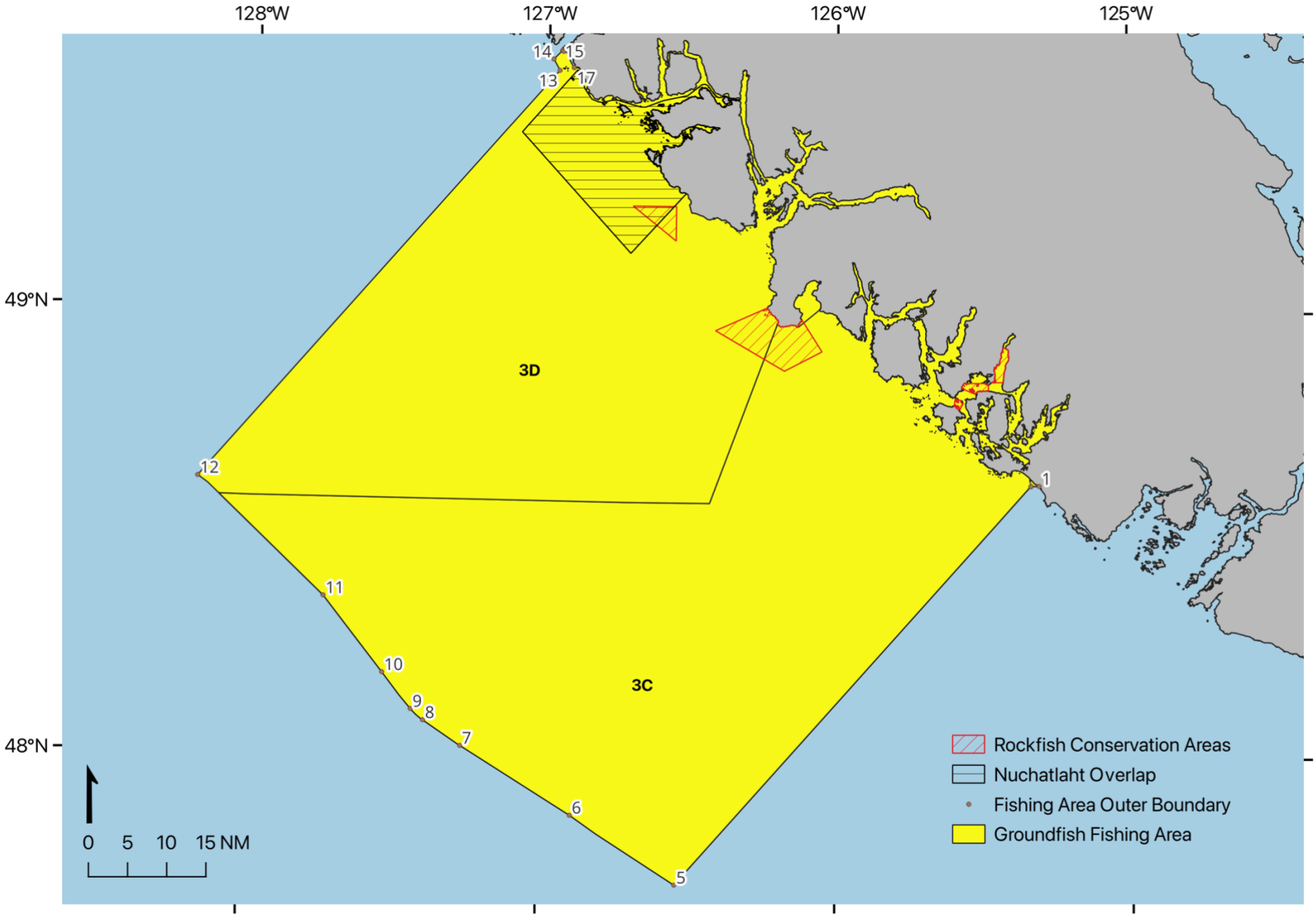
BUYERS:

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	
Richard (Hasheukumiss) George (AN)	250-266-1438 (cell)
Tyler Hanson (ECFN)	250-761-4155 (office)
Rufus Charleson (HFN)	250-670-1122 (office)
Moses Track (MMFN)	1-514-294-8443 (cell)
Andrew Jackson (TFN)	250-725-3350 (office)
Ha'oom Fisheries Society	
Office Location: 200 Grice Rd, Tofino BC (old Icehouse Restaurant)	250-725-2802 (office)
Kadin Snook (Fisheries Coordinator)	250-204-1522 (cell)
Olivia Currie (Fisheries Coordinator)	250-204-9948 (cell)
DFO Staff	
Juanita Rogers (Senior Implementation Advisor)	250-713-1599
Sunny Mizushima A/Finfish Manager, Reconciliation and Partnerships	236-330-0933 (cell)

Court Defined Area Boundaries		
Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	49º 55.428'	-127º 12.185'
2	49º 55.523'	-127º 15.150'
3	49º 48.213'	-127º 25.125'
4	49º 47.167'	-127º 23.161'
5	49º 55.150'	-127º 12.469'
6	49º 54.425'	-127º 12.156'
7	49º 53.939'	-127º 11.837'
8	49º 53.394'	-127º 11.282'
9	49º 52.781'	-127º 00.964'
10	49º 51.458'	-127º 09.546'
11	49º 51.131'	-127º 08.198'
12	49º 51.073'	-127º 07.599'
13	49º 51.122'	-127º 07.027'
14	49º 51.370'	-127º 05.634'
15	49º 51.390'	-127º 04.510'
16	49º 50.559'	-126º 59.950'
17	49º 50.553'	-126º 58.915'
18	49º 51.417'	-126º 55.452'
19	49º 52.077'	-126º 50.679'
20	49º 53.496'	-126º 47.910'
21	49º 53.579'	-126º 47.333'
22	49º 53.425'	-126º 46.796'
23	49º 52.269'	-126º 44.458'
24	49º 51.970'	-126º 43.609'
25	49º 52.072'	-126º 43.497'
26	49º 52.078'	-126º 43.221'
27	49º 52.026'	-126º 42.917'
28	49º 51.775'	-126º 42.516'
29	49º 51.644'	-126º 41.072'
30	49º 51.637'	-126º 40.721'
31	49º 51.512'	-126º 40.476'
32	49º 51.438'	-126º 40.475'
33	49º 39.562'	-126º 50.683'
34	49º 31.844'	-127º 01.427'
35	49º 21.283'	-126º 49.027'
36	49º 18.344'	-126º 45.585'
37	49º 16.641'	-126º 43.409'
38	49º 15.956'	-126º 42.386'
39	49º 15.250'	-126º 41.054'
40	49º 12.233'	-126º 34.324'
41	49º 00.323'	-126º 07.711'
42	48º 54.451'	-125º 53.981'
43	49º 02.307'	125º 43.228'
44	49º 02.340'	-125º 41.631'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Rockfish Conservation Areas
Nuchatlaht Overlap
Fishing Area Outer Boundary
Groundfish Fishing Area