

Metlakatla FSC Regulations for 2018

HALIBUT

Metlakatla Governing Council, Metlakatla Development Corp, and Metlakatla Stewardship Society have agreed to provide financial assistance for expenses to assist fishers with FSC Halibut, on behalf of band membership for FSC requirements. Metlakatla Stewardship Society/Metlakatla Aquatic Resources (MAR) will be responsible for the management of the program for 2018.

The following rules and regulations apply to fishing activities conducted by Metlakatla First Nations within the Tsimshian Territory. The function of these regulations is to effectively manage and conserve fishery resources in Tsimshian Territory. The rules and regulations listed are in force for 2018 and cover **Halibut** only.

Each fisherman will enter into a derby-style fishery, and will be permitted to fish until the quota that the program budget allows for is fulfilled. Fishermen involved with this program will not receive community fish that they were compensated for. Elders, and families that don't have capacity to obtain FSC requirements, will receive calls for fish first.

In-season adjustments and management decisions will be made by MAR and MSS with respect to regulations and allocations.

Participation

Participation in the Band Fishery is limited to fishing vessels owned and operated by band members. Fishing vessels operated by band members but owned by other non-band members may be used according to in-season management decisions. Metlakatla Fisheries Program **will issue Food Fish/Transport Permits with proof of Metlakatla membership (status card)** for the fishery. Food fish permits must be obtained from the Metlakatla Stewardship Office Monday – Friday –08:30- 16:30 hr. These permits are personal and non-transferable.

Status cards and food fish permits must be carried at all times while participating in fishing activities or while transporting fishery resources harvested within Tsimshian Territory. Status cards and/or permits must be produced upon the request of Metlakatla Fisheries Personnel, or the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. The fisher is subject to validation of catch from appointed Fisheries or MAR personnel.

If a person designated to harvest intends to use a **Commercial Fishing Vessel** to participate in the bands fishery they must adhere to the following:

- Fish permits (**Food Fish/Transport Permits with status card**) must be carried on the fishing vessel at all times while the fishing vessel is being used in a food fishery or while transporting fish harvested from the food fishery.
- Commercial vessels participating in the fishery under the authority of this permit must be available for fish hold inspections prior to engaging in a commercial fishery. **ALL**

FISHING VESSELS WILL REQUIRE HOLD INSPECTIONS BEFORE AND AFTER DELIVERIES.

- All fishers must comply with commercial regulations with respect to FSC fishing.

The fisher must accurately record all species and number of each species caught, including incidental catch. Fishers are encouraged to keep all bycatch for FSC purposes. However, this FSC distribution program does not allow for these bycatch species to be compensated for.

REGULATIONS

All fish must be off-loaded in Metlakatla or in Prince Rupert at the Metlakatla Dock between 8:30 am – 4:30 pm.

All Fishers must follow Department of Transport Canada's list of safety supplies and safety regulations for their vessel size. MSS/MFP will not be held liable or responsible for fishers not complying with ANY safety regulations Under DOT.

QUALITY; Fishers must have sufficient quality ice prior to any FSC fishing when engaged in fishing activity longer then 24hrs . Fishers will not be compensated for any fish of low quality or fish returned by members within 24 hours.

Fishers are not responsible for distribution of fish; Fish validators/ MFP staff will be solely responsible for all distributions to band members. Fishers will not qualify for receiving any fish from the compensation program, priority will be for elders, and members who do not have the capacity to obtain FSC requirments.

All payments will be made to the skipper or designated fisher of the fishing vessel. The skipper or designated fisher will be responsible for payment of crew and all operational costs.

All catch validated by Wednesday will be processed for payment on Friday (by-weekly). Please allow for up to one week before payment is processed. Fishers must be prepared to store/hold ON ICE any undistributed Halibut overnight if Metlakatla Fisheries Program staffs are not available.

1. Halibut

Fishers must hail into Metlakatla Fisheries Program at least 2 hours prior to commencement of fishing and one hour prior to landing.

Fishers will only be compensated for Halibut that is properly validated by a Metlakatla Fisheries Program staff or designated person(s).

All fish must be DRESSED with HEAD ON. Any fish accepted undressed will be subject to Thirty percent reduction on total weight.

Distribution of all fish must be properly validated and carried out by the Metlakatla Fisheries Program or designated person(s).

The validators will not be responsible for any handling or processing of fish.

Fishermen will be compensated at \$4/pound of halibut validated and distributed by MFP staff.

2. Quota: Each FSC fisher will be compensated for all halibut meeting the requirements above until the total allocation for the program is reached.

3. Period: April 29, 2018 to October 15, 2018
If the program allocation/quota is met sooner, the MFP will inform the fishermen of the closure of the fishery.
Should you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to call Metlakatla Stewardship Society, William Beynon or Ross Wilson 250-628-3315.

Any breeches of this agreement or illegal activity may result in charges or fishing suspensions.

Contact Information

Address: _____

Phone numbers: _____

Fisher

Metlakatla Stewardship Society

Date

Date