



## Fisheries and Oceans Canada

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### Fishery Notice

**Category(s):**

AQUACULTURE - Shellfish

**Subject:**

## **FN0374-Shellfish Aquaculture - Access to Wild Resources - Oyster Spat - Extension of Closure for Remainder of 2022**

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Further to Fishery Notice 'FN0145-Aquaculture - Access to Wild Resources - Oyster Spat - Extension of Closure for Remainder of 2021' issued February 18, 2021, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is reminding fishers that collecting/fishing for oyster spat without a valid DFO licence is unlawful.

Pacific Shellfish Aquaculture Licence Holders were sent a letter on August 21, 2020, outlining the closure of oyster spat/fishing activities in all areas of the Pacific Region, including Pendrell Sound. DFO continues to address ongoing debris and environmental concerns in Pendrell Sound and therefore is extending the closure for the remainder of 2022.

No further oyster spat collection or fishing activities are permitted outside of an aquaculture licensed facility. Oyster spat collection is permitted within licensed facilities, as outlined the Shellfish Aquaculture Licence under the authority of the Pacific Aquaculture Regulations. Shellfish growers will be required to use an alternative method of sourcing seed, if required.

As there are no valid oyster spat licences at this time, any set, lost, or abandoned gear, not on a valid licensed aquaculture facility, will be in violation of Section 25 of the Fisheries Act and subject to a fine of up to \$100,000 and/or a term of imprisonment of one year. Unlawfully set fishing gear, vessels, and any items used in the commission of an offense may be seized.

To report unlawful fishing activity in relation to wild oyster access or any other fishery, please call the toll-free DFO Observe Record Report phone line at 1-800-465-4336.

Should you have any questions regarding shellfish aquaculture, please direct inquiries to: [shellfish.aquaculture@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:shellfish.aquaculture@dfo-mpo.gc.ca).

All questions regarding Access Licenses should be directed to the British Columbia Introduction and Transfer Committee: [ITC@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:ITC@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

Fisheries & Oceans Operations Center - FN0374  
Sent April 11, 2022 at 1411

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