



January 6, 2016

File: 68800-30/15/B

**TO: ALL BRITISH COLUMBIA LICENSED FISH BUYERS**

**Re: 2015 Annual Fisheries Production Schedule (AFPS) – due February 15, 2016**

*British Columbia offered 483 distinct seafood commodities in 2014 with a combined wholesale value of \$1.4 billion, with 52% generated from sales of salmon products.*

We were able to generate this information by surveying B.C. seafood sellers. Most of the seafood value is generated from B.C. fish buyers like you, as well as licensed brokers and processors.

Each year the Ministry of Agriculture completes a census of the seafood industry. For fish buyers the information is collected under authority of Section 20(1) of the Fisheries Act, using the AFPS.

Your contribution to the census is a requirement of your fish buying station licence and ensures that we are collecting complete information on the British Columbia seafood industry.

The 2015 Annual Fisheries Production Schedule (AFPS) is due **February 15, 2016**.

Completing the AFPS:

- Operations reporting B.C. seafood sales, please:
  - report all seafood sold in 2015, as product of B.C. to retail or exported;
  - include all seafood in inventory in its final form and value at prevailing prices; and
  - sign and return the completed report.
  
- Operations reporting no sales, please:
  - complete pages 1 & 2 of the AFPS form; and
  - sign and return the completed report.



Remember the report must be signed and returned - even if it is "NIL" - to satisfy your reporting requirements.

Detail instructions for completing the schedule are available in the [guide for completing the Annual Fisheries Production Schedule 2015](#). If you wish to complete and submit the form **electronically**, it can be accessed from Ministry of Agriculture, [Reporting Requirements](#).

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Be assured that **data from individual forms and companies is protected** within the provisions of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. The information provided is held in complete confidence and is published in aggregate form (combined data from three or more companies).

The Annual Fisheries Production Schedule data is used extensively to highlight the importance of the B.C. seafood sector and its products. One example is the British Columbia Seafood Industry Year in Review series; another is the B.C. seafood statistics website.

The Ministry of Agriculture publications - Year in Review series, as well as sector profiles from 2014 (and earlier) can be found under [industry and sector profiles](#).

Thank you in advance for your participation. We appreciate your timely cooperation with the reporting schedule and will be happy to assist you, should you have questions or concerns.

Yours truly,



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Attachments:

1. [Annual Fisheries Production Schedule 2015](#)
2. [Guide for completing the AFPS 2015](#)