



Seafood Industry Notice for Fish Receivers

Notice 003

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If you intend to receive fish directly from a commercial fisher, please review this notice to determine whether you need to be licensed. If so, please complete and submit a Fish Receiver Application form.

Please note that even if do not require a licence, there may be reporting requirements that apply to you. Please review “***What about reporting requirements?***” below.

The *Fish and Seafood Act* and its regulations came into force January 1, 2017. It is important that you are aware of, and keep current with, requirements that apply to you. To stay current, please visit our website at: www.gov.bc.ca/seafoodlicensing

Highlights of the Fish Receiver licence:

Who requires it? This licence is required if you receive fish directly from a commercial fisher or a licensed packing vessel using a:

- shore-based facility;
- vehicle; or
- vessel that does not hold a federal commercial fishing or packing licence.

Who does not require this licence? You may not require this licence if you:

- receive fish directly from a commercial fisher, holding a Fisher Vendor licence, at your restaurant or retail store which is regulated by a regional health authority.
- receive fish directly from a commercial fisher at your federally licensed/registered fish processing facility.
- receive fish directly from a commercial fisher at your provincially licensed seafood processing facility.
- receive fish directly from a commercial fisher on your federally licensed commercial fishing (or packing) vessel.
- are a commercial fisher transporting your own catch.
- receive fish directly from a commercial fisher, holding a Fisher Vendor licence, for your own personal consumption.

What are the requirements? If licensed, Fish Receivers must meet regulatory requirements including but not limited to:

- [Construction and operational requirements](#)
- [Record-keeping requirements](#)
- [Requirement to ensure food safety](#)
- [Requirement to report unsafe food](#)

What records need to be kept? Fish Receivers must keep written records for each delivery of fish received and each delivery of fish distributed. Such records need to be retained for 3 years.

Records for each delivery of fish received must include at least the following:

- name, contact information (e.g., mailing address, email address, phone number), and federal licence number of the commercial fisher (if applicable),
- date that fish were received,
- location where fish were received,
- quantity (weight) of each species of fish received (and if processed, manner of processing such as “dressed head-on”, “frozen head-off”, “round”, etc.), and
- amount paid for fish received.

Records for each delivery of fish distributed must include at least the following:

- name and contact information (e.g., mailing address, email address, phone number) of the person you delivered the fish to,
- date that fish were delivered,
- location where fish were delivered,
- quantity (weight) of each species of fish delivered (and if processed, manner of processing such as “dressed head-on”, “frozen head-off”, “round”, etc.), and
- payment received for fish delivered.

What about reporting requirements? Fish Receivers must complete and submit [annual reports](#) at the end of each calendar year.