



Seafood Industry Notice for Fisher Vendors

Notice 004

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If you are a commercial fisher and intend to sell your catch directly to the public, to restaurants or to retail outlets, please review this notice to determine whether you need to be licensed. If so, please complete and submit a Fisher Vendor Application form.

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 Fisher Vendor licence:

Who requires it? This licence is required for commercial fishers who sell their catch:

- to the public (for their own consumption), directly from the harvest vessel, **or**
- to restaurants or retail stores which are regulated by regional health authorities.

Who does not require this licence? You may not require this licence if you are a commercial fisher and only distribute your catch to:

- to the public (for their own consumption) from a location other than the harvest vessel (i.e., roadside sale, farmer's market which are regulated by regional health authorities),
- a provincially licensed Fish Receiver or Seafood Processor,
- a federally licensed/registered fish processing facility, or
- a federally licensed/registered commercial fishing (or packing) vessel.

What are the requirements? If licensed, Fisher Vendors 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? Fisher Vendors must keep written records for all sales transactions. Such records need to be retained for 3 years.

Records for each sales transaction must include at least the following:

- name and contact information (e.g., mailing address, email address, phone number) of the business that you sold your fish to (this contact information is not necessary for sales to the general public),
- date that fish were sold,
- quantity (weight) of each species of fish sold, and
- payment received for fish sold.