



2021 Commercial Sea Cucumber Fishery

Prepared for the Pacific Sea Cucumber
Harvesters Association Annual General
Meeting

August 6, 2021

Topics

1. Kitasoo/Xaixais collaboration
2. Laredo Channel survey results
3. Planning for the 2021 fishery
4. IFMP Timeline



Working together with Kitasoo/Xaixais First Nations (KX)

- KX hold several commercial licence eligibilities and process Sea Cucumbers in Klemtu. They've also been an important partner on Sea Cucumber research for 28 years.
- Partnering with KX on research, assessment and management of Sea Cucumbers in the KX area to give them opportunity to fish and process locally.
- Working together to increase the number of assessment surveys in the KX area.
- Making several changes in 2021 and beyond to support this partnership including:
 - Changing boundaries of some Quota Management Areas
 - Moving some Quota Management Areas in the NC and CC from a rotational schedule to an annual schedule
 - Considering different harvest rates to support a research initiative

Laredo Channel Survey Results

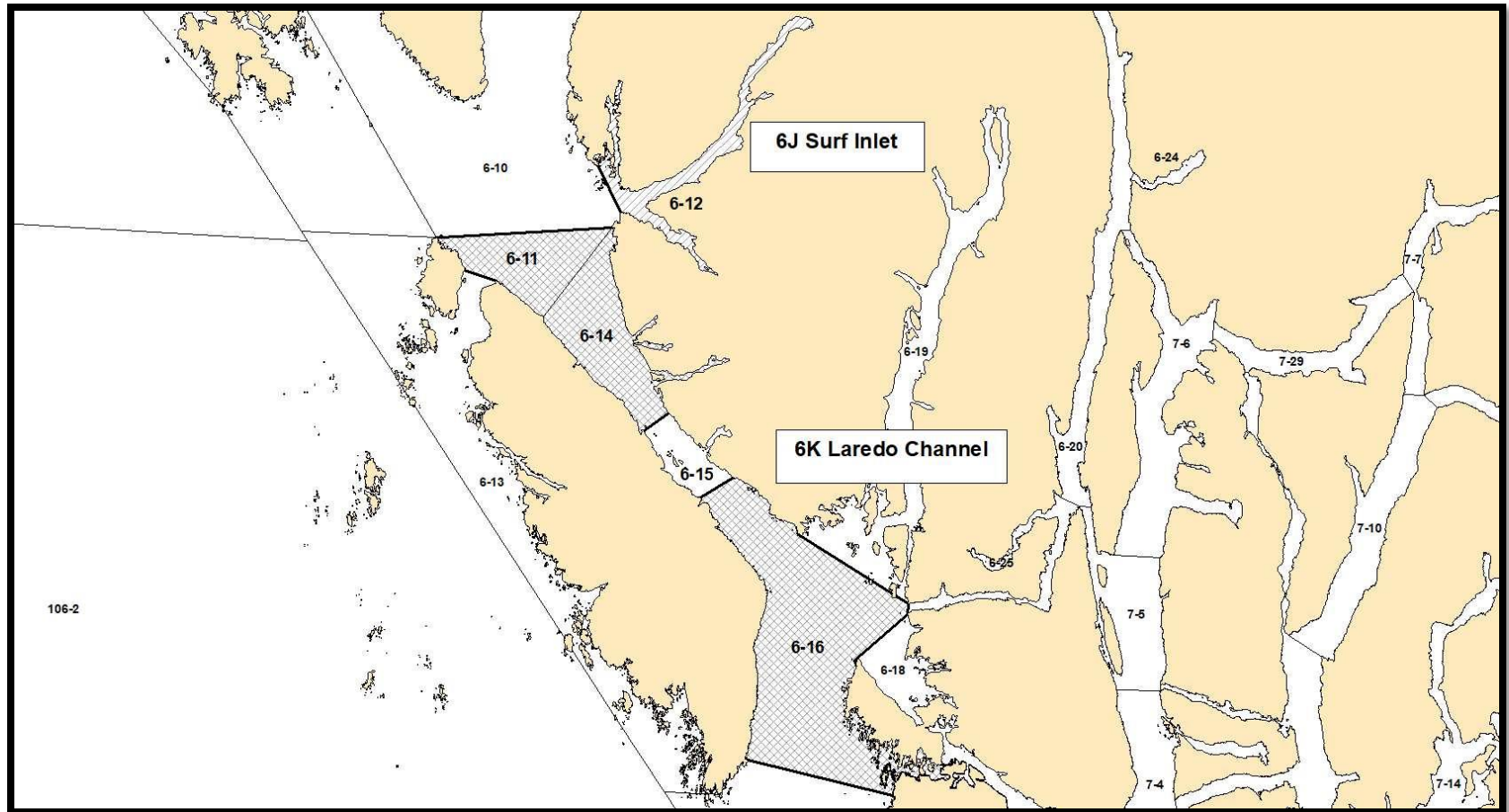
	2014 Survey		2021 Survey	
Subarea	PDE (c/m-sh)	ASW (g)	PDE (c/m-sh)	ASW (g)
6-12	3.2	274	8.2	169
6-14	2.5	204	4.6	202
6-15	1.5	316	6.3	148
6-16	2.5	279	3.7	206

Survey completed by the KX team and contract divers with support from DFO Science for the transect placement and analysis.

Recommendations:

- This area is not productive so we will use a lower harvest rate moving forward
- Will move it from a rotational strategy to an annual strategy
- Will split 6-12 (Surf Inlet) off from the old QMA

Boundary Change – QMA 6D split into 2 smaller QMAs



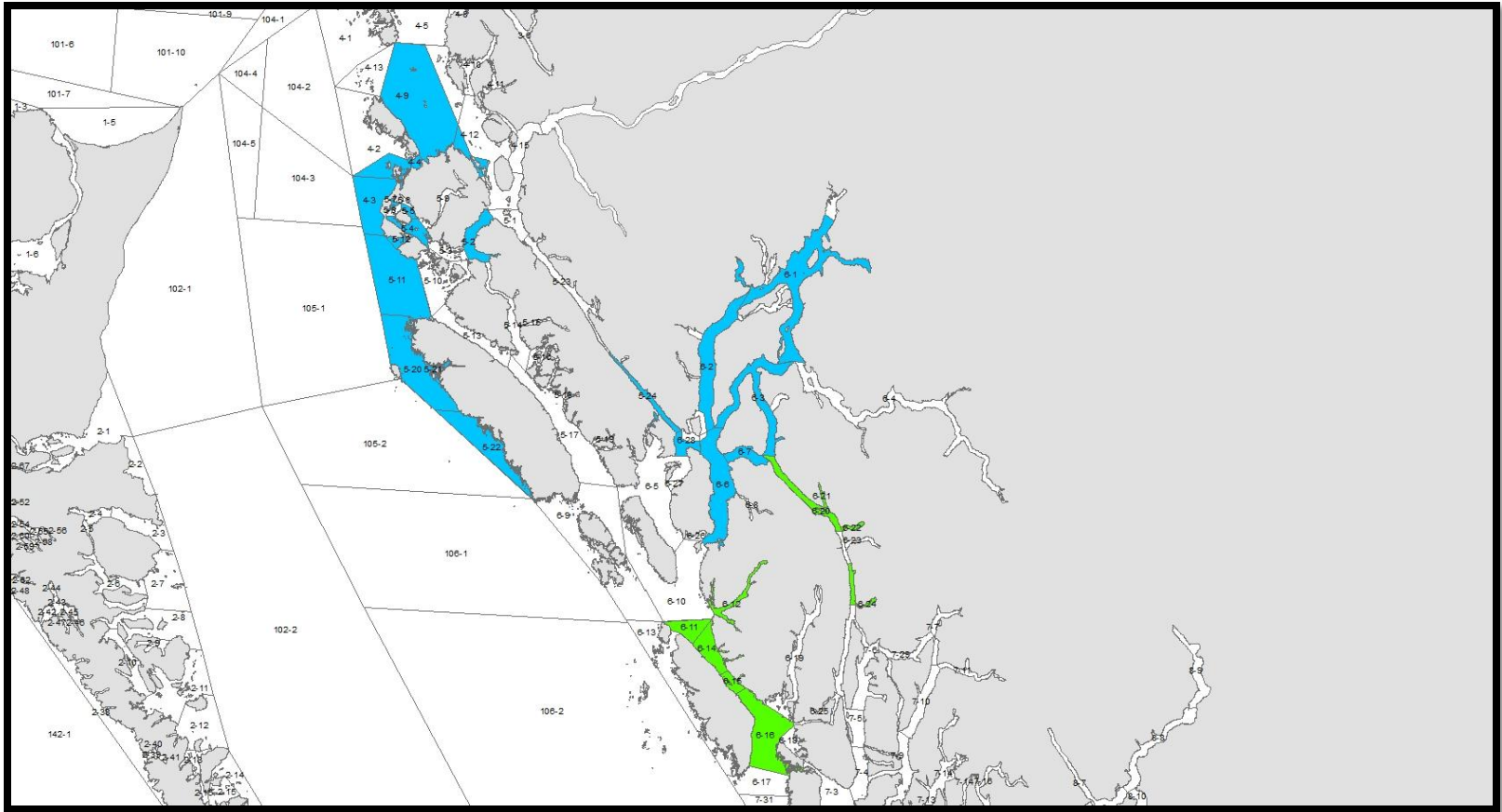
Note: Both of these QMAs have been moved from a rotational harvest to an annual harvest.

Planning for the 2021 Fishery

- Total Allowable Catch = Return to 1.36 million pounds
- Individual Quota = Return to 16,000 pounds
- 2021 is Year 2 of the 3 year cycle of the Adaptive Rotational Fishing Strategy (ARFS). Some QMAs will be fished on a rotational schedule and some on an annual schedule.
- Plan is to move 2 licences from CC to NC to support the KX initiative
- Licences will also need to move from NC and CC to ECVI and at least one licence needs to move to WCVI for 2021 to fish in Kyuquot.

Licence Area	# licences in 2020	# licences in 2021
North Coast	31	33
Central Coast	25	24
East Coast VI	24	21
West Coast VI	5	7

North Coast Licence Area – 2021 Fishery



Blue: Rotational QMAs available for harvest in 2021

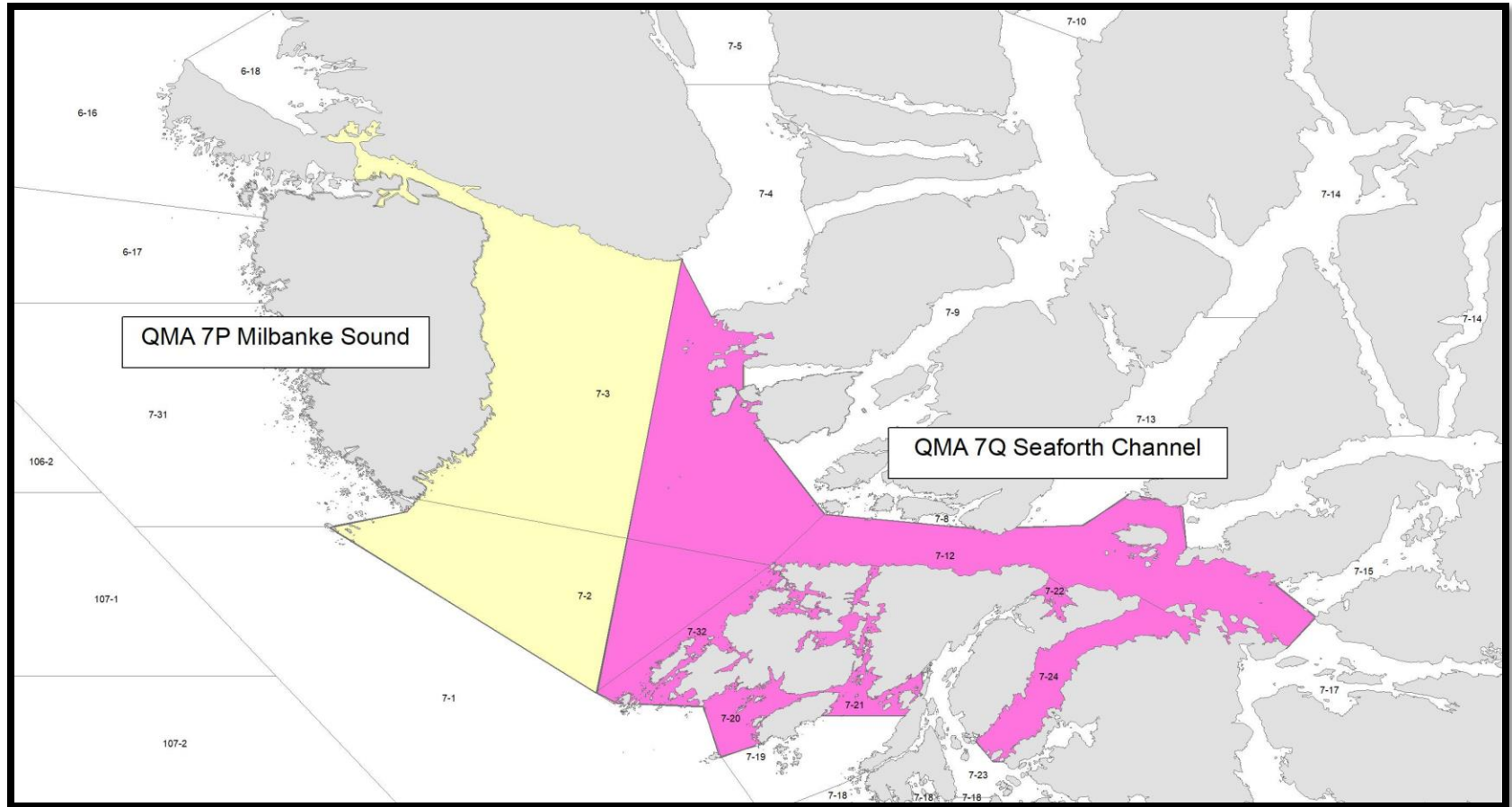
Green: Annual QMAs available for harvest in 2021

North Coast Licence Area – 2021 Fishery

QMA	Commercial Quota (split lb.)	Fishery Type	Last Harvest
4C North Porcher	94,885	Rotational	2018
5A West Banks	68,277	Rotational	2018
5D South Porcher	72,065	Rotational	2018
5I Grenville South	33,113	Rotational	2018
6G Kitimat Arm	51,885	Rotational	2018
6H Douglas Channel	78,660	Rotational	2018
6I Gribbell Island	96,062	Rotational	2018
6E Princess Royal Channel	20,417	Annual	2020
6J Surf Inlet	6,528	Annual	2017
6K Laredo Channel	6,108	Annual	2017
Total	528,000	33 Licences	

Fallback Quota available in QMA 5A = 10,276 lbs.

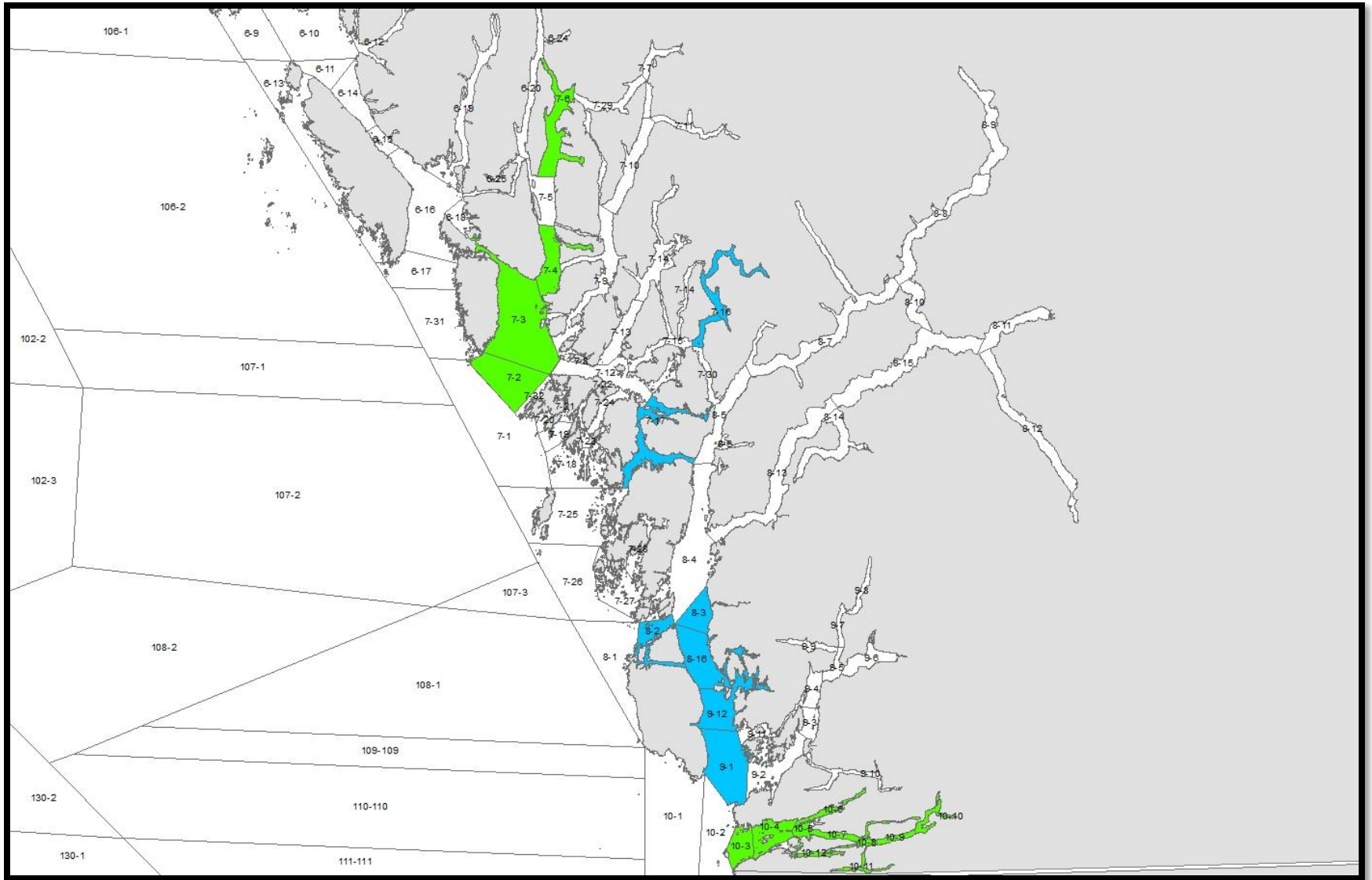
Boundary Change – QMA 7B split into 2 smaller QMAs



Note: QMA 7P will be fished annually. Starting with a quota of 5,000 lbs but will reassess after it has been fished in 2021.

QMA 7Q is still a rotational area and its next scheduled harvest is 2022.

Central Coast Licence Area – 2021 Fishery



Blue: Rotational QMAs available for 2021 harvest

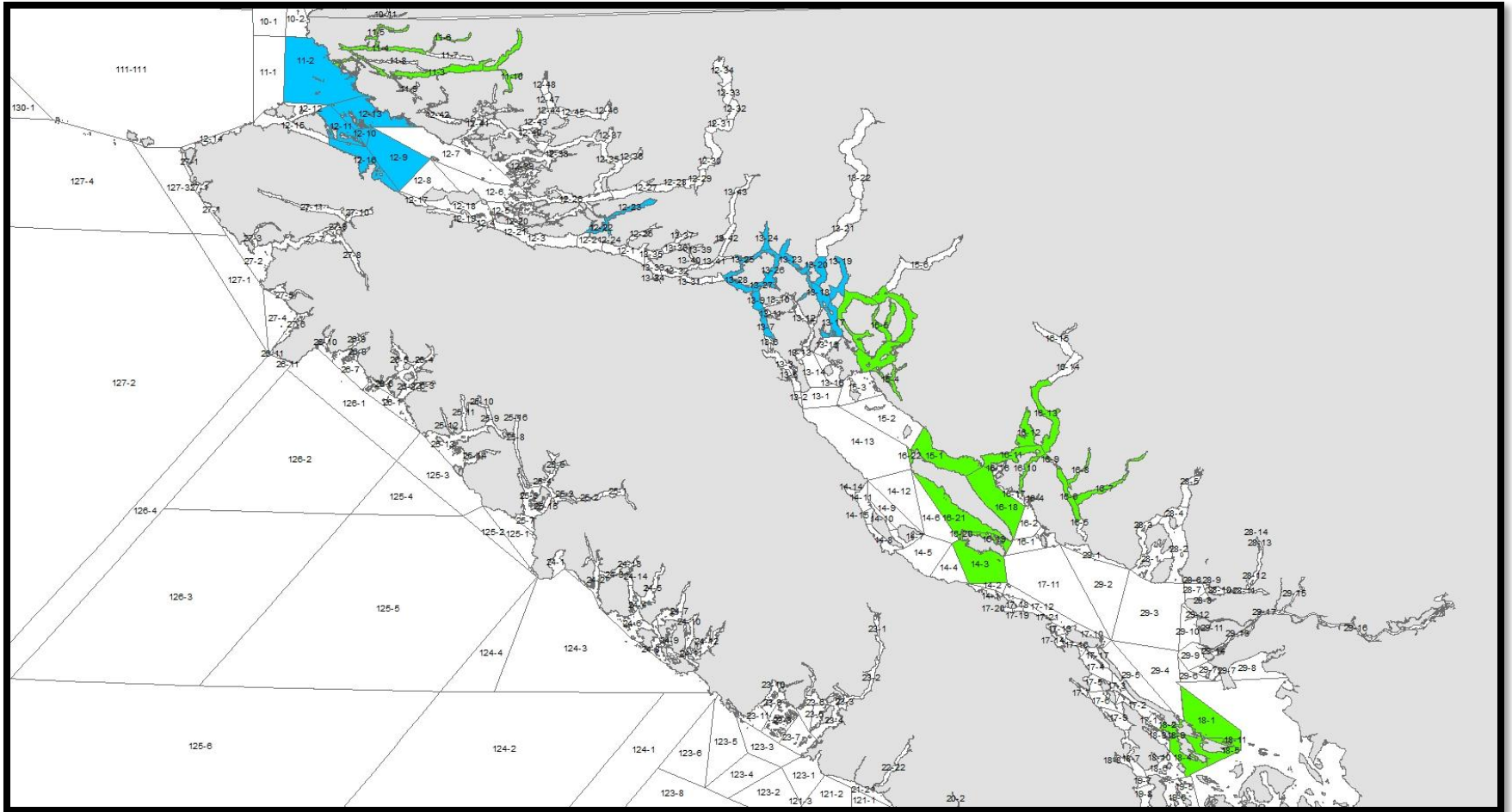
Green: Annual QMAs available for 2021 harvest

Central Coast Licence Area – 2021 Fishery

QMA	Commercial Quota (split lb.)	Fishery Type	Last Harvest
7F Denny Island	172,554	Rotational	2018
8B Calvert Island	155,652	Rotational	2018
7N Finlayson North	10,701	Annual	2020
7O Finlayson South	12,382	Annual	2020
7P Milbanke Sound	5,000	Annual	2019
10A Smith Inlet	27,711	Annual	2020
Total	384,000	24 Licences	

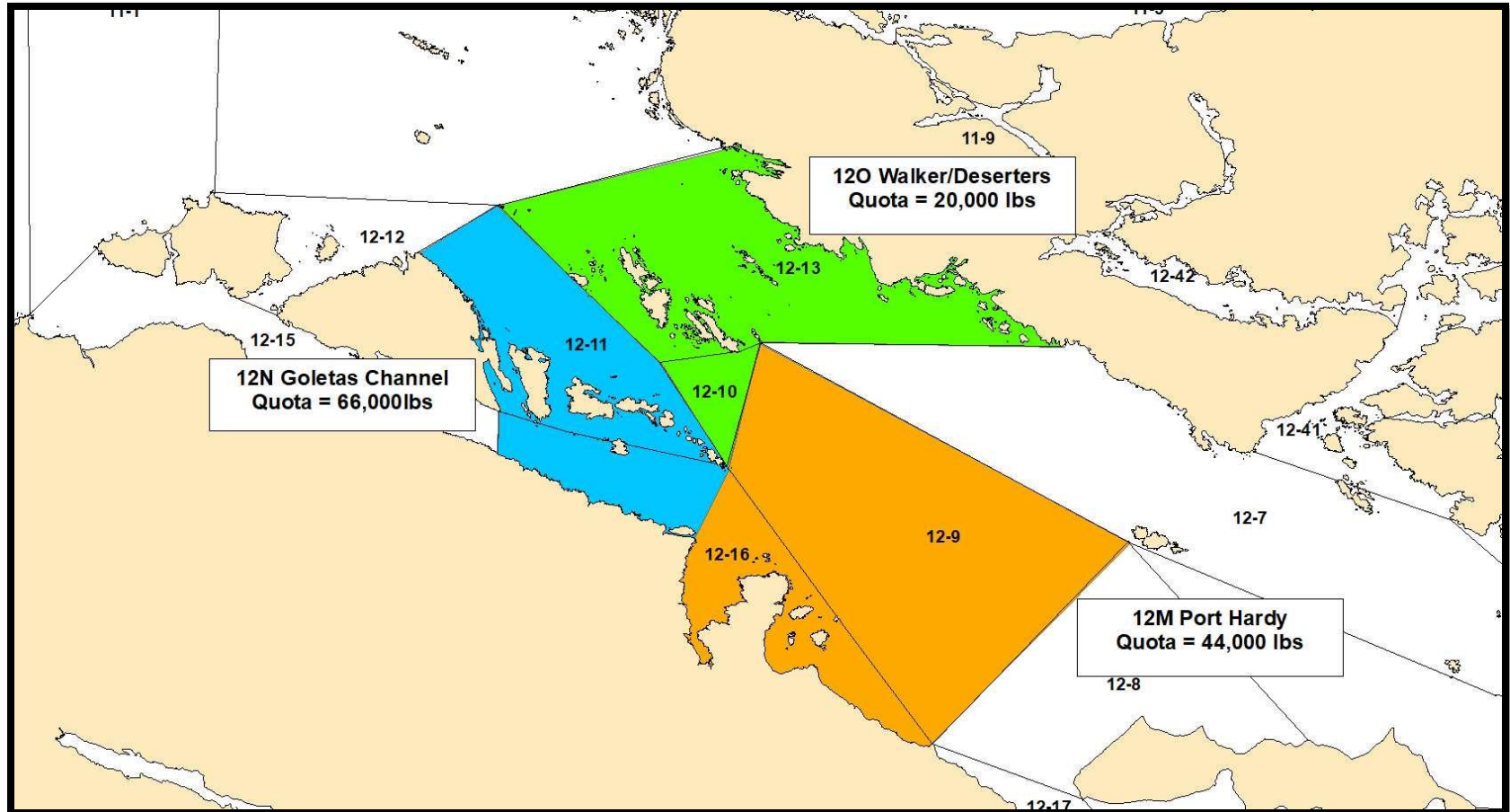
Fallback Quota in QMA 8B Calvert Island = 5,018 lbs.

ECVI Licence Area – 2021 Fishery



Green: QMAs available for 2021 harvest in WCVI licence area – annual fishery
Blue: QMAs available for 2021 harvest in WCVI licence area – rotational fishery

Boundary Change – QMA 12A split into 3 smaller QMAs



ECVI Licence Area – 2021 Fishery - Rotational

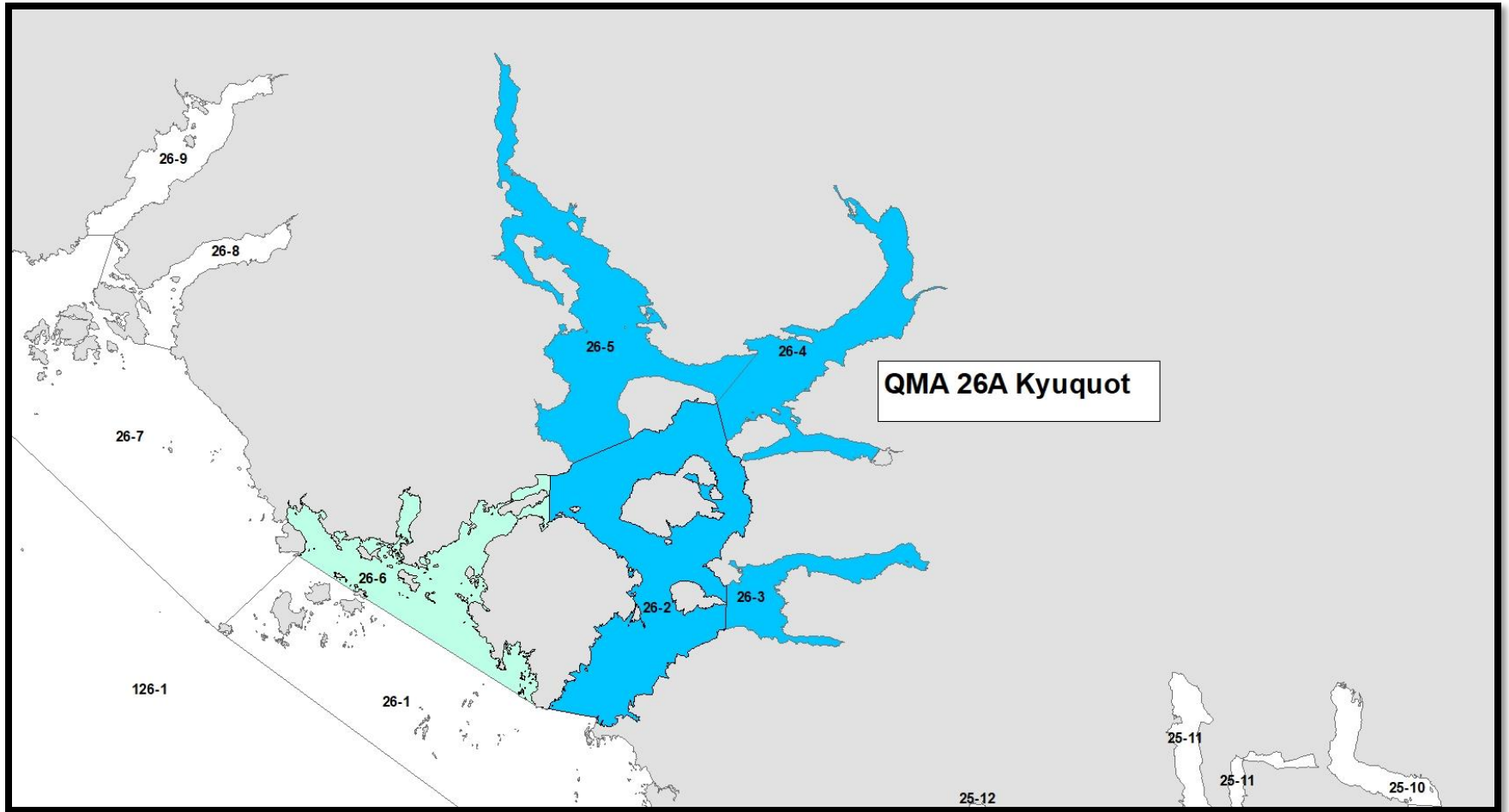
QMA	Commercial Quota (split lb.)	Fishery Type/HR	Last Harvest
11E Allison Harbour	34,430	Rotational/10%	2018
12M Port Hardy (NEW)	44,000	Rotational/10%	2018
12N Goletas Channel (NEW)	66,000	Rotational/10%	2018
12O Walker/Deserters (NEW)	20,000	Rotational/10%	2018
12K Port Harvey	29,552	Rotational/10%	2017
13B North Area 13	33,723	Rotational/10%	2018
13C East Thurlow Island	58,295	Rotational/10%	2018
Total	286,000		

ECVI Licence Area – 2021 Fishery Annual

QMA	Commercial Quota (split lb.)	Fishery Type/HR	Last Harvest
11A Belize Inlet	8,000	Annual	2020
11B Seymour Inlet	8,000	Annual	2020
15A West Redonda Island	5,000	Annual	2020
15B East Redonda Island	5,000	Annual	2020
15C South Desolation	5,000	Annual	2020
16A Sechelt Inlet	5,000	Annual	2020
16C Texada Island	5,000	Annual	2020
16D Lasqueti Island	9,000	Annual	2019
Annual Type Total	50,000		
Licence Area Total	336,000	21 Licences	

Note: Fallback Quota is available in most of the annual QMAs in 2021

Proposal to reopen portions of Management Area 26

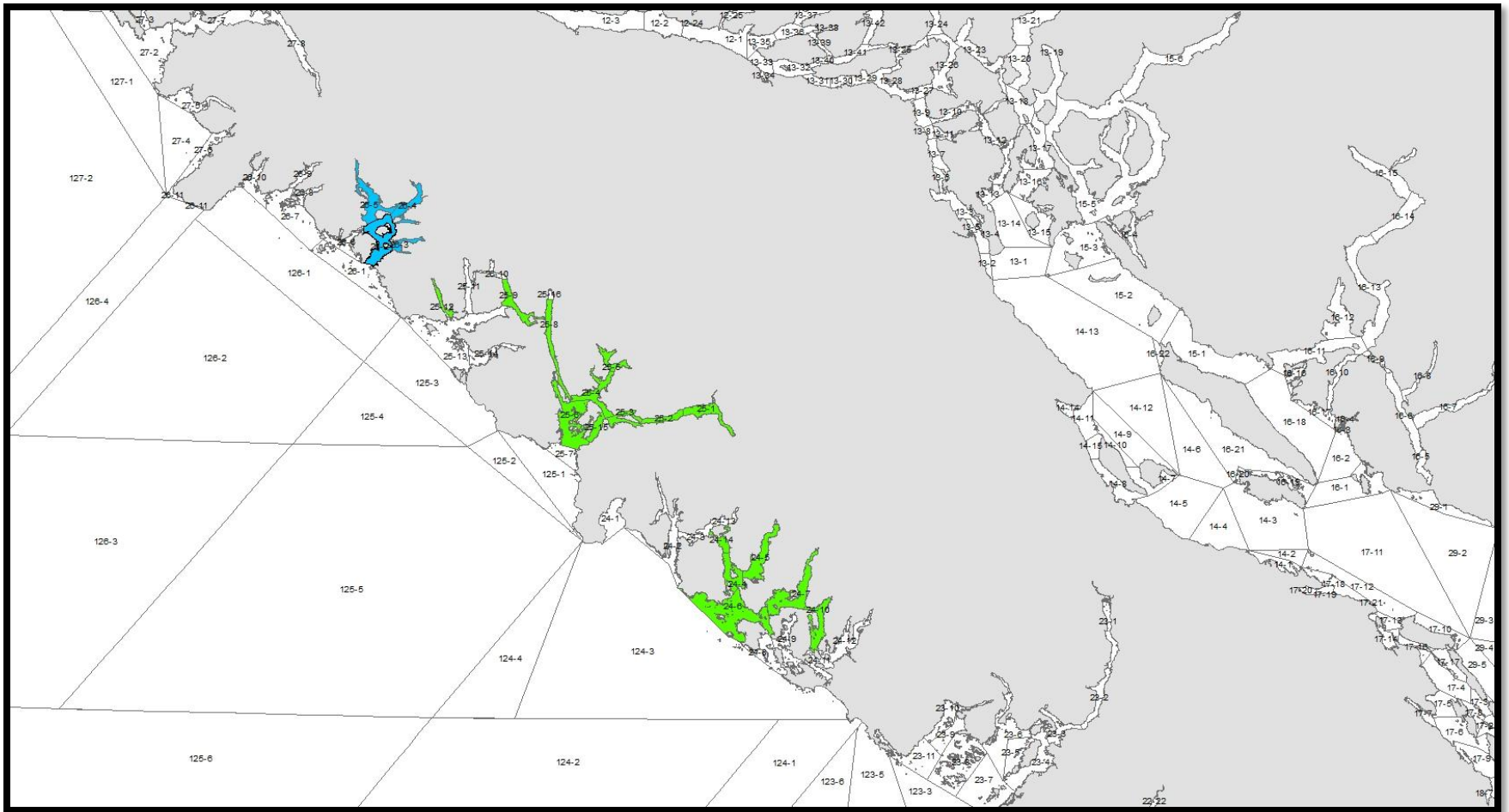


Green: Surveyed areas that have cucumber densities too low to reopen

Blue: Proposed Quota Management Area

White: Not surveyed and not open for commercial harvest

WCVI Licence Area – 2021 Fishery



Green: QMAs available for 2021 harvest in WCVI licence area – annual fishery
Blue: Proposed QMA for 2021 harvest in WCVI licence area – rotational fishery

WCVI Licence Area – 2021 Fishery

QMA	Commercial Quota (split lb.)	Fishery Type	Last Harvest
24A North Clayoquot	20,000	Annual	2019
24B South Clayoquot	12,000	Annual	2019
25A Nootka/Tahsis	20,000	Annual	2020
25B Muchalat/Tlupana	28,000	Annual	2020
26A Kyuquot*	32,000	Rotational/2yr	n/a
Licence Area Total	112,000	7 licences	

*Further consultation needed

5,925 lbs of Fallback Quota is available in QMAs 25A and 25B

IFMP Timeline

- Draft 2021/22 IFMP 30-day consultation period between July 9 and August 8, 2021
- Mid August – IFMP goes for sign-off by RDG.
- Mid September – Licensing begins.
- October 1 – North Coast Licence Area and some of ECVI Licence Area opens.
- October 8 – Central, ECVI, WCVI licence areas open.



Thanks!

- For advice on licence movement between licence areas.
- For filling out and submitting harvest questionnaires each season.
- For advice on quotas and boundary changes.
- Thanks to those that offered their licence eligibilities in the last Pacific Integrated Commercial Fisheries Initiative (PICFI) purchasing round. DFO was able to acquire 2 licence eligibilities that will be used to increase First Nations participation in the commercial fishery. DFO is interested in acquiring more licences so please consider future PICFI purchasing rounds.

