



## PACIFIC SALMON COMMISSION

ESTABLISHED BY TREATY BETWEEN CANADA  
AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
MARCH 18, 1985

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[www.psc.org](http://www.psc.org)

# Test Fishing Charter Opportunity

## Lower Fraser River Brownsville Bar Gillnet Test Fishery

The Pacific Salmon Commission (PSC) is an international organization formed by a treaty between Canada and the United States. Among its subsidiary bodies, the Fraser River Panel is charged with in-season management of sockeye and pink salmon fisheries occurring in both countries.

To support this in-season management, the Panel relies on assessment data from test fisheries that collect physical, biological, and catch per unit effort information. More information on Fraser River Panel management can be found at [www.psc.org/publications/fraser-panel-in-season-information/](http://www.psc.org/publications/fraser-panel-in-season-information/).

The PSC is currently looking for one test fisher to conduct the Brownsville Bar test fishery.

You are invited to participate in this program by completing the **2021 Application to Participate**. Applications will be reviewed by members of a selection committee. See below for more information.

### **Test Fishery Description:**

**Area 29 (Brownsville Bar).** One gillnet vessel is required to start test fishing in mid-July and continue for a period deemed sufficient by the PSC, likely late-August. The designated vessel will be required to carry out a minimum of two 20-minute sets per day for sockeye and pink salmon, up to 7 days per week during the test fishing period. The vessel will fish a designated multi-panel sockeye stock composition gillnet that is 120 fathoms long, consisting of four 30 fathom long panels in the specific order of 4 ¼", 4 ¾", 5 ¼" and 5 ¾", seamed together where they join and the same depth as a Standard 5 ¼" x 60 mesh gillnet, hung 2.5:1, 4 ¼" mesh - 23 gauge, 4 ¾" mesh - 23 gauge, 5 ¼" - 23 gauge, and 5 ¾" mesh – 23 gauge.

- The test fishery will operate between July 12 and August 22 for approximately 40 days and the charter rate will be in line with the charter rates of other test fisheries operating in the lower Fraser River.
- The vessel may be eligible to participate in commercial openings.
- The test fishing charter agreement with the PSC will be in effect for a minimum of one year. The contract for this work may be suspended or cancelled at any time if conditions of the contract have not been met.

### **Terms and Conditions:**

1. The Designated Fishing skipper must be knowledgeable of the Fraser River management area where the test fishery occurs and have a minimum of 10 years' experience gillnet fishing for sockeye salmon in the designated area.

2. The Designated Fishing skipper will let the PSC hire the Vessel, its equipment, and crew for the purpose of carrying out test fishing and the procurement of such scientific information as, but not limited to: abundance and migratory behaviour; biological samples for analysis of size, age, and stock composition; maturity; data on tides, water temperature, winds; and physical characteristics of the river. The skipper must be able and willing to communicate their knowledge of stock behaviour, estimates of salmon abundance, and survey results to the Pacific Salmon Commission only.

3. The Designated Fishing skipper must be highly respected by their peer group so that conclusions drawn from the Test Fishing Program are accepted by the Fraser River Panel, user groups, and PSC staff.
4. If required, the Fishing skipper must have a Fishing Masters Certificate and current MEDS Certification.
5. The vessel crew must consist of two or more persons (the skipper, plus one deckhand), in addition to at least one onboard PSC Biological Sampler. The Biological Sampler will be hired and supervised by PSC staff.
6. If required, all crew must have a valid personal commercial fishing licence (FIN) and current MED certification:
7. All operating expenses including, but not limited to fuel, food and lodging, vessel repairs and maintenance, communication, and moorage will be the responsibility of the vessel owner/contractor.
8. All Insurance expenses including, but not limited to WorkSafe Insurance and Employment Insurance for the crew will be the responsibility of the vessel owner/contractor.
9. All fish that are caught and not returned to the water are the property of the PSC. The test fishing vessel shall deliver all landed test fish to a designated buyer(s) as directed by a representative of the PSC.
10. The Fishing skipper will build and maintain the multi-panel gillnets. The PSC will pay for the materials to build and maintain the multi-panel gillnets.

### **Vessel Requirements**

1. Vessels must conform to Transport Canada safety regulations and be in excellent condition.
2. If applicable, successful applicants must submit proof of valid Canadian Steamship Inspection (CSI) certification prior to being issued a scientific licence to carry out test fishing.
3. Vessel must have approved PFDs onboard for all persons on the vessel during test fishing operations.
4. Vessel must have a cell phone onboard in good working order.
5. Weather days will not be considered as part of the charter time, unless the vessel has provided sufficient time and effort during test fishing. Vessel and crew safety will not be compromised.

### **Biological Sampling Duties**

1. All Data collected will be recorded on forms provided by the PSC. The biological observer/sampler will ensure all data are relayed to the PSC each day immediately following the test fishery.
2. All data and biological samples will be collected as per instructions provided by PSC staff. The PSC will provide sampler training and sampling equipment. All sampling equipment will be returned in good order at the end of charter.

### **Obtaining an Application**

See below for the “Application to Participate” form.

Completed applications may be mailed, faxed, or emailed to the Test Fishing Operations Manager at the Pacific Salmon Commission.

**Attn: Test Fishing Operations Manager  
Pacific Salmon Commission  
600 - 1155 Robson Street  
Vancouver, B.C. Canada V6E 1B5  
Phone: (604) 684-8081 Fax: (604) 666-8707  
[tfapps@psc.org](mailto:tfapps@psc.org)**

**Please note that applications must be received by 5:00pm on April 30, 2021.**

All applications will be reviewed by the selection committee and candidates will be selected based on the above terms and conditions, vessel requirements, vessel inspection, and skipper interview. Potential candidates will be notified and interviews will be scheduled for May 2021.

Please contact Benia Nowak (Test Fishing Operations Manager) at [nowak@psc.org](mailto:nowak@psc.org) or (236)-334-3796 for any questions or concerns.

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# 2021 Application to Participate

## Lower Fraser River Brownsville Bar Gillnet Test Fishery

*Please mail, email, or fax completed applications to the Pacific Salmon Commission.  
Applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. PST on April 30, 2021.*

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The M.V. \_\_\_\_\_ C.F.V.# \_\_\_\_\_ is hereby offered for charter by the undersigned upon the terms and conditions listed below:

1. Name of Owner(s) Address Phone

a)

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b)

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2. Name of Fishing Skipper Address Phone

a) Years of Skipper's Experience: Seine Gill Net Troll

as Master: \_\_\_\_\_

as Crew: \_\_\_\_\_

List All Skipper's Certifications \_\_\_\_\_

b) Number of years of experience as gillnet master in area of charter: \_\_\_\_\_

c) Previous test fishing experience in area: \_\_\_\_\_

d) Other test fishing experience: \_\_\_\_\_

e) Which commercial salmon fishing licences do you own or plan to purchase when made available?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Location of Vessel (where it may be inspected): \_\_\_\_\_

4. Date of most recent Steamboat Inspection/MOT: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Name of vessel insurance company: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Description of Vessel:

a)	Register No.:	
b)	Length (ft):	
c)	Gross Tonnage:	
d)	Registered Tonnage:	
f)	No. of fish holds:	
g)	Electrical: (circle all that apply) 110 AC ,12 V	

7. Description of Electronic Navigation/Fish Detection Equipment (make/model)

- a) GPS: \_\_\_\_\_.
- b) Radar: \_\_\_\_\_.
- c) Radios:     i) \_\_\_\_\_.
- ii) \_\_\_\_\_.
- d) Depth sounder /fish finder: \_\_\_\_\_.
- e) Phone (satellite cell): \_\_\_\_\_.
- f) Computer: Hard Drive Size \_\_\_\_\_ **Gb**   Memory Size \_\_\_\_\_ **Mb**   Processor \_\_\_\_\_ **MHZ**  
                   Operating System:   Windows \_\_\_\_\_.

8. Rate per day for charter vessel, including food and wages for crew, vessel repair and maintenance and including fuel oil, lube oil, stove fuel, and any WorkSafe and Employment Insurance deductions:

**\$\_\_\_\_\_ .00 (Canadian Dollars)**

SIGNATURE OF REGISTERED OWNER: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_.

SIGNATURE OF FISHING SKIPPER: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_.

9. If there is any additional information you would like the selection committee to consider, please include it below: