Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Fees Report
Fiscal year 2025–26

The Honourable Joanne Thompson, C.P., M.P.
Minister of Fisheries

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Table of contents

Message from the Minister.....5

About this report.....7

Remissions 8

Overall totals, by fee-setting mechanism 8

Totals, by fee grouping, for fees set by act, regulation or fees notice 8

Message from the Minister

I am pleased to present Fisheries and Oceans Canada's report on fees for 2025-26.



The Department provides a wide variety of products and services ranging from recreational fishing licenses to berthage at our small craft harbours. The fees we charge for those products and services are set under the authority of a variety of acts, regulations and fee orders, notably the *Fisheries Act* and the *Oceans Act*.

Similar to last year, this year's report provides details on each fee, such as the type and rate of adjustment, the service standard, and performance result. As the Department is in the process of modernizing its information systems, a breakdown of revenue collected for all fees will be forthcoming in the near future.

DFO is also working with provincial and territorial partners to enhance reporting on fees collected under delegated authorities. DFO remains committed to transparent reporting practices and will keep building on the information available through future reports.

I welcome the increased transparency and oversight that the *Service Fees Act*'s reporting regime embodies. My Department and I will continue working hard to ensure we are fully aligned with its modern framework.

The Honourable Joanne Thompson, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Fisheries

About this report

This report, which is tabled under section 20 of the *Service Fees Act*, the *Low-Materiality Fees Regulations*, and subsection 4.2.9 of the Treasury Board *Directive on Charging and Special Financial Authorities*, contains information about the fees Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) had the authority to charge in fiscal year 2025–26.

The report covers fees that are subject to the *Service Fees Act* and exempted from the *Service Fees Act*.

For reporting purposes, fees are categorized by fee-setting mechanism. There are three mechanisms:

1. Act, regulation or fees notice
   The authority to set these fees is delegated to a department, minister or Governor in Council pursuant to an act of Parliament.

2. Contract
   Ministers have the inherent authority to enter into contracts, which are usually negotiated between the minister and an individual or organization, and which cover fees and other terms and conditions. In some cases, that authority may also be provided by an act of Parliament.

3. Market rate or auction
   The authority to set these fees comes from an act of Parliament or a regulation, and the minister, department or Governor in Council has no control in determining the fee amount.

For fees set by act, regulation or fees notice, the report provides totals for fee groupings, as well as detailed information for each fee. For fees set by contract and fees set by market rate or auction, the report provides totals only.

Fees charged by DFO under the *Access to Information Act* are not subject to the *Service Fees Act* and are not included in this report. Information on DFO's access to information fees can be found in our annual report to Parliament on the administration of the *Access to Information Act*.

Remissions

In 2025-26, DFO was subject to the requirements to issue remissions under section 7 of the *Service Fees Act* and subsection 4.2.4 of the Treasury Board *Directive on Charging and Special Financial Authorities* to remit a fee, in whole or in part, to a fee payer when a service standard was not met. DFO's remission policy and procedures, pursuant to the *Service Fees Act*, are on the following web page: Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Policy on Remissions.

The other sections of this report provide detailed amounts for DFO's remissions for 2025-26.

Overall totals, by fee-setting mechanism

The following table presents the total revenue, cost and remissions for all fees DFO had the authority to charge in 2025-26, by fee-setting mechanism.

Overall totals for 2025-26, by fee-setting mechanism

Fee-setting mechanism	Revenue ($)	Cost ($)	Remissions ($)
Fees set by contract	1,160,915	2,508,443	Remissions do not apply to fees set by contract.
Fees set by market rate or auction	0	0	0
Fees set by act, regulation or fees notice	43,332,674	252,306,112	0
Total	**44,493,589**	**254,814,555**	**0**

Totals, by fee grouping, for fees set by act, regulation or fees notice

A fee grouping is a set of fees relating to a single business line, directorate or program that a department had the authority to charge for those activities.

This section presents, for each fee grouping, the total revenue, cost and remissions for all fees DFO had the authority to charge in 2025–26 that are set by the following:

- act
- regulation
- fees notice

Fisheries management-Licensing Fee: totals for 2025-26

Fee-setting authority : ***Act: Fisheries Act***
Fee Schedules: Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985;
British Columbia Sport Fishing Regulations, 1996;
Fishery (General) Regulations;
Management of Contaminated Fisheries Regulations;
Marine Mammal Regulations;
Maritime Provinces Fishery Regulations;
Newfoundland and Labrador Fishery Regulations;
Northwest Territories Fishery Regulations;
Pacific Fishery Regulations, 1993;
Quebec Fishery Regulations, 1990;
Yukon Territory Fishing Regulations

Service standard :

- **Commercial Licence Services are handled by the later of the opening of the fishery/period of validity or within 30 business days, once all required documentation and fees have been received and there are no outstanding issues.**
- **Quota requests are handled by the opening of the fishery/period of validity or within 30 business days, whichever is later, once all required documentation and fees have been received and there are no outstanding issues.**
- **Recreational Licence Services are handled by the later of the opening of the fishery/period of validity or within 30 business days, once all**

required documentation and fees have been received and there are no outstanding issues.

Annual adjustments : March 31st

Revenue ($)	Cost ($)	Degree of compliance
[1] 42,701,734	[2] 245,882,964	100%

Aquaculture-Licensing Fee : totals for 2025-26

Fee-setting authority : ***Act: Fisheries Act***

Fee Schedule: Pacific Aquaculture Regulations

Service standard : Once a fully completed application has been received and there are no outstanding issues, Fisheries and Oceans Canada will make a decision regarding new sites or major technical amendments within 365 calendar days.

Annual adjustments : January 1st

Revenue ($)	Cost ($)	Degree of compliance
619,232	5,790,289	100%

Small Craft Harbours Fee: totals for 2025–26

Fee-setting authority : ***Act: Fishing and Recreational Harbours Act***

Fee Schedule: Fishing and Recreational Harbours Regulations

Service standard : Safe berthage, wharfage, and storage is made available to harbour users. Where deemed to be unsafe as documented by damages to vessels and/or

[1] The Fisheries Management grouping includes fees where the authority to collect has been delegated to provincial and territorial governments. The revenue collected by the Yukon, the Northwest Territories, Nunavut and the province of Quebec are not collected to the Federal Consolidated Revenue Fund, but rather remain with the territories and province. The provincial and territorial governments were unable to provide revenue figures in time to be included in this year's report.

[2] The Fisheries Management grouping includes fees where the authority to collect has been delegated to provincial and territorial governments. The expenditures included reflect those of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, as well as those of the Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut. There is no transfer of funds to cover these expenditures. The provincial and territorial governments were unable to provide expenditure figures in time to be included in this year's report.

equipment (as evidenced by third party liability insurance claims), Fisheries and Oceans Canada will issue refunds to harbour users accordingly.

Annual adjustments : April 1st

Revenue ($)	Cost ($)	Degree of compliance
11,708	632,859	100%

Hydrography Fee: totals for 2025–26

Fee-setting authority : Oceans Act : Nautical Charts and Related Publications Fees Order
Financial Administration Act : Ocean Data and Services Fees Order, 1993

Service standard : **Exempt**

Annual adjustments: N/A

Revenue ($)	Cost ($)	Degree of compliance
0[3]	0[4]	N/A

The complete list of Fisheries and Oceans Canada fees.

[3] Hydrographic Service's (CHS) transition toward fully digital chart production and the outsourcing of distribution to third-party vendors, who are licensed to sell charts and bear the retail costs. Fee revenues are expected to be nil given a shift to royalties and therefore there are no cost associated to the sale of charts.

[4] Hydrographic Service's (CHS) transition toward fully digital chart production and the outsourcing of distribution to third-party vendors, who are licensed to sell charts and bear the retail costs. Fee revenues are expected to be nil given a shift to royalties and therefore there are no cost associated to the sale of charts.