



For external use

Electronic Purchase Slips (ESLIPs) – Fact Sheet

Modernizing Fisheries Management

DFO is modernizing how fisheries information is collected and managed across Canada. ESLIPs is a new digital tool that buyers will use to report purchase information electronically through the [Fisheries Integrated Service Hub \(FISH\)](#). FISH is a secure platform that hosts a variety of tools, including ESLIPs.

What is ESLIP

Electronic Purchase Slip (ESLIP) is a digital solution developed by DFO for buyers to report purchase data such as species, weight, price, and date through FISH rather than on paper. It complements electronic logbooks (ELOGs), which are submitted by fish harvesters, by improving buyer-side data collection, reducing paperwork for both harvesters and buyers, and ensuring accurate, timely data for fisheries management.

Why we are introducing ESLIPs

The introduction of ESLIPs enables the department to streamline and simplify data reporting, improve data quality and traceability through standardized processes, and engage and collaborate meaningfully with industry when designing and implementing new solutions.

For buyers, ESLIPs will eventually mean:

- Less paperwork and fewer forms to manage.
- Clearer reporting requirements, and fewer errors or missing information when reporting.
- Fewer follow-ups from DFO to correct or resubmit slip data.
- Easier record-keeping with electronic files.

Initial Users of the ESLIPs system

The initial users in the first release are buyers of Snow Crab and Lobster from fisheries in the Maritimes region, specifically Crab Fishing Areas (CFA) 20–24E and Lobster Fishing Areas (LFA) 27–32. This brings the process in line with other regions, and aims for more reliable, timely, and accessible fishery landings data.

How DFO will help buyers prepare for the transition

To help buyers familiarize themselves with ESLIPs before the season begins, DFO has developed a range of learning and support materials. Product Demos combined with a Question-and-Answer session will also be offered just prior to the first reporting period. Learning and support materials include a product fact sheet, step-by-step user guides, quick reference job aids, and our ESLIPs webpage. We encourage buyers to use these materials on [our departmental website](#).

Support to address buyer questions

If you have questions relating to your sign in, please review the Government of Canada's [Help page](#) as the information you are looking for may already be provided.

GCKey sign-in contact:

- Canada and the United States - 1-855-438-1102
- Text Telephone (TTY/TDD) - 1-855-438-1103
- Outside Canada and the United States - 1-800-2318-6290

Interac® sign-in service contact:

- Canada and the United States - 1-855-433-5397
- Text Telephone (TTY/TDD) - 1-855-224-1714
- Outside Canada and the United States - 1-800-7328-7358 or 1-416-733-5403

All other enquiries can be directed to: DFO.CFISReportingSupport-SCIPSoutienRapport.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca.

Accessing ESLIPs online

Before a buyer can report their fish purchases using ESLIPs, they must have a GCKey before they can log-in and submit their purchase information to the department. GCKey is a secure Government of Canada online credential that allows individuals to safely access federal government services. Through a single username and password, buyers can sign in to multiple Government of Canada systems (such as ESLIPs). GCKey helps protect personal information by using secure authentication and Government of Canada security standards.

What are buyers expected to do

Once a buyer completes the log-in process using GCKey and is logged into ESLIPs on to FISH, they can either use a [standardized reporting file](#) to upload and submit their Snow Crab and Lobster sales data or they can provide data extracted from their third party existing IT system to confirm their fish purchase information.

In the first release, DFO will only accept bulk data uploads in Microsoft Excel (.XLS or .XLSX) or Comma-Separated Values (.CSV) file formats.

Implications for harvesters

Harvesters will not be submitting purchase slips; only buyers will submit ESLIPs data, which represents a change in process in some regions (specifically Maritimes).

How buyer data is protected

Information submitted to DFO through the FISH is protected using Government of Canada security standards. The system uses secure login, encryption, authentication, and controlled access to ensure data is protected during submission, storage, and use.

How government, software vendors and buyers were engaged

DFO engaged with the provinces, key industry software providers and buyer organizations during the design phase. In addition, DFO solicited buyers in the Maritime and Gulf regions to participate in our ESLIPs user experience testing. Their feedback and that of the industry software providers was incorporated into our upcoming release.

Future release plans for ESLIPs

While the first release focuses on the file upload method, based on feedback from major buyers and software vendors, a web form for smaller buyers or those without specialized software will be considered and could be made available in subsequent releases. Future releases are expected to be rolled out in 2026.

DFO will continue consulting buyers, provinces, and internal staff to refine the system and expand onboarding and participation.