



# Electronic Purchase Slips (ESLIPs) user guide for buyers

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## Why we are introducing ESLIPs

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is modernizing how fisheries information is collected and managed across Canada as part of a broader Government of Canada and departmental digital transformation. Electronic Purchase Slips (ESLIPs) introduces a new digital way for buyers, to record and submit fish purchase information.

The implementation of ESLIPs addresses long-standing concerns raised by the seafood industry including inconsistent data collection and a lack of standardized solutions across the country resulting in no single unified system. Manual processes lead to delays, errors, and increased workload for both the buyer and DFO. These challenges have hindered accurate monitoring, enforcement, and science-based decision-making.

With ESLIPs, critical information will be captured, including details on what fish were landed and where, who harvested and purchased them, and the associated weights and sale prices.

## Audience for this document

This document is for buyers in the 2026 spring Snow Crab and Lobster seasons in Crab Fishing Areas (CFAs) 20-24E and Lobster Fishing Areas (LFAs) 27-32.

## What you need to do before you can submit an ESLIP

- This guide assumes you have logged into your GCKey, completed the two-factor authentication process, and created a DFO account to access the Fisheries Integrated Services Hub (FISH). You must be logged into FISH before proceeding with this step-by-step guide.
- If you have previously set up a GCKey account and created a profile for the National Online Licensing System (NOLS), Fisheries Certificate System (FCS), Elvers Monitoring and Traceability

(EMT), or other DFO application, you can re-use your existing profile. Creating a duplicate profile will cause issues.

- If you cannot remember your User ID or password, or do not have a GCKey or have not registered with DFO before, please refer to FISH - User Guide for GCKey and DFO services. Return to this document once you are logged in and ready to continue on to FISH.

## What you need to know before using ESLIPs

- Buyers should be comfortable using a web browser such as Chrome, Safari, etc., and be able to keep track of and manage their usernames and passwords for various government applications.
- Before using ESLIPs, buyers should have basic computer skills, including a basic ability to navigate and update Microsoft Excel or Comma Separate Value (CSV) files.
- Buyers should also have easy access to data reporting information such as their buyer details including the harvester's Logbook ID, harvesters' name and harvesters' licence number, vessel name and vessel registration number, species, weight, price, port landed, etc. Please refer to the Appendix to better understand the data required.

## Sample ESLIP reporting file

To ensure consistent reporting, DFO has created a [sample file](#) that outlines the required information and the order in which buyers must report their fish purchases.

For detailed instructions on this file, please refer to the Appendix.

## Submitting an ESLIP report

### Step 1 – Accessing FISH's ESLIP Service

Go to [FISH's home page](#):

- Click on the service you wish to access, in this case Purchase slips.

## Fisheries Integrated Services Hub

Use Fisheries Integrated Services Hub (FISH) to report and submit fisheries information online.

### Services

#### Purchase slips

Upload a file to report purchases made from your harvester.

### Contact us

#### Email

[DFO.CFISReportingSupport-SCIFSSoutienRapport.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:DFO.CFISReportingSupport-SCIFSSoutienRapport.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

### Step 2 – Uploading a file

In this first version of ESLIPs, DFO will accept fish purchase data inputted using our sample ESLIP reporting file or data exported from an approved third-party software developer. Buyers can use the file to submit just one transaction (purchase) or multiple transactions in a single file upload.

This bulk data upload can be provided in Microsoft Excel (.XLS or .XLSX) or Comma-Separated Values (.CSV) file formats.

Once your fish purchase information is ready to be uploaded to DFO:

- Scroll down until you see the How to submit: section.
- Click the Start upload button. The system automatically identifies the buyer account associated with your log-in.
- Note – you can also download the sample reporting file from this webpage too.

## What you need:

To report fish you purchased from harvesters you will need the following:

- Harvester licence information
- Landing and trip information
- Species, weight, price

## How to submit:

To upload your purchase slip, the following formats are accepted: csv and excel.

[Start upload](#)

[Download a fillable Excel form to submit your purchase information.](#)

- Next, scroll down to **Upload**.
- Before you start your file upload, review your buyer information for accuracy. If there is an issue, report the issue using the link on screen.

## Buyer details

Check the information taken from your profile.

### Buyer company name

Murazik - Muller

### Buyer company address

32214 Sanford Shoals Apt. 802, Port Alberni, British Columbia N8A4L6

### Buyer's phone number

452-962-9975 x3558

[▶ Report a problem with this information](#)

- Click the Choose file button. Select the file you want to upload, ensuring it is one of the following: .XLS, .XLSX or .CSV. Note – there is a maximum file size of 5 MB per upload.
- Once selected, the file name will appear on screen.
- If you need to provide additional context or notes regarding the submitted file, enter them in the Comment field.
- Click Submit to upload your file.

## Upload

Comments are optional.

**Upload a purchase slip** (required)  
Excel and CSV files are accepted. Maximum file size is 5 MB.

**Choose file**

No file chosen

**Comment**

**Submit**

[Return to Purchase Slips](#)

- After the upload is complete, the system will generate a confirmation code. Store this code in your records—it will be used to reference the purchase slips included in your upload. Keep the confirmation code with any supporting documentation for future tracking.

## Purchase slip upload confirmation

✔ **Your file was submitted to DFO**

Your file "Test purchase slip.xlsx" was submitted on February 3, 2026 at 02:39 p.m. UTC

Confirmation number

**1000-8711**

[Copy to clipboard](#)

[Return to FISH](#)

## Editing and Correcting ESLIP data

In this release, Buyers can only submit an ESLIP report to DFO. If you need to edit or correct a previously submitted ESLIP, contact DFO at [DFO.CFISReportingSupport-SCIPSoutienRapport.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:DFO.CFISReportingSupport-SCIPSoutienRapport.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca).

## Security, privacy, and data use

### How your data is protected

Information submitted to DFO through FISH is protected using Government of Canada security standards. DFO uses secure login, encryption, and secure data management practices.

## Need additional help

To help you prepare for this change and support you during the transition, consult the following:

### Help Desk / support

- 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](mailto:DFO.CFISReportingSupport-SCIPSoutienRapport.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca).

#### ESLIPs Fact Sheet

- Provides an overview of ESLIPs, why we are changing, who to contact for help, etc.

#### Accessing GCKey and DFO services

- A step-by-step guide to accessing the Government of Canada's GCKey and DFO services.

#### ESLIPs Quick Reference Guide

- A job aid to help you quickly login to government and DFO services, upload and submit an ESLIP.

## Glossary and key terms

### **CFA**

Crab Fishing Areas

### **DFO**

Fisheries and Oceans Canada

### **ESLIPs**

Electronic Purchase Slips

### **FISH**

Fisheries Integrated Service Hub

### **LFA**

Lobster Fishing Areas

## Appendix

### DFO’s sample purchase slip report- Overview

Reference number	Logbook ID/UID	Licence holder's name	Licence number	VRN	Vessel name	Date landed (YYYY-MM-DD)	Port landed (Select from drop-down)	Date of purchase (YYYY-MM-DD)	Species (Select from drop-down)	Quantity	Unit of measure (Select from drop-down)	Price per unit	Comment
6007		Shawna Lindgren	33931117	33931117	MV Northern Starling	2025-01-12	ABNEY, Prince Edward Island	2025-01-14	Lobster	500	LB	\$ 100.00	
2235		Dina Larkin	93643446	93643446	SS Granite Horizon	2024-12-03	OYSTER RIVER, New Brunswick	2024-12-06	Crab, Green	1000	LB	\$ 150.00	
9198		Dr. Iliana Sporer	96554766	96554766	FV Blue Marlin's Echo	2025-02-08	ADEYTOWN, Newfoundland and Labrador	2025-02-11	Crab, Red Rock	5000	KG	\$ 200.00	
1014		Etha Tromp	73619939	73619939	RV Aurora Seeker	2024-11-19	ANGLO, Prince Edward Island	2024-11-21	Lobster	2500	TN	\$ 125.00	
5461		Kallie Zemlak I	42860474	42860474	MS Oceanward Whisper	2025-03-02	ANNANDALE, Prince Edward Island	2025-03-05	Crab, Dungeness	7500	LB	\$ 50.00	
4422		Donnell Hayes	25304746	25304746	SV Tempest Gale	2024-10-27	ABOUJAGANE, New Brunswick	2024-10-30	Crab, Queen Snow	750	LB	\$ 100.00	
8189		Meredith Halvorson	28593251	28593251	MV Silver Fjord	2025-01-29	LONG POINT (INVERNESS), Nova Scotia	2025-02-01	Crab, Red King	4500	KG	\$ 125.00	
908		Mabelle Grimes	37605399	37605399	SS Crimson Tidebreaker	2024-09-14	ATWOOD'S BROOK, Nova Scotia	2024-09-16	Lobster	9000	KG	\$ 175.00	
5258		Eloisa Dibbert	32333499	32333499	FV Deepwater Wisp	2025-02-17	SHAG ISLAND, Newfoundland and Labrado	2025-02-20	Lobster	8000	KG	\$ 150.00	
4592		Jaquelin Stark	39004842	39004842	RV Celestial Sounder	2024-08-22	PRIEST POND, Prince Edward Island	2024-08-25	Crab, Spider	1500	LB	\$ 200.00	

DFO has created a sample ESLIP reporting file in Excel to identify the type of information and the order in which buyers must report their fish purchases. This structured file ensures consistent and accurate reporting, potentially reducing submission errors and increasing compliance with data formatting rules and requirements.

The Excel file contains two tabs:

- Slips tab – use this form to enter your purchase data.
- Field\_Descriptions tab – provides a description of each field or column within the blank form.

#### Slips tab

The Slips tab is the primary data entry form. Buyers must record all purchase details on this tab, with each row representing one purchase slip for a specific species. Use as many rows as needed to capture all purchases for the reporting period.

Each vertical column corresponds to a defined purchase slip field where the buyer is required to provide data.

Buyers should complete all the fields following the description and rules described in the Field\_Descriptions tab.

## Field\_Descriptions tab

Field	Description
Reference number	Identifier from the buyer's internal IT system, or the paper slip number from which the reported purchase slip information was taken
Logbook ID/UID	ELOG or paper logbook identifier
Licence holder's name	Name of the harvester's licence holder
Licence number	Harvester's licence number
VRN	Vessel registration number
Vessel name	Vessel's name (for information only)
Date landed	Date at the end of the landing. (YYYY-MM-DD)
Port landed	Port of landing
Date of purchase	Date the purchase took place. (YYYY-MM-DD)
Species	Species caught
Quantity	Measured weight or count of the species purchased
Unit of measure	The unit of measure used to record the quantity of fish, such as weight (e.g., per lb, per Kg, per tons)
Price per unit	Value in dollar for one unit
Comment	Comments regarding a transaction (Optional)

The Field\_Descriptions tab provides detailed definitions for each column in the Slips tab. It acts as a reference guide to help buyers understand what information must be provided. Consult this tab if you are unsure how to complete a particular field in the Slips tab.