

Area 20-1 SRKW 2022 Feb.13/22

SFAC Adjustment Recommendations for DFO option 1 management measures

Whereas:

Significant recreational fishing effort [90%] comes out of the front door of Port Renfrew and takes place in area 20-1

The Sockeye, Pink and Coho rec fishery takes place off shore at a depth of 350'-600' of water where they are prevalent

Historically there has always been a traditional recreational fishery off shore in area 20-1 along with the Pacific Salmon Commission test fishery.

Many small boat fisherman from the Port Renfrew coastal community and nearby communities rely on this off shore fishery for Sockeye, Pink and Coho retention and many for sustenance. Port Renfrew is a one of the few harbours South of Bamfield which is a safe haven home base that attracts small boat anglers. Unintended consequences to small vessel marine safety forcing anglers to travel farther for opportunity would put these boaters into higher risk scenarios and can be avoided by fishing in the same area near shore and off shore.

Fishing in the same area and not having to travel a great distance to an open area fisherman would use less fuel and leave a smaller carbon footprint.

If this area was closed to salmon fishing it would have a very negative impact socially and economically on the coastal community of Port Renfrew. These fisherman frequent Port Renfrew marinas, fuel stations, fish processors, accommodations and other services in the area.

The recreational fishery in area 20-1 contributes a very large portion to the Port Renfrew economy largely due to the fishing opportunity from the shoreline and off shore to the deeper water.

Adjustment A recommendation for DFO option #1 for area 20-1:

Institute a 4 nm corridor from the shoreline for salmon retention from Bonilla pt. to Owen pt.[10 miles]. This corridor would include the foraging hot spot between Owen pt. and the U.S. border.

OR

Adjustment B recommendation for DFO option #1 for area 20-1

Institute a no salmon fishing zone around defined SRKW foraging area hot spot approximately 4 nm off Owen pt. as shown on the DFO provided map.

Rationale:

These recommendations address the requirements for SRKW foraging areas and the recreational fishery

Conforms to existing boundaries off of Carmanah pt. and US Canada boundary

Area from the Owen pt. off shore boundary [SW] to the US boundary then west to the SRKW no salmon fishing zone would give an additional approximately 40 sq. miles of no salmon fishing

This would give SRKWs undisturbed foraging when they transit through this area to area 121.

The option A recommendation of a corridor to U.S. boundary of no salmon fishing area would encompass 90% of the "70- 80% likely foraging areas" in area 20-1.

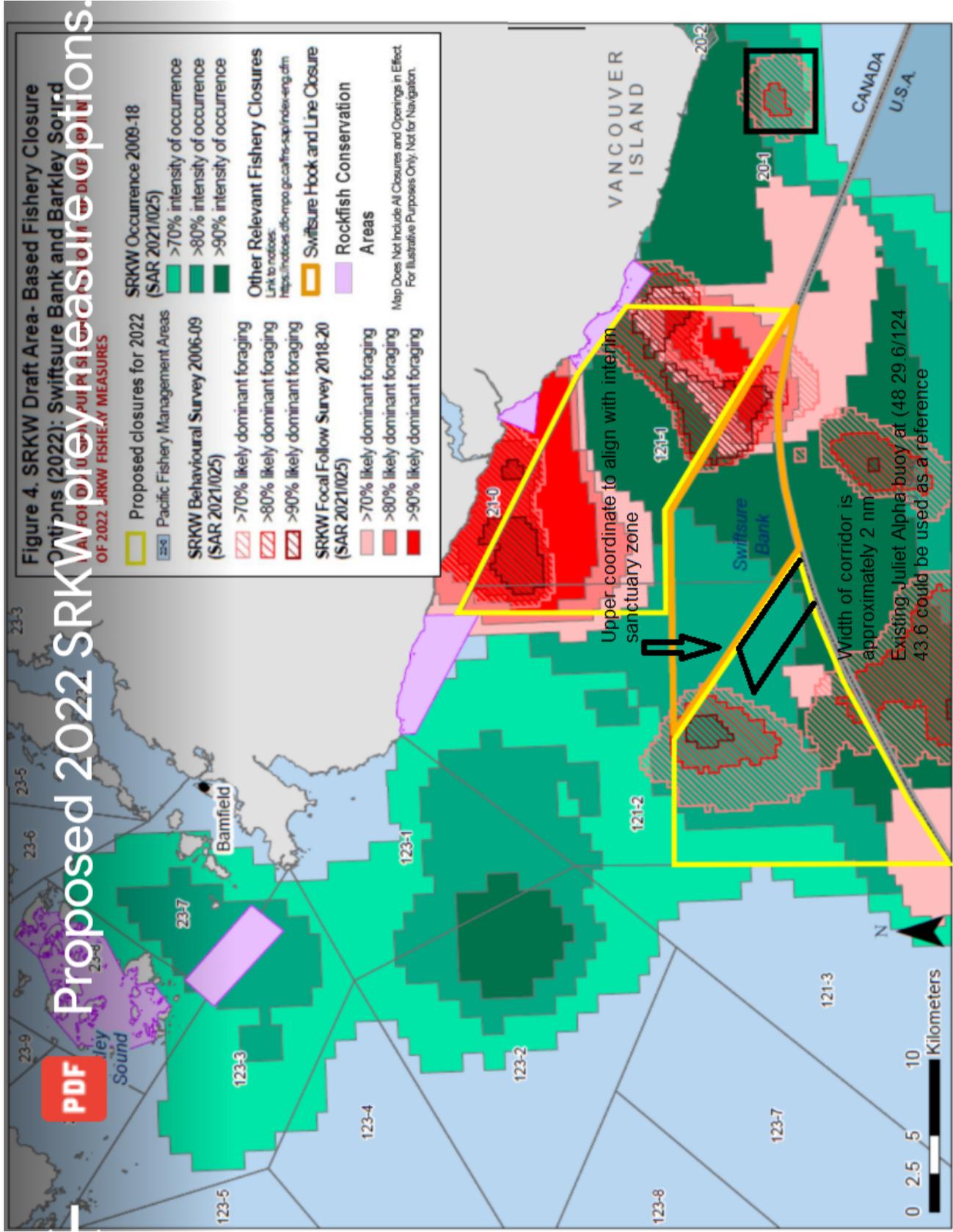
The option B recommendation would encompass the Hot Zone [foraging area], approximately 4 nm off Owen pt., that was presented by DFO on the option 1 map

The compulsory 400 meter avoidance for SRKWs would apply

These recommendations would offer protection to SRKWs and would still give an opportunity for fisherman to catch Sockeye, Pink and Coho off shore and Chinook near shore. Although this measure would restrict recreational fishing opportunity it would have a far less damaging impact on the Port Renfrew coastal community as compared to the proposed DFO closure in option #1 for Area 20-1

Proposed 2022 SRKW prey measure options.

PDF



***FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY TO INFORM THE DEVELOPMENT OF 2022 SRKW**

Swiftsure Bank Area 121-2

SFAC Option 2 adjustment recommendation Feb. 13/22

Whereas:

The southeast side of the Swiftsure Bank closure is an important area for Salmon retention as well as Halibut retention and is not open off shore for Chinook salmon fishing until July 15th because of upper Fraser Chinook management measures.

This area has been a traditional salmon fishing area by the recreational sector composed of Charter fisherman and primary sports fisherman.

Recommendation for option 2:

Salmon retention be permitted in a 2nm corridor from the J buoy to the beginning of the Interim Sanctuary Zone located on the Southeast side of the Swiftsure bank closure boundary line.

Rationale:

Offers protection to SRKWs in areas where dominant foraging behaviour and high frequency of occurrence is likely to occur.

Offers protection to over 90% of 121-2 foraging area

Reduces prey competition and disturbance from recreational and commercial salmon fishing in area 121-2 foraging areas

Aligns boundaries with hook and Line Closure around Swiftsure Bank

The compliance rate will be far higher by the recreational fishery because it would give fishermen the room to maneuver in rough seas and fog while still staying within the corridor.

The 400 meter avoidance Zone would apply