

From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2023 11:29 AM
To: Loveless, Elvis, Chippett, Jamie, Baldwin, Paul, Roberts, Lorelei, Adams, Blair, Balsom, Stephen, Deering, Keith, Shea, Erin, Skinner, Linda
Subject: MORNING MEDIA - Dec. 18, 2023
Attachments: Canadian minister commits to opening the commercial redfish fishery.pdf

VOCM

That is what can put a dog's life at risk

Veterinarian urges dog owners to take precautions around kennel cough

The Telegram (St. John's) 18 Dec 2023 CAMERON KILFOY THE TELEGRAM cameron.kilfoy@saltwire.com @cameronkilfoy
CAMERON KILFOY THE TELEGRAM

Laura Dunford, an independent dog groomer from CBS, shared her insights on treating canine infectious respiratory disease with precautions akin to those for COVID-19.

Amidst the wagging tails and playful barks, a subtle concern lingers as canine infectious respiratory disease — also known as dog flu or kennel cough — is making the rounds.

While it's not widespread at this point, a recent surge in Gander is raising concerns about its presence in the province.

"Some of their testing for the outbreak in Gander has shown it to be a mycoplasma," said Dr. Maggie Brown-bury, a relief veterinarian from St. John's.

"This is a kind of bacteria that is a specific cause of kennel cough. And with that said, I do think there's been an increase in cases in the metro region."

DISTINGUISHING RESPIRATORY DISEASE

Brown-bury said she prefers the term 'kennel cough' over 'dog flu' when discussing canine infectious respiratory disease.

She explained kennel cough is the layman's term for infectious bronchitis and distinguishes it from canine influenza.

She added canine influenza is not prevalent in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Brown-bury said this distinction is crucial for pet owners to understand and make informed decisions about their animal's health.

In the province, some clinics shared bulletins about canine influenza from America, causing confusion. They discuss a vaccine not available here, emphasizing the need for clarity in our language, said Brown-bury.

RECOGNIZING SYMPTOMS

Canine infectious respiratory disease spreads through respiratory droplets, like the transmission of COVID-19, said Brown-bury.

Symptoms include coughing, runny nose, mild fever, and clear discharge, with severe cases marked by green or yellow discharge. Dogs may also experience decreased appetite and wheezing.

A lot of the time, it's viral, meaning you have to let it run its course, said Brown-bury.

Even when it's bacterial, usually, the dog will resolve it on its own. The recommendation is to stay home, and don't socialize with other pets.

RISK OF DEVELOPING OTHER COMPLICATIONS

Brown-bury also said that there isn't any particular breed that's more susceptible to canine infectious respiratory disease. But if it's contracted by any dog, they are more susceptible to developing secondary bacterial pneumonia.

That is what can put a dog's life at risk, she said.

Pneumonia leading to death is also uncommon, she said, but vigilance is crucial. If pet owners notice these symptoms, she advises that they call their vet immediately.

THE RESPONSIBLE THING TO DO

In taking precautions, Brownbury said to avoid crowded places, dog parks, and indoor facilities.

The responsible thing to do is to keep your dog away from populated places. That way, they don't spread or contract the virus, said Brownbury.

Typically, dogs will have a mild case, so the owners think, Oh, he has a cough, but he doesn't seem sick, so we're still going to go to the dog park, but he could spread that virus to a dog who's going to get a more serious disease.

She emphasized discussing vaccination with a veterinarian, particularly for more social dogs.

She added that different vaccines are available, with the nasal spray providing the highest level of protection.

LIKE COVID FOR DOGS

Laura Dunford, an independent dog groomer from CBS, is taking precautions like disinfecting tools and surfaces between appointments and changing her clothing to cut any potential transmission.

I treat it like COVID for dogs. If something ever happened to a dog in my care, I don't know if I'd be able to keep doing what I'm doing, said Dunford.

Expressing understanding for pet owners' concerns, she said cancellations are high due to heightened worry.

It's understandable to me, if you don't want to take a risk, then why would you? You don't want it to happen when it can be prevented, Dunford added.

ALLOWING TIME TO HEAL

Brown-bury said if contracted, allowing the time for recovery is essential. During that period, it's crucial to let the dog rest and not push them too hard, said Brownbury.

In terms of long-term effects, if it remains a mild infection, she says your pet will be fine. But if your pet contracts the disease more than once, it could affect your pet's lungs, said Brown-bury.

The best step here is to ensure we get them on appropriate treatment as soon as possible so that they don't end up with any kind of long-term lung damage, said Brownbury.

THINGS TO KNOW

BRIDGE CLOSED

The Rocky Brook Road Bridge, located approximately 13 kilometres north of the Town of Badger, is closed to all traffic until further notice.

Damage to the bridge has made it unsafe for use. Signage has been posted and barricades will be erected to prohibit public access.

Access to the Paul's Lake Cottage Development Area is still available through the Aspen Brook Resource Road at the 28.5 kilometre mark.

CBC

Official hopes to tap into emerging Asian markets for seal products in spite of nearby bans

Jim Goudie says no Nunatsiavut seal product has made it past EU ban's exemption

Seal products have sustained Labrador communities for generations, but getting them to market's outside of Canada can be a challenge with importation bans.

But Jim Goudie, deputy minister of lands and natural resources for the Nunatsiavut government, says there are other markets to look toward.

Seal products have been banned from European Union markets since 2009, though there is an exemption for Indigenous sourced materials, and the U.S. prohibits the purchase through its Marine Mammal Protection Act.

"In terms of culture and socially they're very important. We've been connected to seals for time immemorial. [It's] ingrained very, very deeply into our culture. Who we are as a people," Goudie told CBC News.

"In terms of trade and commercial viability at this point, [it's] not very important."

Last month, St. John's hosted the Canada-EU summit, where president of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, said she believed the EU seal product ban's exemption for Indigenous sealers was going well.

However, Doug Chiasson, executive director of the Fur Institute of Canada, said the exemption was still keeping Indigenous harvested seal products out.

From what Goudie knows, no Nunatsiavut seal products have gotten through that process, adding the ban is confusing and limited.

"When it was developed there wasn't any kind of clear segue into how we make this work. There was a lot of things that the Nunatsiavut government had to consider, if we were going to try to put the effort in to make our way into the European market," said Goudie.

Still, Goudie said the ban isn't a major economic blow to Nunatsiavut, as the European market wasn't a big seal buyer before the ban. If the ban disappeared he doesn't think a massive European market for seal pelts would open.

Rather, he'd prefer to target emerging markets, pointing to examples like India or making more inroads with China because they're very populous regions.

"I think if we're going to put any emphasis or any money into kind of developing this, then that's where we should be targeting," said Goudie.

Bans impact visitors

Inez Shiwak, arts program coordinator with the Nunatsiavut government who also makes and sells seal skin products, said it isn't easy to get into other countries. Her bracelets have gone as far as Australia, a county that doesn't have a seal ban.

But she sees potential in markets like the European Union and U.S., which both have bans in place.

"There's so much potential to sell all of our products, all of our seal products, outside of Canada. It's just that the EU ban affects so many things," said Shiwak, pointing to cruise ships as an example.

Prior to the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, visitors coming off cruise ships looking at local seal products wouldn't necessarily want to bring them back home, she said. As a result, she said artisans adapted, making items from things like cowhide and rabbit fur.

"It's crazy the amount of, like, profits or funds that people would be making if we could sell directly to people who are going back to the EU," said Shiwak.

Shiwak said she'd like visitors to the region to be able to buy whatever products they like and that ban puts a damper on what artists create, but she adds artists were likely more economically impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic than the EU ban on seal.

Goudie would like to see the government keep pushing for seal products abroad. He'd also like to see "solid numbers" on where the markets are and how to develop them, especially on the commercial viability for seal pelts.

"It needs to be a market that makes sense for sealers, for Nunatsiavut Inuit," he said. "I'd like to see Canada continue the push."

FFAW Website

WORLD ENERGY GH2 Environmental Assessment Process for Onshore Wind Energy Fails to Consider Fishing Impacts

December 15, 2023

Fish harvesters on the Port au Port Peninsula were finally granted an in-person meeting with World Energy GH2 today, following the company's refusal to meet with harvesters and their rejection at the provincial environmental assessment level earlier this Fall. Fifteen fish harvesters and FFAW-Unifor staff joined World Energy in Stephenville where it was abundantly clear that environmental impact assessment (EIS) requirements fail to take into consideration commercial fishing impacts. FFAW-Unifor is therefore calling on the provincial government to ensure all onshore, nearshore, and offshore wind energy developments include impact assessments for commercial fishing.

While World Energy's EIS does include comprehensive studies on birds, bats, other wildlife, plant life, as well as Indigenous fisheries, the company has no assessment on the potential impacts on commercial fisheries. This is a critical failure of the assessment process and alarming to fish harvesters who rely on the long-term health and sustainability of the marine environment. Impacts such as vibrations on lobster spawning and habitat, as well as impacts of refuse runoff on commercial fishing species, are unknown. In addition, the risk of an ammonia spill could have significant harmful effects on marine species and market perception.

These are onshore wind farms but there are untold offshore impacts. This is of grave concern to commercial fish harvesters, particularly for those who primarily fish lobster, whose habitat is located nearshore to dredging, refuse runoff and vibration effects, says Greg Pretty, FFAW-Unifor President. It's clear our provincial assessment process is woefully inadequate when there are obvious impacts to commercial fishing that are not being taken into account during this development phase, Pretty explains. We're asking Premier Furey to ensure impacts to commercial fishing are included in this and all future wind developments in our province, Pretty says.

FFAW-Unifor is not against new developments and job creation, particularly those that target green energy. However, any new developments cannot come at the expense of another. The fishing industry has been sustainable and prosperous for the Port au Port Peninsula for hundreds of years, before and after industrial developments such as the Abitibi Mill and Aguathuna Mine. It's imperative that future developments ensure the fishing industry is protected.

We will be sitting down with the provincial government in the coming weeks to ensure these concerns are understood and to guarantee that commercial fishing activity will be taken into consideration in all future wind energy assessment processes in our province, concludes Pretty.

Seafoodnews.com

Canada: Nunavut Fisheries Training Group Gets \$857,000 for Mentoring, Business Programs

Copyright) 2023 Nortext Publishing Corporation (Iqaluit)

By Kierstin Williams

December 15, 2023

Federal funding will help train next generation of Inuit fishers, federal Northern Affairs Minister says

The Nunavut Fisheries and Marine Training Consortium is getting \$857,000 from the federal government to develop an Inuit mentoring program.

The funding, announced Wednesday by Northern Affairs Minister Daniel Vandal, will be used in areas such as development of a mentoring curriculum, training of Inuit mentors and mentees, and evaluation of a business management certificate currently in development, a news release issued Wednesday said.

The mentorship program will help train the next generation of Inuit fishers who will lead their industry to new successes while generating economic growth for themselves, their families and their communities, Vandal said in the release.

The consortium has been in operation since 2004, according to its website. It aims to provide Nunavut Inuit with the skills and knowledge to become self-sustaining.

Executive director Elisabeth Cayen said the organization is grateful for the funding which will allow the program and fishing industry to grow.

For many years, we have concentrated on training geared toward entry level jobs, she said in the release. It is time for a movement toward higher levels of jobs which will lead to an increase in economic growth for the crew, their families and their communities.

Undercurrent News

Canadian Minister Commits to Opening the Commercial Redfish Fishery (see attached)

Headlines

WILDFIRES REPORT: The University of Waterloo's Intact Center on Climate Adaptation has released a new report. It focuses on making communities more resilient against wildfires. ["AnnaBella Benatta", Author of the Report]

CBY - Corner Brook - NL Morning @ 08:41:13am Duration: 00:09:00 Reporter:

Ref Id: t7y-6z5-18

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Canadian minister commits to opening commercial redfish fishery 'as early as 2024'

'What I can assure you right now is that there will be a redfish fishery as early as 2024' - Canadian fisheries minister Diane Lebouthillier

By [Barb Dean-Simmons](#) | Dec. 13, 2023 15:46 GMT

There likely will be a commercial fishery for redfish on Canada's east coast in 2024, Diane Lebouthillier, Canada's fisheries minister, made it clear in a statement issued late Tuesday night (Dec. 12).

"What I can assure you right now is that there will be a redfish fishery as early as 2024," she said.

The statement came following discussions Tuesday afternoon with key members of the shrimp industry in Quebec and the Atlantic provinces.

Pressure has been building on Canada's Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) for the past few years to open the redfish stock to commercial fishing, especially as shrimp stocks have declined.

read also

The past few years have been challenging for inshore Atlantic Canadian fleets that depend on Gulf of Saint Lawrence shrimp, as



Canadian scientists deliver dire report on Gulf of Saint Lawrence shrimp, add to redfish pressure

Undercurrent News reported recently. DFO cut the quota by 12% before the start of the 2023 season to 14,525 metric tons.

But gulf inshore fleets didn't even manage to land all of their quota, according to Jason Spingle, secretary-treasurer of


the Fish Food and Allied Workers (FFAW), Newfoundland and Labrador inshore harvesters union. He told *Undercurrent* in November those fleets had managed to land just 5,505t.

"That goes to show you the difficulty we're in," he said.

It's why all eyes have been on redfish, and the expectation for the re-opening of a commercial fishery has been high.

From 2011 to 2013, the gulf redfish population had massive recruitment -- scientific lingo meaning more redfish than usual survived past the larval stage -- noted Oceana Canada in a 2021 report.



 Redfish. Image from Ryan Cleary's Facebook page.

"They kept getting bigger and bigger, and by 2019, redfish accounted for 90% of the total biomass, or collective weight of everything DFO



caught in the northern part of the Gulf during its annual survey of marine life on the seafloor. Previously, redfish made up 15%," said Oceana.

Before the stock crashed in 1992, the redfish fishery in Canada's gulf region produced around 80,000t annually.

So it would make sense that shrimp stocks are dropping as shrimp are the favored food of redfish.

Currently, there is an experimental fishery for redfish in the gulf region. Last year, former fisheries minister Joyce Murray, from the province of British Columbia, set the experimental quota in Unit 1 from 2,500t to 5,000t.

Her successor, Lebouthillier, from Quebec, seems poised to do more.

"I'm also keeping an eye on redfish," she said in her statement. "To this end, I would like to make a decision on the distribution of access and allocations with a view to resuming this fishery in the short term."

Lebouthillier said once she makes that decision, DFO will immediately meet with the members of the Redfish Advisory Committee to establish the terms and conditions for sharing the allocations among different fleets.

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Comments (0)

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POST COMMENT

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From: Dennis, Olivia
Sent: Thursday, December 21, 2023 2:29 PM
To: Hanlon, Bren M.
Subject: [REDACTED] Records

Hey,

Please see the below [REDACTED] docs. The ones I have listed below are the hot topics right now and the ones that will be popping off early in the new year! Each note has a some background on the fisheries involved at the beginning and there are more in [REDACTED] from previous years if you feel like you need some more information.

non-responsive

[REDACTED]

Redfish Unit 1: [REDACTED] Unit 2: [REDACTED]

- There is the potential for a new Redfish fishery to open as well. According to new stats it may be viable. A proposal was put forward by FFAW (Fish Food and Allied Workers Union) to use this new Redfish fishery as a way to offset the decline in shrimp numbers. The Unit 1 Redfish Stock Update is scheduled for January 24th

These are the big ones as of right now.

Any questions at all, please don't hesitate to ask!

Cheers,
Olivia

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Subject: [MORNING MEDIA - Dec. 29, 2023](#)

NTV

New fishery co-op partners with Dandy Dan s

<https://ntv.ca/new-fishery-co-op-partners-with-dandy-dans/>

Organizers of a fishery co-operative being formed to represent inshore enterprise owners have signed a letter of intent with a processing company that they hope will be the first of many. NTV s David Salter reports.

VOCM

SEA-NL Hatches New Plan for Co-op To Bypass Cartel of Processors

Dec 29, 2023 | 9:30 AM

There s another move afoot to bypass the current business relationship between inshore harvesters and what SEA-NL calls the cartel of processing companies operating in the province.

It comes following the weeks-long dispute and delay in the lucrative snow crab fishery earlier this year over prices.

The new initiative would see a fishery co-operative formed to represent inshore enterprise owners, with a letter of intent to sell snow crab, and other species, to one processor, Dan Meade, in Ship Harbour, Placentia Bay.

The co-op, which should be incorporated early in the new year, would earn an equity stake in the company, in exchange for a pledge to sell at least two million pounds of snow crab each year to the business.

The Seaward Enterprises Association, or SEA-NL, is behind the new co-op. executive director Ryan Clearly says harvesters are frustrated and tired of following orders, adding this past year was the straw that broke the camel s back.

They re told when to fish, how much to fish, what they re going to be fishing for they re completely under the thumb of the processors, he said. This new co-op will give the inshore fleet an opportunity to break itself free from the grip of foreign and domestic processing companies and do it on their own. The only way that the inshore fleet is going to gain its independence is on its own, and a co-op is the way to do that.

Clearly is encouraging independent inshore enterprise owners to step forward with confidential pledges of support to sell crab and other species under the new co-op.

He says members would be paid more than the minimum negotiated price for all species, adding they would also have priority in selling fish to the new company.

FFAW Predicts Rough Winter for Workers Impacted By EI Changes

Dec 28, 2023 | 3:00 PM

The FFAW predicts a very difficult winter for harvesters and plant workers negatively affected by changes to EI qualifying criteria.

President Greg Pretty says despite the union's pleas to federal government officials, no changes appear to be forthcoming.

He accuses the federal government of slighting seasonal workers who need their help.

We haven't given up on it, says Pretty, we've asked [Seamus] O'Regan for a meeting with our elected leadership to talk about the damage that they are about to inflict on this province.

Structural Damage Forces Closure of Resource Bridge on Northern Peninsula

Officials have been forced to close a bridge on the Northern Peninsula after it was deemed unsafe to cross.

The Department of Forestry says the Squid Cove Resource Road Bridge is now closed to all vehicles, ATVs, snowmobiles and even pedestrians until further notice.

Forestry officials say they have identified structural damage to the bridge making it unsafe for public use, adding that warning signs have been posted and yellow caution tape is in place.

The Squid Cove Resource Road is about 3.5 kilometres south of the community of Castors River.

Anyone with questions about the closure can contact the Roddickton Forest Management Office at 709-457-2300.

BayFM

A forage crop development in the Humber Valley gets a green light from government

The development would be an extension of the Proponent's existing apple orchard and forage farm.

A proposal to develop 5.53 hectares of Crown land for the production of forage crops near the community of Humber Village has gone through the environmental process. The development would be an extension of the Proponent's existing apple orchard and forage farm. Work would include vegetation clearing, tilling, aeration, soil supplementation and seeding. The undertaking was registered September 7th and the Environment Minister released the project on October 27th. On December 14th the Minister advised that a pre-clearing survey is acceptable.

Seafoodnews.com

Could Long-Forgotten Fishery Replace Shrimp in the Gulf of St. Lawrence?

Copyright) 2023 The Tribune

By Trevor McNally

December 28, 2023

While the future of the shrimp fishery in the Gulf of St. Lawrence is still in question, Fisheries and Oceans Canada said it will be convening an advisory committee on next steps to address the population increase of another fish -the redfish - whose fishery closed down decades ago after nearly wiping out the species.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada media relations officer Axel Rioux said in an email the department is currently collecting data on the once-endangered species that appears to be bouncing back in the northern waters.

"Since 2018, an experimental fishery has been in place to provide important data on redfish stocks. The 2023 experimental fishery redfish quota was increased from 2,500 tonnes to 5,000 tonnes."

He said DFO will soon "convene a redfish advisory committee meeting to discuss next steps. The (committee) includes Indigenous groups, harvester associations, and provincial and territorial governments."

The commercial fishery for redfish in the Gulf of St. Lawrence was closed in 1995. The redfish was designated an endangered species in 2010, but those population numbers have been bouncing back since then.

Rioux did not say if or when a return to a red fish season might happen.

But it comes on the heels of a request by Listuguj First Nation for moratorium on the northern shrimp fishery, citing what the community says has been a massive decline in stocks over the past few years.

Rioux confirmed that in 2023, the northern shrimp stocks were at the lowest estimated biomass values since 1990 and "the status of northern shrimp stocks in the estuary and northern Gulf of St. Lawrence is not expected to improve in the short to medium term."

Denny Isaac, the natural resources director for Listuguj, said representatives were in Ottawa to meet with Fisheries and Oceans minister Diane Lebovillier recently.

"The meeting wasn't really a meeting, it was more like an information session put on by the minister," Denny said. "She said she is aware of our concerns and the data that shows a drastic reduction in shrimp in the Gulf (of St. Lawrence) and said she would announce her decision in the New Year."

Isaac said Lebovillier was also aware of the reported increase in redfish in the region.

"We refer to the gulf and estuaries as being red, because there are a lot of lobster, snow crab and redfish," said Isaac. "She said there is a good chance that fishery will reopen and while we would rather have had the moratorium in place with more lobster licences issued to us, we will take that fishery if it's available."

Nova Scotia: GCIFA Will Navigate Changing Marine Environment in 2024

Copyright) 2023 The Canadian Press

By Alec Bruce

December 28, 2023

Ginny Boudreau makes no apologies for her fishers-first policy heading into 2024. We need to ensure that the marine environment stays as healthy as possible, says the manager of the Guysborough County Inshore Fishermen's Association (GCIFA). It's our responsibility.

That said, however, she's open to suggestions and happy to be engaged. We still have to be involved with other developments; other aspects of the marine environment, such as marine protected areas, she says.

She notes, in particular, efforts on behalf of the North Atlantic right whale and the protection measures to which all marine users must adhere. There's also stock status science, and the administrative part of fishing we're responsible for, she says.

We have a huge science program here [at GCIFA], mainly for lobster, but we've expanded that into doing a lot of environmental profiling for multiple species. The developments that are happening around our particular marine environment are pushing us to collect even more data to help identify possible conflicts and threats.

She says the biggest unknown if not actual threat is offshore wind development. Finding low-conflict space for that industry among all the other users of local waters including Guysborough fishers may be the single biggest challenge in the new year and beyond.

We have to find a way to fit everybody in, she says. When we look at any proposed activity in the marine environment, we have to look at the cumulative effect of all the activity. That's where marine spatial planning comes in. The question is: What's the tipping point?

That's not to say wind development and traditional fishing or, indeed, any other existing marine industry can't work well together. They do elsewhere in the world. We're just learning along with everyone else here. If we tend to err on the side of caution, that's just because of our ignorance [of the offshore wind industry]. We know we need to develop it.

She adds: We want to make sure that we can contribute as much as our knowledge base allows, and continue to engage in research and data collection that provides us with more information as this industry develops during its construction and operational phases.

Intrafish

'The adaptability of the seafood industry is being tested in what is a changing and tumultuous world'

After his first year in the role, Christian Chramer, CEO of the Norwegian Seafood Council, offers his thoughts on navigating the next decade.

In the dynamic landscape of the international seafood industry, where competition is fierce and dietary trends are evolving, it is crucial to acknowledge and comprehend the factors that will play a decisive role in shaping the future trajectory of our industry over the next decade.

Our success hinges on the continuous and strategic marketing of seafood. No fish or shellfish sells itself; as a collaborative our sustained efforts in marketing are vital to keep consumers interested and excited by seafood, and to see it as part of the solution to a sustainable diet that is not only good for us, but for the planet too.

The adaptability of the seafood industry is being tested in what is a changing and tumultuous world. The development of market-adapted, quality products, coupled with government support in creating favorable frameworks and conditions to sell our produce, is essential for navigating these uncertainties.

In a world increasingly, and rightly so, fixated on sustainability, the seafood industry must lead the charge in the green transition. Meeting customer expectations, aligning with national and international standards, and responding to the demands of non-governmental organisations will be pivotal to our sustained success.

In an era where a focus on plant-based is gaining momentum, winning the battle for consumer purchasing is a complex challenge. To succeed, we must continually ensure we are building and communicating the compelling narrative about seafood, emphasizing its unique and worthy qualities as a sustainable, nutritious and great tasting protein source.

Consumer empowerment is on the rise, with preferences and behaviors driving market dynamics. Investing in consumer insight, marketing strategies, and understanding our competition is essential if we are to remain influential with the consumer audience. In the realm of a changing world, knowledge is invaluable.

From our perspective, providing strong insights into market trends and changes, equips the industry with the foresight needed to navigate an ever-evolving landscape. We must do our best to understand how we too can evolve and adapt just as the consumer does.

International agreements and close collaborative relationships within the industry should be at the heart of our strategy to ensure we maintain market access and win the battle for consumer interest.

The challenge and competition is fierce, but so too are we.

By prioritizing consumer education, sustainable practices, and technological innovation, the global seafood industry can not only weather the plant-based wave but also carve out a lasting and influential space in the evolving culinary landscape.

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Subject: MEDIA - Jan. 5, 2024

CBC

Flawed snow crab price-setting system needs overhaul soon, FFAW says

The president of the Fish, Food & Allied Workers union says time is ticking on getting a new formula-based seafood pricing system in place ahead of the 2024 season.

A November report from the province's three-person fish price-setting team submitted to the provincial government said the current seafood price-setting process is flawed and changes need to be made to avoid another tie-up that halted the snow crab industry for six weeks last season.

The report offered nine recommendations, including that a formula-based pricing system be implemented by the end of January.

FFAW president Greg Pretty said that process is underway.

"We have that report now, and both parties are working toward a formula, market-priced formula for 2024," he told CBC News on Thursday.

The price of snow crab sat at \$2.60 per pound at the end of last season, up from \$2.20 per pound at the beginning of the season.

Pretty said snow crab dropped by about 30 cents per pound in December but has since stabilized. The volatility shows why a formula-based is so necessary, he said.

"When the market is low like it is now, it's extremely important that the shares of the market price are fair and equitable," he said.

"Hopefully that price starts to rise a little bit. But it's not perfect by any stretch of the imagination but again, what we're talking about here in this formula is shared risk. If we can establish that and move forward, that's the key for us."

The Association of Seafood Producers, who were at odds with the FFAW during the tie-up last season, is also part of formula negotiations.

As negotiations on collective bargaining and the pricing formula continue, Pretty said, he hopes all parties will move forward smoothly but added that working with the ASP is "the nature of the beast."

"The formula works, no question about that. So the biggest challenge here is that we're dealing with ASP," he said.

"They're not great at sharing, I understand that, but there's been so much emphasis put on this fishery and rural Newfoundland because of 2023. You know, all parties including the provincial government are hopeful here that we can set on a new path."

Requests by CBC News for an interview with the Association of Seafood Producers were declined.

Meanwhile, Pretty says there are other issues that need to be addressed ahead of the season, like improving employment insurance. Some workers failed to qualify for EI because of the six-week holdout.

"We were promised that something would happen here positively for our members, whether it be harvesters or plant workers, on the EI situation. We were promised that, and all they could come up with was the four weeks [extension]. Well, that's not good enough," he said.

Pretty also said the FFAW will have a leadership election in 2024 but wouldn't say whether he will run for re-election.

VOCM

FFAW Requests Buyback Program for Harvesters Amid Expected Cuts in Shrimp Quota

The fisheries union is fully expecting some cuts to the shrimp quota in some areas of the Gulf of St. Lawrence over the next couple of years. Science shows declining numbers, and the FFAW is asking Ottawa for a buyback program to allow harvesters who wish to do so exit that sector.

FFAW Secretary Treasurer Jason Spingle says the latest science also shows the largest fish biomass ever recorded in Atlantic Canada redfish in the Gulf. Redfish are smaller, about half a pound, but Spingle says there will be a transition away from shrimp.

There are just over 30 boats from Newfoundland and Labrador in the shrimp fishery, so the ability to harvest and process redfish would not involve significant additional expense.

Spingle says the vessels are there, the plants are there and the workers are there.

The Telegram

Impending storm prompts concerns about snowclearing

The Telegram (St. John's) 5 Jan 2024 SANUDA RANAWAKE sanuda.ranawake@saltwire.com @rsanuda

Bigger cities like St. John's can afford to keep snow plows running 24/7, but smaller communities that rely on the province are out of luck.

Yvette Coffey is no stranger to the dangers of driving at night on unplowed streets.

I drove home after a night shift during a storm and ended up in a snowbank, says Coffey, president of the Newfoundland and Labrador Registered Nurses Union.

After a 12-hour shift, the last thing I wanted to be was in a snowbank, or even be worried about being in a snowbank.

Coffey says only the opposite lane was plowed at the time.

It's nurses like Coffey, and other essential workers in the province, who don't have an option to stay home and avoid driving overnight. It's especially treacherous during winter storms when snowplows in many rural areas don't venture out after 9:30 or 10 p.m.

DANGEROUS CONDITIONS

Coffey says the lack of 24-hour snowclearing causes many issues for nurses, the main ones being their timeliness and safety.

NL Health Services will pay for a nurse's cab if they are available and a nurse is unable to safely drive themselves to work, but Coffey says taxis aren't always available.

Our biggest concern is for nurses' safety. If it's a treacherous drive, they can invoke that it is unsafe to work. We do not expect anyone to drive in treacherous conditions, Coffey said.

It is unfortunate that they pulled the overnight plows off the road, she said, adding that she would like to see 24-hour snowclearing return.

STORM INCOMING

With a storm expected today, Jan. 5, and into Saturday, Jan. 6, she's worried about the safety of those nurses in rural Newfoundland who will be on the highways after the plows stop operating.

The winter storm warning was issued earlier this week for eastern and southern Newfoundland.

Saltwire weather specialist Allister Aalders says snowfall amounts of 20-30 cms are forecast on the Avalon Peninsula with local amounts exceeding 30 cms possible for the eastern/southeastern Avalon.

Amounts should then diminish into the range of 15-25 cm for the extreme western Avalon into the eastern Burin and Bonavista peninsulas, he said, with less than 10 cm for the remainder of eastern Newfoundland.

Trace snowfall amounts of up to five centimetres are expected in central Newfoundland.

24-HOUR PLOWING PULLED IN 2016

Twenty-four-hour snowclearing hasn't been part of the province's snowclearing plan for many rural highways for several years.

Only the most travelled corridors have 24/7 plowing, creating a pressing issue for many rural communities, most of which aren't seeing a plow overnight.

In 2016, when the government announced the move, it was expected to save about \$1.9 million annually.

We haven't seen 24-hour snowclearing in probably 20 years, but it certainly would be nice to see it come back, Harbour Breton Mayor Lloyd Blake says.

FISHERY IMPACT

He says it's not only nurses and health-care workers in the community that are affected by the issue, but also the large number of fish harvesters and aquaculture workers.

Many aquaculture workers and fish harvesters from Harbour Breton drive to nearby communities like Hermitage, and the roads are never plowed in time for that, says Blake.

Blake also points to residents with medical appointments in Grand Falls-Windsor, about 2 1/2 hours away.

If you have an appointment in Grand Falls-Windsor at 7 a.m., you need to leave by 4:30 a.m., and the plows are only barely getting started by then, he says.

Blake also says there may be instances when an ambulance responding to a 911 call may be delayed due to the lack of snowplows on the road.

GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE

Friday's storm is expected to likely be at its worst overnight, when there will be no snowplows on the road in many communities.

Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure John Abbott was not available for an interview.

In a statement, the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure said, Twentyfour-hour snowclearing on all provincially owned roads has never been a part of normal winter snow and ice control operations in Newfoundland and Labrador. Rather, between 2008-2016, a 24-hour snowclearing pilot was implemented for high-traffic areas of the Trans-Canada Highway (TCH) and major trunk roads throughout the island portion of the province.

Snowclearing crews start reporting to work between 4:30 a.m. and 5 a.m., depending on the area of the province. Crews continue to operate until 9:30 p.m. or 10 p.m., as conditions require.

Municipalities also have responsibility for snowclearing on municipal-owned roads. These municipalities may have snowclearing policies that differ from the province, and inquiries respecting these roads should be directed to them.

According to the department, if an emergency vehicle is required to drive on an unplowed road, such as an ambulance or fire truck, an operator will be called in and a plow will be deployed as required.

PCS NOT SATISFIED

Critics of the policy say this will take too long and can delay response times for emergency crews, calling into question what would happen if there is a safety hazard.

Ferryland MHA Loyola O'Driscoll is the PC transportation critic and a vocal opponent of the lack of 24-hour snowclearing in rural regions of the province.

O'Driscoll says nurses are among the hardest hit by the lack of overnight snowclearing.

People don't get sick from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., he says, adding that the on-call system for overnight snowclearing operations the government currently uses is inadequate.

He also says the judgment of a dispatcher may not always be correct when determining when another snowplow needs to be on the roads.

PLEDGING CHANGE

The PC party is making a promise for the next election.

We, as the PC government, would reinstate 24/7 snowclearing, says O'Driscoll, adding that people need to get to work, especially essential workers.

He says the costs of removing 24/7 snowclearing simply does not outweigh the benefits, at least in terms of safety.

Food costs up despite efforts to stabilize prices

The cost of food was up in the fall despite the industry minister's claim that prices would stabilize for Canadians.

According to Blacklock's Reporter, more than half of food prices were up in the period from Sept. 1 to Nov. 30, citing Statistics Canada's latest Monthly Average Retail Prices For Selected Products report.

During that time frame, 59 of 106 food items tracked saw prices increase, including the cost of beef ribs up 16 per cent, a jump of 13 per cent for grapes, while apples and stewing beef both saw a 11 per cent climb.

Craig Renouf

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From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2024 11:53 AM
To: Loveless, Elvis, Chippett, Jamie, Baldwin, Paul, Hanlon, Bren M., Adams, Blair, Balsom, Stephen, Deering, Keith, Shea, Erin, Skinner, Linda
Subject: MORNING MEDIA - Jan. 16, 2024

SEA-NL

Illegal fishing charges 'pending' against four Canadian offshore vessels from 2022 (including three OCI boats)

Almost half of the infringements issued by Canada in 2022 for illegal fishing on the high seas outside the 200-mile limit were issued against the country's own offshore fleet including three factory-freezer trawlers owned by Ocean Choice International (OCI).

Launched in 2020 by OCI, the 74-metre Calvert was the first new Canadian groundfish vessel to join the offshore fleet since the mid 1980s.

Of the 28 infringements issued by Canada in 2022, 13 were against Canadian fishing vessels, five against ships from the Faroe Islands, and 10 against Portuguese dragners.

BREAK DOWN OF CANADIAN CHARGES IN 2022

KATSHESHUK II 3 infringements.

On Oct. 2nd, 2022 the Harbour Grace-based vessel owned by OCI was issued three apparent infringements: two for exceeding the bycatch for cod and plaice in fishing zones 3LNO on and off the Grand Banks, and the third (a "serious" infringement) for actual directed fishing for plaice, a species under moratorium.

AQUIQ 4 infringements

On Oct. 5th, 2022 the Harbour Grace-based vessel owned by OCI was issued three apparent infringements: two for exceeding the bycatch for cod and plaice in fishing zones 3LNO on and off the Grand Banks, and the third (a "serious" infringement) for actual directed fishing for plaice, a species under moratorium. The Aquiq was issued a fourth infringement later that month on Oct. 30th for exceeding 3LNO plaice.

THE CALVERT 2 infringements

On Oct. 15th, 2022 the Bay Roberts-based Calvert was issued two apparent infringements for exceeding bycatches of 3LNO cod and plaice.

EMRY & BOYS 4 infringements

On May 31st, 2022 the Nova Scotia-based Emry & Boys was issued four infringements (two serious) related to misreporting catches including failing to maintain a fishing logbook.

ALL CASES STILL 'PENDING'

DFO does not normally publicize infringements issued against Canadian fishing vessels on the high seas on and off the Grand Banks.

SEA-NL obtained the information through a formal request under the federal Access to Information Act for information on details of the boardings and infringements issued against foreign vessels by Canadian enforcement officials between 2019 and 2023.

According to the documents, the status of the infringements issued against Canadian vessels in 2022 is still "pending."

Much of the information was redacted or blocked from public release including "actions taken concerning the infringements/surveillance", and "judicial/administrative actions or sanctions."

2019

The DFO documents did not detail any boardings of Canadian offshore vessels in 2019, although it appears from the documents that 82 foreign vessels were inspected. Serious infringements were issued against a vessel from the Faroe Islands (the factory-freezer trawler did not have an observer aboard), and against a Spanish vessel for misreporting catches.

2020

In 2020, four of Canada's only 12 at-sea inspections on the high seas were of Canadian fishing vessels, as well as 37 of the 47 port inspections. No infringements were recorded against Canadian vessels. A single infringement was recorded against a Portuguese vessel for misreporting catches.

2021

In 2021, eight of Canada's 40 at-sea inspections were of Canadian vessels, plus 44 of the 60 inspections in port.

Two infringements were issued against the Nova Scotia-based vessel Addie N Ainslie related to its logbook and stowage plans. Written warnings were issued in those cases and the matter was "concluded."

Two infringements were levels against vessels from the Faroe Islands for misreporting catches, and five against Portuguese vessels for observe intimidation (the observer was removed from the vessel), and misreporting catches.

DROP IN AT-SEA BOARDINGS LEAD TO HIGH SEAS FREE FOR ALL

At about this time the Captain of a Faroese trawler who was himself charged with illegal fishing outside the 200-mile limit went public to say that pirate factory-freezer trawlers were destroying the Grand Banks by directing for moratorium species such as cod and other illegal fishing activities. DFO was said to be aware of what was happening, but Covid-19 protocols prevent enforcement officers from boarding and inspecting the foreign draggers.

2022

Besides the 13 infringements laid against Canadian fishing vessels as outlined above, vessels from the Faroe Islands was cited five times for misreporting catches, and Portuguese draggers 10 times, all related for misreporting catches. Canada conducted at total of 43 at-sea inspections in 2022, including two of Canadian vessels and 41 of foreign ships.

2023

The documents did not mention the boardings of any Canadian vessels in 2023. From the papers it appears that 30 foreign vessels were inspected, and two Portuguese vessels were issued several serious infringements related to misreporting catches. While DFO posts infringements against foreign vessels on its website, the department has yet to post those two from 2023.

NAFO RULES

Groundfish stocks such as cod that migrate outside Canada's 200-limit are monitored by NAFO, or the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization.

Under NAFO rules when Canada issues a notice of infringement against a foreign trawler for illegal fishing it is up to that vessel's home country to follow through with investigation and charges/penalties (if any) when the ship eventually returns to port.

DFO was contacted last week with questions about the process and timeline regarding the charges laid against the Canadian vessels in 2022, but the department has yet to respond.

Hundreds of jobs, industry stability at stake in pending Atlantic Canada fishery decision

Stakeholders await details of redfish quota allocation in the Gulf of St Lawrence

The Trudeau government is poised to allocate fishing access to the massive redfish population in the Gulf of St Lawrence at the end of the month, a highly anticipated decision generating both dread and hope throughout the industry in Quebec and Atlantic Canada.

Nova Scotia, which has the most to lose, is warning Ottawa that "hundreds of jobs" are at stake if it loses its long-standing share of the fishery.

"This is incredibly concerning," said Nova Scotia Fisheries and Aquaculture Minister Kent Smith.

Before the redfish population collapsed in the early 1990s, half the Gulf of St Lawrence quota was held by Nova Scotia companies operating big offshore vessels in an area known as Unit 1.

Since then, the Nova Scotia companies have carried out redfish science surveys for the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, maintained a small fishery in adjacent areas, and spent millions on plants and licences in anticipation of receiving half of the allowed quota once again.

Spending on new facilities

"All of those investments were made with the idea that these shares were stable and that we could expect to receive our share when the fishery reopened," said Alain d'Entremont, president of Scotia Harvest, part of the Mersey Seafoods group that spent \$14 million on a state-of-the-art plant near Digby, N.S.

Now that the redfish population is estimated to weigh in at a whopping four million metric tonnes, Scotia Harvest and the other Nova Scotia operators are looking nervously at other provinces lobbying for access.

Quebec and Newfoundland and Labrador interests, to take one example, are lobbying for a piece of the action to compensate for a drastic reduction in shrimp quota for fleets in their province.

Reduced access means 'significant hardship'

Like his predecessors in the portfolio, Smith is urging Ottawa to maintain historic shares for Nova Scotia's fleets if DFO amends the Unit 1 allocation.

"I would like for our quotas to be respected and particularly with this one when our companies were the ones that pioneered this industry from the get go," Smith said.

He wrote federal Fisheries Minister Diane Lebouthillier on Oct. 17 saying, "To change these established allocations would bring significant economic hardships to these Nova Scotia-based fleets and the hundreds of jobs in coastal Nova Scotia communities that they support.

"Furthermore, the apparent trend of altering long-standing quota agreements threatens to destabilize investment in seafood infrastructure, market and product development," he added.

No response to Nova Scotia concerns

Lebouthillier did not reply to Smith, nor to CBC questions about the issues raised in the letter.

"As previously stated by the minister, a decision on this matter will be announced at the end of the month," DFO press secretary Jeremy Collard said in an email to CBC .

For d'Entremont the "only decision" should be the size of the quota or total allowable catch.

"The big question for us is why are we talking about taking one resource from certain communities and giving it to another? And if this can happen in redfish, why can't it happen in any other species?" he said.

"I just don't see how we do without it. I don't see what the alternative is, because if those quotas are not going to be respected, if those transactions lead to some harm with communities or to existing participants in favour of others, this is a zero-sum game. There's only a certain amount of quota, so it's very disappointing to think about the alternatives."

Past DFO decisions

If the past means anything, Nova Scotia may be heading for disappointment.

Smith said in his letter to Lebouthillier, "Nova Scotia has been disproportionately and negatively affected by other recent allocation re-assignments."

The most controversial was a 2016 federal Liberal government decision to strip quota from another pioneering Nova Scotia offshore fleet that caught northern shrimp off Labrador. In the face of lobbying from Newfoundland harvesters, more recent entrants to the fishery, DFO ditched its last-in, first-out policy in assigning catch quotas.

The Telegram

Cheers & Jeers

JEERS: to insufficient information about wind farm projects. A number of people in Codroy Valley have expressed concern over what they say is a lack of information about World Energy GH2 S proposed wind energy project and what it will do to their area. World Energy GH2 is proposing to build a 164-turbine wind farm on Crown land in the Anguille Mountains of the Codroy Valley as part of its Project Nujiqonik. People living there have legitimate concerns about where exactly the wind farm will be located and what impact it will have on local water bodies, area outfitters, local people who use the land, and migratory birds. No detail on the project should be denied to the local residents, who have to live with this project in their backyards. You just have to take a quick look at this province's sad history with megaprojects and you can understand why the residents are concerned. All their questions should be answered.

NTV

Minister Lebouthillier to make an announcement on the renewal of the Canadian Coast Guard fleet

Posted: January 16, 2024 6:40 am

By Web Team

Diane Lebouthillier, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, will be in St. John's today to make an announcement regarding investments under the National Shipbuilding Strategy.

The National Shipbuilding Strategy is a long-term project to renew Canada's federal fleet of combat and non-combat vessels.

The announcement takes place at Newdock, St. John's Dockyard Limited at 10:00 a.m.

Lebouthillier will be joined by Minister of Rural Economic Development and Minister responsible for the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency Gudie Hutchings and MP Ken McDonald.

Maine Lobster Industry's Defamation Lawsuit Pending as Similar Case in Massachusetts is Dismissed

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By Eric Russell

A defamation lawsuit filed 10 months ago by a handful of Maine lobstermen's groups will continue even though a similar suit brought by Massachusetts lobstermen was dismissed Tuesday.

Five plaintiffs, including the Maine Lobsterman's Association and the Maine Coast Fishermen's Association, sued the California-based Monterey Bay Aquarium Foundation in March 2023 after the organization's Seafood Watch program included lobster on a "red list" of food consumers should avoid. Seafood Watch cited the industry's impact on the endangered North Atlantic right whale as the reason for the designation.

The suit argued that reasoning was not only false but has caused substantial harm to the plaintiffs and the Maine lobster brand.

"Overall consumer demand for Maine-caught lobsters has decreased since September 2022, due in whole or in part to the aquarium's false statements, depressing the price for lobsters and causing further commercial harm to Plaintiffs," the groups said in their complaint.

The Massachusetts Lobstermen's Association filed a similar suit, also in March 2023, on behalf of four lobstermen who were seeking \$75,000 in damages.

On Tuesday, a judge agreed to dismiss the suit with prejudice, according to the Boston Herald.

"After lengthy discussions among the named individuals in the suit, they agreed to dismiss the class-action suit, as a win in the California court is highly unlikely and extremely costly," the MLA said in a statement to the Herald on Tuesday.

"The laws in California would ultimately hold these individuals financially responsible for the defendant's legal fees should they prevail."

It's unclear whether the outcome in the Massachusetts case will affect Maine's case, which has yet to go to trial.

Kevin Lipson, a Washington, D.C. attorney representing the plaintiffs, declined to comment on Tuesday's decision involving the Massachusetts case because Maine's case is still pending.

In addition to the Maine Lobstermen's Association and the Maine Coast Fishermen's Association, three others are named as plaintiffs: Atwood Lobster, a wholesaler in South Thomaston, Bean Lobster Inc. of Rockland, and Gerald Cushman, a lobsterman from Port Clyde.

The Monterey aquarium, which first added lobster to its "red list" in September 2022, said last spring that both lawsuits were "meritless."

The aquarium's attorney told the Boston Herald the dismissal of the Massachusetts case was "both a victory for the critically endangered right whale and for the free speech of those committed to protecting vulnerable species and preserving the ocean for future generations."

Headlines

BYPRODUCT FROM WIND FARMS COULD INCREASE OXYGEN LEVELS IN THE OCEAN: "Doug Wallace", Ocean Chemist says there is a way to increase oxygen levels in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and you may be surprised at what helps. The byproduct of green hydrogen production could help the health of the ocean.

CBN - St. John's - Fisheries Broadcast @ 06:10:14pm Duration: 00:09:13 Reporter:

Ref Id: D9S-7F5-15

C-PAWS NL CLEANING HARBOURS: C-PAWS NL is going around the province cleaning up harbours. ["Cassidy Downey", Conservation Assistant]

CBN - St. John's - Fisheries Broadcast @ 06:23:30pm Duration: 00:04:40 Reporter:

Ref Id: j8D-4S4-15

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From: [Renouf, Craig](#)
Sent: [Monday, January 22, 2024 10:19 AM](#)
To: [Loveless, Elvis](#), [Chippett, Jamie](#), [Baldwin, Paul](#), [Hanlon, Bren M.](#), [Adams, Blair](#), [Balsom, Stephen](#), [Deering, Keith](#), [Shea, Erin](#), [Skinner, Linda](#)
Subject: [MORNING MEDIA - Jan. 22, 2024](#)

VOCM

Provincial Fisheries Minister 'Not on the Ball' Ahead of 2024 Snow Crab Fishery: Cleary

A long-time advocate for inshore enterprise owners is accusing the provincial fisheries minister of not being on the ball ahead of the 2024 snow crab fishery, which is only two-and-a-half months away.

Ryan Cleary, who recently stepped down as the Executive Director of SEA-NL, is now focusing his efforts on the creation of a fisheries co-op for local enterprise owners.

He expected a decision from Minister Elvis Loveless on new fish processing licences, and the possible lifting of a cap on independent local processors, before Christmas but there's been no word to-date.

'The season is just about two months away' but we don't know who the processing players are yet for the 2024 season. From our perspective, that is not on the ball.'

Cleary says Loveless 'didn't give a second thought' in 2020 to Royal Greenland moving in as the 'largest fish processor in the land.'

Cleary understands the province has to do its due diligence, but 'they also have to be on the ball.'

Loblaws Reverting Decision to Reduce Discounts on Food Nearing Expiry

Loblaws has reversed its decision to cut the discounted amount on products that are nearing expiry from 50 to 30 per cent.

Canada's largest grocery retailer was met with public backlash this week after reducing the discount to move toward a 'more predictable and consistent offering.'

In an emailed statement, the company says they've listened to feedback from customers and are reverting to 50 per cent discounts.

They say the change had not yet been implemented in Atlantic Canada. In the rest of the country, 50 per cent stickers will be returning to shelves in the next few weeks.

Enviro Watch NL Holding Public Forum on Salmon Aquaculture

Jan 19, 2024 | 4:00 PM

Enviro Watch NL is asking if the province of NL is making the wrong choice when it comes to fish farms.

Enviro Watch is hosting a [public forum](#) on Monday, January 22 offering what they call 'a much-needed assessment of the true cost of sea-based salmon aquaculture'.

Leo White, a long-time critic of open-pen salmon farms and a member of Enviro Watch NL, says key factors are not being taken into account when determining the true cost of aquaculture. He says damage to the wildfish population and environmental fallout which may occur during mass die-offs are heavy influencers. Out-fall from the cages including fish waste, just drops to the ocean floor he says. He says the material is highly-toxic.

The virtual event starts at 7:30 p.m. Monday.

FFAW Hopeful for Better Fishery This Year as Crab Markets Seemingly Rebound

Jan 19, 2024 | 3:08 PM

The FFAW remains hopeful that an apparent rebound in crab markets will translate to a much better fishing season this year.

The opening of the snow crab fishery is about two months away and one of the issues that kept prices down last year was a sluggish US market.

Union President Greg Pretty says existing inventories were drawn down by a busy holiday season for American restaurants.

He says crab inventories in the US were normal heading into the holidays, and "crab moved along very, very well according to market reports." That "resulted in some bounce in the market" on crab sections, and "that's positive" says Pretty.

Meanwhile, crab price negotiations continue.

"We're hopeful that we'll arrive at a good spot, in short order."

FFAW Website

FFAW-UNIFOR MEETS WITH FEDERAL FISHERIES MINISTER IN ST. JOHN'S

January 16, 2024

ST. JOHN'S, NL - Yesterday afternoon, January 15th, 2024, FFAW-Unifor had the opportunity to meet face-to-face with federal fisheries Minister, the Honourable Diane LeBouthillier, to discuss the Union's top priorities with the person responsible for the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO). In attendance at the meeting were: Greg Pretty, President; Jason Spingle, Secretary-Treasurer; Tony Doyle, Inshore Vice-President; Nelson Bussey, Executive Board; Rendell Genge, Inshore Council; Glen Winslow, Inshore Council; Dr. Erin Carruthers, Senior Fisheries Scientist; Courtney Glode, Director of Public Affairs; and Courtney Langille, Communications & Government Relations Representative. Representing DFO were Minister LeBouthillier; Gabriel Bourget, Director of Communications; Benjamin Sparkes, Director of Operations; and William McGillivray, Regional Director General for NL.

Following introductions, the Minister opened the meeting with stating that she believes both parties are on the same page on the importance of the value of the fishery to communities and the economy.

At the top of the agenda was the need to protect the 115,000mt of Northern cod committed to inshore and Indigenous groups before allocations are given to offshore companies. The inshore fleet has the capacity to harvest this amount - the failure is on the processing side to match production capacity. Increasing the Northern cod harvest amount this season critical for rural sustainability and is desperately needed to diversify and increase incomes for seasonal workers. As it stands, the Northern cod stewardship fishery provided only a few days' work for most in 2023.

The Minister expressed her willingness to ensure prosperity as well as succession planning for the cod fishery, and committed to securing dedicated time for further discussion – acknowledging that it is a complex issue with many considerations across stakeholder groups.

The next discussion was a follow-up on the proposal for the Gulf shrimp fleet who are facing certain, rapid extinction if they are not provided with urgent assistance from the federal government. As part of the Gulf Coalition, FFAW-Unifor met with Minister Leboutheillier in early December to present a buyback proposal for Gulf shrimp licenses in combination with a proposal for commercialization of the Unit 1 redfish fishery for this fleet. The reduction of license numbers combined with the transfer to a commercial redfish fishery will allow that fleet to survive into the future. Minister Leboutheillier stated that the shrimp industry is a priority for her, and she is undertaking an announcement by the end of January that will address the urgent need of the shrimp fleet. The Minister assured that she understands the importance of the resource and a just transition for regional economic stability, and decisions for Unit 1 redfish allocations will be a second phase that will involve further consultation.

Dr. Carruthers presented the results of the FFAW Experimental Redfish Fishery, made possible with funding from the Atlantic Fisheries Fund, which demonstrate inshore harvesters' commitment to a sustainable emerging fishery. The Minister indicated that her department is committed to building a strong marketing piece to ensure that opportunities for redfish are in place in-step with commercialization.

The Union then raised the need for small fisheries to continue in both the Gulf of St. Lawrence and 3Ps, for the purpose of maintaining critical data collection and the cultural connection to the cod fishery. The Minister agreed to review these requests.

Discussion moved to the need for reopening of the Atlantic Mackerel fishery, with FFAW again highlighting the important science data that such small fisheries provide to the assessment process. Increased sampling via a small fishery gives a far more accurate picture of size, distribution, spawning locations and more. The Minister acknowledged that there is a history of tension with DFO-Science, and she is considering enhanced collaboration with industry to build out better tools and processes that are necessary for more empirical and consistent data collection.

The Union then raised the need for DFO to increase enforcement and penalties of owner-operator and fleet separation policies. Enforcing the Fisheries Act and protecting independent harvesters from corporate control, particularly in this time of acute financial strain, is of paramount importance going forward. President Greg Pretty emphasized that by accepting financial assistance from corporations to avoid jeopardy, harvesters are giving up their rights as an independent, which is exploitative and counters the design of this federal policy. Continued inaction only serves to normalize this predatory behavior, removing more wealth from communities and reinforcing corporate control over the industry.

The next agenda item was the revision of 3L inshore/offshore snow crab precautionary approach (PA). FFAW-Unifor reiterated to the Minister that a solution for the 3L inshore/offshore snow crab assessment area must be reviewed prior to the stock assessment meetings. An enormous amount of work went into PA meetings with harvesters and FFAW staff contributing over 100-hours of work to the DFO-led science meetings. In the end, DFO arbitrarily removed an important paragraph from the PA, splitting the inshore and offshore assessment areas without explanation or scientific justification in spring of 2023. A great deal of contention exists with many still left wondering what next steps will be and how these steps are being determined. It was noted by Inshore Vice-President Tony Doyle that 3L is the only area that has an inshore/offshore division. With the fishery two-months away, clarity is needed as soon as possible.

Finally, the meeting concluded with discussion on the need to explore Shrimp Fishing Area 7 with a limited quota for assessment purposes. Harvesters who traditionally fish SFA 6 argue the quota may be moving further south, and since there is no other data other than DFO's RV survey in that region, a small scientific quota would assist in determining whether the stock has migrated. Dr. Carruthers cited other FFAW-science programs, (notably the cod sentinel and post-season crab survey), and the Minister agreed that collaborative science is more compelling. Executive Board Member Nelson Bussey added that a small amount of quota can provide a huge amount of information, and this quota would be a significant opportunity to build out data that the department does not have yet.

Minister Lebouthillier was extremely receptive to the FFAW's mandate to protect coastal communities and increase economic opportunity for seasonal workers. Minister Lebouthillier is from Gaspé, on the coast of Quebec, and her constituency shares many of the same challenges and aspirations as Newfoundland and Labrador. As such, and based on the Minister's comments yesterday, FFAW-Unifor is very hopeful that 2024 will present more opportunities for inshore fish harvesters and a more productive relationship with the federal department.

FFAW-UNIFOR'S RESPONSE TO THE POTENTIAL ADDITION OF LUMPFISH TO THE LIST OF WILDLIFE SPECIES AT RISK UNDER THE SPECIES AT RISK ACT (SARA)

Today, January 18, 2024, FFAW-Unifor issued its response to the Potential Addition of Lumpfish to the List of Wildlife Species at Risk Under the Species at Risk Act (SARA). The letter was addressed to William McGillivray, Regional Director General for Newfoundland and Labrador at the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

[CLICK HERE TO READ THE FULL LETTER](#)

NTV

Priority recall continues for Quaker brand granola bars and cereals due to Salmonella

Posted: January 21, 2024 10:00 am

By [Bailey Howard](#)

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency continues its priority food recall warning for a long list of Quaker brand granola bars, cereals and treat bars due to possible Salmonella contamination.

The list includes 38 products including Cap'n Crunch Treat Bars & Berry Bar, a variety of Harvest Crunch cereals and Quaker Chewy Granola Bars with best before dates ranging from January 11, 2024 up to October 7, 2024.

The full list of recalled products can be found [here](#).

If you have any of these products, CFIA says not to consume, use, sell, serve, or distribute recalled products. If you think you became sick from consuming a recalled product, contact your healthcare provider.

The Telegram

Meet Canada's newest federal fisheries minister

Quebec MP discusses EI programming, the future of the cod fishery, the seal industry, and an upcoming redfish fishery

The Telegram (St. John's) 22 Jan 2024 JENNA HEAD Jenna.head@saltwire.com

JENNA HEAD & THE TELEGRAM

Diane Lebouthillier, Canada's newest federal minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, says she understands why the fishery is so important to Newfoundland and Labrador.

She comes from Newport, a village in Gaspésie, Quebec, where fishing cod is how people make a living.

"It was always clear to me. Fisheries are economy. Fisheries are jobs," Lebouthillier said.

It's important to her that the industries are treated right for environmental and economic success.

On Tuesday, Jan. 16, Lebouthillier was in St. John's for the first time as minister. On a tight schedule, Saltwire met her for an interview on board the Canadian Coast Guard Ship (CCGS) Louis St-laurent in St. John's Harbour.

Responses from Lebouthillier have been translated from French to English by the federal government, and her responses have been edited for length. Here's what she had to say.

Question: Is DFO considering advocating for changes to the current EI system to better help seasonal workers, like fishermen and plant workers, as the Fisheries Union has called for?

Lebouthillier: "What I can tell you is that the employment insurance file is one that I know very well because I also come from a coastal region, Gaspésie, the Îles-de-la-madeleine.

"In 2015, when we came to power, we abolished the Harper reform because it had catastrophic consequences for seasonal workers. At the time, I was prefect of the MRC, and I even made representations in Ottawa. I also took part in demonstrations in Montreal with the unions to make sure this reform was abolished.

"Over the past two years, our government has invested an additional \$2 billion in employment insurance for people in the region. The work we're currently doing is really about adapting the employment insurance system to the new realities of the workplace.

"So, the work continues. We've added four additional weeks. We kept the five additional weeks to cover the black hole. We kept that in place and extended it for this year...as far as I'm concerned, we're continuing to work both with the unions, with whom I meet and speak regularly, and also with Minister Boissonneault to ensure that we can also meet the challenges of the communities because we're also experiencing a labour shortage at the same time.

"So how can we adapt the whole employment insurance system but also ensure that we can help our small and medium-sized businesses' economies?"

"What I want to say is that, for me, fisheries are important. The fisheries and the workers are part of it, and we're going to work to improve their situation."

☐What I want to say is that, for me, fisheries are important. The fisheries and the workers are part of it, and we're going to work to improve their situation.☐

COD STOCKS

Question: There is the potential cod stocks may be stronger. The hope, of course, is that this could lead to a revived cod fishery. How would DFO approach it to avoid the collapse that led to the cod die-off in 1992?

Lebouthillier: "We're going to work together with the industry, but for me, the important thing is to ensure that we have fisheries that also respect the environment so that we don't have to go through a moratorium again because the effects are devastating in our coastal communities.

"So I'm cautious, but I'm also very hopeful. That's why I'm in Newfoundland, to meet the various partners, both on the catching side and the processing side, because for me, it's going to be important, and I know to what extent the Newfoundland fishery is important, and the leading industry here I believe.

"So, how are we going to ensure that our children, our grandchildren, our great grandchildren will be able to continue working in the fisheries sector? As I say over and over again, we can win together. We can also lose together if people don't want to work together.

"For me, it's important to exchange ideas so that we can make the best possible decisions. So, that's part of the discussions with our partners, with the unions and the processors also, about how we're going to resume cod fishing. I'll have more information in the spring, so with the data that will be put in place, we'll make sure we make the best possible decisions.

"There's work to be done this winter with the various stakeholders, and as I said, for me, what's going to be important is to win together but also to take climate change into account because climate change is currently having a major impact on the fisheries sector.

"I think everyone is sailing in uncharted waters, hence the importance of being even more cautious and needing science to move forward."

UNDERSTAND N.L.

Question: So Newfoundlanders can take heart in that you understand their realities?

Lebouthillier: "Yes, I do. I understand the reality, and I also understand the fishing industry. It was always clear to me. Fisheries are economy. Fisheries are jobs. And so, we have to do things right to ensure that our economy does well. I know that all wild fish species are in trouble right now, and we must avoid overfishing. We can no longer put so much pressure on wild fish. So, we must all work together to make the right decisions for future generations."

SEALING

Question: Newfoundlanders and Labradorians are very passionate about seals and the sealing industry. Do you have any plans to fight the European Union ban on seal products that have harmed the Newfoundland and Canadian sealing industry? Do you support the seal industry, and how that can be strengthened?

Lebouthillier: Last August, the Prime Minister in retreat asked us what our three priorities were in our files, so my three fisheries priorities...i had small craft harbours, which are really important for the sector, but I also had the seal fishery.

"For me, it's a new resource. It's an opportunity. And we also have to work with Indigenous communities. So, money has been invested. We're talking about it more and more; we're talking about it openly. As far as I'm concerned, I'm going to keep moving forward on this issue because we're in a position to exploit this resource in the right way.

"It's a renewable resource. It's a protein. It's a resource that can be used at 98 per cent. That's the objective. It's about using it in the circular economy. We can use the skin. We can use it for food on the islands. I'd say on the Magdalen Islands, every year, we have the Rendezvous du Loup Marin (sea lions), where chefs get involved in recipes. It's extraordinary.

"I'm going to continue to have discussions with my partners and the various governments. But what's important is to involve the Indigenous communities as well. Indigenous communities have their own traditions and also access to other markets. And we also have countries that are interested in our products. For me, it's an opportunity for the people of Newfoundland and Labrador to have another product, to have one more product to market and promote."

REDFISH FISHERY COMING

Question: I understand you also wanted to discuss redfish?

Lebouthillier: "It's part of the discussions I had yesterday with the various partners involved with redfish. As I announced in December, there will be a redfish fishery. I should be announcing my decision within the next two weeks.

"For me, it was important to be able to talk to the industry because they are the first to be affected, both in terms of catching and processing. It's pointless to think we can catch redfish if the processors aren't in a position to add value.

“There is also a capacity to process, but the message will be very clear in what I'm going to announce over the next two weeks.

"When I mentioned collaborative work in the meetings I had yesterday, I said that I'd much rather eat redfish than tilapia. We have good products. We need to work on adding value to our products.

"When we say that we're going to need all our partners, I mean provincial governments, the hotel and restaurant industry, tourism, processors, and catchers.

"I'm convinced that we're entering a period that won't be easy in the fisheries sector right now, but we have opportunities.

“We're in a period of transition here. If everyone pulls together, we'll get through this storm in a way that's good for the East Coast as a whole but also good for the people of Newfoundland and Labrador.”

More women youth finding fly fishing

Trailblazers like Corner Brook's Kastine Coleman, a casting instructor and guide, are helping open doors in the male-dominated pursuit

The Telegram (St. John's) 22 Jan 2024 GARY KEAN THE TELEGRAM gary.kean @thewesternstar.com @western_star CONTRIBUTED

Last summer, Grace Briffett was salmon fishing at Big Falls when she noticed a little girl sitting in a nearby boat, quietly watching her father and brother casting away.

It reminded the 17-year-old from Gander of how she had started developing her own passion for fly fishing at a young age.

She had been making annual treks with her family to the campgrounds at Sir Richard Squires Memorial Park on the Upper Humber since she was a baby. By the time she was seven or eight, Briffett was intently observing the art of angling, especially how her father, Dennis, and older brother, Lucas, were doing it.

When she was around 10, she finally asked her dad if she could give it a try.

Before the day was out, she had landed her first Atlantic salmon and, pardon the pun, has been hooked on fly fishing ever since.

'LOVED IT FROM THE BEGINNING'

These days, the family always tries to be at Big Falls for Canada Day, the anniversary of Briffett's first fish.

She has also fished the Exploits River in central Newfoundland and, last year, had a successful first trip to the Terra Nova River in eastern Newfoundland.

“I have always loved it from the beginning,” she said of her passion for salmon fishing.

“You can always learn something new on each fishing trip. Each day is different.

Some days, the fishing might be great. Other days, not so much, but you still go and try and have fun with it while you're there.”

PATIENCE AND PRACTICE

Fast forward to that day last summer. Briffett noticed that the little girl in the boat next to hers would sometimes glance over to watch Briffett fish. Eventually, the little girl had a rod in her own hands and was casting away.

Before the day was done, Briffett saw the little girl catch a salmon.

“That kind of stuck with me because I remember being that age and being intimidated by seeing so many people around me,” said Briffett.

Having patience is an important part of developing an interest in salmon fishing, she noted

“The more time spend at it, the more patience you will have and the more success you will have with it in the long run.”

TIGHT LOOPS TIGHT LINES

While most anglers encountered on the rivers are likely to be men, more women and youth are getting into the sport.

Many have probably been introduced to angling by their fathers or other relatives, but one woman from Corner Brook has been playing a significant role in luring more women and younger people to the pastime.

Kastine Coleman has made a name for herself not just as an avid angler, but as a skilled teacher of the sport.

She is a Fly Fishers International-certified casting instructor “one of just four in Newfoundland and Labrador” and a licensed guide who also has written articles for flyfishing magazines.

In 2019, she and fellow veteran angler Terry Byrne began Tight Loops Tight Lines to offer fly fishing and salmon angling lessons, along with guided fishing excursions. The goal was to introduce the sport to more women and youth.

It has since developed into a television show, also called “Tight Loops Tight Lines.”

Recently, the company was provided \$46,305 in provincial funding through the Business Development Support Program of the Department of Industry, Energy and Technology to help support its promotion and development of fly-fishing experiences.

The funding “which covers advertising, trade show attendance, professional fees and skills development, content creation and network development” should allow Tight Loops Tight Lines to expand its market presence and product offerings.

PASSING THE PASSION ON

When she offered her first casting lesson several years ago, Coleman was hoping to attract maybe half a dozen women.

It wound up being a group of 26 and she had to get some help handling the unexpected numbers.

She's been noticing the numbers of women and young people interested in fly fishing steadily growing through the years, with many women “whose husbands, dads, or grandfathers were avid anglers” wanting to learn how to fish and see what the fuss was all about.

In some cases, the partners and father figures have died and have left a legacy of fishing gear along with the lure of the river.

"I have really enjoyed being that person who can connect people to their past and help them to learn a new skill and honouring traditions at the same time," said Coleman, who developed her own passion for fly fishing by accompanying her dad on trips to the river at a young age.

TEACHING KIDS

Coleman has also been bringing her casting expertise to elementary, junior and high schools in the last few years.

She has seen some kids who already know how to cast a fly and many others keen to learn the skill, along with how to tie flies and rig up their rods.

"I have met so many of these kids later on the next year or later that summer and they say, "You taught me how to fly fish and then I went fishing with my pop," she said.

"I really like it when that happens. It's awesome."

IN MOM'S FOOTSTEPS

Coleman has introduced her children to the activity. Her 17-year-old daughter, Neveah Churchill, has grown up on the rivers and is now able to assist her mom during casting lessons.

"I really enjoy it," Churchill said. "It's nice and peaceful. It's a really good way to get a break from schoolwork and technology, just to go stand on the river and forget about everything else for a while."

Churchill has never kept a salmon, following in her mom's footsteps of always practicing catch and release when hooking a fish.

She figures the largest salmon she's ever caught was an estimated 12.5 pounds.

Her favourite river is probably the Lower Humber River.

"I like the Lower Humber because it's close to the house," she said. "Big Falls is also really nice."

"I like the bigger rivers. The smaller rivers are nice sometimes, but there are more spots on bigger rivers."

FISHING FRIENDS

Churchill has a few friends who are also into salmon fishing.

"Most of my closer friends don't fish and they think it's funny that I'll just go stand on a river to catch a fish and then let it go," she said.

She, too, has seen more women and younger people on the river in recent seasons.

"Usually, you go out and there are just a bunch of older men, but the sport is getting more popular, and more people are hearing about it," she said.

"I think a lot of people are hopping on the trend when they see other younger people getting into it."

Churchill hasn't been on a fishing trip with just friends yet but hopes that will change now that she's old enough to drive to her favorite angling spots.

GROWING UP ON THE RIVER

One of Churchill's friends is Ella Meadus, an 18-year-old from St. Philips on the Avalon Peninsula, who is currently studying environmental science in Corner Brook.

She, too, grew up in a family that fished the rivers, learning her angling technique from her father, Jeremy Meadus, and grandfather, Gary Meadus.

She's been on fishing trips with the Colemans and Byrne, so no doubt has learned a few things from them, too.

FAMILY TRIPS

With her family, Meadus has fished rivers all over the province, including the Lower Humber, the Exploit's and many smaller streams on the island, as well as a special family trip to the Flowers River in Labrador last year.

While she didn't land a fish on the Flowers, Meadus said that trip is among her favourite experiences because her grandfather, who has vision and hearing impairments, did catch one.

"He has trouble seeing and hearing, but he'll play a fish better than anyone I know," Meadus said of her grandfather. "I don't know how he does it."

Her aunt and uncle, who hadn't fished for quite a while, also had success on the river during that trip.

CREATING MEMORIES

Meadus said it's those and other moments, when family members and friends bond, that make salmon fishing such fun.

"It was so exciting to come back at the end of the day and hear their stories," she said.

She hopes to see the number of women and youth fishing continue to grow.

"It's different to see the reaction of the men on the river when they see women fishing, but I'm excited that now it's a little bit more normal," she said. "You do see more women, but I hope it's something more girls pick up."

Her advice to anyone interested is to just go for it.

"It's so much less complicated than what some people make it seem to be," she said.

"I have never heard of anyone who has given salmon fishing a really good go who hasn't come out of it hooked. Some women think it's not a hobby they would enjoy, but I think it would surprise them."

ANGLING PIONEERS

Janet Weldon is a veteran angler who is over the moon to see more women get into the sport. She credits the efforts of Coleman with helping expand the interest in salmon fishing.

Weldon, who lives on the Humber River, caught her first salmon at age eight under the guidance of her father and experienced angler, Stu Weldon.

When she was younger, she even took a casting lesson from Jean Wulff, who has been dubbed the "First Lady of Fly Fishing" and considered the originator of modern-day flycasting mechanics.

Wulff, the wife of Lee Wulff - a well-known outfitter and conservationist who did a lot of work in Newfoundland and Labrador - gave the casting lesson at Margaret Bowater Park in Corner Brook.

GROWING POPULARITY

"The fact they're doing a show and people are watching it is testament enough that it has really gained popularity," Weldon said of Coleman's impact on expanding diversity in angling.

"On the west coast, Kastine and Terry have been pioneers in getting kids and women out there active in fly fishing. They're doing a fantastic job, and hat's off to them for sure."

Not only has she seen more women and youth on the rivers, but Weldon said the growth is seen in other ways, too.

For instance, gone are the days when women had to settle for waders, vests, and other angling apparel designed with only men in mind. These days, most sporting goods stores have women-fitted waders and gear.

HARD TO PUT INTO WORDS

Weldon certainly doesn't need any extra convincing or coaxing to get her out on the rivers. She's always felt a special connection with them.

"When you're out there, quietly taking it all in and, at the same time, watching how the water moves and anticipating where you think a fish could be laying, then dropping that fly you've carefully chosen gently on the water in just the right spot to get a rise out of a fish is a feeling that's hard to put into words," she explained.

"When the fish comes for that fly, your heart goes into your throat and time stands still for a minute. Things speed up pretty quickly then with an adrenaline rush."

To Weldon, releasing a salmon is even more poignant. She's glad to see the importance of conservation is also growing.

"Seeing them swim off strongly is a really special experience. I've been fortunate to experience a number of times in my life," she said. "Our Atlantic salmon are truly beautiful fish. They really are."

More anglers with eyes on the rivers, no matter who they are, means fewer opportunities for poachers, she added.

INSTANT THERAPY

Weldon's advice to anyone thinking of getting into angling is to seek out a seasoned angler and talk to them about what to expect and to consider taking lessons so they have some level of confidence the moment they cast their fly for the first time.

"It's one of those things where you either love it or you're not interested," she said.

"If you love it, it's a thrill you continue to want to have. It's a real therapeutic thing. Anyone who fishes a lot will tell you it's like almost instant therapy."

Headlines

FOOD SECURITY: people living in rural and remote parts of the Canada fresh produce often has to travel a very long way to get to them and prices tend to be higher. ["Rebecca Sylvester", Turnor Lake & Birch Narrows Community Food Centre] CBN - St. John's - East Coast Morning Show @ 08:21:50am Duration: 00:07:08 Reporter:

Ref Id: m7z-8x7-22

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FOOD INSECURITY IN RURAL AREAS: Most of our food is grown in rural areas but that doesn't mean the people who live there always have access to fresh and affordable produce or other nutritious foods. ["Ramsey Hart", Executive Director of The Table]

CBY - Corner Brook - NL Morning @ 08:22:20am Duration: 00:07:00 Reporter:

Ref Id: y8A-9x7-22

Craig Renouf

Media Relations Manager

Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

709-637-2923 (office)

709-640-6922 (cell)

craigrenouf@gov.nl.ca

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From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 3:02 PM
To: Chippett, Jamie
Cc: Shea, Erin, Hanlon, Bren M.
Subject: RE: NR for APPROVAL: Min. Lebouthillier Meeting

Hi Jamie,

Just following up the NR approval request below. Tks.

From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 10:31 AM
To: Chippett, Jamie <JamieChippett@gov.nl.ca>
Cc: Shea, Erin <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>; Hanlon, Bren M. <brenhanlon@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: NR for APPROVAL: Min. Lebouthillier Meeting
Importance: High

Hi Jamie,

Pls see the following NR for review. Bren has reviewed. Will include photo from meeting you noted you have to issue with the release once approved. Tks, Craig.

Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
January 22, 2024

Ministers Loveless and Lebouthillier Meet to Discuss Fisheries and Aquaculture Matters

The Honourable Elvis Loveless, Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture and The Honourable Diane Lebouthillier, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard recently met in St. John's where they had a productive meeting discussing a variety of issues of impacting the fisheries and aquaculture sectors in this province.

Discussions focused on effective and sustainable management of the province's seafood resources. Agenda items included offshore fleet access to Northern cod, expanding sealing industry markets, Northern shrimp license rationalization, the upcoming snow crab fishery, growing the aquaculture sector, improving fisheries science and renewal of the Atlantic Fisheries Fund.

Minister Loveless also reiterated the Province's position with respect to the anticipated forthcoming announcement related to reopening of the Unit 1 commercial redfish harvest. It was clearly communicated that Newfoundland and Labrador's historical attachment and adjacency to the redfish resource should be considered to ensure harvesters from this province receive a fair and equitable share of quota allocations.

Both ministers agreed to continue regular dialogues and collaborative efforts that advance the sustainable management of our ocean resources.

Quote

It was a pleasure to meet with Minister Lebouthillier and outline our province's position regarding several key issues of importance for our fishing and aquaculture sectors. I am confident these meetings will lead to greater collaboration between Newfoundland and Labrador and the federal government on fisheries management matters. I look forward to future meetings with Minister

Lebouthillier and continuing our shared commitment to helping ensure a sustainable and prosperous future for our fishing communities.

-30-

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Like us on [Facebook](#)

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Craig Renouf

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craigrenouf@gov.nl.ca

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From: Baldwin, Paul
Sent: Friday, January 26, 2024 2:19 PM
To: Chippett, Jamie
Subject: FW: Redfish announcement today

FYI

PAUL BALDWIN, CD
Executive Assistant to Hon. Elvis Loveless
Minister of Fisheries, Forestry, and Agriculture
MHA, District of Fortune Bay Cape LaHune

t 709-729-3783 | e paulbaldwin@gov.nl.ca



From: Cull, Dwayne (DFO/MPO) <Dwayne.Cull@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Sent: Friday, January 26, 2024 10:07 AM
To: Baldwin, Paul <PaulBaldwin@gov.nl.ca>; j.brake@qalipu.ca; bbarry@barrygroupinc.com;
cbonnell@oceanchoice.com; info@seafoodproducers.org; baird56@hotmail.com; brgenge@hotmail.com
Subject: Redfish announcement today

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning,

Later today Minister Lebouthillier will be making an announcement about the future of Gulf Shrimp and Unit 1 Redfish. We invite you to attend the announcement virtually to hear the minister's announcement first-hand.

Note that attendees will be in webinar mode and the Minister will be taking questions from media on site. If you have any questions following the announcement please feel free to reach out to our office.

Media advisory:

Important announcement by Minister
Lebouthillier in support of the future of
fisheries in Quebec and Atlantic Canada
canada.ca

Webinar Link:

[REDACTED] 31(1)(l)

[REDACTED]

Regards,

Dwayne K. Cull
Senior Advisor
Newfoundland and Labrador
Office of Minister Diane Lebouthillier
Fisheries and Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard
Cell: [REDACTED] 40(1)
email: dwayne.cull@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

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From: Hanlon, Bren M.
Sent: Friday, January 26, 2024 3:40 PM
To: Chippett, Jamie
Subject: FW: Redfish announcement today

Not much but its something, see below.

From: Baldwin, Paul <PaulBaldwin@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Friday, January 26, 2024 3:33 PM
To: Hanlon, Bren M. <brenhanlon@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: FW: Redfish announcement today

PAUL BALDWIN, CD
Executive Assistant to Hon. Elvis Loveless
Minister of Fisheries, Forestry, and Agriculture
MHA, District of Fortune Bay Cape LaHune

t 709-729-3783 | e paulbaldwin@gov.nl.ca



From: Cull, Dwayne (DFO/MPO) <Dwayne.Cull@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Sent: Friday, January 26, 2024 3:33 PM
To: Bill Barry <bbarry@barrgroupinc.com>; James Baird <baird56@hotmail.com>
Cc: Baldwin, Paul <PaulBaldwin@gov.nl.ca>; j.brake@galipu.ca; cbonnell@oceanchoice.com; info@seafoodproducers.org; brgenge@hotmail.com
Subject: Re: Redfish announcement today

In brief I can fill you in on some highlights;

- ? 2 year startup plan
- ? 25,000 ton quota
- ? Offshore 58.7%
- ? Inshore mobile gear 14.8
- ? Mid shore mobile 5.7
- ? Inshore fixed gear bycatch .75
- ? Indigenous quota bank 10
- ? Shrimp harvesters 10

Dwayne

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From: Cull, Dwayne (DFO/MPO) <Dwayne.Cull@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>

Sent: Friday, January 26, 2024 3:28:16 PM

To: Bill Barry <bbarry@barrygroupinc.com>; James Baird <baird56@hotmail.com>

Cc: PaulBaldwin@gov.nl.ca <PaulBaldwin@gov.nl.ca>; j.brake@qalipu.ca <j.brake@qalipu.ca>; cbonnell@oceanchoice.com <cbonnell@oceanchoice.com>; info@seafoodproducers.org <info@seafoodproducers.org>; brgenge@hotmail.com <brgenge@hotmail.com>

Subject: Re: Redfish announcement today

Hey everyone,

As soon as the English version is done Ill get it to you all. Should be before the end of the day. Sorry for that. [REDACTED]

Dwayne

29(1)(a)

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Bill Barry <bbarry@barrygroupinc.com>

Sent: Friday, January 26, 2024 2:59:34 PM

To: James Baird <baird56@hotmail.com>

Cc: Cull, Dwayne (DFO/MPO) <Dwayne.Cull@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>; PaulBaldwin@gov.nl.ca <PaulBaldwin@gov.nl.ca>; j.brake@qalipu.ca <j.brake@qalipu.ca>; cbonnell@oceanchoice.com <cbonnell@oceanchoice.com>; info@seafoodproducers.org <info@seafoodproducers.org>; brgenge@hotmail.com <brgenge@hotmail.com>

Subject: Re: Redfish announcement today

You don't often get email from bbarry@barrygroupinc.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Please.

On Jan 26, 2024, at 2:58 PM, James Baird <baird56@hotmail.com> wrote:

Hi again Dwayne,

Can you supply a copy of the Ministers statement in English.

Thanks,

Jim

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 26, 2024, at 10:07 AM, Cull, Dwayne (DFO/MPO) <Dwayne.Cull@dfo-mpo.gc.ca> wrote:

Good morning,

Later today Minister LeBouthillier will be making an announcement about the future of Gulf Shrimp and Unit 1 Redfish. We invite you to attend the announcement virtually to hear the ministers announcement first-hand.

Note that attendees will be in webinar mode and the Minister will be taking questions from media on site. If you have any questions following the announcement please feel free to reach out to our office.

Media advisory:

Important announcement by Minister
Lebouthillier in support of the future of
fisheries in Quebec and Atlantic Canada
canada.ca

Webinar Link:

31(1)(l)

Regards,

Dwayne K. Cull
Senior Advisor
Newfoundland and Labrador
Office of Minister Diane Lebouthillier
Fisheries and Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard
Cell: [REDACTED] 40(1)
email: dwayne.cull@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

From: Hanlon, Bren M.
Sent: Friday, January 26, 2024 4:58 PM
To: Chippett, Jamie, Renouf, Craig
Subject: FW: DFO Announcement - Highlights Captured by AGC

FYI, DFO indicates they should have translation complete by the end of the day and I will send it along. But in a nutshell:

There will be a redfish fishery in 2024 with provincial allocations staying as they are and a minimum TAC of 25,000 t, redfish advisory committee will review quota numbers

They primarily reduced the offshore redfish quota (previously 74.22%) to provide 10% to shrimp harvesters and 10% to indigenous

The gulf shrimp TAC is expected to decline from 4,222 t to 1,757 t for the Esquiman Channel gulf shrimp stock

[REDACTED]

29(1)(a)

From: Burrige, Angela <AngelaBurrige@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Friday, January 26, 2024 4:07 PM
To: Hanlon, Bren M. <brenhanlon@gov.nl.ca>; Barry, Sean P <seanbarry@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: DFO Announcement - Highlights Captured by AGC

Bren,/ Sean,

40(1)

40(1)

[REDACTED] contacted me after the DFO announcement today and provided a quick update on the information [REDACTED] was able to capture. This is all preliminary as there was nothing provided in writing and there are translation barriers.

Minister Lebouthillier indicated that :

- There will be a redfish commercial fishery developed in 3 phases.
- First phase will be 2 years with a 10% allocation going to shrimpers and 10% going to indigenous fisheries. Expectation is that the remaining allocation will consider the previous allocation scheme.
- Initial quota has been set at 25000 t minimum
- Quota will be reviewed by the RAC (Redfish Advisory Committee) and there may be recommendations to increase that quota provided there are markets/ processing available.
- Shrimp TAC expected at 3060 t (assumed to be Gulf shrimp as it overlaps with Unit 1 redfish but not confirmed)
- There will be changes available for fixed licence holders similar to a buddy up system.
- Quota breakdown for redfish expected to be:
- AFF and QU funding to continue into 2026. Provincial shares will remain similar. Slight reduction for NS. Focus on redfish projects encouraged
- Quota breakdown for redfish expected to be:
- Phase 1 details and quota breakdown expected to be
 - o 2 year startup plan
 - o 25,000 ton quota
 - o Offshore 58.7%
 - o Inshore mobile gear 14.8
 - o Mid shore mobile 5.7
 - o Inshore fixed gear bycatch .75
 - o Indigenous quota bank 10
 - o Shrimp harvesters 10
- There is a definite decrease in the offshore allocation but unsure at this point if inshore, and midshore were affected

- There is an expected increase for Quebec [REDACTED]

29(1)(a)

Hopefully we can get some confirmed, translated details soon.

Angela

Angela Burridge

Director, Sustainable Fisheries and Oceans Policy
Fisheries and Aquaculture Branch
Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
30 Strawberry Marsh Road
P.O. Box 8700, St. John's, NL A1B 4J6
T: 709-729-0335
E:

From: Vanessa Byrne <vanessabyrne@atlanticgroundfish.ca>

Sent: Friday, January 26, 2024 3:49 PM

To: Burridge, Angela <AngelaBurridge@gov.nl.ca>; Hanlon, Bren M. <brenhanlon@gov.nl.ca>; Chippett, Jamie <JamieChippett@gov.nl.ca>

Subject: Video Link - U1 Redfish Announcement

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi folks,

You can find the Minister's Unit 1 Redfish announcement here:

[Headline Politics | CPAC.ca](#)

Hope you are all well.

Vanessa Byrne

Director of Fisheries Management and Science
Atlantic Groundfish Council
782-640-6639
vanessabyrne@atlanticgroundfish.ca

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From: Hearn, Judith
Sent: Friday, January 26, 2024 5:15 PM
To: Chippett, Jamie
Subject: RE: DFO Redfish Announcement - In Solution Mode: The Government of Canada launches its transition plan for the future of fisheries in Quebec and Atlantic Canada

Thank you..but thinking you meant to copy Patricia?

J.

From: Chippett, Jamie <JamieChippett@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Friday, January 26, 2024 5:08 PM
To: Quinlan, Krista <KristaQuinlan@gov.nl.ca>; Hearn, Judith <JudithHearn@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: Fwd: DFO Redfish Announcement - In Solution Mode: The Government of Canada launches its transition plan for the future of fisheries in Quebec and Atlantic Canada

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Renouf, Craig" <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>
Date: January 26, 2024 at 4:40:16 PM NST
To: "Loveless, Elvis" <ElvisLoveless@gov.nl.ca>, "Chippett, Jamie" <JamieChippett@gov.nl.ca>, "Baldwin, Paul" <PaulBaldwin@gov.nl.ca>, "Hanlon, Bren M." <BrenHanlon@gov.nl.ca>, "Shea, Erin" <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: DFO Redfish Announcement - In Solution Mode: The Government of Canada launches its transition plan for the future of fisheries in Quebec and Atlantic Canada

In Solution Mode: The Government of Canada launches its transition plan for the future of fisheries in Quebec and Atlantic Canada

<https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2024/01/in-solution-mode-the-government-of-canada-launches-its-transition-plan-for-the-future-of-fisheries-in-quebec-and-atlantic-canada.html>

News release
January 26, 2024

Rivière-au-Renard, Quebec - The Government of Canada recognizes that some fisheries in Quebec and Atlantic Canada are facing serious challenges, including climate change and the resulting disruption of aquatic ecosystems. Today, the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, the Honourable Diane LeBouthillier, announced a transition plan that will help fish harvesters in Canada's coastal communities, and give them the predictability they need to continue their important work in the years ahead.

In Canada and around the world, the effects of climate change and ocean warming are undeniable. The fishing industry is going through and will continue to experience major changes that will require us to reinvent our ways of doing things. In recent years, northern shrimp stocks in the Estuary and northern Gulf of St. Lawrence have reached critical levels, while redfish abundance has reached levels that allow commercial catches to resume. That is why, after 30 years, Minister LeBouthillier announced the return of the commercial Unit 1 redfish this year. To this end, shrimp harvesters will be allocated an allowance

to support them. To further reconciliation, a dedicated pool is being created to support indigenous community participation in the fishery.

Minister Lebouthillier also announced, subject to ongoing negotiations with her provincial counterparts, her intention to extend the Quebec and Atlantic Fisheries Funds until 2026, with federal priority given to innovative projects related to the redfish fishery. This extension will provide our fish harvesters with the tools and financial means they need to transit to this new fishery.

Opening of the commercial Redfish fishery in Unit 1

The government recognizes the historic importance of the Redfish fishery to coastal communities across Atlantic Canada and Quebec. The decision to reopen the Unit 1 Redfish fishery, which has been closed since 1995, was based on the most recent stock information, stakeholder views, and the potential social and economic benefits of this fishery.

This reopening will take place in two phases. A first two-year transitional phase will allow for data collection, give fish harvesters time to prepare, further develop markets, and strengthen the sector's capacity to transform.

A second phase of long-term development aimed at establishing a redfish fishery with a modernized allocation key. A phase that, in view of the current scientific data, would be one of expansion.

Discussions will take place in the coming weeks with the Redfish Advisory Committee, which includes representatives from DFO, the fishing and processing industry, Indigenous groups, provincial governments, and other stakeholders, to determine how to share allocations for each fleet, establish management measures, and consult on a Total Allowable Catch for the 2024 fishing season.

Northern Shrimp of the Estuary and Northern Gulf of St. Lawrence

Due to the status of shrimp stocks in the Estuary and Gulf of St. Lawrence, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is announcing a significant decrease in the Total Allowable Catch for the 2024 season.

In total, for the four shrimp stocks, the TAC will be 3,060 tonnes. This TAC will ensure a modest fishery, while allowing shrimp stocks to recover.

Discussions will take place in the near future with industry representatives and First Nations to determine how this allocation will be managed.

Quotes

"Canada, a maritime nation at the forefront of climate change, is currently at a crossroads. In the face of these many challenges, we will need to be resilient, creative, and above all, row together in the same direction. By launching this robust transition plan today, our government is setting the stage for the future. A future where our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren will continue to fish for world-class fish and seafood."

The Honourable Diane Lebouthillier, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard

Quick facts

In total, for the four shrimp stocks, the TAC will be 3,060 tonnes (t), i.e. :

1,757 t for Esquiman

488 t for Anticosti

342 t for Sept-âges

473 t for the Estuary

Craig Renouf

Media Relations Manager
Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
709-637-2923 (office)
709-640-6922 (cell)
craigrenouf@gov.ni.ca

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From: Hanlon, Bren M.
Sent: Monday, January 29, 2024 8:34 AM
To: Renouf, Craig, Chippett, Jamie
Subject: FW: Unit 1 Redfish Announcement - Confidential
Attachments: 01262024 - Atlantic Groundfish Council carefully reviewing details of Unit 1 redfish decision.pdf

Just fyi, might be a bit of info you can use here Craig.

From: Vanessa Byrne <vanessabyrne@atlanticgroundfish.ca>
Sent: Monday, January 29, 2024 7:47 AM
To: Burrige, Angela <AngelaBurrige@gov.nl.ca>; Hanlon, Bren M. <brenhanlon@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: Unit 1 Redfish Announcement - Confidential

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning both,

Please do not re-distribute.

To be transparent and hopefully provide you with some additional information around the U1 Redfish announcement, I just wanted to share the AGC's latest thinking with you. We are currently reviewing the announcement, as there are many questions yet to be answered. As such, we have the attached holding lines as a response at this time.

Cheers,

Vanessa Byrne
Director of Fisheries Management and Science
Atlantic Groundfish Council
782-640-6639
vanessabyrne@atlanticgroundfish.ca

Atlantic Groundfish Council carefully reviewing details of Unit 1 redfish decision

(January 26, 2024 – Halifax, Nova Scotia) – Today, the Honourable Diane LeBouthillier, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada announced a long-awaited decision on the reopening of the commercial redfish fishery in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, known as Unit 1 Redfish.

“In recent years, local, family-owned and indigenous-owned companies have invested almost \$100M in vessels and equipment in preparation for the reopening of this commercial redfish fishery in Canada. These investments are part of Atlantic Groundfish Council members’ commitment to provide stable, year-round employment in coastal communities and to harvest high quality seafood responsibly and sustainably,” explained Sylvie Lapointe, President of the Atlantic Groundfish Council.

The Atlantic Groundfish Council has also been leading the multi-faceted strategic promotion of Canadian Redfish in global markets since 2020 and had been proactively working with indigenous owners, partners and groups to increase indigenous participation in the redfish fishery.

During the consultation process, many stakeholders have shared the view that the significance of historical shares and the investments by existing quota holders should be respected and are an important part of a sustainable and successful Canadian redfish fishery.

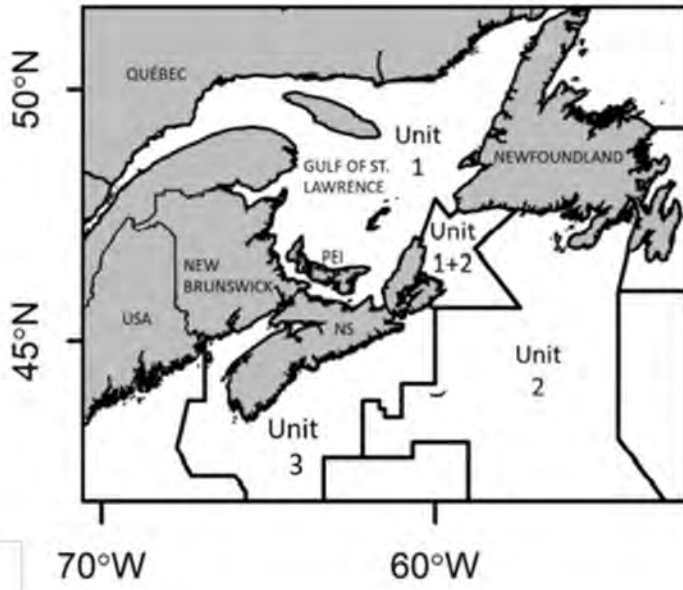
“The Atlantic Groundfish Council and its members take this process and decision very seriously. Our members and their employees have the deepest history and largest investments at stake in the redfish fishery,” noted Sylvie Lapointe, President of the Atlantic Groundfish Council. “As such, we will be taking time to thoroughly review the details of today’s announcement. We do, however, look forward to participating in the redfish advisory committee to work towards opening the fishery in a responsible and sustainable manner.”

-30-

Media Contact: Sarah Fleming; sarah@covepublicaffairs.ca; 709-725-5830

About the Atlantic Groundfish Council

The Atlantic Groundfish Council is a non-profit industry association representing year-round groundfish harvesters in Atlantic Canada. Members are mostly multi-generational family enterprises operating vessels 45 to 260 ft. in length – landing both frozen-at-sea fish, and fresh fish for processing on shore. Those members employ thousands of people, in mostly year-round jobs, in rural communities throughout Atlantic Canada. The AGC contributes to research that will improve the sustainability and management of groundfish fisheries by actively supporting science, sustainability certifications and responsible management.



From: [Renouf, Craig](#)
Sent: [Monday, January 29, 2024 9:53 AM](#)
To: [Loveless, Elvis](#), [Chippett, Jamie](#), [Baldwin, Paul](#), [Hanlon, Bren M.](#), [Adams, Blair](#), [Balsom, Stephen](#), [Deering, Keith](#), [Shea, Erin](#), [Skinner, Linda](#)
Subject: [MORNING MEDIA - Jan. 29, 2024](#)

VOCM

Gander River Tops List of Best Angling Destinations in Canada

One of the provinces best known salmon rivers has been recognized as Canadas best angling destination.

FishingBooker, an online platform for finding and booking fishing trips, released its list of the top ten fishing destinations in Canada in 2024 and the Gander River tops the list.

The company calls the Gander River a haven for Atlantic salmon enthusiasts and nature lovers alike.

FishingBooker says the Gander River draws some 25,000 returning Atlantic salmon each year.

DFO Abandoning Coastal Communities in Return of Commercial Redfish Fishery: FFAW

The FFAW is not at all pleased with the way in which the long-awaited return of the commercial redfish fishery will be divided among harvesters.

Federal Fisheries Minister Diane Lebouthillier announced yesterday that the redfish fishery will resume this year for the first time in 30 years.

The fisheries union was hoping that the fishery would benefit the inshore fleet, however President Greg Pretty says nearly 60 per cent of the quota will go to the corporate-owned offshore fleet in Nova Scotia which uses factory-freezer dragnets that will not land or process product in Canada.

Pretty says that's a clear signal that DFO has signed, sealed and delivered the abandonment of coastal communities.

Lebouthillier says the fishery will open in phases, with the first two-year fisheries concentrating on the Gulf.

DFO will watch the fishery closely for management issues and how the market for redfish develops, so we can adjust accordingly says Lebouthillier.

FFAW Secretary-Treasurer Jason Spingle says over the last decade, inshore harvesters in the Gulf have contributed hundreds, if not thousands of hours of work toward the development of a sustainable redfish fishery for the inshore fleet and a majority share for the inshore Gulf fleet would have meant economic sustainability for harvesters who desperately need the transition from shrimp to redfish.

The Telegram

Whats the beef?

Canada talks stall as Britain toughens trade approach

The Telegram (St. John's) 27 Jan 2024 ALISTAIR SMOUT REUTERS

LONDON The suspension of Britains trade talks with Canada signals a tougher approach to post-brexite trade deals by the UK that earned applause from its farmers, even as cheesemakers lost out and carmakers worried they might too.

The stand-off suggested that UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak might be less likely to sign up to trade deals that face domestic criticism than his predecessors including former leader Boris Johnson who was pilloried by Britains agriculture sector.

Canadian farmers complain they are shut out of Britains beef market because of regulations banning the use of hormones and the countrys trade minister blamed the breakdown in talks on Britains decision to keep barriers for Canadian agriculture.

Britain defended the decision to suspend the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations, citing the lack of progress.

Canada seem to have lost sight of the bigger picture, a British government source said, citing the 26 billion pounds (\$33 billion) of trade a year between the countries.

If Canada come back to table with a serious offer and desire to make progress, were all ears. But in the meantime were going to focus on other trade deals that deliver for UK businesses.

DEMANDING TOO MUCH

Since Britain left the EUS trading sphere at the end of 2020, it has been under pressure to make progress towards its ambition of becoming an independent trading nation - one of the main advantages of Brexit according to its supporters - without making too many concessions to speed up deals.

Former PM Johnson was accused of selling out Britains farmers by signing up to a meat import quota in an FTA with Australia which his environment minister at the time subsequently described as not actually a very good deal.

Sunak has emphasized that he is prepared to take his time in any trade talks to get the right agreement.

Ministers have stressed it is the deal not the date that matters in protracted, ongoing FTA talks with India.

Last year Sunak told farmers that British farming and British produce simply cannot be an afterthought in negotiations.

Without exception, we will continue to protect food standards in the UK under all existing and future Free Trade agreements, he said.

There will be no chlorine washed chicken and no hormone-treated beef on the UK market. Not now, not ever.

That was attempt to allay concerns from farmers and consumers over the quality of meat imports, especially from North America, although U.S. President Joe Bidens administration had already paused all FTA talks.

On Friday, Britains National Farmers Union applauded Sunak for sticking to his stance with a difficult but right decision to walk away from talks with Canada.

On products such as beef and cheese, Canada was demanding too much and offering too little, therefore preventing progress to the benefit of both countries, NFU President Minette Batters said.

CHEESED OFF

Caught in the fallout from the talks are Britains cheese manufacturers. Under a trade continuity deal with Canada after Brexit, Eu-style cheese quotas still applied for British exports to Canada until the end of 2023.

With that deal lapsed, Britain's cheese exports to Canada revert to World Trade Organization (WTO) terms, with a smaller preferential quota and tariffs outside of that up to 245.5 per cent.

But British industry group Dairy UK said they supported Britain's stance, even though it would present a significant commercial challenge to some firms.

The suspension is regrettable, but there was little indication that Canada was really willing to improve access to the Canadian cheese market, a Dairy UK spokesperson said.

Another so-called sunset clause from the UK-Canada trade continuity deal relates to Rules of Origin, which is set to expire on April 1.

After that date, EU parts for goods manufactured in Britain such as cars will no longer count as domestic for the purposes of trade with Canada, potentially resulting in additional export duties unless the clause is extended.

Canada is an important market for UK car exports and, given the close ties between our two countries, the suspension of trade talks is especially disappointing, Mike Hawes, chief executive of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, said, a criticism echoed by the opposition Labour Party.

We urge all parties to get back around the negotiating table.

NTV

Applications Open for 2024 Vegetable Transplant Program

Posted: January 28, 2024 1:02 pm

By Web Team

Applications are now open for the 2024 Vegetable Transplant Program.

The Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture offers high-quality, low-cost vegetable transplants to eligible commercial farmers. Available crop varieties include cabbage, rutabaga, broccoli, cauliflower, onion, kale, lettuce, leek and asparagus. Last year the Vegetable Transplant Program provided 4.3 million vegetable transplants to 123 farmers. Applications close on Feb. 8.

Intrafish

Fine on six Norwegian salmon companies could reach well over \$1 billion if ruling drags on

In practice, it is rare that these types of fines reach the limit of 10 percent, a legal executive told IntraFish.

By Hanna Gezelius , Joar Vattestad and Jan Willie Olsen

The current fine facing six Norwegian salmon companies after the European Commission's ruled they had breached antitrust rules could increase the longer it takes to reach a final verdict, one legal expert told IntraFish.

On Thursday, the European Commission ruled that Mitsubishi-owned Cermaq, Grieg Seafood, Bremnes, Leroy Seafood Group, Mowi and SalMar breached antitrust rules by colluding to distort competition in the market for spot sales of Norwegian farmed Atlantic salmon exported to the EU.

All six companies have denied the accusations.

The ceiling of the fine will be based on the financial year before a final decision is made, a European Commission spokesperson told IntraFish.

Under EC rules, the final fine will not exceed 10 percent of the company's annual global turnover in the full business year that preceded the adoption of the final decision, the spokesperson said.

If the decision comes in 2026, for example, the financial year 2025 would apply.

In total, the six accused companies had sales of NOK 125.8 billion (10 billion/\$12 billion) in 2022.

On average, the companies increased their sales by 60 percent between 2020 and 2022.

If that growth continues, the fine could be far greater than the current maximum fine of about NOK 12.5 billion (1.1 billion/\$1.2 billion).

In a similar case concerning canned mushrooms, it took 11 months before a final decision was reached, and in a case on price-fixing in the banana sector it took nearly two years before a final decision was reached.

"In practice, however, it is rare that these types of fines reach the limit of 10 percent," Gjermund Mathisen, a partner with law firm Kvale told IntraFish.

The fine will be based on several factors.

"It may be the size of the relevant market where the alleged infringement is supposed to have taken place, the value of the market, the seriousness and duration of the infringement," Mathisen said.

In EC's notice on Thursday, the European Commission made a preliminary assessment of the case, finding the six companies broke competition rules between 2011 and 2019.

With the notice of decision, the commission gives the six companies the opportunity to formally present all their objections and evidence.

In cases where a fine is given, it is not unusual for the decision to be challenged in the EU Court of Justice in Luxembourg.

"In other words, it can take a long time before you reach your goal," Mathisen said.

Seafoodnews.com

Norwegian Salmon Producers Respond After European Commission Accuses Breach of Antitrust Rules

January 26, 2024

On Thursday the European Commission confirmed that they sent a statement of objections to six Norwegian salmon producers, expressing concerns of a breach of EU antitrust rules by colluding to distort competition in the market for spot sales of Norwegian farmed Atlantic salmon in the EU. The six Norwegian salmon producers highlighted are Cermaq, Grieg Seafood, Bremnes, Lery, Mowi and SalMar.

The Commission has concerns that, between 2011 and 2019, the six salmon producers, exchanged commercially sensitive information, relating to sales prices, available volume, sales volumes, production volumes and production capacities, as well as other price-setting factors, a press release from the European Commission reads. The suspected aim of this alleged conduct was to reduce normal uncertainty in the market for spot sales of Norwegian farmed Atlantic salmon into the EU.

The anticompetitive conduct allegations are only for sales on the spot market into the EU. The European Commissions full press release can be found here.

Following the announcement, Mitsubishi Corp issued a response on behalf of their subsidiary, Cermaq Group, stating that we and Cermaq Group are fully cooperating with authorities in their investigation.

Grieg Seafood also stated that they are fully cooperating with the European Commissions investigation and denies any anti-trust infringements or anti-competitive behavior by it or any of its subsidiaries. The company added that they will exercise all its rights of defense.

Lery Seafood Group stated that they strongly reject the European Commissions allegations and are carefully reviewing the preliminary assessment. It is not possible at this stage to make any statement on whether [the] case will result in sanctions, the company said in a statement.

Mowi is contesting the Commission's preliminary review and commented that they strongly believe there has been no infringement of the competition rules. Like the other companies named, they are carefully reviewing the Commissions statement and following standard procedures.

SalMar stated that they had been previously informed of the Commissions inspection at Scottish Sea Farms in 2019 and have been cooperating with the Commission throughout the entire case. The company added that they strongly disagree with the Commissions preliminary assessment and will be replying.

Headlines

GANDER RIVER TOPS FISHINGBOOKER'S LIST OF TOP FISHING DESTINATIONS: FishingBooker, an online platform for finding and booking fishing trips, released its list of the top ten fishing destinations in Canada in 2024 and the Gander River tops the list. ["Joris Zantvoort", PR Manager at FishingBooker]

VOCM - St. John's - Morning Show @ 06:26:33am Duration: 00:03:31 Reporter:

Ref Id: k3I-7b7-29

REDFISH FISHERY TO REOPEN: A long awaiting decision today on the redfish fishery in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. It will be reopening this coming season. ["Jason Springle", FFAW Secretary-Treasurer]

CBN - St. John's - Fisheries Broadcast @ 06:10:22pm Duration: 00:12:51 Reporter:

Ref Id: H4b-8D7-26

IMPACT OF WARMING EARTH ON FISHERY: The earth is warming and implications are being felt in the ocean. ["Anil Arora", Chief Statistician]

CBN - St. John's - Fisheries Broadcast @ 06:23:13pm Duration: 00:03:00 Reporter:

Ref Id: t7g-7r7-26

COMMERCIAL REDFISH FISHERY REOPENED: The commercial redfish fishery has reopened in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. ["Todd Williams", DFO Senior Director]

CBNT (CBC TV) - Here & Now @ 06:13:00pm Duration: 00:01:00 Reporter: Carolyn Stokes

Ref Id: j8h-3T3-26

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Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

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From: Chippett, Jamie
Sent: Monday, January 29, 2024 11:42 AM
To: Loveless, Elvis
Subject: FW: note
Attachments: Information Note (draft) Jan 26 2024 announcement.docx

From: Hanlon, Bren M. <brenhanlon@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Monday, January 29, 2024 11:42 AM
To: Chippett, Jamie <JamieChippett@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: note

Brendan Hanlon, CPA
Assistant Deputy Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture
Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

Information Note
Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

Title: Fisheries and Oceans Canada Announcement January 26, 2024

Issue: Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) January 26, 2024 announcement on Redfish, Northern Shrimp and the Atlantic Fisheries Fund (AFF)

Redfish – Reopening with minimum 25,000 t total allowable catch (TAC)

Background and Current Status

- Historically, the Unit 1 stock was fished by the four Atlantic Provinces and Quebec and has been characterized by three episodes of high landings. Average annual landings were 43,000 tonnes (t) between 1954-1956, 79,000 t between 1965-1976, and 59,000 t between 1987-1992. After a rapid decrease in landings in 1993 and 1994, this stock was placed under moratorium in 1995. Fishing has been limited to a 2,000 t index fishery since 1999.
- In addition to the index fishery, an experimental fishery was established in 2018 with a potential maximal additional allocation of 2,500 t for 2018–2019. The experimental fishery has remained in place since 2018 and the quota allocated for 2023-24 was 5,000 t.
- A full stock assessment was not completed in 2023, however the status of the spawning stock biomass (SSB) of the *S. mentella* was determined to be in the healthy zone of the precautionary approach (PA) with a SSB of 2,302,000 t which corresponds to 8.7 times the upper stock reference point. The estimated SSB of the second Redfish species, *S. fasciatus* was also in the healthy zone of the PA with a SSB of 181,000 t which is slightly above the upper stock reference point.
- On May 24, 2023, at the request of then Minister Joyce Murray, the province submitted a proposal to Fishery and Oceans Canada (DFO) related a potential allocation scheme for QC and the Atlantic Provinces. That position was reiterated in the letter that Minister Loveless sent to DFO Minister Diane Lebouthillier on her appointment to the federal Cabinet on August 28, 2024 (Annex A) and during their recent meeting in St. John's on January 17, 2024. The federal minister acknowledged the submission on January 19, 2024 but did not comment on any specifics related to the Redfish fishery.
- DFO announced on January 26, 2024 that it would be reopening the Redfish fishery with a two year start-up plan with a minimum 25,000 t TAC. The shares of the Redfish quota would be as follows with no change to current provincial allocations:
 - Offshore 58.7%
 - Inshore mobile gear 14.8%
 - Mid shore mobile 5.7%
 - Inshore fixed gear bycatch .75%
 - Indigenous quota bank 10%
 - Shrimp harvesters 10%
 - Special Program for Gulf Plant 0%
- Discussions will take place in the coming weeks (may start as early as this week) with the Redfish Advisory Committee, which includes representatives from DFO, the fishing and

processing industry, Indigenous groups, provincial governments, and other stakeholders, to determine how to share allocations for each fleet, establish management measures, and consult on a TAC for the 2024 fishing season. It is very possible the TAC will be set above the 25,000 t level.

Analysis

- The Newfoundland and Labrador proposal requested an equitable share of Redfish at 29.17 per cent of the Unit 1 Redfish resource
- 29(1)(a),
34(1)(a)(i)
- The new allocation share compared to the historical shares (as shown in brackets) as follows:
 - Offshore 58.7% (74.22%)
 - Inshore mobile gear 14.8% (14.8%)
 - Mid shore mobile 5.7% (5.7%)
 - Inshore fixed gear bycatch .75% (.75%)
 - Indigenous quota bank 10% (new)
 - Shrimp harvesters 10% (new)
 - Special Program for Gulf Plant 0% (4.48%)
 - Over the last several years, the province has experienced decreases in south coast Atlantic cod total allowable catches (TACs), decreases for inshore Northern shrimp, significant quota reductions in capelin and a mackerel fishery moratorium as of March 2022. No other province has experienced quota reductions of this magnitude in their major fisheries. Access to Redfish can alleviate some of the species reduction impacts experienced by harvesters and plant workers in the province and can help maintain their historical attachment to the fishery.
 - There were ten active Redfish processors in the province in 2023, with a total production of 2,191 t of Redfish, a list of producers and volume is listed below in kg:

Company	Location	Species Category *	Species	Production (kg)	Production RWE (kg)
Allen's Fisheries Limited	Benoit's Cove	Groundfish	Redfish		
Barry Group Inc.	Corner Brook	Groundfish	Redfish		
Barry Group Inc.	Cox's Cove	Groundfish	Redfish		
Codroy Seafoods Inc.	Codroy	Groundfish	Redfish		
Golden Shell Fisheries (2014) Limited	Hickman's Harbour-Robinson B	Groundfish	Redfish		
Gould's Fisheries Limited	River of Ponds	Groundfish	Redfish		
H. Hopkins Limited	Cow Head	Groundfish	Redfish		
Ocean Choice International	Fortune	Groundfish	Redfish		
Quinlan Brothers Limited	Old Perlican	Groundfish	Redfish		
Quin-Sea Fisheries Limited	Southern Harbour	Groundfish	Redfish		

35(1)(d)

- There are 51 groundfish licenses issued in the province, any of these licenses would be allowed to process Redfish so it is not likely there will be many if any requests for new licenses.

-

29(1)(a),
35(1)(d)

Potential Speaking Notes

- This fishery represents a critical opportunity for Newfoundland and Labrador and, as such, our government made a submission to DFO in May 2023 and reiterated the same position in January of 2024 detailing our views on access and allocation in a reopened commercial Redfish fishery.
- The Redfish stocks provided an opportunity to maximize the benefits to this province. Future plans should ensure that the Gulf Redfish resource is fished sustainably and managed for the benefit of the people in coastal communities in NL.
- Fisheries management decisions need to be made within an established framework. This is particularly important with regard to access and allocation of fishery resources. The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador supports a framework that recognizes the principles of adjacency and historic attachment to the fishery, as well as Indigenous participation.
- Since August 2017, over \$2.6 million has been invested in Redfish research and development projects with AFF funding assistance of more than \$2 million. A further AFF investment of almost \$3 million has been made to numerous harvesters to increase efficiency in the Gulf shrimp fishery mobile gear fleet with trawl monitoring technology that can also be used for the Redfish fishery. (Also applicable to AFF)

Atlantic Fisheries Fund (AFF)

Background and Current Status

- AFF is intended to help transform and drive innovation in the fish and seafood sector. The AFF is cost-shared between the Government of Canada and the Atlantic provinces. This fund was originally approved in August 2017 with a seven-year timeframe ending March 31, 2024. In 2023, approval was granted to extend the program to March 31, 2026 to allow project commitments up to March 31, 2024, but projects to be executed and funds payable to proponents up to March 31, 2026.
- The AFF has already provided substantial economic benefits for the province's fish harvesters, processors, and aquaculture companies. Investments in harvesting and processing technology focused on improving the quality of products landed, processed, and delivered to market. The program also funds innovative projects in the aquaculture sector to address current industry challenges and continue to grow and diversify the industry in a sustainable and efficient manner.

- Since the program began in 2017, AFF has announced the approval of projects in the province with a contribution amount of nearly \$90 million. In 2023-24, AFF approved new projects and project amendments totaling almost \$11 million from both levels of government. The provincial investment of nearly \$3.3 million leveraged nearly \$7.6 million from the Federal Government and over \$12 million from industry and other sources to modernize our fisheries and aquaculture sectors.
- The current extension to the AFF will allow projects to be approved up to March 31, 2025, with the previous deadline being March 31, 2024. NL has already allocated all of its AFF funding so this extension has no impact on the NL AFF program.

Analysis

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34(1)(a)(i)

- The January 26, 2024 announcement indicates a continuation of AFF but it is not yet clear if there is additional funding or a continuation to approve projects with existing funding. The province has almost fully committed existing funding.

Potential Speaking Points

- The province appreciates the efforts of the DFO to extend the AFF to March 31, 2026, which will afford industry the opportunity to complete valuable projects. To continue to build on the success of the AFF, it is urgent that discussions take place as soon as possible regarding timelines for program renewal and the formation of a Framework Agreement for the program.
- The current agreement has demonstrated flexibility in meeting the objectives of both the federal government and the Atlantic provinces. It is imperative that we continue to build upon the successes achieved thus far and maintain the momentum of support for our fisheries and aquaculture industries without delay.

Shrimp – Reduced Gulf Shrimp Quota

Background and Current Status

Gulf Shrimp Fishery

- The Estuary and Gulf of St. Lawrence (EGSL) shrimp fishery is managed as four Special Fish Areas (SFAs); Esquiman Channel (SFA 8); Anticosti (SFA 9); Sept-Îles (SFA 10); and the Estuary (SFA 12). The Newfoundland and Labrador fleet, based in Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) Division 4R, only fish in the Esquiman Channel (SFA 8).
- The 2023 TAC for shrimp in the Esquiman Channel was 4,222 t, down from 4,825 t in 2022.
- Shrimp stocks in the EGSL are scientifically assessed every two years. The latest scientific assessment shows that the stock health decreased in all areas in 2021. The Estuary, Anticosti, and Esquiman stocks are in the healthy zone and the Sept-Îles stock is in the cautious zone of the precautionary approach (PA) framework; however, all stocks are close to the point between the healthy and cautious zones and are showing a declining trend.

- In the January 26, 2024 DFO announcement the Esquiman Channel quota is being reduced from 4,222 t in 2023 to 1,757 t for 2024.
- There are 34 harvesters in the province with gulf shrimp (SFA 8) licenses and 190 with Northern Shrimp (SFA 6) licenses.
- There were ten plants processing Redfish in 2023 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] An increase in Redfish quota may allow for harvesters impacted by gulf shrimp reductions to transition to Redfish.

Analysis

- Industry have expressed that this fishery is not profitable and in many cases harvesters are struggling to financially break even. They are concerned that there may not be a viable fishery in 2024 if there are any further reductions in the TAC.
- There are currently six processing plants in the province licenced to process shrimp, with one [REDACTED] reporting no shrimp production for 2023. The total reported production of shrimp from all six plants combined in 2023 was 5,764 t with a production breakdown as follows (tonnage from other species in brackets).

[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- Of the five plants processing shrimp, only [REDACTED] reported in 2023.
- The FFAW has proposed, and the province supported, with such a declining stock, the federal government offering industry a buy-out of fishing licences. The FFAW were working with their Atlantic counterparts to develop a proposal for the consideration of DFO. [REDACTED] 34(1)(a)(i)
[REDACTED] There were no references to such considerations in this announcement.

Potential Speaking Points:

- Our Government is supportive of the FFAW's position in the development of a proposal to rationalize the Northern shrimp fishing licences through a licence buyback, given the significant quota reduction for Esquiman Channel shrimp stock.
- A marginal reduction of licences for this species will enable those harvesters that want to remain in the industry to increase their viability and to maintain a level of raw resource to fish plants located on the Northern Peninsula.
- The province is supportive of anything that can be done to mitigate the impact on gulf shrimp harvesters and processors and will continue to lobby the Federal Government for further supports.

Prepared/Approved by: A. Burrige / B. Hanlon

January 26, 2024

Annex A



Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
Office of the Minister

31(1)(l)

AUG 28 2023

The Honourable Diane Lebouthillier
Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard
Fisheries and Oceans Canada, 200 Kent Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0E6
min@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Dear Minister Lebouthillier,

Congratulations on your appointment as Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard (DFO). I look forward to continued collaboration with you and your department on sustainable fisheries and oceans management in Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador is committed to ensuring that the Province's fishing industry receives the maximum benefit from all adjacent fish stocks, including those that straddle Canada's Exclusive Economic Zone.

The fishing industry is a pillar of our provincial economy and is the backbone of many of Newfoundland and Labrador's coastal communities. As the Minister responsible for fisheries in my province, a key objective, as set out in my mandate letter, is to seek new ways to further integrate our fishery into our future economy. I look forward to collaborating with you on advancing fisheries technology and the recruitment and retention of Indigenous peoples, women and young people in our fishery.

Our Government is also committed to working collaboratively with the Federal Government and key stakeholders to sustain and further develop a Blue Economy. There is significant potential for long-term growth of the oceans sectors in Newfoundland and Labrador and a Federal Blue Economy Strategy can accelerate sustainable growth while supporting job creation in coastal and Indigenous communities across the region.

The renewal of the Atlantic Fisheries Fund (AFF) to support Atlantic Canada's transition to the Blue Economy will provide an opportunity for our departments to further collaborate to help transform and drive innovation in the fish and seafood sector with a

/2

focus on innovation to meet the growing market demand for sustainably sourced, high quality fish and seafood products. To date, the AFF and the Canadian Fish and Seafood Opportunities Fund (CFSOF) have provided significant economic benefits allowing our province's fisheries and aquaculture sectors to diversify and advance.

I look forward to meeting with you at your earliest opportunity to discuss our issues and concerns pertaining to science, fisheries management decisions associated with Unit 1 Redfish, Seals and Northern shrimp, and aquaculture, which I have outlined in an appendix to this letter. Strengthening our provincial-federal relationship in maximizing the social and economic benefits to our coastal communities will provide the greatest positive impact for Newfoundlanders and Labradorians.

Once again, I congratulate you on your appointment. I am certain we will have ample opportunity to work together bilaterally and in partnership with other jurisdictions through the Eastern Fisheries and Aquaculture Ministers and the Canadian Council of Fisheries and Aquaculture Ministers, as we strive for sustainable and prosperous fishing and aquaculture industries.

Sincerely,



HONOURABLE ELVIS LOVELESS, MHA
District of Fortune Bay – Cape Le Hune
Minister

c. Distribution List

Enc.

Distribution List

Honourable Dr. Andrew Furey, Premier of Newfoundland and Labrador and
Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs

Honourable Seamus O'Regan, P.C., M.P., Minister of Labour and Seniors

Honourable Gudie Hutchings, P.C., M.P., Minister of Rural Economic Development and
Minister responsible for the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency

Mr. Jamie Chippett, Deputy Minister, Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

Ms. Lorelei Roberts, Assistant Deputy Minister, Fisheries and Aquaculture Branch

Appendix 1: Newfoundland and Labrador Fisheries and Oceans Management Issues and Key Concerns

Science

The Province has always advocated that any management decisions pertaining to our key fish stocks must be grounded on fact-based, reliable science, and we have supported DFO in this regard.

Newfoundland and Labrador appreciates DFO's efforts to date to improve the science and data collection for many of our important commercial fish stocks. While we recognize these efforts, many stocks still require improvements in science and data collection. In recent years, DFO has experienced challenges in completing comparative fishing trials using new and old scientific survey vessels, and this has hindered collection of the information needed to inform the science advice for many of our key commercial stocks. Utilization of industry knowledge and infrastructure to supplement and enhance DFO survey and data collection activities is a viable solution to address areas where science gaps exist and for alternative collection of data where issues are experienced with DFO vessels.

While there are many stocks for which science and data collection can be improved; in particular, the carrying out of an annual fall acoustic survey on capelin in 2J3KL as well as the collection of more environmental data in northern areas of our province, to support fisheries science on Greenland halibut and Northern shrimp, are some of the priority areas for our province.

Fisheries Management

The effective and sustainable management of Newfoundland and Labrador's fishing industry remains a top priority for the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. Emphasis should be placed on the application of the adjacency principle in management decisions to ensure those who live closest to a fishing resource are those who receive the benefits. Furthermore, it is of the utmost importance to the sustainability of the Newfoundland and Labrador fishing industry that Canada work to protect Canadian shares in all Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) managed stocks, particularly those adjacent to our shores.

As a provincial government and a key stakeholder in fisheries management, we want to facilitate open dialogue between our Ministerial offices and regional staff to be informed prior to when announcements are made affecting the livelihoods of harvesters and processors in Newfoundland and Labrador. In the case of difficult decisions regarding the fishery, let us work together to develop supports for the industry while we work to rebuild stocks out of the critical zone. At both the provincial and federal level, we have a responsibility to our citizens to work towards a positive outcome on issues facing our people and communities.

Redfish

An item that is of critical importance to Newfoundland and Labrador is the commercial redfish fishery in Unit 1. A renewed commercial redfish fishery represents a unique opportunity for our province, and it is crucial that the execution of this fishery is carried out successfully for the

thousands of people who rely on our fisheries resources. It is recognized that prospects for the Gulf of St. Lawrence redfish stock are extremely positive, with a surging biomass of fish approaching commercial size.

Our province's vision for the Unit 1 redfish fishery is a fair and equitable share of this stock that benefits all industry stakeholders within Newfoundland and Labrador. Our position builds on the Province's rich history in this fishery and incorporates a wide range of perspectives from stakeholders, considering historical attachment, reconciliation, and the principle of adjacency. I encourage you to review this proposal, which was submitted to your predecessor Minister Murray in May 2023.

Seals

The harp seal population in the Northwest Atlantic is estimated to be 7.6 million animals. The high population abundance of both grey and harp seals is having a serious impact on Atlantic Canadian ecosystems. There is a need for effective science to determine the extent of the impacts that seals are having on our fish stocks and an increasing need for implementing adaptive, ecosystem-based management efforts.

While DFO monitors landings of seals relative to scientific advice for sustainable removal levels; this information requires updating, as the latest scientific advice for harp seals is from 2019.

In addition to improving our scientific understanding of the impact of seal populations on Atlantic Canada's ecosystems, I ask that you earnestly work with your colleagues in Ottawa to re-establish previous and new global seal product markets. Sealing industry stakeholders continue to raise concerns regarding trade barriers hindering the viability of the sector. Such barriers are reducing the incentive for new individuals to join the harvest and threatening the viability of the processing sector. Changes are also required to regulations and policies that govern the seal hunt to reduce barriers to entry, and facilitate increased participation in the harvest.

Shrimp

The future of Newfoundland and Labrador's Northern Shrimp fishery is a concern for the Province. Hundreds of inshore and offshore harvesters, processors, and plant workers depend on the Northern Shrimp fishery to sustain their livelihoods. The lack of scientific data on Northern Shrimp stocks in SFA 5 and 6, as well as the state of the stock in the Estuary and Gulf of St. Lawrence (ESGL) are particularly concerning.

This spring, harvesters in Newfoundland and Labrador expressed great concern to the Province that there may be a closure of Northern Shrimp in SFA 5-6 for the 2023-24 fishing season. Data to make fisheries management decisions for Northern Shrimp in SFA 5 and 6 is currently lacking, as comparative trawling was prioritized over the completion of the 2022 fall multi-species trawl survey. This meant that there was no new scientific data for inform the management of stocks in SFA 5-6 in 2023-24. I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate that fisheries management decisions must be grounded on fact based, reliable science. Closures or reductions must not be

made without sound science to support these management decisions, which are of great impact to the people of my Province.

In the Estuary and Gulf of St. Lawrence (ESGL), recent science assessments have demonstrated that the Northern Shrimp population is declining. Warming of deep waters and an increase of redfish eating shrimp appear to be important factors contributing to the decline of shrimp. The area that shrimp are found in is shrinking every year and ocean ecosystem conditions are not expected to improve in the short to medium term.

The state of the ESGL Northern Shrimp stock, particularly in the Esquiman Channel where the Newfoundland and Labrador fleet based in NAFO 4R fishery occurs, is of concern to the Provincial Government. A declining shrimp resource will have negative impacts to the fishing industry and to coastal communities that rely on this resource. These impacts are already being felt with total allowable catch (TAC) reductions that reflect the state of the resource. In Newfoundland and Labrador, there are some processing plants that only process shrimp. A declining Northern Shrimp resource will undoubtedly have a negative impact on these businesses and the plant workers that rely on Northern Shrimp to sustain their livelihoods.

Aquaculture

The aquaculture sector in Newfoundland and Labrador is a significant and important economic generator for our province poised for considerable growth. We are concerned with the actions taken in British Columbia, where DFO is the lead regulator, to move towards the elimination of finfish marine open net-pen farms. In Newfoundland and Labrador, and other Eastern provinces where the province is the lead regulator of aquaculture, these actions have created confusion amongst consumers and investors.

As reiterated to your predecessor, it is important that as Minister of DFO, you communicate publicly on the benefits and safety of the food produced by the finfish aquaculture industry and support marine open net-pen aquaculture. It is equally important for the public and industry to know that the Government of Canada supports the aquaculture industry and that DFO respects our provinces' role as lead regulator.

From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Monday, January 29, 2024 12:40 PM
To: Chippett, Jamie
Cc: Shea, Erin, Hanlon, Bren M.
Subject: KMs for APPROVAL: DFO Announcements

Hi Jamie,

Please see KMs below regarding Friday's DFO announcements. Bren has approved. Tks, Craig.

Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

DFO Announcement related to Unit 1 Redfish, Northern Shrimp and the Atlantic Fisheries Fund (AFF)

January 29, 2024

Summary:

On January 26, 2024, The Honourable Diane Lebouthillier, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard announced re-opening of the commercial Redfish fishery, Northern Shrimp quota reductions and the Atlantic Fisheries Fund (AFF).

The Minister announced the commercial Unit 1 Redfish fishery will open in 2024 for the first time since 1995. Quota allocation among fleet sectors and management decisions are expected in the coming weeks.

The Minister announced a significant decrease in the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for the 2024 Northern Shrimp season due to the status of shrimp stocks in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the Estuary. The total TAC for all four shrimp stocks (Estuary, Esquiman, Anticosti, and Sept-Îles) is 3,060 tonnes for 2024. The quota for the Esquiman Channel, which is adjacent to western Newfoundland, is being reduced from 4,222 tonnes in 2023 to 1,757 tonnes for 2024.

The Minister announced that AFF program end date will be extended from March 31, 2024, to March 31, 2026.

Anticipated Questions:

- Will Newfoundland and Labrador get its fair share of the Unit 1 redfish quota allocation?
- How will the reduction in Northern Shrimp quota impact harvesters and processors in this province?
- Are there plans to extend the Atlantic Fisheries Fund?

Key messages:

Re-opening of Commercial Redfish Fishery

- We are pleased with the decision to reopen the Unit 1 commercial redfish fishery and will be closely monitoring discussions regarding quota allocations.
- The Federal Government is aware of our position that quota allocation decisions must appropriately recognize and protect the historic rights of Newfoundland and Labrador, reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples, and the long-standing principle of adjacency.
- We understand discussions involving the Redfish Advisory Committee will take place in the coming weeks to determine share allocations for each fleet, establish management measures, and consult on a Total Allowable Catch for the 2024 fishing season.

Background

- Since August 2017, over \$2.6 million has been invested in redfish research and development projects with AFF funding assistance of more than \$2 million.
- In anticipation of re-opening of the commercial redfish fishery a further AFF investment of almost \$3 million has been made to numerous harvesters to increase efficiency in the Gulf shrimp fishery mobile gear fleet with trawl monitoring technology that can also be used for the redfish fishery.

Northern Shrimp Quota Cuts

- We are concerned about reductions in Northern Shrimp quotas particularly for the Esquiman Channel quota in the Gulf of St. Lawrence which is being cut from 4,222 tonnes in 2023 to 1,757 tonnes for 2024.
- Unfortunately, quota cuts will negatively affect some fishers and plant workers in this province. We are consulting with industry to determine the full impact.
- We are hopeful those impacted from the quota reduction will be able to take advantage of new opportunities in the commercial redfish fishery re-opening in 2024.
- Our government is supportive of the FFAW' s proposal to rationalize Northern shrimp fishing licences through a licence buyback.

Atlantic Fisheries Fund (AFF)

- The AFF was established in 2017 and has proven to be very beneficial transforming and driving innovation in the province' s fish and seafood sector.
- We are pleased with DFO' s decision to extend the closing date for the AFF from March 31, 2024, to March 31, 2026, as it provides adequate time for completion of projects that are important to the fishing industry.

Craig Renouf

Media Relations Manager
Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
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709-640-6922 (cell)
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From: Hanlon, Bren M.
Sent: Monday, January 29, 2024 3:48 PM
To: Chippett, Jamie
Subject: FFA Proposal for a Revised Unit 1 Redfish Allocation Scheme - 2023.DOCX
Attachments: FFA Proposal for a Revised Unit 1 Redfish Allocation Scheme - 2023.DOCX

**Equitable Reallocation of Unit 1 Redfish
for Newfoundland and Labrador
March 2023**

Introduction

From fish harvesters on the water to the processors operating in Newfoundland and Labrador's coastal communities, the province's fishing industry is active, innovative, and well positioned to pursue new opportunities. Newfoundland and Labrador has an historical attachment to the redfish fishery. Throughout the years, it has been the economic backbone for several of our coastal communities.

The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, fish harvesters, processors, Indigenous Peoples, communities on the West Coast of the province, and other fishery stakeholders are poised and eager to innovate and transform the province's redfish fishery. Collectively, these groups have the capacity to optimize the value of the redfish resource for the benefit of present and future generations.

It is recognized that prospects for the Gulf of St. Lawrence redfish stock are extremely positive, with a surging biomass of fish approaching commercial size. The redfish fishery is a significant opportunity for Newfoundlanders and Labradorians and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador is seeking to maximize its benefits to the people of Newfoundland and Labrador. When the Government of Canada determines the appropriate time to reopen the commercial fishery for Unit 1 redfish, it is critically important that the resource sharing arrangement for this fishery appropriately recognizes and protects the historic rights of Newfoundland and Labrador, the Government of Canada's commitment to reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples, and the long-standing principle of adjacency.

The Redfish Fishery in Newfoundland and Labrador

Newfoundland and Labrador's Historic Attachment:

The Newfoundland and Labrador redfish fishery began in the early 1940s off the Gulf of St. Lawrence and in the Laurentian Channel. Landings for Newfoundland and Labrador in the 1950s were estimated to be about 30,000 tonnes per year and peaked over 100,000 tonnes in 1973. In 1976, the redfish stock collapsed. Conservation measures, including a lower quota, were put in place in 1977 to help rebuild the redfish fishery. Prior to 1977, the inshore fleet and fish processing plants in Burgeo, Ramea, Harbor Breton, Gaultois, and Fortune in Newfoundland and Labrador depended on redfish from the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

The fishery eventually began to recover and quotas were increased over time, reaching 57,000 tonnes per year in 1990. When the cod moratorium was announced in 1992, the redfish fishery increased, with more of the quota being caught, making up almost 50 per cent of the total Newfoundland and Labrador groundfish catch and almost 30 per cent of the total groundfish value in 1994. In 1995, Unit 1 redfish was placed under moratorium due to low stock abundance and poor recruitment. This was a crushing blow for the province's fishing industry.

In 1999, the Unit 1 redfish fishery was restricted to an index fishery of 2,000 tonnes per year to measure the size of the redfish population. This index fishery has remained in place since that time. In 2018, an experimental program for Unit 1 redfish was implemented with an additional

2,500 tonnes allocated as an experimental quota. This experimental quota has increased annually to reach 5,463 tonnes in 2021-2022.

Resource Management:

The redfish fishery was initially managed as three Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) Divisions, identified as 4RST, 3P, and 4VWX. In 1993, these fishery management areas were redefined as Unit 1, Unit 2, and Unit 3 based on a new understanding of the stock structure and its winter migration from the Gulf of St. Lawrence to the Cabot Strait. The Unit 1 redfish stock includes redfish in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the Cabot Strait, which are identified as fishery management areas 4RST and 3Pn4VN from January to May (Figure 1).



Figure 1: Units 1, 2, and 3 Redfish Management Areas.

The redfish fishery in Newfoundland and Labrador is made up of various types of fishing licence holders, including: offshore licence holders permitted to use vessels 100 feet overall length and greater; midshore licence holders permitted to use vessels 65 feet overall length or greater but less than 100 feet overall length; and inshore licence holders restricted to using vessels less than 65 feet length overall.

As part of the 1977 conservation measures, the inshore fleet in Newfoundland and Labrador was excluded from the redfish fishery, despite its historic dependency on redfish. In 1984, the Federal Government publicly committed to correct its oversight of the province's historic dependency and reserved the first 40,000 tonnes of redfish for the offshore fleet with amounts in excess of the 40,000 tonnes allocated to the inshore fleet. This arrangement lasted until 1988, when the Federal Government created the Special Program for Gulf-based Fish Plants Short of Resources (RSPP)

to extend the commercial viability of fish processing plants. This program, once again, diverted the redfish resource from the historically attached Newfoundland and Labrador inshore fleet to fish plants in other provinces with little to no historic attachment to the redfish fishery.

By 1995, offshore licence holders held the majority of the Newfoundland and Labrador fleet allocation with nine per cent of the total 16.73 per cent provincial allocation. The inshore and mid-shore fleet combined held 6.24 per cent with 1.49 per cent allotted to RSPP. Between 1999 and 2005, the average annual catch from the index fishery was 1,054 tonnes. By 2010-2017, the annual catch had dropped to an average of 470 tonnes.

When the Experimental Redfish Fishing Plan for Unit 1 redfish was implemented in 2018, Newfoundland and Labrador and Quebec received an experimental quota for the purpose of testing fishing gear to minimize the capture of undersized redfish (less than 22 centimeters in length) and by-catch, and to collect data on species identification and reproduction. The additional experimental quota resulted in an increase in annual landings to an average of 1,090 tonnes.

Resource Outlook:

Based on the latest scientific assessment of Unit 1 redfish in 2021, the total survey biomass for deepwater redfish was estimated at 2.8 million tonnes. In comparison, Iceland, the largest redfish producer in the world, has a total redfish biomass of 430 thousand tonnes. Of this 2.8 million tonne biomass, approximately 2.6 million tonnes (93 per cent) of fish were larger than the commercial size of 22 centimeters. A biomass of Acadian redfish was also identified, estimated to be 420,000 tonnes; of that amount, 359,000 tonnes (85 per cent) of fish were larger than 22 centimeters. Although these fish are approaching a marketable size for many stakeholders, redfish greater than 30 centimeters can provide maximum market value.

Given the increase in biomass, it is expected that the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) will increase for Unit 1 redfish in the next few years. This will provide harvesters with an opportunity to benefit from this fishery, especially at a time when other critically important stocks, such as shellfish, are declining. The abundance of redfish stocks will offer a significant opportunity in the coming years and the people of Newfoundland and Labrador are well prepared to ensure that this resource is fished sustainably and managed appropriately, providing long-term benefits for the people and communities of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Global Supply and Market:

In 2022, Newfoundland and Labrador fish processing companies exported 1,300 tonnes of redfish, valued at \$3.2 million. Main markets by value were Japan (43 per cent), Vietnam (20 per cent), Netherlands (13 per cent), South Korea (12 per cent), and Spain (eight per cent). Given the positive biomass outlook for redfish, Newfoundland and Labrador seafood processing companies are well prepared to develop new markets with a wild-caught, sustainable product. Although existing markets in China, Japan and other parts of Asia will be important, there are also opportunities to grow redfish markets in the United States and countries in the European Union, particularly Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands and France. Newfoundland and Labrador seafood processing companies have established relationships and are already well positioned in

these markets. The availability of redfish product would be a natural extension to their seafood product mix.

Processing Capacity:

Newfoundland and Labrador's processing sector has a large capacity to process redfish. There are currently 51 processing plants in Newfoundland and Labrador licenced to process groundfish, including redfish. In 2022, five licensed groundfish processing plants reported more than 20 tonnes of redfish production. Four processing plants are located on the West Coast of Newfoundland and Labrador adjacent to the Unit 1 redfish stock. These processing plants are well equipped and prepared to process and benefit from an influx of the redfish resource.

Industry and Indigenous Partnerships:

In July 2017, the Barry Group Incorporated announced a partnership with the Qalipu First Nation to harvest and process the redfish resource in Unit 1 adjacent to the West Coast of the province. Collectively, they will negotiate with the Federal Government on the future management of the resource and the establishment of a quota allocation for the Qalipu First Nation.

The Qalipu First Nation's economic development goals include expansion of their fishing opportunities and operations. The redfish resource partnership with the Barry Group supports this goal as it will bring employment and economic opportunities for Indigenous Peoples, communities, and the provincial fishing industry. The Government of Canada is expected to deliver on its reconciliation agenda by honoring former Minister LeBlanc's public commitment to allocate significant redfish quota to the Qalipu First Nation. It is only when this redfish quota allocation is announced, confirming Qalipu First Nation's access to this resource, that the Government of Canada's commitment will be fulfilled.

Government Investments:

The Atlantic Fisheries Fund (AFF) is a joint partnership between the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and the Government of Canada to help transform and drive innovation in Atlantic Canada's fish and seafood sector. This fund provides significant economic benefits for the fishing industry in Newfoundland and Labrador and is helping the province transition from a declining shellfish fishery to a vibrant groundfish fishery.

Since August 2017, the AFF has invested a total of \$4.6 million in redfish research and development projects with industry stakeholders. In particular, the fund has contributed to the Fish, Food and Allied Workers Union – Unifor (FFAW) redfish projects titled: **Sustainable Redfish: Reducing By-catch and Catches of Small Redfish (2018)**, **Sustainable and Profitable Redfish: Laying the Foundation for a Rebuilt Redfish fishery (2019)**, **Making it Operational: Sustainable Redfish Fishery in the Gulf of St. Lawrence (2020)**, and **Build Back Better: Next Steps to Secure a Sustainable Redfish Fishery in the Gulf of St. Lawrence (2022)**. In addition to the FFAW redfish projects, an investment of approximately \$150,000 was made to support the purchase of modified trawl design and trawl monitoring equipment for two harvesters assigned experimental allocations of redfish in the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada's (DFO) Experimental Fishing Plan for the Unit 1 redfish project.

These projects have made considerable progress in laying the foundation for a sustainable and responsibly managed Unit 1 redfish fishery by learning to identify the different redfish species, better understanding redfish behaviour to target the larger and more abundant fish, minimizing the impact of trawl gear on the environment, and reducing by-catch rates. A further investment of \$2 million has been made to numerous harvesters to increase efficiency in the Gulf shrimp fishery mobile gear fleet with technology that can also be used for the redfish fishery.

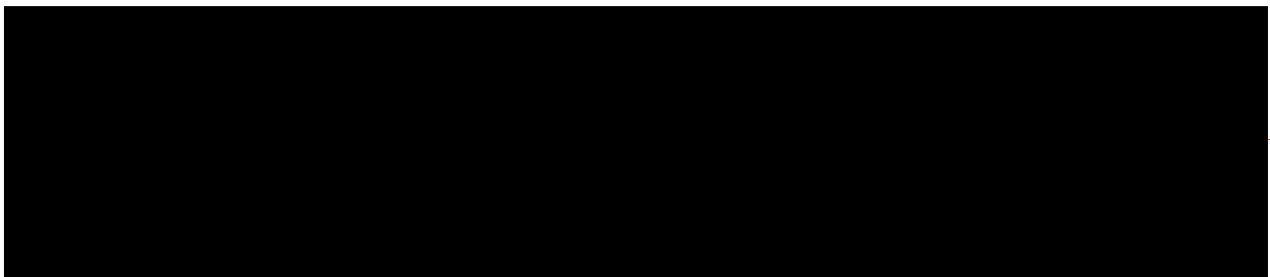
Additionally, nearly \$4 million has been contributed to the Atlantic Groundfish Council (AGC) through the Canadian Fish and Seafood Opportunities Fund (CFSOF) for market research and development projects for groundfish, primarily redfish. These projects focus on expanding and developing new markets for redfish in the United States, Europe, Asia, and Egypt.

Newfoundland and Labrador's Proposed Allocation for Unit 1 Redfish:

The reallocation of the Unit 1 redfish resource must include a significant allocation of the resource for Newfoundland and Labrador to rectify the inequity of the previous allocation scheme as described above. Despite the Government of Canada's acknowledgement of our province's long-term historic attachment to the redfish resource in 1984, Newfoundland and Labrador's previous shares of total catch of redfish has eroded. Fisheries management decisions need to be made with an established framework. The foundational factors of the management framework must be historic attachment and dependency, the principle of adjacency for those in close proximity to the redfish resource, and, in particular, adjacent Indigenous participation.

Injustices in an Outdated Allocation Scheme:

Newfoundland and Labrador's inshore harvesters were unjustly severed from the allocation of redfish in 1977 and despite the federal government's commitment to remedy this in the 1980s, the inshore fleet and processors suffered further injustice when the 1988 RSPP diverted the resource away from Newfoundland and Labrador. Continued erosion of Newfoundland and Labrador's historic shares occurred when the previous allocation scheme was developed, which provided the majority of Newfoundland and Labrador's share to the offshore and left little for inshore harvesters and for land-based processing operations.



29(1)(a),
34(1)(a)(i)

Proposed New Allocation Scheme:

The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador proposes that the Government of Canada revise the previous allocation scheme as illustrated in Figure 4 below.

all redactions on this page are in accordance with S29(1)(a), 34(1)(a)(i)

Proposed New Percent Share by Province	
Newfoundland and Labrador	29.17%
Total:	100%

Figure 4: Proposed new percent shares of Unit 1 redfish by province

This new allocation scheme would provide Newfoundland and Labrador, [REDACTED] at 29.17 per cent of the TAC [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Any changes to the allocation scheme should reflect reconciliation and the Province's historical dependence. Newfoundland and Labrador has also contributed significantly to the knowledge, development, and sustainability of this fishery in preparation for its reopening. Participation in the experimental and index fisheries, as well as contributions to ensuring a sustainable commercial fishery, should be considered when adjusting the allocation scheme for Unit 1 redfish. With all of these elements, in addition to the principle of adjacency, consideration should be given to Newfoundland and Labrador receiving a significant portion of the redfish quota in Unit 1 and becoming a major allocation holder in this fishery.

Specific Fleet Shares

In terms of allocation for specific fleet shares amongst fishing industry groups in Newfoundland and Labrador, the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture (FFA) supports a balanced and equitable fishery that is inclusive of all fishing licence holders including Indigenous, inshore, and offshore, bringing maximum economic benefit to the province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Allocating a significant portion of the Unit 1 redfish resource, at a minimum of 29.17 per cent, to Newfoundland and Labrador, equates to an additional 12.4 per cent from the outdated allocation scheme. This increase will provide an opportunity for all of our fishing industry fleets to benefit from the resource. Further, with an even split between our inshore and offshore fleets, our shrimp fishing fleet, that has been experiencing consistent declines in shrimp resources and are best positioned to transition to a commercial redfish fishery, will be provided an opportunity to benefit from the redfish resource to help offset those shrimp stock declines. The inshore mobile gear fleet on the West Coast of the island has been relying on a declining shrimp fishery and are well equipped to transition to the redfish fishery.

Indigenous Allocation

It is fundamentally important that the resource sharing arrangement for this fishery appropriately recognize and protect the historic rights of Newfoundland and Labrador, but must also recognize the Government of Canada's commitment to reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples and the long-standing principle of adjacency. The significant redfish resource in Unit 1 has the potential to increase access to economic opportunities, food security, and resource stewardship for Indigenous Governments and Organizations in our province. This can be accomplished through the establishment of quota allocations for the Qalipu First Nation and the West Coast communities of Newfoundland and Labrador, giving them the first right of benefit from the resources that are adjacent to their communities and that they have historically fished.

Conclusion

The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador recommends that DFO develop and share for input a detailed framework to demonstrate to stakeholders how the federal government weighs and considers criteria such as, adjacency, historic attachment, maximum economic benefit, reconciliation, and dependency when making decisions on access and allocation for all fisheries including the Unit 1 redfish resource.

The abundance of redfish stocks will offer a significant opportunity in the coming years and the people of Newfoundland and Labrador are well prepared to ensure that this resource is fished sustainably and managed appropriately, providing long-term benefits for the communities and citizens of Newfoundland and Labrador. When the time is right for the maximum value to be gained from a Unit 1 redfish commercial fishery, it is vital that the Government of Canada's resource sharing arrangement for this fishery appropriately recognizes and protects the historic rights of Newfoundland and Labrador, the Government of Canada's commitment to reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples, and the long-standing principle of adjacency.

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From: Chippett, Jamie
Sent: Monday, January 29, 2024 5:04 PM
To: Hanlon, Bren M.
Subject: Info Note - Revised
Attachments: FFA - Federal announcement January 26 2024 - January 29 2024.docx

Have a look at this one for a shorter version still. Any thoughts?

Jamie

Information Note
Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

Title: Fisheries and Oceans Canada Announcement January 26, 2024

Issue: Update and preliminary analysis of the federal announcement on Jan 26, 2024

Background and Current Status:

- On January 26, 2024, the federal minister of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans announced a reopening of a Unit 1 Redfish fishery for 2 years with a minimum 25,000 t Total Allowable Catch (TAC), a reduction in the Esquiman Channel Shrimp (SFA8) quota from 4.222 t in 2023 to 1,757 t for 2024, and an extension to the Atlantic Fisheries Fund (AFF).

Redfish

- Historically, the Unit 1 Redfish stock was fished by the four Atlantic Provinces and Quebec and has been characterized by three episodes of high landings. Average annual landings were 43,000 tonnes (t) between 1954-1956, 79,000 t between 1965-1976, and 59,000 t between 1987-1992. After a rapid decrease in landings in 1993 and 1994, this stock was placed under moratorium in 1995. Fishing has been limited to a 2,000 t index fishery since 1999. In addition to the index fishery, an experimental fishery was established in 2018 with a potential maximal additional allocation of 2,500 t for 2018–2019. The experimental fishery has remained in place since 2018 and the quota allocated for 2023-24 was 5,000 t.
- A full stock assessment was not completed in 2023, however the status of the spawning stock biomass (SSB) of the *S. mentella* was determined to be in the healthy zone of the precautionary approach (PA) with a SSB of 2,302,000 t which corresponds to 8.7 times the upper stock reference point. The estimated SSB of the second Redfish species, *S. fasciatus* was also in the healthy zone of the PA with a SSB of 181,000 t which is slightly above the upper stock reference point.
- On May 24, 2023, at the request of then Minister Joyce Murray, the province submitted a proposal to Fishery and Oceans Canada (DFO) related a potential allocation scheme for QC and the Atlantic Provinces. That position was reiterated in the letter that Minister Loveless sent to DFO Minister Diane Lebouthillier on her appointment to the federal Cabinet on August 28, 2024 (Annex A) and during their recent meeting in St. John's on January 17, 2024. The federal minister acknowledged the submission in a letter on January 19, 2024 but did not comment on any specifics related to the Redfish fishery.
- Discussions will take place starting Friday, February 3, 2024 with the Redfish Advisory Committee, which includes representatives from DFO, the fishing and processing industry, Indigenous groups, provincial governments, and other stakeholders, to determine how to share allocations for each fleet, establish management measures, and consult on a TAC for the 2024 fishing season. It is possible the TAC will be set above the 25,000 t level.

Gulp Shrimp Fishery – Esquiman Channel (SFA 8) Shrimp TAC

- The Estuary and Gulf of St. Lawrence (EGSL) shrimp fishery is managed as four Special Fish Areas (SFAs); Esquiman Channel (SFA 8); Anticosti (SFA 9); Sept-Îles (SFA 10); and the

Estuary (SFA 12). The Newfoundland and Labrador fleet, based in Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) Division 4R, only fish in the Esquiman Channel (SFA 8).

- The 2023 TAC for shrimp in the Esquiman Channel was 4,222 t, down from 4,825 t in 2022. In the January 26, 2024 DFO announcement the Esquiman Channel quota is being reduced from 4.222 t in 2023 to 1,757 t for 2024. The NL share of this quota is 1,286 t.
- There are 34 harvesters in the province with gulf shrimp (SFA 8) licenses and 190 with Northern Shrimp (SFA 6) licenses.
- There are currently six processing plants in the province licenced to process shrimp, with one 35(1)(d) reporting no shrimp production for 2023. The total reported production of shrimp from all six plants combined in 2023 was 5,764 t. with a production breakdown as follows (tonnage from other species in brackets).

Atlantic Fisheries Fund

- The AFF is cost-shared between the Government of Canada and the Atlantic provinces. This fund was originally approved in August 2017 with a seven-year timeframe ending March 31, 2024. In 2023, approval was granted to extend the program to March 31, 2026 to allow project commitments up to March 31, 2024, but projects could be executed and funds payable to proponents up to March 31, 2026.
- Since the program began in 2017, AFF has funded projects in the province with a contribution amount of nearly \$90 million. In 2023-24, new projects and project amendments totaling almost \$11 million were funded by both levels of government. The provincial investment of nearly \$3.3 million leveraged nearly \$7.6 million from the Federal Government and over \$12 million from industry and other sources to modernize our fisheries and aquaculture sectors.

29(1)(a)

•

Analysis:

- The Newfoundland and Labrador proposal requested an equitable share of Redfish [REDACTED] at 29.17 per cent of the Unit 1 Redfish resource [REDACTED]

29(1)(a),
34(1)(a)(i)

- On Saturday, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans released anticipated redfish quota amounts for each province and how they compare to historical allocations. The figures are Newfoundland and Labrador: 19% (+2.0), Nova Scotia: 33% (-5.8), New Brunswick: 11% (+3.1), P.E.I.: 5% (+0.5); Quebec: 32% (+0.2). DFO says its figures are subject to change.
- The new harvester allocation shares for Redfish compared to the historical shares (as shown in brackets) are as follows:

- Offshore 58.7% (74.22%)
- Inshore mobile gear 14.8% (14.8%)
- Mid shore mobile 5.7% (5.7%)
- Inshore fixed gear bycatch .75% (.75%)
- Indigenous quota bank 10% (new)
- Shrimp harvesters 10% (new)
- Special Program for Gulf Plant 0% (4.48%)

- There were ten active Redfish processors in the province in 2023, with a total production of 2,228 t of Redfish, [REDACTED]

35(1)(d)

[REDACTED] An increase in Redfish quota may allow for harvesters impacted by gulf shrimp reductions to transition to Redfish.

29(1)(a),
35(1)(d)

- [REDACTED]

- FFAW has responded negatively because shares for inshore harvesters did not increase. Union President Greg Pretty indicted a “clear signal” that DFO has “signed, sealed and delivered the abandonment of coastal communities.”

35(1)(d)

- [REDACTED]

- The FFAW has proposed, and the province supported, with such a declining stock in SFA8, the federal government offering industry a buy-out of fishing licences. The FFAW were working with their Atlantic counterparts to develop a proposal for the consideration of DFO.

34(1)(a)(i)

[REDACTED] There were no references to such considerations in this announcement.

- The January 26, 2024, announcement indicates a continuation of AFF but no commitment for additional funding. The result of the announcement is to allow an extra year, up to March 31, 2025, to approve projects from existing funds. The province has almost fully committed existing funding so this announcement has little impact for NL.

Action to be Taken:

- FFA will participate in the Redfish Advisory Committee meetings and advise Cabinet Secretariat and Intergovernmental Affairs Secretariat about developments. Minister Loveless will continue to advocate for an increase to NL’s share of Redfish Quotas and Buyback of Shrimp Licences in SFA 8.

Prepared/Approved by: A. Burrige / B. Hanlon/J. Chippett

Ministerial Approval: Minister Elvis Loveless (pending)

January 29, 2024

89 of 362

From: Carey Bonnell <cbonnell@oceanchoice.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2024 8:24 AM
To: Hanlon, Bren M., Chippett, Jamie
Subject: AGC U1 redfish release
Attachments: 01302024 - Atlantic Groundfish Council awaiting details of Unit 1 redfish decision, focused on maximizing Canada's position in a highly competitive global market.pdf

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Reach out if you have any questions.

Carey



Fishing
means
the world
to us.™

Carey Bonnell

Vice-President, Sustainability & Engagement

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Atlantic Groundfish Council awaiting details of Unit 1 redfish decision, focused on maximizing Canada's position in a highly competitive global market

(January 30, 2024) – Last Friday, the Honourable Diane LeBouthillier, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada announced a long-awaited decision on the reopening of the commercial redfish fishery in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, known as Unit 1 Redfish. At this stage, the Atlantic Groundfish Council and its members are awaiting more information on the decision to better understand the details.

“During the consultation process, we were pleased to see various stakeholders sharing the view that the significance of historical shares and the investments by existing quota holders should be respected and are an important part of a sustainable and successful Canadian redfish fishery,” noted Sylvie Lapointe, President of the Atlantic Groundfish Council. “Our sector lost 20% of its historical share in this decision. That said, we do appreciate the Minister resisting the unjust calls for more drastic changes to quota shares.”

AGC members are primarily family-owned and Indigenous-owned local companies who employ thousands of Atlantic Canadians in coastal communities. These local companies have already invested almost \$100M in vessels and equipment in preparation for the reopening of this commercial redfish fishery in Canada. These investments are part of Atlantic Groundfish Council members' commitment to provide stable, year-round employment in coastal communities and to harvest high quality seafood responsibly and sustainably.

The Atlantic Groundfish Council has also been leading the multi-faceted strategic promotion of Canadian Redfish in global markets since 2020. To promote Canadian redfish in Europe and Asia, there is a need to produce a broad basket of product forms, including shore-processed fresh and 'once-frozen' fillets, as well as H&G and whole frozen-at-sea for markets that prefer this product.

“The global redfish market is highly competitive. Maximizing Canada's place in this fishery globally is going to take a focused and collaborative effort by all industry participants. I know our members are eager to collaborate with all stakeholders on a sustainable fishery, and that they have extensive redfish harvesting, processing, and marketing experience and expertise to contribute to the collective efforts,” Lapointe added.

The Gulf redfish fishery was developed by offshore harvesters beginning in the 1950s and has long been predominantly harvested by the offshore sector. “Our members and their employees have the deepest history and largest investments at stake in the redfish fishery,” noted Lapointe. “As such, we look forward to participating in the redfish advisory committee and collaborating with other stakeholders to discuss the science results, ways to address gaps in existing knowledge, mitigate fisheries management concerns and the next steps to make this redfish fishery both economically viable and environmentally sustainable.”



-30-

Media Contact:

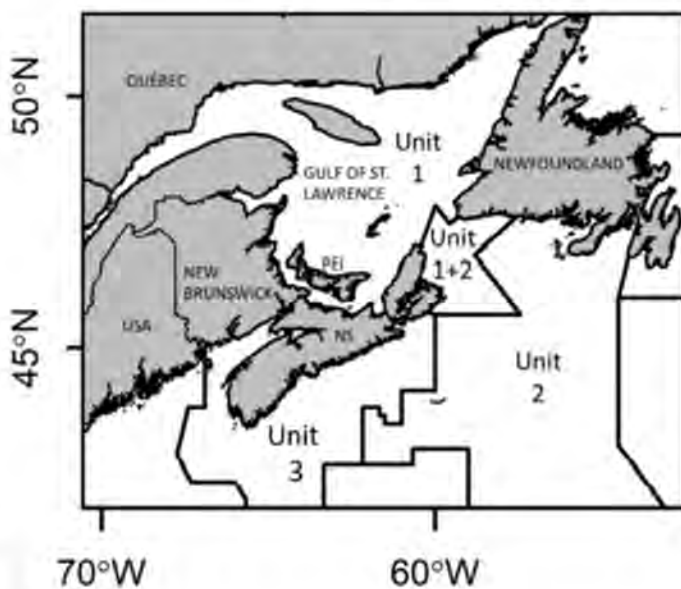
Sarah Fleming

sarah@covepublicaffairs.ca

709-725-5830

About the Atlantic Groundfish Council

The Atlantic Groundfish Council is a non-profit industry association representing year-round groundfish harvesters in Atlantic Canada. Members are mostly multi- generational family enterprises operating vessels 45 to 260 ft. in length – landing both frozen-at-sea fish, and fresh fish for processing on shore. Those members employ thousands of people, in mostly year-round jobs, in rural communities throughout Atlantic Canada. The AGC contributes to research that will improve the sustainability and management of groundfish fisheries by actively supporting science, sustainability certifications and responsible management.



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From: Chippett, Jamie
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2024 11:34 AM
To: Stevens, Stephanie
Subject: Note for [REDACTED]
Attachments: FFA - Federal announcement January 26 2024 - January 29 2024.docx

Can you place it this in [REDACTED] and action it to Minister Final approval.

Thanks
Jamie

Information Note
Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

Title: Fisheries and Oceans Canada Announcement January 26, 2024

Issue: Update and preliminary analysis of federal announcement on January 26, 2024

Background and Current Status:

- On January 26, 2024, the federal minister of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans announced a reopening of a Unit 1 Redfish fishery for 2 years with a minimum 25,000 t Total Allowable Catch (TAC), a reduction in the Esquiman Channel Shrimp (SFA8) quota from 4,222 t in 2023 to 1,757 t for 2024, and an extension to the Atlantic Fisheries Fund (AFF).

Redfish

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- On May 24, 2023, at the request of then Minister Joyce Murray, the province submitted a proposal to Fishery and Oceans Canada (DFO) related a potential allocation scheme for QC and the Atlantic Provinces. That position was reiterated in the letter that Minister Loveless sent to DFO Minister Diane Lebouthillier on her appointment to the federal Cabinet on August 28, 2024 and during their recent meeting in St. John's on January 17, 2024. The federal minister acknowledged the submission in a letter on January 19, 2024 but did not comment on any specifics related to the Redfish fishery.
- Discussions will take place starting Friday, February 3, 2024 with the Redfish Advisory Committee, which includes representatives from DFO, the fishing and processing industry, Indigenous groups, provincial governments, and other stakeholders, to determine how to share allocations for each fleet, establish management measures, and consult on a TAC for the 2024 fishing season. It is possible the TAC will be set above the 25,000 t level.

Gulp Shrimp Fishery – Esquiman Channel (SFA 8) Shrimp TAC

- The Estuary and Gulf of St. Lawrence (EGSL) shrimp fishery is managed as four Special Fish Areas (SFAs); Esquiman Channel (SFA 8); Anticosti (SFA 9); Sept-Îles (SFA 10); and the Estuary (SFA 12). The Newfoundland and Labrador fleet, based in Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) Division 4R, only fish in the Esquiman Channel (SFA 8).

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- There are currently six processing plants in the province licenced to process shrimp, with one 35(1)(d) reporting no shrimp production for 2023. The total reported production of shrimp from all six plants combined in 2023 was 5,764 t. with a production breakdown as follows.

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- Since the program began in 2017, AFF has funded projects in the province with a contribution amount of nearly \$90 million. In 2023-24, new projects and project amendments totaling almost \$11 million were funded by both levels of government. The provincial investment of nearly \$3.3 million leveraged nearly \$7.6 million from the Federal Government and over \$12 million from industry and other sources to modernize our fisheries and aquaculture sectors.

29(1)(a)

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Analysis:

- The May 2023 Newfoundland and Labrador proposal requested an equitable share of Redfish [REDACTED] at 29.17 per cent of the Unit 1 Redfish resource [REDACTED]

29(1)(a),
34(1)(a)(i)

- On Saturday, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans released anticipated redfish quota amounts for each province and how they compare to historical allocations. The figures are Newfoundland and Labrador: 19% (+2.0), Nova Scotia: 33% (-5.8), New Brunswick: 11% (+3.1), P.E.I.: 5% (+0.5); Quebec: 32% (+0.2). DFO says its figures are subject to change.
- The new harvester allocation shares for Redfish compared to the historical shares (as shown in brackets) are as follows:
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- Mid shore mobile 5.7% (5.7%)
- Inshore fixed gear bycatch .75% (.75%)
- Indigenous quota bank 10% (new)
- Shrimp harvesters 10% (new)
- Special Program for Gulf Plant 0% (4.48%)

- There were ten active Redfish processors in the province in 2023, with a total production of 2,228 t of Redfish, [REDACTED] An increase in Redfish quota may allow for harvesters impacted by gulf shrimp reductions to transition to Redfish.

35(1)(d)

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29(1)(a),
35(1)(d)

- FFAW has responded negatively because shares for inshore harvesters did not increase. Union President Greg Pretty indicated the announcement was a “clear signal” that DFO has “signed, sealed and delivered the abandonment of coastal communities.”

•

35(1)(d)

- The FFAW has proposed, and the province supported, with such a declining stock in SFA8, the federal government offering industry a buy-out of shrimp harvesting licences. The FFAW were working with their Atlantic counterparts to develop a proposal for the consideration of DFO. [REDACTED]

34(1)(a)(i)

[REDACTED] There were no references to such considerations in this announcement.

- The January 26, 2024, announcement indicates a continuation of AFF but no commitment for additional funding. The result of the announcement is to allow an extra year, up to March 31, 2025, to approve projects from existing funds. The province has almost fully committed existing funding so this announcement has little impact for NL.

Action to be Taken:

- FFA will participate in Redfish Advisory Committee meetings and advise Cabinet Secretariat and Intergovernmental Affairs Secretariat about developments. Minister Loveless will continue to advocate for an increase to NL's share of Redfish Quotas and Buyback of Shrimp Licences.
- The FFAW has requested a discussion with the Minister on the announcement. It is expected this discussion will occur during the week of January 29, 2024.

Prepared/Approved by: A. Burrige / B. Hanlon/J. Chippett

Ministerial Approval: Minister Elvis Loveless (pending)

January 29, 2024

From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2024 11:38 AM
To: Loveless, Elvis, Chippett, Jamie, Baldwin, Paul, Hanlon, Bren M., Adams, Blair, Balsom, Stephen, Deering, Keith, Skinner, Linda, Shea, Erin
Subject: MORNING MEDIA - Jan. 30, 2024

FFAW Website

SNOW CRAB NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE

January 29, 2024

Face-to-face price negotiations for the 2024 snow crab season have resumed this week in St. John's. The parties (FFAW-Unifor Negotiating Committee and ASP) plan to meet in person all this week in a concerted effort to reach a deal by week's end.

"Our Union is looking forward to an intensive week of face-to-face bargaining and is hopeful a deal can be reached between the two parties, so we can get this year's crab season started on time and on the right foot, but most importantly with a pricing deal that works for harvesters," said Greg Pretty, President of FFAW-Unifor.

Harvesters have been clear that the Blackwood Formula as written will not work and other formula offers are now being exchanged. This important work will continue over the week. Further updates will be provided to members when available.

CBC

Ottawa revamps redfish allocation in Gulf of St. Lawrence, but N.S. keeps largest share

Province had previously warned hundred of jobs at stake in decision

[Andrew Sampson](#) · CBC News · Posted: Jan 26, 2024 4:33 PM NST | Last Updated: January 27

UPDATE: On Saturday, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans released anticipated redfish quota amounts for each province and how they compare to historical allocations. The figures are Newfoundland and Labrador: 19% (+2.0), Nova Scotia: 33% (-5.8), New Brunswick: 11% (+3.1), P.E.I.: 5% (+0.5); Quebec: 32% (+0.2). DFO says its figures are subject to change.

Following months of anticipation and lobbying in Quebec, Newfoundland and Labrador, and Nova Scotia, the federal government has announced how it will allocate access when the Gulf of St. Lawrence redfish fishery reopens later this year after a nearly 30-year hiatus.

The details were announced on Friday by Fisheries Minister Diane LeBouthillier at a news conference in Gaspé, Que. Under the new terms from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), Indigenous fishers, and shrimp harvesters from Quebec and Atlantic Canada — who'd been hoping to get a piece of the redfish action following a reduction in shrimp quotas — will each get 10 per cent of the allocation.

"This decision will not only provide a modest income to [shrimp] harvesters who may want to transition to fishing redfish, it will also help advance reconciliation with Indigenous peoples," said LeBouthillier.

LeBouthillier said Nova Scotia will continue to receive the largest chunk of the fishery. Kent Smith, Nova Scotia's fisheries and aquaculture minister, had [previously warned Ottawa that "hundreds of jobs" would be at stake](#) if the province's

share was reduced. He said Friday that he's still waiting for more details to determine what the province's actual allocation will be.

Before the fishery closed decades ago, 74 per cent of the redfish quota was held by offshore fleets, most of them located in Nova Scotia. On Friday, DFO said that share will be reduced to 58 per cent in 2024.

In an interview with *Mainstreet Sydney*, Jan Voutier, the manager of Ka'Le Bay Fisheries in Cape Breton, said it's too early to determine the impact of these changes but, on first glimpse, they don't seem as bad as many feared. "We're still digesting this, and it's going to take a few days to really dig down into this and understand what's happened and how it's going to affect us," he said.

"We've advocated to maintain the historical quota. So if she's respecting some of that I'll be appreciative. But again, we really need to dig in to make sure that it is good for Nova Scotians and Nova Scotia companies," Smith told CBC News.

Fishery has rebounded since '95 closure

The commercial redfish fishery was shuttered in 1995, but in the years since, there's been a remarkable turnaround. The DFO said the total size of the fishery in the Gulf of St. Lawrence is now estimated to be just over two million tonnes.

The total allowable catch for the revamped fishery will be 25,000 tonnes, said DFO.

An experimental fishery has been in place since 2018, but 2024 will mark its official reopening, which will roll out in two phases, said the department.

The first phase will last two years and "give fish harvesters time to prepare, further develop markets, and strengthen the sector's capacity to transform," while the second will be focused on expansion and long-term development.

In a release, environmental group Oceans North said it welcomes DFO's "low and slow" approach to reopening.

"The fact that redfish has reached historic levels after a long moratorium on fishing offers us a rare second chance to do things differently," said John Couture, senior fisheries adviser at Oceans North.

"We're hopeful that this can be done in a way that will benefit both the ecosystem and coastal communities in the long run."

DFO later provided details related to shrimp fishermen in Quebec. It said harvesters fishing off Esquiman, Anticosti, Sept-Îles and the Estuary will share 3,600 tonnes in 2024.

More information on the [2024 allocation for the fishery is available here.](#)

Chase the Seasons with Charlie: Getting the jump on rabbit snaring

<https://www.cbc.ca/player/play/2303642691909>

A lot of winter activities depend on having enough snow or ice. But CBC's outdoor columnist Charlie White says snaring rabbits is a great way to get out in the woods and put some healthy food on the table no matter what the weather has been like.

This N.L. fishing vessel endured stormy seas and heartbreak before it ever touched salt water

Petten's Legacy, named in honour of Dwight Petten, buffeted by a pandemic, shipyard turmoil and more

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/newfoundland-labrador/petten-legacy-vessel-launch-1.7091833>

The Telegram

Cheers & Jeers

JEERS: to fisheries stories that never seem to change.

The current Minister of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Diane Lebouthillier, visited N.L. earlier this month. While Lebouthillier's enthusiasm and knowledge of the fishery she grew up in a cod-fishing village of Newport in the Gaspesie, Que. is admirable and encouraging, she is facing the same hurdles her predecessors have been trying to overcome for decades. And in some cases, the answers to questions are about the same as they were decades ago, no matter the political stripe. With the issue of the sealing industry, for example, Lebouthillier said she looks at its development as an opportunity. Our sealing industry has never rebounded since animal rights campaigns led to the eventual ban in Europe of all seal products. Most people in this province believe there is a reluctance by the Government of Canada to put the effort in to try to have the ban reversed. But, like her predecessors, Lebouthillier says she is going to keep moving forward on the sealing issue because "we're in a position to exploit this resource in the right way." Yes, we are, and have been for many years. But the sealing industry is, pardon the pun, still on ice. Let's hope Lebouthillier is the one voice to make headway on getting this industry back on its feet.

BayFM

Applications open to help farmers increase the resiliency of land

The program which aims to help farmers and producers increase the environmental resiliency of farms by adopting beneficial land use and management practices.

The Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program will open from February 1st until March 15th. The Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture will accept applications for the program which aims to help farmers and producers increase the environmental resiliency of farms by adopting beneficial land use and management practices. Funding is provided through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a five-year (2023-28), \$3.5-billion agreement between the federal and provincial governments. For more information go to gov.nl.ca

Seafoodnews.com

Government of Canada Launches Transition Plan for Future of Fisheries in Quebec and Atlantic Canada

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January 29, 2024

The Government of Canada recognizes that some fisheries in Quebec and Atlantic Canada are facing serious challenges, including climate change and the resulting disruption of aquatic ecosystems. Today, the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, the Honourable Diane Lebouthillier, announced a transition plan that will help fish harvesters in Canada's coastal communities, and give them the predictability they need to continue their important work in the years ahead.

In Canada and around the world, the effects of climate change and ocean warming are undeniable. The fishing industry is going through and will continue to experience major changes that will require us to reinvent our ways of doing things. In recent years, northern shrimp stocks in the Estuary and northern Gulf of St. Lawrence have reached critical levels, while redfish abundance has reached levels that allow commercial catches to resume. That is why, after 30 years, Minister Lebouthillier announced the return of the commercial Unit 1 redfish this year. To this end, shrimp harvesters

will be allocated an allowance to support them. To further reconciliation, a dedicated pool is being created to support indigenous community participation in the fishery.

Minister Lebouthillier also announced, subject to ongoing negotiations with her provincial counterparts, her intention to extend the Quebec and Atlantic Fisheries Funds until 2026, with federal priority given to innovative projects related to the redfish fishery. This extension will provide our fish harvesters with the tools and financial means they need to transit to this new fishery.

Opening of the commercial Redfish fishery in Unit 1

The government recognizes the historic importance of the Redfish fishery to coastal communities across Atlantic Canada and Quebec. The decision to reopen the Unit 1 Redfish fishery, which has been closed since 1995, was based on the most recent stock information, stakeholder views, and the potential social and economic benefits of this fishery.

This reopening will take place in two phases. A first two-year transitional phase will allow for data collection, give fish harvesters time to prepare, further develop markets, and strengthen the sector's capacity to transform.

A second phase of long-term development aimed at establishing a redfish fishery with a modernized allocation key. A phase that, in view of the current scientific data, would be one of expansion.

Discussions will take place in the coming weeks with the Redfish Advisory Committee, which includes representatives from DFO, the fishing and processing industry, Indigenous groups, provincial governments, and other stakeholders, to determine how to share allocations for each fleet, establish management measures, and consult on a Total Allowable Catch for the 2024 fishing season.

Northern Shrimp of the Estuary and Northern Gulf of St. Lawrence

Due to the status of shrimp stocks in the Estuary and Gulf of St. Lawrence, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is announcing a significant decrease in the Total Allowable Catch for the 2024 season.

In total, for the four shrimp stocks, the TAC will be 3,060 tonnes. This TAC will ensure a modest fishery, while allowing shrimp stocks to recover.

Discussions will take place in the near future with industry representatives and First Nations to determine how this allocation will be managed.

Headlines

REDFISH QUOTA: There was great hope that redfish would save the day. The hope for harvesters on the west coast is that they would get a larger share of the quota which would offset a failing shrimp fishery. ["Rendall Genge", Fishes in 4R]

CBN - St. John's - Fisheries Broadcast @ 06:10:13pm Duration: 00:07:08 Reporter:
Ref Id: b3v-7p5-29

Craig Renouf

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craigrenouf@gov.nl.ca

From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2024 1:42 PM
To: Loveless, Elvis, Chippett, Jamie, Baldwin, Paul, Hanlon, Bren M., Shea, Erin
Subject: VOCM OPEN LINE - Jan. 30, 2024
Attachments: OPEN LINE - Jason Spingle on Redfish Allocation & Shrimp - Jan. 30, 2024.m4a

Please find attached audio for the following call

COMMENTS ON FISHERY: "Jason Spingle" Secretary Treasurer of the FFAW is calling to talk about comments from the Minister. The announcement is the farthest thing from what they asked for that you can get. The offshore fishery is a trawler that processes out at sea. For the last 30 years we had about 80 boats fishing shrimp and an industry that supported large area. Now we have job and plants that are in jeopardy.

VOCM - St. John's - Open Line @ 09:32:13am Duration: 00:13:11 Reporter: Paddy Daly

Ref Id: H3p-8u5-30

Craig Renouf
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101 of 362

From: Chippett, Jamie
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2024 2:02 PM
To: Hanlon, Bren M.
Subject: Re: Redfish meeting conflict

Stay on
Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 30, 2024, at 1:26 PM, Hanlon, Bren M. <BrenHanlon@gov.nl.ca> wrote:

Hi Jamie, the meeting on the redfish announcement is 10 to 12 on Friday, Ill see how its going but it will likely run into our exec meeting at 11, Angela will be on the call as well. I can jump off and leave her on or stay on the call, up to you.

Thanks

Brendan Hanlon, CPA
Assistant Deputy Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture
Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

From: [Renouf, Craig](#)
Sent: [Tuesday, January 30, 2024 4:02 PM](#)
To: [Loveless, Elvis](#), [Chippett, Jamie](#), [Baldwin, Paul](#), [Balsom, Stephen](#), [Hanlon, Bren M.](#), [Deering, Keith](#), [Skinner, Linda](#), [Shea, Erin](#)
Subject: [MORE MEDIA - Jan. 30, 2024](#)

[Seafoodnews.com](#)

FFAW and ASP Begin Face-To-Face Negotiations For 2024 Snow Crab Season

January 30, 2024

The pressure is on not to have a repeat of last year. The Fish, Food and Allied Workers (FFAW) confirmed on Monday that they are having face-to-face price negotiations this week with members of the Association of Seafood Producers (ASP) for the 2024 snow crab season.

Negotiations fell apart in 2023, resulting in major delays to the start of the season in Newfoundland and Labrador. However, there is hope that this year will be different following a review of the Standing Fish Price-Setting Panel, which is responsible for acting as an arbitration panel in setting fish prices when the parties are unable to agree.

Our Union is looking forward to an intensive week of face-to-face bargaining and is hopeful a deal can be reached between the two parties, so we can get this year's crab season started on time and on the right food, but most importantly with a pricing deal that works for harvesters, explained FFAW President Greg Pretty.

According to FFAW, harvesters are not set on the Blackwood Formula for price setting, which was put out by the Fish Price-Setting Strategic Review Team. The Review Team included an independent chair (Glenn Blackwood), as well as representation from the processors (Gabe Gregory) and harvesters (Bill Broderick). Together they identified elements as key to a formula, like reliable market-index, exchange rate, and average weekly Urner Barry market prices for 5-8 oz. sections and weekly prices paid to harvesters. (Editor's note: SeafoodNews is an Urner Barry publication.)

The formula is negotiable by FFAW and ASP, and the two groups are now exchanging other formula offers. It's also important to note that FFAW members provided Pretty with a mandate to have a pricing formula in place prior to the start of the 2024 crab season.

The topic of the delayed season in 2023 was brought up during the Shellfish Panel at the National Fisheries Institute's (NFI) Global Seafood Market Conference (GSMC) in Orlando last week as Newfoundland is one of the major producers. The quotas for 2024 have yet to be determined, but last year Canadian quotas for all areas were up around 33%. Newfoundland and Labrador in 2023 had a total allowable catch of 54,727 tonnes, an overall quota increase of 8.4% from 2022. This was important as there was no Russian product coming in due to sanctions. There also continues to be no snow crab season out of Alaska, except for Bairdi.

VOCM

Atlantic Groundfish Council Pleased With Redfish Allocation

Jan 30, 2024 | 3:00 PM

The year-round harvesters are generally pleased with the amount of redfish allocated to them. For the first time in decades, Ottawa is opening the redfish fishery in the Gulf of St. Lawrence

Most of the quota was given to the larger boats, or what's referred to as the offshore sector. The inshore boats, which do not fish year-round, received what the FFAW refers to as a miniscule amount of redfish.

The Atlantic Groundfish Council says their sector lost 20 per cent of their historical share in the decision. Generally though, they praise DFO for resisting more drastic change in the total allowable catch.

The shrimp biomass is declining significantly, and FFAW Secretary-Treasurer Jason Spingle fully expected DFO to give shrimpers access to a meaningful allocation of redfish.

The shrimp quota is down to 3,000 tonnes, says Spingle, who predicts that some shrimpers will go bankrupt without meaningful access to the redfish stock.

The Atlantic Groundfish Council says their members have invested more than \$100 million in vessels and equipment in preparation for the reopening of a commercial redfish fishery. The companies say in order to promote Canadian redfish in Europe and Asia, there will have to be broad basket of products including shore-processed fresh and once-frozen fillets, as well as frozen-at-sea for markets that prefer that product.

CBC

Woman facing 44 charges of animal cruelty as RCMP say dead goats, starving animals found on farm

Police opted to lay more serious charges under Criminal Code

Ryan Cooke, Bernice Hillier 7 CBC News 7 Posted: Jan 30, 2024 1:30 PM NST | Last Updated: 2 hours ago

A 48-year-old woman from the western Newfoundland community of Heatherton is facing dozens of charges of causing unnecessary suffering to animals following a police investigation that began in 2022.

RCMP Cpl. Jolene Garland said officers first visited the farm on April 12, 2022, and found farm animals they believed were being neglected and subjected to cruel treatment.

"When police attended the property a number of goats were found deceased and a number of other animals appeared to be extremely malnourished and not properly cared for," Garland said. "Many of the animals lacked proper foot care, which among other negative impacts, certainly affected their ability to walk."

In cases that involve animal cruelty, police can charge a person under the Animal Health and Protection Act or the Criminal Code of Canada. The former is meant to deal with cases of animal cruelty outside the criminal court system, while the latter comes with stiffer penalties and a criminal record.

In this case, Garland said, the investigators felt the severity of the maltreatment was deserving of a criminal charges 44 of them in total.

"It's definitely not usual. It's definitely not common," Garland said. "Seeing this amount of Criminal Code charges against one individual, it's definitely not normal."

The surviving animals were taken to the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture and were looked after by experts within the department's animal health-care division.

The woman is slated to make a court appearance in Stephenville's provincial court on Monday.

Headlines

FOOD SECURITY

CBN - St. John's - The Signal @ 12:06:00pm Duration: 00:29:47 Reporter:
Ref Id: R6R-2v9-30

FOOD SECURITY

CBN - St. John's - The Signal @ 12:30:00pm Duration: 00:31:13 Reporter:
Ref Id: s3K-6d3-30

Craig Renouf

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From: allNewfoundlandLabrador <office@allnewfoundlandlabrador.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2024 11:41 PM
To: Chippett, Jamie
Subject: [Potential Junk/Spam] Wednesday, January 31 - allNewfoundlandLabrador

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Go to allNewfoundlandLabrador.com to read the day's news.

The Wednesday, January 31 issue of allNewfoundlandLabrador features:

Newfoundland and Labrador:

- * Risley Energy Firm Outlines Work Done, What Lies Ahead
- * Liberals Win Brazil's Longtime Seat
- * Stephenville Sheds Almost Half Its Councillors
- * Voisey's Bay's Makeover Slowed 2023 Production
- * Big Processor Cautious On Redfish Fishery Restart
- * City Eases Zoning For Former Church Rectories
- * Shearwater Brings Ship Back Under New Banner
- * Mining: Benton CEO Touts Drill Program Win
- * Government Tenders: 2024-01-31

Nova Scotia:

- * HRM Looks To Cash Incentives To Speed Office Conversions
- * Risley Energy Firm Outlines Work Done, What Lies Ahead
- * Bounty Print Assets Sold Amid Fight With Landlord
- * Ocean Tech Owners Sell To Focus On Earthquakes
- * More Flew Through YHZ In 2023, But Not Like 2019
- * 'Majestic' Towers Pitched For Lower Sackville
- * Argyle Fine Art Fetes 20 Years Of Small Works
- * Big Processor Cautious On Redfish Fishery Restart
- * Bill Hardman Left In Cold As SJ French School Plan Dies
- * Freshr Packaging Touts Longer Meat Shelf Life
- * New Minas Doc Pioneers Hormone-Free Contraceptive
- * (And more)

New Brunswick:

- * Irving Oil Readying To Pump Hydrogen?
- * Northern NB Accountants Bolster Miramichi Office
- * International French School Says Non To Saint John
- * Recruiting Foreign Nurses: Fitch Pleased, Unions Not So...
- * \$157M Later, Kent Hills Turbines Are Spinning Again
- * Techie David Alston Seeks SJ Provincial Grit Nod
- * Liquor, Weed Sales Up Across Board In Autumn
- * Feedback: Motels For Sale
- * Government Tenders: 2024-01-31

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From: Shea, Erin
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 8:43 AM
To: Hanlon, Bren M., Renouf, Craig
Cc: Chippett, Jamie
Subject: RE: News Release

Thanks, Bren. I understand there is also a letter in the works; when there is a draft of that available, it would be incredibly helpful. Looping in Craig here who I've asked to hold the pen. Craig, Bren has provided the BN number as well below. You may need to request access from Kirsten's IM folks.

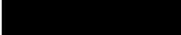
Jamie, I will inform the Branch that we are working on this and will get it to them ASAP.

-----Original Message-----

From: Hanlon, Bren M. <brenhanlon@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 8:38 AM
To: Shea, Erin <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>; Renouf, Craig <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: RE: News Release

Hi,

31(1)(l)

The info note can be found at  if you need anything just let me know.

Thanks

-----Original Message-----

From: Chippett, Jamie <JamieChippett@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2024 6:08 PM
To: Shea, Erin <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>
Cc: Hanlon, Bren M. <brenhanlon@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: News Release

Erin, we would like to do a news release related to the federal DFO announcement on Friday. Most specifically related to the details on redfish. There is an info note minister signed today on it. I would think wed also want to raise the issue of the plants that process shrimp too.

Erin, Craig had some messaging put together on this and that may be helpful.

Bren has all the details. If we could put something together tomorrow morning and get it to Minister and I that would be super.

Thanks

Jamie
Sent from my iPhone

From: Shea, Erin
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 9:15 AM
To: Chippett, Jamie
Subject: RESENDING for APPROVAL: KM - DFO Announcements

Good morning Jamie - Just checking in on these for approval. I asked Craig to use them in the NR drafting now, but would like these for media/Branch requests after we issue it. E.

From: Renouf, Craig <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Monday, January 29, 2024 12:40 PM
To: Chippett, Jamie <JamieChippett@gov.nl.ca>
Cc: Shea, Erin <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>; Hanlon, Bren M. <brenhanlon@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: KMs for APPROVAL: DFO Announcements

Hi Jamie,

Please see KMs below regarding Friday's DFO announcements. Bren has approved. Tks, Craig.

Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
DFO Announcement related to Unit 1 Redfish, Northern Shrimp and the Atlantic Fisheries Fund (AFF)
January 29, 2024

Summary:

On January 26, 2024, The Honourable Diane Lebouthillier, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard announced re-opening of the commercial Redfish fishery, Northern Shrimp quota reductions and the Atlantic Fisheries Fund (AFF).

The Minister announced the commercial Unit 1 Redfish fishery will open in 2024 for the first time since 1995. Quota allocation among fleet sectors and management decisions are expected in the coming weeks.

The Minister announced a significant decrease in the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for the 2024 Northern Shrimp season due to the status of shrimp stocks in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the Estuary. The total TAC for all four shrimp stocks (Estuary, Esquiman, Anticosti, and Sept-Îles) is 3,060 tonnes for 2024. The quota for the Esquiman Channel, which is adjacent to western Newfoundland, is being reduced from 4,222 tonnes in 2023 to 1,757 tonnes for 2024.

The Minister announced that AFF program end date will be extended from March 31, 2024, to March 31, 2026.

Anticipated Questions:

- Will Newfoundland and Labrador get its fair share of the Unit 1 redfish quota allocation?
- How will the reduction in Northern Shrimp quota impact harvesters and processors in this province?
- Are there plans to extend the Atlantic Fisheries Fund?

Key messages:

Re-opening of Commercial Redfish Fishery

- We are pleased with the decision to reopen the Unit 1 commercial redfish fishery and will be closely monitoring discussions regarding quota allocations.
- The Federal Government is aware of our position that quota allocation decisions must appropriately recognize and protect the historic rights of Newfoundland and Labrador, reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples, and the long-standing principle of adjacency.
- We understand discussions involving the Redfish Advisory Committee will take place in the coming weeks to determine share allocations for each fleet, establish management measures, and consult on a Total Allowable Catch for the 2024 fishing season.

Background

- Since August 2017, over \$2.6 million has been invested in redfish research and development projects with AFF funding assistance of more than \$2 million.
- In anticipation of re-opening of the commercial redfish fishery a further AFF investment of almost \$3 million has been made to numerous harvesters to increase efficiency in the Gulf shrimp fishery mobile gear fleet with trawl monitoring technology that can also be used for the redfish fishery.

Northern Shrimp Quota Cuts

- We are concerned about reductions in Northern Shrimp quotas particularly for the Esquiman Channel quota in the Gulf of St. Lawrence which is being cut from 4,222 tonnes in 2023 to 1,757 tonnes for 2024.
- Unfortunately, quota cuts will negatively affect some fishers and plant workers in this province. We are consulting with industry to determine the full impact.
- We are hopeful those impacted from the quota reduction will be able to take advantage of new opportunities in the commercial redfish fishery re-opening in 2024.
- Our government is supportive of the FFAW' s proposal to rationalize Northern shrimp fishing licences through a licence buyback.

Atlantic Fisheries Fund (AFF)

- The AFF was established in 2017 and has proven to be very beneficial transforming and driving innovation in the province' s fish and seafood sector.
- We are pleased with DFO' s decision to extend the closing date for the AFF from March 31, 2024, to March 31, 2026, as it provides adequate time for completion of projects that are important to the fishing industry.

Craig Renouf

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From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 12:13 PM
To: Chippett, Jamie
Cc: Shea, Erin, Hanlon, Bren M.
Subject: NR for APPROVAL: Minister Loveless Calls for Fair Share of Redfish Allocation

Hi Jamie,

Please see following NR for approval. Bren has approved. Tks, Craig.

Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

February 1, 2024

Minister Loveless Calls for Fair Share of Redfish Allocation

The Honourable Elvis Loveless, Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture is calling on the Federal Government to ensure it appropriately recognizes and protects the historic rights of Newfoundland and Labrador, reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples, and the long-standing principle of adjacency when making redfish quota allocation decisions.

On January 26, 2024, DFO announced it plans to re-open the Unit 1 commercial redfish fishery in 2024 for the first time since 1995, with a minimum Total Allowable Catch (TAC) of 25,000 tonnes, presenting new opportunities for fishing industry in Atlantic Canada and Quebec.

Discussions will take place in the coming weeks with the Redfish Advisory Committee to determine quota allocations for each fleet, establish management measures, and consult on a Total Allowable Catch for the 2024 fishing season.

DFO has allocated 10 per cent of the redfish quota to shrimp harvesters to help offset impacts associated with recently announced quota reductions for Northern Shrimp. Officials with the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture are working with industry to determine the full impact for shrimp harvesters and processors and provide support, where possible, to support a transition to redfish.

In anticipation of the re-opening harvesters have been investing in the converting of fishing gear and vessels required to harvest redfish. Newfoundland and Labrador's processing sector also has a large capacity to process redfish and are working to establish markets for the redfish species.

Quote

We are pleased with the re-opening of the commercial redfish fishery and opportunities for the fishing industry in this province, including those impacted by Northern shrimp quota reductions. Our harvesters and processors are ready and anxious for the redfish fishery to start, and I will remain in close contact with the Federal Government to advocate on behalf of our fishing industry to ensure Newfoundland and Labrador receives its fair and historic share of the redfish resource.

Honourable Elvis Loveless
Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

In Solution Mode: The Government of Canada launches its transition plan for the future of fisheries in Quebec and Atlantic Canada

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Media contact

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Backgrounder

- The reopening of the Unit Redfish fishery will take place in two phases. A first two-year transitional phase will allow for data collection, give fish harvesters time to prepare, further develop markets, and strengthen the sector's capacity to transform.
- A second phase of long-term development aimed at establishing a redfish fishery with a modernized allocation key. A phase that, in view of the current scientific data, would be one of expansion.
- Commercial redfish quota share by fleet:
 - Offshore mobile gear (MG) fleet sector (vessels >100') - 58.69%
 - Inshore MG fleet sector (vessels <65') - 14.84%
 - Midshore MG fleet sector (vessels 65-100') - 5.72%
 - Inshore fixed gear (bycatch) - 0.75%
 - Estuary and Gulf of St. Lawrence (ESGL) Shrimp Harvesters - 10.00%
 - Quota dedicated to Indigenous communities - 10.00%
- Commercial redfish quota share by province as proposed by DFO:
 - Newfoundland and Labrador: 19%
 - Nova Scotia: 33%
 - New Brunswick: 11%
 - P.E.I.: 5%
 - Quebec: 32%

Craig Renouf
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From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 12:28 PM
To: Loveless, Elvis, Chippett, Jamie, Baldwin, Paul, Hanlon, Bren M., Adams, Blair, Balsom, Stephen, Deering, Keith, Skinner, Linda, Shea, Erin
Subject: MORNING MEDIA - Jan. 31, 2024

The Telegram

Negotiations ongoing for 2024 crab pricing formula

After delayed start last spring, harvesters and processors are trying to reach agreement prior to season

The Telegram (St. John's) 31 Jan 2024 GARY KEAN THE TELEGRAM gary.kean @thewesternstar.com @western_star
KEITH GOSSE THE TELEGRAM

CORNER BROOK The deadline recommended by the province was the end of January, but no deal has been reached yet on a pricing formula for snow crab.

The snow crab fishery in Newfoundland and Labrador in 2023 was delayed for about six weeks after a dispute over how much harvesters would be paid for their hauls.

Last year, the price of \$2.20 per pound was decided on by the provinces Fish Price Setting Panel after harvesters and processors couldn't agree on a price. Harvesters refused to fish for that price, but eventually conceded to the price after the provincial government stepped in to broker a deal.

The spat led to a Fish Pricesetting Strategic Review Team being set up by the province, chaired by Glenn Blackwood, who is globally recognized for his leadership and expertise in fisheries and ocean sciences. The review team recommended a formula to setting the price in order to share the economic risks involved and to avoid delays to the start of the 2024 crab fishery this spring.

The committee also recommended that Ffaw-unifor, the union representing harvesters and plant workers, and the Association of Seafood Producers (ASP) negotiate a deal to work out their differences by Jan. 31.

No one from FFAW-Unifor would do an interview as the end of the month drew near, but the union did post a statement on social media, which indicated negotiations had resumed in St. Johns this week and a concerted effort is being made to reach a deal by the end of the week.

Our union is looking forward to an intensive week of face-to-face bargaining and is hopeful a deal can be reached between the two parties, so we can get this year's crab season started on time and on the right foot, but most importantly with a pricing deal that works for harvesters, Greg Pretty, Ffaw-unifor president, said in the prepared statement.

The union noted harvesters have been clear that the Blackwood formula, as written, will not work and other formula offers are now being exchanged.

In an emailed note in response to a request for an interview, the union said the majority of harvesters do not support the formula proposed by the review team due to concerns about a 20 per cent hold back and the effects that will have on filing for employment insurance.

Ffaw-unifor reiterated that it still wishes to achieve a market-based pricing formula.

An interview request was also made to the ASP, but the organization said it would not provide any updates until negotiations have concluded.

How to strengthen community resilience in a world plagued by crises

The Telegram (St. John's) 31 Jan 2024 JENNIFER BRENTON NATALIE SLAWINSKI

KEITH GOSSE THE TELEGRAM

Snow crab moved into the top spot in the Newfoundland and Labrador fishery following the northern cod moratorium of 1992.

Rural communities are especially vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, a new federal report has found, because they often have fewer resources to handle environmental or social disruptions.

While these communities may be innovative, they often lack access to the resources that broad networks, connections and collaboration can bring. Their focus on addressing immediate issues often depletes any existing resources, which limits their ability to build connections and networks.

In Newfoundland and Labrador, for instance, communities have been working for decades to recover from the collapse of their primary local industry, the cod fishery, after the federal minister of Fisheries and Oceans declared a moratorium on the northern cod fishery in 1992. The subsequent economic, environmental, social and cultural impacts have been widespread.

Collaboration is essential for finding solutions to complex crises like this. As communities across the globe struggle with mounting social, ecological and economic issues, creating conditions for collaboration and connection in and across communities can drive local resiliency and revitalization efforts.

STUDYING COMMUNITY GATHERINGS

To explore how convening community leaders in a local place can inspire innovative ideas for revitalization, we conducted a study of an annual gathering in rural Newfoundland.

Our research team co-organized and studied an event called the PLACE Dialogues. This event gathers community leaders from across Newfoundland and Labrador in a different small community each year to share stories, strategies, inspiration and solidarity.

More than just geographic locations, places are full of meaning shaped by natural environments, built structures, cultures, and social systems. These host communities exemplify the power of place to connect us with nature and each other, and are a source of resources that, when managed properly, can be leveraged to revitalize these places.

We ran the sixth annual PLACE Dialogues in St. Anthony in October 2023. The theme was Co-creating Community Entrepreneurship, and local leaders learned about examples of communities across the province engaged in social entrepreneurship to revitalize their communities.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING

Some of these leaders were also co-authors of an edited volume designed to integrate academic and practitioner perspectives on the role of social enterprises in revitalizing communities.

These opportunities for learning about common challenges and sharing success stories bring community leaders together, show them that they are not alone in their struggles, and build relationships that encourage collaborative problem-solving.

BUILDING MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS

How can other communities benefit from gatherings such as the PLACE Dialogues? Our research uncovered three principles for convening community leaders to build meaningful connections and engage in solutions-oriented conversations.

It mattered where we convened with community leaders. The PLACE Dialogues are held in small or rural communities dealing with complex social and ecological challenges. Being connected to these places allowed us to see the realities communities are facing and identify which local resources are important for addressing issues and building resiliency, including stories, social networks, and physical and natural resources. Having discussions with community leaders in town halls that reflected their own community spaces helped foster authentic conversations around community development.

We created opportunities for deep connection in place. We made it a priority to immerse participants in the communities by having interactive cultural activities, like rope weaving or cod filleting, and incorporating local cuisine, music and storytelling. These experiences brought participants closer together and created opportunities for bonding and trust-building, two key ingredients in successful collaborations. These connections encouraged knowledge sharing among the participants and helped them to develop a sense of belonging to a larger network of people working to build stronger communities.

Honouring the differences between community leaders was crucial. The PLACE Dialogues brought together people of many different backgrounds, including government representatives, entrepreneurs and academics. It was important to ensure all voices and perspectives were valued and heard. We worked to level the playing field and lower power differences in the group through interactive activities and by giving all participants opportunities to feel supported, heard and valued as they shared their own experiences with community development. Having an inclusive space for multiple perspectives to exist together in these discussions created a more engaging learning environment.

NEED TO COLLABORATE

With growing crises around the world, communities are grappling with challenges and offering important solutions to address them. To generate more effective solutions, community leaders need to collaborate and build crosssector networks to access a variety of resources that may not be readily available in their own community.

Convening leaders in the very communities facing social, ecological and economic crises to collaborate and share solutions and networks is crucial for building local resilience in the face of these growing crises.

This article was first published on The Conversation. Jennifer Brenton is a postdoctoral research fellow with the Erb Institute for Global Sustainable Enterprise at the University of Michigan; Natalie Slawinski is a professor of sustainability and strategy at the University of Victoria.

Intrafish

Fine on six Norwegian salmon companies could reach well over \$1 billion if ruling drags on

In practice, it is rare that these types of fines reach the limit of 10 percent, a legal executive told IntraFish.

The current fine facing six Norwegian salmon companies after the European Commission's ruled they had breached antitrust rules could increase the longer it takes to reach a final verdict, one legal expert told IntraFish.

On Thursday, the European Commission ruled that Mitsubishi-owned Cermaq, Grieg Seafood, Bremnes, Leroy Seafood Group, Mowi and SalMar breached antitrust rules by colluding to distort competition in the market for spot sales of Norwegian farmed Atlantic salmon exported to the EU.

All six companies have denied the accusations.

The ceiling of the fine will be based on the financial year before a final decision is made, a European Commission spokesperson told IntraFish.

Under EC rules, the final fine will not exceed 10 percent of the company's annual global turnover in the full business year that preceded the adoption of the final decision, the spokesperson said.

If the decision comes in 2026, for example, the financial year 2025 would apply.

In total, the six accused companies had sales of NOK 125.8 billion (10 billion/\$12 billion) in 2022.

On average, the companies increased their sales by 60 percent between 2020 and 2022.

If that growth continues, the fine could be far greater than the current maximum fine of about NOK 12.5 billion (1.1 billion/\$1.2 billion).

In a similar case concerning canned mushrooms, it took 11 months before a final decision was reached, and in a case on price-fixing in the banana sector it took nearly two years before a final decision was reached.

"In practice, however, it is rare that these types of fines reach the limit of 10 percent," Gjermund Mathisen, a partner with law firm Kvale told IntraFish.

The fine will be based on several factors.

"It may be the size of the relevant market where the alleged infringement is supposed to have taken place, the value of the market, the seriousness and duration of the infringement," Mathisen said.

In EC's notice on Thursday, the European Commission made a preliminary assessment of the case, finding the six companies broke competition rules between 2011 and 2019.

With the notice of decision, the commission gives the six companies the opportunity to formally present all their objections and evidence.

In cases where a fine is given, it is not unusual for the decision to be challenged in the EU Court of Justice in Luxembourg.

"In other words, it can take a long time before you reach your goal," Mathisen said.

VOCM

Question of the Day

Do you think introducing international grocers into the Canadian market will result in lowered grocery prices?

No: 53%

Yes: 47%

Headlines

GHOST GEAR: Derelict fishing gear known as ghost gear is one of the main sources of plastic in our oceans. Fisheries and Oceans Canada is attempting to solve this problem with the help of several partners. ["Beth Ann Hawco", Regional Ghost Gear Coordinator]

CBY - Corner Brook - NL Morning @ 07:51:49am Duration: 00:06:39 Reporter: Hilary Johnson

Ref Id: Z7y-9t3-31

REDFISH QUOTA: Redfish is going to be a bit of a big deal in the Gulf of St. Lawrence for now but what about the offshore fleet? Historically they received 74% of the quota. ["Sylvia LePointe", President of the Atlantic Ground Fish Council]

CBN - St. John's - Fisheries Broadcast @ 06:10:13pm Duration: 00:08:03 Reporter: Todd O'Brien

Ref Id: Z5V-6z2-30

MARINE PROTECTED AREA: It could encompass a large portion of the ocean. In 2022 the Nunatsiavut Government and Ottawa started looking at creating a marine protected area in Labrador and now the plan is closer to reality. ["Jim Goudie", Deputy Minister of Land and Resources for Nunatsiavut]

CBN - St. John's - Fisheries Broadcast @ 06:21:59pm Duration: 00:10:58 Reporter:

Ref Id: n5t-6m4-30

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From: Chippett, Jamie
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 4:10 PM
To: Loveless, Elvis, Shea, Erin, Renouf, Craig
Subject: Re: NR for APPROVAL: Minister Loveless Calls for Fair Share of Redfish Allocation

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 31, 2024, at 3:47 PM, Chippett, Jamie <JamieChippett@gov.nl.ca> wrote:

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Renouf, Craig" <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>
Date: January 31, 2024 at 12:12:36 PM NST
To: "Chippett, Jamie" <JamieChippett@gov.nl.ca>
Cc: "Shea, Erin" <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>, "Hanlon, Bren M." <BrenHanlon@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: NR for APPROVAL: Minister Loveless Calls for Fair Share of Redfish Allocation

Hi Jamie,

Please see following NR for approval. Bren has approved. Tks, Craig.

Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

February 1, 2024

Minister Loveless Calls for Fair Share of Redfish Allocation

The Honourable Elvis Loveless, Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture is calling on the Federal Government to ensure Newfoundland and Labrador receives its fair share of the newly announced Unit 1 redfish quota allocations. The Province had requested a share that appropriately reflects Newfoundland and Labradors historical attachment to the redfish fishery, the longstanding principle of adjacency, and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

On January 26, 2024, DFO announced plans to re-open the Unit 1 commercial redfish fishery in 2024 for a two year transitional period with a minimum Total Allowable Catch (TAC) of 25,000 tonnes. Important discussions will take place in the coming weeks with the Redfish Advisory Committee to determine quota allocations for each fleet, establish management measures, and consult on a Total Allowable Catch for the 2024 fishing season.

Add paragraph on reduction in shrimp in SFA 8.

DFO has allocated 10 per cent of the redfish quota to shrimp harvesters to help offset impacts associated with recently announced quota reductions for Northern Shrimp.

Quote

We are pleased with the re-opening of the commercial redfish fishery and opportunities for the fishing industry in this province, including for Indigenous peoples and those impacted by Northern shrimp quota reductions. In saying that, I am very disappointed that the provincial share of the quota does not reflect the historic attachment and adjacency of Newfoundland and Labrador to the redfish fishery. Further, given the significant quota reduction in Shrimp Fishing Area 8, I call upon the federal minister for an increase in the redfish quota for shrimp harvesters and consideration of a licence buyback program for impacted harvested.

Honourable Elvis Loveless
Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

-30-

Learn more

[In Solution Mode: The Government of Canada launches its transition plan for the future of fisheries in Quebec and Atlantic Canada](#)

Follow us on X [@GovNL](#) and [@FFA_GovNL](#)

Like us on [Facebook](#)

Media contact

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Backgrounder

1. The reopening of the Unit Redfish fishery will take place in two phases. A first two-year transitional phase will allow for data collection, give fish harvesters time to prepare, further develop markets, and strengthen the sector's capacity to transform.
2. A second phase of long-term development aimed at establishing a redfish fishery with a modernized allocation key. A phase that, in view of the current scientific data, would be one of expansion.
3. Commercial redfish quota share by fleet:
 1. Offshore mobile gear (MG) fleet sector (vessels >100') - 58.69%
 2. Inshore MG fleet sector (vessels <65') - 14.84%
 3. Midshore MG fleet sector (vessels 65-100') - 5.72%
 4. Inshore fixed gear (bycatch) - 0.75%
 5. Estuary and Gulf of St. Lawrence (ESGL) Shrimp Harvesters - 10.00%
 6. Quota dedicated to Indigenous communities - 10.00%

1. Commercial redfish quota share by province as proposed by DFO:
 - Newfoundland and Labrador: 19%
 - Nova Scotia: 33%
 - New Brunswick: 11%
 - P.E.I.: 5%
 - Quebec: 32%

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From: Shea, Erin
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 4:19 PM
To: Chippett, Jamie
Subject: FW: DFO Redfish Announcement - In Solution Mode: The Government of Canada launches its transition plan for the future of fisheries in Quebec and Atlantic Canada

From: Renouf, Craig <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Friday, January 26, 2024 4:40 PM
To: Loveless, Elvis <ElvisLoveless@gov.nl.ca>; Chippett, Jamie <JamieChippett@gov.nl.ca>; Baldwin, Paul <PaulBaldwin@gov.nl.ca>; Hanlon, Bren M. <brenhanlon@gov.nl.ca>; Shea, Erin <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: DFO Redfish Announcement - In Solution Mode: The Government of Canada launches its transition plan for the future of fisheries in Quebec and Atlantic Canada

In Solution Mode: The Government of Canada launches its transition plan for the future of fisheries in Quebec and Atlantic Canada

<https://www.canada.ca/en/fisheries-oceans/news/2024/01/in-solution-mode-the-government-of-canada-launches-its-transition-plan-for-the-future-of-fisheries-in-quebec-and-atlantic-canada.html>

News release
January 26, 2024

Rivière-au-Renard, Quebec - The Government of Canada recognizes that some fisheries in Quebec and Atlantic Canada are facing serious challenges, including climate change and the resulting disruption of aquatic ecosystems. Today, the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, the Honourable Diane Lebouthillier, announced a transition plan that will help fish harvesters in Canada's coastal communities, and give them the predictability they need to continue their important work in the years ahead.

In Canada and around the world, the effects of climate change and ocean warming are undeniable. The fishing industry is going through and will continue to experience major changes that will require us to reinvent our ways of doing things. In recent years, northern shrimp stocks in the Estuary and northern Gulf of St. Lawrence have reached critical levels, while redfish abundance has reached levels that allow commercial catches to resume. That is why, after 30 years, Minister Lebouthillier announced the return of the commercial Unit 1 redfish this year. To this end, shrimp harvesters will be allocated an allowance to support them. To further reconciliation, a dedicated pool is being created to support indigenous community participation in the fishery.

Minister Lebouthillier also announced, subject to ongoing negotiations with her provincial counterparts, her intention to extend the Quebec and Atlantic Fisheries Funds until 2026, with federal priority given to innovative projects related to the redfish fishery. This extension will provide our fish harvesters with the tools and financial means they need to transit to this new fishery.

Opening of the commercial Redfish fishery in Unit 1

The government recognizes the historic importance of the Redfish fishery to coastal communities across Atlantic Canada and Quebec. The decision to reopen the Unit 1 Redfish fishery, which has been closed since 1995, was based on the most recent stock information, stakeholder views, and the potential social and economic benefits of this fishery.

This reopening will take place in two phases. A first two-year transitional phase will allow for data collection, give fish harvesters time to prepare, further develop markets, and strengthen the sector's capacity to transform.

A second phase of long-term development aimed at establishing a redfish fishery with a modernized allocation key. A phase that, in view of the current scientific data, would be one of expansion.

Discussions will take place in the coming weeks with the Redfish Advisory Committee, which includes representatives from DFO, the fishing and processing industry, Indigenous groups, provincial governments, and other stakeholders, to determine how to share allocations for each fleet, establish management measures, and consult on a Total Allowable Catch for the 2024 fishing season.

Northern Shrimp of the Estuary and Northern Gulf of St. Lawrence

Due to the status of shrimp stocks in the Estuary and Gulf of St. Lawrence, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is announcing a significant decrease in the Total Allowable Catch for the 2024 season.

In total, for the four shrimp stocks, the TAC will be 3,060 tonnes. This TAC will ensure a modest fishery, while allowing shrimp stocks to recover.

Discussions will take place in the near future with industry representatives and First Nations to determine how this allocation will be managed.

Quotes

"Canada, a maritime nation at the forefront of climate change, is currently at a crossroads. In the face of these many challenges, we will need to be resilient, creative, and above all, row together in the same direction. By launching this robust transition plan today, our government is setting the stage for the future. A future where our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren will continue to fish for world-class fish and seafood."

The Honourable Diane Lebovillier, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard

Quick facts

In total, for the four shrimp stocks, the TAC will be 3,060 tonnes (t), i.e. :

1,757 t for Esquiman

488 t for Anticosti

342 t for Sept-Îles

473 t for the Estuary

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From: Hanlon, Bren M.
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2024 8:51 AM
To: Chippett, Jamie, Renouf, Craig, Shea, Erin
Subject: FW: Transcript from the Redfish Announcement
Attachments: January 26th, 2024 Press Conference.docx

From: Burrridge, Angela <AngelaBurrridge@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2024 8:20 AM
To: Hanlon, Bren M. <brenhanlon@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: Transcript from the Redfish Announcement

FYI

Angela

Angela Burrridge

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Minister Leboutillier – January 26th, 2024 Press Conference

A: Minister Leboutillier

Q1: Robert Nicolas - Madame Leboutillier, with regard to today's announcement, you directly linked the shrimp fishery with that of the Redfish. Industry unanimously called for a minimum quota of 5,000 tonnes, a licence buyback program, transitional measures and support measures. Does the announcement you're making today mean that you believe you'll be able to rationalize and restructure this industry, and adapt catching and processing capacity in line with the available resource?

A1: Listen, in the meetings I've had over the past six months, what was important for the industry was to get a clear signal that we were going to start opening up the redfish fishery so that we could make investments in processing, plants and markets too. So, this morning's announcement is really a historic one, after 30 years of closure, to announce the start of commercial fishing for redfish. We also had to take into account the companies' processing capacity. So that was a first element for me. The other element is, as I was saying, for me the minimum is 25,000-tonne, there's a committee that's going to meet, the committee's going to decide what's going to happen next, so I'm going to make way for the committee, and for me, it was also important to make this announcement for the fish harvesters, because we're seeing it, we're experiencing it with the shrimp crisis, so, for me, it was important to say, "Listen, here's what's going to happen for the next two years". We're going to work to get this fishery going, but there are going to be discussions, and that's where I'm bringing in phase 2. Discussions will be held with the community to really work on how we see our fisheries in the future. For me, it's also an announcement that's coming to manage the crisis, because for me it was important to send out a clear signal. We know it, we're in a period of transition, the industry knows it, and as I was talking about climate change, the impact it's having on our oceans, we're seeing it right now. It's not normal for me to see that there's no ice, when you look at the docks, it's not good for the milieu. So we need to have ongoing conversations about the future of fisheries in our region, in Quebec, and in Atlantic Canada. And I expect everyone to put their shoulder to the wheel and look at what solutions we can come up with to ensure sustainability for generations to come. So, as I was saying, 10% of the quota is really reserved for shrimp harvesters, and another 10% is set aside for indigenous communities.

Q2: Martin Toulgoat - Minister Leboutillier, we sensed that not all shrimp fishermen are going to turn to redfish, with only 10% of allocations. In concrete terms, do you plan to set up an emergency fund and a license buyback program for fish harvesters who don't want to continue the shrimp fishing adventure in this difficult context?

A2: As you say, and you're right to mention it, the context is difficult, so for me there are discussions that will have to continue.

Follow up - Regarding the redfish fishery, do you plan to respect the historical shares that were established during the 1995 moratorium? You're talking about a commercial fishery, and you can see the tug-of-war that's developing, particularly with the Magdalen Island fishermen, who have major

historic shares, versus the Gaspésie fishermen, and also in other maritime provinces. What's your vision with respect to this?

A: I can tell you that right now, in terms of the provinces, we have four provinces where there's an increase in shares and one province where there's a slight decrease in shares, but which still has a larger share than the other provinces, and that's Nova Scotia.

Q3: Peter Cowan- Hi there. A question about developing the markets. Since this market has been closed for 30 years, how difficult do you think it's going to be to be able to find the customers for the redfish that fishers will now be able to catch?

A3: In terms of the market, I can tell you that, based on my conversations with the processing industry, the industry told us they can handle the market. As I said for me there's one particular market that is important. We can look domestically, we're going to have to work with restaurants, we're going to work with fish shops, we're going to have an eco-responsible fishery, so the processing sector is ready to get organized, and as I was saying, I'd rather eat redfish than Tulapia.

Follow up – exactly how much quota is going to go to each province?

A: I know we have people with us from DFO who could probably give you more technical information.

Todd Williams, Senior Director of Fisher Management Operations: As the Minister has said, Nova Scotia will retain the largest portion of the quota allocation key and a number of considerations were taken into account when developing that allocation key and that information is there.

Follow up – Sorry that's not really the question, do you have a break down by province?

Todd Williams, Senior Director of Fisher Management Operations: Nova Scotia retains the largest share, we do not have at this point a breakdown by province to share with you.

Q4: Félix Côté- My question is about data collection. You mentioned that you want to have an informed discussion about the ecosystem. So, I'm wondering who will be responsible for gathering this data?

A4: Look, I can tell you that the work will be done in collaboration with DFO's scientists. We're going to be working, and I think it's going to be important, in terms of data, to work with people in the catching sector too, because they're often the first to be affected, they're the ones who see the impact of climate change on the environment. So it's going to be a concerted effort, it's going to be a collaborative effort with Fisheries and Oceans and the milieu.

A5: Paul Withers- Questions for M. Williams and Mrs Senay, I would like more precisions on the allocation shares please. If you're not going to give it to us by province, what is the allocation to the offshore fleet, it was 74%, is it now 74%? What has it been reduced to?

Todd Williams, Senior Director of Fisher Management Operations: Yes, I can answer that. In terms of percentages, the offshore mobile gear fleet sector is 58.69%. The inshore mobile gear fleet sector, so

under 65 feet, is 14.84%. The midshore mobile fleet sector is 5.72%, and as the Minister said, there's 10% each for the estuary and Gulf of St. Lawrence shrimp harvesters, and a quota dedicated to indigenous communities. And there's also a 0.75% for buyers of inshore fixed gear bycatch.

Follow up- Mr. Williams, can you tell me if there is a TAC? I assume there isn't one because we haven't heard it, but can you confirm that there isn't a TAC? And for Mrs Senay, I just want to confirm that the biomass is down to 2.1 million above 22 centimeters.

Todd Williams, Senior Director of Fisher Management Operations: I believe the Minister has identified a TAC for this first season, which is 25,000 tonnes.

Caroline Senay, biologist, Québec region: Thanks for the question. We did an assessment this week and it stated that the biomass of redfish over 22 centimeters is just over the 2 million limit. So there's still good news for the redfish, however we don't have a lot of growth and recruitment in the past years, so we're expecting that, with or without fishing, the biomass will slowly decrease in the coming years, just due to natural mortality.

Follow up: Thank you. If I could ask just one more question of the Minister. How important was it for you in this decision not to destabilize the industry by drastically altering the historical allocation?

A: I would say that for me, it was important to ensure that the industry could work collaboratively, it was important to have the support of all sectors, but also to take into account, in the decision that was made, to take into account the indigenous communities, and also to take into account the necessity of having a quota that was specifically allocated to the people in the shrimp sector. And that these allocations respond to the current crisis in certain fisheries, including shrimp. And, as far as I'm concerned, the work will continue. As I said, I really intend for us to all win together for the future of the fisheries, both for Quebec and for the entire Atlantic coast.

Q6: Helene Fauteux- So, just to summarize, the shares seem to be the same as they were in 1995. 14.84% for Inshore mobile gear, 5.72% for Midshore mobile gear, 74% for offshore. We agree on this. The provinces will see a slight increase, and Nova Scotia a slight decrease. This means that Quebec's 33% share will remain, or we can expect a slight increase? Can you confirm this first, Madame Lebouthillier?

A6: Yes.

Follow up: Okay. Then, of this 33%, Madelipêche had 25%. Are we maintaining Madelipêche's quota in the 74% share of offshore? Are we maintaining Madelipêche's share in this breakdown? In what has been announced?

A: In what has been announced, there is a slight increase in Quebec's share, and in terms of shares, I am protecting 10% for shrimp harvesters who are currently experiencing difficulties. We'll also remember that in the days when lobster fisher harvesters were experiencing difficulties, we went looking for crab shares to help the lobster industry. So for me, what's important is that there's fishing going on, that we're announcing that there's going to be commercial fishing. That's really the signal that the fishing and processing industries were asking for, because it's not true that people in the fishing industry are going to invest money if we don't have the government's assurance that we're moving towards a commercial

fishery. So that's the announcement we made today: commercial fishing of redfish is now open after a 30-year moratorium. So for me this is excellent news.

Follow up: You announced a minimum of 25,000 tons. Isn't it a fact that the people in science told you that the minimum was 88,000 tonnes to 266,000 tonnes?

A: As I mentioned in my opening speech, I'll let the committee make its suggestions, but for me, it was important to set a floor, and the floor I set was 25,000 tonnes.

Follow up: When should we know?

A: They're going to have meetings over the next few weeks and months, I'd say, but we also agree that this year some people are going to have to get ready, which is why it's important to have the fisheries fund to enable fish harvesters to upgrade their boats, and also to enable people who want to go further in processing to have the equipment in place to be able to process.

Q7: Jenn Thornhill Verma- I understand that the redfish biomass is plentiful, but that the fish themselves are small. So I thought Caroline might be able to answer that. I'm also interested to know the implications for the market, particularly because there's a real keen interest in this becoming a fillet market versus a bait market to really see the economic benefits. It's a question about the size and then the market implications of that.

Caroline Senay, biologist, Québec region: Thanks for the question. I can't really talk about the market, but you're right, the growth has really diminished in the last few years, both in our surveys from a science perspective and the fishermen. We've been seeing fish around 24-25 cm since 2021.

Follow up: I understand too, and again, this comes from fishermen, as redfish have proliferated, shrimp, I think, in the Gulf and in places has plummeted or declined. And so I'm curious to know how we anticipate reopening could potentially benefit both fisheries?

Caroline Senay, biologist, Québec region: For the growth, it's possible that higher temperature or the fact that they're so plentiful has limited their growth. And when it comes to shrimp, we know that northern shrimp is part of the redfish's diet. So reducing the biomass population should help them, but the ecosystem is complex. The shrimp are also having a lot of problems because of temperature, so we'll see how the fish react. But it's not one year of fishing that will make much difference, unfortunately.

Q8: Mario Tardif- Yes, hello. Madam Minister, is the industry currently ready to process redfish? And if so, I have a sub-question about whether redfish will be processed in New Brunswick as well.

A8: I can tell you that on January 4, I was in New Brunswick in the Caraquet area, meeting with people from the catching and processing industry. I was told that there was a processing plant in the Caraquet area that was ready to process redfish. There's also a quota allocated to New Brunswick.

Q9: Nelson Sergerie- Yes, hello. Just a word about the fisheries fund. We know that processing, adapting boats and factories to the redfish will require a lot of investments. You tell us that there's about 8

million left in the fisheries fund for the next two years. If we need a little more, would Ottawa be prepared, in collaboration with Quebec, if we can agree, to release a little more than 8 million if necessary?

A9: Look, what I can tell you about the fisheries fund is that the \$8 million is the federal contribution, but the provincial contribution will also be taken into account, and as I was saying, I want the fisheries fund to be accessible to both the harvesting and processing sectors over the next two years. So, there are the final terms and conditions that we're working on with our provincial counterparts to ensure that the fisheries fund helps with redfish. So priority would be given to projects submitted for redfish.

Follow up: So, if I adjust the figures with Quebec, it comes to about ten and a half million, since Ottawa is 70 – 30?

A: Yes, but as they say, we'll adjust as we go along. It's difficult for me today to tell you how much money will be committed over the next two years, but I can assure you that I'll be following the file very closely.

Q10: Nicolas Steinbach- There are fishermen and processors who currently process and fish redfish. This is the case in the Digby area in particular, which fishes in the historic parks, I think, offshore, in the ocean. They're very worried in the allocation division that they won't have enough redfish to make their processing plants profitable. What do you say today to the current Nova Scotia redfish processors?

A10: Listen, what I can tell you today is that I've come to announce the commercial fishing of redfish. If we're announcing this, it's certainly because there's Redfish. Otherwise, I wouldn't be here today to tell you about Redfish. And as I said, for the next two years, there's work to be done. Work will continue on phase 2. To ensure that, as I was saying, phase 2 means that we aim to catch even more redfish, and to add even more value to the product, because it's an excellent product. So I really want to reassure people. We're here to move forward for present and future fisheries.

Follow up: When does the redfish fishery start? I understand that it's 25,000 tonnes a year for the Atlantic provinces and Quebec as a whole. That we agree on. What's the opening date and what's the duration of the fishery?

A: I don't have that answer right now, so I can't tell you.

Q11: Émilie Bergeron- Yes, hello Minister, I wanted to check something with you. Commercial fishing was under moratorium for 30 years. Now that you're reopening it, are you reopening it for good, or do you want to reassess, after a year, what needs to be done?

A11: Look, as we said, we're announcing the fishery, the signal is clear for the commercialization of the redfish fishery. It's not a fishery that's only going to be open for two years. What I was announcing for the first two years is really to launch the signal to industry, to be able to prepare to ensure that the redfish fishery continues, so for me, in phase 2 and in the discussions that the committee will have, it's really to ensure that the fishery continues. It's a fishery that, for me, is really going to expand. As I said, 25,000 tonnes is a floor. We'll see what the committee recommends, and then it could very well be that

the committee recommends 40,000 tonnes, 50,000 tonnes, but I'm going to go with the committee's recommendations, and this committee will include people from the harvesting sector, indigenous communities and provincial governments.

Follow up: With regard to the fund, which has been extended by two, you said that redfish-related projects will be given priority. Can you tell us how this will work? Will there be a call for projects? I'm aware that this is a more technical question. Maybe you don't know if you have the answer or if someone else is better placed to answer that?

A: I can tell you that as far as the fisheries fund is concerned, I think that the community has really developed an expertise in terms of projects for the fisheries fund. So, as much the fish harvesters, the associations that support them, the governments, there are already measures in place to help and support, so we're going to continue to be there with the community, and the processing industry also knows about the fisheries fund, so for me, it's not a concern.

Q12: Laurence Dami-Houle- In the spirit of the predictability, you've been talking about for several months now, can we have a commitment for a date for more details on the total TAC that will be granted in the end?

A12: Well, I can tell you, there's a firm commitment today, there's a floor of 25,000 tonnes that's been allocated, and as I mentioned, the committee is going to submit to us, it's going to have, the committee is going to meet and then submit their recommendations, and I can tell you that I can assure you that I'm going to follow the, I'm going to work to follow the committee's recommendations.

Follow up: In what proportion would we be able to fish redfish, given the biomass, we were talking about 80,000 tonnes up to..., in short, is it possible to confirm these latest figures?

Caroline Senay, biologist, Québec region: Yes, according to the assessment we made two days ago, the science determined that for the next fishing season, so not in the long term, but for one year in 2024 - 2025, the harvest could go up to 318,000 tonnes for redfish, the mentella that is the most abundant species in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

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From: Shea, Erin
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2024 8:59 AM
To: Hanlon, Bren M.
Cc: Chippett, Jamie, Renouf, Craig
Subject: Re: Transcript from the Redfish Announcement

Awesome - Thanks Bren!

On Feb 1, 2024, at 8:50 AM, Hanlon, Bren M. <BrenHanlon@gov.nl.ca> wrote:

From: Burridge, Angela <AngelaBurridge@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2024 8:20 AM
To: Hanlon, Bren M. <brenhanlon@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: Transcript from the Redfish Announcement

FYI

Angela

Angela Burridge

Director, Sustainable Fisheries and Oceans Policy
Fisheries and Aquaculture Branch
Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
30 Strawberry Marsh Road
P.O. Box 8700, St. Johns, NL A1B 4J6
T: 709-729-0335
E: angelaburridge@gov.nl.ca

<January 26th, 2024 Press Conference.docx>

From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2024 3:05 PM
To: Chippett, Jamie
Cc: Hanlon, Bren M., Shea, Erin
Subject: FW: FOR APPROVAL: NR - Redfish Announcement

Hi Jamie,

Please see for approval a suggested edit from Comms Branch in 1st paragraph where highlighted below. Tks, Craig.

From: Barfoot, Scott <ScottBarfoot@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2024 2:32 PM
To: Renouf, Craig <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>; Sorensen, David <DavidSorensen@gov.nl.ca>; Releases, News <news@gov.nl.ca>; McCabe, Meghan <MeghanMcCabe@gov.nl.ca>; Pomeroy, Sonja <SonjaPomeroy@gov.nl.ca>
Cc: Shea, Erin <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL: NR - Redfish Announcement

For approval and immediate release.

In the interim, Craig, if you could please confirm whether the highlighted part is okay.

Thanks,
Scott

From: Renouf, Craig <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2024 1:47 PM
To: Barfoot, Scott <ScottBarfoot@gov.nl.ca>; Sorensen, David <DavidSorensen@gov.nl.ca>; Releases, News <news@gov.nl.ca>
Cc: Shea, Erin <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: FOR APPROVAL: NR - Redfish Announcement

Hi there,

Please see the following news release our Minister would like issued today for your approval. Thanks, Craig.

Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

February 1, 2024

Minister Loveless Calls for Fair Share of Redfish Allocation

The Honourable Elvis Loveless, Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture, is calling on the Federal Government to ensure Newfoundland and Labrador receives its fair share of the newly-announced Unit 1 redfish quota allocations. The Provincial Government has requested a share that appropriately reflects Newfoundland and Labrador's historical attachment to the redfish fishery, which is based on the longstanding principle of adjacency, and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

On January 26, 2024, the Federal Government's Department of Fisheries and Oceans announced plans to re-open the Unit 1 commercial redfish fishery in 2024 for a two-year transitional period with a minimum Total Allowable Catch of 25,000 tonnes. Important discussions will take place in the coming

weeks with the Redfish Advisory Committee to determine quota allocations for each fleet, establish management measures, and consult on a Total Allowable Catch for the 2024 fishing season.

The federal department also recently announced significant reductions in Northern Shrimp quotas that will have a devastating impact on this province's shrimp harvesters and processors. The quota for Shrimp Fishing Area 8, located adjacent to the province's west coast, has been reduced from 4,222 tonnes in 2023 to just 1,757 tonnes for 2024.

While the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans has allocated 10 per cent of the redfish quota to shrimp harvesters to help offset impacts of the quota reduction, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador is calling for those affected to receive an even greater share of redfish quota given the extent of the cut.

Quote

We are pleased with the re-opening of the commercial redfish fishery and the opportunities for the fishing industry in this province. In saying that, I am very disappointed that the provincial share of the quota does not reflect the historic attachment and adjacency of Newfoundland and Labrador to the redfish fishery. Further, given the significant quota reduction in Shrimp Fishing Area 8, I call upon the federal minister for an increase in the redfish quota for shrimp harvesters and consideration of a licence buyback program for impacted harvesters.

Honourable Elvis Loveless

Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

-30-

Learn more

[In Solution Mode: The Government of Canada launches its transition plan for the future of fisheries in Quebec and Atlantic Canada](#)

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Media contact

Craig Renouf

Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

709-637-2923, 709-640-6922

craigrenouf@gov.nl.ca

Backgrounder

- The reopening of the Unit Redfish fishery will take place in two phases. A first two-year transitional phase will allow for data collection, give fish harvesters time to prepare, further develop markets, and strengthen the sector's capacity to transform.
- A second phase of long-term development aimed at establishing a redfish fishery with a modernized allocation key. A phase that, in view of the current scientific data, would be one of expansion.

- **Commercial redfish quota share by fleet:**
 - Offshore mobile gear (MG) fleet sector (vessels >100') - 58.69%
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 - Newfoundland and Labrador: 19%
 - Nova Scotia: 33%
 - New Brunswick: 11%
 - P.E.I.: 5%
 - Quebec: 32%

Craig Renouf

Media Relations Manager

Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

709-637-2923 (office)

709-640-6922 (cell)

craigrenouf@gov.nl.ca

133 of 362

From: Shea, Erin
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 9:03 AM
To: Chippett, Jamie
Subject: Fwd: FOR APPROVAL: NR - Redfish Announcement

Hi, as per the below message from Scott, is adding a link to the letter doable? I told him one was in approvals, but it definitely would not be signed off and sent until at least this afternoon if not longer.

I would also like to see the letter before they add in any links or we post. Im not sure if I think its a great idea.

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Barfoot, Scott" <ScottBarfoot@gov.nl.ca>
Date: February 2, 2024 at 8:56:45 AM NST
To: "McCabe, Meghan" <MeghanMcCabe@gov.nl.ca>, "Sorensen, David" <DavidSorensen@gov.nl.ca>, "Pomeroy, Sonja" <SonjaPomeroy@gov.nl.ca>, "Releases, News" <news@gov.nl.ca>, "Shea, Erin" <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>, "Renouf, Craig" <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL: NR - Redfish Announcement

Hi,
We can issue this when ready to goCraig/Erin, is there a letter that is being sent to the federal minister? If so, it would be good to either link to a PDF or embed it in the backgrounder.

Best,
SB

From: McCabe, Meghan <MeghanMcCabe@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2024 4:48 PM
To: Barfoot, Scott <ScottBarfoot@gov.nl.ca>; Sorensen, David <DavidSorensen@gov.nl.ca>; Pomeroy, Sonja <SonjaPomeroy@gov.nl.ca>; Releases, News <news@gov.nl.ca>; Shea, Erin <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>; Renouf, Craig <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL: NR - Redfish Announcement

Thanks!

I made a couple small edits like consistently saying Federal Government and took out a couple adjectives so didnt highlight.

From: Barfoot, Scott <ScottBarfoot@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2024 4:28 PM
To: Sorensen, David <DavidSorensen@gov.nl.ca>; McCabe, Meghan <MeghanMcCabe@gov.nl.ca>; Pomeroy, Sonja <SonjaPomeroy@gov.nl.ca>; Releases, News <news@gov.nl.ca>; Shea, Erin <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>; Renouf, Craig <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL: NR - Redfish Announcement

Hi,
We will revisit this in the morning.

Feel free to reach out with any questions or to discuss.

Thanks,

From: Barfoot, Scott

Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2024 3:57 PM

To: Sorensen, David <DavidSorensen@gov.nl.ca>; McCabe, Meghan <MeghanMcCabe@gov.nl.ca>; Pomeroy, Sonja <SonjaPomeroy@gov.nl.ca>; Releases, News <news@gov.nl.ca>; Shea, Erin <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>; Renouf, Craig <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>

Subject: FW: FOR APPROVAL: NR - Redfish Announcement

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Exchanged a note with Jamie, he would prefer not to make the change that I suggested revised below MM, Ill connect with you on a point.

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February 1, 2024

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The Honourable Elvis Loveless, Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture, is calling on the Federal Government to ensure Newfoundland and Labrador receives its fair share of the newly-announced Unit 1 redfish quota allocations. The Provincial Government has requested a share that appropriately reflects Newfoundland and Labrador's historical attachment to the redfish fishery, the longstanding principle of adjacency, and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

On January 26, 2024, the Federal Government's Department of Fisheries and Oceans announced plans to re-open the Unit 1 commercial redfish fishery in 2024 for a two-year transitional period with a minimum Total Allowable Catch of 25,000 tonnes. Important discussions will take place in the coming weeks with the Redfish Advisory Committee to determine quota allocations for each fleet, establish management measures, and consult on a Total Allowable Catch for the 2024 fishing season.

The Federal Government's department also recently announced significant reductions in Northern Shrimp quotas that will have a devastating impact on this province's shrimp harvesters and processors. The quota for Shrimp Fishing Area 8, located adjacent to the province's west coast, has been reduced from 4,222 tonnes in 2023 to just 1,757 tonnes for 2024.

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Quote

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Media contact

Craig Renouf
Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
709-637-2923, 709-640-6922
craigrenouf@gov.nl.ca

Backgrounder

1. The reopening of the Unit Redfish fishery will take place in two phases. A first two-year transitional phase will allow for data collection, give fish harvesters time to prepare, further develop markets, and strengthen the sector's capacity to transform.
2. A second phase of long-term development aimed at establishing a redfish fishery with a modernized allocation key. A phase that, in view of the current scientific data, would be one of expansion.
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craigrenouf@gov.nl.ca

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From: Chippett, Jamie
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 9:18 AM
To: Shea, Erin
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL: NR - Redfish Announcement

Thanks

Letter is with Minister for review. Goal to get it out today

Jamie

From: Shea, Erin <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 9:17 AM
To: Chippett, Jamie <JamieChippett@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: Fwd: FOR APPROVAL: NR - Redfish Announcement

As per Meghan, Craig and I will just stand down for now

Begin forwarded message:

From: "McCabe, Meghan" <MeghanMcCabe@gov.nl.ca>
Date: February 2, 2024 at 9:12:11 AM NST
To: "Shea, Erin" <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>
Cc: "Barfoot, Scott" <ScottBarfoot@gov.nl.ca>, "Sorensen, David" <DavidSorensen@gov.nl.ca>, "Pomeroy, Sonja" <SonjaPomeroy@gov.nl.ca>, "Releases, News" <news@gov.nl.ca>, "Renouf, Craig" <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: Re: FOR APPROVAL: NR - Redfish Announcement

Thanks, folks! My understanding is that wed like to send the letter first - whether or not its included in this NR.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 2, 2024, at 8:59 AM, Shea, Erin <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca> wrote:

Theres a letter, but it is still in approvals. I think it could be signed and sent by this afternoon, but let me clarify with the exec again. Definitely not done before lunch. Ill let you know very shortly!

On Feb 2, 2024, at 8:56 AM, Barfoot, Scott <ScottBarfoot@gov.nl.ca> wrote:

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<ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>; Renouf, Craig <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>

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<ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>; Renouf, Craig <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>

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February 1, 2024

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-30-

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Media contact

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Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
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craigrenouf@gov.nl.ca

Backgrounder

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709-637-2923 (office)
709-640-6922 (cell)
craigrenouf@gov.nl.ca

From: [Renouf, Craig](#)
Sent: [Friday, February 2, 2024 9:34 AM](#)
To: [Loveless, Elvis](#), [Chippett, Jamie](#), [Baldwin, Paul](#), [Hanlon, Bren M.](#), [Adams, Blair](#), [Balsom, Stephen](#), [Deering, Keith](#), [Skinner, Linda](#), [Shea, Erin](#)
Subject: [MORNING MEDIA - Jan. 2, 2024](#)

CBC

DFO 'intellectually and morally bankrupt' in provincial redfish allocations, N.L. minister says

N.L. to receive 19 per cent share of quota

CBC News · Posted: Feb 02, 2024 6:44 AM NST | Last Updated: 2 hours ago

Corner Brook MHA and former provincial fisheries minister Gerry Byrne says Newfoundland and Labrador deserves a higher allocation of redfish this season, and believes the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans is "intellectually and morally bankrupt" in its decision-making.

Federal Fisheries Minister Diane Lebovitch announced the redfish allocation for the Atlantic provinces in the Gulf of St. Lawrence last Friday. Newfoundland and Labrador saw a slight increase to a 19 per cent share, up two per cent from historical allocations.

Nova Scotia received 33 per cent of the quota, Québec 32 per cent, New Brunswick 11 per cent and P.E.I. five per cent. Indigenous fishers and shrimp harvesters will also get an allocation of redfish following a reduction in shrimp quotas.

Speaking with CBC Radio's The Broadcast on Thursday, Byrne said he was "gobsmacked" and "enraged" by the announcement, saying much of the conservation work done in western Newfoundland appears to have not been accounted for.

"The Gulf of St. Lawrence's return to [the] redfish fishery story should be a story of D.F.O. putting on display the full strength, the full prowess, the full intellectual capacity of everything that they have learned and we have learned on managing groundfish stocks for their sustainable future," Byrne told CBC.

"Based on the decision that I heard just a few days ago, DFO are intellectually and morally bankrupt. They refused to accept that you should not advance or increase capacity when capacity already exists. That's where I am livid, vicious, crazy angry with DFO. Because they have shown absolutely no intellectual or moral capacity within this regard."

Byrne believes Lebovitch is threatening the redfish stock in the gulf by giving too much to fishers in other provinces not near it. He's outraged that allocations would go to offshore fleets and communities who don't have boats or workers.

Redfish was a shuttered fishery in 1995, but the biomass in the gulf has rebounded to an estimated two million tonnes according to DFO

An abundance of redfish in the Gulf of St. Lawrence

"We have 90 boats in the gulf, the majority of which are from the west coast of Newfoundland, that could persecute this fishery. We have plant capacity that's already established in western Newfoundland," he said.

"It's a high volume, low value fishery," he added. "Difficult to market, difficult to process, difficult to catch. If you do not have existing expertise, if you do not have existing capacity in that regard, you're going to be in trouble."

If he were minister, Byrne said, he would have allocated numbers more closely based on historical figures. He plans to bring that up in a meeting with DFO, current Fisheries Minister Elvis Loveless and provincial stakeholders on Friday.

Clearwater Seafoods loses redfish quota as other Indigenous harvesters gain

Commercial redfish harvesting is resuming this year after three-decade moratorium

Paul Withers · CBC News · Posted: Feb 02, 2024 6:30 AM NST | Last Updated: 2 hours ago

Indigenous-owned Clearwater Seafoods is on the losing side of the redfish quota cut handed to the Atlantic Canadian offshore fleet by the federal government last week.

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans reduced the share of Gulf of St. Lawrence redfish quota held by Clearwater and other offshore licence holders by 20 per cent, in part to encourage Indigenous participation in the fishery.

Commercial harvesting will restart this year, marking an epic comeback from a collapse 30 years ago to a population now estimated at 2.2-million metric tonnes.

Offshore companies spent tens of millions of dollars gearing up for the return only to lose a big piece of their quota on the eve of reopening.

Clearwater confirms quota cut

"I can confirm that the Clearwater/FNC quota was reduced in proportion with the other offshore groundfish licence holders," Clearwater vice-president Christine Penney said.

Ottawa revamps redfish allocation in Gulf of St. Lawrence, but N.S. keeps largest share

A consortium of seven Mi'kmaw communities — through FNC Holdings — owns 50 per cent of the company and holds all its Canadian fishing licences, part of a historic half-billion dollar purchase of Clearwater in 2021.

That included 14.6 per cent of the offshore redfish quota.

Penney referred questions to the Atlantic Groundfish Council on the issue "as we fully support their position."

Atlantic Groundfish Council president Sylvie Lapointe acknowledged the impact on Clearwater but says rules around the restart are missing.

"Clearwater is owned by First Nations and so a cut to the offshore in this sense is a cut to those Indigenous participants in our fishery," Lapointe said.

"We had always said to the government over several years that we were working to support their reconciliation agenda and we would be reaching out to other First Nations and trying to advance their objectives."

Lapointe said there are many unknowns and "it's very unclear what the impact to various First Nation groups will be."

Where the quota went

The groundfish council represents companies with vessels larger than 100 feet.

It had lobbied to maintain the redfish share held by offshore companies — 74 per cent of the quota — before the Gulf fishery was closed in the 1990s.

DFO Minister Diane LeBouthillier reduced the offshore allocation, mostly held by Nova Scotia companies, in announcing the resumption of the commercial fishery.

She gave the Gulf shrimp fleet 10 per cent of the quota and 10 per cent to Indigenous participants who have not been identified.

Meeting today

Federal officials will hold a virtual meeting Friday with participants from Quebec and Atlantic Canada to discuss the total allowable catch when the fishery opens, likely in May.

Lebouthillier has only said the minimum allowable catch will be 25,000 tonnes. DFO scientists have said the quota could range from 88,000 to 310,000 tonnes.

The department has yet to set bycatch limits, compliance monitoring or how the Indigenous pool will be shared.

DFO spokesperson Axel Rioux confirmed in a statement that the cut will be proportionately applied to all offshore licence holders, including FNC.

VOCM

Redfish Advisory Committee Meeting Today

Feb 2, 2024 | 6:15 AM

The fishing industry is hoping to learn more information today about the resurrection of the redfish fishery in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

DFO is going to allow that fishery to resume after being dormant for 30 years.

The Redfish Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet today to hammer out some of the detail, including total allowable catch. The larger year-round boats, which fish offshore, has most of the quota.

Sylvie Lapointe of the Atlantic Groundfish Council, which represents that side of the industry, says there is a lot of work ahead to prepare for redfish including developing markets in Europe and Asia.

She says the timelines are quite challenging.

FFAW Website

MEDIA RELEASE: DIVISOR DATE CHANGE NEEDED FOR SEASONAL WORKERS

<https://ffaw.ca/media-release-divisor-date-change-needed-for-seasonal-workers/>

The Telegram

Spotlight on wetlands' future

Under-pressure ecosystems here in N.L. need our help

The Telegram (St. John's) 2 Feb 2024 FAITH FLEMMING COMMENTARY Faith Flemming is acting regional vice-president, Atlantic region, Nature Conservancy of Canada. For more information on helping to care for conservation areas, contact supporter.services@natureconservancy.ca.

CHIRATHI WIJEKULATHILAKE | NCC PHOTO

The marshland of the Black Ash Nature Reserve near Deer Lake, N.L., is a perfect habitat for provincially rare species, such as black ash, rusty blackbird and great blue heron.

World Wetlands Day, Feb. 2, offers an opportunity for us all to reflect on the importance of wetlands and the never-ending services they offer to set our own communities up for a hopeful future.

Canada is home to one-quarter of the world's wetlands. Bogs, peatlands, marshes, rivers, lakes, deltas, floodplains and flooded forests cover 15 per cent of our country's landmass, and we are failing to protect these places. An estimated 70 per cent of southern Canada's wetlands have been lost: paved over, ploughed through or otherwise destroyed. That figure rises to a nearly 95 per cent loss near densely populated areas.

Every time we convert or degrade a wetland, we destroy the environmental benefits these ecosystems provide: filtering water, storing carbon, protecting nearby communities from spring melts and summer droughts, and providing homes for hundreds of plant and animal species.

WETLANDS LOSSES HIT HOMES AND WALLETS

Around the world and here at home, we are feeling the brunt of the dramatic loss of wetlands. The Insurance Bureau of Canada reported in January that Canada suffered \$3.1 billion in insurance damage from severe weather events during 2023. According to the report, insurance losses in this country now routinely exceed \$2 billion annually, and most of it is due to water-related damage.

Wetlands are critical to mitigating the effects of severe weather events and our rapidly changing climate. They form natural defences that protect our homes and infrastructure from storms and floods. Wetlands absorb and hold water around our cities and farms, acting as buffers from floods and droughts. Coastal wetlands dampen storm surges by absorbing the wave energy and abating shore erosion. During heavy rains, our wetlands hold water and release it gradually. Wetlands also provide natural fire breaks, which is incredibly important when considering the wildfires we've recently experienced across Canada.

Severe weather aside, wetlands make everyday life for us healthier. Like landscape sized water treatment plants, they store and filter the water that we depend on. Their intricate plant life filters out sediment and excess nutrients from the water we use to make our coffee, brush our teeth and quench our thirst. If given the chance, these cost free spaces can do the work of billion-dollar manufactured solutions. But they need to be protected and intact to do so.

CONSERVATION EFFORTS CONTINUE

We have a global responsibility to conserve and restore these areas. The good news is that many communities and conservation organizations like the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) are working on it. The bad news is that the threats to wetlands are growing, too.

To date, NCC has ensured the future of nearly 168,000 hectares of wetlands across the country. Together, the ecosystems store 87 million tonnes of carbon – equivalent to CO2 emissions from over 97 million passenger vehicles, nearly 136 billion litres of gasoline consumed or 213 million homes' electricity use in one year. The nature-based solutions for people, our communities and the planet are made possible thanks to the landowners and donors working with NCC to help conserve and care for our country's wetlands.

Here in Newfoundland and Labrador, wetlands are among the Nature Conservancy of Canada's most important habitats we are working to conserve.

The Black Ash Nature Reserve is 11-hectares of marshland and floodplain forests along Rocky Brook, less than two kilometres from the town of Deer Lake. Located within the Upper Humber River Floodplain, this unique property floods seasonally, making it a great habitat for provincially rare species, such as black ash, rusty blackbird and great blue heron. We are actively seeking support and opportunities to expand upon this natural area and to protect existing biodiversity in important wetlands throughout the province.

In addition to their importance for nature, many of Ncc-protected wetland areas provide recreational opportunities, such as walking, hiking, fishing, wildlife viewing and canoeing, along with educational opportunities for people of all ages to learn and explore.

Canada needs everyone

▣ all levels of governments, corporations, foundations, communities and individuals ▣ to step up for nature. There is room at the table for all Canadians to invest, support and volunteer in the efforts to conserve, restore and care for wetlands.

As we look forward to the hope of brighter days and warmer weather that spring heralds, let's act together to protect wetlands, to change their future and secure our own. Because conserving them builds hope for a thriving natural world for all to enjoy.

Headlines

REDFISH QUOTA: There's some disappointment when it comes to redfish and the quota shares for this province in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. ["Gerry Byrne", MHA and former fisheries minister]

CBN - St. John's - Fisheries Broadcast @ 06:10:24pm Duration: 00:13:13 Reporter:

Ref Id: N4s-3w5-1

REACTION TO RECREATIONAL FISHERY AND CALLS FOR CHANGE: Tour boat operator "Graham Wood" wants changes to the recreational fishery including allowing tour boat customers to retain two cod each. ["Various Callers"]

CBN - St. John's - Fisheries Broadcast @ 06:26:22pm Duration: 00:07:26 Reporter:

Ref Id: A8q-5w6-1

CONCERN OVER FISH QUOTAS: A former fisheries minister is weighing in about the way DFO is divvying up redfish Gulf quotas. ["Gerry Byrne"]

CBNT (CBC TV) - Here & Now @ 06:06:00pm Duration: 00:01:30 Reporter: Carolyn Stokes

Ref Id: B7t-8a3-1

GROUNDHOG DAY: There are no groundhogs in NL but they are in Labrador and there is one at Salmonier Nature Park. ["Michael Blackwood", Park Interpretation Technician]

CBN - St. John's - East Coast Morning Show @ 07:07:07am Duration: 00:03:46 Reporter: Darrell Roberts

Ref Id: B4r-5Z3-2

Craig Renouf

Media Relations Manager

Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

709-637-2923 (office)

709-640-6922 (cell)

craigrenouf@gov.nl.ca

From: Loveless, Elvis
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 10:19 AM
To: Renouf, Craig, Chippett, Jamie, Baldwin, Paul, Hanlon, Bren M., Shea, Erin
Subject: RE: NL News Now Audio Clip 1 of 1 for REDFISH QUOTA: There's some disappointment when it comes to

Thank you. I did listen to it last night when it aired so I will leave listening to it later, Lol.

From: Renouf, Craig <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 9:50 AM
To: Loveless, Elvis <ElvisLoveless@gov.nl.ca>; Chippett, Jamie <JamieChippett@gov.nl.ca>; Baldwin, Paul <PaulBaldwin@gov.nl.ca>; Hanlon, Bren M. <brenhanlon@gov.nl.ca>; Shea, Erin <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: FW: NL News Now Audio Clip 1 of 1 for REDFISH QUOTA: There's some disappointment when it comes to

Fyi

Audio clip of Min. Byrne from The Broadcast last evening attached.

From: NLIS, NLIS <nlis@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 9:48 AM
To: Renouf, Craig <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>; Shea, Erin <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>
Cc: Barfoot, Scott <ScottBarfoot@gov.nl.ca>; Sorensen, David <DavidSorensen@gov.nl.ca>; McCabe, Meghan <MeghanMcCabe@gov.nl.ca>; Pomeroy, Sonja <SonjaPomeroy@gov.nl.ca>; Tompkins, John <jtompkins@gov.nl.ca>; Harding, Ryan D <RyanDHarding@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: FW: NL News Now Audio Clip 1 of 1 for REDFISH QUOTA: There's some disappointment when it comes to

REDFISH QUOTA: There's some disappointment when it comes to redfish and the quota shares for this province in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. ["Gerry Byrne", MHA and former fisheries minister]

Program: CBC - Fisheries Broadcast
Aired: 2024/02/01 06:10:24pm
Duration: 00:13:13
Reporter:
Ref Id: N4s-3w5-1

Please find attached the requested Audio clip.

NL News Now

Email: production@nlnewsnow.ca

Tel: 709-726-6397

Web: www.nlnewsnow.ca

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From: Chippett, Jamie
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 10:37 AM
To: Shea, Erin
Subject: Emailing: [REDACTED] Response from Minister Loveless to Minister Lebouthillier - Proposed Revised Unit 1 Redfish Allocation Regime.DOCX
Attachments: [REDACTED] Response from Minister Loveless to Minister Lebouthillier - Proposed Revised Unit 1 Redfish Allocation Regime.DOCX

Your message is ready to be sent with the following file or link attachments:

[REDACTED] Response from Minister Loveless to Minister Lebouthillier - Proposed Revised Unit 1 Redfish Allocation Regime.DOCX

Note: To protect against computer viruses, e-mail programs may prevent sending or receiving certain types of file attachments. Check your e-mail security settings to determine how attachments are handled.



Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
Office of the Minister

31(1)(l)

The Honourable Diane Lebouthillier, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard
Fisheries and Oceans Canada, 200 Kent Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0E6
min@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Dear Minister Lebouthillier:

I am writing to follow up on our recent meeting in St. John's where we discussed fishery and aquaculture issues that are important to Newfoundland and Labrador. I acknowledge your recent correspondence regarding the input provided by the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador on a new access and allocation regime for the re-opening of a commercial Redfish fishery in Unit 1.

At our meeting we discussed the need for fair and equitable treatment for Newfoundland and Labrador in all federal fisheries and aquaculture decisions impacting harvesters and processors in this province. The re-opening of the Unit 1 Redfish fishery presented an opportunity to ensure Newfoundland and Labrador received a fair share of the allocation based on its historical attachment to the Redfish fishery and the long-standing principle of adjacency in fisheries management decisions. I am very disappointed that the provincial allocation for Newfoundland and Labrador did not increase to reflect these principles. Officials from my department will be actively engaged in the Redfish Advisory Committee to ensure our interests are represented as this exciting restart to the Redfish fishery in Unit 1 unfolds.

The Province supports a share of the allocation being provided for Indigenous peoples and shrimp harvesters. The announced reduction in Total Allowable Catch for Gulf shrimp is of great concern for shrimp harvesters in our province. I appreciate the intent of the 10% Redfish allocation for shrimp harvesters to help alleviate some of the impact of the Total Allowable Catch reduction. But given the number of harvesters who have licences for Shrimp Fishing Area 8, I am requesting your immediate consideration of an additional increase of the allocation impacted by the decline in the shrimp resource supplemented by a buyback program for harvesters who are able to leave the industry. This has an added benefit for the remaining harvesters who would have access to a greater share of the remaining quota.

As the Minister of Fisheries, Forestry, and Agriculture, I am committed to working with you to advance our common goals. At our meeting we talked about our shared vision the importance of the fishery to sustaining the way of life of rural communities and families. As I stated in our meeting, which I think bears repeating, in order to do that it requires our fair share. I believe a positive response to my requests would support communities and families throughout Newfoundland and Labrador, and particularly those on the Great Northern Peninsula.

The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador will continue to collaborate with Fisheries and Oceans Canada as we work towards a modern, sustainably managed Redfish commercial fishery in the Gulf of St. Lawrence that will benefit the people and communities of our province.

I ask for your consideration of my requests and a timely response. As always, I am available to continue our discussions on this important matter.

Sincerely,

HONOURABLE ELVIS LOVELESS, MHA
District of Fortune Bay – Cape La Hune
Minister

- c. Honourable Dr. Andrew Furey, Premier
Honourable Gudie Hutchings, Minister of Rural Economic Development and
Minister responsible for the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency
Honourable Krista Lynn Howell, Minister of Education

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From: Shea, Erin
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 12:28 PM
To: Chippett, Jamie
Subject: RE: Emailing: [REDACTED] Response from Minister Loveless to Minister Lebouthillier - Proposed Revised Unit 1 Redfish Allocation Regime.DOCX

Thanks, is there anything I need to do with this?

-----Original Message-----

From: Chippett, Jamie <JamieChippett@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 10:37 AM
To: Shea, Erin <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: Emailing: [REDACTED] Response from Minister Loveless to Minister Lebouthillier - Proposed Revised Unit 1 Redfish Allocation Regime.DOCX

Your message is ready to be sent with the following file or link attachments:

[REDACTED] Response from Minister Loveless to Minister Lebouthillier - Proposed Revised Unit 1 Redfish Allocation Regime.DOCX

Note: To protect against computer viruses, e-mail programs may prevent sending or receiving certain types of file attachments. Check your e-mail security settings to determine how attachments are handled.

From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 12:28 PM
To: Loveless, Elvis, Chippett, Jamie, Baldwin, Paul, Hanlon, Bren M., Shea, Erin
Subject: FW: AUDIO: Open Line Minister Byrne
Attachments: 2024-02-02 Open Line Minister Byrne.mp3

Pls find attached audio of Min. Byrne from Open Line earlier today.

From: Hood, Jillian <JillianHood@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 12:21 PM
To: Tompkins, John <jtompkins@gov.nl.ca>; Harding, Ryan D <RyanDHarding@gov.nl.ca>; Renouf, Craig <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>; Shea, Erin <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>
Cc: Barfoot, Scott <ScottBarfoot@gov.nl.ca>; Sorensen, David <DavidSorensen@gov.nl.ca>; McCabe, Meghan <MeghanMcCabe@gov.nl.ca>; Pomeroy, Sonja <SonjaPomeroy@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: AUDIO: Open Line Minister Byrne

14 COMMENTS ON DFO AND REDFISH QUOTA: "Minister Gerry Byrne" is calling to talk about DFO and the redfish quota. He says that what DFO has done is they have given the vast majority to a group of offshore companies that don't have boats to fish it or plants to process it. They would have to bring in temporary foreigner works instead of giving it to companies that can do all this now.

VOCM - St. John's - Open Line @ 11:57:00am Duration: 00:03:00 Reporter: Paddy Daly

Ref Id: u7d-8W6-2

Jillian Hood

Communications Manager

Executive Council Communications Branch
Government of Newfoundland & Labrador
10th Floor East Block, Confederation Complex
P.O. Box 8700, St. John's NL A1B 4J6
709-729-4266 | 709-687-2501

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From: Shea, Erin
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 12:38 PM
To: Chippett, Jamie, Hanlon, Bren M.
Subject: FW: FOR APPROVAL: NR - Redfish Announcement

As from the PO belo: Please let me know when this letter is sent. 15 minutes later, I will advise the Branch/PO to issue it.

From: McCabe, Meghan <MeghanMcCabe@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 12:35 PM
To: Shea, Erin <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>
Cc: Barfoot, Scott <ScottBarfoot@gov.nl.ca>; Sorensen, David <DavidSorensen@gov.nl.ca>; Pomeroy, Sonja <SonjaPomeroy@gov.nl.ca>; Releases, News <news@gov.nl.ca>; Renouf, Craig <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL: NR - Redfish Announcement

Hi everyone!

The letter is good to go, so Erin can you please make sure your folks know that and send it? I left the Minister a msg.

And then at least 15 minutes after its sent, lets issue the news release with the letter included.

Thank you!
Meghan

From: Shea, Erin <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 9:15 AM
To: McCabe, Meghan <MeghanMcCabe@gov.nl.ca>
Cc: Barfoot, Scott <ScottBarfoot@gov.nl.ca>; Sorensen, David <DavidSorensen@gov.nl.ca>; Pomeroy, Sonja <SonjaPomeroy@gov.nl.ca>; Releases, News <news@gov.nl.ca>; Renouf, Craig <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: Re: FOR APPROVAL: NR - Redfish Announcement

Got it! Thanks for that, Meghan.

On Feb 2, 2024, at 9:12 AM, McCabe, Meghan <MeghanMcCabe@gov.nl.ca> wrote:

Thanks, folks! My understanding is that wed like to send the letter first - whether or not its included in this NR.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 2, 2024, at 8:59 AM, Shea, Erin <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca> wrote:

Theres a letter, but it is still in approvals. I think it could be signed and sent by this afternoon, but let me clarify with the exec again. Definitely not done before lunch. Ill let you know very shortly!

On Feb 2, 2024, at 8:56 AM, Barfoot, Scott <ScottBarfoot@gov.nl.ca> wrote:

Hi,

We can issue this when ready to goCraig/Erin, is there a letter that is being sent to the federal minister? If so, it would be good to either link to a PDF or embed it in the backgrounder.

Best,
SB

From: McCabe, Meghan <[MeghanMcCabe@gov.nl.ca](mailto: MeghanMcCabe@gov.nl.ca)>
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2024 4:48 PM
To: Barfoot, Scott <[ScottBarfoot@gov.nl.ca](mailto: ScottBarfoot@gov.nl.ca)>; Sorensen, David <[DavidSorensen@gov.nl.ca](mailto: DavidSorensen@gov.nl.ca)>; Pomeroy, Sonja <[SonjaPomeroy@gov.nl.ca](mailto: SonjaPomeroy@gov.nl.ca)>; Releases, News <[news@gov.nl.ca](mailto: news@gov.nl.ca)>; Shea, Erin <[ErinShea@gov.nl.ca](mailto: ErinShea@gov.nl.ca)>; Renouf, Craig <[CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca](mailto: CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca)>
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL: NR - Redfish Announcement

Thanks!

I made a couple small edits like consistently saying Federal Government and took out a couple adjectives so didnt highlight.

From: Barfoot, Scott <[ScottBarfoot@gov.nl.ca](mailto: ScottBarfoot@gov.nl.ca)>
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2024 4:28 PM
To: Sorensen, David <[DavidSorensen@gov.nl.ca](mailto: DavidSorensen@gov.nl.ca)>; McCabe, Meghan <[MeghanMcCabe@gov.nl.ca](mailto: MeghanMcCabe@gov.nl.ca)>; Pomeroy, Sonja <[SonjaPomeroy@gov.nl.ca](mailto: SonjaPomeroy@gov.nl.ca)>; Releases, News <[news@gov.nl.ca](mailto: news@gov.nl.ca)>; Shea, Erin <[ErinShea@gov.nl.ca](mailto: ErinShea@gov.nl.ca)>; Renouf, Craig <[CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca](mailto: CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca)>
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL: NR - Redfish Announcement

Hi,
We will revisit this in the morning.

Feel free to reach out with any questions or to discuss.

Thanks,
Scott

From: Barfoot, Scott
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2024 3:57 PM
To: Sorensen, David <[DavidSorensen@gov.nl.ca](mailto: DavidSorensen@gov.nl.ca)>; McCabe, Meghan <[MeghanMcCabe@gov.nl.ca](mailto: MeghanMcCabe@gov.nl.ca)>; Pomeroy, Sonja <[SonjaPomeroy@gov.nl.ca](mailto: SonjaPomeroy@gov.nl.ca)>; Releases, News <[news@gov.nl.ca](mailto: news@gov.nl.ca)>; Shea, Erin <[ErinShea@gov.nl.ca](mailto: ErinShea@gov.nl.ca)>; Renouf, Craig <[CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca](mailto: CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca)>
Subject: FW: FOR APPROVAL: NR - Redfish Announcement

Hi,
Exchanged a note with Jamie, he would prefer not to make the change that I suggested revised belowMM, Ill connect with you on a point.

Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
February 1, 2024

Minister Loveless Calls for Fair Share of Redfish Allocation

The Honourable Elvis Loveless, Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture, is calling on the Federal Government to ensure Newfoundland and Labrador receives its fair share of the newly-announced Unit 1 redfish quota allocations. The Provincial Government has requested a share that appropriately reflects Newfoundland and

Labradors historical attachment to the redfish fishery, the longstanding principle of adjacency, and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

On January 26, 2024, the Federal Governments Department of Fisheries and Oceans announced plans to re-open the Unit 1 commercial redfish fishery in 2024 for a two-year transitional period with a minimum Total Allowable Catch of 25,000 tonnes. Important discussions will take place in the coming weeks with the Redfish Advisory Committee to determine quota allocations for each fleet, establish management measures, and consult on a Total Allowable Catch for the 2024 fishing season.

The Federal Governments department also recently announced significant reductions in Northern Shrimp quotas that will have a devastating impact on this provinces shrimp harvesters and processors. The quota for Shrimp Fishing Area 8, located adjacent to the provinces west coast, has been reduced from 4,222 tonnes in 2023 to just 1,757 tonnes for 2024.

While the Federal Governments Department of Fisheries and Oceans has allocated 10 per cent of the redfish quota to shrimp harvesters to help offset impacts of the quota reduction, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador is calling for those affected to receive a greater share of redfish quota given the extent of the cut.

Quote

We are pleased with the re-opening of the commercial redfish fishery and the opportunities for the fishing industry in this province. In saying that, I am disappointed that the provincial share of the quota does not reflect the historic attachment and adjacency of Newfoundland and Labrador to the redfish fishery. Further, given the significant quota reduction in Shrimp Fishing Area 8, I call upon the federal minister for an increase in the redfish quota for shrimp harvesters and consideration of a licence buyback program for impacted harvesters.

Honourable Elvis Loveless

Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

-30-

Learn more

[In Solution Mode: The Government of Canada launches its transition plan for the future of fisheries in Quebec and Atlantic Canada](#)

Follow us on X [@GovNL](#) and [@FFA_GovNL](#)

Like us on [Facebook](#)

Media contact

Craig Renouf
Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
709-637-2923, 709-640-6922
craigrenouf@gov.nl.ca

Backgrounder

1. The reopening of the Unit Redfish fishery will take place in two phases. A first two-year transitional phase will allow for data collection, give fish harvesters time to prepare, further develop markets, and strengthen the sector's capacity to transform.
2. A second phase of long-term development aimed at establishing a redfish fishery with a modernized allocation key. A phase that, in view of the current scientific data, would be one of expansion.
3. Commercial redfish quota share by fleet:
 1. Offshore mobile gear (MG) fleet sector (vessels >100') - 58.69%
 2. Inshore MG fleet sector (vessels <65') - 14.84%
 3. Midshore MG fleet sector (vessels 65-100') - 5.72%
 4. Inshore fixed gear (bycatch) - 0.75%
 5. Estuary and Gulf of St. Lawrence (ESGL) Shrimp Harvesters - 10.00%
 6. Quota dedicated to Indigenous communities - 10.00%
4. Commercial redfish quota share by province as proposed by DFO:
 1. Newfoundland and Labrador: 19%
 2. Nova Scotia: 33%
 3. New Brunswick: 11%
 4. P.E.I.: 5%
 5. Quebec: 32%

Craig Renouf
Media Relations Manager
Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
709-637-2923 (office)
709-640-6922 (cell)
craigrenouf@gov.nl.ca

From: Shea, Erin
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 12:44 PM
To: Chippett, Jamie, Hanlon, Bren M.
Subject: FW: FOR APPROVAL: NR - Redfish Announcement

FYI

From: McCabe, Meghan <MeghanMcCabe@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 12:42 PM
To: Shea, Erin <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>
Cc: Barfoot, Scott <ScottBarfoot@gov.nl.ca>; Sorensen, David <DavidSorensen@gov.nl.ca>; Pomeroy, Sonja <SonjaPomeroy@gov.nl.ca>; Releases, News <news@gov.nl.ca>; Renouf, Craig <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL: NR - Redfish Announcement

Perfect, and Minister just let me know he got my msg. Thanks!

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Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 12:37 PM
To: McCabe, Meghan <MeghanMcCabe@gov.nl.ca>
Cc: Barfoot, Scott <ScottBarfoot@gov.nl.ca>; Sorensen, David <DavidSorensen@gov.nl.ca>; Pomeroy, Sonja <SonjaPomeroy@gov.nl.ca>; Releases, News <news@gov.nl.ca>; Renouf, Craig <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL: NR - Redfish Announcement

Yes, no problem at all. Ill let you know shortly when I get ahold of them so we can issue the NR.

From: McCabe, Meghan <MeghanMcCabe@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 12:35 PM
To: Shea, Erin <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>
Cc: Barfoot, Scott <ScottBarfoot@gov.nl.ca>; Sorensen, David <DavidSorensen@gov.nl.ca>; Pomeroy, Sonja <SonjaPomeroy@gov.nl.ca>; Releases, News <news@gov.nl.ca>; Renouf, Craig <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>
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Best,
SB

From: McCabe, Meghan <[MeghanMcCabe@gov.nl.ca](mailto: MeghanMcCabe@gov.nl.ca)>

Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2024 4:48 PM

To: Barfoot, Scott <[ScottBarfoot@gov.nl.ca](mailto: ScottBarfoot@gov.nl.ca)>; Sorensen, David <[DavidSorensen@gov.nl.ca](mailto: DavidSorensen@gov.nl.ca)>; Pomeroy, Sonja <[SonjaPomeroy@gov.nl.ca](mailto: SonjaPomeroy@gov.nl.ca)>; Releases, News <[news@gov.nl.ca](mailto: news@gov.nl.ca)>; Shea, Erin <[ErinShea@gov.nl.ca](mailto: ErinShea@gov.nl.ca)>; Renouf, Craig <[CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca](mailto: CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca)>

Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL: NR - Redfish Announcement

Thanks!

I made a couple small edits like consistently saying Federal Government and took out a couple adjectives so didnt highlight.

From: Barfoot, Scott <[ScottBarfoot@gov.nl.ca](mailto: ScottBarfoot@gov.nl.ca)>

Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2024 4:28 PM

To: Sorensen, David <[DavidSorensen@gov.nl.ca](mailto: DavidSorensen@gov.nl.ca)>; McCabe, Meghan <[MeghanMcCabe@gov.nl.ca](mailto: MeghanMcCabe@gov.nl.ca)>; Pomeroy, Sonja <[SonjaPomeroy@gov.nl.ca](mailto: SonjaPomeroy@gov.nl.ca)>; Releases, News <[news@gov.nl.ca](mailto: news@gov.nl.ca)>; Shea, Erin <[ErinShea@gov.nl.ca](mailto: ErinShea@gov.nl.ca)>; Renouf, Craig <[CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca](mailto: CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca)>

Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL: NR - Redfish Announcement

Hi,

We will revisit this in the morning.

Feel free to reach out with any questions or to discuss.

Thanks,
Scott

From: Barfoot, Scott

Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2024 3:57 PM

To: Sorensen, David <DavidSorensen@gov.nl.ca>; McCabe, Meghan <MeghanMcCabe@gov.nl.ca>; Pomeroy, Sonja <SonjaPomeroy@gov.nl.ca>; Releases, News <news@gov.nl.ca>; Shea, Erin <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>; Renouf, Craig <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: FW: FOR APPROVAL: NR - Redfish Announcement

Hi,

Exchanged a note with Jamie, he would prefer not to make the change that I suggested revised below. MM, I'll connect with you on a point.

Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

February 1, 2024

Minister Loveless Calls for Fair Share of Redfish Allocation

The Honourable Elvis Loveless, Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture, is calling on the Federal Government to ensure Newfoundland and Labrador receives its fair share of the newly-announced Unit 1 redfish quota allocations. The Provincial Government has requested a share that appropriately reflects Newfoundland and Labrador's historical attachment to the redfish fishery, the longstanding principle of adjacency, and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

On January 26, 2024, the Federal Government's Department of Fisheries and Oceans announced plans to re-open the Unit 1 commercial redfish fishery in 2024 for a two-year transitional period with a minimum Total Allowable Catch of 25,000 tonnes. Important discussions will take place in the coming weeks with the Redfish Advisory Committee to determine quota allocations for each fleet, establish management measures, and consult on a Total Allowable Catch for the 2024 fishing season.

The Federal Government's department also recently announced significant reductions in Northern Shrimp quotas that will have a devastating impact on this province's shrimp harvesters and processors. The quota for Shrimp Fishing Area 8, located adjacent to the province's west coast, has been reduced from 4,222 tonnes in 2023 to just 1,757 tonnes for 2024.

While the Federal Government's Department of Fisheries and Oceans has allocated 10 per cent of the redfish quota to shrimp harvesters to help offset impacts of the quota reduction, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador is calling for those affected to receive a greater share of redfish quota given the extent of the cut.

Quote

We are pleased with the re-opening of the commercial redfish fishery and the opportunities for the fishing industry in this province. In saying that, I am disappointed that the provincial share of the quota does not reflect the historic attachment and adjacency of Newfoundland and Labrador to the redfish fishery. Further, given the significant quota reduction in Shrimp Fishing Area 8, I call upon the federal minister for an increase in the redfish quota for shrimp harvesters and consideration of a licence buyback program for impacted harvesters.

Honourable Elvis Loveless

Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

Learn more

[In Solution Mode: The Government of Canada launches its transition plan for the future of fisheries in Quebec and Atlantic Canada](#)

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Media contact

Craig Renouf
Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
709-637-2923, 709-640-6922
craigrenouf@gov.nl.ca

Backgrounder

1. The reopening of the Unit Redfish fishery will take place in two phases. A first two-year transitional phase will allow for data collection, give fish harvesters time to prepare, further develop markets, and strengthen the sector's capacity to transform.
2. A second phase of long-term development aimed at establishing a redfish fishery with a modernized allocation key. A phase that, in view of the current scientific data, would be one of expansion.
3. Commercial redfish quota share by fleet:
 1. Offshore mobile gear (MG) fleet sector (vessels >100') - 58.69%
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 5. Estuary and Gulf of St. Lawrence (ESGL) Shrimp Harvesters - 10.00%
 6. Quota dedicated to Indigenous communities - 10.00%
4. Commercial redfish quota share by province as proposed by DFO:
 1. Newfoundland and Labrador: 19%
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 5. Quebec: 32%

Craig Renouf
Media Relations Manager
Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
709-637-2923 (office)
709-640-6922 (cell)
craigrenouf@gov.nl.ca

From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 4:35 PM
To: Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture All Staff
Subject: Minister Loveless Calls for Fair Share of Redfish Allocation

NLIS 8

Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

February 2, 2024

Minister Loveless Calls for Fair Share of Redfish Allocation

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Honourable Elvis Loveless

Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

-30-

Learn more

[In Solution Mode: The Government of Canada launches its transition plan for the future of fisheries in Quebec and Atlantic Canada](#)

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Media contact

Craig Renouf
Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
709-637-2923; 709-640-6922
craigrenouf@gov.nl.ca

BACKGROUNDER

- The reopening of the Unit Redfish fishery will take place in two phases. A first two-year transitional phase will allow for data collection, give fish harvesters time to prepare, further develop markets, and strengthen the sector's capacity to transform.
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Craig Renouf

Media Relations Manager
Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
709-637-2923 (office)
709-640-6922 (cell)
craigrenouf@gov.nl.ca

161 of 362

From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Friday, February 2, 2024 5:07 PM
To: Loveless, Elvis, Chippett, Jamie, Baldwin, Paul, Hanlon, Bren M., Shea, Erin
Subject: VOCM Greg Pretty Interview

Please find attached audio of Greg Pretty interview with VOCM this afternoon on various fisheries issues:

- Update on crab price talks with ASP
- Redfish quota
- Northern Shrimp quota cut
- Northern cod stock assessment
- EI qualification criteria

Craig Renouf
Media Relations Manager
Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
709-637-2923 (office)
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craigrenouf@gov.nl.ca

162 of 362

From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 9:13 AM
To: Loveless, Elvis
Cc: Baldwin, Paul, Shea, Erin, Chippett, Jamie, Hanlon, Bren M.
Subject: Interview Request - FW: NLIS 8 - Minister Loveless Calls for Fair Share of Redfish Allocation

Hi Minister,

NTV (Bailey Howard) is requesting to interview you today to discuss our news release issued Friday. Please advise if you are available and we can schedule accordingly.

Thanks,
Craig

From: Bailey Howard <bhoward@ntv.ca>
Sent: Sunday, February 4, 2024 9:20 AM
To: Renouf, Craig <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: Fwd: NLIS 8 - Minister Loveless Calls for Fair Share of Redfish Allocation

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Craig,

Would the Minister be available tomorrow to talk about this?

Thanks!
Bailey

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Releases, News" <news@gov.nl.ca>
Date: February 2, 2024 at 2:48:51 PM NST
To: "Releases, News" <news@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: NLIS 8 - Minister Loveless Calls for Fair Share of Redfish Allocation

NLIS 8
Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
February 2, 2024

Minister Loveless Calls for Fair Share of Redfish Allocation

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Honourable Elvis Loveless

Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

-30-

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Media contact

Craig Renouf

Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

709-637-2923; 709-640-6922

craigrenouf@gov.nl.ca

BACKGROUND

1. The reopening of the Unit Redfish fishery will take place in two phases. A first two-year transitional phase will allow for data collection, give fish harvesters time to prepare, further develop markets, and strengthen the sector's capacity to transform.

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2024 02 02

2:45 p.m.

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From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 10:03 AM
To: Chippett, Jamie
Cc: Shea, Erin, Hanlon, Bren M.
Subject: MR FOR APPROVAL: NTV/Redfish

Hi Jamie,

NTV has reached out requesting to interview the Minister about the redfish news release we issued Friday. Please see MR for approval. Bren has approved. Thanks, Craig.

MEDIA REQUEST

Date: February 5, 2024

Media:

NTV
Bailey Howard
bhoward@ntv.ca

Reporter's Deadline: February 5, 2024

Context:

The reporter is requesting an interview with Minister Loveless regarding the FFA news release issued on February 2, 2024, expressing the Provincial Government's disappointment and concern over the commercial redfish quota share allocated to Newfoundland and Labrador.

<https://www.gov.nl.ca/releases/2024/ffa/0202n08/>

Questions:

Why are you concerned with the commercial redfish quota allocation?
What action will you take to help ensure NL benefits from the reopening of the commercial redfish fishery?

Suggested Approach: TBD

Suggested Statement/Key Messages

I am extremely disappointed with our province's share of the commercial redfish quota.

We had advised the Federal Government that redfish quota allocations should appropriately consider Newfoundland and Labrador's historical attachment to the fishery, the longstanding principle of adjacency, and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

Clearly, DFO failed to appropriately take these principals into consideration when making their decision.

Given the significant quota reduction in Shrimp Fishing Area 8, I am calling upon the federal minister for an increase in the redfish quota share for shrimp harvesters in this province as well as consideration of a licence buyback program.

I have written Minister Leboutillier to express our concerns, request re-consideration of redfish quota allocations and present options to support shrimp harvesters impacted by quota cuts. I reiterated our position that Newfoundland and Labrador's share of the redfish quota allocation should fairly reflect our historic attachment and close proximity to the resource.

Officials from the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture are also actively engaged with the Redfish Advisory Committee who are meeting in the coming weeks to determine quota allocations for each fleet, establish management measures, and consult on a Total Allowable Catch for the 2024 fishing season.

Craig Renouf

Media Relations Manager
Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
709-637-2923 (office)
709-640-6922 (cell)
craigrenouf@gov.nl.ca

From: [Renouf, Craig](#)
Sent: [Monday, February 5, 2024 10:16 AM](#)
To: [Loveless, Elvis](#), [Chippett, Jamie](#), [Baldwin, Paul](#), [Hanlon, Bren M.](#), [Adams, Blair](#), [Balsom, Stephen](#), [Deering, Keith](#), [Shea, Erin](#), [Skinner, Linda](#)
Subject: [MORNING MEDIA - Feb. 5, 2024](#)

VOCM

Loveless Demands Fair Share of Redfish Quota for NL Fishers

Provincial fisheries minister Elvis Loveless is calling on the federal government to ensure that this province receives its fair share of the newly announced Unit 1 redfish quota.

The commercial redfish fishery is reopening for the first time in three decades and local harvesters were hoping that redfish would supplement their income in the face of cuts to northern shrimp quotas.

The fisheries union was hoping that the fishery would benefit the inshore fleet, however President Greg Pretty says nearly 60 per cent of the quota will go to the corporate-owned offshore fleet in Nova Scotia which uses factory-freezer draggers that will not land or process product in Canada.

Minister Loveless says important discussions with the Redfish Advisory Committee are taking place in the coming weeks to determine quota allocations for each fleet in the coming season.

FFAW Website

CRAB NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE

February 2, 2024

Crab bargaining wrapped up for this week, with both parties committing to continue the process as they work towards a market-based price formula. Thank you to the Negotiating Committee and Staff for their hard work this week, and further updates will be provided to members when available.

The Telegram

Union must wait for decision on northern cod: DFO

Ffaw-unifor wants federal government to enshrine DFOS 40-year-old policy of granting exclusive access to first 115,000 metric tonnes

The Telegram (St. John's) 3 Feb 2024 GARY KEAN THE TELEGRAM gary.kean@thewesternstar.com @western_star
SALTWIRE FILE

Since 1979, inshore owner-operators and Indigenous groups have been granted exclusive access to the first 115,000 metric tonnes of Northern cod in Newfoundland and Labrador.

The federal government says it won't be making any decisions about northern cod allocations until it has all the information needed.

In a press release issued Jan. 25, the union representing fish harvesters and plant workers in Newfoundland and Labrador called on the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) to publicly reaffirm the commitment to grant exclusive access to the first 115,000 metric tonnes of northern cod to inshore owner-operators and Indigenous groups before any offshore allocations are provided.

LONGTIME PRACTICE

This has been the practice of consecutive fisheries ministers since 1979.

Members of Ffaw-unifor had met with Fisheries and Oceans Minister Diane Lebovitch in St. John's on Jan. 15 and said this was a priority issue during that meeting.

The 115,000 (metric tonne) allocation was confirmed by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau upon his first election, and as we get closer and closer to commercial status, this important allocation must be reaffirmed as we see corporate interests angling to take control, Ffaw-unifor president Greg Pretty said in the press release.

'DESPERATE FOR WORK'

Northern cod, fished under the 2J3KL stewardship fishery, is a population of the Atlantic cod species that inhabits the waters between the tip of the Grand Banks, in eastern Newfoundland, all the way to Hopedale, Labrador.

Recent changes to the stock assessment model have brought the historic species out of the critical zone, and harvesters are hopeful that will mean corresponding increases to harvest amounts.

As it stands, according to the union, last year's quota rollover sustains only a few days work for harvesters and plant workers.

The inshore owner-operator fleet has the capacity to harvest the first 115,000 metric tonnes of northern cod with ease, explained Pretty.

In fact, these communities are desperate for the work. The current inadequacy is with the failure of companies to prioritize groundfish processing capacity.

MANAGEMENT APPROACH

While the fleet can catch the fish, Pretty noted the challenge is matching production capacity on the processing side.

Increasing the northern cod harvest amount this season, the union contends, is critical for rural sustainability and an opportunity to diversify and increase incomes for seasonal workers.

The union wants the policy that has stood for more than 40 years to be enshrined in the 2J3KL northern cod stewardship fishery management approach.

This commitment ensures that as the stock rebounds, the benefits of the northern cod fishery will flow to inshore fish harvesters and coastal communities, Pretty stated.

NO DECISION YET

Saltwire asked DFO for an interview in response to the unions request.

No one was made available for an interview, but the department did provide an emailed reply.

The updated northern cod assessment model is an encouraging development, it read.

It provides us with a better understanding of the status of the northern cod population to better inform future management decisions.

Like all fisheries management decisions, decisions for northern cod continue to be taken independently based on the best available science advice and input from Indigenous partners, harvesters, the provincial government and other industry stakeholders.

A decision for the 2024 season will be made following the northern cod stock assessment and advisory process in spring 2024.

VOCM

Petition on Change to Recreational Food Fishery to be Presented in House of Commons

Feb 5, 2024 | 7:00 AM

A petition on its way to the House of Commons is proposing changes to the recreational food fishery in this province.

The petition, set to be brought forward by Conservative MP Clifford Small, proposes that the fishery be open every day between July 1 and October 1. Currently, the fishery is only open for 39 days on Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays.

One of the men behind the petition, Graham Wood of Lewisporte, says the move would reduce people fishing in risky conditions and would also increase tourism.

Wood says people in this province are being hampered in comparison to their Atlantic Canadian counterparts, who are able to fish every day of the recreational fishery.

Winter Trout Fishing Season Now Open in Gros Morne

The winter trout fishing season in Gros Morne National Park opens today and runs until April 15.

Permits for winter fishing can be picked up at the Parks Canada administration building in Rocky Harbour during normal office hours. There is no charge for fishing permits, however, anglers must have a Gros Morne National Park Pass or Canada Discovery Pass to receive a permit. Permits and park passes can also be picked up at many area businesses.

Residents of Glenburnie-Birchy Head-Shoal Brook, Cow Head, and St. Pauls can pick up permits from the town office in those communities.

Waters closed to fishing are Trout River, Trout River Pond and their tributaries; all waters of the Western Brook drainage basin including Western Brook, Western Brook Pond, and Stag Brook; and Ten Mile Feeder between Ten Mile Pond and Deer Arm Pond.

CBC

Fly-fishing program for veterans casting bigger net for new members in N.L.

Program dedicated to providing rehabilitation to military veterans through fly fishing

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/newfoundland-labrador/military-veterans-fishing-program-nl-1.7100614>

Seafoodnews.com

Canadian Government Helps MRC de La C  te-de-Gasp   support its Shrimp, Turbot Fishing Industry

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February 2, 2024

Supporting diversification and growth contributes to economic development in Quebec's regions. That is why the Honourable Soraya Martinez Ferrada, Minister of Tourism and Minister responsible for CED, today announced a non-repayable contribution of \$403,018 to the Municipalit   (MRC) de La C  te-de-Gasp  . This CED assistance focuses in particular on the completion of a study to document the impacts of declining fish resources, professional fees, travel and management costs, and the implementation of new avenues for economic diversification and a mentoring service adapted to businesses affected by this situation.

The MRC de La C  te-de-Gasp   includes five municipalities. It has a mandate to facilitate services and the management of regional decisions. It offers cultural, economic, rural, and social development support by, among other things, providing advisory services and various financial assistance programs. CED's support will enable the MRC to mobilize various socio-economic stakeholders to help businesses affected by the decline in the shrimp and turbot fishing industries. It will thus be able to provide them with consulting services adapted to their specific needs. This guidance will be offered to all fishers and all processing plants in Quebec affected by the drop in shrimp and turbot catches, through the MRC de La C  te-de-Gasp  . The project will also make it possible to establish development and diversification strategies for the Rivi  re-au-Renard sector.

The Government of Canada recognizes and supports businesses and organizations that are a source of pride in their communities. Quebec's economic growth relies on organizations with strong roots in the regional economy; they are key assets in building a sustainable, inclusive economy.

"Ensuring communities prosper is one of our government's priorities. That is why CED is supporting the efforts of businesses in the shrimp and turbot fishing sector to grow and diversify during this difficult period. I would like to congratulate the MRC de La C  te-de-Gasp   on its work in implementing this project, which is essential for the Rivi  re-au-Renard community and the entire industry. It helps ensure good jobs are maintained and the economic vitality of the entire region is preserved," said the Honourable Soraya Martinez Ferrada, Member of Parliament for Hochelaga, Minister of Tourism and Minister responsible for CED.

"We are in a period of crisis that is affecting several of our businesses and our economy in general. Our MRC is proactive in seeking out solutions during this time. We thank Canada Economic Development for Quebec Regions for putting their shoulder to the wheel and granting this financial support," said Daniel C  te, Prefect, MRC de La C  te-de-Gasp  .

Japan: Shrimp Imports in 2023 Less Than 200,000 Tons, Lowest Since 2012

February 2, 2024

In 2023, Japan's shrimp imports (total of frozen and processed products, excluding lobsters) decreased by 11% from the previous year to 198,206 tons, falling below 200,000 tons for the first time since at least 2012. According to the Ministry of Finance's trade statistics (preliminary figures), frozen shrimp decreased by 10% from the previous year to 138,122 tons, the lowest since 2012. According to Minato Shimbun, processed products decreased by 12% to 60,084 tons.

Of the frozen shrimp, cold-water shrimp such as pink shrimp and botan shrimp (similar to spot prawn) decreased by 11% to 8,013 tons. Warm-water shrimp, including vannamei and black tiger shrimp, decreased by 10% to 130,109 tons. Both figures are the lowest since 2012, when statistics began to be collected separately for warm-water and cold-water shrimps.

Argentine red shrimp import lowest at 130,000 tons

Among warm-water shrimp, by country, imports from India increased by 2% to 37,354 tons, and Ecuador increased by 7% to 7,034 tons. On the other hand, Indonesia decreased by 7% to 23,909 tons, and Vietnam decreased by 15% to 23,136 tons. Imports from Argentina, where Argentine red shrimp accounts for almost all volume, fell 20% to 13,237 tons, the lowest since 2012.

Of the cold-water shrimp, imports from Russia, which catches Russian spot prawn and Russian pink shrimp, increased by 1% to 1,661 tons, and Greenland increased by 3% to 2,112 tons. Canadian shrimp decreased by 25% to 2,792 tons.

By country, imported processed products from Thailand decreased by 10% to 23,339 tons, from Vietnam decreased by 14% to 21,007 tons, and Indonesia by 23% to 8,669 tons.

Headlines

OCEANA URGING CAUTION IN REOPENING REDFISH FISHERY: The federal government recently announced the reopening of the redfish fishery in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. ["Jack Daly", Oceana]

VOCM - St. John's - Morning Show @ 08:24:15am Duration: 00:06:04 Reporter:

Ref Id: q5r-4b7-5

AGING FERRY CAUSING A BIT OF STIR: An aging ferry tied up in Springdale is causing a bit of a stir. It has been listing for some time taking on water and on Sunday the Canadian Coast Guard got involved. ["Karen Huxter", Lives across from the ferry]

CBN - St. John's - Fisheries Broadcast @ 06:17:40pm Duration: 00:04:59 Reporter: Todd O'Brien

Ref Id: Q6s-6n3-2

AUDIENCE REACTION: "Dick Whittaker" calls to talk about the interview with Gerry Byrne and the red fish quota.

CBN - St. John's - Fisheries Broadcast @ 06:26:14pm Duration: 00:03:23 Reporter:

Ref Id: b4r-2U4-2

THE REDFISH FISHERY: The commercial redfish fishery in the Gulf has reopened, but there are concerns about that. Provincial Immigration Minister "Gerry Byrne" says that fishery allocation decisions are always difficult. But this time, despite lessons learned from the cod moratorium, the quotas have been given to the same fishers who destroyed the redfish fishery. He calls them morally bankrupt for making that decision.

CJON (NTV) - Issues & Answers @ 12:56:10pm Duration: 00:02:25 Reporter: Michael Connors

Ref Id: q4R-9F5-4

172 of 362

Craig Renouf

Media Relations Manager

Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

709-637-2923 (office)

709-640-6922 (cell)

craigrenouf@gov.nl.ca

From: Chippett, Jamie
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 11:37 AM
To: Renouf, Craig
Cc: Shea, Erin, Hanlon, Bren M., Joy, Carla
Subject: RE: MR FOR APPROVAL: NTV/Redfish

See below. Bren, can you also ensure the meeting info note is provided to the Minister for his review in advance of the interview.

From: Renouf, Craig <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 10:03 AM
To: Chippett, Jamie <JamieChippett@gov.nl.ca>
Cc: Shea, Erin <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>; Hanlon, Bren M. <brenhanlon@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: MR FOR APPROVAL: NTV/Redfish

Hi Jamie,

NTV has reached out requesting to interview the Minister about the redfish news release we issued Friday. Please see MR for approval. Bren has approved. Thanks, Craig.

MEDIA REQUEST

Date: February 5, 2024

Media:

NTV
Bailey Howard
bhoward@ntv.ca

Reporter's Deadline: February 5, 2024

Context:

The reporter is requesting an interview with Minister Loveless regarding the FFA news release issued on February 2, 2024, expressing the Provincial Government's disappointment and concern over the commercial redfish quota share allocated to Newfoundland and Labrador.

<https://www.gov.nl.ca/releases/2024/ffa/0202n08/>

Questions:

Why are you concerned with the commercial redfish quota allocation?
What action will you take to help ensure NL benefits from the reopening of the commercial redfish fishery?

Suggested Approach: TBD

Suggested Statement/Key Messages

We are pleased to see a reopening of a commercial redfish fishery after so many years of closure. This represents new opportunities for both our harvesting and processing sectors.

We had advised the Federal Government that redfish quota allocations should appropriately consider Newfoundland and Labrador's historical attachment to the fishery, the longstanding principle of adjacency, and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. I was able to raise this issue directly with the federal Minister on her recent trip to St. John's.

In that meeting the federal Minister and I agreed on the need for federal management decisions to support the sustainability of rural communities and families.

Having said that, I am extremely disappointed with our province's share of the commercial redfish quota.

DFO failed to appropriately take these principals into consideration when making their decision.

Given the significant quota reduction in Shrimp Fishing Area 8, I am calling upon the federal minister for an increase in the redfish quota share for shrimp harvesters in this province as well as consideration of a licence buyback program.

I have written Minister Lebouthillier to express our concerns, request re-consideration of redfish quota allocations and present options to support shrimp harvesters impacted by quota cuts. I reiterated our position that Newfoundland and Labrador's share of the redfish quota allocation should fairly reflect our historic attachment and close proximity to the resource.

Officials from the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture will continue to be actively engaged with the Redfish Advisory Committee who are meeting in the coming weeks to determine quota allocations for each fleet, establish management measures, and consult on a Total Allowable Catch for the 2024 fishing season.

As Minister of Fisheries for Newfoundland and Labrador I will continue to impress upon the federal minister and officials the need for NL to obtain its fair share.

Craig Renouf
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Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
709-637-2923 (office)
709-640-6922 (cell)
craigrenouf@gov.nl.ca

From: Shea, Erin
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 12:46 PM
To: Renouf, Craig, Loveless, Elvis
Cc: Baldwin, Paul, Chippett, Jamie, Hanlon, Bren M.
Subject: RE: Interview Request - FW: NLIS 8 - Minister Loveless Calls for Fair Share of Redfish Allocation

Minister, Bailey Howard from NTV can do it anytime between 1:30 and 4pm in the NTV studio. Do you have a preference on time? I have a folder of materials for you as well. E.

From: Renouf, Craig <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 11:53 AM
To: Loveless, Elvis <ElvisLoveless@gov.nl.ca>
Cc: Baldwin, Paul <PaulBaldwin@gov.nl.ca>; Shea, Erin <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>; Chippett, Jamie <JamieChippett@gov.nl.ca>; Hanlon, Bren M. <brenhanlon@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: RE: Interview Request - FW: NLIS 8 - Minister Loveless Calls for Fair Share of Redfish Allocation

Hi Minister,

Further to the interview request below please see the following media response key messages for your approval. Jamie has approved. I understand there is also information in a redfish meeting note that Bren will provide you as well. Thanks, Craig.

MEDIA REQUEST

Date: February 5, 2024

Media:

NTV
Bailey Howard
bhoward@ntv.ca

Reporters Deadline: February 5, 2024

Context:

The reporter is requesting an interview with Minister Loveless regarding the FFA news release issued on February 2, 2024, expressing the Provincial Governments disappointment and concern over the commercial redfish quota share allocated to Newfoundland and Labrador.
<https://www.gov.nl.ca/releases/2024/ffa/0202n08/>

Questions:

Why are you concerned with the commercial redfish quota allocation?
What action will you take to help ensure NL benefits from the reopening of the commercial redfish fishery?

Suggested Approach: TBD

Suggested Statement/Key Messages

We are pleased to see a reopening of a commercial redfish fishery after so many years of closure. This represents new opportunities for both our harvesting and processing sectors.

We had advised the Federal Government that redfish quota allocations should appropriately consider Newfoundland and Labradors historical attachment to the fishery, the longstanding principle of adjacency, and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. I was able to raise this issue directly with the federal Minister on her recent trip to St. Johns.

In that meeting the federal Minister and I agreed on the need for federal management decisions to support the sustainability of rural communities and families.

Having said that, I am extremely disappointed with our provinces share of the commercial redfish quota.

DFO failed to appropriately take these principals into consideration when making their decision.

Given the significant quota reduction in Shrimp Fishing Area 8, I am calling upon the federal minister for an increase in the redfish quota share for shrimp harvesters in this province as well as consideration of a licence buyback program.

I have written Minister Lebouthillier to express our concerns, request re-consideration of redfish quota allocations and present options to support shrimp harvesters impacted by quota cuts. I reiterated our position that Newfoundland and Labradors share of the redfish quota allocation should fairly reflect our historic attachment and close proximity to the resource.

Officials from the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture will continue to be actively engaged with the Redfish Advisory Committee who are meeting in the coming weeks to determine quota allocations for each fleet, establish management measures, and consult on a Total Allowable Catch for the 2024 fishing season.

As Minister of Fisheries for Newfoundland and Labrador I will continue to impress upon the federal minister and officials the need for NL to obtain its fair share.

From: Renouf, Craig

Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 9:13 AM

To: Loveless, Elvis <ElvisLoveless@gov.nl.ca>

Cc: Baldwin, Paul <PaulBaldwin@gov.nl.ca>; Shea, Erin <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>; Chippett, Jamie <JamieChippett@gov.nl.ca>; Hanlon, Bren M. <brenhanlon@gov.nl.ca>

Subject: Interview Request - FW: NLIS 8 - Minister Loveless Calls for Fair Share of Redfish Allocation

Hi Minister,

NTV (Bailey Howard) is requesting to interview you today to discuss our news release issued Friday. Please advise if you are available and we can schedule accordingly.

Thanks,
Craig

From: Bailey Howard <bhoward@ntv.ca>
Sent: Sunday, February 4, 2024 9:20 AM
To: Renouf, Craig <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: Fwd: NLIS 8 - Minister Loveless Calls for Fair Share of Redfish Allocation

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Craig,

Would the Minister be available tomorrow to talk about this?

Thanks!
Bailey

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Releases, News" <news@gov.nl.ca>
Date: February 2, 2024 at 2:48:51 PM NST
To: "Releases, News" <news@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: NLIS 8 - Minister Loveless Calls for Fair Share of Redfish Allocation

NLIS 8
Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
February 2, 2024

Minister Loveless Calls for Fair Share of Redfish Allocation

The Honourable Elvis Loveless, Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture, is [calling on the Federal Government](#) to ensure Newfoundland and Labrador receives its fair share of the newly announced Unit 1 redfish quota allocations. The Provincial Government has requested a share that appropriately reflects Newfoundland and Labrador's historical attachment to the redfish fishery, the longstanding principle of adjacency, and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

On January 26, 2024, the Federal Government's Department of Fisheries and Oceans announced plans to re-open the Unit 1 commercial redfish fishery in 2024 for a two-year transitional period with a minimum Total Allowable Catch of 25,000 tonnes. Important discussions will take place in the coming weeks with the Redfish Advisory Committee to determine quota allocations for each fleet, establish management measures, and consult on a Total Allowable Catch for the 2024 fishing season.

The Federal Government's department also recently announced significant reductions in Northern Shrimp quotas that will have a devastating impact on this province's shrimp harvesters and processors. The quota for Shrimp Fishing Area 8, located adjacent to the province's west coast, has been reduced from 4,222 tonnes in 2023 to just 1,757 tonnes for 2024.

While the Federal Government's Department of Fisheries and Oceans has allocated 10 per cent of the redfish quota to shrimp harvesters to help offset impacts of the quota reduction, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador is calling for those affected to receive a greater share of redfish quota given the extent of the cut.

Quote

We are pleased with the re-opening of the commercial redfish fishery and the opportunities for the fishing industry in this province. In saying that, I am disappointed that the provincial share of the quota does not reflect the historic attachment and adjacency of Newfoundland and Labrador to the redfish fishery. Further, given the significant quota reduction in Shrimp Fishing Area 8, I call upon the federal minister for an increase in the redfish quota for shrimp harvesters and consideration of a licence buyback program for impacted harvesters.

Honourable Elvis Loveless

Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

-30-

Learn more

[In Solution Mode: The Government of Canada launches its transition plan for the future of fisheries in Quebec and Atlantic Canada](#)

Follow us on X [@GovNL](#) and [@FFA_GovNL](#)

Like us on [Facebook](#)

Media contact

Craig Renouf

Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

709-637-2923; 709-640-6922

craigrenouf@gov.nl.ca

BACKGROUND

1. The reopening of the Unit Redfish fishery will take place in two phases. A first two-year transitional phase will allow for data collection, give fish harvesters time to prepare, further develop markets, and strengthen the sector's capacity to transform.
 2. A second phase of long-term development aimed at establishing a redfish fishery with a modernized allocation key. A phase that, in view of the current scientific data, would be one of expansion.
1. Commercial redfish quota share by fleet:
 1. Offshore mobile gear (MG) fleet sector (vessels >100') - 58.69%
 2. Inshore MG fleet sector (vessels <65') - 14.84%
 3. Midshore MG fleet sector (vessels 65-100') - 5.72%
 4. Inshore fixed gear (bycatch) - 0.75%
 5. Estuary and Gulf of St. Lawrence (ESGL) Shrimp Harvesters - 10.00%
 6. Quota dedicated to Indigenous communities - 10.00%
 1. Commercial redfish quota share by province as proposed by DFO:

1. Newfoundland and Labrador: 19%
2. Nova Scotia: 33%
3. New Brunswick: 11%
4. P.E.I.: 5%
5. Quebec: 32%

2024 02 02

2:45 p.m.

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From: Loveless, Elvis
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 3:28 PM
To: Renouf, Craig
Cc: Chippett, Jamie, Baldwin, Paul, Hanlon, Bren M., Shea, Erin
Subject: Re: VOCM: FFAW Requests Meeting With Federal Fisheries Minister Over Redfish Quota

Last paragraph is very interesting! If assistance is provided to Quebec fisherman and processors due to drop in quotas, the same better apply to NL. [REDACTED]

29(1)(a)

Elvis Loveless
Minister
Fishery, Forestry & Agriculture
MHA - Fortune Bay - Cape La Hune
709-729-3705 (Office)
709-885-7594 (Work cell)

On Feb 5, 2024, at 2:17 PM, Renouf, Craig <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca> wrote:

FFAW Requests Meeting With Federal Fisheries Minister Over Redfish Quota

Feb 5, 2024 | 1:08 PM

The FFAW is requesting a meeting with the federal fisheries minister to discuss redfish quota allocations in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

The fisheries union says harvesters are devastated to learn that 60 per cent of the allocation is going to the offshore fleet based in Nova Scotia.

Gulf area harvesters in this province were hoping for a buyout of their shrimp licences in light of significant quota cuts, and a greater share of redfish to make the transition.

FFAW President Greg Pretty says Ottawas announcement means economic devastation for hundreds of harvesters in this province.

Under this crazy regime, theyll get 62 tonnes says Pretty for the uninitiated, thats about 130,000 pounds of redfish out of that quota, which is not enough to pay for the fuel.

Pretty accuses DFO of losing its moral compass citing the overfishing that took place in the Gulf in the 1970s.

The non-Gulf based stern trawlers, lost their access to Gulf redfish in 1976, because in essence they overfished the entire works, says Pretty. Dont forget, this isnt the Atlantic Ocean were talking about, this is the Gulfthey lost access to it, because they were too hard on the species. Now, says Pretty, DFO is allowing the same fleet to go right back in, without thinking about the history of the fishery in the region.

Fisheries Minister Provides Update

Federal Fisheries Minister Diane Lebouthillier this morning provided an update on redfish allocations and plans to assist shrimp harvesters in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

She says the Total Allowable Catch has not been decided and will not be decided until the Redfish Advisory Committee has been consulted and submits its recommendations to her.

She urged harvesters to avoid escalation of the current situation through outbursts and speculation.

She says Nova Scotia historically had the lead in terms of shares when the fishery closed in 1993 and that remains the case today, but when it comes to Newfoundland and Labrador, New Brunswick, PEI and Quebec, their shares have not only been respected, but even increased.

She told an audience in Quebec this morning that assistance will be provided to Quebec fishermen and processing plants affected by the drop in shrimp and turbot catches.

Craig Renouf

Media Relations Manager

Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

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709-640-6922 (cell)

craigrenouf@gov.nl.ca

From: [Renouf, Craig](#)
Sent: [Tuesday, February 6, 2024 10:06 AM](#)
To: [Loveless, Elvis](#), [Chippett, Jamie](#), [Baldwin, Paul](#), [Hanlon, Bren M.](#), [Adams, Blair](#), [Balsom, Stephen](#), [Deering, Keith](#), [Shea, Erin](#), [Skinner, Linda](#)
Subject: [MORNING MEDIA - Feb. 6, 2024](#)

CBC

Marine Stewardship Council pauses new standards for seafood sustainability

Fishing industry complained rules are unworkable, environmental group disagrees

Paul Withers CBC News Posted: Feb 06, 2024 6:30 AM NST | Last Updated: 2 hours ago

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/marine-stewardship-council-pauses-seafood-standard-1.7105691>

VOCM

FFAW Calling on Ottawa to Reverse Changes to EI Qualifications

Feb 6, 2024 | 6:18 AM

The FFAW is urging the federal government to fix what they've broken by reversing the changes to EI qualifying criteria affecting a large number of seasonal workers.

Union President Greg Pretty says the changes in EI qualifying criteria came once the crab fishery was over, meaning that many plant workers and harvesters had no opportunity to meet the criteria.

That will result in many members going without income this winter.

Pretty says not only do they want the federal government to do something for the seasonal workers affected by last year's change, but they want to ensure that similar issues don't happen again.

Intrafish

Canada's salmon farmers no longer 'lying down' when it comes to activists' misinformation

"These activists groups are not used to being challenged on claims they're making," said the BC Salmon Farmers Association of recent efforts to combat false statements.

Canada's salmon farming industry over the past year has taken activists to task over claims that British Columbia's (BC) netpen salmon farms harm wild salmon.

It was through a carefully worded email sent to Pattison Media -- Canada's largest private western-based radio and television company and a division of the \$14 billion Jim Pattison Group -- that the BC Salmon Farmers Association (BCSFA) was recently able to remove an ad from the NGO Wild First that claimed wild Pacific salmon are on the brink of extinction" and that" Canada must protect wild Pacific salmon by removing all ocean-polluting salmon farms."

"It's the responsibility of the sector to share factually correct information," Michelle Franze, a spokesperson for the BCSFA, told IntraFish of the industry's recent effort to combat what it calls misinformation spread through social media, television and radio ads.

The BCSFA said Thursday the media entity took swift action on the issue and removed the ad, following a comprehensive email showing inaccuracies in the activist's statement.

Franze in particular focused on the ad's statement that wild Pacific salmon are on "the brink of extinction" in her email to the radio station. She pointed out the claim was "sensationalist" and provided evidence that included links to recent scientific research showing the record-high abundance of Pacific salmon that has been recorded in the ocean, particularly for specific species such as pinks.

She also pointed to Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) assessments that have concluded the pathogens found in Atlantic salmon farms in the Discovery Islands area pose no more than a minimal risk to migrating Fraser River sockeye salmon. Another DFO report from last year found no statistically significant association between sea lice and salmon farms.

Franze said when the station reached out to Wild First to provide it the opportunity to demonstrate the veracity of its statements, the group failed to do so.

"These activists groups are not used to being challenged on claims they're making," Franze said. "Now that we have supporting documentation showing the claims are not correct, they're not able to push back on them."

The act of speaking up and asking for the ad to be removed is part of a larger movement among British Columbia's salmon farming industry and salmon farmers worldwide, Brian Kingzett, executive director of the BC Salmon Farmers Association, told IntraFish.

"What we have done is we decided not to take some stuff lying down," said Kingzett, who pointed to other advertisements from Wild First being removed last December from billboards in Ottawa due to false information about netpen salmon bans following a complaint from the Canadian Aquaculture Industry Alliance (CAIA).

Last August, CTV News Vancouver also removed a news segment with anti-salmon farming advocates that contained false information after the BC Salmon farmers filed an official complaint.

"We are pushing back and encouraging employees and people in the sector to push back," Kingzett said.

The government announced in 2019 that all netpen salmon farms in British Columbia are to be transitioned to closed-containment systems by 2025, but it is now less clear if that will be the primary form of transition.

The fisheries minister started meeting with stakeholders last October as the deadline for March of approaches for her office to release a draft public netpen transition plan that could include further removal of salmon farms if she follows in the footsteps of her predecessor.

Jeremy Collard, the fisheries minister's press secretary, told IntraFish Thursday those meetings remain ongoing.

BayFM

NL Fisheries Minister wants to see a fair share for redfish quotas

Monday, 5 February 2024 12:00

Provincial Fisheries Minister Elvis Loveless, is calling on the federal government to ensure Newfoundland and Labrador receives its fair share of the newly announced Unit 1 redfish quota allocations. On January 26th, DFO announced plans to reopen that fishery for a two year transitional period. The total allowable catch is 25,000 tonnes. Discussions will take place over the next couple of weeks with the Redfish Advisory Committee to determine quota allocations for each fleet. While DFO has allocated 10 percent of the redfish quota to shrimp harvesters to help offset impacts of the quota

reduction, government is calling for those affected to receive a greater share of the redfish quota given the extent of the cut. Meanwhile, Northern Shrimp quotas are also being cut. The quota for Shrimp Fishing Area 8, located adjacent to the provinces west coast, has been reduced from 4,222 tonnes in 2023 to just 1,757 tonnes for 2024.

[Seafoodnews.com](https://www.seafoodnews.com)

British Columbia Fish Farmers Target Wild First Radio Ads

Copyright 2024 Business in Vancouver

By Nelson Bennett

February 5, 2024

The BC Salmon Farmers Association is applauding the removal of what it calls sensationalist and factually incorrect anti-fish farming ads from radio stations owned by Pattison Media.

It was only a partial victory, however, as other radio stations refused to pull the ads, and the one pulled by Pattison Media was later reinstated with a "slight tweak."

The ads from Wild First aired on radio stations owned by Rogers, Corus and Pattison Media, according to Brian Kingzett, executive director of the BC Salmon Farmers Association (BCSFA). The BCSFA complained, saying the ad contained inaccuracies.

Only Pattison Media agreed to pull one of the ads, though it appears a slightly tweaked version of the ad was later allowed to run, according to Wild First.

In an email to BIV News, Wild First said its radio ad on Pattison Media radio was paused but "with a slight tweak" it was later reinstated.

The ads stated, among other things, that wild Pacific salmon are on the brink of extinction, which the salmon farmers association says is false.

As BIV News has reported, some species of salmon have been in dramatic decline in B.C., but Pacific salmon in general are more abundant than ever before, according to counts available from the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission.

Much of the declines over the past decade or more have been in the southern ranges, like B.C. and Japan. Pink salmon, on the other hand, are more abundant than ever, and Alaska continues to get huge returns of sockeye salmon.

The salmon farming sector has been the subject of a campaign by anti-fish farm activists to have it shut down, and the industry has been fighting back with some aggressive fact-checking.

We were just at a point where we were saying enough is enough, Kingzett said. Weve just decided that we are going to push back on these ads, where we can demonstrate that they are wrong.

In August, 2023 the BCSFA says CTV News removed a segment featuring an interview with an anti-fish farming campaigner, after the BCSFA complained about inaccuracies in the piece.

And in December 2023 the Canadian Aquaculture Industry Alliance (CAIA) managed to get anti-fish farm billboards removed, again for making what the industry said were false claims.

In that case, the claims were that open net salmon farms are banned in Washington, Oregon, California and Alaska something the CAIA argued was not factually correct.

Headlines

FEDERAL FISHERIES MINISTER DOING DAMAGE CONTROL: The federal fisheries minister "Diane Lebouthillier" was doing damage control today regarding the redfish and the Gulf inshore fishery.

CBN - St. John's - Fisheries Broadcast @ 06:10:12pm Duration: 00:08:07 Reporter:

Ref Id: p3f-2A3-5

UPDATE ON COD HARVESTER: An update on a story we brought you last August. "Ken Green" was landing cod in Harbour Grace but the processor stopped buying his fish.

CBN - St. John's - Fisheries Broadcast @ 06:18:35pm Duration: 00:12:39 Reporter:

Ref Id: b4G-6g7-5

Craig Renouf

Media Relations Manager

Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

709-637-2923 (office)

709-640-6922 (cell)

craigrenouf@gov.nl.ca

From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Wednesday, February 7, 2024 1:01 PM
To: Loveless, Elvis, Chippett, Jamie, Baldwin, Paul, Hanlon, Bren M., Adams, Blair, Balsom, Stephen, Deering, Keith, Shea, Erin, Skinner, Linda
Subject: MORNING MEDIA - Feb. 7, 2024

NTV

FFAW pushes back against Ottawa's recent announcement of redfish allocations

<https://ntv.ca/ffaw-pushes-back-against-ottawas-recent-announcement-of-redfish-allocations/>

The FFAW and the province's fisheries minister are pushing back against Ottawa's recent announcement of redfish allocations. They say Newfoundland and Labrador is not getting its fair share.

BayFM

NL Fisheries Minister wants to see a fair share for redfish quotas

Discussions will take place over the next couple of weeks with the Redfish Advisory Committee to determine quota allocations for each fleet.

Provincial Fisheries Minister Elvis Loveless, is calling on the federal government to ensure Newfoundland and Labrador receives its fair share of the newly announced Unit 1 redfish quota allocations. On January 26th, DFO announced plans to reopen that fishery for a two year transitional period. The total allowable catch is 25,000 tonnes. Discussions will take place over the next couple of weeks with the Redfish Advisory Committee to determine quota allocations for each fleet. While DFO has allocated 10 percent of the redfish quota to shrimp harvesters to help offset impacts of the quota reduction, government is calling for those affected to receive a greater share of the redfish quota given the extent of the cut. Meanwhile, Northern Shrimp quotas are also being cut. The quota for Shrimp Fishing Area 8, located adjacent to the province's west coast, has been reduced from 4,222 tonnes in 2023 to just 1,757 tonnes for 2024.

The Telegram

This fight is far from over: N.L. fisheries union say more of new redfish allocation should be going to members

FFAW-Unifor was hoping more of the quota would go to the inshore, coastal-based fleet in the Gulf of St. Lawrence

The union representing fish harvesters and plant workers in Newfoundland and Labrador is upset its members won't be getting more of the newly commercialized redfish quota.

Last week, Fisheries and Oceans Canada Minister Diane Lebovillier announced redfish abundance has reached levels that allow commercial catches to resume for the first time in nearly 30 years.

The federal department also announced significant reductions in Northern Shrimp quotas.

Less than 25 per cent

FFAW-Unifor was hoping that half of the redfish quota would go to the inshore, coastal-based fleet in the Gulf of St. Lawrence area, including shrimp harvesters who, according to the union, desperately need an economically viable

transition to the redfish fishery for continued survival. Instead, the inshore fleet has been allocated less than 25 per cent of the 25,000-tonne minimum total allowable catch (TAC).

Nearly 60 per cent of the share will go to the corporate-owned offshore fleet in Nova Scotia, which uses factory-freezer draggers that will not land or process product in Canada.

'Left to go bankrupt'

“These small-scale fish harvesters and their communities rely on access to the marine resources off their doorsteps,” Greg Pretty, FFAW-Unifor’s president, said in a news release issued Monday, hours after the federal minister discussed the issue in a media scrum.

“The minister has very clearly failed in her responsibility under the federal Fisheries Act by not prioritizing social, economic and cultural factors as well as the preservation and promotion of the independence of independent license holders.”

A majority share for the inshore Gulf fleet would have meant economic sustainability for the 100 or so owner-operator vessels that desperately need the transition from shrimp to redfish, said Rendell Genge, a fish harvester from Anchor Point, N.L. who identified the resurgence of redfish years ago and the need to prepare gear trials before commercialization.

“Now, the lion’s share is going to a handful of corporate-owned vessels, and our fleet will be left to go bankrupt,” Genge said.

Numbers could change

Lebouthillier, meanwhile, emphasized that the 25,000-tonne quota is just a minimum and no final decisions have been made yet.

“The sole purpose of the 25,000-tonne floor was to provide predictability and ensure a minimum for the various stakeholders, who will ultimately have their say,” she said. “If, following last week’s announcement, harvesting and processing industries, Indigenous communities and provincial governments all agree to recommend a TAC beyond 25,000 tonnes, rest assured that I am perfectly open to granting it.”

She added that, in the case of shrimp harvesters, it’s important to understand that 10 per cent of 25,000 tonnes is not the same as 10 per cent of 50,000 tonnes or 10 per cent of 75,000 tonnes.

“That’s why I’d like to urge everyone to be extremely cautious, and avoid quick mathematical shortcuts,” said Lebouthillier. “I know it’s not easy for anyone at the moment, but, collectively, we all have a role to play in avoiding unnecessary escalation of the current situation through outbursts and speculation.”

She noted that the Redfish Advisory Committee will continue to meet in the coming weeks and months and further announcements will be made in due course.

Historical shares

As for the issue of historical shares, Lebouthillier, said her decision has sought to respect that and reflect it as closely as possible.

According to DFO’s latest estimates, Nova Scotia remains in the lead in terms of shares, as has historically been the case. As for Quebec, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador and Prince Edward Island, the minister noted that their shares have not only been respected, but even increased.

In terms of fleet distribution, she said the historic shares of vessels over 100 feet, or “offshores” as they are known, has shrunk from 74 per cent in 1994 to 59 per cent in 2024, which the minister said is to the benefit of smaller fleets, shrimpers and Indigenous communities.

"In short, the decision announced last week offers even more opportunities to the smallest players, whose leverage has increased considerably since the 1993 moratorium," said Lebouthillier. "To suggest otherwise is simply false."

Not giving up

According to the union, the decision to favour the offshore fleet goes against conservation efforts for the species, which has been under a moratorium since 1995.

The inshore owner-operator fleet, noted the union's press release, has undertaken extensive scientific work in the past several years to study gear modifications to significantly reduce by-catch and try to ensure a sustainable community-based fishery.

"This fight is far from over and we are certainly not laying down and moving on from this issue," said Jason Spingle, FFAW-Unifor's secretary-treasurer, in the news release.

Spingle called the redfish decision a direct threat on northern cod as well.

"Every single fish harvester, whether they're in the Gulf or not, should be alarmed at this redfish allocation," he said.

"We cannot, and we will not, allow our rightful fisheries to be corporatized to leave our communities with nothing."

Province takes stand

The provincial government has weighed in on the issue, with Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture Minister Elvis Loveless calling on the federal government to ensure Newfoundland and Labrador receives its fair share of the new redfish quota allocations.

"I am disappointed that the provincial share of the quota does not reflect the historic attachment and adjacency of Newfoundland and Labrador to the redfish fishery," said Loveless in a news release. "Further, given the significant quota reduction in Shrimp Fishing Area 8, I call upon the federal minister for an increase in the redfish quota for shrimp harvesters and consideration of a licence buyback program for impacted harvesters."

Conservation group has questions

Oceana Canada, an organization focused on ocean conservation which also issued a prepared statement on the redfish decision, said many critical questions about the management and monitoring of the fishery remain unanswered and must be resolved before the fishery opens.

"Oceana Canada urges Fisheries Minister Lebouthillier and DFO to take a cautious approach," urged Rebecca Schijns, a fishery scientist with Oceana Canada.

"We call on the Canadian government to develop a redfish management plan to prevent the same overfishing that led to its collapse 30 years ago. It must include rigorous monitoring requirements in line with DFO's Fishery Monitoring Policy."

Monitoring essential

Careful monitoring is essential, Schijns added, because there are two species of redfish in the Gulf of St. Lawrence that look identical to the untrained eye.

Deepwater redfish (*Sebastes mentella*) are healthy and flourishing, she said, while Acadian redfish (*Sebastes fasciatus*) are in the cautious zone.

"A sustainable fishery may be able to target deepwater redfish, however, it would also need to prevent the incidental catch or bycatch of undersized fish and less abundant Acadian redfish, along with other species that are depleted or commercially valuable," she said.

"With the rebound of redfish, DFO has an opportunity to demonstrate how a fishery can be re-opened successfully. By following modern policies and management practices, redfish can provide an economic boost to coastal communities for years to come."

Past mistakes won't be repeated

Lebouthillier said she will not make decisions that lead to overfishing the redfish stock.

"The redfish fishery will be a quota fishery and there's no way we'll be emptying the bottom of the sea in 2024, and I'm telling you, over my dead body," she said. "I've been saying it over and over again for months now, I lived the groundfish moratorium first-hand. We certainly won't repeat the mistakes of the past, and that's why, in every decision I make, I always do so with our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren in mind.

"And I want to emphasize that, no matter the size of the boat, if that boat employs local people, offers opportunities to local people, it creates local jobs, drives the local economy, and ultimately benefits all our coastal communities."

The facts

- The reopening of the Unit 1 Redfish fishery will take place in two phases. A first two-year transitional phase will allow for data collection, give fish harvesters time to prepare, further develop markets, and strengthen the sector's capacity to transform.

- A second phase of long-term development aimed at establishing a redfish fishery with a modernized allocation key. A phase that, in view of the current scientific data, would be one of expansion.

Commercial redfish quota share by fleet:

Offshore mobile gear (MG) fleet sector (vessels larger than 100 feet): 58.69 per cent

Inshore MG fleet sector (vessels smaller than 65 feet): 14.84 per cent

Midshore MG fleet sector (vessels 65-100 feet): 5.72 per cent

Inshore fixed gear (bycatch): 0.75 per cent

Estuary and Gulf of St. Lawrence (ESGL) shrimp harvesters: 10.00 per cent

Quota dedicated to Indigenous communities: 10.00 per cent

Commercial redfish quota share by province as proposed by DFO:

Newfoundland and Labrador: 19 per cent

Nova Scotia: 33 per cent

New Brunswick: 11 per cent

P.E.I.: Five per cent

Quebec: 32 per cent

VOCM

Byrne Accuses Ottawa of Moral Dishonesty in Redfish Fishery Approach

Feb 7, 2024 | 11:30 AM

The MHA for Corner Brook accuses Ottawa of "intellectual and moral dishonesty" in its approach to the reopening of the redfish fishery in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Gerry Byrne accuses Ottawa of creating capacity that has resulted in the "insatiable political demand for more fish", which is out of step with the resource.

The federal minister announced an initial 30,000 tonne quota in the Gulf, the lion's share of which will go to the Nova Scotia offshore fleet, with 10 per cent going to the NL inshore. That has upset local harvesters, who were hoping to transition away from a dwindling shrimp fishery.

Byrne says the minister has already indicated that the quotas will rise, and the approach her department is taking is wrong.

He says Minister Leboutillier has already indicated to inshore harvesters that the quota will increase to 75,000 tonnes, with their 10 per cent share rising to 7,500 tonnes. "Well guess what happens whenever you do that?" says Byrne "You create more, and more, and more demand."

Byrne says what makes that approach morally dishonest is the fact that the fleet and processing capacity already exists "rather than "start from scratch," spending taxpayer money to build new factory freezer trawlers, and bringing in temporary foreign workers to process the fish.

"You do not create this insatiable appetite to surrender more and more quota to keep those brand new factory freezer trawlers" which you built using government money," an exasperated Byrne told VOXM Open Line with Paddy Daly. The federal minister has indicated that Ottawa plans to spend \$50 million on the creation of new vessels to prosecute the fishery, when the fleet is there and ready to go, with existing plants on the west coast of Newfoundland ready to process the fish, says Byrne.

Intrafish

Norway's salmon farms encountered record-high mortality in 2023

Veterinary Institute is "not seeing a decrease" in salmon deaths and mortality.

6 February 2024 13:17 GMT UPDATED 6 February 2024 15:48 GMT- By Hanna Gezelius

A record 62.7 million salmon died in Norwegian netpens last year, according to a report released this week by Norwegian officials.

The number of salmon deaths in Norway last year was 6 million greater than during the previous year, the Norwegian Veterinary Institute said.

The mortality rate in the country's salmon farms was 16.7 percent in 2023, up from 16.1 percent the previous year.

"We are not seeing a decrease in mortality rates," Edgar Brun, director of the Norwegian Veterinary Institute's fish health department, said in a statement.

"Both in terms of number and percentage, these are the highest figures we have recorded to date."

Norway produced just over 1.5 million metric tons of Atlantic salmon in 2022, or more than half of global production, according to Norway-based research firm Kontali. Among the country's biggest producers are Mowi, SalMar and Leroy Seafood.

The Veterinary Institute's figures are based on monthly reports to the Directorate of Fisheries from salmon farmers.

Brun said his institute would investigate further to determine the causes of the increased salmon deaths.

In 2023, increased sightings were recorded of a jellyfish known to be deadly for farmed fish. SalMar, the country's second-largest producer, was forced to cull almost 2 million salmon after a jellyfish attack.

Often, however, the risk of mortality occurs when farmers need to treat fish for diseases or sea lice. In October, Mitsubishi-backed salmon group Cermaq lost 20 percent of the fish in one of its cages following a delousing incident.

Brun said that last year the industry paid heightened attention to welfare issues and launched initiatives aimed at improving the wellbeing of farmed fish. However, it is still too early in the process to see any positive results.

The highest mortality rate last year — 25 percent — was recorded in the production area between Karmøy and Sotra in western Norway, according to the Veterinary Institute report.

Two production areas — one in the north of the country and the other near the Swedish border — reported the lowest mortality rates, at below 10 percent.

Seafoodnews.com

Norwegian Farms Report Escapes Following Storm Ingunn

February 7, 2024

Last week Norway was hit by a major storm, which the Norwegian Meteorological Institute named Ingunn. Ingunn is being called one of the strongest storms to hit the country in 30 years, bringing with it hurricane-force winds, with some reports suggesting gusts at 112 miles per hour, and national wind speeds of 121.7 miles per hour. The news reported power outages and structure damage. And now Norway's Directorate of Fisheries says that they've received reports about incidents of escapement on farms.

“Up to and including 6 February, we have received reports of escapes or suspected escapes related to a total of 14 cages, spread over eight locations after the storm,” the Directorate of Fisheries stated. “There are three companies that have reported these incidents.”

While the government agency has not named the companies who reported escapement or suspected escapement, they did name the locations — Trøndelag, Hitra and Frøya.

“The damage varies from damage to jump nets to holes in the groove of various sizes,” said the Directorate of Fisheries. “The localities in question have salmon in sizes from about 300 grams to 6 kg. The extent of the escape has not been clarified in any of the incidents.”

The agency said that they are following up on the incidents.

The latest possible escapements come about a month after the Directorate of Fisheries acknowledged that they're not sure how many fish escaped last year.

“The escape of farmed fish is still a major challenge in the industry,” said Director Frank Bakke-Jensen. “And even after dialogue with the industry we see no improvement in methodology and routines for assessing the extent of escapes.”

Headlines

SALMON RIVER: There's a river in Labrador that has a section in Quebec. ["Tony Chubbs", President of the Labrador Fishing and Hunting Association]

CBN - St. John's - On The Go @ 05:37:44pm Duration: 00:12:24 Reporter:

HEALTHY FISHERY: What makes a healthy fishery? Why do some stocks do much better than others? ["Loren Shiller", Post Doctoral Graduate affiliated with Dalhousie University and Carleton]
CBN - St. John's - Fisheries Broadcast @ 06:23:22pm Duration: 00:08:47 Reporter: Todd O'Brien
Ref Id: q3x-5Y9-6

FEDERAL FISHERIES MINISTER TRYING TO EASE HARVESTER CONCERNS: The federal fisheries Minister "Diane Lebouthillier" tried to ease the concerns of small boat harvesters in Atlantic Canada including about 40 on the west coast of NL. She held a video call with reporters to clarify statements about red fish she made last week.
CBNT (CBC TV) - Here & Now @ 06:12:30pm Duration: 00:02:00 Reporter: Carolyn Stokes
Ref Id: i7s-8a9-6

POLAR BEAR HUNT: One of the most restricted hunts in the province has begun. ["Derrick Pottle", Inuit Educator and Hunter]
CBN - St. John's - 7am News @ 07:03:52am Duration: 00:00:56 Reporter:
Ref Id: W8G-9A5-7

ECOLOGIST IN BANFF WORKING ON ELIMINATION OF MOOSE-VEHICLE COLLISIONS: If you ever left home or hit the highway at night, guaranteed someone has told you to watch out for the moose. That's because there a lot of moose-vehicle collisions every year. ["Jesse Whittington", Ecologist Team Leader]
CBY - Corner Brook - NL Morning @ 07:16:53am Duration: 00:07:03 Reporter: Leigh Anne Power
Ref Id: H3i-5g8-7

STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT VETERINARY MEDICINE: It is a classroom set up like no other. The play space at Amos Comenius Memorial School in Hopedale has been turned into a veterinary clinic. ["Sophie Hewitt", Teacher]
CFGB - Goose Bay - Labrador Morning Show @ 07:39:05am Duration: 00:10:20 Reporter: Heidi Atter
Ref Id: g8d-3c4-7

Craig Renouf
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From: Shea, Erin
Sent: Wednesday, February 7, 2024 1:21 PM
To: Chippett, Jamie
Subject: KMs - Redfish - NTV - Feb 5 2024.docx
Attachments: KMs - Redfish - NTV - Feb 5 2024.docx

MEDIA REQUEST

Date and Deadline: February 5, 2024

Media: NTV, Bailey Howard, bhoward@ntv.ca

Context:

The reporter is requesting an interview regarding the news release issued February 2, expressing Government's concern over the commercial redfish quota share allocation.

Questions:

Why are you concerned with the commercial redfish quota allocation?

How will you help ensure NL benefits from reopening the commercial redfish fishery?

Suggested Statement/Key Messages

We are pleased to see a reopening of a commercial redfish fishery after so many years of closure. This represents new opportunities for both our harvesting and processing sectors.

We had advised the Federal Government that redfish quota allocations should appropriately consider Newfoundland and Labrador's historical attachment to the fishery, the longstanding principle of adjacency, and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. I was able to raise this issue directly with the federal Minister on her recent trip to St. John's.

In that meeting the federal Minister and I agreed on the need for federal management decisions to support the sustainability of rural communities and families.

Having said that, I am extremely disappointed with our province's share of the commercial redfish quota.

DFO failed to appropriately take these principals into consideration when making their decision.

Given the significant quota reduction in Shrimp Fishing Area 8, I am calling upon the federal minister for an increase in the redfish quota share for shrimp harvesters in this province as well as consideration of a licence buyback program.

I have written Minister Leboutheillier to express our concerns, request re-consideration of redfish quota allocations and present options to support shrimp harvesters impacted by quota cuts. I reiterated our position that Newfoundland and Labrador's share of the redfish quota allocation should fairly reflect our historic attachment and close proximity to the resource.

Officials from the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture will continue to be actively engaged with the Redfish Advisory Committee who are meeting in the coming weeks to determine quota allocations for each fleet, establish management measures, and consult on a Total Allowable Catch for the 2024 fishing season.

As Minister of Fisheries for Newfoundland and Labrador I will continue to impress upon the federal minister and officials the need for NL to obtain its fair share.

From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Wednesday, February 7, 2024 1:22 PM
To: Loveless, Elvis, Chippett, Jamie, Baldwin, Paul, Hanlon, Bren M., Shea, Erin
Subject: FW: Open Line Audio Clip - Minister Byrne is calling to talk about redfish quotas
Attachments: 2024-02-07 Open Line Minster Byrne.mp3

Please find attached audio of Minister Byrne from Open Line this morning.

From: Vallis, Samantha <SamanthaVallis@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, February 7, 2024 10:19 AM
To: Tompkins, John <jtompkins@gov.nl.ca>; Harding, Ryan D <RyanDHarding@gov.nl.ca>; Skinner, Linda <LindaSkinner@gov.nl.ca>; Shea, Erin <ErinShea@gov.nl.ca>; Renouf, Craig <CraigRenouf@gov.nl.ca>
Cc: Hood, Jillian <JillianHood@gov.nl.ca>; McCabe, Meghan <MeghanMcCabe@gov.nl.ca>; Barfoot, Scott <ScottBarfoot@gov.nl.ca>; Pomeroy, Sonja <SonjaPomeroy@gov.nl.ca>; Sulley, Erin <ErinSulley@gov.nl.ca>; Sorensen, David <DavidSorensen@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: Open Line Audio Clip - Minister Byrne is calling to talk about redfish quotas

Hi Everyone,

I've attached the audio clip from Minister Byrnes appearance on Open Line.

Happy Wednesday!
Sam

Samantha Vallis (she/her)
Communications Coordinator
Executive Council Communications Branch
Government of Newfoundland & Labrador
10th Floor East Block, Confederation Complex
P.O. Box 8700, St. John's NL A1B 4J6

From: Renouf, Craig
Sent: Wednesday, February 7, 2024 2:44 PM
To: Chippett, Jamie
Cc: Shea, Erin, Hanlon, Bren M.
Subject: MR for APPROVAL: The Broadcast/Redfish

Hi Jamie,

Todd O'Brien is requesting to interview the Minister regarding the province's position on redfish quota allocation either tomorrow or Friday. Please see the following MR for approval. Messages are same as those recently approved for the Minister's NTV interview except for a couple of small edits. Thanks, Craig.

MEDIA REQUEST

Date: February 7, 2024

Media:

Todd O'Brien
The Broadcast

W: [REDACTED] 40(1)
C: [REDACTED]

Reporter's Deadline: February 8, 2024

Context:

The reporter is requesting an interview with Minister Loveless to discuss the Province's disappointment over the commercial redfish quota share allocated to Newfoundland and Labrador.

Questions:

- Why are you concerned with the commercial redfish quota allocation?
- It appears from the federal fisheries minister's viewpoint, that NL agreed with the historical allocation of redfish. Is this accurate?
- What action will you take to help ensure NL benefits from the reopening of the commercial redfish fishery?

Suggested Approach: TBD

Suggested Statement/Key Messages

We are pleased to see a reopening of a commercial redfish fishery after so many years of closure. This represents new opportunities for both our harvesting and processing sectors.

Having said that, I am extremely disappointed with our province's share of the commercial redfish quota.