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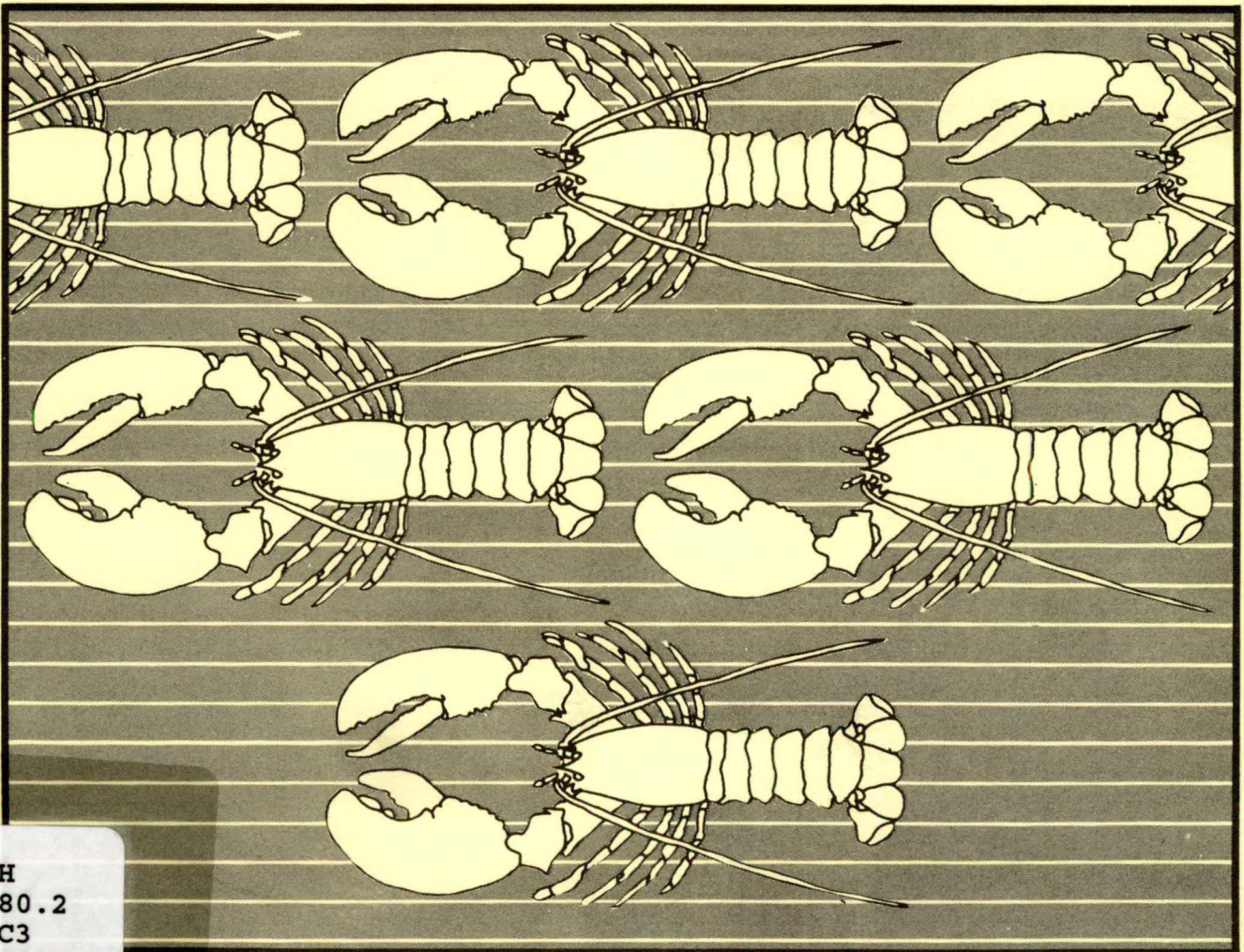
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Fisheries Management Plan: 1988

Scotia-Fundy Region

Inshore Lobster



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108785

1988 INSHORE LOBSTER FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Published by:

Communications Branch
Department of Fisheries and Oceans
Scotia-Fundy Region
P.O. Box 550
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 2S7

ISSN 0835-7668
ISBN 0-662-15928-4
Cat. No. Fs 1-44/7-1987E

Également disponible en français.

Subject to change without notice.

C-2 198785

1988 Inshore Lobster Fishery Management Plan

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THE 1988 INSHORE LOBSTER MANAGEMENT PLAN

1988 INSHORE LOBSTER MANAGEMENT PLAN OBJECTIVES

The inshore lobster industry depends upon the availability of a healthy, secure stock. The objectives of the inshore lobster management process are to ensure the preservation of the stocks and to help fishermen get the most from the harvestable stock. Inshore lobster industry members recognize the need to develop and promote management strategies that incorporate biological and economic influences.

1. Conservation and Protection

Current biological data indicate that exploitation rates for most lobster fishing areas are high. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) stresses that most management measures for the inshore lobster fishery are designed to conserve and protect the species so that economic benefits will continue to be available. In 1987 and 1988 industry and DFO have given more consideration to the introduction of resource conservation measures, including the use of escape vents, increases in carapace lengths, restrictions on gear types, and stricter enforcement of trap tag programs. Current biological evidence indicates that existing conservation management and enhancement measures have contributed to higher landings and the improved economic performance of the Scotia-Fundy lobster fishery. The maintenance of these, and the introduction of other measures, should lessen the sharp fluctuations in landings and revenues that have affected the fishery in the past.

2. Economic Viability

The international and domestic lobster markets continue to be lucrative in 1987 and 1988. Industry members believe that economic benefits coming from the fishery should be fairly distributed among all participants. In short, fishermen should receive stable levels of earnings and vessel owners should record reasonable rates of return on capital investments. Higher landings and revenues in 1987 and 1988 are positive indicators that returns to capital and labour are improving for all lobster fishing areas. Fishermen have begun to educate themselves on the relationship between effort and catch; the impact of harvesting strategies and levels on the inshore lobster stocks has become more apparent.

DFO stresses that the management planning process for the inshore fishery should be sensitive to socioeconomic realities. Many coastal communities in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick are highly dependent on employment and incomes generated by the inshore lobster industry.

1988 INSHORE LOBSTER MANAGEMENT MEASURES

Managing the Inshore Lobster Fishery

Prior to the consolidation of the Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985, and subsequent amendments, the lobster fishing districts were divided by lines extending from shore to seaward with no termination point at sea. These fishing districts were adequate in the past because fishing usually occurred close to shore. In recent years, the vessels have become larger and fishermen are travelling greater distances to fish. This increased mobility of the fleet combined with the seasonal lobster movements are making management of this fishery more complex. Of the existing conservation measures, four key management measures significantly contribute to stock conservation as well as improve yield and economic benefit to fishermen:

1. restricted number of lobster licences and traps per fisherman;
2. legal minimum size of lobsters retained using carapace length measurement;
3. restricted fishing season; and
4. berried lobsters are to be returned to the water.

In turn, these management measures must be sensitive to the following considerations:

1. stock characteristics;
2. accessibility;
3. proximity of fishing area to home port and port of landing;
4. seasonality of fishing activity;
5. catch and effort statistical systems, which serve in part as a basis for biological advice;
6. market considerations as related to fisherman's income;
7. cost of management and enforcement measures; and
8. economic viability of lobster fishery and its importance to local economies.

Based generally on these measures and considerations, the 11 lobster fishing areas are subject to the following regulations:

Table I: Lobster Trap Limits - 1988
 (Maximum number of lobster traps that may be fished by a licence)

| <u>LFA</u> | <u>Category A</u> | <u>Category B</u> | <u>Partnership</u> |
|------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 27 | 275 | 83 | 413 |
| 28 | 250 | 75 | 375 |
| 29 | 275 | 83 | 413 |
| 30 | 275 | 83 | 413 |
| 31 | 250 | 75 | 375 |
| 32 | 250 | 75 | 375 |
| 33 | 250 | 75 | 375 |
| 34 | 375 | 113 | 563 |
| 35 | 300 | 90 | 450 |
| 36 | 375 | 113 | 563 |
| 38 | 300 | 90 | 450 |

Table II: Lobster Fishing Area Close Times - 1988

| <u>LFA</u> | <u>Close Time</u> | <u>Minimum Lobster Length</u> |
|------------|---|-------------------------------|
| 27 | July 15 to 0500 h May 14 | 70 mm |
| 28 | July 10 to 0500 h May 9 | 81 mm |
| 29 | July 11 to 0500 h May 10 | 81 mm |
| 30 | July 21 to 0500 h May 19 | 81 mm |
| 31 | July 1 to 0600 h April 29 | 81 mm |
| 32 | June 21 to 0600 h April 19 | 81 mm |
| 33 | June 1 to 0700 h on the Last Monday in November | 81 mm |
| 34 | June 1 to 0700 h on the Last Monday in November | 81 mm |
| 35 | January 1 to 0800 h on the Last Day of February/August 1 to 0800 h October 14 | 81 mm |
| 36 | January 15 to 0800 h March 31/June 30 to 0800 h on the Second Tuesday in November | 81 mm |
| 38 | June 30 to 0800 h on Second Tuesday in November | 81 mm |

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

The harvesting of inshore lobster stocks can be traced back to pre-colonial times when North American Indians caught the species by hand. This primitive method of harvesting was displaced by spears and hooks in the eighteenth century. By the mid-eighteenth century, lobsters were landed in traps. This harvesting technique culminated with the development of the parlour trap in the early 1900's. Throughout the twentieth century, the inshore lobster fishery has benefitted from the introduction of new technologies, such as gas-powered boats, trap haulers and, in the post-World War II period, the use of electronic equipment (echo sounders, radio, loran and radar).

Up to the mid-1800's, lobsters were consumed locally; export markets were nominal. In 1834, the first lobster cannery in Canada was constructed in New Brunswick. The widespread processing of lobster in the Maritime provinces had begun. By 1851, five small canneries were operating in western Nova Scotia, and the first large cannery was constructed in 1869. By 1900, over 760 canneries were active in the Maritime Region, with most canned products being shipped to the United Kingdom. The cannery industry was a major catalyst for local economic growth. During the 1880's, markets for live lobsters in the United States were developed and secured. The shift away from processed to live lobsters, and corresponding contractions in the British market, led to the decline of the cannery industry. The international market for live lobsters has remained strong since World War II. More recently, Canadian companies have developed the lucrative live lobster markets in Europe and Japan.

The history of the inshore lobster fishery has been marked by the use of numerous regulatory measures. Most of the early regulations were based on market requirements and considerations, and not on biological concerns. The first regulatory regime was introduced in 1873 when restrictions were placed on soft shell lobsters, berried females. In 1879, closed seasons were enforced in the Bay of Fundy region, resulting in the creation of a part-time fishery. Size limits were introduced in 1899. Up to the late 1940's, enforcement of various regulatory measures was sporadic and inconsistent.

The inshore lobster industry has always experienced fluctuations in catches. The industry has been exposed to periods of low landings. In an effort to curb fishing capacity and infuse the industry with more stability, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans introduced additional regulatory measures. Trap limits were introduced in 1968 and limited entry in 1967. Between 1978 and 1981, a government-funded buy-back program resulted in the retirement of 1,406 licences in Nova Scotia, and about 170 licences in Southwest New Brunswick. Between 1981 and 1986, substantial increases in lobster landings and prices occurred, resulting in higher average catch per vessel and improved revenues.

In December, 1987, the Minister announced plans to issue four new exploratory offshore lobster/crab licences. This decision was opposed by the inshore lobster fishery. Fishermen representatives argued that the relationship between offshore and inshore lobster stocks was too uncertain to permit additional fishing effort. They noted that some broodstock for the inshore fishery may come from the offshore. In response to the concerns of the inshore, the Minister suspended the issuing of the new licences in April, 1988, pending a major socio-economic review of the Scotia-Fundy lobster fishery. The review, a preliminary report of which will be completed by the fall of 1988, would assess, among other things, the desirability of additional effort in the offshore lobster fishery.

FISHERY PROFILE

The inshore lobster waters in the Scotia-Fundy Region are divided into 11 Lobster Fishing Areas (LFA's). The area locations and number of licences follow.

| LFA | Area | Issued Licences 1987 | | | |
|------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|------------|-------------|-------|
| | | Category A | Category B | Partnership | Total |
| 27 | Eastern Cape Breton | 412 | 41 | 6 | 459 |
| 28, 29, 30 | Southern Cape Breton | 87 | 22 | 1 | 110 |
| 31, 32 | Halifax to Western Chedabucto Bay | 267 | 26 | 2 | 295 |
| 33 | Cape Sable to Halifax | 629 | 114 | 4 | 747 |
| 34 | Digby to Cape Sable | 929 | 7 | 11 | 947 |
| 35, 36, 38 | Bay of Fundy | 323 | 16 | 32 | 371 |
| Total | | 2647 | 226 | 56 | 2929 |

In 1987, about 2,900 lobster vessels participated in the inshore fishery, employing approximately 6,500 fishermen directly. Average revenues earned per licence ranged from about \$14,000 to about \$75,000, depending on the LFA the fisherman fished and whether he was full-time or part-time. Expenses such as fuel, bait, crew and depreciation costs would be approximately 50 per cent of total revenues (see Table II). The induced employment effects of the inshore lobster fishery cannot be precisely quantified, but income earned by fishermen has a positive and noticeable impact on the economic vibrancy of many small communities in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Many fishermen are heavily dependent on revenues from the lobster fishery and, given the variability in lobster stocks, the industry, as a whole, is vulnerable to periods of economic instability. The following table highlights landings and values for the inshore lobster fishery from 1982 to 1987.

Table III: Average Landings and Value Per Licence by LFA - 1987
(Quantity in tonnes; Value in thousands of dollars)

| LFA | Quantity | Value |
|----------|----------|--------|
| 27 | 5.84 | 47,730 |
| 28,29,30 | 3.54 | 22,091 |
| 31,32 | 1.97 | 13,725 |
| 33 | 3.38 | 33,729 |
| 34 | 7.44 | 75,529 |
| 35,36,38 | 2.57 | 24,698 |

Table IV: Landings and Values for LFA's - Scotia-Fundy Region - 1983-1987
(Quantity (Q) in tonnes; Value (V) in thousands of dollars)

| LFA | 1983 | | 1984 | | 1985 | | 1986 | | 1987 | |
|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|--------|---------|
| | Q | V | Q | V | Q | V | Q | V | Q | V |
| 27 | 1,564 | 7,830 | 1,421 | 7,526 | 1,630 | 10,281 | 2,317 | 14,214 | 2,679 | 21,908 |
| 28 | 61 | 354 | 69 | 468 | 60 | 475 | 85 | 680 | 95 | 781 |
| 29/30 | 57 | 312 | 74 | 428 | 113 | 880 | 153 | 1,221 | 294 | 2,430 |
| 31 | 179 | 748 | 140 | 900 | 180 | 1,318 | 284 | 2,044 | 323 | 2,736 |
| 32 | 109 | 677 | 169 | 956 | 183 | 1,316 | 223 | 1,567 | 258 | 1,131 |
| 33 | 784 | 5,745 | 1,477 | 11,319 | 2,072 | 16,528 | 2,661 | 24,577 | 2,522 | 25,196 |
| 34 | 4,923 | 36,365 | 5,750 | 44,880 | 5,797 | 47,328 | 7,486 | 68,904 | 7,050 | 71,526 |
| 35 | 131 | 936 | 203 | 1,711 | 228 | 1,984 | 259 | 2,519 | 336 | 3,453 |
| 36 | 211 | 1,517 | 230 | 1,834 | 301 | 2,525 | 293 | 2,525 | 327 | 3,013 |
| 38 | 367 | 2,669 | 365 | 3,015 | 304 | 2,546 | 321 | 2,785 | 290 | 2,697 |
| Total | 8,875 | 59,802 | 10,338 | 75,671 | 11,647 | 90,588 | 14,887 | 126,799 | 14,174 | 134,871 |

On average, LFA 27 has accounted for 17 percent of landings between 1983 and 1987 and 13 percent of the catches value. LFA's 28, 29 and 30 landings and values for these years have accounted for less than 1 percent. Areas 31 and 32 have recorded about 3 percent of the landings and 3 percent of the catches value. LFA 33 has landed, on average, 16 percent of the inshore lobster catch and has received 17 percent of the revenues. In the past five years, landings for LFA 34 have constituted 54 percent of the catch and 58 percent of total revenues. LFA's 35, 36 and 38 have landed 8 percent of the catch and have registered 8 percent of revenues on average.

Landings in LFA 27 have increased sharply since the late 1970's and in 1987 were the highest in the 110 years for which records are available. Exploitation rates are at 80 percent.

LFA's 28, 29 and 30 landings in recent years have registered a five-fold increase since 1980, though the catch is still well below three previous periods of high landings during this century. Exploitation rates, at 43 percent, are the lowest of any estimated for the Scotia-Fundy Region.

LFA's 31 and 32 have recorded a five-fold increase in landings as well. Exploitation rates are about 52 percent.

LFA 33 landings have recorded a ten-fold increase since 1980. Exploitations are high, approximately 75 percent. For LFA 34, landings in 1987 decreased slightly from 1986, though higher prices lead to greater revenues. Effort has increased and the exploitation rate is marked at 80 percent or higher.

Finally, landings in LFA's 36 and 38 have increased by about 35 percent from the low levels in 1975-1982. The current exploitation rate is 70 percent.

Biological advice suggests that differences in lobster production among the 11 districts is attributable, in part, to distinct environmental and habitat conditions.

CONSULTATIVE PROCESS

The Lobster Fishing Area Advisory Committees (LFAAC), the Offshore Lobster Advisory Committee (OLAC) and the Scotia-Fundy Regional Lobster Advisory Committee (SFRLAC) serve as the primary vehicles through which management initiatives for the offshore and inshore lobster fisheries are deliberated and developed. These committees are supported by a working group of DFO officers who consolidate scientific, economic, marketing and other information into draft fishing plans for the committees' consideration. Sub-committees and issue-specific working groups can be established to address various concerns.

The Advisory Committees' general tasks are to provide recommendations and advice on fishing plans and comment on Regional policy issues affecting the inshore and offshore lobster fisheries. The specific functions of these Advisory Committees are to improve communication among all sectors of the lobster fishery, to provide a forum for input into the management of the lobster fishery, to review management proposals, particularly their legalities and impact and to identify and review current issues and needs of fishermen. The use of conservation measures such as escape vents and increases in carapace length are examined by the LFA committees. Membership on these committees mirrors representation on SFRLAC. Fishermen elect or nominate, depending on the LFA, their representatives to the committees every two years.

A Bay of Fundy inshore lobster workshop held in January 1987, attended by government and industry representatives, resulted in a framework for the phasing out of LFA 37 and LFA 39. The existence of these areas had been contentious. Fishermen charged that these buffer zones resulted in unequal access to Bay of Fundy lobster stocks. As a result of the consultative process, new, single boundary lines were proposed and accepted by various fishermen's organizations. The removal of the buffer zones will reduce the number of fishing areas in the Bay of Fundy from six to four. The management planning process for these areas should become less complicated.

In 1987-88, the LFA Advisory Committees dealt with such issues as escape vents, use of biodegradable materials in lobster traps, carapace length increases and of new offshore lobster licences. From the consultative process came support for a number of regulations to be introduced into the inshore lobster fishery in the next year or so. Regulations, pending Ministerial approval, involve changes in the boundaries of LFA 32 and 33; removal of LFA's 37 and 39 from regulations, and; regulations to prohibit the landing of lobsters on the first day of the season in LFA's 27 to 39. Other pending regulations are cited in the Summary of Current Issues.

SUMMARY OF CURRENT ISSUES

Many current issues affecting the inshore lobster fishery are specific to one or several LFA's and some issues are regional in scope. The fragmentary nature of the inshore lobster fishery requires the use of eight separate LFA Advisory Committees to address outstanding concerns and issues. Still, several issues impact all LFA's in varying degrees. Among the more pertinent issues are:

1. Conservation and Protection

Only recently have the inshore lobster stocks begun to recover from overexploitation. DFO and industry members in the LFA's recognize the need to develop and introduce a conservation and management regime that will protect the fishery. Current conservation measures include minimum legal size and protection of berried females. Among the options under review are the introduction of escape vents, carapace length increases and efforts to reduce "ghost fishing", by which lost or abandoned traps continue to capture lobsters. Many fishermen in the Scotia-Fundy Region continue to reject measures that would reduce the number of active licences, decrease the amount of fishing gear used, restrict areas of fishing and shorten fishing seasons. In general, fishermen do not support measures that would lessen fishing effort. DFO stresses that some of these measures have the potential to protect and juveniles from overexploitation.

The use of escape vents and biodegradable material in lobster traps has received support from most fishermen in the Scotia-Fundy Region. Escape vents allow undersized lobsters to leave traps before they are hauled by fishermen. Biodegradable material reduces the incidence of 'ghost fishing', by which lost or abandoned traps continue to capture lobsters. This material disintegrates, allowing lobsters to leave traps. The use of lobster traps constructed of plastic coated wire has steadily increased in recent years and in some areas they have virtually replaced the traditional wooden trap. Such developments have increased ghost fishing significantly. Should traps be lost, the biodegradable material will break down quickly, rendering the trap incapable of retaining lobsters or any other fish.

Studies have shown that escape vents reduce the catch of sublegal lobsters. DFO biologists note that using escape vents would reduce a) the number of injuries and deaths, and b) the time expended by fishermen in sorting their catch. Regulations to introduce escape vent and biodegradable requirements for the Scotia-Fundy Region are awaiting approval in principle by the Minister.

2. Issuance of Additional Licences

Requests continue to be received by DFO for additional licences in the Scotia-Fundy Region. Lobster fishermen do not support the requests for additional licences. Biological evidence indicates that increasing effort would not produce a sustainable increase in catch in the inshore fishery. Industry members emphasize, as well, that the inshore lobster fishery is vulnerable to unpredictable stock fluctuations, which have a direct impact on the industry's economic viability. Lobster fishermen do recognize the need to make provisions for reasonable opportunity and access to younger fishermen. Still, DFO notes that while no new licences have been issued, pressure on the lobster stocks has increased. Increased effort reflects reactivation of inactive licences, an increase in the number of traps fished within the legal limit, an increase in the number of days fished and an increase in the number of trap hauls per day. DFO will review options that do not result in additional effort in the fishery and yet may achieve these objectives.

3. Enforcement and Regulations

Concern has been expressed by fishermen that in some areas trap limits are being exceeded and there is a high incidence of poaching. DFO stresses that it will continue to closely monitor, subject to available resources, fishing activity in the inshore lobster fishing areas. The introduction of two new patrol vessels in southwestern Nova Scotia to enforce the trap limit for the fall fishery will heighten DFO enforcement capabilities. Similar inshore patrol vessel increases are planned for eastern Nova Scotia in 1988. DFO emphasizes that lobster tag violations do substantial damage to current efforts to protect and conserve the species. If the lobster tag program continues to be abused, alternate conservation measures will have to be developed.

Some lobster fishermen indicate that the existing regulatory regime is burdensome (such as CFV numbers on buoys). Regulatory amendments have been introduced to the normal regulatory process. They are designed to improve the level of consistency in DFO's enforcement and regulatory efforts.

4. Georges Bank Drilling

The inshore lobster fishery and its representatives welcomed the announcement by the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources to ban all exploration or drilling on Georges Bank until the year 2000. Lobster fishermen were concerned that oil exploration and potential oil spills could damage the habitat of the lobster stocks and possibly broodstock for the inshore fishery. The Gulf of Maine Advisory Committee will continue to review the issues, given the potential for exploration on the American portion of the Bank. DFO opposes such activity until the environmental implications are further documented and a complete package of economic compensation is put in place should the fishing industry be adversely affected.

5. Economic Viability

Recent increases in landings and prices have resulted in an improved economic situation for the inshore fishery. Prudent harvesting of the resource will help protect the stocks and continue to provide income and employment opportunities to the fishermen as well as those involved in supplying the lobster fishing industry. Pressure on lobster stocks has increased in recent years. Vessels have become more efficient at hauling traps and are now able to harvest further from shore than previously. Fishermen, in general, have become increasingly responsive to changes in lobster abundance and availability. DFO notes that such responsiveness potentially leads to higher exploitation rates, making the industry more vulnerable to lower landings in the future. Stability in landings might be accomplished, in part, by maintaining lower levels of exploitation or by maximizing economic returns from management options such as carapace length increases.

6. Partnerships

Partnership allow two full-time fishermen to harvest the lobster resource jointly. Two lobster licence holders combine their resources to fish from one vessel with 50 percent more traps than normally permitted for a single licence holder. Some fishermen do not favour partnerships because they complicate the enforcement of regulations. DFO stresses that, given constitutional considerations, any restrictions on partnerships must apply equally to all lobster fishing areas. The practice of partnerships varies from area to area as does the level of support. To date, partnerships continue to be a permissible feature of the inshore fishery, though several lobster advisory committees intend to review their desirability.

7. Offshore Lobster Fishery and New Licences

In December 1987, the Minister announced four joint offshore lobster/crab exploratory licences. The new fishery with a 360 t TAC was to be conducted in the NAFO Division 4W portion of LFA 41. A red crab component, fished with the same vessels and gear types used for lobster, was included in the announcement. Biological advice from CAFSAC supported the experimental fishery.

The new licences were opposed by the provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and by all inshore lobster groups and associations. This fishery argued that the offshore lobster stocks served as broodstock for the inshore must be protected. To highlight their opposition, fourteen members of the advisory committee for Lobster Area 34 resigned.

Despite the Minister's best efforts to accommodate the concerns of the inshore (complete observer coverage, strict enforcement, no increase in the offshore TAC, a comprehensive biological review after one year), pressure continued to have the decision rescinded. In late April 1988, the Minister announced the suspension of the decision to issue the four licences. The Minister called upon the Atlantic Regional Council (ARC) to sponsor a major socio-economic analysis of the lobster fishery in the Scotia-Fundy Region. The Minister noted that the study should focus on "the impact of new effort, either inshore or offshore, on the livelihoods of current operations in the established fishery". As a result of the April announcement, the offshore fishery continues to be exploited by eight vessels under the EA program that allows for 720 t.

8. Carapace Length Increases

Effective January 1988, the carapace length (CL) for Maine and Rhode Island lobsters was increased by 1/32 inch, making the minimal legal size larger than the Canadian one (81mm). Massachusetts increased its CL by 1/32 inch on June 1, 1988. The CL would continue to increase by 1/32 increments until 1991-92 when it would be 3 5/16 inches (84.1 mm). Depending on the import regulations for sublegal size lobsters in the United States, Canadian lobster dealers and fishermen could have difficulty exporting their short lobsters, forcing them to increase the minimum size limit. If all lobster producing states implement the increased CL, four to five per cent of the Scotia-Fundy lobster catch could be excluded from the U.S. market by 1992.

Not all inshore lobster fishermen support an increase in the CL for the Scotia-Fundy Region. Some fishermen are reluctant to endorse an increase fearing a drop in exploitation levels, and a subsequent loss of income.

DFO biologist's advise that a 1/8 inch increase in CL implements at the rate adopted in the U.S. (1/32 inch per year) will result in no measurable decrease in catch in the short term and no measurable increase in catch in the long term. A meaningful impact on yield will require a total increase considerably larger than 1/8 inch.

Economic data from DFO suggest that if the present minimum size is maintained, new markets will have to be found for four percent of the weight, of Scotia-Fundy landings. DFO will continue to consult with fishermen and their representatives regarding CL increases.

LICENSING POLICY

Categories of Lobster Licences

Fishermen participating in the inshore lobster fishery are subject to limited entry conditions and pertinent regulations. The owner of a lobster vessel may hold multiple licences in respect of that vessel (for example, lobster and scallops), subject to the licensing policies of the other limited fisheries.

There are two categories of lobster licences, Category A and Category B. Category A licences are issued to persons who depend on the fishery for their livelihood and who are not fully employed outside the primary industry or have any full-time seasonal employment unless he can establish that his gross annual earnings during the 12-month period immediately preceding his application for the licence does not exceed what he would have earned if paid the minimum wage for 12 months plus 25 percent during that period.

Category B licences are issued to persons who were engaged in the lobster fishery in 1968 and in each subsequent year as principal operators and who do not fulfill the employment criteria of a Category A licence. Changes between categories is not permitted nor is the reissue of lobster privileges from one Lobster Fishing Area to another. Licences may be reissued only within a lobster fishing district.

Partnerships

Partnerships may be created where both parties have a Category A licence. Both partners must be present in the boat at the same time during fishing operations. The number of lobster traps that can be fished by the partnerships cannot be greater than the legal number of traps plus 50 percent of the allocated or designated number of that lobster district.

In the event of the death of a person within a partnership, the partnership would be dissolved with the surviving partner and the heir to the estate of the deceased - each offered a Category "A" licence.

In the event of sickness or injury to one of the partners, the local Fishery Officer may issue a "Temporary Permit" authorizing the local operation of the vessel by one person (the other partner).

In the event of a lobster violation, conviction which results in a recommendation for suspension of fishing privileges, the following conditions should be made clear to eligible persons considering forming a partnership. Upon conviction under applicable fishery regulations, both partners will be considered fully liable and responsible since the vessel and both partners are considered as a single fishing effort unit.

All partnerships will be normally established for two years.

SCOTIA-FUNDY REGIONAL LOBSTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEMBERSHIP

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----|-------------|
| J.R. Angel, Chairman | DFO | Halifax |
| G.E. Jefferson, Secretary | DFO | Halifax |
| P.E. Partington | DFO | Yarmouth |
| C.E. Goodwin | DFO | St. Andrews |
| J.L. Boudreau | DFO | Sydney |
| J. Nelson | DFO | Halifax |
| J. Pringle | DFO | Halifax |

OFFSHORE LOBSTER FISHING AREA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

| | | |
|----------|-------------------------|-------------|
| C. Roach | Lobster Fishing Area 41 | Lockeport |
| G. Roome | Lobster Fishing Area 41 | Port Mouton |

INSHORE LOBSTER FISHING AREA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

| | | |
|---------------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| T. Bray | Lobster Fishing Area 27 | Port Morien |
| B. Middleton | Lobster Fishing Area 28, 29 & 30 | Rockdale |
| R. Baker | Lobster Fishing Area 31 & 32 | Head Jeddore |
| J. Fralic | Lobster Fishing Area 33 | Brooklyn |
| L. Nickerson | Lobster Fishing Area 34 | Woods Harbour |
| G. Hamilton | Lobster Fishing Area 35 | Aylesford |
| R. Collins | Lobster Fishing Area 35 | Alma |
| R. Anderson | Lobster Fishing Area 36 | Seeley's Cove |
| K. Sonnenberg | Lobster Fishing Area 38 | Grand Manan |

FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION

| | | |
|----------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| G. Gawn | Maritime Fishermen's Union | Yarmouth |
| E. McKie | Eastern Fishermen's Federation | Howe Bay, PEI |

PROCESSORS

| | | |
|---------------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| R.C. Stirling | Seafood Producers of Nova Scotia | Dartmouth |
| P. Dysert | New Brunswick Fish Packers | Moncton |
| B. MacLennan | Clearwater Fine Foods Inc. | Bedford |

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

| | | |
|------------|----------------------------------|-------------|
| H. Legere | New Brunswick Dept. of Fisheries | Fredericton |
| D. MacLean | Nova Scotia Dept. of Fisheries | Halifax |

LOBSTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE - AREA 27

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Organization</u> | <u>Address</u> |
|------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Harvey Timmins | Lobster Fisherman | Bras d'Or |
| Fred King | Lobster Fisherman | Glance Bay |
| Philip Samson | Lobster Fisherman | Glance Bay |
| Gordon MacLeod | Lobster Fisherman | Ingonish |
| Maurice Whitty | Lobster Fisherman | Ingonish Beach |
| Lloyd MacInnis | Lobster Fisherman | Breton Cove |
| Thomas Bray | Lobster Fisherman | Port Morien |
| Leonard Marsh | Lobster Fisherman | Alder Point |
| Donald McDougall | Lobster Fisherman | Main Dieu |
| Edgar Shepard | Lobster Fisherman | Gabarus |
| Ervine Longelle | Lobster Fisherman | Louisbourg |
| John MacKinnon | Lobster Fisherman | St. Margarets |
| Ralph Head | Lobster Fisherman | New Waterford |
| Greg Roach | N.S. Dept. Fisheries | Halifax |
| Glen Jefferson | DFO | Halifax |
| Fred Allen | DFO | Sydney |
| Jim Nelson | DFO | Halifax |
| Dr. Bob Miller | DFO | Halifax |

LOBSTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE - AREAS 28, 29 & 30

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Organization</u> | <u>Address</u> |
|-------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| John MacKillop | Lobster Fisherman | Grand River |
| Bernard Middleton | Lobster Fisherman | Rockdale |
| Huntley David | Lobster Fisherman | Petit de Grat |
| Velma Babin | Lobster Fisherman | West Arichat |
| John Kehoe | Lobster Fisherman | D'Escousse |
| George Carter | Lobster Fisherman | St. Peters |
| Neil Grant | Lobster Fisherman | Mulgrave |
| Greg Roach | N.S. Dept. Fisheries | Halifax |
| Glen Jefferson | DFO | Halifax |
| Fred Allen | DFO | Sydney |
| Jim Nelson | DFO | Halifax |
| Dr. Bob Miller | DFO | Halifax |

Appendix II

LOBSTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE - AREAS 31 & 32

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Organization</u> | <u>Address</u> |
|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Borden Dobson | Lobster Fisherman | Queensport |
| Gerald Bennett | Lobster Fisherman | Canso |
| Cyril Keating | Lobster Fisherman | Lake Charlotte |
| Randy Baker | Lobster Fisherman | Head Jeddore |
| Sheldon Doyle | Lobster Fisherman | Head Jeddore |
| Ronald Riley | Lobster Fisherman | Port Dufferin |
| Gordon Hubley | Lobster Fisherman | Liscomb |
| Robert Davidson | Lobster Fisherman | Isaac's Harbour |
| Graham Burns | Lobster Fisherman | Sherbrooke |
| Colin MacKenzie | Lobster Fisherman | Tangier |
| Greg Roach | N.S. Dept. Fisheries | Halifax |
| Glen Jefferson | DFO | Halifax |
| Fred Allen | DFO | Sydney |
| Jim Nelson | DFO | Halifax |
| Dr. Bob Miller | DFO | Halifax |

LOBSTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE - AREA 33

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Organization</u> | <u>Address</u> |
|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Stan Purdy | Lobster Fisherman | Eastern Passage |
| Lionel Young | Lobster Fisherman | West Dover |
| Augustus Henneberry | Lobster Fisherman | Halifax |
| Harris Backman | Lobster Fisherman | Hubbards |
| Gordon Tanner | Lobster Fisherman | Lunenburg |
| Brian Hirtle | Lobster Fisherman | LaHave |
| Peter Bell | Lobster Fisherman | Petite Riviere |
| Joe Fralic | Lobster Fisherman | Brooklyn |
| Clifton Swim | Lobster Fisherman | Port Mouton |
| Frank Townsend | Lobster Fisherman | Lockeport |
| Tom Acker | Lobster Fisherman | Shelburne |
| Basil Acker | Lobster Fisherman | Ingomar |
| Donald Munroe | Lobster Fisherman | Port La Tour |
| Greg Roach | N.S. Dept. Fisheries | Halifax |
| Art Longard | N.S. Dept. Fisheries | Halifax |
| Peter Partington | DFO | Yarmouth |
| Glen Jefferson | DFO | Halifax |
| Jim Nelson | DFO | Halifax |
| John Pringle | DFO | Halifax |
| C. Thompson | DFO | Sydney |

Appendix II

LOBSTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE - AREA 34

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Organization</u> | <u>Address</u> |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Leighton Nickerson | Lobster Fisherman | Woods Harbour |
| Gordon Newell | Lobster Fisherman | Newellton |
| Richard Nickerson | Lobster Fisherman | Newellton |
| Gene C. Nickerson | Lobster Fisherman | North East Point |
| Sterling Belliveau | Lobster Fisherman | Lr. Woods Hbr. |
| Franklyn D'Entremont | Lobster Fisherman | Lr. West Pubnico |
| Murray W. Spinney | Lobster Fisherman | Glenwood |
| Raymond Boudreau | Lobster Fisherman | Lr. Wedgeport |
| Donald Nickerson | Lobster Fisherman | Overton |
| Robert Durkee | Lobster Fisherman | Yarmouth |
| Norman J. Comeau | Lobster Fisherman | Meteghan |
| Harold Graham | Lobster Fisherman | Westport |
| Bob MacLure | Offshore Lobster Representative | Shelburne |
| Sandy Siegel | Maritime Fishermen's Union | Yarmouth |
| Greg Roach | N.S. Dept. Fisheries | Halifax |
| Peter Partington | DFO | Yarmouth |
| Glen Jefferson | DFO | Halifax |
| Jim Nelson | DFO | Halifax |
| John Pringle | DFO | Halifax |

LOBSTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE - AREA 36

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Organization</u> | <u>Address</u> |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Warren Seeley | Fundy North Fishermen's Assoc. | Black River |
| Matthew Mawhinney | Fundy North Fishermen's Assoc. | Lepreau |
| Eugene Maguire | Fundy North Fishermen's Assoc. | Lorneville |
| Maxwell Calder | Fundy North Fishermen's Assoc. | Welshpool |
| Jerome D. Parker | Fundy North Fishermen's Assoc. | Lords Cove |
| Herbert Matthews | Fundy North Fishermen's Assoc. | L'Etete |
| Wayne Janes | Fundy North Fishermen's Assoc. | Lepreau |
| Allison Chesley | Fundy North Fishermen's Assoc. | Pennfield |
| Ronald Anderson | Fundy North Fishermen's Assoc. | Seeley's Cove |
| William Groom | N.B. Dept. Fisheries | Fredericton |
| Carl Goodwin | DFO | St. Andrews |
| Glen Jefferson | DFO | Halifax |
| Dr. A. Campbell | DFO | St. Andrews |
| Jim Nelson | DFO | Halifax |

LOBSTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE - AREA 38

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Organization</u> | <u>Address</u> |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Theodore Green | Grand Manan Fishermen's Assoc. | Seal Cove |
| Gary Guptill | Grand Manan Fishermen's Assoc. | Grand Harbour |
| Barry Russell | Grand Manan Fishermen's Assoc. | White Head |
| David Carroll | Grand Manan Fishermen's Assoc. | White Head |
| John Rayner | Grand Manan Fishermen's Assoc. | Seal Cove |
| Ivan Green | Grand Manan Fishermen's Assoc. | Ingalls Head |
| Sherman Kinghorne | Grand Manan Fishermen's Assoc. | North Head |
| Neil E. Morse | Grand Manan Fishermen's Assoc. | Grand Harbour |
| David Benson | Independent Fisherman | Seal Cove |
| Theodore Frost | Independent Fisherman | Seal Cove |
| William Groom | N.B. Dept. Fisheries | Fredericton |
| Carl Goodwin | DFO | St. Andrews |
| Glen Jefferson | DFO | Halifax |
| Dr. A. Campbell | DFO | St. Andrews |
| Jim Nelson | DFO | Halifax |

DATA ON THE CANADIAN LOBSTER FISHERY

Market Trends and Forecasts

Lobster sales in 1987 were projected to increase to 35,600 t from 35,300 t for 1986, an increase of less than one percent. Preliminary figures set 1987 lobster landings at 35,400 t. An increase was anticipated for live lobster and meat sales while frozen in brine sales are expected to decline. Canned sales were projected to remain at the 1986 level.

Between 1985 and 1986, Canadian lobster landings increased from 32,500 t to about 35,300 t (+9 percent). Given limited biological data to forecast landings, the 1987 catch is marked at the 1986 level. Domestic consumption is calculated by DFO to be about 2,000 t. The industry is expected to continue to market a higher volume of lobsters in the live form because of higher profitability. European markets remain promising if price levels remain high as in 1986. Further penetration of the Japanese live lobster market is also anticipated.

DFO projects that processors will pack a lower volume of lobsters in brine because of overproduction and weak prices in the European and American markets. Marketing efforts will concentrate on frozen lobster meat sales instead. The volume of canned lobster meat sales is expected to remain at a relatively low level. The following tables highlight market developments for the past three years.

Table V: Canadian Atlantic Coast Lobster Landings, 1985 to 1987
(Live Weight - Tonnes)

| Province | 1985 | 1986 | 1987 |
|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Nova Scotia | 13,756 | 17,164 | 17,805 |
| New Brunswick | 6,727 | 5,881 | 4,261 |
| Prince Edward Island | 7,143 | 8,153 | 8,558 |
| Quebec | 2,110 | 2,258 | 2,685 |
| Newfoundland | 2,564 | 1,852 | 2,103 |
| Total | 32,327 | 35,308 | 35,385 |

Table VI: Canadian Exports of Lobster in Shell, Fresh or Frozen, by Country, 1985 to 1987
(Quantity (Q) in tonnes, Value (V) in thousand dollars)

| Country | 1985 | | 1986 | | 1987 | |
|--------------------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|
| | Q | V | Q | V | Q | V |
| United Kingdom | 67 | 734 | 88 | 1,058 | 93 | 1,009 |
| Belgium-Luxembourg | 193 | 1,400 | 178 | 1,106 | 290 | 2,067 |
| France | 1,392 | 7,587 | 1,269 | 6,380 | 1,508 | 11,923 |
| F.R.G. | 76 | 627 | 78 | 880 | 77 | 801 |
| Netherlands | 35 | 317 | 52 | 671 | 129 | 1,115 |
| Sweden | 112 | 780 | 316 | 2,214 | 195 | 1,946 |
| Japan | 36 | 236 | 283 | 2,328 | 762 | 7,487 |
| United States | 1,165 | 6,205 | 937 | 6,053 | 625 | 5,497 |
| Other | 210 | 1,161 | 303 | 1,750 | 183 | 2,047 |
| Total | 3,286 | 19,047 | 3,504 | 22,440 | 3,862 | 33,892 |

Overall, the value of lobster exports has increased by 44 percent from 1985 to 1987, while sales volume has increased by only 15 percent. From 1985 to 1987, the value of sales to the United States has dropped by 11 percent. More significantly, the volume of values has dropped sharply by 44 percent. Japanese sales for value and volume have increased by 95 percent and 97 percent, respectively. European markets remain strong.

Table VII: Canadian Exports of Live Lobster, by Country, 1985 to 1987
(Quantity (Q) in tonnes, Value (V) in thousand dollars)

| Country | 1985 | | 1986 | | 1987 | |
|--------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| | Q | V | Q | V | Q | V |
| United Kingdom | 126 | 1,638 | 192 | 2,701 | 207 | 2,900 |
| Belgium-Luxembourg | 245 | 3,192 | 372 | 5,222 | 446 | 5,927 |
| France | 231 | 2,891 | 393 | 5,599 | 513 | 7,015 |
| F.R.G. | 205 | 2,828 | 233 | 3,567 | 350 | 5,583 |
| Netherlands | 275 | 2,905 | 335 | 3,800 | 470 | 5,800 |
| Switzerland | 75 | 1,131 | 70 | 1,179 | 68 | 1,098 |
| Japan | 166 | 2,877 | 314 | 5,788 | 3,341 | 8,971 |
| United States | 12,236 | 116,529 | 13,795 | 141,032 | 13,375 | 150,410 |
| Other | 95 | 1,224 | 154 | 2,091 | 274 | 4,042 |
| Total | 13,654 | 135,215 | 15,858 | 170,979 | 19,044 | 191,746 |

Overall, the value and volume of sales in the export of live lobsters increased by 29 and 28 percent respectively. Growth in the European, Japanese and American markets was significant.

Table VIII: Canadian Exports of Frozen Lobster Meat, by Country, 1985 to 1987
(Quantity (Q) in tonnes, Value (V) in thousand dollars)

| Country | 1985 | | 1986 | | 1987 | |
|--------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| | Q | V | Q | V | Q | V |
| United Kingdom | 37 | 539 | 44 | 518 | 39 | 664 |
| Belgium-Luxembourg | 37 | 170 | 30 | 288 | 204 | 734 |
| France | 170 | 586 | 292 | 1,920 | 165 | 1,577 |
| F.R.G. | 18 | 253 | 56 | 800 | 28 | 600 |
| Netherlands | 21 | 109 | 3 | 93 | 4 | 130 |
| Sweden | 74 | 712 | 113 | 1,464 | 81 | 863 |
| Japan | 36 | 267 | 53 | 478 | 244 | 2,541 |
| United States | 2,022 | 43,774 | 2,371 | 54,540 | 2,557 | 66,552 |
| Other | 39 | 281 | 10 | 173 | 52 | 559 |
| Total | 2,454 | 46,691 | 2,971 | 60,274 | 3,374 | 74,220 |

Sale of frozen lobster meat in all markets increased by 27 percent in volume and by 37 percent in value. Slight contractions were recorded in the British and Dutch markets. American markets for the past three years account for about 82 percent of sales in volume and 90 percent in value. Recent trends indicate more market diversity for frozen lobster meat exports.

**Table X: Canadian Exports of Lobster Meat, Fresh/Chilled/Boiled, by Country
1985-1987**

(Quantity (Q) in tonnes, Value (V) in thousand dollars)

| Country | 1985 | | 1986 | | 1987 | |
|---------------|------------|--------------|------------|---------------|------------|---------------|
| | Q | V | Q | V | Q | V |
| United States | 403 | 7,662 | 669 | 15,185 | 502 | 12,774 |
| Other | 60 | 386 | 36 | 868 | 12 | 194 |
| Total | 463 | 8,048 | 705 | 16,053 | 514 | 12,968 |

Big increases in sales, volume and value have been recorded for lobster meat exports to the United States. American markets accounted in 1987 for 98 percent of sales in volume and value.

**Table X: Canadian Exports of Canned Lobster, by Country,
1985 to 1987**

(Quantity (Q) in tonnes, Value (V) in thousand dollars)

| | 1985 | | 1986 | | 1987 | |
|--------------------|------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|--------------|
| | Q | V | Q | V | Q | V |
| Belgium-Luxembourg | 17 | 130 | 2 | 10 | 5 | 149 |
| France | 3 | 27 | - | - | 19 | 350 |
| F.R.G. | 34 | 592 | 18 | 431 | - | - |
| Netherlands | 9 | 143 | - | - | - | - |
| Sweden | 6 | 145 | 3 | 69 | - | - |
| Japan | 4 | 26 | 14 | 85 | - | - |
| United States | 114 | 2,427 | 36 | 804 | 47 | 1,216 |
| Other | 4 | 92 | 5 | 221 | 26 | 318 |
| TOTAL | 191 | 3,582 | 78 | 1,620 | 97 | 2,033 |

The canned lobster market has contracted sharply from 1984 to 1986 (a 49 percent drop in volume and a 43 percent drop in value). In particular, sales to the United States in volume and value have fallen. Exports of canned lobster to Japan have increased slightly.

Lobster Close Time Variation Order

Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985 1987-026 March 3, 1987

Pursuant to section 4 of the Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985, being Order-in-Council P.C. 1985-3662, as amended, the Regional Director-General hereby revokes the previous

Lobster Close Time Variation Order

Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985 1986-035

respecting the close time for lobster fishing in Lobster Fishing Area No. 29.

The close time reverts to July 1 to 05:00 h April 30 effective immediately.

Lobster Close Time Variation Order

Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985 1987-054 April 6, 1987

Pursuant to section 4 of the Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985, being Order-in-Council P.C. 1985-3662, as amended, the close times as set out in column II of items 31 and . . . in Schedule XIV of the said Regulations, for lobster fishing in Lobster Fishing Areas 31 and 32, are hereby varied to be June 21 to 06:00 h April 18.

This Order comes into effect on April 18, 1987, and will remain in effect until June 21, 1987, unless otherwise revoked.

Lobster Close Time Variation Order

Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985 1987-071 April 16, 1987

Pursuant to section 4 of the Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985, being Order-in-Council P.C. 1985-3662, as amended, the close time as set out in column II of item 29 in Schedule XIV of the said Regulations, for lobster fishing in Lobster Fishing Area 29 is hereby varied to be July 11 to 05:00 h May 9.

This Order comes into effect on May 9, 1987, and will remain in effect until July 11, 1987, unless otherwise revoked.

Lobster Close Time Variation Order

Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985 1987-072 April 6, 1987

Pursuant to section 4 of the Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985, being Order-in-Council P.C. 1985-3662, as amended, the close time as set out in column II of item 31 in Schedule XII..... the said Regulations, for lobster fishing in that portion of Lobster Fishing Area 31 between a straight line drawn 159° true from 45°12'53" north latitude and 61°11'21" west longitude and a straight line drawn from 45°24'.... north latitude and 61°23'00" west longitude thence to 45°24'40" north latitude and 60°36'00" west longitude thence 158° true, is hereby varied to be July 1st to 06:00 h May 1, 1988.

This Order comes into effect on May 1, 1987, and will remain in effect until July 1, 1987, unless otherwise revoked.

Lobster Close Time Variation Order

Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985 1987-106 June 12, 1987

Pursuant to section 4 of the Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985, being Order-in-Council P.C. 1985-3662, as amended, the close time as set out in column II of item 38 in Schedule XIV of the said regulations, for lobster fishing in Lobster Fishing Area No. 38, is hereby varied to be June 30th to 08:00 h on the second Tuesday in November.

This Order comes into effect on the day it is signed and will remain in effect until December 31, 1987, unless otherwise revoked.

Lobster Close Time Variation Order

Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985 1987-200 October 13, 1987

Pursuant to section 4 of the Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985, being Order-in-Council P.C. 1985-3662, as amended, the close time as set out in column II of item 35 in Schedule XIV to the said Regulations for lobster fishing in Lobster Fishing Area No. 35 is hereby varied to be

- a) January 1 to 07:00 h on the last day of February
- b) August 1 to 07:00 h October 14

In making this Order the Regional Director-General hereby revokes the previous

Lobster Close Time Variation Order
Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985 1986-135

This Order comes into effect on October 14, 1987, and will remain in effect until July 31, 1988, unless otherwise revoked.

Lobster Close Time Variation Order

Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985 1987-201 October 21, 1987

Pursuant to section 4 of the Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985, being Order-in-Council P.C. 1985-3662, as amended, the close time as set out in column II of items 33 and 34 in Schedule IXV to the said Regulations, for lobster fishing in Lobster Fishing Nos. 33 and 34, are hereby varied to be June 1 to 23:59 h on the last Monday in November.

This Order comes into effect on November 30, 1987, and will remain in effect for that day only.

Lobster Close Time Variation Order

Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985 1987-204 November 2, 1987

Pursuant to section 4 of the Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985, being Order-in-Council P.C. 1985-3662, as amended, the Regional Director-General hereby makes the following Order respecting the close times for lobster fishing in Lobster Fishing Areas 36, 37, and 38.

1. The close time as set out in column II of item 36 in Schedule XIV to the said Regulations, for lobster fishing in Lobster Fishing Area 36, is hereby varied to be:
 - a) Jan. 15 to 07:00 h Mar. 31
 - b) June 30 to the second Wednesday in November
2. The close time as set out in column II of item 37 in Schedule XIV to the said Regulations, for lobster fishing in Lobster Fishing Area 37, is hereby varied to be:
 - a) Jan. 15 to 07:00 h Mar. 31
 - b) June 30 to the second Wednesday in November
3. The close time as set out in column II of item 38 in Schedule XIV to the said Regulations, for lobster fishing in Lobster Fishing Area 38, is hereby varied to be June 30 to the second Wednesday in November.

In making this Order the Regional Director-General hereby revokes the previous

Lobster Close Time Variation Order

Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985 1986-136

Lobster Close Time Variation order

Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985 1986-137

Lobster Close Time Variation Order

Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985 1986-138

This Order comes into effect on November 10, 1987, and will remain in effect until June 29, 1988, unless otherwise revoked.

Lobster Close Time Variation Order

Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985 1988-034

Pursuant to section 4 of the Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985, being Order-in-Council P.C. 1985-3662, as amended, close time as set out in column II of item 31 in Schedule XIV of the said Regulations, for lobster fishing in that portion of Lobster Fishing Area 31 between a straight line drawn 159° true from Latitude 45°12'54"N. and Longitude 61°11'21"W. thence to Latitude 45°24'40"N. and Longitude 60°36'00"W. thence 158° true, was varied to be July 1st to 06:00 h April 29.

This Order came into effect on April 29, 1988 and remains in effect until July 1, 1988, unless otherwise revoked.

*** **

Lobster Close Time Variation Order

Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985 1988-140 June 15, 1988

Pursuant to section 4 of the Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985, being Order-in-Council P.C. 1985-3662, as amended, the close time as set out in column II of item 38 in Schedule XIV to the said Regulations, for lobster fishing in that portion of Lobster Fishing Area 38 was varied to be June 30th to 08:00 h on the second Tuesday in November.

This Order came into effect on June 24, 1988 and remains in effect until December 31, 1988, unless otherwise revoked.

*** **

Lobster Close Time Variation Order

Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985 1988-143 June 17, 1988

Pursuant to section 4 of the Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985, being Order-in-Council P.C. 1985-3662, as amended, the close time as set out in column II of item 27 in Schedule XIV to the said Regulations, for that portion of Lobster Fishing Area No. 27, being the waters of the South Arm of Sydney Harbour, Cape Breton County, Nova scotia, lying south of a line drawn from Latitude 46°11'15"N., Longitude 60°13'43"W. at Point Edward, to Southeast bar Lighthouse at latitude 46°12'21"N., Longitude 60°13'08"W., is hereby varied to be January 1 to december 31.

This order comes into effect on June 20, 1988 and will remain in effect until revoked.

Lobster Close Time Variation Order

Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985 1988-071 April 15, 1988

Pursuant to section 4 of the Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985, being Order-in-Council P.C. 1985-3662, as amended, the close time as set out in column II of item 27 in Schedule XIV of the said Regulations, for lobster fishing in Lobster Fishing Area No. 27 is hereby varied to be July 15 to 05:00 h May 14.

This Order comes into effect on May 14, 1988, and remains in effect until July 15, 1988, unless otherwise revoked.

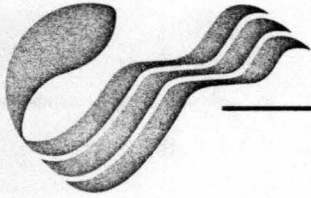
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Lobster Close Time Variation Order

Atlantic Fishery Regulation, 1985 1988-079 April 5, 1988

Pursuant to section 4 of the Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985, being Order-in-Council P.C. 1985-3662, as amended, the close time as set out in column II of item 29 in Schedule XIV to the said Regulations, for lobster fishing in Lobster Fishing Area No. 29 is hereby varied to be July 11 to 05:00 h May 10.

This Order comes into effect on April 30, 1988 and will remain in effect until July 11, 1988, unless otherwise revoked.



NR-SF-88-44E

NEWS RELEASE

COMMUNIQUE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 16, 1988

Fall Lobster Season In Lobster Fishing Areas 33 and 34

YARMOUTH - The Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans today advised lobster fishermen of changes to the opening time for the fall lobster season in Lobster Fishing Areas 33 and 34 (from Cole Harbour, Halifax County to Burns Point, Digby County).

This year, licensed lobster fishermen in these areas are permitted to transport lobster traps, with valid tags attached, to the fishing grounds beginning at 0700 hours (7 a.m.) November 28, 1988. However, lobster fishermen are not permitted to haul lobster traps in the two lobster areas until the following day, November 29, 1988.

Peter Partington, Fisheries and Oceans' Area Manager for Southwestern Nova Scotia, stated that the changes were made as an interim measure pending their inclusion in the Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985. The changes were requested by lobster fishermen from these areas. The intent is to re-establish the "setting day" as it was historically.

Mr. Partington advises lobster fishermen to exercise good judgement and caution when transporting their traps to the fishing grounds.

-30-

Departmental contact:

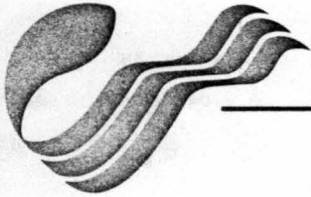
Peter Partington
Area Manager
Fisheries and Oceans
215 Main Street
Yarmouth, N.S.
(902) 742-1100

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NEWS RELEASE

COMMUNIQUE

NR-SF-88-42E

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 25, 1988

Changes to Opening Time in Lobster Areas 36, 37 & 38

ST. ANDREWS - The Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans today advised lobster fishermen of changes to the opening time for the fall lobster season in Lobster Areas 36, 37 and 38 (from the Saint John Co./Albert Co. boundary to the N.B./U.S.A. border, including Grand Manan, Deer and Campobello Islands). This year, licensed lobster fishermen in these areas are permitted to transport lobster traps, with valid tags attached, to the fishing grounds beginning at 0700 hours November 8, 1988. However, lobster fishermen are not permitted to haul lobster traps in the three lobster areas until the following day, November 9, 1988.

Hank Scarth, Fisheries and Oceans' Acting Area Manager for Southwestern New Brunswick, stated that the changes were made as an interim measure pending their inclusion in the Atlantic Fishery Regulations. The intent is to re-establish the "setting day" as it was historically.

Mr. Scarth advises lobster fishermen to exercise good judgement and caution when transporting their traps to the fishing grounds.

-30-

Departmental Contact:

H.H. Scarth
Acting Area Manager
Fisheries and Oceans
St. Andrews, N.B. E0G 2X0
(506) 529-3156

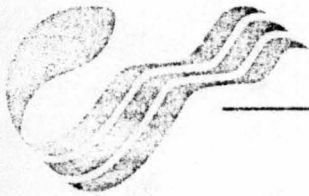
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NEWS RELEASE

COMMUNIQUE

NR-SF-88-40E

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 13, 1988

Changes to opening time in lobster fishing area 35

YARMOUTH - The Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans today advised lobster fishermen of the opening time for the lobster season in Bay of Fundy lobster fishing area 35. This year licensed lobster fishermen will be permitted to transport lobster traps, with valid tags attached, to the fishing grounds beginning at 0700 hours October 14, 1988. However, lobster fishermen are not permitted to haul or fish lobster traps in lobster fishing area 35 until 00:01 hours the following day, October 15, 1988.

Lobster fishing area 35 runs eastward along the coast from Burns Point, Digby County, Nova Scotia, to the Albert County/Saint John County line in New Brunswick.

DFO advises lobster fishermen to exercise good judgement and caution when transporting their traps to the fishing grounds.

-30-

Departmental contact:

Peter Partington
Area Manager
Fisheries and Oceans
215 Main Street
Yarmouth, N.S.
(902) 742-1100

Hank Scarth
A/Area Manager
Fisheries and Oceans
St. Andrews, N.B.

(506) 529-8847

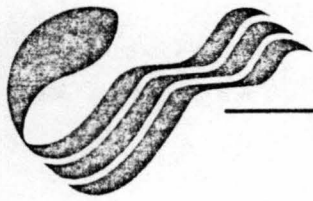
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NEWS RELEASE

COMMUNIQUE

NR-SF-88-39E

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 7, 1988

'Ovens' Project Altered To Protect Lobster

HALIFAX - Scientists and habitat experts from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) say the sediment-sampling project as now proposed by Glenrock Investments Ltd. just off the coast at the OVENS in Lunenburg County should be harmless to lobster habitat.

Divers from DFO - scientists and habitat experts - have surveyed and photographed the underwater area involved, which is a narrow band about one mile long and extending no more than 50 metres from shore. It has been determined that about two-thirds of the area supports lobster habitat while the rest is barren. As a result, the sampling will take place only in small, specifically-defined spots within the barren areas.

In total the project will sample seven cubic yards of gravel-like sediment and return the bulk of it to the same place on the bottom.

DFO has conveyed its findings to other provincial and federal agencies concerned; the federal Department of Energy, Mines and Resources and the Department of Environment as well as the provincial departments of Mines and Energy, Environment and Fisheries.

(more)

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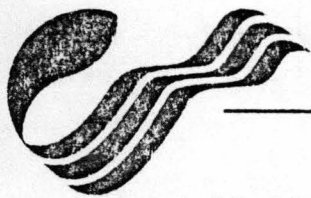
DFO will monitor and video-tape underwater during the 2-3 day project and if the sampling activities harm lobster habitat, the department will take action under the Fisheries Act.

DFO has arranged a meeting with area fishermen to fully inform them of the lobster habitat implications of the project. This meeting will be held Thursday October 13 at 1:00 pm in the Riverport Community Centre. DFO has recommended that the company meet with fishermen to discuss the operation prior to the beginning of any work.

Departmental Contact:

André Ducharme
Habitat Management
Fisheries & Oceans
P.O. Box 550
Halifax, N.S.
B3J 2S7
(902) 426-5993

Communications Branch
Fisheries & Oceans
P.O. Box 550
Halifax, N.S.
B3J 2S7
(902) 426-3550



NR-SF-88-37E

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 29, 1988

Lobster Study Is Progressing Well

HALIFAX - Following three months of extensive planning, information gathering, and fishing industry input, the socio-economic study of the Scotia-Fundy lobster fishery by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and two consulting firms is "progressing well," J.-E. Haché, DFO's Director-General of the Scotia-Fundy Region, said today. The Scotia-Fundy lobster fishery takes in the coastal waters from Cape North, Cape Breton southward to the New Brunswick/USA border.

Lobster fishermen's representatives from Scotia-Fundy's twelve lobster fishing areas met in Halifax September 8 to discuss the progress of the first phase of the study. They also reviewed the results of a series of meetings held with lobster fishermen this past summer to discuss a proposal to increase the minimum carapace size in the region's lobster fishery to match increases that are taking place in the U.S.

DFO officials expect that a report from the first phase of the socio-economic study will be completed and available to the fishing industry the first week of November. The report will profile the region's lobster fishery and document issues and concerns raised by lobster fishermen. Phase II of the study will focus on recommendations on future management of this region's lobster fishery and will require additional input from the lobster fishery.

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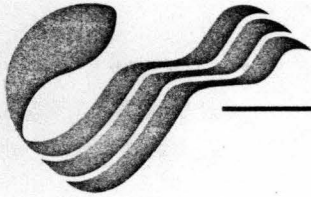


To date the DFO study team has met with each of the region's nine lobster advisory committees to discuss the study's outline and scope. In addition, the 3,000 lobster fishermen in the region were individually surveyed by mail. Detailed information has also been reviewed on lobster biology resource management, fishing industry consultation, historical performance of the harvesting sector, structure of the overall industry, marketing, and the socio-economic impact of the lobster fishery on the many fishing communities in the region.

At the September 8 meeting DFO also provided an update on community meetings held during the summer to discuss increasing the minimum lobster carapace size. While not unanimous in all areas of the region, a significant majority of lobster fishermen attending the meetings supported a minimum carapace size increase. The main reason for a size increase is the gradual increase in carapace size in the USA and the expected impact on sales of Canadian lobster exported to the USA.

Departmental Contact:

Communications Branch
Fisheries and Oceans
P.O. Box 550
Halifax, N.S. B3J 2S7
(902) 426-3550



NEWS RELEASE

COMMUNIQUE

NR-SF-88-33E

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 26, 1988

Consultations Under Way For Lobster Study

HALIFAX - The Department of Fisheries and Oceans has begun an extensive series of consultations with lobster fishermen on their fishery, its management, and its importance to their livelihood and communities.

During July and August, meetings will take place with each of the 11 District Committees of lobster fishermen.

The consultations are part of a thorough study of the lobster fishery ordered by the Hon. Tom Siddon, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans.

Besides the study itself, consultations will deal with the key question of increasing lobster size limits, to let more lobster grow towards full size and value, and to improve yield and profits.

About 3,000 of the 6,000 fishing vessels in the Scotia-Fundy region are licenced for lobster. Lobster is the single most valuable species for Scotia-Fundy fishermen. Landed value in 1987 (preliminary figures) came to \$143 million.

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Departmental contact:

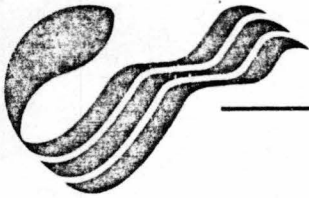
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Fisheries and Oceans
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Halifax, N.S. B3J 2S7
(902) 426-3550

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NR-HQ-88-028E

NEWS RELEASE

COMMUNIQUE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday April 29, 1988

MINISTER SUSPENDS DECISION ON LOBSTER LICENCES

HALIFAX - The Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, the Honourable Tom Siddon, today announced that the four experimental offshore lobster licences in Nova Scotia would not be issued in the foreseeable future. In doing so he has asked his Atlantic Regional Council (ARC) to assist with the establishment of terms of reference and with the monitoring of a major socio-economic analysis of the state of the lobster industry generally in Scotia-Fundy Region. The Minister noted that "members of ARC have recommended that the study be carried out by scientists and economists from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, and that it be co-ordinated by an independent third party."

"Consistent with my mandate to further develop the fishery, the four licences were to be granted to explore the potential for a new offshore lobster fishery in eastern Nova Scotia," the Minister said. However, he added that he had been concerned by the many questions raised by inshore interests. "I think those issues are serious enough to warrant further in-depth study," the Minister said.

"I have personally met with the Lobster Advisory Committee about these new offshore licences and heard their concerns first hand. I have proposed full observer coverage and the most comprehensive scientific program of lobster tagging and larval research ever undertaken. It seems to me that the questions raised by the inshore fishermen may in fact be symptomatic of broader apprehensions about the management, and general economic stability of this fishery," Mr. Siddon added.

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With these factors in mind, the Minister concluded that it was necessary to initiate a review of all the major issues facing the lobster industry in Scotia-Fundy Region. There has been no major study of the lobster fishery since 1975.

The planned study will address the long-term social and economic viability of the fishery and the communities which depend on it. "The study I envision," said the Minister, "will include biological, licensing, management, marketing, and enforcement aspects. In particular, we need to focus on the impact of new effort, either inshore or offshore, on the livelihoods of current operators in the established fishery.

"At the same time, I have asked my department to examine ways of gathering at least some of the new information and data which we had intended to obtain from the experimental fishery. This was to include information on distribution and composition of the stock.

"By late summer, I hope to have a preliminary report and advice on the current status of the lobster fishery in Scotia-Fundy Region and how we should proceed with the management of that fishery in future years."

ARC is the Minister's principal policy advisory group composed of 22 key industry members from throughout Atlantic Canada. The Council was originally appointed in 1985 for a two year period. It has been recently reconstituted with a number of new members. This is the first meeting of the newly restructured Council.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

W.A. Rowat
Atlantic Fisheries
Fisheries and Oceans
200 Kent Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0E6

(613) 993-0610



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News Release Communiqué

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, March 30, 1988

SIDDON INVITES LOBSTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO RECOMMEND STRICT CONDITIONS OF LICENCE FOR OFFSHORE LOBSTER FISHERY

HALIFAX - Fisheries & Oceans Minister Tom Siddon today invited the Scotia-Fundy Lobster Advisory Committee to help him finalize strict conditions of licence which will ensure that no harm comes to the inshore fishery in Nova Scotia from a three year experimental fishery in Area 4W, centered 100 miles offshore. "While I am not willing to cancel the four new offshore licences at this time, I am prepared to impose the necessary conditions to respond to the concerns about offshore fishing practices which have been expressed to me by inshore lobster fishermen" said Mr. Siddon, "These measures will apply to the established offshore fishery west of Halifax which has long been a cause of concern to inshore fishermen, as well as the new exploratory fishery east of Halifax."

"I have decided to initiate the most comprehensive research and tagging program ever conducted in the Atlantic fisheries because of the tremendous economic importance of the one hundred and forty-three million dollar lobster industry to the fishermen of Scotia-Fundy.

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I have asked the Scotia-Fundy Lobster Advisory Committee to work with my officials to develop a scientific program of tagging and larval studies that will give us information to settle once and for all the question of whether or not a new offshore lobster fishery in Zone 4W poses a risk to the inshore.

This may require tagging and return to sea of up to 10 per cent of all lobster caught, for purposes of tracking lobster migration during the three year program. I am also willing to impose a compliance condition on the four new licences. This means that if the scientific assessment shows a negative impact on the inshore lobster industry, the new licences will be revoked any time during the period of the three year exploratory fishery."

The Minister invited the Lobster Advisory Committee to work with DFO to develop an effective observer program to provide inshore fishermen with complete assurance that the offshore fishery is being conducted in a responsible manner. "I am prepared to put full observer coverage on every one of the 12 offshore lobster boats in the Scotia-Fundy fishery, if necessary. These observers will assist with the research and tagging program and will ensure that the conditions of licence are met. The observers program will be approved by the Lobster Advisory Committee" he said. "I would like to see the Committee find ways to involve its members and particularly inshore fishermen in the at-sea monitoring program", Siddon said.

Mr. Siddon also asked the Lobster Advisory Committee for advice on the extent of a buffer zone to be introduced between the inshore and offshore fishery, if required. This program will also alleviate inshore fishermen's concern about wasteful use of the resource, such as scrubbing of eggs off lobsters, etc. He has requested a set of recommendations from the Lobster Advisory Committee within two weeks.

"I am still committed to the principle of developing this untapped fishery which can give us more economic benefit and more jobs" Mr. Siddon said, "but I have no intention of building up an offshore fishery if it is going to hurt the inshore. That is why I am seeking the assistance of the Lobster Advisory Committee at this time. I aim to put in place every safeguard and I am inviting fishermen themselves to help monitor and evaluate this fishery. In total, this will be an investment in the long term stability and economic growth in their fishery."



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News Release Communiqué

NR-SF-87-12E

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 23, 1987

Lobster Trap Tag Replacements - Lobster District Fishing Area 34

YARMOUTH - Peter Partington, Acting Area Manager of the Southwestern Nova Scotia area of Fisheries and Oceans today reminded area 34 lobster fishermen that up to fifty (50) replacement lobster trap tags are available to licenced lobster fishermen, to compensate for winter storm losses in the Fall fishery. The replacement tags, as is the case with the tags issued at the beginning of the season, will only be valid to the end of the Fall portion of the lobster season, March 31, 1987.

A full issue of trap tags will be made prior to the lobster area's Spring fishery, which begins April 1 and extends to May 31. A new set of tags will be issued prior to the start of the spring portion of the season to ensure that all fishermen begin the season with the same number of trap tags and that the conservation-orientated trap limit is not exceeded.

To compensate for damaged traps or trap tag breakage in the Spring fishery, replacement trap tags are available to licenced lobster fishermen on a one-to-one basis. To be eligible for such replacements, fishermen must present the original tags issued, to fishery officers at local Fisheries and Oceans offices. Replacement tags will be issued up to the last week of the Spring lobster fishery. This policy is implemented to offset any attempts to obtain replacement tags for legally set traps which have already been landed onshore and later use the the tags to land illegally set traps remaining in the water.

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In cases involving major losses due to storms, fishermen are requested to contact the nearest fishery officer. Depending on the circumstances, a complete re-issue of new tags may be made and the original set cancelled.

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DEPARTMENTAL CONTACT:

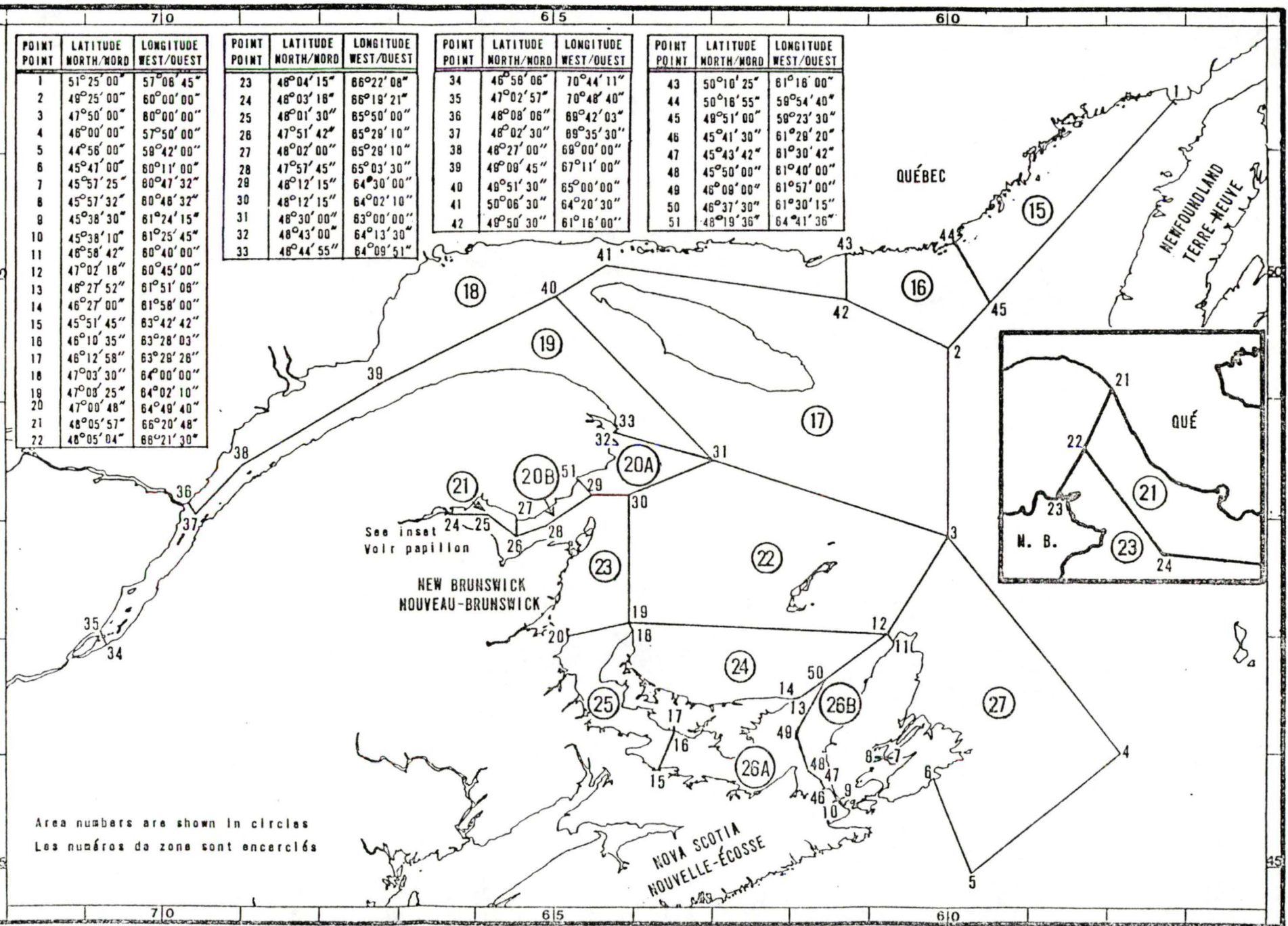
Peter Partington
Fisheries and Oceans
215 Main Street
Yarmouth, N.S.
B5A 1C6
(902) 742-1100

| POINT POINT | LATITUDE NORTH/NORD | LONGITUDE WEST/OUEST |
|-------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | 51°25'00" | 57°06'45" |
| 2 | 49°25'00" | 60°00'00" |
| 3 | 47°50'00" | 60°00'00" |
| 4 | 46°00'00" | 57°50'00" |
| 5 | 44°56'00" | 58°42'00" |
| 6 | 45°41'00" | 60°11'00" |
| 7 | 45°57'25" | 60°47'32" |
| 8 | 45°51'32" | 60°48'32" |
| 9 | 45°38'30" | 61°24'15" |
| 10 | 45°38'10" | 61°25'45" |
| 11 | 46°58'42" | 60°40'00" |
| 12 | 47°02'18" | 60°45'00" |
| 13 | 46°27'52" | 61°51'06" |
| 14 | 46°27'00" | 61°58'00" |
| 15 | 45°51'45" | 63°42'42" |
| 16 | 46°10'35" | 63°28'03" |
| 17 | 46°12'58" | 63°28'28" |
| 18 | 47°03'30" | 64°00'00" |
| 19 | 47°03'25" | 64°02'10" |
| 20 | 47°00'48" | 64°49'40" |
| 21 | 48°05'57" | 66°20'48" |
| 22 | 48°05'04" | 66°21'30" |

| POINT POINT | LATITUDE NORTH/NORD | LONGITUDE WEST/OUEST |
|-------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 23 | 48°04'15" | 66°22'08" |
| 24 | 48°03'18" | 66°19'21" |
| 25 | 48°01'30" | 65°50'00" |
| 26 | 47°51'42" | 65°29'10" |
| 27 | 48°02'00" | 65°28'10" |
| 28 | 47°51'45" | 65°03'30" |
| 29 | 48°12'15" | 64°30'00" |
| 30 | 48°12'15" | 64°02'10" |
| 31 | 48°30'00" | 63°00'00" |
| 32 | 48°43'00" | 64°13'30" |
| 33 | 48°44'55" | 64°09'51" |

| POINT POINT | LATITUDE NORTH/NORD | LONGITUDE WEST/OUEST |
|-------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 34 | 46°58'06" | 70°44'11" |
| 35 | 47°02'57" | 70°48'40" |
| 36 | 48°08'06" | 69°42'03" |
| 37 | 48°02'30" | 69°35'30" |
| 38 | 48°27'00" | 69°00'00" |
| 39 | 48°08'45" | 67°11'00" |
| 40 | 48°51'30" | 65°00'00" |
| 41 | 50°06'30" | 64°20'30" |
| 42 | 48°50'30" | 61°16'00" |

| POINT POINT | LATITUDE NORTH/NORD | LONGITUDE WEST/OUEST |
|-------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 43 | 50°10'25" | 61°16'00" |
| 44 | 50°16'55" | 59°54'40" |
| 45 | 48°51'00" | 58°23'30" |
| 46 | 45°41'30" | 61°28'20" |
| 47 | 45°43'42" | 61°30'42" |
| 48 | 45°50'00" | 61°40'00" |
| 49 | 46°08'00" | 61°57'00" |
| 50 | 46°37'30" | 61°30'15" |
| 51 | 48°19'36" | 64°41'36" |



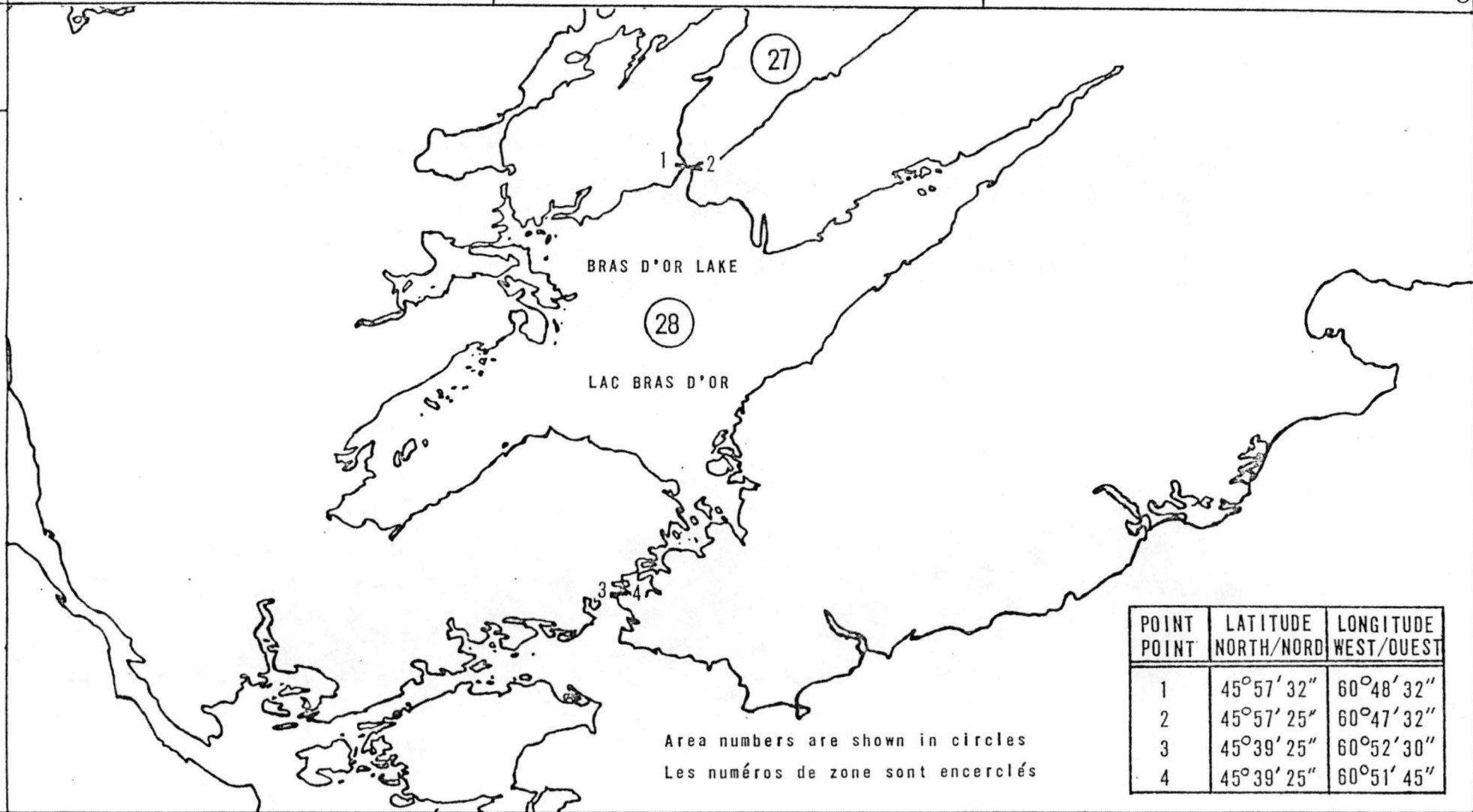
Area numbers are shown in circles
 Les numéros de zone sont encadrés

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| POINT POINT | LATITUDE NORTH/NORD | LONGITUDE WEST/OUEST |
|----------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | 45°57' 32" | 60°48' 32" |
| 2 | 45°57' 25" | 60°47' 32" |
| 3 | 45°39' 25" | 60°52' 30" |
| 4 | 45°39' 25" | 60°51' 45" |

61

60