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**Management Activities for the Groundfish Sector in 1996
Scotia-Fundy Sector, Maritimes Region**

by

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¹ La présente série documente les bases scientifiques des évaluations des ressources halieutiques du Canada. Elle traite des problèmes courants selon les échéanciers dictés. Les documents qu'elle contient ne doivent pas être considérés comme des énoncés définitifs sur les sujets traités, mais plutôt comme des rapports d'étape sur les études en cours.

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Abstract

The regulations and policies under which groundfish are fished in Division 4VWX and Subarea 5 in 1996 are described for each fleet sector and the major changes are documented.

Increased access fees and a new licensing policy were introduced in 1996. Licence fees for ITQ and EA fisheries were based on a fee per tonne of quota, because each licensee has a quota which he is entitled to fish while competitive fisheries are charged a flat fee. Licence policy reforms were introduced to reduce capacity, improve commercial viability, and prevent future growth by establishing "core" fishing enterprises.

Changes to the Fisheries Act are anticipated in 1997 which will modernize the Act and recognize the role of the fishing industry and other stakeholders in the day to day operation of the fishery. The Coastal Fisheries Protection Act will be incorporated into the Fisheries Act so that all vessels fishing in Canadian waters will operate under a single integrated legislative framework.

Résumé

Les règlements et politiques régissant la pêche du poisson de fond dans les divisions 4VWX et la sous-zone 5 en 1996 font l'objet d'une description pour chacun des secteurs de la flotte et les principaux changements apportés sont présentés.

Les droits d'accès ont été augmentés et une nouvelle politique de délivrance des permis a été appliquée en 1996. Les droits des permis pour les pêches à QIT et à AE sont fondés sur un droit par tonne de quota car chaque détenteur de permis dispose d'un quota dont il peut se prévaloir tandis que ceux qui pêchent en régime concurrentiel se voient imposer un droit fixe. Des réformes ont été apportées à la politique de délivrance des permis afin de réduire la capacité, d'accroître la rentabilité et de prévenir toute croissance ultérieure par la création d'entreprises de pêche du « noyau ».

Des modifications devraient être apportées à la Loi sur les pêches en 1997 afin de la moderniser et de reconnaître le rôle de l'industrie de la pêche et des autres intéressés dans la gestion courante des pêches. La Loi sur la protection des pêcheries côtières sera fusionnée à la Loi sur les pêches afin que tous les bateaux qui pêchent en eaux canadiennes relèvent d'un même cadre législatif intégré.

Introduction

This document is part of an ongoing series to describe the regulations and policies the groundfish fishery operated under in 1996. Major changes are documented and key issues affecting the fishery are addressed.

Quota Management

On November 30, 1995 the Fisheries Resource Conservation Council (FRCC) released its report to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, on the 1996 conservation requirements for Atlantic groundfish. On November 18, 1995 the Minister accepted most of the TAC recommendations put forward by the FRCC (Table 1). Closures were maintained for all groundfish stocks currently under moratoria, with continuing discussions on the criteria and process for reopening these fisheries. Recommendations were made to continue and possibly expand the sentinel fisheries in order to collect information on the stocks in the absence of a commercial fishery. The higher quota limits recommended for the sentinel fisheries by the FRCC were not accepted by the Minister for the 1996 fishery.

As in 1995, all fleets were required to submit Conservation Harvesting Plans (CHP) prior to fishing. Standardization of the conservation elements was continued and applied where possible on an Atlantic wide basis. For 1996 emphasis was placed on limiting the total effort and fleets were required to develop ways of matching harvesting capacity with resource availability. Redirection of effort to non traditional species was controlled by limiting the catch of non traditional species to levels caught in previous years as well as other measures to control effort.

TAC's for 4X/5Y cod and haddock were increased slightly while 4VWX5 pollock and 4VW flounder quotas were reduced. Unit II redfish was also reduced. TAC's, remained the same for other Scotia Fundy stocks. A white hake TAC of 2,500 t was established for 4VWX in 1996. Although other TAC's were recommended by the FRCC (e.g. cusk, monkfish) these were not accepted by the Minister. Catches for these stocks in 1996 were generally managed by limiting the catch to no more than previous historic levels through effort and bycatch controls.

For Georges Bank (5Zjm) the TAC for cod and haddock was set at the F0.1 level of 3,500t and 6,800t respectively. Following FRCC consultations the Canadian quotas were set at 2,000t for cod and 4,500t for haddock and the fishery opened in early June as fleet Conservation Harvesting Plans were approved. These quota levels were initially recommended by industry with the lower Canadian quotas accounting for expected USA catches with the aim of not exceeding the F0.1 levels for the combined catch levels. The Canadian quota for yellowtail remained at the 1995 level of 430t. Management measures for 1996 included 100% mandatory Dockside Monitoring, effort limitations and increased observer coverage funded partially by industry. Table 2 gives the fleet quotas available for the 1996 fishery.

Bycatch provisions of moratoria species were generally rolled over and the 1995 small fish protocol continued to be used in the 1996 fishery. During 1996, although small fish and bycatch closures were still in place for a minimum of 10 days, DFO only conducted test fisheries every 30 days, using DFO funding for an observer, rather than the 10 day time frame used in 1995. Industry wishing to conduct test fisheries prior to the 30 day period (i.e. after 10 days) did so at their own expense.

Draft policies on how to deal with non- traditional and newly emerging fisheries have been developed. Developing Species Advisory Boards were implemented on an area basis during 1996 and industry membership established.

Dockside monitoring continued to be the predominant method for the collection of landings and fishing effort information. In the Scotia Fundy sector this process operates for the most part independent of DFO control, includes data entry and is totally funded by industry. Those fleets that were under DMP in 1995 continued in 1996. The mobile gear ITQ fleet and the offshore and midshore EA fleets continued with 100% weighout of all landings while the <65' generalist fleet was subject to 50% weighout based on an acceptable hail accuracy. Monitoring levels for those failing to hail accurately were increased to 100%. Dockside monitoring in the Scotia Fundy sector also included hail provisions and data entry by the dockside monitoring company (DMC). Fixed gear <65' competitive were placed under a minimum of 20% weighout distributed on random basis, hail in provisions, submission of daily logs and entry of all data by the DMC. Some of these fleets established an industry monitored catch history sharing arrangement, and were required to have 50% dockside monitoring. All fleets fishing Georges Bank were subject to 100% weighout (Table 3).

DFO did not enforce any trip limits in 1996, other than dealing with restrictive bycatch levels in areas under moratorium. DFO closed areas upon request by a gear sector. Many fixed gear groups established and enforced their own seasonal and trip limits through contracts signed with members of their associations. Those fishers not wishing to fish under the harvesting plans developed by the groups or associations were free to fish within the DFO Group X, based on the fishing plan established by DFO, including 100% DMP.

Licence conditions were generally limited to one per year issued from Halifax or through the regional licensing centres only, in order to free up fisheries officers for enforcement duties. Openings and closures were handled through the use of variation orders.

Table 4 shows the 1996 quotas and landings for groundfish fished in 4VWX+5 (Figure 1) Appendix A and Addendum 1 contains the detailed trip limit status for all fleets for 1996.

Increased access fees, and a new Licensing Policy were introduced in 1996.

Licensing

Licence Fees

New Licence Fees were established for the 1996 fishery. In the Scotia Fundy Region, 4,800 licence holders, hold about 12,000 limited entry licences. Initially fee calculations for fixed gear in a competitive fishery included a range of fees, based on the average annual value of the landings (1990-1993). Upon consultation with industry this was later changed to a flat fee of \$100.00 per licence for open fisheries and a \$ 30.00 fee for licences in areas under moratoria.

For ITQ and EA fisheries, the licence fee was based on a specific fee per tonne of quota, because each licence has quotas which he is entitled to fish. Originally this was set at a 5% flat fee, based on the value of the quota holdings. This was revised after consultation and set to 3% of the average value of the landings up to \$50,000 and 5% of anything over \$50,000, based on the average landed value of the species over a four year period (1990-1993). This progressive fee structure was seen to be more in line with the original fixed gear schedule and less likely to be a dis-incentive to a fleet adopting an IQ system.

Licence Policy Reforms

Licence policy reforms were implemented in 1996 (Commercial Fisheries Licensing Policy for Eastern Canada 1996). The objectives of the policy reforms are: to reduce capacity; to improve the viability of the commercial fishery by promoting multi-licensed enterprises, while recognising specialised fleets; and to prevent future growth by establishing a limited group of "core" fishing enterprises.

Core enterprises were identified by the following four criteria as of December 20, 1995:

- Be the head of an enterprise, i.e. have fished full time in 1994 and 1995, and have a vessel in the fishery;

- Hold key licences, i.e. herring purse seine, groundfish other than handline, scallop, lobster, bluefin tuna, snowcrab, swordfish longline, shrimp trawl. To be part of a core an enterprise must hold two key licences or one key licence with minimum reported landings of \$25,000 for two years of 1993, 1994, and 1995 or

Hold any vessel-based licence and earn 75% of income from fishing for two of the years, 1992, 1993, 1994 or 1995. Vessel based licences include: GRO handline, ocean quahaug, jonah crab, red crab, rock crab, stone crab, herring (gillnet), mackerel (gillnet), squid, swordfish harpoon, restricted tuna (rod and reel) and sea urchin. Lobster 'B', and fish transport licences were not included.

- Have an attachment to the fishery

- Be dependent on the fishery.

Basic rules that govern the acquisition of future licences are as follows:

- A core enterprise can acquire a non core enterprise;
- A non-core enterprise can acquire a core enterprise provided the complete enterprise is acquired;
- A full time fisherman can acquire a core enterprise, a partime fisherman cannot;

Two issues caused a lot of controversy especially for the fixed gear sector. These were, the non inclusion of handline as a key licence, and whether to continue the requirement to hold only one licence per species or allow two. Essentially if handline is not a key licence, then it is not transferable and would die out with the licence holder. This was unacceptable to many fixed gear fishermen. A compromise was suggested that handline licences within core be transferable, but this was still an unsatisfactory solution to most handliners. As for the one/two licence rules decisions on this issue are being left up to the Advisory Boards for each species. Discussions are still ongoing.

Vessel replacement and owner operator/designated operator rules, including grandfathering were maintained under the new policy. This was a disappointment to the ITQ fleet who felt that these restrictive rules should be removed. However the licence policy does state that DFO will consider more flexible rules on vessel replacement under co-management and partnership agreements for fleets who have adopted an appropriate rationalisation program.

Appeals are permitted to eligible inshore fishers who file a written request within three years of a departmental licencing decision or a change in policy.

Fisheries Act

The Fisheries Act is undergoing many changes, partially to modernize the Act and partly to recognize the role of the fishing industry and other stakeholders in the day to day operation of the fishery. It will give a greater voice to groups within the fishery and with it a corresponding share in the cost of the government services they receive. Major changes will involve the recognition of partnerships to allow industry and government to develop detailed agreements about the management, operation, and cost of the fishery; The Coastal Fisheries Protection Act will be incorporated into the Fisheries Act, so that all vessels fishing in Canadian waters will operate under a single integrated legislative framework; Administrative sanction will replace the criminal procedures for most Fisheries Act violations, and a Tribunal will be established on each coast to hear cases and decide on fines and licence sanctions. In a Tribunal system, proof would be established on the balance of probabilities rather than proof beyond a reasonable doubt. The required legislation should be passed in 1997.

Mobile Gear <65' (ITQ fleet) Management

A Conservation and Harvesting Plan for 4VWX was submitted by the ITQ fleet in late December. One major difference from the 1995 plan was the requirement for a minimum quota at all times i.e. 2 t each of cod, haddock and pollock and 1 t of flounder. This stipulation was inserted in the CHP in order to comply with the FRCC directive that measures to limit effort be a part of the 1996 CHP. Upon industry request, as the rule seemingly disadvantaged the small quota holder or enterprise, this was later changed to 1t each of cod and haddock and .5 t for flounder with 0t, .5t and 1t of pollock required for 4Vn and 4VsW and 4X5 respectively. Fishing was permitted only if quota remained for each IQ species (cod, haddock, pollock and flatfish), otherwise when one species quota was exhausted the vessel was required to stop fishing until more quota was acquired through transfers. The fishery opened on January 8. Prior to going fishing, licence holders were required to have their 1995 conditions validated until January 31. Licence fees for 1996 had to be paid in full, before any quota transfers were approved. Licence holders with zero quota were charged \$100.00 to renew the licence. Any licences not renewed may be cancelled. Licence conditions for 1996 (4VWX5) authorized the licence holder to direct for cod, haddock, pollock, flatfish and redfish. Directed fishing for other species required separate licence conditions and harvesting plans or were restricted to low bycatch limits to prevent a re-direction of effort especially for those species not under quota management. This was also seen as a form of effort control, by removing the excuse by fishers that they were directing for other non quota species. Some specific provisions covered in the 1996 Conservation Harvesting Plan for the ITQ fleet included:

- 1) No directed groundfish fishery in 4Vn and 4VsB, January 1 to April 30.
- 2) No redfish fishery in 4VW January 1 to June 30.
- 3) After June 30 bycatch limits were set at 5% each of cod and haddock while fishing redfish or flounder in 4VW, with a 2% overall cap.
- 4) In the 4X redfish fishery (< 130 mm square mesh nets), bycatches: 10% cod, haddock and pollock combined, 30% white hake (September, October and November), bycatch of other groundfish species limited to 10% combined. All quota species caught were counted against ITQ's.
- 5) No directed pollock fishery was permitted in 4Vn in 1996 and fishing pollock in 4VsW was based on a 10% daily bycatch of cod and haddock combined, to a maximum 5% overall cap. A test fishery was required before the fishery could be opened.
- 6) No flatfish fishery was permitted in 4Vn and 4Vsb January 1 to April 30. Fishing for flatfish was permitted in 4Vn and 4VW beginning May 1.

Mesh sizes for 1996 included a minimum 130 mm square mesh for directed cod, haddock, and pollock trips, 155 mm square mesh for directed flatfish trips in 4VW and 5Z, 145 diamond mesh for seiners directing for flatfish in 4VW, and 90 mm for redfish in 4VWX.

Small fish protocols were applied as in 1995. Minimum size regulations were also continued for witch flounder - 33 cm (13") and yellowtail and American plaice - 30.5 cm

(12 ") in 1996 but not strictly applied. Minimum fish sizes for other species included; 43 cm for cod, haddock and pollock in 4VsWX+5; 41 cm for cod, haddock and pollock in 4Vn, and 81 cm for halibut 4VWX+3NOPs.

The 4W nursery area closure (all year), and the Browns Bank (February 1-June 15) and Georges Bank (January 1-June 1) spawning closures were continued.

In 1996, a 10 % bycatch was in place for non directed species (non traditional) with the following exceptions included in the 1996 licence conditions:

- Wolfish 20% bycatch in Division 4X, from April 1 to June 30.
- White hake 20% bycatch in Division 4X from March 1 to May 31 and 30 % September 1 to November 30 while directing for redfish.
- Skate 20% in 4X February 1 to May 31. In 4VsW, when using 155 mm square mesh, 20% bycatch allowed based on the amount of flounder on board.
- Monkfish 20% bycatch in Division 4X . As well a directed fishery (5 vessels) was continued under science protocol with a 42 t allocation to each vessel.
- A directed fishery (4 vessels) for skate continued under a science protocol with a 400 t allocation to each vessel.

Overall the use of these bycatch regulations through licence condition requirements resulted in landings being kept at historical levels or lower for these species. In general the months chosen by the fleet as requiring greater than 10% bycatch based on past experience were not precise enough, and resulted in higher bycatch levels in months other than those specified, and at times at levels greater than 50%. For wolfish especially, this was a problem. A portion of the fleet perceived that as regulations were not strictly enforced (i.e. sanctions were not imposed) for those choosing to continue fishing despite high wolfish catches, those that complied with the licence condition were disadvantaged. The problem was of short duration and only related to the fishery south of Browns Bank during July and August but did indicate that other methods to regulate bycatch should be looked at for the 1997 fishery.

The ITQ fleet conducted a 4X survey in 1996, funded by industry by using unallocated fleet quota. A 4V flounder survey was also carried out using unallocated flounder quota.

4VWX Management

Redfish and flounder appeals

Effective January 1, 1996 redfish in Unit II and Unit III came under ITQ management for ITQ mobile gear vessels <65'. Percentage shares or the associated tonnage for each stock were not distributed to fishers until mid July. Any redfish landings prior to that time were accounted for against IQ amounts, that were later confirmed (July) .

The sharing arrangements agreed to by the ITQ Committee included a combined formula where 21% of the Unit II quota and 55% of the Unit III quota was allocated to individuals based on the best two years of their 1986-1989 catch history. The remaining quota (79% of Unit II and 45% of Unit III) was allocated to licence holders based on the best two years of their 1990-1994 catch history. This sharing arrangement satisfied both the traditional fishers, as well as more recent participants in the redfish fishery.

Those with a low catch history or none were permitted a bycatch from a competitive bycatch pool established to ensure that redfish was available to all ITQ holders while fishing groundfish. Initially 50 t was set aside for Unit II and 100 t for Unit III. Licence holders with small amounts of redfish quota were given the choice of fishing redfish as a bycatch only (i.e. from the pool) by transferring their quota holdings to the pool. If all redfish quota was transferred to another licence holder rather than the pool, fishing for groundfish was prohibited until a minimum tonnage of redfish (1t) was acquired. Any fisher using the bycatch pool by virtue of transfer or zero redfish history was prohibited from using small mesh (< 130 mm square). Thirteen ITQ licence holders chose to transfer their quota holdings to the bycatch pool in 1996.

Only appeals pertaining to catch history were permitted with no appeals for special circumstances. Successful appeals were awarded quota from the overall quota as no percentage was set aside for appeals. Catch history was identified based on records submitted to DFO through purchase slips and log records. Catch history appeals were heard by an independent consultant with industry responsible for all costs. One redfish appeal was successful and revised catch history percentages for all redfish IQ licence holders are in the process of being finalized.

Initially flounder appeals were carried out in 1994, based on 10% of the available quota. Four unsuccessful appeals, were reappealed to the Minister for review. These appeals were subsequently addressed by the Scotia Fundy Licencing and Appeal Board and resulted in the appeals being sent back to the ITQ Committee for resolution. Given this ruling by the Appeal Board the ITQ Committee decided that a further review of all rejected appeals was warranted. The ITQ Committee retained the services of an independent consultant to review the resubmitted appeals. No new appeals were heard.

In the appeal process originally carried out by DFO, both catch history and special circumstances were considered. In the re-appeals only those dealing with special circumstances were considered. The process was set up to ensure that the special circumstance criteria were applied in the same manner as in the initial IQ 4VWX and Georges Bank cod haddock and pollock appeals. Overall fourteen cases were reviewed with seven recommended for approval as well as the original four submitted to the Scotia Fundy Licencing and Appeal Board. These successful re-appeals resulted in a change to the overall sharing formula for all those licence holders who were initially granted a 4X flounder appeal. In total there were 48 4X5Y appeals and 11 4VW flounder appeals.

Georges Bank Management

For the Georges Bank fishery similar measures were introduced. The 1996 Conservation and Harvesting Plan (CHP), was similar to 1995, in terms of small fish protocols, mandatory landings, dockside monitoring etc. The directed Georges Bank yellowtail fishery for the mobile <65' fleet was administered by industry on a boat quota system again in 1996. In 1995 this was accomplished through an equal share arrangement with each licence holder with historic landings receiving 2% of the quota. In 1996 industry calculated a sharing formula based on catch history percentage for 1993 and 1994. From a DFO perspective the fishery was managed as a competitive fishery, individual entitlements were not monitored or guaranteed and the fishery was closed when the fleet quota was taken. The Conservation Harvesting plan for this fleet also included a minimum tonnage of 4t of yellowtail along with 2t of haddock and 1t of cod to allow for bycatch. Mesh size was increased for this fishery to 155 mm square mesh.

The fleet was required to pay for a portion of the observer costs in 1996 with the aim that industry would fund observers to cover approximately 5-10% of their days at sea. The South west Nova Dragger Association collected the required funding, prior to DFO licencing the vessels to fish 5Z.

100% dockside monitoring was continued in 1996 with the added proviso that the fleet would hail out 6 hours prior to fishing to allow sufficient notice to deploy an observer.

Over 90% of the cod quota was taken in the 1996 fishery along with 75 % of the haddock. Current cod quotas appear to be the limiting factor preventing the fleet from utilizing their haddock quotas. The yellowtail quota was fully caught with 423t taken by the <65' mobile fleet with 44 out of the permitted 50 vessels fishing.

Fixed Gear < 65' Management

Southwest Nova Scotia (4X5Y) Management

As a result of the Fixed Gear Truro workshop held in the fall of 1995 the Fixed Gear Committee requested that for 1996 specific quota groups be based on community structure rather than the gear groups established for the 1995 fishery. The 1995 plan did not take into consideration the regional differences in fishing practices despite the same gear category. For 1996 the fleet wished to form quota groups that were more similar or fished under similar constraints i.e. tides. The Committee endorsed the community concept and reaffirmed that the sharing formula would be based on the average percentage of the catch from 1986 -1993. This sharing formula was supported by all members of the Fixed Gear Committee with the exception of the Maritime Fishermen's Union (MFU), representing the Digby Gillnetters who preferred the years 1990-1993, as they were less active prior to 1990. This proposed change to

the sharing formula was rejected by the Committee as the 1986-1993 formula allows a compromise between recent and past history, and does take into account the most recent years when some perceived that effort increased. The Committee generally endorsed the view that each community group should develop its own harvesting plan, however they reserved the right to approve the initial formation of each specific quota group. Initially the Committee approved four separate groups in 4X5Y for 1996 as follows.

- FG < 45' resident in New Brunswick (SWNB);
- FG < 45' registered in Eastern Nova Scotia (ENS);
- FG 45'-65'
- Shelburne County Gillnet Association (24 members)

Other proposed groups included - vessels less than 45' registered in the counties of Lunenburg, Queens and Halifax West (LQHW); Shelburne County; and all others.

Shelburne County, the area with the largest percentage of catch history, was unable to reach any agreement on the formation of separate quota groups. As a result proposals were put forward by like minded groups of fishers within Shelburne county to approve association quotas.

While discussions were ongoing, a decision was made to implement an interim 4X winter fishery for longline vessels who traditionally fished the winter fishery. The quota available was set at 20% of the 1995 longline quota, rather than the 14% of the previous years longline quota used in 1995. Any participating vessel had to account for this catch, as the amount would be subtracted from its future quota group. A 1994 or 1995 catch history formed the selection criteria for participation in the interim winter fishery. This limit on participation was opposed by several fixed gear associations. The fishery opened on January 10, 1996.

Not all vessels were eligible for the winter fishery, for those groups already approved, winter fisheries could be initiated under their own CHP. Both the ENS and SWNS groups submitted winter fishery plans. Pending finalization of their quota group, a special condition applied to vessels from LQHW. Those choosing to fish in the interim fishery, were required to use only longline gear, and were not permitted to fish with any other gear after the interim fishery.

The principle of using catch history to limit fishery participation was debated at a January 30, 1996 meeting of the Fixed Gear Committee. The Committee unanimously decided against the use of catch history for this purpose. No consensus was reached on whether to keep the catch history cap, if they decided to reopen the winter fishery. The interim fishery was closed on January 31, with less than one third of the quota taken. Since the major quota groups were still unresolved, it was decided it would be prudent to stop, rather than reopen on February 5. Of the 170 boats eligible to fish the winter fishery, only 42 actually fished in January.

The ENS 4X group continued to fish in their winter fishery (January 1-March 31) but reached their seasonal quota on February 1, 1996, when the fishery was closed. Their plan included trip limits even though DFO does not enforce them. Small fish percentages greater than the 15 % permitted under the small fish protocol resulted in closure of La Have, Roseway and Baccarro banks to all fixed gear in January.

Lack of consensus on how to manage the fishery and which community groups would be formed led to factions within the fleet vying for the best possible position in the fishery when it opened. As a result, some organizations formed an "Alliance " and Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) offices in their communities were occupied in an attempt to get the issues they put forward heard by DFO. The occupations ended when fishermen were invited to what came to be known as the "Dartmouth Round Table" and agreed to a mediation process to help define community groups and establish guiding principles for harvesting their groundfish allocations. The mediation process applied to FG <45' and to 4X5Y stocks only. The mediation process, with the participation of 40 industry representatives began on March 19, 1996 and was concluded on March 22, 1996. While it brought participants to a better understanding of the issues and went a long way towards reaching agreement on guiding principles and community management, consensus was not reached. The main lack of consensus was among those from Shelburne to Colchester County. Fishermen from Shelburne County, having the greatest number of licence holders with more people dependent on the fishery than any other community in southwestern Nova Scotia, felt that their historic economic dependence on the fishery was not recognized.

Subsequent industry meetings with DFO resulted in the formation of specific quota groups and 3% of the overall FG <45' quota was allocated by DFO to resolve some of the perceived quota shortfalls as well as addressing the request for an experimental fishery in the Digby area. Agreement was reached on the status of Shelburne county as a separate quota group. This initiative was supported due mainly to the need to get the fishery started. The 3% quota reserve was allocated by using 1.5% to top up quota groups that had a 1996 quota that was less than their catch in 1995. The remaining 1.5 % was allocated to address the experimental handline fishery in Yarmouth and Digby as agreed to during the mediation talks. The mediation round and subsequent meetings with DFO confirmed that the 45-65' FG sector would operate independently from FG <45' and that they would have separate quotas based on a percentage of the TAC based on an average 1986-1993 catch history.

Licence conditions for ENS Fixed Gear groups and any 4X5Y group that had an approved harvesting plan were finally issued April 12 in Halifax and from St. Andrews April 15. Initially only ENS, SWNB and FG 45'-65' had approved plans. The fisheries were opened April 16, 1996. By mid May all fishing plans had been received and approved, although some handline plans specified a June opening.

Subsequent to these decisions requests were received to extend the deadline for choosing a quota group. The deadline was extended to June 3, 1996. Anyone who did not complete a form or pick up their licence by June 3, were then only eligible to fish in

the generic DFO Group X. The DFO plan applied to all fishers not wishing to participate in an industry harvesting plan. This change resulted in a delay in opening the fishery from May 26 to June 10 in order to allow time to recalculate the available quota. Those who originally chose the Shelburne quota group were given the option of moving to another quota group on June 10.

Overall the quotas for the Fixed Gear <45' sector for 1996 were eventually divided into 12 different community management groups. The amount of quota in each group was established based on historical catch (based on average landings from 1986-1993). Table 5 gives the quota available to the eight major community groups for 1996 and 1997. Most of the community groups chose to subdivide their quota to take into account the different gear types within their groups while others are already single gear types such as the gillnet groups in Shelburne, Yarmouth and Digby. The remaining community quota groups had separate longline gillnet and handline plans, each with a separate gear quota and seasons and industry trip limits as designed by the various fixed gear representatives. The specific sub-quota groups for all the community management groups are as follows.

Group	Longline	Gillnet	Handline
ENS	1	1	
HFXW	2	3	1
Lunenburg & Queens	2	2	1
Shelburne competitive	3		1
Shelburne annual	2	1	
Yarmouth	2		2
Digby North	1		1
New Brunswick	1	1	1
DFO Shelburne Group X	1		1
Yarmouth Gillnet		1	
Digby Gillnet		1	
Total	16	10	9

Fishing practices for the majority of the industry quota groups were managed through their own contractual arrangements between the individual licence holders and the various fixed gear associations. These arrangements required that fishermen adhere to the terms of the group harvesting plan, including industry set trip limits. These contractual arrangements were monitored and enforced by the fishing industry itself not by DFO.

The white hake and halibut fisheries posed specific problems in the 1996 <45' FG fishery as these two stocks were managed under global quotas. The white hake issue was the most contentious due to a perceived lack of consultation with the industry prior

to setting a TAC for the first time in 1996. This 2,500t TAC for the whole area (4VWX) placed operational constraints on the management of the other main species (i.e. cod haddock and pollock). The white hake competitive fishery was divided into three trimesters. The first trimester was fished competitively without setting any strict limits, resulting in a 300t overrun. A closure was implemented on May 26, with a 10% bycatch until the July quota became available. The 10% bycatch was the alternative to closing all the different quota groups. Several gillnet groups were forced to close as they could not fish at the 10% level.

The Fixed Gear Committee sought a midyear review for white hake hoping for a slight increase in the quota to solve their overrun problem while they in turn agreed to develop a more cautious approach for the remaining white hake fishery. While the TAC was not adjusted, a decision was taken to allow the overrun provided the fleet could demonstrate more effective management throughout the remainder of the year. Industry agreed to limit their white hake catch to 10,000lb per week or 20,000lb if groups were limited to 1 trip every 2 weeks. Those fishing three trips per month were limited to 13,000lb per trip. The intent was to ensure that no group landed more than 20,000lb in the first two weeks of any month allowing a maximum of 40,000 lb per month based on their individual management plan.

In July the halibut fishery in 4X5Y was closed to a 10% bycatch per trip or 500lb per week as over 75 % of the global quota had been reached. The 500lb per week limit , was permitted to accommodate smaller day boats that could land one or two halibut during the week but not catch enough CHP to manage under the 10% restriction. Larger vessels in some areas interpreted this to mean 500lb per trip and did direct for halibut to a limited extent.

The various quota groups experienced a number of openings and closures during 1996 with two of the major longline groups within the Shelburne community closing on July 28, 1996. Without the formation of separate community quotas in 1996 the majority of licence holders outside of Shelburne would have also faced an early closure. Most of the community quotas were reached by the end of August despite the ability to trade quota with other groups in order to maintain their fisheries. Table 6 gives the 1996 quotas and catches by quota group, as well as the number of active and licensed vessels.

Eastern Nova Scotia (4VW) Management

Eastern Nova Scotia (ENS) vessels were permitted to fish in 4X provided they had some catch history in 4X since 1986. This was the same criteria used in 1995. Licence conditions to fish in 4VW were available to those in ENS and to any 4X quota group with an approved 4X plan providing participating vessels from 4X could demonstrate a history of catching either white hake or halibut in 4VW since 1986.

Cod and haddock stocks in 4VW remained under moratorium in 1996. Fixed gear fleets were restricted to 10% bycatch levels of these species while directing for pollock,

halibut, hake and cusk. Quotas were set on all the above with the exception of cusk. The low halibut quota was the limiting factor with respect to the fleet setting seasonal quota to ensure that their fishery lasted as long as possible. This option, utilizing seasonal quotas, resulted in a series of closures to restrict halibut catch to a 10% bycatch while allowing other directed fisheries to proceed. Prior to halibut overruns reaching significant levels, which would have resulted in a closure of the entire groundfish fishery, the fishery closed due to pollock quotas being taken.

During 1996 fixed gear representatives requested that 4Vn be partitioned into inshore and offshore fishing areas. This was brought forward in order to prevent small inshore vessels directing for cod in the fall from closing the entire fishery. Initially this plan was not supported by all the representatives but this view changed with the closure of the fishery due to inshore vessels exceeding their cod bycatch. The area was partitioned in the fall of 1996, and test fisheries were required to open the offshore area.

George's Bank (5Zc) Management

The fixed gear fishery for vessels in the <45' gear groups was divided into, handline, gillnet and longline, with each gear sector allocated quota based on catch history using the years 1986-1993. Participation in the 5Z fishery was limited to FG <45' vessels that had demonstrated through DFO catch records, landings in any year since 1986. As a way of limiting effort, those with no previous history fishing George's Bank were ineligible to fish in 1996. Submission to DFO of a form indicating the intent to fish Georges Bank was required, with a deadline of June 18, 1996. Any licence holder continuing to fish in 4X after that, was also ineligible to fish 5Z. The management measures included 100% dockside monitoring and each licence holder had to contribute to the cost of observer coverage as part of their harvesting plan. When the fishery opened, 78 longline, 14 handline and 9 gillnet vessels were eligible to fish.

The gear quotas were further subdivided into seven association quotas (Table 7) and a DFO managed group. The quota available to each association was determined by dividing the number of eligible vessels in each association into the available gear quotas, and some associations further split their quota into gear specific groups. Banked licences were counted as being eligible but only as a half share in calculating the association quotas. 2% of the cod quota and 1% of the haddock quota were subtracted to conduct Industry surveys for Science. DFO did not support any individual vessel quotas as all the fleet quotas were monitored as competitive quotas and closed whenever a group species quota was exhausted. Various groups set up competitive quotas based on days fished while others developed individual vessel shares. The quotas in 5Z also included a portion of the 4VWX5 pollock TAC as well as a separate quota of white hake. The hake quota was set in this way because the FRCC had not included 5Z hake when they recommended the 4VWX TAC for white hake. The available quota of pollock was allocated to FG<45' based on their recent catches on Georges Bank. As in the 4X5Y fishery, trades between quota groups were permitted.

Low pollock quotas caused some difficulties, as did the low cod quota which made it difficult to effectively fish the more abundant haddock stock.

Agreement was reached that to further limit effort, vessels fishing Georges Bank would not fish 4X5Y during July and would be locked into fishing 5Z, 30 days from the date of receiving their condition or July 31, whichever came first. Once the 30 day requirement had expired they could return to 4X5Y but any subsequent trip to Georges Bank had to be at least 14 days.

Offshore Fleet -Management

Major CHP's changes to the offshore CHP's for 1996 were:

- the use of 155 square mesh while fishing flatfish in 4VW;
- bycatches of all quota species counted against EA's or competitive quotas;
- additional restrictions to the use of small mesh in 4X;
- minimum size of 22 cm for redfish in Unit III and 25 cm in Unit II;
- maximum trip tonnage's i.e. 5 t cod and 2 t haddock were removed from the bycatch provisions in 4VW, to be reviewed if problems arise;
- mandatory release of halibut , 81 cm, all areas

The offshore objected to the minimum fish size in Unit II redfish and requested some relaxation of the 15% small fish rule provided the 1988 yearclass can be adequately protected.

Temporary Vessel Replacement Program (TVRP)

The Temporary Vessel Replacement Program (TVRP) was first introduced on March 21, 1990 and permitted vessels <65' in overall length to be used as replacements for offshore (>100') and midshore (65'-100') groundfish vessels. This policy allows <65' vessels to fish the enterprise allocations assigned to Canadian offshore fishing enterprises and operate under a strict set of guidelines (Table 8). The TVRP was introduced primarily to give offshore vessels operators greater flexibility in their operations while providing inshore operators with additional income through the lease of their vessels.

Since the inception of the plan the policy has been criticized by both inshore and offshore groups and in 1996 the Inshore Alliance requested a review of the program. A discussion document was drafted outlining the concerns and possible options which was reviewed by the Offshore Groundfish Vessel Owners (OGVO). Members of OGVO have not been unanimous in their views on this policy as some feel that only vessels greater than 100' should be used.

The intent of the offshore group is to finalize their EA operating guidelines in 1997. These guidelines will likely form the basis of future partnerships and could include the use of smaller vessels rather than continuing an exemption policy like TVRP. An Atlantic wide review will be conducted in 1997 if the offshore are unable to finalize their EA guidelines. The following changes were recommended for the 1996 fishery:

- Follow the present TVRP policy.
- Restrict access to all offshore vessels including inshore TVRP vessels from fishing North of 43°30'N in the Bay of Fundy.
- Require all TVRP vessels to be identified with offshore vessel class, while fishing under TVRP. the vessel class to be attached to each side of the vessel with dimensions being 14" high and 4" wide.
- Establish a public notice system on a weekly basis to identify the inshore vessels that are fishing for the offshore companies. the public notice system would include the fax on demand system as well as ensuring that all inshore representatives are copied when inshore vessels are added or deleted.

Implementation of these recommendations provided an interim solution and addressed immediate concerns. However, for most of the offshore interests the fear remains that the continued utilization of the current policy will ultimately lead to the transfer of quota from the offshore to the inshore. Conversely the cancellation of the policy in the future, accompanied by increased access fees may make it uneconomical for some large offshore companies to operate competitively, while others enjoy the flexibility of the TVRP and see it as the preferred option.

Footnotes

Footnotes were first introduced in the Groundfish Management Plan in 1989, when large transfers occurred from the offshore to the inshore sector. These transfers were implemented by changing the historical sharing arrangements between the inshore and the offshore, triggered by declines in TAC's and resultant inshore crises. The footnotes were introduced to the plan to outline the conditions under which restoration of shares would occur, including the setting of threshold TAC levels.

With recent inshore demands and protests, offshore interests feel a redress of the situation is warranted, indicating how restoration should occur during stock growth as opposed to waiting for the threshold levels to be reached. The Georges Bank fishery has been a case in point where the offshore experienced a bycatch problem during their 1995 directed haddock fishery, which resulted in their share increasing from 4.5 % to 9% for 1995 only, with their 1996 share reverting back to 4.5%. With the increase in the cod TAC for 1996 4.5 % represented a similar tonnage to the 9% allocated in 1995, yet the low allocation of cod resulted in the offshore leaving a large portion of their haddock quota uncaught. DFO viewed the change in the cod quota as a single slight increase not as a growth trend which should trigger the footnotes. It is apparent that rules surrounding how and when proportional sharing should begin need to be established, which will require major consultations with all user groups.

Test Fisheries

The redfish fishery prosecuted by the offshore fleet in test Area I (figure 2) resulted in several closures generally due to the 15% target levels of small pollock in the catch being exceeded. High bycatch levels of cod were also a problem at times. Other test areas remained open all year as they did not exhibit high levels of small fish or excessive bycatch levels. Some of these were not tested due to lack of interest by the fleet to fish in the area that or the realization that testing the area would not result in an opening as target levels for small fish or bycatch would be exceeded.

Georges Bank (5Zc) Management

In late May the FRCC set the Canadian quotas at 2000 t for cod and 4,500 t for haddock. Allocations to the offshore permitted a directed haddock fishery with a cod bycatch. The low amount of cod quota available limited the offshore haddock fishery significantly. Although a bycatch allocation of yellowtail was available to the offshore, landings of this species were negligible. Georges Bank remained closed to all fishing from January 1 to June 6, 1996.

Recreational Fishery

The recreational fishery opened on June 21, 1996 in the areas east of Halifax and closed on September 15. Areas west of Halifax were open all year. The daily bag or possession limit continued at ten groundfish with no more than one halibut. Initially the FRCC had recommended a closure of all recreational activities in areas under moratoria. It was noted that recreational fisheries in these areas could provide a smoke screen for black market fisheries. Other concerns are related to the uncontrolled nature of the fishery, the lack of licencing and enforcement with the concomitant loss of biological information from the fishery. Some fishers in eastern Nova scotia have complained that recreational fishers can land more cod and haddock than the commercial fisherman limited to a low bycatch fishery. Generally the complaints have been few and there is no realistic estimate available for the amount of recreational groundfish caught in this area.

References

Annand, C. and J. Hansen. 1996. Management Activities for 1995 and Early 1996 in the Scotia -Fundy Region . DFO Atlantic Fisheries Research Document 96/34.

Table 1

FRCC 1996 RECOMMENDATIONS AND GOVERNMENT DECISIONS			
STOCK	1995 TAC	FRCC 1996 Recommendations	Government Decisions for 1996
Cod 2GH	200t	200t for test fishery	200t - test fishery
Cod 2J, 3KL	Moratorium	Continue moratorium	Moratorium - by-catch only
Cod 3Ps	Moratorium	Continue moratorium	Subject to discussion with France
Cod 4RS, 3Pn	Moratorium	Continue moratorium	Moratorium - by-catch only
Cod 4T, 4Vn (N-A)	Moratorium	Continue moratorium	Moratorium - by-catch only
Cod 4Vn (M-O)	Moratorium	No directed fishery, minimize by-catch	Moratorium - by-catch only
Cod 4VsW	Moratorium	No directed fishery, minimize by-catch	Moratorium - by-catch only
Cod 4X, 5Y	9,000t	Increase TAC to 11,000t	TAC set at 11,000t
Cod 5Z _{jm}	1,000t	Closed until June, 1996; FRCC to further review prior to then	Closed until June 1996, review prior to then
Haddock 3LNO	100t - by-catch only	No directed fishery; limit by-catches to 100t	100t - by-catch only
Haddock 3Ps	100t - by-catch only	No directed fishery; limit by-catches to 100t	100t - by-catch only
Haddock 4TVW	By-catch only	No directed fishery	No directed fishery - by-catch only
Haddock 4X	6,000t	Increase TAC to 6,500t	TAC set at 6,500t
Haddock 5Z _{jm}	2,500t	Closed until June, 1996; FRCC to review prior to then	Closed until June 1996, review prior to then

Table 1. (Con't)

FRCC 1996 RECOMMENDATIONS AND GOVERNMENT DECISIONS			
STOCK	1995 TAC	FRCC 1996 Recommendations	Government Decisions for 1996
Pollock 3Ps	100t - by-catch only	No directed fishery; limit by-catches to 100t	100t - by-catch only
Pollock 4VWX,5Zc	14,500t	Reduce TAC to 10,000t	TAC set at 10,000
Redfish 2 + 3K	200t	200t for test fishery	200t - test fishery
Redfish 3O	10,000t	Status quo, TAC at 10,000t	TAC set at 10,000t
Redfish 4RST, 3Pn(J-M), 4Vn(J-M) - UNIT 1	Moratorium	Continue moratorium	Moratorium - by-catch only
Redfish 3Pn(J-D), 3Ps, 4Vn(J-D),4VsW _{rd} - UNIT 2	14,000t	Reduce TAC to 10,000t; no fishing Nov.-Dec. in 3Pn and 4Vn	Subject to discussion with France
Redfish 4W _{deh} X - UNIT 3	10,000t	Status quo, TAC at 10,000t	TAC set at 10,000t
American plaice 2 + 3K	100t - by-catch only	No directed fishery; limit by-catch to 100t	100t - by-catch only
American plaice 3Ps	100t - by-catch only	No directed fishery; limit by-catch to 100t	Subject to discussion with France
American plaice 4T	5,000t	Reduce TAC to 2,000t	TAC set at 2,000t
Witch flounder 2J,3KL	100t - by-catch only	No directed fishery; limit by-catch to 100t	100t - by-catch only
Witch flounder 3Ps	1,000t	Set TAC at 500t	Subject to discussion with France
Witch flounder 4RST	1,000t	Set TAC at 1,000t	TAC set at 1,000t
Flounders 4VW	4,125t	Reduce TAC to 3,500t	TAC set at 3,500t
Flounders 4X,5Y	3,375t	Set TAC at 3,375t	TAC set at 3,375t

Table 1. (Con't)

FRCC 1996 RECOMMENDATIONS AND GOVERNMENT DECISIONS			
STOCK	1995 TAC	FRCC 1996 Recommendations	Government Decisions for 1996
Greenland Halibut 0 + 1	11,000t	Set TAC below 11,000t	Subject to consultations with Greenland
Greenland Halibut 2 + 3K	7,000t	Set TAC at 7,000t	TAC set at 7,000t
Greenland Halibut 4RST	4,000t	Reduce TAC to 2,000t	TAC set at 2,000t
Roundnose grenadier 0	4,000t	No directed fishery	No directed fishery
Roundnose grenadier 2+3	3,000t	Test fishery - 1,000t	1,000t - test fishery
Silver hake 4VWX	60,000t	Status quo, set TAC at 60,000t	TAC set at 60,000t
White hake 4T	Moratorium	No directed fishery, minimize by-catch	Moratorium - by-catch only
White hake 4VWX	-	Set TAC at 2,500t	TAC set at 2,500t
Skate 3LNOPs	6,000t	Reduce TAC to 2,000t	TAC set at 2,000t
Winter Flounder 4T	-	No directed fishery	TAC set at 1,000t
Argentine 4VWX	1,000t	Status quo, set TAC at 1,000t	TAC set at 1,000t
Atlantic halibut 3NOPs, 4VWX, 5Zc	850t	Status quo, set TAC at 850t	TAC set at 850t
Atlantic halibut 4RST	300t	Status quo, set TAC at 300t	TAC set at 300t

Table 2

1996 Georges Bank Fishery
Fleet Quotas and Catches
Active Vessels and Management Measures

	COD		HADDOCK		YELLOWTAIL		#VESSELS
GEAR	QUOTA	CATCH	QUOTA	CATCH	QUOTA	CATCH	(ACTIVE)
FG < 45	1131	1065	890	766			101
FG 45-65	152	154	175	153			11
MG < 65	591	535	2280	1713	400	423	65
FG 65-100	18	24	45	49			1
MG 65-100	30	29	189	181			3
ALL > 100	78	86	921	513	30		9
TOTAL	2000	1893	4500	3375	430	423	190
FG < 45 consisted of 78 longline, 14 handline & 9 gillnet vessels.							
1996 MANAGEMENT MEASURES							
Mandatory dockside weighout for all vessels - user pay							
Mandatory logbooks for all vessels.							
Mandatory hail out and hail in.							
Industry funded at sea observers plus DFO coverage							
INDUSTRY FUNDED OBSERVER COVERAGE							
GEAR	SEA DAYS	COST					
FG < 65	116	\$26,800					
MG < 65	45	\$10,200					
ALL > 65	15	\$3,050					
TOTAL	176	\$40,050					

Table 3.

DMP - Fleet Coverage Levels

Fleet Coverage in 1996 - groundfish				
Species	Fleet	DMP¹	% Monitored	Comments
groundfish	MG>100',EA	Y	100	
	MG 65-100', EA	Y	100	
	FG 65-100', EA	Y	100	
	MG <65', ITQ	Y	100	
	MG <65', generalist	Y	50-100	dependent on hail accuracy
	FG <45', competitive	Y	20-50 ²	100% on Georges Bank
	FG 45-65', ITQ	Y	100	
Silver hake	MG <65' domestic	Y	60	

¹ DMP generally includes hail provisions as well as full entry of all log data.

² Industry administered catch history shares required 50% DMP.

Table 4

1996 QUOTAS & LANDINGS

1996 QUOTAS AND LANDINGS (PRELIMINARY) FOR SCOTIA FUNDY STOCKS												
STOCK	FG < 65		MG < 65		FG 65-100		MG 65-100		ALL > 100		TOTALS	
	QUOTA	CATCH	QUOTA	CATCH	QUOTA	CATCH	QUOTA	CATCH	QUOTA	CATCH	QUOTA	CATCH
COD 4Vn*	0	25	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	45
COD 4VsW	0	134	0	6	0	13	0	2	0	88	0	243
COD 4X5Y	6503	6375	3562	3573	30	24	271	195	634	481	11000	10648
COD 5Zjm	1283	1219	591	535	18	24	30	29	78	86	2000	1893
TOTAL	7786	7753	4153	4130	48	61	301	226	712	659	13000	12829
HADDOCK 4VW	0	61	0	6	0	0	0	1	0	27	0	95
HADDOCK 4X5Y	2470	2352	3639	3473	34	39	42	39	315	289	6500	6192
HADDOCK 5Zjm	1065	919	2280	1999	45	49	189	181	921	513	4500	3661
TOTAL	3535	3332	5919	5478	79	88	231	221	1236	829	11000	9948
POLLOCK 4VWX+5	2880	2634	2288	2126	0	0	1277	1244	3555	3189	10000	9193
REDFISH UNIT II *	169	23	2027	938	0	0	22	0	7772	7312	9990	8273
REDFISH UNIT III	0	46	3707	2844	0	0	2771	288	3522	1556	10000	4734
FLOUNDER 4VW *	230	6	1432	1331	0	0	50	43	1788	602	3500	1982
FLOUNDER 4X5Y	75	35	2710	2361	0	0	15	2	575	65	3375	2463
WHITE HAKE 4VW*	500	509	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	25	500	551
WHITE HAKE 4X+5	2000	3061	0	345	0	26	0	15	0	42	2000	3489
ATLANTIC HALIBUT **	449	483	22	28	167	187	3	1	138	20	779	719
* Includes Gulf Based Quotas												
** Includes 3NOPs for vessels greater than 65' and includes Gulf Based Quotas												

Table 5

QUOTA SHARES FG < 45

STOCK		ENS	HALIFAX WEST	LUN QUEENS	SHELBURNE	YARMOUTH LL & HL	YARMOUTH GILLNET	DIG & UPPER BAY	SWNB	TOTAL
COD 4X5Y	%	6.92%	4.33%	10.61%	58.70%	5.13%	0.28%	7.48%	6.54%	100.0%
	96 QUOTA	422	264	647	3579	313	17	456	399	6097
	97 QUOTA	496	310	761	4209	368	20	536	469	7170
HAD 4X5Y	%	10.99%	1.34%	3.85%	76.12%	2.69%	0.05%	4.64%	0.32%	100.00%
	96 QUOTA	237	29	83	1642	58	1	100	7	2157
	97 QUOTA	215	26	75	1493	53	1	91	6	1961
POL 4X5Y	%	2.47%	10.05%	30.57%	30.65%	4.25%	1.54%	10.60%	9.88%	100.00%
	96 QUOTA	58	236	718	720	100	36	249	232	2349
	97 QUOTA	87	352	1072	1075	148	54	372	346	3505
TOTAL 96		717	529	1448	5941	471	54	805	638	10603
		6.76%	4.99%	13.66%	56.03%	4.44%	0.51%	7.59%	6.02%	100.00%
TOTAL 97		798	689	1908	6776	569	75	999	822	12636
		6.32%	5.45%	15.10%	53.63%	4.50%	0.59%	7.90%	6.50%	100.00%
# Licences		334	100	387	826	348	4	380	247	2626
# Active 96		54	45	177	644	102	4	151	97	1274

Table 7

5Z FG FISHERY 1996 FINAL

GROUP	# LICENCED	# FISHED	COD		HADDOCK		WHITE HAKE		POLLOCK		HALIBUT
			QUOTA	CATCH	QUOTA	CATCH	QUOTA	CATCH	QUOTA	CATCH	CATCH
A 45 'SFIFA LL	35	29	338	339.8	328.1	315.8	256.5	97.3	13.3	11.4	4
A 52 SFIFA HL	1	1	3.6	3.5	0.1	0	0.3	0	0.4	0.1	0
A 46 'SCFGQG	24	16	189.1	176.8	222.9	191.5	151.4	46.3	8.7	4.5	2.4
A 47 SWFRA LL	11	11	94.9	96.2	98.4	86.5	71.8	16.8	8.4	2.2	1.3
A 53 SWFRA HL	6	5	22.8	25.7	0.8	0	1.9	0	14	18.8	0
A 48 MFU LL	4	4	35.4	35.9	20	19.9	11.1	4.7	6	0.7	0.5
A 54 MFU HL	3	3	10.5	9.8	0.4	0	0.9	0	1.3	5	0
A 49 SWNFGA LL	7	7	67.3	69.1	87	86.8	56.5	31.6	0.9	0.9	1
A 55 SWNFGA HL	1	1	3.6	3.7	0	0	0	0	0.7	0.7	0
A 50 DFO LL	10	10	88	85.3	94	52.5	71	7	6	4.3	0.3
A 51 YARCLA LL	1	1	8.4	8.4	6.4	6.4	2.9	2.9	1	0.7	0
A 56 YARCLA HL	5	4	14.3	14.3	0	0	0	0	2.2	1.3	0
A 57 GN	9	9	218.8	218.5	24.3	11.5	45	15.1	116	122.9	0
A14 45-65		11	151.6	154.3	174.6	152.6	250.7	99.5	0	0	0
TOTAL	117	112	1246.3	1241.3	1057	923.5	920	321.2	178.9	173.5	9.5

Table 8.

Temporary Vessel Replacement Program (TVRP)

Conditions of Approval

1. Inshore fishermen participating in the program must bank their inshore groundfish licence while their vessel is fishing the midshore or offshore EA.
2. The use of vessels less than 65' must be for a well defined period of time. it is not intended that this policy would allow vessels less than 65' to regularly switch between offshore, midshore and inshore sectors. A minimum period of two months (60 days) will apply. The deadline for approval to participate in the program is October 25, of each year.
3. A maximum of two inshore vessels will be permitted to replace one midshore or offshore vessel with the following exception:
Midshore and offshore companies may replace one offshore or midshore vessel with more than two inshore vessels providing the inshore replacement vessels are licenced for inshore groundfish in the name of the company.
4. If the replacement is a one for one replacement then the less than 65' vessel would have access to the offshore and midshore competitive quotas.
5. If the replacement is two for one replacement, then the 65' vessel would not have access to the offshore and midshore competitive quotas.
6. Use of observers as required during the fishing season, as well as conforming to all reporting and regulatory requirements.
7. Where programs are in place, inshore vessels participating in the TVRP will be subject to dockside monitoring.
8. While participating under the program, the inshore vessels will be bound by all conditions specific to the midshore and offshore vessels.

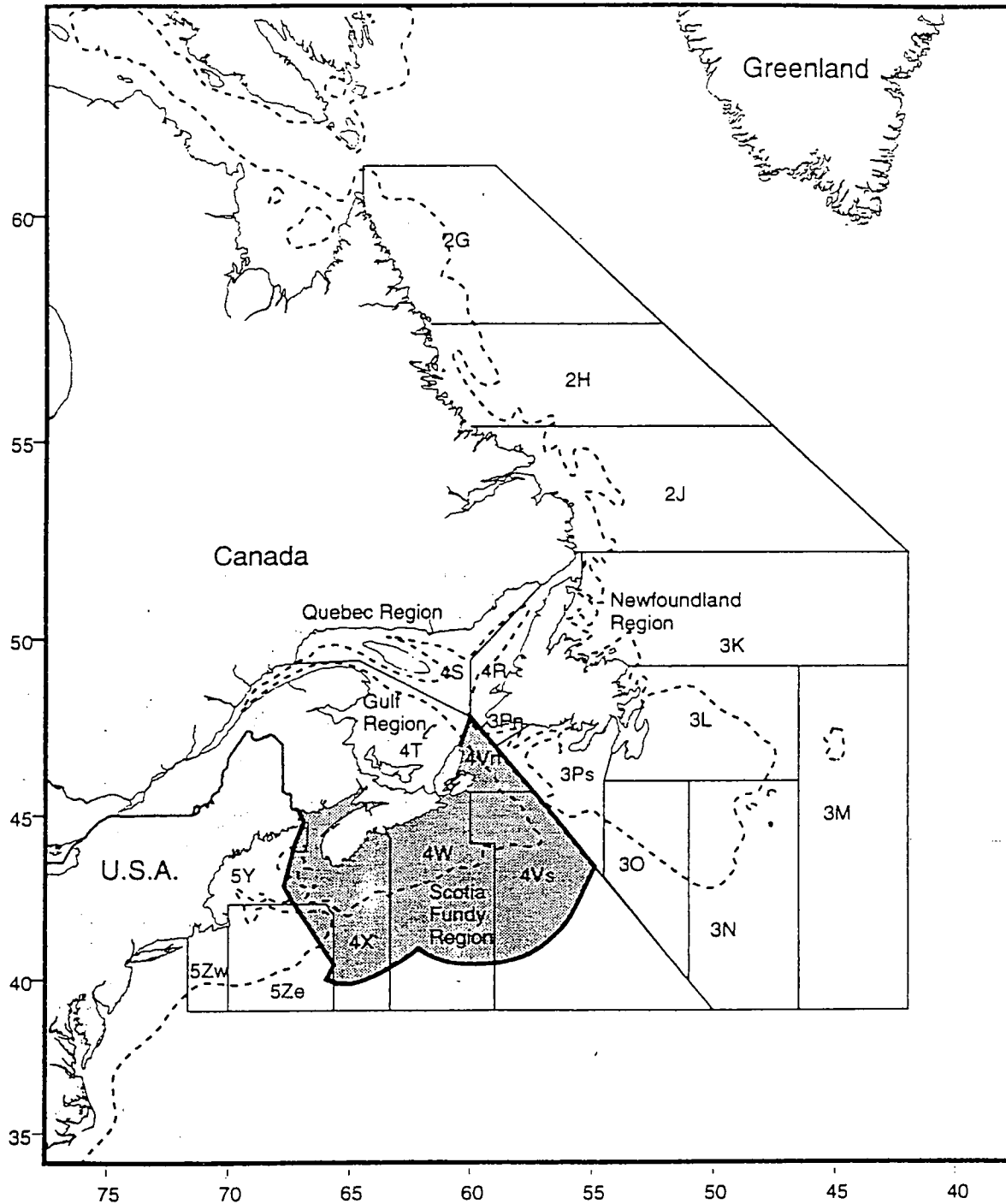
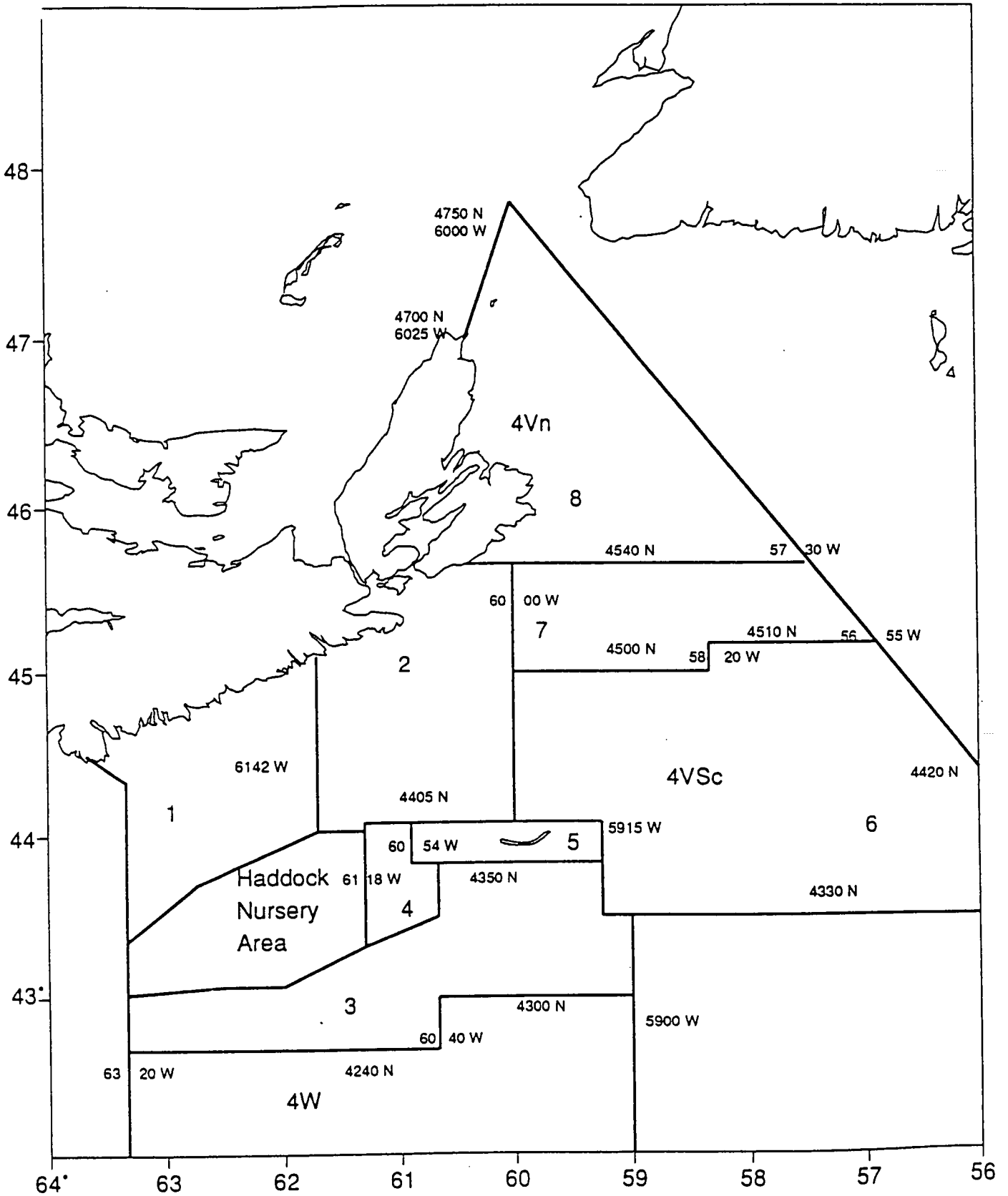
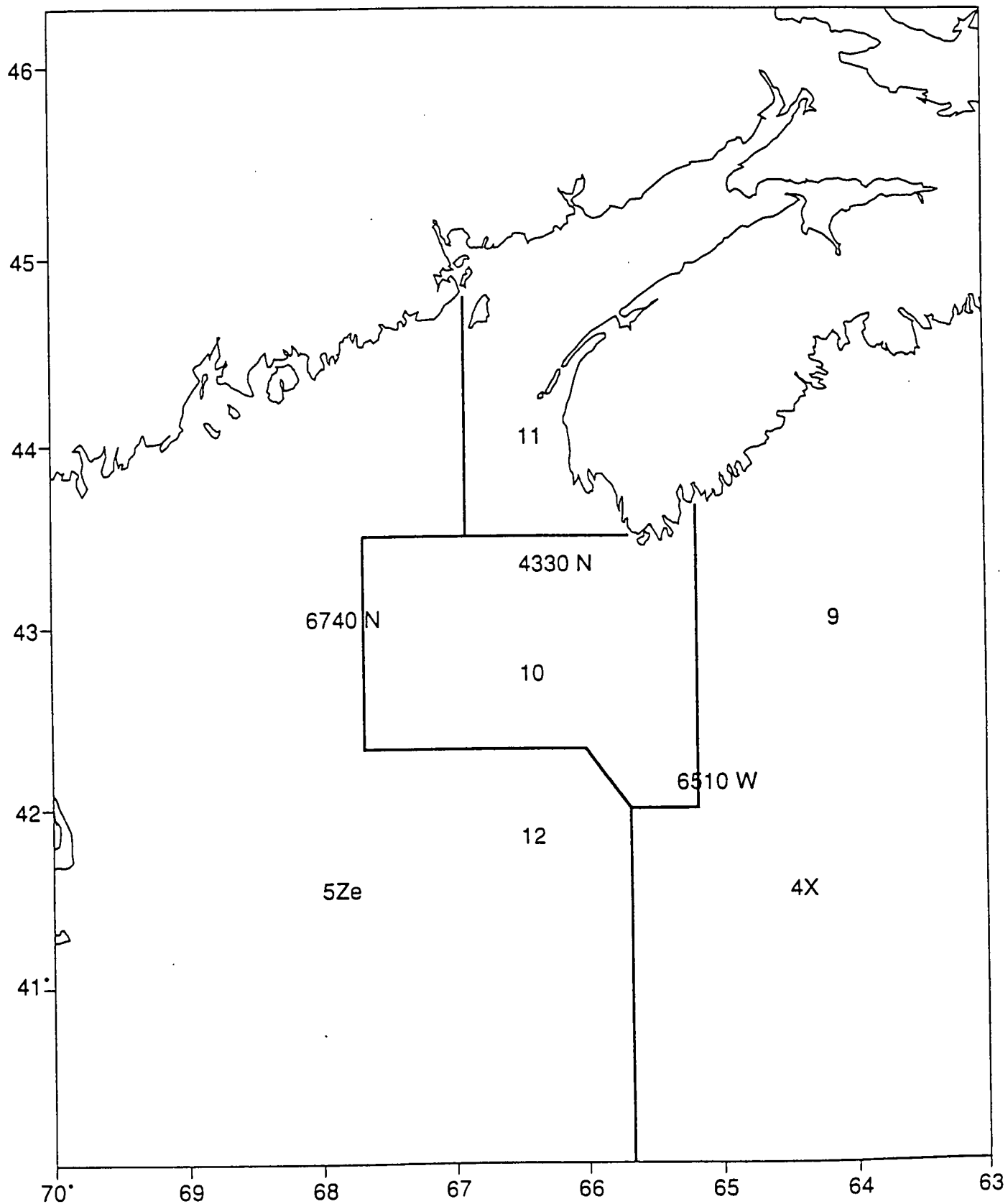


Figure 1: NAFO statistical Divisions and Subdivisions and DFO Regions. Scotia-Fundy Region is highlighted.

Areas subject to closures/test fishing (Scotian Shelf)



Areas subject to closures/test fishing
(Southwest Nova Scotia/Bay of Fundy)



1996
DETAILED TRIP LIMIT STATUS
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1996

FIXED GEAR < 65' (SCOTIA-FUNDY BASED VESSELS)

<u>STOCK</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>VAR ORDER LIC COND</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
3Ps Skate	All fixed gear	April 23 -	Nfld.	Fishing prohibited.
4Vn All groundfish	All gear	Jan. 1 - April 30	1996-016	Fishing prohibited.
4Vn All groundfish	All gear except A40 (Sentinental Fishery)	April 13 - April 30	1996-052	Revokes 1996-016. Fishing prohibited.
4Vn All groundfish	A-2 and A-3	August 30 December 31	1996-144	Fishing prohibited
4Vn All groundfish	A-2 and A-3	September 11	1996-160	Closure - portion of 4Vn (Inside) Sub-Division
4Vn All groundfish	A-2 and A-3	October 38 December 31	1996-196	4Vn (Outside) Fishing prohibited
4VW All groundfish	A-4 and A-5 (4VsW LL and 4VsW GN/HL)	August 30 - December 31	1996-145	Fishing prohibited
4VW All groundfish	A-4 and A-5 (4VsW LL and 4VsW GN/HL)	September 11	1996-159	Revokes 1996-145. Fishing may resume.
4VW All groundfish	A-4 and A-5 (4VsW LL and 4VsW GN/HL)	October 10 - December 31	1996-182	Fishing prohibited
4VW All groundfish	A-5 (4VsW LL)	June 11 - June 30	1996-085	Fishing prohibited.
Portion of 4X All groundfish	A-1	Jan.9- Dec.31	1996-020	Small fish closure.
Portion of 4X All groundfish	A7,A10,A11. A12,A14	Jan.1- Dec.31	1996-015	Small fish closure.

FIXED GEAR < 65' (SCOTIA-FUNDY BASED VESSELS) - Continued

<u>STOCK</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>VAR ORDER LIC COND</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
Portion of 4X All groundfish	A7-A9, A13,A14 A17-A20 A22-A24 A26-A29 A31-A37 A42,A43	May 18	1996-068	Revokes 1996-015 & 1996-020. Small fish closure. Revision to vsl. classes.
Portion of 4X All groundfish	A7-A9 A13, A14 A17-A20 A22 -A24 A26-A29 A31-A37 A42-A43	August 14	1996-127	Rovokes 1996-068. Fishing prohibited Revision of small fish closure.
5Z All groundfish	All gear	Jan. 1 - May 31	1996-017	Fishing prohibited.
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-1 (Longliners)	Feb. 1 -	1996-030	Winter fishery closed.
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-7 (ENS fixed gear)	Feb. 1- March 31	1996-031	Winter fishery closed.
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-7 (ENS LL)	May 13 - May 26	1996-063	Revokes 1996-031. Fishing prohibited.
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-7 (ENS LL)	June 11 - June 30	1996-086	Fishing prohibited.
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-7 (ENS LL)	June 29	1996-099	Revokes 1996-086. Fishing may resume.
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-7 (ENS LL)	July 22 - July 31	1996-110	Fishing Prohibited

FIXED GEAR < 65' (SCOTIA-FUNDY BASED VESSELS) - Continued

<u>STOCK</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>VAR ORDER LIC COND</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-7 (ENS LL)	August 1 - December 31	1996-119	Fishing prohibited
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-7 (ENS LL)	August 8	1996-122	Revokes 1996-119. Fishing may resume.
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-7 (ENS LL)	October 3 - December 31	1996-181	Fishing prohibited.
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-7 (ENS LL)	October 14	1996-186	Revokes 1996-181. Fishing may resume.
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-7 (ENS LL)	October 17	1996-192	Fishing prohibited.
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-7 (ENS LL)	November 1	1996-203	Revokes 1996-192. Fishing may resume.
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-7 (ENS LL)	November 7 December 31	1996-209	Fishing prohibited.
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-7 (ENS LL)	November 30	1996-222	Revokes 1996-209. Fishing may resume.
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-6 and A-7 (ENS GN/HL) (ENS LL)	September 17 September 22	1996-169	Fishing prohibited.
4X,5Y Halibut and White Hake	A6-A13 A15-A44 (All 4X,5Y FG < 45 ')	May 29 - June 30	1996-074	Fishing prohibited.
4X,5Y Halibut and White Hake	A6-A13 A15-A44 (All 4X,5Y FG < 45')	June 17- June 30	1996-087	Revokes 1996-074. Fishing may resume for halibut. Fishing prohibited for white hake

FIXED GEAR <65' (SCOTIA-FUNDY BASED VESSELS) - Continued

<u>STOCK</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>VAR ORDER LIC COND</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
4X, 5Y White Hake	A-6 to A-13 A-14 to A-44 A-90 to A-93 (All FG <45')	Aug 8 - December 31	1996-123	Fishing Prohibited - 10% bi-catch as per licence condition
4X, 5Y White Hake	A-6 to A-13 A-14 to A-44 A-90 to A-93 (All FG < 45')	September 15 December 31	1996-161	Revokes 1996- 123. Fishing may resume.
4X, 5Y White Hake	A-6 to A-13 A-15 to A-39 A-42 to A-44 (All FG <45')	October 10 December 31	1996-184	Fishing prohibited - 10% bi-catch as per licence condition.
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-15 (Q/Lun GN A)	May 29 - May 31	1996-077	Fishing prohibited.
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-15 (Q/Lun GN A)	June 8	1996-083	Portion of 4X closed. Bycatch problem.
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-15 (Q/Lun GN A)	June 17 - June 30	1996-088	Revokes 1996-083 Fishing prohibited.
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-15 (Q/Lun GN A)	June 19 - June 30	1996-090	Revokes 1996-088. Fishing prohibited.
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-15 (Q/Lun GN A)	July 24 - July 31	1996-114	Fishing prohibited
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-15 (Q/Lun GN A)	August 19 - December 31	1996-132	Fishing prohibited
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-16 (Q/Lun GN B)	September 30 December 31	1996-179	Fishing prohibited
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-16 (Q/Lun GN B)	October 17	1996-189	Revokes 1996-179. Fishing may resume.

FIXED GEAR <65' (SCOTIA-FUNDY BASED VESSELS) - Continued

<u>STOCK</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>VAR ORDER LIC COND</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-17 (Q/Lun LL A)	September 18- September 22	1996-172	Fishing prohibited
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-17 (Q/Lun LL A)	September 30 December 31	1996-178	Fishing prohibited
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-18 (Q/Lun LL B)	June 1 - June 30	1996-078	Fishing prohibited.
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-18 (Q/Lun LL B)	June 17	1996-087	Revokes 1996-078. Fishing may resume.
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-18 (Q/Lun LL B)	August 25 - September 30	1996-139	Fishing prohibited
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-18 (Q/Lun LL B)	September 14 December 31	1996-165	Revokes 1996-139. Fishing may resume.
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-18 (Q/Lun LL B)	October 18 - December 31	1996-194	Fishing prohibited.
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-22 (SHEL LL A)	June 22 - July 1	1996-091	Fishing prohibited.
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-22 (SHEL LL A)	July 2-14	1996-097	Fishing prohibited.
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-22 (SHEL LL A)	July 15	1996-101	Remains closed.
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-22 (SHEL LL A)	July 22 - July 28	1996-112	Revokes 1996-101 Fishing may resume.
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-22 (SHELB LL A)	July 28 - Dec. 31	1996-116	Revokes 1996-112 Fishing Prohibited
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-23 (SHEL LL B)	June 22 - July 1	1996-091	Fishing prohibited.

FIXED GEAR <65' (SCOTIA-FUNDY BASED VESSELS) - Continued

<u>STOCK</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>VAR ORDER LIC COND</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-23 (SHEL LL B)	July 16	1996-098	Fishing prohibited.
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-23 (SHEL LL B)	July 17	1996-101	Revokes 1996-098. Fishing remains open. Cancels closure of July 16.
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-23 (SHEL LL B)	July 28 - Dec. 31	1996-117	Fishing prohibited
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-23 (SHEL LL B)	Dec 26 - Dec. 31	1996-225	Revokes 1996-117. Fishing may resume.
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-24 (SHEL LL B1)	August 10 - December 31	1996-125	Fishing prohibited
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-24 (SHEL LL B1)	September 15 - December 31	1996-168	Revokes 1996-125. Fishing may resume.
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-24 (SHEL LL B1)	October 10 - December 31	1996-183	Fishing prohibited
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-25 (4X DIG GN)	October 31 - December 31	1996-199	Fishing prohibited
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-26 (SHEL HL)	June 22- July 1	1996-091	Fishing prohibited.
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-26 (SHEL HL)	July 20- July 28	1996-102	Fishing prohibited.
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-26 (SHEL HL)	July 20	1996-113	Revokes 1996-102 Fishing may resume
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-26 (SHEL HL)	August 17 - December 31	1996-130	Fishing prohibited
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-28 (SWNB LL)	May 20 - June 2	1996-064	Fishing prohibited.

FIXED GEAR <65' (SCOTIA-FUNDY BASED VESSELS) - Continued

<u>STOCK</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>VAR ORDER LIC COND</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-29 (SWNB HL)	July 16- July 31	1996-107	Fishing prohibited
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-29 (SWNB HL)	August 9 - August 31	1996-126	Fishing prohibited
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-29 (SWNB HL)	September 18 September 30	1996-171	Fishing prohibited
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-29 (SWNB HL)	September 24 December 31	1996-175	Revokes 1996-171. Fishing may resume.
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-30 (SWNB GN)	June 22 - June 30	1996-094	Fishing prohibited.
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-30 (SWNB GN)	July 20 - July 31	1996-109	Fishing prohibited
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-30 (SWNB GN)	August 16 - December 31	1996-133	Fishing prohibited
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-32 (YAR LL A)	June 17- June 30	1996-088	Fishing prohibited.
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-32 (YAR LL A)	June 26 - June 30	1996-090	Revokes 1996-088 Fishing prohibited.
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-32 (YAR LL A)	August 19 - December 31	1996-134	Fishing prohibited
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-32 (YAR LL A)	September 17- December 31	1996-170	Fishing may resume
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-32 (YAR LL A)	December 17 December 31	1996-224	Fishing prohibited

FIXED GEAR <65' (SCOTIA-FUNDY BASED VESSELS) - Continued

<u>STOCK</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>VAR ORDER LIC COND</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-33 (YAR LL B)	June 17- June 30	1996-088	Fishing prohibited.
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-33 (YAR LL B)	June 26 - June 30	1996-090	Revokes 1996-088 Fishing prohibited.
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-33 (YAR LL B)	August 19 - December 31	1996-134	Fishing prohibited.
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-33 (YAR LL B)	September 17- December 31	1996-170	Fishing may resume
4VSW Sentinal Fishery	A-34			
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-35 (YAR HL)	June 29- July 7	1996-095	Fishing prohibited.
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-35 (YAR HL)	July 26 - December 31	1996-115	Fishing prohibited.
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-39 (YAR GN)	November 16 - December 31	1996-215	Fishing prohibited.
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-42 (DFO SHEL LL)	June 29	1996-096	Fishing prohibited.
4X,5Y All groundfish	A-42 (DFO SHEL LL)	July 14	1996-104	Revokes 1996-096. Fishing may resume.
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-42 (DFO SHEL LL)	August 14	1996-128	Fishing prohibited.
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-44 (DFO X)	August 20		
4X, 5Y All groundfish	A-44 (DFO X)	August 31 - December 31	1996-150	Fishing prohibited

FIXED GEAR <65' (SCOTIA-FUNDY BASED VESSELS) - Continued

<u>STOCK</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>VAR ORDER LIC COND</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
5Z All groundfish	A-45 (SFIFA - LL)	October 23 - December 31	1996-195	Fishing prohibited
5Z All groundfish	A-45 (SFIFA -LL)	October 25 - December 31	1996-197	Fishing may resume.
5Z All groundfish	A-45 (SFIFA-LL)	November 16 December 31	1996-214	Fishing prohibited.
5Z All groundfish	A-47 (SWFRA - LL)	November 6 - December 31	1996-204	Fishing prohibited.
5Z All groundfish	A-48 (MFU - LL)	October 23 - December 31	1996-195, 197,223	Fishing prohibited
5Z All groundfish	A-49 (SWNFGA - LL)	November 6 - December 31	1996-205	Fishing prohibited
5Z All groundfish	A-50 (DFO - LL)	October 23 - December 31	1996-195, 197	Fishing prohibited
5Z All groundfish	A-50 (DFO - LL)	December 4	1996- 223	Revokes 1996-197. Fishing may resume.
5Z All groundfish	A-51 (YARCLA - LL)	October 23 - December 31	1996-195, 197,223	Fishing prohibited.
5Z All groundfish	A-52 (SFIFA - HL)	October 23 - December 31	1996-195, 197,223	Fishing prohibited
5Z All groundfish	A-53 (SWFRA - HL)	October 23 - December 31	1996-195, 197,223	Fishing prohibited
5Z All groundfish	A-54 (MFU - HL)	October 23 - December 31	1996-195, 197,223	Fishing prohibited
5Z All groundfish	A-55 (5Z Handline)	September 4 - December 31	1996-151	Fishing prohibited
5Z All groundfish	A-57 (5Z Gillnet)	August 25 - December 31	1996-138	Fishing prohibited

MOBILE GEAR LESS THAN 65' (SCOTIA-FUNDY BASED VESSELS)

<u>STOCK</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>VAR ORDER/ LIC COND</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
4Vn All groundfish	All gear	Jan. 1- April 30	1996-016	Fishing prohibited.
4Vn All groundfish	All gear except A40 (Sentinental Fishery)	April 13 - April 30	1996-052	Revokes 1996-016. Fishing prohibited.
4Vn All groundfish	C50-C149 C350-C589 C591-C600 C2000-C3000 (GBV)	May 24	1996-073	Fishing prohibited.
4Vn All groundfish	C50-C149 C350-C589 C591-C600 C2000-C3000 (GBV)	June 1	1996-079	Revokes 1996-073. Fishing may resume.
4Vn All groundfish	C50-C149 C350-C589 C591-C600 C2000-C3000 (GBV)	November 1 - December 31	1996-202	Fishing prohibited.
4W All groundfish	All mobile gear	Jan. 1 - Dec.31	1996-021	Test Area 5 (Sable Island) Closure
5Z All groundfish	All gear	Jan. 1 - May 31	1996-017	Fishing prohibited.
5Z Yellowtail	C1 to C6000 MG < 65"	November 10 - December 31	1996-211	Fishing prohibited
4VWX,5 Halibut	C1-C6000 Mg < 65'	March 28	1996-045	Fishing prohibited.
4X, 5Y All groundfish	C-1	August 29 - December 31	1996-143	Fishing prohibited
4X, 5Y All groundfish	C-1	September 21 - December 31	1996-174	Revokes 1996-143. Fishing may resume.

VESSELS GREATER THAN 65'

<u>STOCK</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>VAR ORDER/ LIC COND</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
3Ps All groundfish	B1-B7,B9-B220 Fg 65'-100'	Jan. 24	Nfld.	Cod bycatch closure.
3Ps Skate	All fixed gear	April 23	Nfld.	Fishing prohibited.
4Vn All groundfish	All gear	Jan. 1 - April 30	1996-016	Fishing prohibited.
4Vn All groundfish	All gear except A40 (Sentinental Fishery)	April 13- April 30	1996-052	Revokes 1996-016. Fishing prohibited.
4Vs All groundfish	B-3 (Jonathan & Amy)	Jan. 10 -	1996-027	Cod Bycatch Closure
4Vs All groundfish	B1,B2,B4-B220 (Fg 65'-100')	Feb. 2 -	1996-032	Cod Bycatch Closure
4W All groundfish	All mobile gear	Jan. 1 - Dec. 31	1996-021	Test Area 5 (Sable Island) Closure
4VW All groundfish	B1-B220 FG 65'-100'	March 27	1996-044	Fishing prohibited.
5Z All groundfish	All gear	Jan. 1 - May 31	1996-017	Fishing prohibited.
4X, 5Y All groundfish	B1 - B220 FG 65'-100'	August 29 December 31	1996-146	Fishing prohibited
4X, 5Y All groundfish	B1 to B9 and B11 to B220	September 5 - December 31	1996-153	Revokes 1996-146. Fishing prohibited.
5Z All groundfish	B1 to B220	October 18 - December 31	1996-193	Fishing prohibited.

VESSELS GREATER THAN 100'

<u>STOCK</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>VAR ORDER/ LIC COND</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
5Z All groundfish	E, G to S T to W Y and Z	August 30 December 31	1996-147	Fishing prohibited
4X, 5Y All groundfish	K and L	September 7 December 31	1996-156	Fishing prohibited
4X, 5Y All groundfish	K and L	Septmeber 10	1996-158	Revokes 1996-156. Fishing may resume.

Vessel Category Description

- "A" classes generally mean groundfish fixed gear less than 65'.
The different numbers identify a community group, region, fleet or length category.
- "B" class is fixed gear groundfish 65' - 100'.
The different numbers identify a particular midshore company.
- "C" classes generally mean groundfish, scallop, or shrimp mobile gear less than 65'. The different numbers identify a region, fleet or length category.
- "D" classes concern the mobile 65'-100' fleet for the directed groundfish fleet and groundfish licences for either the shrimp, crab or lobster fleets.
The different numbers identify a region, company, or fleet.
- "E" to "S" and "T" to "Z" classes are groundfish vessels greater than 100'. The different numbers identify the particular company.
- "SC1" to "SC9" classes are scallop vessels greater than 100'.