



*Gulf Region*

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# *Notice to Fish Harvesters*

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## **2020 – LOBSTER FISHERY OPENING DATES IN LOBSTER FISHING AREAS (LFAs) 23, 24, 26A AND 26B SOUTH AND 26B NORTH**

**Moncton, NB – May 14, 2020** – Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is announcing that the lobster fishery in LFAs 23, 24, 26A and 26B South will open at 06:00 a.m. on Friday May 15, 2020. Due to high winds forecasted Friday, the lobster fishery in LFA 26B North will open at 6:00 a.m. on Saturday May 16, 2020.

DFO wishes to remind fish harvesters to take extra care when navigating on the opening day of the lobster fishery as vessels are loaded with gear and traps. Harvesters are encouraged to act diligently in setting their traps and should ensure that vessels are loaded safely by reducing the quantity of gear if necessary.

Fish harvesters must also exercise caution when navigating in locations where dredging operations are on-going.

All aid to navigation buoys may not all have been placed. Licence holders are advised to exercise extreme caution.

Furthermore, it is reminded that, during the period where fishing is authorized, it is the responsibility of the licence holder to take into account the marine safety notices issued, among others, by Environment and Climate Change Canada and Transport Canada, as well as the standards and best practices in marine safety, and to take all measures to ensure a safe fishery.

### **Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) - Information for industry**

Canadian fisheries and aquaculture sectors provide the world with sustainably-sourced, high quality, high value, fish and seafood.

Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard is committed to supporting our fisheries and aquaculture industry during these difficult times. The Government of Canada is taking the necessary steps to ensure that you can continue to operate safely and effectively and we will continue to keep you informed of the latest developments.

Visit our website to find out more: <http://dfo-mpo.gc.ca/covid19/industry-industrie/index-eng.html>.

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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