



2026 - Conservation Harvesting Plan for the herring fall fishery in Herring Fishing Areas 16A to 16G – Fleets using gillnets

Moncton (NB) and Québec (QC) – July 28, 2026 - This Conservation Harvesting Plan (CHP) presents the management measures for fleets using gillnets. Licence holders must refer to their conditions of licence available on the National Online Licensing System (NOLS).

NEW IN 2026

Management Approach per Sector (MAS)

The fleet allocations presented in Annex 1 are distributed in accordance with the [Management Approach per Sector](#) announced on July 3, 2026.

Changes to Reporting of Lost / Retrieved Fishing Gear

DFO is advising fish harvesters of changes in the conditions of licences related to lost and retrieved fishing gear. Please consult the document [2026 - Conditions of Licence : Changes to Reporting of Lost / Retrieved Fishing Gear](#) for additional information.

OTHER MANAGEMENT MEASURES

Voluntary use of an electronic logbook (ELOG) for Gulf Region harvesters is authorized. For more information: [Electronic logbooks \(ELOGS\)](#).

A summary of the management measures by herring fishing area (HFA) is presented in **Annex 1**.

A diagram illustrating the mesh size measurement is presented in **Annex 2**.

Herring Fishing Areas 16C & 16E

Group A (New Brunswick fish harvesters) and Group B (Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia fish harvesters) will begin the fall fishery with an initial competitive allocation of 342 t. When the initial competitive quota is reached, the remaining allocation will be divided equally between Group A and Group B. Any excess quota caught from the initial allocation will be deducted from the total allocation remaining for both groups.

Fish harvesters from HFA 16E who have received their conditions of licence to participate in the summer fishery will not have access to the fall fishery.

Herring Fishing Area 16G

The total allocation of 2,072 t is available to the entire HFA 16G. Eligible licence holders have access to both the northern and southern portions of HFA 16G.

Herring Fishing Area 17

Access to HFA 17 (northern portion of 4Vn) will be subject to guidelines under the Maritimes Region herring management plan.

**Annex 1 – 2026 management measures of the fall herring fishery for fleets using gillnets**

Fishing Area	Monitoring ¹	Allocations ² (t)	Period	Net ³ (mesh size / depth / length)	Closures ⁴	Trip Limit
16A Île Verte	CMP - 100% DMP - Targeted rate of 100% Elog and hail out	79	July 1 - Dec. 29	63.5 mm min. / 125 mesh / 150 fathoms	None	One landing per day
16B Chaleurs Bay	NB: DMP - 100%, Logbook or Elog and hail out Quebec: CMP - 100%, DMP - Targeted rate of 100%	4,727	Aug 16 - Dec 31	66.7 mm min. / 125 mesh / 125 fathoms	Friday 13:00 to Sunday 19:00 and weekdays 13:00 to 19:00	One landing per day, daily limit of 10,206 kg (22,500 lbs)
Small seiners	DMP - Targeted rate of 100% Elog and hail out	141				
16 C&E Escuminac, Western PEI and northern GNS	DMP – 100% Logbook or Elog and hail out	2,282 Competitive fishery (342 t), remaining tonnage equally divided to Groups A and B	Aug 30 - Dec 31	66.7 mm min. / 125 mesh / 150 fathoms	Friday 11:00 to Sunday 19:00 and weekdays 11:00 to 19:00	Daily limit of 9,752 kg (21,500 lbs) or daily limit self-managed by industry (for Group A)
16D Magdalen Islands	CMP - 100% DMP – Targeted rate of 100% E-log and hail out	420	July 1 - Dec. 29	66.7 mm min./ 125 mesh / 150 fathoms	None	None
16F Pictou	DMP – 100% Logbook or Elog and hail out	2,072	To be determined	66.7 mm min. / 125 mesh / 100 fathoms	Friday 12:00 to Sunday 18:00 and weekdays 12:00 to 18:00	One landing per day, with daily limit self-managed by industry
16G Northside (see chart 1)	DMP – 100% Logbook or Elog and hail out	2,072	Sept 6 – Oct 9	66.7 mm min. / 100 mesh / 150 fathoms	15:00 Friday to 15:00 Sunday	Daily limit of 6,804 kg (15,000 lbs) or daily limit self-managed by industry
16G Southside						

1 – DMP - dockside monitoring program / CMP - catch monitoring program / E-log - electronic logbook.

2 – The allocations will be adjusted based on the summer fishery landings.

3 – Tagging of gillnets is required in all HFAs.

4 – Dates and times are based on Atlantic Daylight Time (ADT). No nets to remain in the water during the closures.

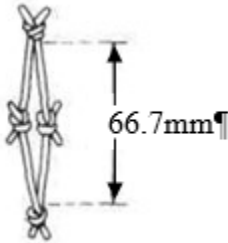


Annex 2

Mesh size measurement

Mesh size as applicable in the herring fishery is defined in the [Atlantic Fishery Regulations, 1985](#) as follow:

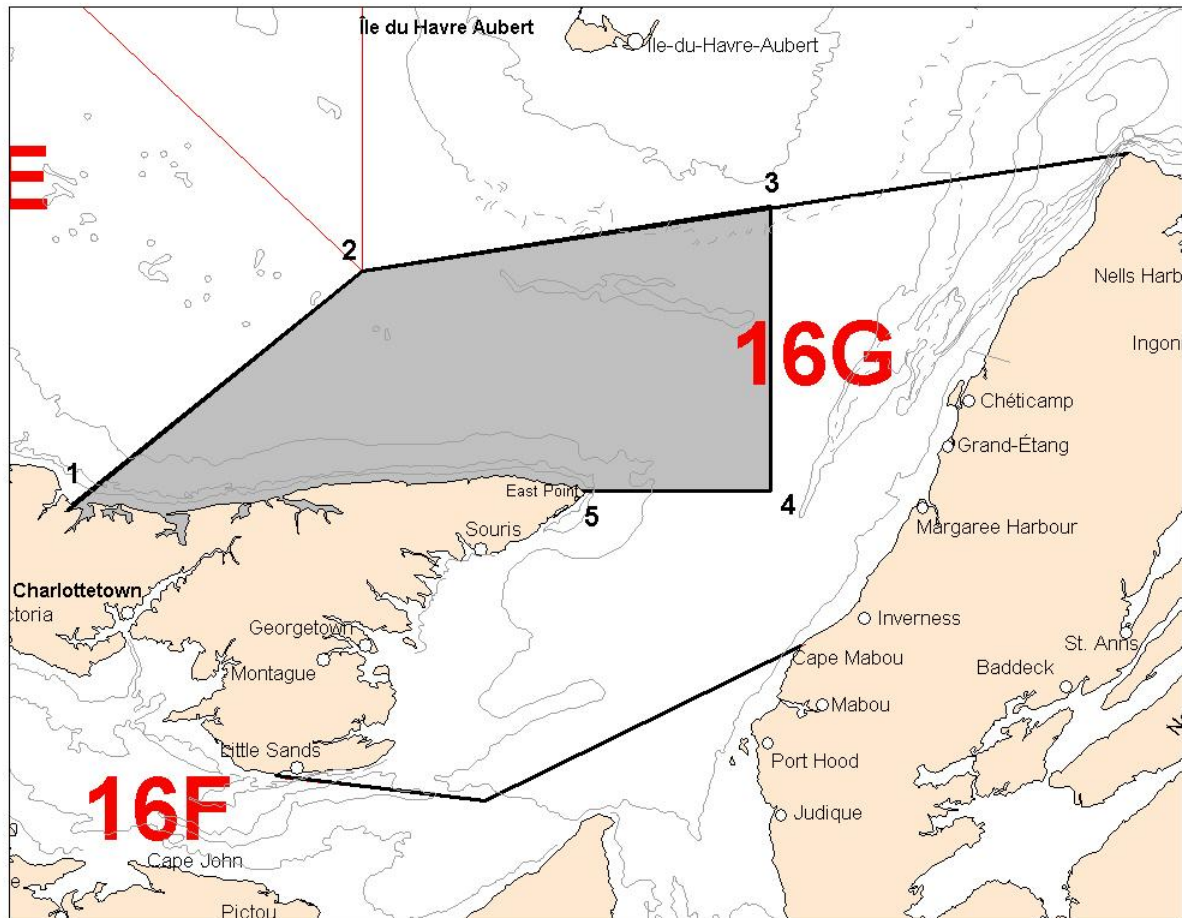
- *mesh size* means, in respect of netting, the total length of the twine measured along two contiguous sides of a single mesh, including the distance across the knot joining those sides but not including any other knots,
- *see diagram below*



Please note that the measurement is taken with the net pulled tight which would be harder to display in the diagram.



CHART 1

Northern part of HFA 16G

The Northern portion of HFA 16G defined as the waters enclosed by the coastline and rhumb lines (similar to straight lines drawn on a nautical chart) joining the following points in the order in which they are listed:

1. 46° 26' 00" N - 63° 15' 00" W
2. 46° 50' 00" N - 62° 32' 00" W
3. 46° 56' 42" N - 61° 30' 00" W
4. 46° 26' 55" N - 61° 30' 00" W
5. 46° 26' 55" N - 61° 58' 25" W (EAST POINT)

Note: When the geographic boundary of an area is expressed in latitude and longitude, these point references are based on the geodesic system North American Datum 1927 (NAD27). The positions are expressed in degrees, minutes and seconds.



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