

Notice to Fish Harvesters

July 5, 2016

EKME 3632929

LOBSTER CONSERVATION HARVESTING PLAN - LOBSTER FISHERY AREA (LFA) 25 - NEW MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR 2016 AND BEYOND

Moncton – The Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), Gulf Region, wishes to advise industry that the opening date for the lobster fishery in Lobster Fishing Area (LFA) 25 will be 6:00 a.m., August 9, 2016, weather permitting. The last day of fishing will be October 10, 2016. Unless indicated otherwise, existing management measures remain in place.

Minimum carapace size

As previously announced on May 20, 2016, the minimum lobster carapace size will be increased to:

- 73 mm in 2016;
- 75 mm in 2017; and
- 77 mm in 2018.

Height and Length of Escape Mechanisms

The escape mechanism is required to be adjusted according to the minimum legal carapace size (see table 1 and table 2). For LFA 25, the size of the escape mechanism in the licence conditions will remain unchanged through 2016 and 2017 (minimum of either 42 mm in height by 127 mm in length or 41 mm in height by 254 mm in length). The adjustment of the height of the escape opening can be made anytime between 2016 and 2018; however, for the 2018 fishing season, the licence conditions will identify the escape mechanism to be a minimum of either 44 mm in height by 127 mm in length or 43 mm in height by 254 mm in length.

Table 1: Escape mechanism

Length of escape opening between 127 mm and less than 254 mm	
Minimum carapace size	Height of escape opening
>71 mm to 73 mm	42 mm
>73 mm to 76 mm	43 mm
>76 mm	44 mm
Length of escape opening equal to or greater than 254 mm	
Minimum carapace size	Height of escape opening
>71 mm to 73 mm	41 mm
>73 mm to 76 mm	42 mm
>76 mm to 80 mm	43 mm
>80 mm	44 mm

Table 2: Major Management Measures in 2016

LFA	Minimum carapace(mm)	Window /maximum size females (mm)	Maximum number of traps	Minimum number of traps per line	Maximum hoop size (mm)
25	73	114	240 in PEI 250 in NB 225 in NS	n/a	152

Logbooks

Logbooks shall be submitted on a monthly basis, as was the case in 2015. Further logbook details will be available in your lobster licence conditions. The list of suppliers is available at the following Internet address: <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/sdc-cps/nir-nei/log-suppliers-eng.htm#gulf>

Before you go fishing

The Department has assembled a list of requirements and documents harvesters will need before they start fishing. This list is available at: <http://www.glf.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/Gulf/Before-start-fishing>

For information:

Sandra Comeau Resource Management, Eastern NB Fisheries and Oceans Canada Tracadie-Sheila, NB (506) 395-7765	Chris Mills Resource Management, PEI Fisheries and Oceans Canada Charlottetown, PEI (902) 566-7807
Alan Dwyer Resource Management, Gulf NS Fisheries and Oceans Canada Antigonish, NS (902) 735-7114	Josiane Massiera Resource Management, Moncton Fisheries and Oceans Canada Moncton, NB (506) 851-7290