

Notice to Fish Harvesters

February 19, 2018

EKME # 3881542

MINIMUM LOBSTER CARAPACE SIZE IN LOBSTER FISHING AREA 26A-1

Moncton - Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) announces that the minimum legal size of lobster carapace will be increased to 73 millimetres (mm) in Lobster Fishing Area (LFA) 26A-1 for the 2018 fishing season, with a further increase to 74 mm in 2020. The height of the escape mechanism will need to be adjusted according to the minimum legal size in 2020:

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

This decision was taken following discussions with industry and Indigenous organizations. Increasing the minimum legal size of carapace will have conservation benefits by allowing more females to produce eggs before being exposed to the fishery.

The opening date of the fishery and further details on other management measures will be issued at a later date.

FOR INFORMATION:

Josiane Massiéra
Resource Management
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Moncton, NB
(506) 851-7290

Ben Moore
Resource Management
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Charlottetown, PEI
(902) 566-7844

Alan Dwyer
Resource Management
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Antigonish, NS
(902) 735-7114