



Gulf Region

Notice to Fish Harvesters

EKME:4408672

2025 CONSERVATION AND HARVESTING PLAN FOR THE ROCK CRAB FISHERY IN LOBSTER FISHING AREA 24

Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island (PE) – June 19, 2025 – Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), Gulf Region is announcing the management measures for the rock crab fishery in Lobster Fishing Area (LFA 24) in 2025.

Fishing Season:

The fishing season in LFA 24 will open at 6:00 a.m. on June 30, 2025 and will remain open until October 26, 2025.

Management measures in place for the 2025 fishing season

Gear Marking: Gear marking is in place in this fishery. Details of these requirements can be found in your licence conditions and at the following Internet address:

<https://www.dfompo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/commercial-commerciale/atl-arc/colour-notice-avis-couleur-eng.html>

Management measures to minimize interactions with North Atlantic right whales:

The management measures to protect the right whales are available at the following Internet address: <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/commercial-commerciale/atl-arc/narw-bnan/management-gestion-eng.html>

Biodegradable Panels: The use of modified biodegradable mechanisms on all traps, including modified lobster traps, is mandatory. Please refer to your licence conditions for specifications on these biodegradable mechanisms.

Data entry: The licence holder is responsible to enter into an agreement with a Dockside Monitoring Company for data entry of catch and effort information; a condition to this effect is included in all licences.

Logbooks: Crab Logbooks/landing reports are mandatory and must be completed as stipulated in licence conditions.

Dockside Monitoring Program: All of the catch must be weighed in kilograms at one decimal point on an approved scale.

Number of traps:

Commercial licences - 150 traps.

First Nations communal commercial licences – 150 traps.

Catch limitation:

Commercial licences – 20,000 kg.

Communal commercial licences – 20,000 kg.

Minimum size: Only male rock crabs, with a minimum carapace width of 102 mm, may be retained.

DFO will continue to apply the exploitation principle that prioritizes the rock crab fishery as follows: by-catch in the lobster fishery, bait for the lobster fishery and then directed rock crab fishery.

For more information:

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