

Notice to Fish Harvesters

June 28, 2016

2016 TOAD/SPIDER CRAB FISHERY IN LOBSTER FISHING AREAS 24 AND 26A

Charlottetown – The Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), Gulf Region, wishes to advise the industry that the fishery for Toad/Spider Crab in Lobster Fishing Areas (LFA) 24 and 26A will open at 06:00 a.m. on July 5, 2016 and will close on September 24, 2016.

All other management measures remain as per the previous management plan and include, amongst others:

Fishing Gear: Fishing gear is limited to conical or pyramidal crab traps whose volume does not exceed 2.1 m³ (exterior measure). The traps must have a maximum, unobstructed mesh size of 40mm. All traps must be equipped with a biodegradable escape mechanism with an unobstructed horizontal opening of at least 125 mm.

NEW FOR 2016 - Maximum trap number is 50.

Fishing Restrictions

Fishing effort is restricted to water depths between 20 fathoms and 40 fathoms.

Only male crab measuring at least 60 mm in width may be retained.

Logbooks:

- Crab Fishing Logbooks are mandatory for all vessels. They must be completed daily before entering port and submitted to DFO as per instructions at the end of each season.
- Species At Risk Act Logbooks are mandatory for all vessels and must be submitted to the Department as per instructions at the end of each fishing season, including NIL reports.

Dockside Monitoring

Program: Dockside Monitoring Program (DMP) will apply at 100%.

Observer Coverage:

At-sea observer coverage is required at a minimum of 5%.

For more information:

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