

Notice to Fish Harvesters

MANAGEMENT OF ATLANTIC HALIBUT IN THE GULF OF ST. LAWRENCE

Ottawa, May 9, 2016:

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) today announced **the total allowable catch (TAC) of 1036.8t** for Atlantic halibut in the Gulf of St. Lawrence (Divisions 4RST) as established for May 15, 2015 **will remain in place for the 2016 season.**

As a result of the shares review, the sharing of the TAC going forward will follow the fleet sector shares as defined in 1988 and geographic fleet shares as established in 2007. In addition, 85% of the mobile gear fleets quotas will be re-distributed to the inshore fixed gear fleets and shared equally between the eight regional inshore fixed gear fleets currently involved in the directed Atlantic halibut fishery in 4RST until required for bycatch in other fisheries.

As a result, the **2016-2017 allocations per fleet** (calculated before quota reconciliation or carry-forward of previously uncaught quota when applicable) are as follows:

Fleet	Allocation (t)
Fixed Gear < 19.81 m	
Gulf New Brunswick	66.954
Gulf Nova Scotia	44.114
Gulf Prince Edward Island	40.138
Western Newfoundland	261.097
Quebec North Shore	89.144
Gaspé	347.832
Magdalen Islands	68.906
Scotia Fundy (4Vn Management Board)	41.367
Mobile Gear < 19.81 m	18.218
Fixed Gear 19.81 m – 30.48 m	35.552
Mobile Gear 19.81 m – 30.48 m	5.333
Vessels > 30.48 m	18.218

The management cycle for Atlantic halibut 4RST is from May 15 to May 14 of the following year, and is managed under a two-year period. The Department will continue to regularly collect data and monitor this stock on an annual basis, so it can detect any changes in stock status and take any necessary action.

For more information please contact:

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