

La Tabatière, May 17th, 2016

Dear Members of the Ministerial Advisory Panel:

Subject: Request in relation to the Last In, First Out policy in the Northern Shrimp

We are addressing the Ministerial Advisory Panel (MAP) to request that the Last In, First Out (LIFO) policy for the access in northern shrimp be abolished. The Lower North Shore Fishermen's Association (LNSFA) represents the fishers on the Lower North Shore of Quebec with this file. Our organization is also requesting that the sharing of the southern areas for northern shrimp, which includes SFA 6 should include the inshore fleets with fishers living in coastal communities with a strong attachment to the groundfish fishery. Fishers and coastal communities depending on marine resources with an historical attachment linked to the concerned fishing areas should be fully recognized as permanent participants.

Our region, the Lower North Shore, is located on the northeast coast of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. It extends from the Natashquan River to the west, to the Labrador border to the east. The Lower North Shore includes 16 communities. This total includes two Innu communities, eleven English communities and three French communities. One community (Aylmer Sound) has closed during the last decade and if the trend continues, we may see three more communities closed by the end of the next decade. A descriptive map of the region is included with this document.

Our region had approximately 580 groundfish fishers in 1984 and now we only have about 200 groundfish license holders in the entire fleet. Our region is practically isolated from the rest of Quebec with only one community (Kegaska) linked by road at its western extremity. Six communities are linked with the Labrador to the east, but nine communities remain completely isolated with only air travel and a weekly vessel (freight and passengers) to get in and out of the area. The Lower North Shore still depends very much on the fishery, not only for its development but also for its social and economic survival.

We have included copies of a few older groundfish licences which show our previous access to area 2J along the Labrador Coast and in 4T in the Southern Gulf. These two areas are no longer appearing on our fishers groundfish licences. However, we have some fishing history in 2J from the early 1980's until the early 1990's. When cod got scarce in the northern part of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, our fishers went fishing in the Black Tickle area and around Cartwright. This fishing effort took place through the decade before the moratorium on cod.

We were one of the hardest hit regions in the Gulf of St-Lawrence when the cod closed in 1993. Many families moved away between 1993 and 2000. With the closure of the fishplant in La Tabatière in 2010, we have lost a few more families. The Atlantic Groundfish Strategy (TAGS) did provide some temporary aid; however, the impact of this crisis was very deep and without any significant economic diversification, our region was left severely affected.

Without a road link in 2016, and having to deal with some of the highest costs for transportation and for fuel in Eastern Canada, the Lower North Shore is left facing a very difficult future. As of May 17th, 2016, the price of gas is \$1.43 per liter and \$1.28 per liter for fuel in La Tabatière. A regular return airfare from La Tabatière to Chevery is \$963.44 with Air Labrador (the only transporter in the region) with a distance under 80 kilometers only between these two Lower North Shore communities. Such prices put a lot of stress on our small communities and it encourages the exodus of our population and this is mainly caused by the absence of a road link. Without that link, the largest fish processing plant on the Lower North Shore (La Tabatière) also closed in 2010; the buyer could not compete with buyers operating plants linked to the road network. This closure had a very negative impact on the two communities of La Tabatière and Mutton Bay. These communities are trying to find a solution to open a smaller fishplant as well as other diversification initiatives.

We have tried to get the support from both levels of government, federal and provincial to build a road to link all communities and so far, we are basically left with the essential services. We are still without a road link for most of our region in 2016 and isolated from the province of Quebec to the west. In comparison, Southern and Central Labrador have moved 25 years ahead of us with the road link between L'Anse au Clair to the South, as far as Labrador City to the West. We are very pleased for them and we hope that one day both levels of government will see the benefit of also completing a road link along the North Shore of the Gulf of St-Lawrence, through the Lower North Shore region. We are convinced that such a road link around the Gulf would also be greatly beneficial for both provinces, Quebec and Newfoundland and Labrador.

The access to various marine resources in the North Atlantic is an important element for economic development in rural coastal communities. We are neighbours with the Labrador region and the Northern Peninsula. We also fish in the same waters as many fishers from Southern Labrador as well as fishers from the West Coast of Newfoundland. There is a respectful relationship between the Lower North Shore harvesters and the harvesters from Newfoundland and Labrador. However, DFO is now limiting access for our Lower North Shore fishers to the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Our traditional way of harvesting adult seals in the fall with a system of nets has also been taken away by DFO and even our landing history attached to this traditional harvesting system was also wiped out. The actual seal share is minimal for the Lower North Shore since only our historical landings with the spring seal hunt was recognized.

We have requested some shrimp off the Labrador Coast similar to what was granted to some other eligible inshore fleets. After seven years of continuous efforts and following an extraordinary increase of the shrimp quota in SFA 6 at 77,932 tons in 2003, we were finally granted a 1000 tons regional allocation to help restructure our fishing industry. Unfortunately, this was short lived as the quota was decreased in 2010, down to 61,632 tons and our allocation was completely taken away, not cut back by 20%, but 100% gone according to the (LIFO) policy. We have written many letters since to no avail as this policy was maintained and the TAC remains below 77,932 tons.

We understand that the adjacency principle is strongly promoted to claim access. We would like to reiterate to the Ministerial Advisory Panel on Northern Shrimp that the Lower North Shore had access and also have historical attachment in area 2J. Area 4S along the Lower North Shore is accessible to Newfoundland and Labrador harvesters for many ground fish species and also for seal.

We believe that all rural regions with their coastal communities are essential to preserve our Canadian culture, heritage and economy. The Lower North Shore's population includes several languages and cultures with Innu, English and French communities as well as metis people. Coastal communities in various provinces and regions are also important for the occupation of our vast

territory and each and every region should be provided a fair opportunity to access marine resources with which they have historical attachment.

We are bordering the Labrador region and we have fishing history along the Labrador Coast. Based on the fact that we have received Northern Shrimp for the same reason as many other fleets (downturn in cod), we feel that a small portion of shrimp off the Labrador Coast should also be available to us on a permanent basis. We share the same way of life, some of the same fishing grounds with some of these fleets and we hope that the sharing for this shrimp in SFA 6 will be more inclusive this time around. With all due respect to every participant, our fish harvesters feel that the Lower North Shore should have access, when access is granted to the Canadian offshore sector and to fleets from regions and provinces which are located far away from these shrimp fishing areas.

Therefore, we reiterate our request to have access on a proportional basis with our initial allocation. For example, if the TAC is at 77,932 tons, we would obtain 100% of our 1000 tons as applied in 2003, when at 38,966 tons, we should obtain 50% of our maximum allocation of 1000 tons. When checking the table on the various shrimp areas and access to various fleets on page seven of this document, you can observe that we are not claiming an unreasonable share.

Our organization's personnel will be available to answer any questions from the Ministerial Advisory Panel. We would have preferred to participate to the physical consultation, but due to high travelling costs and our limited budget for travel, we are sending this written request to describe our situation for access to northern shrimp. For any additional details, you may contact us by phone at the Lower North Shore Fishermen's Association head office, at (418) 773-2234 or by e-mail at lnsfa.sec2@globetrotter.net.

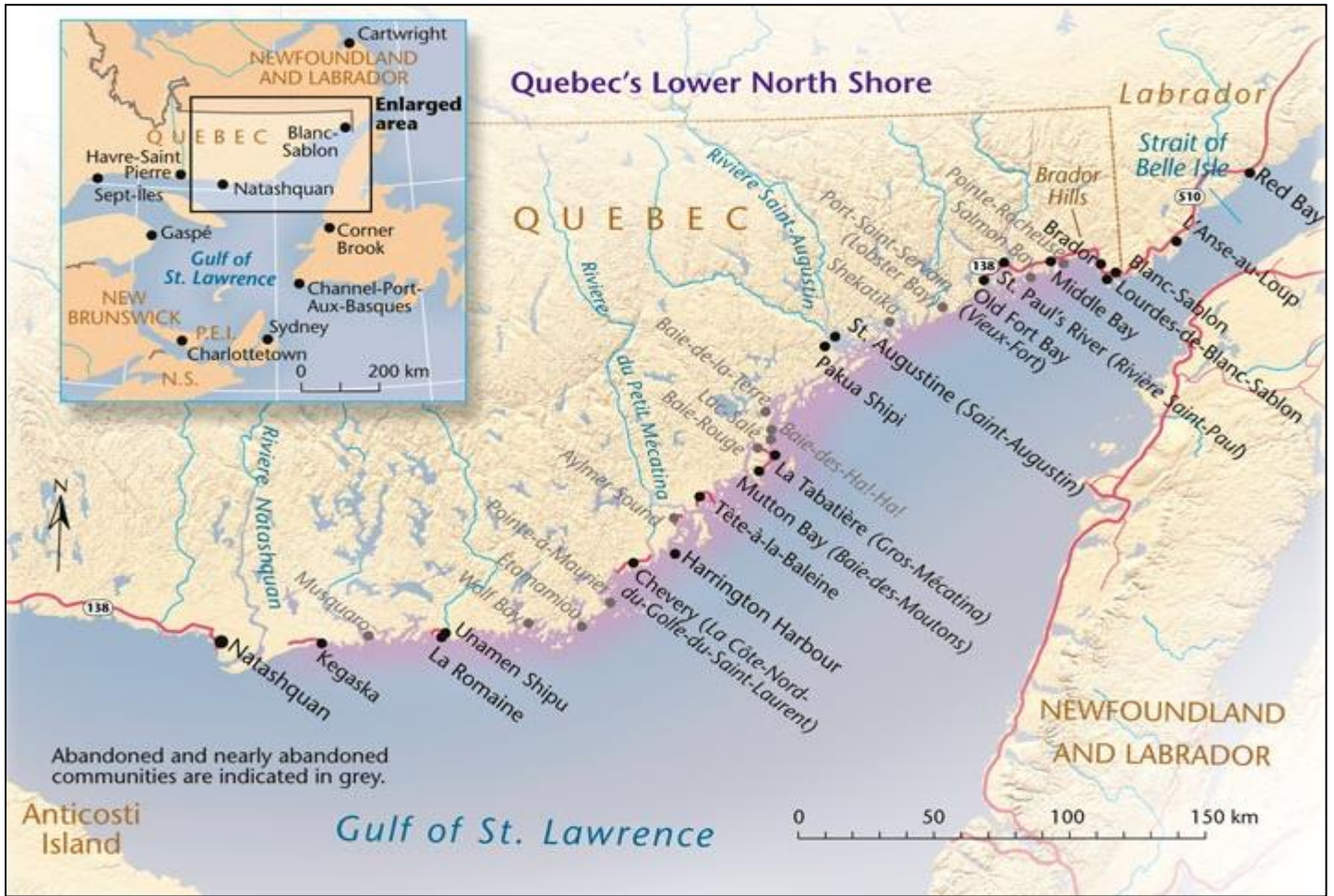
We thank you for giving serious consideration to our request to obtain a fair access to this resource.

Cordially yours,


for Glen Ransom, President

c.c. Honorable Hunter Tootoo, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Honorable Pierre Paradis, Ministre de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation du Québec

Map of the Lower North Shore of Quebec in the Northeast Gulf





1986

PERMIS DE PÊCHE COMMERCIALE
COMMERCIAL FISHING LICENCE

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|----------|--------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| DÉTENTEUR / HOLDER BOBBITT, RENE WAYNE | OPERATOR | DATE DE NAISSANCE / BIRTH DATE | SEC. AREA c | N.A.S. / S.I.N. | N.B.P.C. / C.A.V.N. 8360 | BATEAU / VESSEL POLLYANN 11 | L.H.T. / L.O.A. 49'11" | DATE D'ÉMISSION / ISSUANCE DATE 23/04/86 |
|---|----------|--------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|---|

| N° PERMIS / LICENCE NO. | ESPÈCES / SPECIES | AGRÉS / GEARS | QUANTITÉ / QUANTITY | ZONE | CONDITIONS |
|-------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------|--|
| 7 PAFM 207 | FISH FOR BAIT | GILL NET | 50 FMS | | AREAS 12-13-14-15-16. |
| 7 PFEF 8002 | GROUND FISH | LONGLINE / GILL NET | UNLIMITED | | OPANO 4RST 3Pn 2J |
| 7 P D 15 302 | SCALLOP | DRAG | | 15 | AUTHORIZED AREAS 15-16G SEE ATTACHED DOCUMENT: PARTICIPATION CLAUSE: 1000 POUNDS OF MEAT. |

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Wayne Bobbitt
SIGNATURE DU DÉTENTEUR/HOLDER SIGNATURE

DATE

BLANC: DÉTENTEUR

JAUNE ET ROSE: UNITÉ DES PERMIS

OR: SECTEUR

Canada



1990

PERMIS DE PÊCHE COMMERCIALE
COMMERCIAL FISHING LICENCE

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| DÉTENTEUR / HOLDER BOBBITT, WAYNE R | EXPLOITANT / OPERATOR | DATE DE NAISSANCE / BIRTH DATE | SEC. AREA C | N.P. F.I.N. | N.B.P.C. C.F.V.M. 17264 | BATEAU / VESSEL SR GILBERT | L.H.T. L.O.A. 40.06 | DATE D'ÉMISSION / ISSUANCE DATE 19-04-90 |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|---|

| N° PERMIS / LICENCE NO. | ESPECES / SPECIES | AGRES / GEARS | QUANTITE / QUANTITY | ZONE | CONDITIONS |
|-------------------------|-------------------|---|---------------------|------|--|
| 7 PFEF 8002 | GROUND FISH | LONGLINE / GILL NET VESSEL CLASS 2 PFO | UNLIMITED | | NAFO-OPANO 4RST 3Pr 2J |
| 7 PAFM 207 | FISH FOR BAIT | GILL NET | 50 FMS | 15 | |
| 7 CCA14 15 | CRAB INSHORE | STANDARD TRAP | 50 | 14 | CONDITION AND AUTHORIZED AREA, SEE ATTACHED DOCUMENT(S). TAGS: FROM 35701 TO 35800 c.b |

- ANY COMMERCIAL FISHING ACTIVITY IS PROHIBITED IN THAT PART OF THE SAGUENAY RIVER, QUEBEC LYING UPSTREAM OF A STRAIGHT LINE JOINING LATITUDE 48 DEGREE 07' 24" N., LONGITUDE 69 DEGREE 43' W. (POINTE NOIRE) TO LATITUDE 49 DEGREE 03' 06" N., LONGITUDE 69 DEGREE 42' 00" W. (POINTE ROUGE)

Port d'attache/Home port
SEPT-ÎLES

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DATE

BLANC: DÉTENTEUR
WHITE: HOLDER

JAUNE: SECTEUR
YELLOW: AREA

ROSE ET OR: UNITÉ DES PERMIS
PINK AND GOLD: LICENSING UNIT

Canada

PROFILE OF ACCESS TO NORTHERN SHRIMP 1996-2014 (tonnes)

| SFA | Fleet/Interest | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000-2001 | 2002 ³ | 2003 | 2004-2005 ⁴ | 2006-2007 ⁴ | 2008 | 2009 ⁵ | 2010 ⁵ | 2011 ⁵ | 2012 ⁵ | 2013 | 2014 |
|--------------|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|--------------|
| 0 | Offshore | 800 | 800 | 800 | 800 | 800 | 800 | 800 | 800 | 800 | 800 | 800 | 800 | 800 | 800 | 800 | 800 |
| 1 | Offshore | 8500 | 8500 | 7650 | 9350 | 9350 | 12040 | 12980 | 14246 | 14246 | 14246 | 14246 | 14246 | 14246 | 14246 | 14246 | 14246 |
| | Nunavut | | | | | | | 1000 | 3722 | 3722 | 3722 | 3722 | 3722 | 3722 | 3722 | 3722 | 3722 |
| | Makivik | | | | | | | 187 | 449 | 449 | 449 | 449 | 449 | 449 | 449 | 449 | 449 |
| Total | | 8500 | 8500 | 7650 | 9350 | 9350 | 12040 | 14167 | 18417 | 18417 | 18417 | 15583 | 15583 | 15583 | 12750 | 11333 | 11333 |
| 2 | Offshore | 3600 | 5250 | 5250 | 5250 | 5250 | 5250 | 5250 | 5250 | 5250 | 5250 | 5250 | 5250 | 5250 | 5250 | 5250 | 5250 |
| | Offshore Licence Holders (Expl. P. borealis E of 63°W) | | | | 1750 | 1750 | 1750 | 1750 | 1750 | 1750 | 1750 | 1750 | 1750 | 1750 | 1750 | 1750 | 1750 |
| | Nunavut (Expl. E of 63°W) | | | | 1750 | 1750 | 1750 | 1750 | 1750 | 1750 | 1750 | 1750 | 1750 | 1750 | 1750 | 1750 | 1750 |
| | Nunavut (Exploratory P. montagu inside NSA) | | | | | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 | 2000 |
| | DS West Offshore | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Davis Strait west Montagu Bycatch | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1100 | |
| | Davis Strait east offshore (expl Borealis E of 63°W) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1750 |
| | DS East Nunavut (Expl E of 63°W) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1750 |
| | NU - E Montagu | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 805 |
| | NK - E Montagu | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 345 |
| | NU - E Borealis | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 200 |
| | NK - E Borealis | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 50 |
| Total | | 3500 | 5250 | 5250 | 8750 | 8750 | 10750 | 10750 | 10750 | 10750 | 10750 | 10750 | 10750 | 10750 | 10750 | 11250 | 11250 |
| 3 | Holders (Pandalus montagu in SFAs 2/3/4 West of 63°W) | 1200 | 1200 | 1200 | 1200 | 1200 | 1200 | 3300 | 3300 | 3300 | 3300 | 3300 | 3300 | 3300 | 3300 | 3300 | 3300 |
| | Nunavut (Exploratory P. montagu inside the NSA) | | | | | | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |
| | Pandalus borealis (bycatch) ⁶ | | | | | | | | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 |
| | NU - W Borealis | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 750 |
| | NK - W Montagu | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 750 |
| Total | | 1200 | 1200 | 1200 | 1200 | 1200 | 2200 | 4300 | 4300 | 4700 | 4700 | 4700 | 4700 | 4700 | 4700 | 6500 | 6500 |
| 4 | Offshore | 5200 | 5200 | 8008 | 8008 | 8008 | 8008 | 8008 | 8008 | 8908 | 8908 | 8908 | 8908 | 8908 | 8908 | 10166 | 10394 |
| | Inshore | | | 312 | 312 | 312 | 312 | 437 | 437 | 537 | 537 | 537 | 537 | 537 | 677 | 702 | 702 |
| | Innu | | | | | | | 750 | 750 | 750 | 750 | 750 | 750 | 750 | 750 | 750 | 750 |
| | Offshore competitive ⁷ | | | | | | | 1125 | 1125 | 1125 | 1125 | 1125 | 1125 | 1125 | 1125 | 1125 | 1125 |
| | Nunatsiavut Government | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 300 | 300 | 300 |
| | NSRF | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1700 | 1700 |
| Total | | 5200 | 5200 | 8320 | 8320 | 8320 | 8320 | 10320 | 10320 | 11320 | 11320 | 11320 | 11320 | 11320 | 13018 | 14971 | 14971 |
| 5 | Offshore | 7650 | 7650 | 7650 | 7650 | 7650 | 7650 | 7650 | 7650 | 7650 | 7650 | 7650 | 7650 | 7650 | 7650 | 7650 | 7650 |
| | Northern Coalition | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Innu | | | 510 | 510 | 510 | 510 | 510 | 510 | 510 | 510 | 510 | 510 | 510 | 510 | 510 | 510 |
| | LIA | | | 510 | 510 | 510 | 510 | 510 | 1260 | 1260 | 1260 | 1260 | 1260 | 1260 | 1260 | 1260 | 1260 |
| | Cartwright | | | 510 | 510 | 510 | 510 | 710 | 710 | 710 | 710 | 710 | 710 | 710 | 710 | 710 | 710 |
| | LMN | | | | | | | 750 | 750 | 750 | 750 | 750 | 750 | 750 | 750 | 750 | 750 |
| | Inshore Aff. Cod/Crab Fishers (Cartwright to L'Anse au Claire) | | | | | | | 3400 | 3400 | 3400 | 3400 | 3400 | 3400 | 3400 | 3400 | 3400 | 3400 |
| | Inshore Aff. Cod/Crab Fishers (Northern Peninsula) | | | | | | | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 |
| | Offshore competitive ⁷ | | | | | | | 2500 | 2500 | 2500 | 2500 | 2500 | 2500 | 2500 | 2500 | 2500 | 2500 |
| Total | | 7650 | 15300 | 15300 | 15300 | 15300 | 15300 | 23300 | 23300 | 23300 | 23300 | 23300 | 23300 | 23300 | 23300 | 23300 | 20970 |
| 6 | Offshore | 11050 | 11050 | 13360 | 14603 | 14603 | 14603 | 15833 | 15833 | 15833 | 16612 | 16612 | 14603 | 13926 | 14603 | 14603 | 14603 |
| | SABRI | | 3000 | 3000 | 3000 | 3000 | 3000 | 3000 | 3000 | 3000 | 3000 | 3000 | 3000 | 3000 | 3000 | 3000 | 3000 |
| | Innu | | | | | 1500 | 1500 | 1500 | 1500 | 1500 | 1500 | 1500 | 1500 | 0 | 807 | 807 | 807 |
| | Fogo Island Co-op | | | | | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 0 | 542 | 542 | 542 |
| | Inshore | | 9050 | 29940 | 41029 | 41529 | 41529 | 52599 | 52599 | 52599 | 59613 | 59613 | 41529 | 35459 | 41293 | 41293 | 41293 |
| | Inshore aff. Cod fishers (N peninsula North 50-30) | | | | | | | 3000 | 3000 | 3000 | 3000 | 3000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Inshore affected Cod fishers (LNS North 50-30) | | | | | | | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | | 11050 | 23100 | 46200 | 58632 | 61632 | 61632 | 77932 | 77932 | 77932 | 85725 | 85725 | 61632 | 52387 | 60245 | 60245 | 48196 |
| 7 | NAFO Reg Area ⁸ | | | | | 1000 | 1000 | 2167 | 2167 | 3675 | 4176 | 5010 | 5010 | 3206 | 2004 | 1438 | 718 |
| | Offshore | | | | | 1000 | 1000 | 2017 | 2017 | 3778 | 4365 | 5344 | 5344 | 3230 | 1872 | 1377 | 716 |
| | PEI Consortium | | | | | 1500 | 1500 | 1500 | 1500 | 1500 | 1500 | 1500 | 1500 | 1500 | 1500 | 1500 | 1075 |
| | Inshore | | | | | 2500 | 2500 | 6566 | 6566 | 12287 | 14209 | 17396 | 17396 | 10614 | 5985 | 4007 | 1791 |
| | Miawpukek FN | | | | | | | 750 | 750 | 750 | 750 | 750 | 750 | 750 | 643 | 278 | 0 |
| Total | | 37600 | 59050 | 84420 | 102052 | 110052 | 115742 | 152102 | 156352 | 164244 | 175536 | 176868 | 152775 | 134534 | 135263 | 135261 | 99552 |

- 1 - NRA allocation is not included in total TAC
- 2 - 1996 TACs represent "threshold levels" above which "temporary" access is provided
- 3 - 2002 increase because NAFO quota in 2001 for SFA 1 was not taken. NAFO quota was increased from 65,000 to 85,000 in 2001 and Canada takes 17% of the offshore portion (5/6).
- 4 - In SFA 3, a catch limit of 3,800 t was in place from 2000 to 2002 pending further scientific assessment of the resource in this area. The official quota was set at 1,200 t. For SFAs 2 to 6 the season is Apr. 1 to Mar 31; for SFAs 0, 1 and 7 the season is Jan 1 to Dec 31.
- 5 - Includes 7,492t increase in 3L.
- 6 - The quota of 400t is for bycatch of *P. borealis* while directing *P. montagu*.
- 7 - Prior to 2007, this was a scientific quota
- 8 - In SFA 1, individual quotas remain the same with the caveat that once TAC reached, fishery is closed.