

Fisheries Forum 2012

Our Past, Present and Future



Fisheries Forum

February 29—March 1, 2012

What happened?

Nina Mitchelmore presented research results from the fisheries survey completed in the Fall of 2011. As a part of this presentation, a number of key issues were identified by one of three sectors (large boats > 40 ft, small boats <40ft, and processing).

The second part of the session focused on stable discussions of identified issues. Participants were assigned to tables based

on the three sectors identified above. The first discussion cycle allowed participants to make additions to the issues identified from survey results. presented. The participants then ranked these issues based on what they felt was most important to the sustainability of the fishery using voter keypads. This was completed for

each sector.

The participants identified and ranked identified solutions to the top issue in their sector. The final task was to identified key actions to the top solution. The actions were also prioritized.

The following outlines the results of the session.

The Fisheries Research Project was a partnership between Memorial University of Newfoundland, the St. Anthony—Port au Choix Regional Council, Fisheries Steering Committee, and the Rural Secretariat.

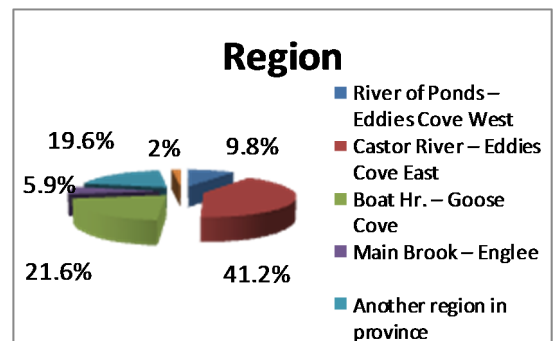
For more information on the results of this session, please contact Nina Mitchelmore at (709) 457-2530 or

ninamitchelmore@gov.nl.ca

Who was in the room?

Approximately 50 participants represented all sub regions of the St. Anthony—Port au Choix region and all sectors in the fishery as shown below.

The majority of people in the room had been involved in the fishery for over 21 years. This demonstrated a significant amount of experience of the people attending



Inside this issue:

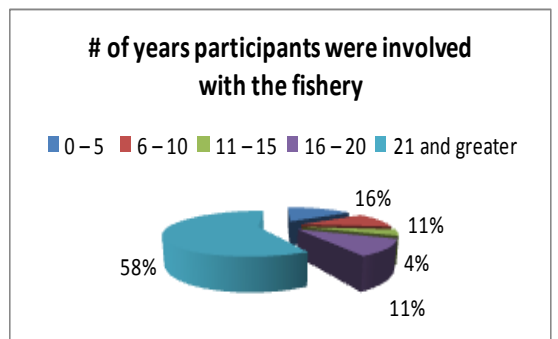
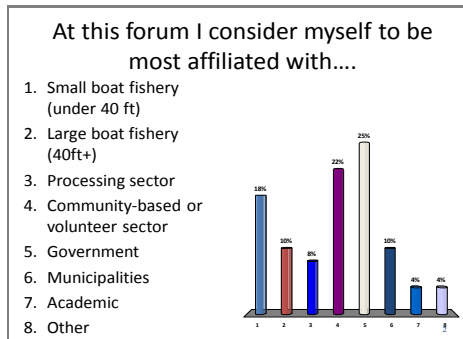
What happened? 1

Who was in the room? 1

Large Boat Harvesting 2

Small boat Harvesting 3

Processing 4



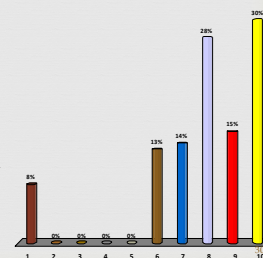
Large Boat Harvesting (Boats >40ft) - Issues



There were a number of issues identified in the large boat sector as outlined in the list provided in the chart. When voted upon, the top issue that emerged was “too much control from government and corporate interests” followed closely by “too much pressure on stock from enterprises and factory freezers”. The next section outlines some solutions to the top issue.

What issues are necessary to address for the large boat fishery to be sustainable? (choose 3)

1. Too much debt
2. Weak enforcement
3. Catching too many mature fish
4. Over-monitoring
5. Poor fish price
6. High cost of fishing
7. Quota size and distribution and transferability
8. Too much pressure on stock from enterprises and factory freezers
9. Lack of funding and support from financial institutions
10. Too much control from gov't and corporate interests



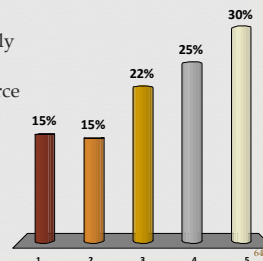
“Consult with the harvesting sector when decisions are being made”
Large Boat table discussion

Large Boat Harvesting (Boats >40ft) - Solutions

A number of solutions were identified to address the issue “too much control from government and corporate interests” . The top solution was “Co-op multi-species plants” followed by “giving resource control to individual sectors”. The next section outlines some actions to address the top solution.

What solutions will help solve the issue: Too much control from Gov't and corporate interest (3)

1. Seafood product to be required to be processed in the province
2. Needs to be easier financially to purchase enterprises
3. Joint management of resource (between participants, DFO and Province)
4. Give resource control to individual sectors (harvest, processing and marketing)
5. Co-op multi-species plants



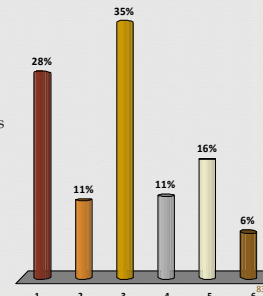
Large Boat Harvesting (Boats >40ft) - Actions



There were six actions identified to address the solution “attain co-op multi-species plants” . The top action was “gain access to processing licenses” followed by “NGOs to partner with existing plants”.

What actions will help attain co-op multi species plants for large boat fishery? (3)

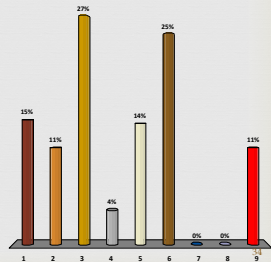
1. NGOs to partner with existing plants
2. Create/ follow co-op principles
3. Access to processing licenses
4. Engage individuals in process
5. Get all fishermen to agree to sell to a co-op
6. Research and develop grow out (aquaculture) opportunities.



Small Boat Harvesting (Boats <40ft) - Issues

What issues are necessary to address for the small boat fishery to be sustainable? (3)

1. Total allowable quotas
2. Lack of multi-species processing plants
3. Inadequate access to resources
4. No value addition or marketing (shipment of raw product)
5. Over-regulation
6. Low prices
7. Inappropriate season times for species
8. Too much dumping of by catch
9. Inadequate sharing arrangements



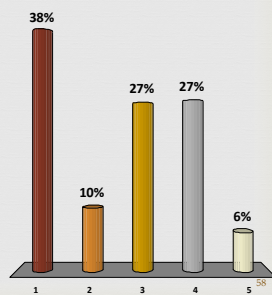
There were a number of issues identified in the small boat sector as outlined in the list provided in the chart. When voted on, the top issue that emerged was “inadequate access to resources” followed closely by “low prices”. The next section outlines some solutions to the top issue.



Small Boat Harvesting (Boats <40ft) - Solutions

What solutions will help solve the issue: inadequate access to resource (3)

1. Increase access to quotas
2. Engaging a higher percentage of fishers in research
3. More flexibility of boundaries (species and landings)
4. Manage on-shore capacity to increase landings (multi-species and co-op models)
5. Review best practices for community allocation



A number of solutions were identified to address the issue “inadequate access to resources”. The top solution was “increase access to quotas” followed by “more flexibility of boundaries” and “manage on-shore capacity to increase landings”. The next section outlines some actions to address the top solution.

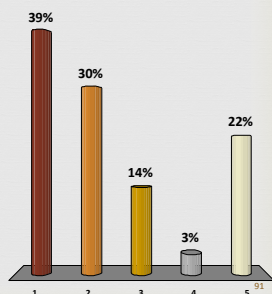
“Review best practices for community allocations”

Small Boat table discussion

Small Boat Harvesting (Boats <40ft) - Actions

What actions will help increase access to quotas for the small boat fishery?(3)

1. Explore possibility of co-op and quota allocation via co-ops.
2. Plan species allocations locally
3. Build trust relationships and communications
4. Increase union representation on Northern Peninsula
5. Lobby Government



There were five actions identified to address the solution “increase access to quotas”. The top action was “explore possibility of co-op and quota allocation via co-ops” followed by “plan species allocations locally”.

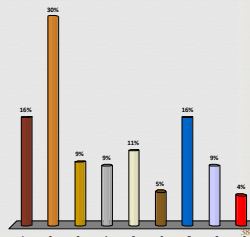


Processing—Issues

There were a number of issues identified in the processing sector as outlined in the list provided in the chart. When voted on, the top issue that emerged was “no pension and benefits” followed by “low wages” and “lack of multi-species plant processing”. The next section outlines some solutions to the top issue.

What processing issues are necessary to address for the fishery to be sustainable?(3)

1. Low wages
2. No pension and benefits
3. No job alternatives
4. Secondary processing of shells/ waste
5. Labour shortage at peak times
6. No consistency of work hours
7. Lack of multi-species plant processing
8. Shrimp caught in Gulf should be processed in Gulf
9. Boat scheduling

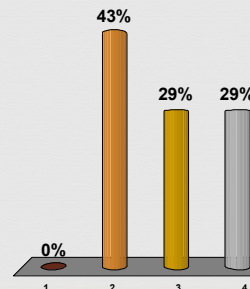


Processing—Solutions

A number of solutions were identified to address the issue “no pension and benefits”. The top solution was “plants need multi-species and secondary processing” followed by “extend work weeks by freezing at sea and processing on land” and province wide pension and benefit plan for seasonal workers”. The next section outlines some actions to address the top solution.

Solutions you’ve identified for the processing sector:

1. Need recruitment and retention plan
2. Plants need multi-species and secondary processing
3. Extend work weeks by freezing at sea and processing on land
4. Province wide pension and benefit plan for seasonal workers



**“Promote the quality”
Processing table discussion**

Processing—Actions

There were five actions identified to address the solution “plants need multi-species and secondary processing”. The top actions were “research and development into secondary processing products” and “find/ create markets before multi-species/secondary processing is viable”.

What actions will help attain multi-species and secondary processing plants for the processing sector?(3)

1. Research and development into secondary processing products.
2. Follow existing regulations for quality raw materials
3. Seek support from province in the form of dollars for marketing
4. Promote the quality
5. Find/ create markets before multi-species/ secondary processing is viable

