

Consultation Summary and Record of Recommendations for 2020/21 Total Allowable Catches of Northern and Striped Shrimp in the Eastern Assessment Zone and Western Assessment Zone

The Department held an Indigenous Pre-Meeting of the Northern Shrimp Advisory Committee (NSAC) on March 4, 2020 with Indigenous Groups. It was well attended, with several groups having direct interests in the Eastern and Western Assessment Zones (EAZ and WAZ).

Participants included:

1. Nunavik Marine Region Wildlife Board
2. Nunavut Wildlife Management Board
3. Nunavut Fishery Association (NFA)
4. Torngat Fish Producers Co-Op
5. Qikiqtaaluk Corporation (QC)
6. Northern Coalition (NC)
7. NunatuKavut Community Council
8. Innu Nation
9. Torngat Joint Fisheries Board (TJFB)
10. Nunatsiavut Government (NG)
11. Baffin Fisheries Coalition

In addition to the above Indigenous groups, Makivik Corporation, Cumberland Sound / Pangnirtung Fisheries, Arctic Fisheries Alliance and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated received invitations to attend.

At the Indigenous Pre-Meeting, the Department gave an overview of updated stock assessment results and management options as outlined in an Addendum to the Boards for the WAZ and the EAZ, noting that the views of the offshore fleet and other stakeholders would be solicited at the NSAC meeting the following day for the EAZ. The Department invited participants to provide their views on Total Allowable Catches (TACs) in both areas, with a reminder that the Nunavut and Nunavik Boards have a decision making role in WAZ, and a decision and advice role in the EAZ.

The Department encouraged Nunavut and Nunavik industry to make their views on TACs known to their respective Board, especially in the WAZ, which would not be discussed the following day at NSAC. The NFA recommended a rollover of the 15% exploitation rate (ER) from last year for both species in the WAZ. Indigenous groups generally held the view that their quotas should not be subject to allocation reductions in the south based on the Government of Canada's reconciliation agenda and their adjacency to the resource.

The NSAC meeting (March 5, 2020) was attended by the above mentioned groups, as well as provincial governments from Atlantic Canada and Quebec, representatives for the offshore and inshore fleets, licence holders, processors, individual harvesters and fleet chairs. Makivik Corporation was represented by proxy through Newfoundland Resources Ltd (NRL). The Department asked for stakeholder recommendations for TACs for both species in the EAZ. Illustrated scenarios for TACs in the EAZ did not include the use of a two-year averaging approach.

Stakeholder views for the EAZ:

NSAC recommended that TACs in southern areas be based on a two-year averaging of the Spawning Stock Biomass and Fishable Biomass. It was also recommended that this approach be applied to the EAZ for consistency.

NFA supported using a two-year averaging in the EAZ.

P. borealis

- CAPP and the NC supported applying a 15% exploitation rate (ER) based on a two-year average of Fishable Biomass.
- This would result in TAC of 10,652 t TAC, an increase of 24% from last year. This was considered reasonable given the significant increase in Fishable Biomass in 2019.
- Torngat Fisheries Management Board recommended a 15% TAC increase and that any increase be awarded to the NG.

Allocations :

CAPP advocated for a reinstatement of offshore allocations at a minimum. The NG called for access to the EAZ on the basis of adjacency and interpretation of their land claim.

The NG and the Innu Nation recommended that increases in the EAZ Borealis should be directed towards the Northern Shrimp Research Foundation (NSRF) Use of Fish quota that funds science surveys in SFA 4 and the EAZ in order to offset declines in SFA 4. The 1,700t NSRF quota allocated from SFA 4 since 2013 was reduced to 1,500t last year, and it is reasonable for some of this allocation to come from the EAZ.

P. montagui

- **CAPP, the Northern Coalition, Makivik Corporation, NRL and NFA called for a rollover of 840t TAC (9.9% ER).**

Prepared by: Fisheries Resource Management, Fisheries and Oceans Canada

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