

April 22nd 2010**To Whom It May Concern:**

Yarmouth County Fixed Gear Association appreciates the opportunity to present this document to the F.R.C.C. (Unfortunately because of work commitments we could not present this personally.)

Yarmouth County Fixed Gear believes the scientific information being used to formulate quotas is wrong. This is not a reflection on the biologist themselves but the information gathered and the input that is used to develop the numbers is wrong.

It seems as though the quota recommendations for a particular year appear to be 2-4 years behind what is actively showing in the fishery. One example is the 4X Cod. For the past 18-24 months Fixed Gear boats have been seeing a recovery in the fishery. The availability of cod and the ease of catching cod is improving. In the wake of this, D.F.O cuts cod in 4X by 40 percent in 2009. This cut and approach does NOT reflect what is happening in the fishery.

The Cusk problem is another one of these misguided approaches. Cusk levels which are being seen in the fishery are substantially enough, that it does not need to be listed on any endangered list. This species needs to be taken off any list and let's start over and get it right.

Because of the low quotas applied to today's fishery, groups must be allowed to trade more freely between sectors. There must be checks and balances to make sure one sector does not dominate the other. D.F.O could and should provide a role of overseers.

There are many more problems in the fishery such as feed, seals, price for product, etc.

Thank You,
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