

Rencontre East
Fortune Bay, NL
MAR 31/06.

2006-010-0036

To whom it may concern;

With the lobster fishing season just two weeks away, I have come to opinions as a stakeholder. With regards to your letter address to me Feb 28 06, I have come to some conclusions. Being a lobster fisherman for 32 years I have seen the highs and lows.

Right now in my community there isn't much else left. Our livelihood depend on it. Without it our town would suffer greatly. That's why I have to voice or write my views on this matter. I'm hoping there can be some light shed on this issue.

First of all; the usage of gillnets during the early fall fishing season should be band. Later calendar dates would be expected.

Especially eggs bearing females which are caught. Their eggs scrub from the tail while being released. This reduces the chances of reproduction.

Other lobster's are vulnerable as well. Drowning occurs in a rapid pace. Once caught in twine there's no way they can survive.

Poaching; another major concern. More enforcement from D.F.O. Stiffer fines once caught or even jail terms.

More scientific monitoring. V- nothing introduced to a greater scale. Probably even a T.A.C. per fisher. And most of all; a shorter season. 2 wks of the season would in my opinion over a five year period would increase catches.