

Netawek Ikkikum

Voice of the Ocean

Quarterly Newsletter of the Maritime Aboriginal Aquatic Resources Secretariate

Vol. 3 Issue 3, December 2007

Try, Try Again – New Bill to Modernize the Fisheries Act

By MAARS Team Member Amanda Facey

One year ago the government tabled a modernized Fisheries Act known as Bill C-45. Since then, Fisheries and Oceans Canada has engaged stakeholders, including the Maritime Aboriginal Peoples Council, to discuss the bill.

On September 14, 2007 the first session of this Parliament ended, closing any further consideration of Bill C-45. On November 29, Fisheries and Oceans Minister Loyola Hearn tabled a new bill (Bill C-32) to modernize the 139 year old Fisheries Act.

Bill C-32 includes the principles of transparency and environmental protection contained in C-45, but various key changes based on feedback from stakeholders have been added. The new bill incorporates four strategic changes:

- affirms that the fisheries are a common property resource of all Canadians;
- requires the Minister to first take into account conservation licensing and allocation decisions and then all other important considerations;
- removes the authority to assign a quota of fish to fund activities within a Fisheries Management Agreement; and
- removes language that cast doubt over the issue regarding license transfers by removing wording that cast doubt on continuing the current practice.

Canadians will have the opportunity to express their views when Bill C-32 is sent to the Standing Committee of Fisheries and Oceans after Second Reading, where C-32 will be considered by Parliament.

MAPC will be closely involved in this new attempt to modernize the Fisheries Act, as it was with Bill C-45.

Eastern Scotian Shelf Integrated Management (ESSIM) Update

By MAARS Team Member Franz Kesick

The ESSIM Stakeholder Advisory Council (SAC) convened a meeting on October 16, 2007, at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography to meet with the newly designated Deputy Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Michelle d'Auray. Regional Director General, Faith Scattolon, accompanied Ms. d'Auray with other senior Scotia-Fundy Maritimes DFO officials. Ms. d'Auray congratulated the SAC on the work that has been achieved so far on the draft ESSIM Plan. SAC raised with Ms. d'Auray frustration and concern that the Draft ESSIM plan had not yet been signed by the Minister and was also now subject to controversy as to boundary application, as that raised by the provincial government of Newfoundland. Ms. d'Auray agreed to bring the SAC issues and concerns to the attention of the Minister



Roger Hunka, MAARS Director, Michelle d'Auray, Deputy Minister, Faith Scattolon, Regional Director, and Eugene O'Leary, President of the Guysborough County Inshore Fishermen's Association

An early action plan proposed under the ESSIM process is a Spatial Conservation Action Plan. On November 14, ESSIM organized a workshop led by a core working group on spatial conservation. The workshop was held in Seaforth, Nova Scotia, to obtain feedback on information analysis and findings to date, and on how to move forward.

Using feedback gathered at the workshop, the core team will revise the inventories and gap analysis. The next step is to identify which of these gaps are most urgent and what options exist to begin filling them. A second workshop will be held in the coming months to develop recommendations for conservation measures on a priority basis. These recommendations will then be forwarded to the ESSIM council.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)—Tidal Power

By MAARS Team Member Franz Kesick

The SEA is an environmental assessment process carried out before decisions are made on specific projects. It involves the participation of a wide range of stakeholders and the general public, and will result in recommendations to the provincial government on whether, where, and how to develop tidal energy in the Bay of Fundy.

The Stakeholders Roundtable is a key process in the SEA as it allows identification, discussion, and consideration of issues affecting all participants and communities that will be involved with renewable energy, and especially tidal energy in the Bay of Fundy. The Stakeholders Roundtable acts in an advisory role to the Technical Advisory Group (TAG), which will complete a final report for the Nova Scotia Minister of Energy.

The first meeting, on October 15, 2007, allowed the participants to review the purpose of the Stakeholders Roundtable and its goals. The Terms of Reference were discussed and revisions made. The SEA process will not replace specific assessments for each project when development begins.

The second meeting, on November 19, 2007, provided for more in-depth discussions in regards to the processes and the Roundtable participation. Jacques Whitford Environmental Consultants were contracted to write an Environmental and Socio-economic Impact Assessment Report, which was scheduled to be released at the end of November. This report will look at the environmental effects of a variety of devices and renewable technologies, as well as possible development scenarios and the possible interactions with the environment. Discussions also took place in regards to principles that should guide decisions about pilot projects, technologies, locations, etc.

Who, What, Where, When, Why and Weeds

By MAARS Team Member Amanda Facey

Roger Hunka, Franz Kesick, Amanda Facey and Joshua McNeely attended a workshop entitled “Atlantic Environment and Invasive Plants: Who, What, Where, When, Why and Weeds”. The workshop was held at AgriTECH Park in Bible Hill, Nova Scotia, on September 26 and 27.

Participants from all over Atlantic Canada attended to discuss the current situation regarding invasive plants in Atlantic Canada and explore possibilities and opportunities for moving forward collaboratively on management of invasive plants. Presentations were also given by guests from British Columbia and New England on collaborative approaches used in those areas.

Facilitated discussions on various topics included reasons to collaborate, key areas that are of interest for collaboration, how to collaborate, geographical considerations and process on how to move forward. It was hoped that the result of these sessions would be the development of an action plan on moving forward on key topics raised during the workshop.

Outcomes of the workshop were the establishment of a framework for provincial collaboration and provincial priorities as well as the creation of an Atlantic regional network.

The purpose of the provincial network is to create provincial working groups, increase invasive alien species awareness, identify key players, and provide public education. The purpose of the regional network is to compliment the work at the provincial level and to help link the provincial networks to national and global issues. The regional network will create awareness of other projects, define criteria to list plants as invasive and share information, concepts, successes, and lessons learned across the Atlantic Provinces.



WHERE TO BEGIN? HOW ABOUT IN MY COMMUNITY

By MAARS Team Member Tim Hainer

Environmental degradation is such a large and intangible term that many local community members do not know where to begin when it comes to combating its causes and effects. It is easy for large scale problems to overshadow local small scale efforts and solutions. However, what often gets forgotten and overlooked is that the small scale solutions really do tackle, in a direct and meaningful manner, the large scale problems of today. In fact, if the solutions do not arise from the community level first, large scale efforts will almost surely fail.

Sharon Ross-MacAusland, Zone 1 Member of the Native Council of Prince Edward Island, provides a practical example of local efforts that can be easily initiated by communities. On September 15, 2007, Sharon participated in a community beach cleanup effort organized by the Borden-Carleton Community Association and sponsored by the TD Bank. Eighteen local Borden-Carleton community members took four hours out of their day to clean up the beach area between the Borden-Carleton Fish Plant and the wharf.

When asked about the experience, Sharon said it was “amazing what people will throw out”. Rusted pipes, Styrofoam, marbles, tires, concrete, rebar, insulators, pop bottles and a burnt shed were among some of the items found.

As well as helping to clean up the beach, the volunteers also received a commitment from local fishermen to have a beached vessel and some other large appliances removed. Plans are underway to host more of these beach cleanups in the future.

Care, respect, and dignity. These words are the solutions found by Sharon and her community association. Even when applied to local community situations, these words are more powerful than any local, regional, national, or international government sponsored program. This is as I know it to be. Welalin



FISHING GEAR AND THE ENVIRONMENT

By MAARS Director Roger Hunka

On October 12 and 13, 2007, the Ecology Action Centre, Living Oceans Society, and Marine Conservation Biology Institute organized and convened an “experts workshop” on “How we Fish in Canada: Ecological Impact Analysis of Canadian Fishing Gears” in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia.

The workshop of more than thirty participants comprised a diverse range of experts from across Canada. Participants brought to the workshop specific interests, experiences, and knowledge. This ranged from the knowledge of academic professors, scientists, trawler operators, seiners, lobster fishers, hand line fresh select niche fishers, and the experiences of those involved for many years in various fisheries, and fishery related professions and vocations.

The two day workshop reviewed an extensively researched and compiled document, which included an extensive bibliography of research on the subject and a unique chart of different gear impacts. This workshop was an organized exercise to add practical experience and knowledge to the investigation of the subject in Canada.

In the end, the workshop produced several results or findings. Without being exhaustive nor in any order of priority, the workshop revealed: there are differences between the three coasts of Canada which are important to consider when determining gear impacts; there are many “conservation equipment engineering opportunities” available - gear and gear use evolution; and issues such as bait selection, level of fisher experience, professionalization, rising costs of fishing operations, benthic mapping, and much more, need to be studied, understood and discussed. These issues provided for lively and knowledgeable debate and discussion at the workshop.

The pilot projects of reporting and logging all species landed on the West Coast, proved an interesting revelation - an innovative approach to dealing with the matter of “by-catch” and “discards”. This pilot struck me as a very practical and respectful way to harvest and treat our living aquatic resources and solve by catch and discard issues.

When the final workshop report is produced, I hope to be able to provide some excerpts in the coming issues of Netawek Ikkikum.



Participants at the Gears Impact Workshop, Lunenburg, October 12 and 13, 2007

DFO Consults with MAPC on Potential SARA Listings

By Ikanaw tiket Joshua McNeely

On September 5, DFO-Maritimes Region met with MAARS, New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council (NBAPC), Native Council of PEI (NCPEI), and Native Council of NS (NCNS), at the MAPC Head Office in Truro. This meeting was held to discuss the potential listing of five aquatic species in the Maritimes in the Species At Risk Act (SARA) and to seek our issues, concerns, needs, and interests about these possible listings.

Five aquatic species in the Maritimes are under consideration for addition to the SARA List: American Eel (Special Concern), Shortnose Sturgeon (Special Concern), Blue Shark (Special Concern), Shortfin Mako Shark (Threatened), and White Shark (a.k.a. Great White Shark – Endangered). Before the Minister of Environment makes a decision about whether or not to add these species to the SARA List, DFO is consulting with Aboriginal Peoples, stakeholders, resource managers, and provinces and will be completing a Socio-economic Impact Statement on each species.

Blue Shark, Shortfin Mako, and White Shark are not high priority species for DFO at this time. If listed, the Blue Shark would only require additional management measures through a SARA Management Plan. DFO plans to use its current *Canadian Atlantic Pelagic Shark Integrated Fisheries Management Plan* and draft *National Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks* as the framework for Blue Shark management. The Shortfin Mako and White Shark may be listed as 'Threatened' and 'Endangered', respectively, which requires detailed Recovery Strategies and prohibitions on killing, harming, harassing, or capturing these species or destroying or altering their critical habitat. However, the Shortfin Mako and White Shark are both at the edge of their range in Canadian waters, with the majority of both species existing in American waters. DFO expects little impact on fishing, since Shortfin



Mako and White Shark are naturally rare in Canadian waters.

DFO also believes that they will need little additional management efforts if the Shortnose Sturgeon, a resident of the Saint John River only, is listed under SARA. From NBAPC Community input, the NBAPC Executive did share with DFO that more Shortnose Sturgeon were caught while fishing for Atlantic Sturgeon and Small-mouth Bass than DFO currently believes. NBAPC informed DFO during this consultation session that the 120 cm lower size limit for keeping sturgeon does not exclude all Shortnose Sturgeon as DFO had thought. DFO made note of this fact and will review the size limit criteria as an effective way to reduce the landings of Shortnose Sturgeon. DFO will also further consult with NBAPC about Shortnose Sturgeon.

Our communities also question the DFO rationale for listing all American Eel in Canada as Special Concern when the Maritimes populations are healthy. We maintain that the St. Lawrence population should be addressed first by SARA, since it is endangered (99% decline since the 1970s). To appropriately manage American Eel, MAPC suggested to DFO that the COSEWIC Designatable Unit for American Eel should not be the population level (COSEWIC assigns all American Eel to one population, because they

believe all American Eel randomly spawn in the Sargasso Sea and randomly migrate to streams in North America). Instead, the Designatable Unit for American Eel should be 'Freshwater Ecological Area', which would allow the St. Lawrence designatable unit to be separately listed as Endangered and receive the protection and recovery it needs, especially for its greatly degraded and/or inaccessible habitat.

Saving the Quebec and Ontario units of American Eel should not come at a cost to Maritimers, especially the Traditional Ancestral Homelands (TAH) Aboriginal Peoples who still fish the American Eel for food, social, and ceremonial purposes. Past increases in the management of the American Eel fisheries in the Maritimes has not led to significant increases in the Quebec and Ontario units. MAPC views a blanket listing of American Eel as Special Concern under SARA will be ineffective. A blanket Special Concern listing will increase management of an already healthy Maritime American Eel unit; however, it will not provide any additional protection (and little additional management) for the endangered American Eel in the St. Lawrence.

There were also concerns raised by community members and Native Council Executives that there was no ATK component to either the COSEWIC Status Report or the draft DFO Management Plan.

MAPC does not oppose the listing or additional management to ensure a healthy American Eel population for our future generations; however, there are several knowledge gaps and issues which must be addressed before the Minister can make a decision about listing the American Eel. If ignored, the federal government runs the risk of alienating the TAH Aboriginal Peoples in the Maritimes on the management of American Eel or encountering future legal troubles.

Aboriginal Peoples have several opportunities to make comments throughout the SARA listing process, including having consultation meetings like this one and drafting follow-up correspondence.

Commercial fishers, food, social, and ceremonial fishers, hunters, gathers, crafts people, or any other Community member can voice their concerns to government about the status of a particular species. If you have comments about a particular species contact your Ikanawtiket, Community Aquatic Resource Development Advisor, Zone or Local Executive, Native Council Executive, Natural Wildlife Management Authority, or Aboriginal Communal Commercial Fisheries Manager. We will pass your comments along to the appropriate SARA government staff for you.

To receive periodic updates on the status of species at risk in the Maritimes, to receive more information about particular species, to learn more about SARA, or to make comments about SARA Listings, please sign up for the Ikanawtiket E-mail Discuss List. To do this, go to www.mapcorg.ca/ikanawtiket and click 'Subscribe' on the right.

This is a free service provided to our TAH Aboriginal Communities to keep them informed about what is happening across the Maritimes and in our area on environmental issues. Ikanawtiket Discuss List members can choose to remain passive (only receiving information) or become more active by posting additional information to the Discuss List, replying to Discuss List postings with their own comments, or engaging other Discuss List members in SARA discussions.



Participants at the SARA Consultation on September 5, 2007

2007 Congress of Aboriginal Peoples Annual General Assembly

By MAARS Team Member Tim Hainer

The Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (CAP) held their Annual General Assembly (AGA) November 1-3 at the Marriott Hotel in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The CAP AGA provides the Provincial/Territorial Organizations (PTOs) of CAP, which includes the Native Council of Nova Scotia, the New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council, and the Native Council of Prince Edward Island of the Maritime Region, along with other affiliates, with a venue and a voice to: review the year's work of CAP, speak on the issues, needs, concerns and interests specific to each PTO, and to make resolutions on new initiatives for the ensuing year.

Two very important events marked this year's CAP AGA. First, the Right Honourable Stephen Harper, Prime Minister of Canada, addressed the CAP Assembly and, with Indian and Northern Affairs Minister Chuck Strahl, held a 45 minute roundtable with the CAP Board Members. The address by Prime Minister Harper and the subsequent roundtable with CAP affiliates is historical for many reasons. The Prime Minister acknowledged the reality that a larger majority of Canada's Aboriginal Peoples live away from Indian Act reserves. CAP and its Provincial Territorial Councils have a vital role to ensure that their issues, interests, and needs are represented.

The acknowledgement that by this government isolation, segregation, and estrangement must come to an end comes at a particularly important time in Canadian history. The call for an end of denial of reality should also end the exclusion of off reserve

Aboriginal People from efforts and work to develop both our human and economic capacity. As the Prime Minister indicated, we need to focus on the future, particularly for our youth and this call we will answer with a focus on future employment strategies and future economic development initiatives.

Another important event for our Maritime Communities of Aboriginal Peoples was the acknowledgement by the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples of the important contributions that Katherine Sorbey and Roger Hunka have made to improve the lives and advance the Aboriginal Peoples situation in Canada. Both Katherine and Roger were awarded the Aboriginal Order of Canada at the CAP AGA by our National Chief, Patrick Brazeau. By bestowing the Aboriginal Order of Canada on Katherine and Roger, we show appreciation for their courage, perseverance and unwavering beliefs that the Aboriginal Peoples of Canada cannot be forgotten or ignored.



The Right Honourable Stephen Harper Prime Minister of Canada at the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples Annual General Assembly



Kathy Sorbey, CAP National Chief Patrick Brazeau, and MAARS Director Roger Hunka

Military munitions dumped in coastal waters around the Maritimes

By Ikanawtiket Joshua McNeely

MAARS Director Roger Hunka, NS CARDA Franz Kesick, and Ikanawtiket Joshua McNeely participated in the First International Conference of Chemical and Conventional Munitions Dumped at Sea, held in Halifax, NS, on October 8 & 9.

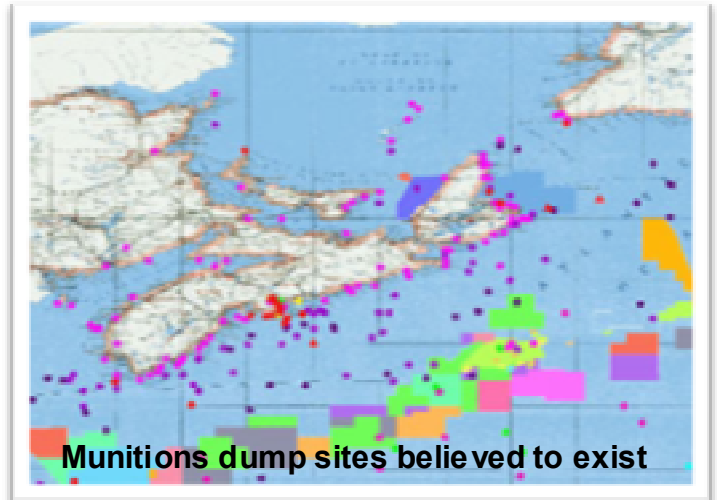
During the military draw-downs after WWI and WWII, many thousands of tonnes of chemical and conventional munitions were disposed of, in accordance with several post-war treaties, and, more recently, the UN London Convention, 1972 and UN Chemical Weapons Convention, 1993. One approved method, and the economically preferred method, for post war 'disposal' of chemical and conventional munitions was dumping the highly toxic military gun ammunition, bombs, missiles, torpedoes, mines, and other ordnance into seas and large in-land lakes around the world.

Though the government of Canada is reluctant to provide official numbers, it is estimated that there are over 1,000 munitions dump sites off the coast of Nova Scotia. Two examples are 180,000 tons of conventional munitions dumped just off-shore of Sydney, NS and an estimated 2,800 tons of mustard gas dumped around the canyons in the eastern Scotian Shelf.



Barrels of chemical agent dumped at sea

It is well documented that these munitions leak their toxic and carcinogenic contents into the surrounding water and sea life as the munitions



Munitions dump sites believed to exist

age and corrode. Several studies show that many species are sick with cancers and depressed immune systems due to exposure to ordnance chemicals. Scientists are worried that some endangered species cannot be saved, unless the world's oceans are cleansed of military ordnance.

Leaking chemicals from sea-dumped munitions also affect human health and safety. Our community members fish many of these areas, both commercially and, in the near-shore, for food, social, and ceremonial purposes, and do not know that abandoned munitions lay on the bottom or that harvested fish may contain dangerous levels of toxic chemicals. Most sea and in-land waters munitions dump sites around the Maritime provinces remain uncharted and their immediate and long-term risks to our communities are unknown. Also, reports of munitions washing up onto our ocean and lake shores are becoming more frequent, greatly increasing the chance of exposure to our children and others who frequent our beaches.

Many technologies exist to detect, remove, and properly dispose of munitions dumped in waters up to several thousands of meters deep. Many platforms are mobile, able to operate in poor weather, and many use robotics to greatly increase safety. In addition, many of the disposal by-products can be recycled – turning swords & shields into plows & shears.

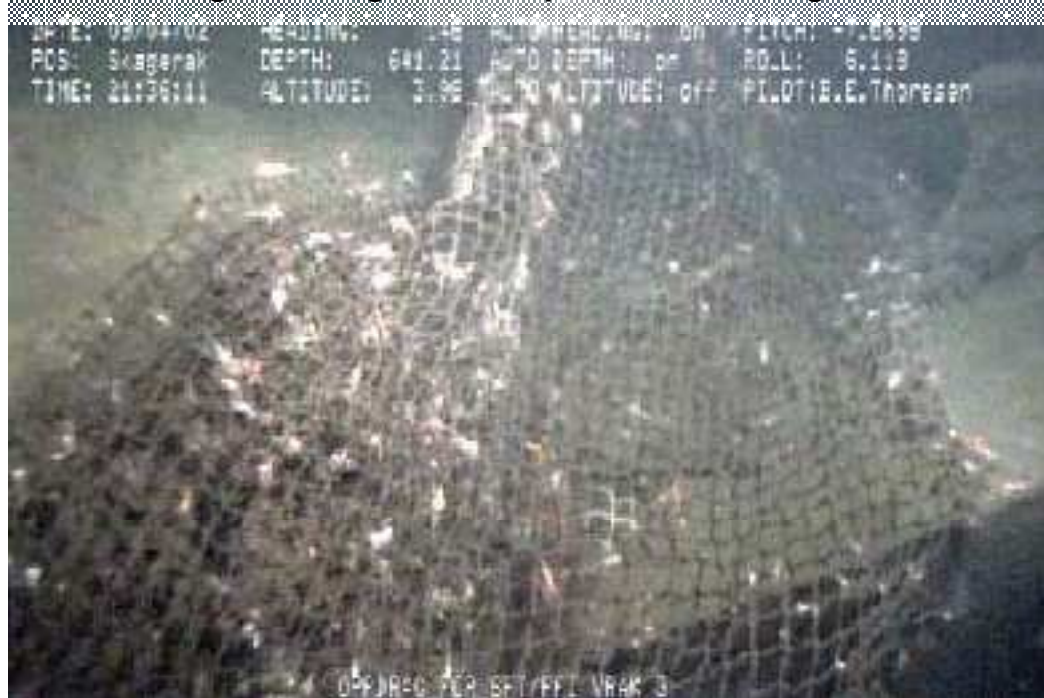
Unexploded bomb caught by fishers in a fishing net

At this moment technology and manpower is poised to start cleaning our seas of munitions. All we lack is the political will to address this issue and fund clean-up activities.

MAARS and Ikanawtiket stand with the other organizations who participated in this first conference on sea-dumped munitions to organize, raise awareness, and advance to our leaders the task of cleaning our seas. This involves all levels of government, including a call for a new UN convention focused on sea-

dumped munitions. First, we must increase public awareness of sea-dumped munitions and also raise government awareness about this issue. Talk about sea-dumped munitions with your community and express your concerns to local leaders, MLAs, and MPs.

To learn more about munitions dumped at sea, please visit www.seadumpedmunitions.com. The Office of the Auditor General of Canada has also responded to a petition on the state of military dump sites off the Atlantic Canada coast. This petition raises many questions about the locations, threats, health effects, and environmental concerns of dump sites in our traditional homeland waters. The petition (Petition No. 50A) can be viewed at www.oag-bvg.gc.ca/domina/petitions.nsf

Fishing nets caught on a shipwreck containing munitions

SCCFP Update

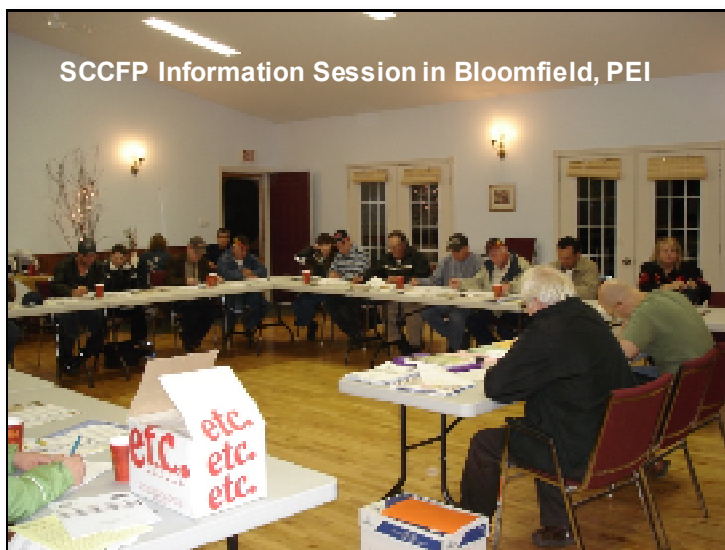
By MAARS Team Member Barry LaBillois

During October and November, the Maritime Aboriginal Peoples Council helped the New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council and the Native Council of Prince Edward Island conduct a series of fact finding sessions with their communities. These sessions were designed to provide community assets and needs assessments to help move the communities towards incorporation of Aboriginal communal commercial fishing strategies for each council. The information gathered from these community forums will be used to assess the existing level of capacity, interests, community needs, Aboriginal Communal Commercial Fishery licenses, equipment assets, community assets, knowledge gaps, and training needs, all of which are important to consider while drafting the fishing strategies.

In Prince Edward Island, sessions were held in Bloomfield, Montague, and Charlottetown. In New Brunswick, they were held in Fredericton, Richibucto, Miramichi, Dalhousie, Bathurst, Saint John, and Edmundston.

MAPC Director, Roger Hunka, spoke at the community sessions, highlighting facts concerning the eighteen pre-Confederation treaties. Important among these facts is that the Treaty of 1752 specifically confirms and affirms that the Mi'kmaq have rights, freedoms, and liberties, including that to fish, fowl, hunt, gather, and trade as they had been doing for time immemorial.

A strategic communal commercial fisheries plan will help our communities, natural life managers, and Aboriginal decision makers to go forward and realize practical and visible evidence of our community's participation and economic growth in its Aboriginal Communal Commercial Fishery. Our larger community of Aboriginal Peoples residing on our traditional ancestral homelands will progress our goal of becoming a rights holder in the modern Communal Commercial Fishing Industry of Atlantic Canada.



SCCFP Information Session in Bloomfield, PEI



SCCFP Information Session in Saint John, NB

DFO Science Assessment of Atlantic Canada Spiny Dogfish

By Ikanawtiket Joshua McNeely



Population size, health, and declines of dogfish are a major concern of scientists from around the world. Research on sharks, like the dogfish, is minimal, we do know that all shark species have experienced dramatic declines in the past few decades.

In June, the United Nations Convention on the International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES) almost banned the trade of Atlantic Spiny Dogfish, a move which would have virtually halted the harvesting of the species. In Canada, the Committee On the Status of Endangered Wildlife In Canada (COSEWIC) is currently reviewing the status of Atlantic Spiny Dogfish for a possible assessment as a species at risk, requiring additional protection or management under the federal Species At Risk Act (SARA). In addition, the United States is requesting Canada to jointly manage Atlantic Spiny Dogfish, in an effort to sustainably harvest the species.

Unfortunately, DFO knows little about the species population size and distribution despite a 30+ year history of commercial fishing for Atlantic Spiny Dogfish in Canadian waters, an estimated annual by-catch and discard ranging from 5,000 – 7,000 metric tons, and DFO managing a directed fishery with a TAC of 2,300 metric tons. This year, DFO completed a five year Joint Project Agreement (JPA) with fishermen and combined this study with information from DFO science research vessel surveys and the 3-4% at-sea observer coverage of the ground fishery to assess the status of Atlantic Spiny Dogfish.

DFO will soon publish its findings in a Science Advisory Report. The assessment includes three main findings:

- The scientific data collected so far on Atlantic Spiny Dogfish is poor, possibly because research vessel surveys are only intermittently sampling dogfish schools;
- Because of poor data, DFO is unable to develop a working model to predict Atlantic Spiny Dogfish population size and trends; and
- Despite problems with the data, the indices show that Canada may be losing 18,000 tons of Atlantic Spiny Dogfish each year (an estimated 3,000 metric tons to the fisheries and 12,000 metric tons to other unknown sources)

For Canada, this almost certainly means the need for additional management or protection of Atlantic Spiny Dogfish, either through DFO management plans or SARA and possibly joint management of the fishery between Canada and the US. The most scrutinized fisheries will be:

Fishery	Average Percent of all Spiny Dogfish by-catch (1986-2006)	Discard mortality
Otter Trawler Groudfish	42%	25% (catches greater than 200 kg) 0% (catches less than 200 kg)
Otter Trawler Redfish	17%	25% (catches greater than 200 kg) 0% (catches less than 200 kg)
Longline Groundfish	20%	10%
Gillnet	8%	55%
NAFO areas 4X and 5Y	86%	NA

Canadian Marine Advisory Council Update

By MAARS Team Member Franz Kesick

The Canadian Marine Advisory Council (CMAC) is a public forum of Transport Canada formed to consult and inform stakeholders on safety, navigation, and marine pollution. The membership includes commercial shippers, fishers, recreational boaters, unions, various levels of government and other federal departments.

On October 3, 2007, the Canadian Marine Advisory Council Atlantic Region (Maritimes) met in Halifax. Topics discussed included the Canadian Shipping Act (CSA) 2001 and its subsequent Regulatory Review and various aspects that will affect all marine shipping, including that by the MAARS Partners' Communal Commercial Fishery Entities. This meeting outlined the different steps that are being taken and enforced under the CSA 2001.

Mr. Stephen Forbes from Canadian Hydrographic Services (CHS) provided an update on services provided by CHS. All charts are now available on their website, www.charts.gc.ca.

Safety issues include the Stability Tests of each vessel and the qualifications of each member of the crew while harvesting at sea. Pollution prevention from ships and navigation safety continues to be a concern under the CSA 2001.

MAARS Partners are continually upgrading their vessels in regards to the safety of the crews and of the vessels. MAARS will be holding a meeting with its Partners and Transport Canada to determine the steps that they must take to meet the regulation requirements.



New to the MAARS Library

By MAARS Team Member Angie Titus

Distribution and Abundance of the Atlantic Mackerel (Scomber scombrus L.) Eggs and Larvae from the Ichthyoplankton Surveys Conducted in the Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence Between 1965 and 1975 by Francois Gregoire and Caroline Lafleur.

An Assessment of the Cod (Gadus morhua) Stock in NAFO Divisions 2J3KL in April 2006 by G.R. Lilly et al.

Exotic Forest Insect Guidebook by Troy Kimoto and Marnie Duthie-Holt (paper and electronic copies).

2007 report of the twenty-fourth annual meetings of the commissions Bar Harbor, Maine, USA 4-8 June 2007.

We are all Downstream We Are All Upstream We are all Part of a Watershed. Environmental Advisory Council.

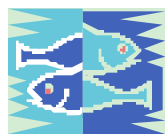
A Guide to Watershed Planning on Prince Edward Island. Prince Edward Island Environment, Energy and Forestry.

Overholtz, W. and R. O'Boyle. 2007. *Proceedings of the Transboundary Resource Assessment Committee (TRAC).* Transboundary Resource Assessment Committee.

Eastern Scotian Shelf Integrated Ocean Management Plan.

Specific Claims: Justice at Last. Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

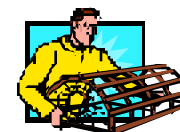
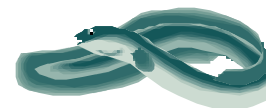
Several CSAS documents were also received.



Throughout the months of October and November 2007, the MAARS staff attended many Fishery Stakeholders Advisory Committee Meetings, Science Workshops, and Oceans Management Sessions.

Listed is a very small sample of predictable stakeholder interfaces which occurred during the past three months:

1. Maritimes Region Lobster Advisory Committee, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.
2. Atlantic Society of Fish and Wildlife Biologists, Wolfville, Nova Scotia.
3. OER SEA Meeting, Wolfville, Nova Scotia.
4. Bedford Institute of Oceanography Open House, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.
5. Invasive Species Workshop, O'Leary, Prince Edward Island.
6. FRCC Lobster Framework, Moncton, New Brunswick.
7. Shifting Gears Plenary, Lunenburg, Nova Scotia.
8. LFA 33 Advisory, Bridgewater, Nova Scotia.
9. Meeting to plan the New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island Community SCCFP Presentations, Truro, Nova Scotia.
10. Community SCCFP Presentations, various locations across Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick.
11. Canadian Marine Advisory Council, Halifax, Nova Scotia.
12. DFO Gulf Stakeholder Consultation, Moncton, New Brunswick.
13. International Munitions Dumped at Sea Conference, Halifax, Nova Scotia.
14. Shipping Federation Atlantic Forum, Halifax, Nova Scotia.
15. Congress of Aboriginal Peoples Annual General Assembly, Halifax, Nova Scotia.
16. Tidal Power SEA Review, Halifax, Nova Scotia.
17. Assessment of Spiny Dogfish, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.
18. Spatial Conservation Action Plan Workshop, Seaforth, Nova Scotia.





Merry Christmas



from the staff of



The Maritime Aboriginal Aquatic Resources Secretariate

Bruce Lobillivis

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"COIL"*



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Voice of the Ocean

Vol. 3 Issue 3, December 2007

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A free quarterly communiqué profiling the **Maritime Aboriginal Aquatic Resources Secretariate** activities.

Compiled by Angela Titus,
MAARS CDIL

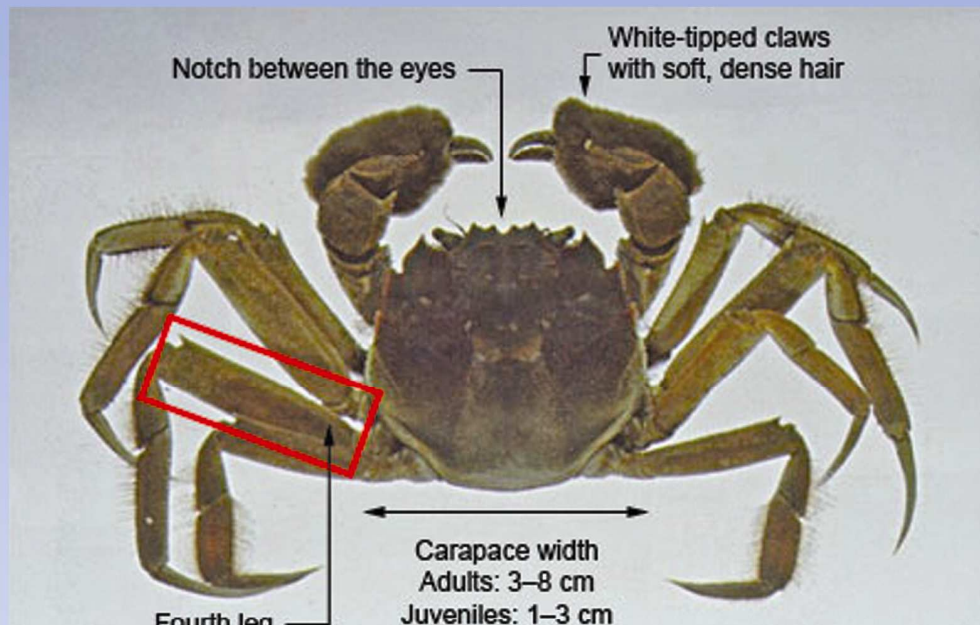
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WANTED CHINESE MITTEN CRABS



Environment Canada and Fisheries and Oceans Canada are looking for Chinese Mitten Crab specimens for a genetic study to identify the origin of this invasive species, which was recently discovered in the St. Lawrence River.

Maritime Aboriginal Aquatic Resources Secretariate

Collectively advancing the rightful share to Atlantic Aquatic Resources for the sustained economic growth of the Maritime Aboriginal Peoples

MARITIME ABORIGINAL PEOPLES COUNCIL-COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT BODY

A partnership of the Native Council of Nova Scotia,
New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council & Native Council of Prince Edward Island

Our mailing address has changed.

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