



INFOCEANS

THE QUEBEC REGION BULLETIN — JUNE - JULY 2009/VOLUME 12/NUMBER 3

COMMUNITY SHELLFISH MANAGEMENT ON THE GASPÉ PENINSULA

This spring, the community of Bonaventure achieved a first in Quebec. A citizen's committee took charge of reopening a shellfish area that can now be managed by the community in collaboration with the relevant authorities.

For some time, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) has sought to involve communities in the management of some inshore resources. The Bonaventure project is a fine example of this.

A SUCCESS STORY

In fall 2003, after holding several consultations with the community, the Comité ZIP Baie des Chaleur (a priority intervention area committee) submitted to DFO a community shellfish management model inspired by North American and European models.

At the same time, a citizens' committee was formed to reopen a shellfish bed in the Bonaventure area that had been closed for several years because of contamination.

In 2006, all the right conditions were in place. Bonaventure was identified as being one of the most suitable shellfish areas for community management and Environment Canada was considering the possibility of recommending that one section of this sector be opened for a few days.

In April 2007, the first objective was achieved: shellfish harvesting was to be permitted for a period of 9 consecutive days.



Clam diggers at the Bonaventure shellfish area

DFO C. Major

In 2009, supported by funding obtained via the *Community Interaction Program*, the Table de concertation du littoral de Bonaventure completed implementation of the community management model drawn up by the Comité ZIP.

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INVESTMENTS IN COMMERCIAL FISHING HARBOURS IN QUEBEC

Fisheries and Oceans Canada will invest \$29 million in its network of small craft harbours in Quebec.

Over the next two years, \$22.5 million – provided via Canada's *Economic Action Plan* – will be spent to step up repair and maintenance work at several commercial fishing harbours on the Magdalen Islands, the North Shore and the Gaspé Peninsula.

This amount comes in addition to the \$6.5 million already allocated under the regular program for small craft harbours for a range of work that is to be done on harbour infrastructure in 2009.

For more information on what harbours are affected by this announcement, go to the *Media Room* section of the DFO website at www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca.



DFO M. Langlois

Last May 4, the Member of Parliament for Lévis-Bellechasse, Steven Blaney, was in Carleton-sur-Mer to announce the investments. "Our government recognizes that safe and efficient harbours are vital to the economic well-being of many fishing communities in Quebec," said Mr. Blaney. "By investing in small craft harbours, our government is creating local jobs right way and ensuring Quebec fish harvesters can rely on improved harbours for the years to come."

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A CHANGE AT THE REGIONAL SMALL CRAFT HARBOURS BRANCH



Since April 1, the Regional Small Craft Harbours Branch has had a new regional director, Bernard Beaudoin, who has taken over from Gervais Bouchard.

Holder of a university diploma in Architecture, Beaudoin entered the Canadian Coast Guard in 1986 as a technical and graphic information technician. From 1997 to 2001, he served as project leader with the Technical Services Branch. Then, in 2001, he moved to the Regional Small Craft Harbours and Real Property Services Branch where he served as head of asset management and projects. From 2007 to 2008, he was employed by Public Works and Government Services Canada as project director for the XII^e Sommet de la Francophonie.

Bernard Beaudoin is no stranger to the regional director's position at the Small Craft Harbours Branch since he several times held this position on an interim basis in 2006 and 2007. He is, therefore, familiar with the concerns of harbour authorities, the branch's main clientele.

His return to the Small Craft Harbours Branch coincides with the implementation of the *Accelerated Infrastructure Program*, which he sees as a unique opportunity to collaborate in the establishment of more harbour projects throughout Quebec. Beaudoin and his team are currently completing an organisational restructuring of the regional branch in order to, as he puts it, "strengthen our ties with the harbour authorities and increase the support they expect us to provide".

For Bernard Beaudoin, establishing and maintaining frank and open communication is tremendously important. Returning after a two-year absence from the Branch, one of his priorities will be to go out into the field to meet the clientele in order to re-establish contact with them.

Lyne Beaumont
Small Craft Harbours

Dispatches

DISTINCTION FOR QUEBEC'S LOBSTER INDUSTRY

Since 1994, Quebec's fishing industry has often been praised for its lobster conservation efforts. Last fall, following the release of the latest Fisheries Resource Conservation Council's report on the sustainability of Atlantic lobster, Richard Nadeau, Fisheries and Oceans Canada Regional Director General, presented an Award of Merit to a DFO-Industry work team.

It is important to salute the accomplishments of this multidisciplinary work team composed of fishers, biologists, staff members of fishers' organisations, fisheries officers, etc. Their efforts are, in fact, an excellent example of what some theoreticians call shared stewardship, others co-management or, more simply put, team work.

The role played by the fishers and their representatives at the Association des pêcheurs propriétaires des Îles-de-la-Madeleine (APPIM) and the Regroupement des pêcheurs professionnels du sud de la Gaspésie (RPPSG) largely made it possible for the group to reach its objectives. Today, Fisheries and Oceans Canada pays tribute to the passion and commitment of Mario Déraspe, Donald Walker, O'Neil Cloutier, Léonard Poirier and their fellow team members.

Patrick Vincent
Fisheries and Aquaculture Management

FISH AND SEAFOOD EXPORTS IN 2008

Preliminary international trade figures show that Canada's exports of fish and seafood products reached \$3.9 billion in 2008. More than half of these products headed to the United States with exports to that country totalling over \$2.4 billion last year. European Union countries ranked second, importing Canadian fish and seafood products worth \$489 million, following by Japan in third place with \$294 million and China where imports totalled \$259 million, making it Canada's fourth largest market for seafood products in 2008.

APPOINTMENT AT THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND ABORIGINAL FISHERIES BRANCH



Last May, Fisheries and Oceans Canada was pleased to announce the appointment of Marcel Boudreau to the position of Director for Resource Management and Aboriginal Fisheries in Quebec.

Boudreau has over 25 years of experience at Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Since 1983, he has notably held interim positions as Regional Communications Director and as Regional Director for Policies and Economics. As he takes up his new duties with the Resource Management and Aboriginal Fisheries Branch, Marcel Boudreau returns to where he gained his earliest management experience... in the groundfish sector.

One of Boudreau's principal concerns is the relations between DFO and the branch and their clientele. "To make sure our collaboration with our clientele is as good as it can be," he explains, "I intend to work to improve the effectiveness of program delivery mechanisms and strengthen management coherence."

This is a challenge that is particularly dear to him, since Marcel Boudreau is fully familiar with the various clientèles his branch is called on to serve. Born on the Gaspé Peninsula, he describes himself first and foremost as a man who knows his field through personal experience and he intends to stay that way.

Cédric Arseneau
Fisheries and Aquaculture Management

Canada's four most valuable exports by species were lobster, crab, salmon and shrimp. These species accounted for 46% of all fish and seafood exports by volume and 65% of the value. Lobster remained number one, with its export value approaching a billion dollars.

Quebec ranked fifth amongst Canadian provinces for its fish and seafood exports in 2008.

A NEW DIRECTOR AT THE CANADIAN HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICE



Last February, Andrée Bolduc was named Director of the Canadian Hydrographic Service, Quebec Region, taking over from Paul Bellemare who recently retired.

Dr. Bolduc holds a Bachelor's degree in Geology, earned at the University of Ottawa, a Master's degree in Geoscience from Carleton

University and a PhD in Geological Science, from Lehigh University in Pennsylvania. In 1989, Andrée Bolduc began her career as a project leader with the Geological Survey of Canada, Quebec Branch. As a research scientist specializing in Quaternary formations in Eastern Canada, she contributed significantly to the acquisition of new knowledge about the geology of superficial formations along the north shore of the St. Lawrence as far as the Laurentian foothills. In addition, she designed 3D geological models of aquifers such as eskers.

Since 2005, she has focussed on the marine geology of the St. Lawrence estuary, developing expertise in the acquisition, processing and interpretation of multibeam bathymetric data. Her work has led her to draw up new mapping standards, conduct integrated readings that could be used to support decision-making for matters involving offshore areas, and develop natural resources to improve how the territory is used by taking into consideration social, economic and environmental values.

The new regional director of the Canadian Hydrographic Service intends to support her team so that together they can continue to pursue the development and evolution of hydrography, and effectively address the needs and requirements of a diversified clientele.

Sylvi Racine
Communications

A NEW GENERATION TAKES UP THE REINS AT THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT BRANCH

The Resource Management Branch is a relatively young organization. Created in 1980, it will turn 30 next year... a youngster, in other words! A number of Branch employees had the opportunity to play an active role in the new organization's creation and subsequent growth. You have to admit, this kind of opportunity does not arise often.



Together, these employees now hold quite an impressive range of experience. In addition to acquiring a great deal of knowledge, these managers have over the years built a network of active and dynamic contacts in maritime communities, both within the fishing industry and among people working for other public or private-sector organizations. Unfortunately, that experience comes at a cost... an aging workforce!

IT'S A TEAM EFFORT

We are now at a pivotal moment in our history where the pioneers must hand the torch on to the upcoming generation. The entire team has a role to play in meeting this challenge. For example, at offices in the maritime areas, 12 new employees and managers have been recruited in the last few years. The situation is similar at the regional office in Quebec City, where 4 new advisors have taken up their duties since November 2008. When over 25 percent of an organization's staff are new members integrating the team, training and transferring expertise become priorities for everyone.

The newcomers know they can count on the support of experienced managers, which makes the transition period much easier. This situation, very stimulating for everyone, generates highly interesting discussions, with new ideas and ways of doing things compared to methods and visions that have proven their merits. As Pierre Couillard, senior advisor for crustaceans and molluscs, so often says, "It's fascinating, we always manage to find new challenges."

The Resource Management Branch has become a crossroads where experience and youth intersect; but one thing will never change, the desire to work together to ensure sustainable and prosperous fisheries.

NEW APPOINTMENTS AT THE QUEBEC REGIONAL OFFICE

Senior advisor, Crustaceans and molluscs	Bernard Morin is currently paired with Pierre Couillard.
Senior advisor, Policies and licences	Raynald Gosselin is currently paired with Jean-Marc Nadeau.
Senior advisor, Pelagic fish and marine mammals of the St. Lawrence	Mathieu Bergeron is currently paired with Raynald Gosselin and Jean-Marc Nadeau.
Senior Advisor, Sustainable development	Cédric Arseneau holds this newly created position.

Patrick Vincent
Regional Director,
Fisheries and Aquaculture Management Branch

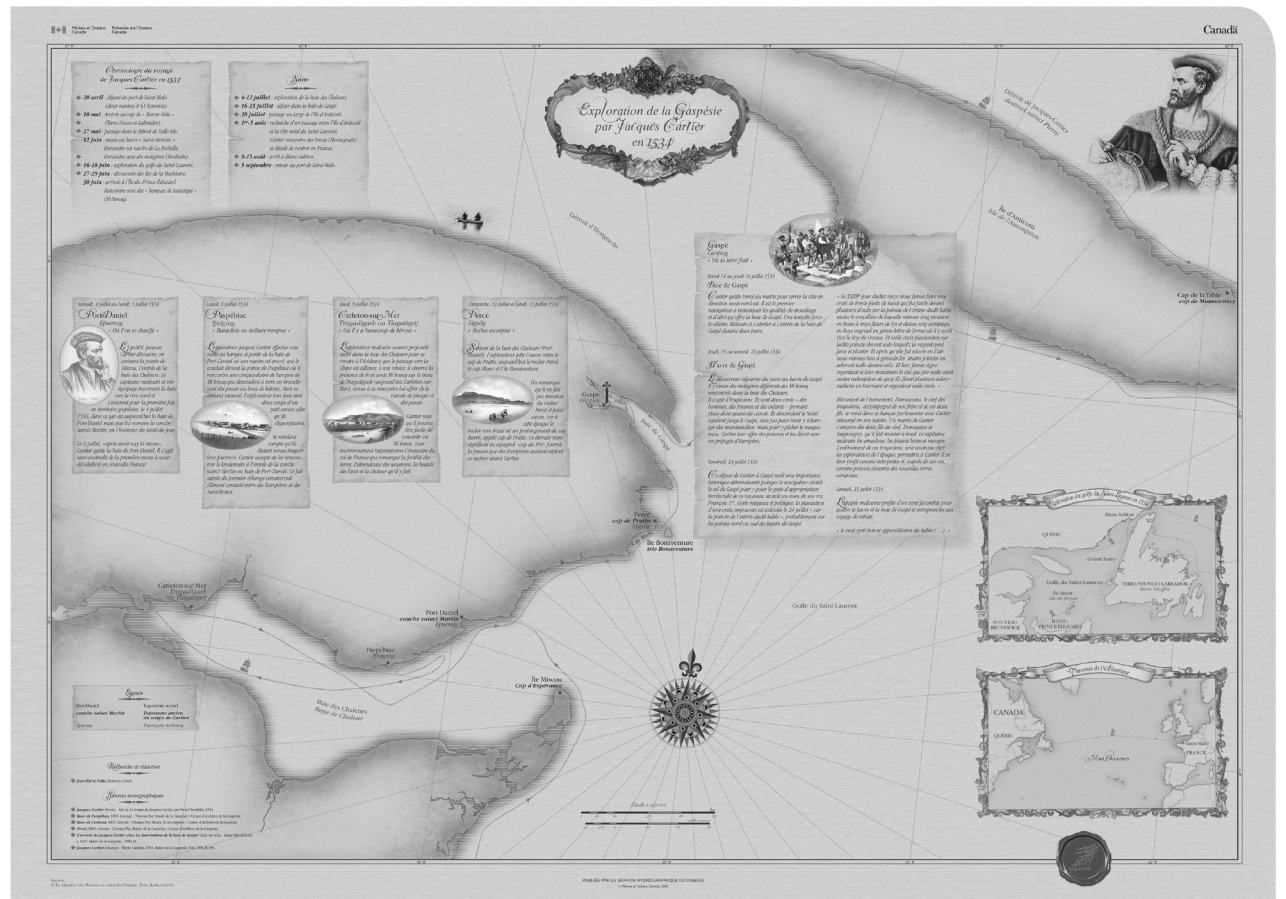
COMMEMORATIVE MAP OF JACQUES CARTIER'S FIRST VOYAGE

To signal the 475th anniversary of Jacques Cartier's arrival on the Gaspé Peninsula in 1534, Fisheries and Oceans Canada has created a commemorative map illustrating the route of the French explorer's first voyage to America.

Jacques Cartier, discoverer of New France, sailed along the Gaspé coast from the mouth of the Restigouche River to the tip of Forillon, by way of Gaspé where he erected a cross on behalf of Francis I, King of France. The map not only shows the places visited by the crew, it also relates their encounters with members of the First Nations and a few anecdotes about the voyage. It contains some of Cartier's original writings and shows the place names as Cartier recorded them in his journal.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada has also contributed to the commemorative activities by donating the map to the Corporation des Fêtes, which will use it as a calling card throughout the 2009 festivities. The map will also be given to libraries and schools on the Gaspé Peninsula to be used as a most interesting document for teaching history.

This map is the result of a joint effort by the Canadian Hydrographic Service, the Gaspé - Lower St. Lawrence Area Office (Fisheries and Oceans Canada - Quebec Region) and the Musée de la Gaspésie in Gaspé.



Vincent Malouin
Gaspé - Lower St. Lawrence Area

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

COMMUNITY SHELLFISH...

A VICTIM OF ITS SUCCESS

The popularity of this first shellfish harvest was astounding! As many as 400 people per day joined in the harvest at this clam bed. To reduce the fishing effort, the number of harvesting days was cut to 5 in 2008 and then to 3 in 2009. The daily clam limit was cut from 120 per person in 2007 to 80 in 2008 and then 60 in 2009.

A WELL-STRUCTURED COOPERATIVE EFFORT

The management measures in effect in 2009 are the outcome of a biomass assessment conducted in April 2009 by DFO biologists and a team of volunteers. These management measures were applied by the citizens' committee on a voluntary basis in response to Ministry recommendations.

While harvesting is underway, volunteers oversee the activity, identifying the sector's boundaries and access to the clam bed while providing some monitoring and gathering data on the number of clams harvested.



Members of the Citizen's Committee putting up posters to raise awareness

This is fine example of collaboration between the community, the various DFO branches and the two other departments responsible for applying the Canadian Shellfish Sanitation Program - Environment Canada and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

Michel Lemay
Gaspé - Lower St. Lawrence Area

JUNE 8 WORLD OCEANS DAY

Since the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, June 8 has been recognized as World Oceans Day. This international celebration, which aims to raise awareness about the health of the planet's oceans, has rapidly gained popularity.

We all have a responsibility for the environment because our activities at home and within our communities can have repercussions on our watercourses and ultimately, on the health of the oceans. For a number of years, non-governmental organizations concerned about the health of the oceans have been mobilizing hundreds of people in Quebec. Supported by Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) staff, they have taken on the mission of raising public awareness about how important the oceans are to our planet. This collective awareness ensures cohesiveness in the actions taken to keep our aquatic ecosystems healthy and productive, an important DFO mandate.

Once again this year, numerous awareness-raising activities have been organized to celebrate World Oceans Day.

JUNE 21 WORLD HYDROGRAPHY DAY

Did you know that June 21 is World Hydrography Day? This year, the International Hydrography Organisation will highlight the important contribution hydrography makes to the protection of the marine environment.

In Quebec alone, our Canadian Hydrographic Service teams cover over 10,000 km every year to monitor the condition of ship channels. Their observations are used to identify shoals and update official nautical publications and charts, thus making navigation safer and protecting the marine environment.

For over 100 years, the Canadian Hydrographic Service has contributed to designing technologies used by sailors throughout the world. Today, Canadian hydrographers play a leading role in the world of ocean mapping, an achievement in which we take great pride.

We invite you to celebrate World Hydrography Day on June 21.

New publications

NEW SCIENCE ADVISORY REPORTS ON THE INTERNET

The following science advisory reports are now available on the Canadian Science Advisory Secretariat's Web site, www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/csas/, in the CSAS Publications section, *Science Advisory Reports* (2005+) for 2008 and 2009:

- Science advice on harvesting of Northwest Atlantic harp seals (*Pagophilus groenlandicus*) in 2009 (2008/058)
- Science advice on harvesting of Northwest Atlantic grey seals (*Halichoerus grypus*) in 2009 (2008/061)
- Assessment of the lobster stocks of the Magdalen Islands (LFA 22) in 2008 (2009/013)
- Assessment of the lobster stocks of the Gaspé Peninsula (LFAs 19, 20 and 21) in 2008 (2009/017)
- Assessment of the Greenland halibut stock in the Gulf of St. Lawrence (4RST) in 2008 (2009/020)
- Assessment of the Atlantic halibut stock in the Gulf of St. Lawrence (4RST) in 2008 (2009/023)
- Assessment of Quebec coastal waters whelk stocks in 2008 (2009/028)

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CONVICTIONS FOR FISHERIES ACT VIOLATIONS

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), Quebec Region, has released the names of fish harvesters who have received fines for violations of the *Fisheries Act*. DFO continues to strictly enforce its zero tolerance policy for violators. The Department has a mandate to protect and conserve fishery resources and is ever vigilant in its efforts to prevent poaching of marine resources. **Fisheries and Oceans Canada encourages the public to report poaching incidents by calling 1-800-463-9057. All calls are confidential.**

OFFENDER/ HOME	OFFENCE/FINE
Normand Barriault Les Capucins	Shellfish harvesting in a closed area and obstructing the work of officers. \$550
Nazaire Cormier Julien Hounsell Ken Thériault Havre-Saint-Pierre	Obstructing the work of a fishery officer. \$500 each + 12 months' probation with an order to be of good behaviour.
Frank Dubé Rivière-Portneuf	Illegal landing of Atlantic halibut. \$1,000 + confiscation of \$200
Léonide Francoeur Sept-Îles	Shrimp fishing after failing to hail out within regulatory time frame. \$1,000
Guy Maloney Mingan	Non-compliant whelk harvesting logbook. \$600
Jacques Maloney Mingan	Snow crab fishing after failing to hail out within regulatory time frame. \$600
Yan Pouliot Les Capucins	Shellfish harvesting in a closed area. \$200
Rosaire Ross Matane	Possession of halibut under the minimum legal size. \$250
Daniel Scherrer Havre-Saint-Pierre	Snow crab fishing after failing to hail out within regulatory time frame. \$1,200

VAGUE DE FOND INVESTIGATION ON TURBOT LANDING

Ghislaine Dubé Steve Lafontaine Suzanne Lucas Raoul Vaillancourt Grande-Rivière	False information reported to Fisheries and Oceans Canada. \$1,000 (G. D.); \$1,000 (S. Laf.); \$4,000 (S. Lucas); \$4,000 (R. V.)
Alain Duguay Mario Lelièvre Marc-André Lemoignan Sainte-Thérèse-de-Gaspé	Aiding or abetting a dockside observer to report false information. \$4,000 (A. D.); \$500 (M. L.); \$1,000 (M.-A. L.)
Jean-Luc Hautcoeur Paul-Guy Hautcoeur Marcel Roussy Sainte-Thérèse-de-Gaspé	Aiding or abetting a dockside observer to report false information. False information reported to Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Non-compliance with licence conditions by failing to have all landed fish weighed. \$16,302.25 (J.-L. H.); \$13,275.25 (P.-G. H.); \$9,449.25 (M. R.)
Rock Lelièvre Sainte-Thérèse-de-Gaspé	Aiding or abetting a dockside observer to report false information. False information reported to Fisheries and Oceans Canada. \$22,000
Claude Stevens Grande-Rivière	Aiding or abetting a dockside observer to report false information. False information reported to Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Non-compliance with licence conditions by failing to have all landed fish weighed. \$8,973.25
Serge Vallée Grande-Rivière	Aiding or abetting a dockside observer to report false information. \$1,500

Martin Bourget
Communications