



# INFOCEANS

THE QUEBEC REGION BULLETIN — DECEMBER 2009 – JANUARY 2010/VOLUME 12/NUMBER 6



**Richard Nadeau**  
Regional Director General  
Fisheries and Oceans Canada

## BEST WISHES FOR 2010



Throughout 2009, we continued to work together to fulfill the Fisheries and Oceans Canada mission, which is to offer the Canadian population safe and accessible waterways, healthy and productive aquatic ecosystems, and sustainable fisheries and aquaculture. Moreover, we contributed to implementing Canada's Economic Action Plan through various programs that provide for the reinvestment of resources into our essential infrastructure, while playing an important economic role in coastal communities and maritime areas.

We also made progress and experienced success in various areas, which would not have been possible without your collaboration. We would like to thank you for your support, which is invaluable in helping us fulfill our commitments.

The coming year is bound to present new challenges for which you can continue to count on the professionalism and dedication of the Quebec Region team as they pursue excellence in the services offered to the Canadian population.

To you and your loved ones, we send our warmest wishes for health and happiness in the new year.



**Marc Demonceaux**  
Assistant Commissioner  
Canadian Coast Guard

## REPAIR WORK ON CCGS TRACY

Last September in Les Méchins, Steven Blaney, the Member of Parliament for Lévis-Bellechasse, announced on behalf of the Honourable Gail Shea, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the awarding of a \$6.8-million contract to Groupe Maritime Verreault inc. This funding will provide assistance to Quebec's shipbuilding industry and economic sector.

The CCGS *Tracy*, a Canadian Coast Guard vessel built in 1968, will undergo a major refit which will extend her service life by another 10 years.

The CCGS *Tracy* is a medium-endurance buoy tender with a shallow draught that measures 55.32 metres in length. It has some icebreaking capability and can launch and recover fast response crafts. It is primarily used for the maintenance of aids to navigation, ice-breaking, flood control and environmental response.

This investment is part of the \$175 million announced under Canada's Economic Action Plan earmarked for the Canadian Coast Guard.



**Steven Blaney and Denise Verreault of Groupe Maritime Verreault inc.**

## RECOGNITION AWARDS FOR HARBOUR AUTHORITIES

Last October, for the second consecutive year, the Regional Small Craft Harbours Branch, Quebec Region, held a ceremony to present the Small Craft Harbours recognition awards. This ceremony aims to acknowledge the work, accomplishments and efforts of harbour authority (HA) members in Québec.

The Small Craft Harbours Branch (SCH) created this recognition program in 2008 to benefit all the harbour authorities in Canada. Its purpose is to foster a culture of acknowledgment while saluting the contributions made by individuals or teams of people who have met the objectives of the SCH Program.

The SCH regional branches present three distinction awards in each region, namely, the Individual Commitment Award, the Harbour Authority Achievement Award and the Harbour Authority Environment Stewardship Award.

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## A NEW DIRECTOR FOR THE MAGDALEN ISLANDS AREA



DFO A. PUGLIA

On December 1, 2009, a new director was appointed to the DFO's Magdalen Islands Area. Christian Houle has joined the Area's team to continue the work of Roger Simon, who had headed the team for many years.

Backed by extensive management experience acquired while in the public sector with Statistics Canada, Houle successfully worked as senior analyst, survey manager, data interpretation workshop manager, chief analysis consultant and editing manager. More recently, he served as assistant director for a working group on access to business data.

Houle has a bachelor's degree in mathematics from the Université de Sherbrooke

and a specialized graduate diploma in public administration from the École nationale d'administration publique.

Although he is already acquainted with the Magdalen Islands, the new director wants to begin his mandate by becoming familiar with the area and its many partners. He will be able to benefit from the expertise of the team at the Magdalen Islands Area office and the one at the Regional Office in Quebec City. Moreover, Houle will also be able to draw on the knowledge and experience of his predecessor, Roger Simon, who has accepted to bring Houle up to speed on the sectoral files.

**Richard Nadeau**  
Regional Director General, Quebec Region

## REBUILDING THE LOBSTER FISHERY SHORT-TERM TRANSITIONAL MEASURES

Last June, the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada announced that the Government of Canada agreed to invest \$65 million to help lobster harvesters in Atlantic Canada. This grant was awarded to counter the difficult market conditions that have resulted from the global economic recession. Of this amount, \$15 million will go to establishing the *Short-Term Transitional Measures* (STTM) program.



DFO L. FALARDEAU

This exceptional program is intended for lobster licence holders and Aboriginal communities that have been severely affected by the collapse in market demand for lobster caused by the global recession.

To be eligible, lobster harvesters must have:

- held a valid lobster licence for 2008 and 2009;
- earned income from lobster harvesting in 2008 and 2009;
- registered a gross income of no more than \$50,000 from lobster landings in 2009;
- experienced a drop of least 25% in the total value of lobster landed in 2009 compared to 2008 landings;
- an annual income that directly depends on lobster harvesting;
  - a. the value of landed lobster must account for at least 50% of the total value of their landings in 2008;
  - b. the lobster landed in 2009 must have a value of at least \$2,500.

Applicants have until January 31, 2010, to apply for the STTM program. Forms are available at the DFO Regional Office, Area offices and on the program's Web site at [www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/lobster](http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/lobster).

For more information, please visit the program's Web site or call 1-877-672-7131.

**Frédéric Lessard**  
Policy and Economics

## BUOY TENDING ON THE ST. LAWRENCE: INTEGRATING INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES

The first buoys started appearing on the St. Lawrence River at the turn of the 18th century. At that time, the number of ships using this trade corridor was increasing steadily, and, as evidenced by the high rate of shipwrecks, the river showed itself to be a significant challenge to navigation.

In 1962, the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) was born. One of its mandates was and has been to ensure safe conditions for maritime traffic, while providing effective aids to navigation. Although CCG's mandate has remained the same since its creation, the technologies used to secure the safety of ships have evolved a great deal.

### RELIABLE AND ECONOMICAL SYNTHETIC MATERIALS MAKE THE GRADE

The new technologies improving the reliability and availability of its aids to navigation benefit CCG in a number of ways. Today, 69% of all buoys are made of plastic materials, thereby causing a significant decrease in the annual labour needed to paint them, especially in the case of buoys used for recreational navigation.

The modern aids to navigation are also lighter and require more manageable handling equipment, making it easier to install, remove and check on buoys, and do so earlier in the navigation season. Also, the easier handling enables CCG to respond to irregular situations more promptly.

Moreover, almost 70% of light buoys are now equipped with Light Emitting Diode (LED) lights, which consume less energy than conventional lights. These LED lanterns have permanent solar panels to recharge their batteries. This solution is at once ecological and economical as it reduces the use of non-rechargeable batteries, which are expensive to dispose of since they have to be sent to special waste management sites.

Needless to say, these synthetic buoys adequately meet CCG's safety standards and address its economic and environmental concerns.

**Ghislaine Gendron, Danielle Fortin and Claude Lapierre, Canadian Coast Guard**  
**Nathalie Letendre, Communications**

## COME AND MEET US AT THE MONTREAL BOAT AND WATER SPORTS SHOW

The Canadian Coast Guard and the Canadian Hydrographic Service personnel invite you to come and meet them at the Montreal Boat and Water Sports Show, which will take place at Place Bonaventure from Thursday, January 28 to Monday, February 1, 2010.

At the **Canadian Coast Guard** stand, we will be happy to tell you about our services and discuss the standards in place to help you and others safely navigate our waterways. You can also ask us about career opportunities within our organization.

Similarly, the **Canadian Hydrographic Service** is looking forward to showing you its new products, such as the new nautical charts for the Montreal region (Canal de la Rive Sud, Lac Saint-Louis and Lac des Deux Montagnes) and the latest edition of *Sailing Directions: St. Lawrence River, Cap-Rouge to Montréal and Rivière Richelieu* (ATL 112). While here, you can also ask us how to update your nautical charts; it's an easy step to take to improve your boating safety.

We look forward to meeting you at the show and answering your questions.

For more information on the Montreal Boat and Water Sports Show, visit the following website: [www.salondubateau.com](http://www.salondubateau.com).

**Guy Laberge, Canadian Coast Guard**  
**Fannie Bernier, Canadian Hydrographic Service**

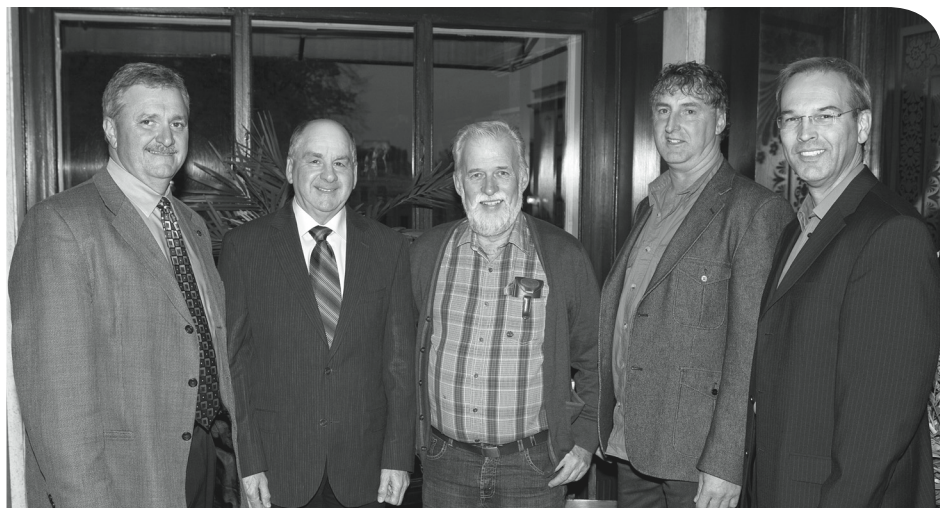


A prototype four-season buoy

DFO-CCG

## RECOGNITION AWARDS FOR HARBOUR AUTHORITIES

The SCH Regional Branch, Quebec Region, presented the Individual Commitment Award to Gilles Vigneault of the Cap-aux-Meules Harbour Authority; the Harbour Authority Achievement Award to Jean-Pierre Élément of the Sept-Îles Harbour Authority on behalf of the members of his board; and the Harbour Authority Environment Stewardship Award to Roger Arsenault of the Matane Harbour Authority.



DFO P. DIONNE

Left to right: Richard Nadeau, Regional Director General, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Quebec Region, Roger Arsenault, Matane Harbour Authority President, Jean-Pierre Élément, Sept-Îles Harbour Authority President, Gilles Vigneault, Cap-aux-Meules Harbour Authority President, and Bernard Beaudoin, Regional Director, Small Craft Harbours.

Vigneault has been closely involved in all harbour management dossiers ever since the creation of the Cap-aux-Meules Harbour Authority in 2002. His efforts helped to ensure the administration's continuity as it worked through some difficult situations.

The Matane Harbour Authority earned distinction for the various initiatives taken by the members of its board, including the creation of a new tool to recycle petroleum products such as filters and 20-L oil containers. Accordingly, Arsenault received, on behalf of the Harbour Authority board over which he presides, the Harbour Authority Environment Stewardship Award.

Élément has been involved in the Comité de gestion du havre de pêche de Sept-Îles for over 20 years, and is just as dedicated to the development of the fishing industry and sound management. He works hard to ensure the efficiency of operations and the order and safety of the premises in order to provide the highest quality services to users.

The Awards of Excellence, which are managed by SCH headquarters and for which only the recipients of a Recognition Award are eligible, were presented to Roger Arsenault on November 24, 2009. The Honorable Gail Shea, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and Michaela Huard, Deputy Minister, were there for the event.

Congratulations to all award recipients!

**Lyne Beaumont**  
Small Craft Harbours

## JOBS AT THE CANADIAN COAST GUARD

The Canadian Coast Guard offers some interesting career opportunities.

Here are just a few of them:

- Electronics technician
- Engine room rating
- Deckhand / Helms (man/woman)
- Marine communications and traffic services officer
- Marine engineer
- Navigation officer

For more information:  
www.marinfo.gc.ca  
1-866-660-6948 (toll free)  
info-carrieres-RQ@dfo-mpo.gc.ca



DFO N. LETENDRE

## INFOCEANS GETS A DIGITAL MAKEOVER

We have revamped the *Infoceans* Web edition. Not only does the new interface provide a more enjoyable reading experience, but it is also more accessible and easy to navigate. The newsletter headlines appear on the home page and with just a click of your mouse, you can view each article on a separate Web page, which makes the individual texts easier to read and more printer-friendly.

The changes don't end there: The various newsletter sections, such as Dispatches, New Publications and Convictions, are easier to spot and the archives of issues published in the last four years are available online.

### ACCESSING INFOCEANS ONLINE

To view *Infoceans* online, look for the *Infoceans* icon on the regional Fisheries and Oceans Canada home page at [www.qc.dfo-mpo.gc.ca](http://www.qc.dfo-mpo.gc.ca), or on the regional Canadian Coast Guard Web site at [www.marinfo.gc.ca](http://www.marinfo.gc.ca).

### SUBSCRIBING TO RSS

If you don't want to miss out on anything in the upcoming issues, you can now subscribe to the *Infoceans* Web edition by signing up for the RSS news feed. Whenever a new issue becomes available, you will receive the headlines as well as a link to view the entire newsletter online.

The *Infoceans* team is proud to offer you these new applications.



## New publications

### TWO NEW PUBLICATIONS POSTED ON THE ST. LAWRENCE PLAN WEB SITE

Two new publications can now be viewed on the St. Lawrence Plan, For a Sustainable Development Web site.

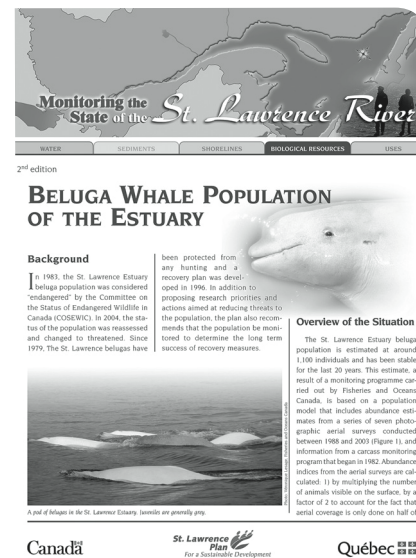
#### MONITORING THE STATE OF THE ST. LAWRENCE

The second edition of the fact sheet on the St. Lawrence Estuary beluga population has been revised and updated by Lena Measures, Jean-François Gosselin and Michel Lebeuf, with the collaboration of Claude Nozères and Charley Cyr, of the Regional Science Branch, based at the Maurice Lamontagne Institute in Mont-Joli.

#### INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF THE ST. LAWRENCE

This document summarizes the governance mechanisms proposed for the integrated management of the St. Lawrence, a major commitment undertaken by governments under the Canada-Quebec Agreement on the St. Lawrence 2005-2010.

For more information, visit the St. Lawrence Plan Web site at [www.planstlaurent.qc.ca/index\\_e.html](http://www.planstlaurent.qc.ca/index_e.html)



### NEW SCIENCE ADVISORY REPORT ON THE INTERNET

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

- Conservation Objectives for the Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas (EBSA) of the Estuary and Gulf of St. Lawrence.

## 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
Gilles Albert Newport	Failure to hail out. Hails not compliant with licence conditions. <b>\$1,500</b>
Gilles Arseneault Saint-Alphonse	Shellfish harvesting in a closed area. Obstruction of fishery officers in the performance of their duties. <b>\$1,050</b>
Gilles Arseneault Saint-Siméon	Shellfish harvesting in a closed area. Obstruction of fishery officers in the performance of their duties. <b>\$600</b>
Marc-André Arseneau Havre-Aubert Serge Miousse Fatima	Failure to bleed seals for one minute before skinning. <b>\$250 each</b>
Jeannot Aucoin Fatima Steve Arseneau Fatima Dirk Chenell Entry Island	Possession of lobster under the minimum legal size. <b>\$850 (J. A), \$750 (S. A), \$1,000 (D. C)</b>
Jean-Yves Blouin Sept-Îles Onile Gionet Sept-Îles André Rail Lonque-Pointe-de-Mingan Daniel Scherrer Havre-Saint-Pierre Claude Vaillancourt Lonque-Pointe-de-Mingan	Failure to hail out before 8:00 pm on the day prior to snow crab fishing trips. <b>\$250 (J.-Y. B.), \$250 (O. G.), \$250 (A. R.), \$875 (D. S.), \$100 (C. V.)</b>
Réal R. Bond Rivière-au-Tonnerre	Hails not compliant with licence conditions. <b>\$1,500</b>
Ryan Burke Old-Harry	Fishing for lobster without a licence, during a closed time and in a lagoon. <b>\$2,250</b>
Jean-Sébastien Caron Tide Head Yves Caron Atholville	Harvesting shellfish in a closed area and possession of over 300 softshell clams. <b>\$550 (J.-S. C.), \$600 (Y. C.)</b>
Serge Cayouette Bonaventure Gino Gagné Nouvelle Denis Landry Saint-Omer Guy Landry Carleton Jean-Luc Landry Saint-Omer Rock Landry Carleton Raymond Poirier Bonaventure	Shellfish harvesting in a closed area. <b>\$300 each</b>

OFFENDER/HOME	OFFENCE/FINE
Serge Cloutier Sainte-Thérèse-de-Gaspé Isaac Métallic Listuguj Jody Méthot Listuguj Roger Pinel Grande-Rivière	Possession of a lobster under the minimum legal size. <b>\$500 (S. C.), \$1,750 (I. M.), \$500 (J. M.), \$500 (R. P.)</b>
Jeannot Chevarie Étang-du-Nord	Failure to palpate a seal's cranium to confirm that it has been crushed. <b>\$1,000 + licence suspended and banned from sealing areas during the 2010 season.</b>
Lucien Cyr Sainte-Thérèse-de-Gaspé	Possession of lobster under the minimum legal size. <b>\$1,000</b>
Marc Desbiens Patrice Desbiens Dave Tremblay Forestville	Exceeding the recreational softshell clam harvest limit. <b>\$300 each</b>
Robert Deschênes Cap d'Espoir	Possession of lobster under the minimum legal size. Possession of a berried female lobster. <b>\$4,000</b>
Jean-Luc Deveau Pointe-aux-Loups	Making a false statement to a fishery officer and approaching within one-half nautical mile of a person engaged in sealing without a seal fishery observation licence. <b>\$400</b>
Laval-Marie Dionne Trois-Pistoles Laurent Doucet Le Bic	Possession of whelks under the minimum legal size. <b>\$2,500 (L.-M. D.), \$1,000 (L. D.)</b>
Éric Duchênes Tadoussac	Harvesting softshell clams in a closed area. <b>\$600</b>
Éric Joubert Sept-Îles	Failure to hail in after a rock crab fishing trip. <b>\$650</b>
Claude Knight Rivière-au-Tonnerre	Possession of Atlantic halibut under the minimum legal size of 81 cm. <b>\$1,500</b>
Paul-Émile Leblanc Pointe-aux-Loups	Exceeding the limit of six seals. <b>\$300</b>
Denis Poirier Saint-Siméon Jean-Luc Poirier Saint-Elzéar	Shellfish harvesting in a closed area. Possession of softshell clams under the minimum legal size. <b>\$600 each</b>
Jean-Marc Poirier Rivière-au-Tonnerre	Logbooks not completed. Failure to hail out. Refusal to take an observer. Fishing and keeping 10 snow crab. Fishing for turbot using nets with a mesh smaller than the legal size. <b>\$4,000 + partial confiscation of fishing gear</b>
Daniel Scherrer Havre-Saint-Pierre	Fishing for scallops without a properly operating Vessel Monitoring System. <b>One-year probation and suspension of scallop fishing licence until October 1, 2010.</b>
Claude Vaillancourt Lonque-Pointe-de-Mingan	Permitting another fisher to use his vessel without authorization. <b>\$900</b>
Sylvain Vigneau Pascal Vigneau Fatima	Harvesting Atlantic surf clams in a closed area. <b>\$200 each</b>

Martin Bourget  
Communications

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