**Inverness South Fishermen’s Association**

**PROGRAM OUTLINE**

**Lobster Quality Improvement Project 2020-2023**

The Inverness South Fishermen’s Association can now take applications, review and make recommendations for the Inverness South Fishermen’s Association Lobster Quality Improvement Project 2020-2023.

The Project was developed to assist members with purchasing equipment & technology to improve the holding practices for live lobsters on fishing vessels; preserving the quality, vitality and value of their catches.

This initiative aims to provide association members a streamlined process and quicker access to meet their needs.

**Who is eligible to participate?** Members of the Inverness South Fishermen’s Association as of December 31st, 2019. If funds remain at the end of 2021, we will extend the qualification to include members as of Dec. 31st, 2020.

**What activities are eligible?** The purchase and installation of onboard equipment & technology

to maintain and enhance the quality of lobsters until they are offloaded.

Purchase and installation includes capital expenditures to acquire equipment & technology and

contracted services for qualified professionals to install, retrofit and/or fit-up said equipment &

technology onboard existing or new fishing vessels. Other direct project costs that are

incremental, reasonable, and essential to carrying out the eligible activities may also be

considered and assessed for eligibility.

The ability to measure and maintain water quality is a key component of this initiative and

applicants are expected to include this component in projects where live wells are being

outfitted / upgraded on a vessel. Live wells on a vessel must have dedicated water pumps with a rating of at least 60 gallons per minute.

**What is funded?**

Live wells: tubs, lids, tubs for ice (2), pump kit, water quality monitoring

Equipment: lobster bander, lobster boom

Equipment Other: canopy

**What funding assistance is available?**

Eligible costs associated with live wells will be funded at a 75 percent assistance rate.

Eligible costs for equipment (lobster bander, lobster boom) will be funded at a 75 percent assistance rate.

Eligible costs for equipment other (canopy) will be funded at a 25 percent assistance rate.

Funding assistance will only be provided (i.e. reimbursed) on eligible costs incurred and paid based on receipts, invoices etc. for purchases made.

**How do I apply to participate?** Complete and submit the application form and all supporting documents to:

Inverness South Fishermen’s Association

823 Mabou Harbour Rd.

Mabou, NS

B0E 1X0

If you require assistance or have questions, please contact us (902) 945-2459.

**What happens after I apply?** The application will be reviewed and presented to the Project Review Committee (the Committee). The Committee will make a recommendation to accept, deny or to revise the application. All acceptance recommendations will be subject to due diligence checks (verifications). A response to your application should be provided within 4-6 weeks.

**Other Stipulations**

As this Project is being funded through the federal and provincial governments, applicants must be in good standing with both the federal and provincial departments of fisheries and the Nova Scotia Fisheries & Aquaculture Loan Board (if applicable).

Good standing refers to payments, compliance & enforcement and depending on the nature and frequency of a violation or offence you may be denied funding support under the project.

Applicants must also disclose if they have any overdue amounts owed to the Crown.

Applicants must clearly indicate all sources of funding for their project and provide

confirmation of all sources of funding (e.g. confirmation of bank loan or equity for the balance

of project financing).

Detailed invoices identifying / itemizing capital expenditure and contracted services must be

provided. Taxes and other government fees (if applicable) must be clearly delineated.

Applicants are required to sign a Declaration and Consent form to use their personal

information under the Project.

Costs incurred prior to February 24th, 2020 are not eligible for funding assistance.

Association members funded under the Project must retain control and possession of the assets

funded for a minimum of two (2) years following the project completion date. Failure to do so

WILL result in full repayment.