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# *Notice to Fish Harvesters*

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October 12, 2017

EKME: 3826978

## **2017 SCALLOP CONSERVATION HARVESTING PLAN FOR SCALLOP FISHING AREA 24**

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), Gulf Region, wishes to advise stakeholders of the Scallop Fishing Area 24 management measures for the 2017 fishing season. All management measures as per the 2016 management plan remain in effect for 2017.

Fishing season: November 1, 2017 to December 15, 2017. The fishery will take place between 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. daily, and will be closed on Sundays.

Meat count: 52 per 500g of meat.

Logbook requirements: Fish harvesters are required to maintain a record of their estimated catches in a logbook prior to entering port. Fish harvesters are required to forward their logbooks to DFO no later than two weeks following the closure of the fishing season.

Ring size: The authorized ring size in the bucket construction is set at 82.6 mm (3 ¼ inches) with the exception of the first row of buckets where 76.2 mm (3 inches) rings may be used.

Drag size: Maximum cumulative width of 5.08 m (16 feet 8 inches) (outside measurements).

Washers: Two (2) steel washers may be used to join each side of the rings together giving a maximum of eight (8) steel washers per ring. In addition, one rubber washer may be used vertically to join two (2) bucket rings together. The maximum outside diameter of rubber washers must not exceed 50.8 mm. Furthermore, chaffing gear on the underside of the drag will be allowed when the rings are joined only with steel washers.

Offloading requirements: No person shall land (off-load) any other part of the scallop except for the adductor muscle (no roe or other internal organs of the scallop may be retained).

Buffer zones: All existing buffer zones remain in place. These coastal buffer zones for the protection of lobster habitat and the ecosystem continue to be applied by variation order.

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