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# *Notice to Fish Harvesters*

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May 20, 2016

## **MINIMUM LOBSTER CARAPACE SIZE IN LOBSTER FISHING AREA 25**

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) announces that the minimum lobster carapace size will be increased to 73 millimetres in Lobster Fishing Area (LFA) 25 for the 2016 fishing season, with further increases to 75 millimetres in 2017 and 77 millimetres in 2018.

This decision was taken after numerous consultation meetings with First Nations, aboriginal organizations, industry, provincial governments and processors in New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia over the last several years. Increasing the carapace size will have conservation benefits in LFA 25 by allowing more female lobsters to reproduce. Furthermore, this gradual increase over 3 years will allow harvesters and markets to adjust to the change in carapace size.

Further details on other management measures as well as the opening date of the fishery will be issued at a later date.

### **FOR INFORMATION:**

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