

Notice to Fish Harvesters

January 8, 2016

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CHANGES TO MINIMUM LEGAL SIZE LOBSTER AND ESCAPE MECHANISM IN LOBSTER FISHING AREAS 26 A2 AND 26 B SOUTH

Antigonish – Changes in the minimum legal size lobster and lobster trap escape mechanism in Lobster Fishing Areas (LFA) 26 B South and sub-LFA 26A2 are identified below:

LFA 26 A2 (approximate location between ports of Little Harbour and Havre Boucher)

- An increase of the minimum legal lobster carapace size to 76 mm in 2016.
- In 2016, the escape mechanism minimum size is either 43 mm in height by 127 mm in length or 42 mm in height by 254 mm in length.

LFA 26B Southern portion (approximate location between ports of Auld's Cove and Broad Cove Marsh)

- An increase of the minimum legal lobster carapace size to 81 mm in 2016, and 82.5 mm in 2017.
- In 2016, the escape mechanism will remain unchanged from 2015 (minimum of either 44 mm in height by 127 mm in length or 43 mm in height by 254 mm in length).
- In 2017, the only option will be an escape mechanism minimum size of 44 mm in height by 127 mm in length.

The chart below identifies the minimum legal size lobster and corresponding escape mechanism size required:

Length of escape opening between 127 mm and less than 254 mm	
Minimum carapace size	Height of escape opening
>71 mm to 73 mm	42 mm
>73 mm to 76 mm	43 mm
>76 mm	44 mm
Length of escape opening equal to or greater than 254 mm	
Minimum carapace size	Height of escape opening
>71 mm to 73 mm	41 mm
>73 mm to 76 mm	42 mm
>76 mm to 80 mm	43 mm
>80 mm	44 mm

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