

# **Herring - Area 15**

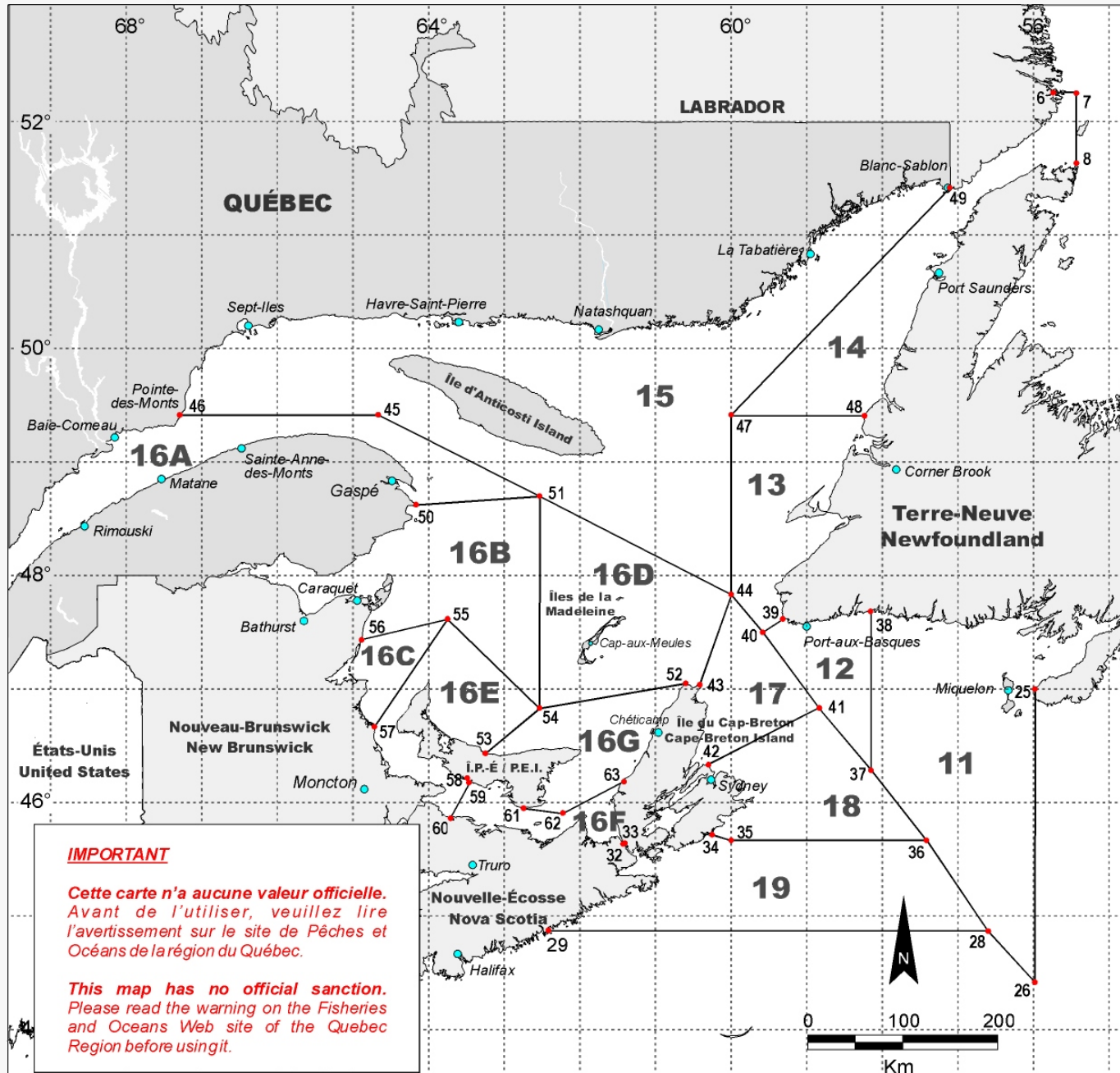
**Presentation to the Fisheries Resource  
Conservation Council (FRCC)**

**January 17, 2008**

# Herring – Area 15

## Geographical Extent

- Same boundaries as area 4S
- From West to East: Pointe-des-Monts to Blanc Sablon (more than 1000 km of coastline)
- To the South: A point extending out to offshore Bay St. George
- Includes : Anticosti Island (220km x 60km)



Points	LATITUDE NORD / NORTH			●	LONGITUDE OUEST / WEST		
	d	m	s		d	m	s
6	52	15	00	●	Côte / Shore		
7	52	15	00	○	55	26	00
8	51	38	00	●	55	26	00
25	Côte / Shore			○	55	59	00
26	44	25	00	●	55	59	00
28	44	52	00	●	56	36	00
29	44	52	00	●	Côte / Shore		
32	45	38	10	○	61	25	45
33	45	38	30	●	61	24	15
34	45	43	00	○	60	15	00
35	45	40	00	●	60	00	00
36	45	40	00	○	57	25	00
37	46	17	00	●	58	09	00
38	Côte / Shore			○	58	09	00
39	47	37	00	●	59	19	00
40	47	30	00	○	59	35	00
41	46	50	00	●	58	50	00
42	46	20	00	○	60	18	00
43	47	02	15	●	60	24	55
44	47	50	00	○	60	00	00
45	49	25	00	●	64	40	00
46	49	25	00	○	Côte / Shore		
47	49	25	00	●	60	00	00
48	49	25	00	○	Côte / Shore		
49	51	25	00	●	57	06	45
50	48	37	30	○	64	10	00
51	48	42	00	●	62	32	00
52	47	03	00	○	60	36	00
53	46	26	00	●	63	15	00
54	46	50	00	○	62	32	00
55	47	37	00	●	63	45	00
56	47	26	00	○	64	53	12
57	46	40	00	●	64	43	00
58	46	12	58	○	63	29	26
59	46	10	35	●	63	28	03
60	45	51	45	○	63	42	42
61	45	57	00	●	62	44	40
62	45	54	30	○	62	13	30
63	46	11	00	●	61	25	00

dernière mise à jour / last update : 07/05/2004

**IMPORTANT**

*Cette carte n'a aucune valeur officielle. Avant de l'utiliser, veuillez lire l'avertissement sur le site de Pêches et Océans de la région du Québec.*

*This map has no official sanction. Please read the warning on the Fisheries and Oceans Web site of the Quebec Region before using it.*

d: degré / degree    m: minute    s: seconde

# Herring – Area 15

## Brief Background

- Fished for a number of decades
- Since 1992 →cautionary TAC at 4,000t
- Mainly coastal fishery for bait for more lucrative fisheries (crab, lobster, groundfish)
- Fished by fishing boats < 50'

# Herring – Area 15

## Licences Issued

- Commercial fishery: 275
  - ❖ Gillnets: 243
  - ❖ Traps: 24
  - ❖ Purse seines: 13
- Bait Licence: close to 250
- Few licences for Native communities for commercial fishing and for Food, Social and Ceremonial Fishing.

# Herring – Area 15

## Recorded Landings

- Average 1990-2007: 334t
- Landings 2006: 128t (\$58,650)
  - ❑ over 80% by gillnets
  - ❑ 29 harvesters
  - ❑ From April 17 to September 21
- Landings 2007: 121t (\$47,534)
  - ❑ 98% by gillnets
  - ❑ 25 harvesters
  - ❑ April 22 to August 23

# Herring – Area 15

## Economic Significance

- Total Quebec landings in 2006 (all species):  
..... 58,300t (\$110.2M);
- Total landings on North Shore in 2006 (all species): ..... 13,336t (\$20.3M);  
including crab, 41%; shrimp, 11%;  
groundfish, 11%; and shellfish, 23%  
(surfclam, whelk, scallop, softshell clam);
- Herring landings in Area 15 make up a small % of total herring landings recorded in QC (128t vs 4,250t)

# Herring – Area 15

## Economic Significance

- Significance for bait fishery for other more lucrative fisheries (crab, lobster, groundfish)

# Herring – Area 15 Management Measures

- TAC of 4,000mt for boats <65'
- Competitive fishery
- Pelagic Advisory Committee
- IFMP in place for 2006-2010
- Because of little fishing effort
  - Few management measures in place: gillnets limited to 500 fathoms (commercial), 3 nets of 50 fathoms (bait),
  - Daily limit for bait fishery
  - No DMP, no at sea observer program

# Herring – Area 15 Management Measures

- Current problems: Salmon by-catch in gillnets and traps
- DFO working with the Quebec Government on this issue
- Streamlining of licence conditions for pelagic fisheries (commercial and bait fisheries)
- Monitoring will increase

# Herring – Area 15 Management Measures

- Fishing restricted to beyond 500 meters of the mouth of a salmon river (already in place)/ increased monitoring
- Measures will be added to license conditions:
  - Gillnets:
    - Headrope must be 1 fathom below surface
    - Mesh size limit
  - Traps:
    - Monofilament netting prohibited,
    - Mesh size limit of the trapnet leader (51mm to 178 mm)

# Herring – Area 15

## General Findings

- Currently low landings
- No conservation problem
- No real market (essentially bait)
- Little processing facility
- Herring remains an important species for North Shore harvesters

# Herring – Area 15

## Current issues

- Salmon by-catch is a problem
- Efforts to increase pelagic fisheries on the North Shore (herring, mackerel, capelin)
  - Development plan tabled by industry in Spring 2007
  - DFO/DEC/MAPAQ/Industry
- Lack of scientific information
  - Herring
  - Other pelagic
  - Forage species policy / ecosystem approach
- Pressure from other fleets to fish in Area 15 (4S) – Potential gear conflict (fixed and purse seine)