

The Bay of Fundy Marine Resources Centre and the Fundy Fixed Gear Council

Areas of Research Interest of the Bay of Fundy Marine Resources Centre, Fundy Fixed Gear Council and Gulf Nova Scotia Bonafide Fishermen's Association

Arising from the **March 9, 2000** held at the Bay of Fundy Marine Resources Centre, Cornwallis Park.

Attendance: John Kearney, Flora Murphy, Arthur Bull, members of the FFGC board

1. Licenses:
The selling of licenses by individual fish harvesters.
What impact could/does this have on the industry?
2. Marine Infrastructure.
History of the clam industry in the Digby area
3. What impact has the collapse of this fishery had on the surrounding communities?
4. Economics of fishing:
The economic management, how and where fish can be sold?
Marketing, where does the economic off spin of the fishery benefit?
5. How many traps should be in St. George's Bay? (regarding the entry of the Mi'kmaq harvesters).

May 26, 2000

Summary of SRSF Meeting: Bay of Fundy Marine Resources Centre and the Fundy Fixed Gear Council

Time: 12:30pm-3:30pm

Location: Cornwallis, Bay of Fundy Marine Resources Centre

Attendance: Tanya Baker, Arthur Bull, Tony Davis, Bill Crossman, Kirk Mattie, Flora Murphy

Summary

The meeting was designed to provide an opportunity for the MRC/FFGC - SRSF group to meet and discuss issues directly related to their research issues and the work being conducted in that area. During the first hours the group meet together over lunch and discussed the project work of Tanya Baker and Kirk Mattie the student interns. From this they were able to determine a means of disseminating the statistical information (use Access or Excel) that they had obtained on landing information for 1996-98.

- Agreement that the interns will continue to work on compiling the data.
- Bill is continuing to work on compiling background documents for the MRC and FFGC.

July 14, 2000

Summary of SRSF Meeting: Bay of Fundy Marine Resources Centre / Fundy Fixed Gear Council

Location: Cornwallis Park

Attendance: Tanya Baker, Arthur Bull, Bill Crossman, John Kearney, Kirk Mattie, Flora Murphy

Summary

- Agreement that they will work on a background document. Clarification of the content, socio-economic background and profile of FFGC and MRC.
- Interns concerned about their special projects, feel they need time and opportunity to satisfy the projects. Bill agrees to ensure opportunities will be created

August 11, 2000

Summary of SRSF Meeting: Bay of Fundy Marine Resources Centre and Fundy Fixed Gear Council

Location: Cornwallis Park

Attendance: Tanya Baker, Arthur Bull, Bill Crossman, Tony Davis, Kirk Mattie, Flora Murphy

Summary

- Discussion initially on the August 4, 2000 Steering Committee meeting that Arthur was unable to attend.
- Arthur is in favour of the potential to have full year interns working with the partners.
- Flora will look on ACOA web site for funding, under the Atlantic Innovation Fund.
- Discussion concerning the upcoming DFO meeting to be held August 16, 2000 in Halifax, agreement that Bill will attend and Arthur may possibly be able to attend.

- Tony and Flora will return on August 23, 2000 to assist with the background documents.
- Tony will check on termination dates for Tanya and Kirk's internship.
- Tanya and Kirk express that they found the internship disorganised initially but has now been pulled together.
- Flora will check with John Kearney concerning the report (charts/graphs) that Kirk and Tanya did for the Fundy Fixed Gear Council

August 31, 2000

Summary of SRSF Meeting: Bay of Fundy Marine Resources Centre

Location: Cornwallis Park

Attendance: Arthur Bull, Tony Davis, Bill Crossman, and Flora Murphy

Summary

- Fundy Fixed Gear Council should work on a more focused project. Narrowing in on cultural/genealogical and occupational differences between various groups in the area (Acadian/English/Black/Mi'Kmaq), as well as alliances within these groups. An exploration may shed light on the tensions in the area.
- Marine Resources Centre will continue to work toward the building of research capacity.

Agreements

- September 15, 2000 – FFGC summary and background.
- Development with FFGC a specific project description and outline.
- End of September – Bill will make contact with COGS and DFO regarding statistical information.
- October 10, 2000 – Arthur is able to attend a Steering Committee meeting if held on this date, Flora will check with the other members.

Guysborough County Inshore Fishermen's Association

April 4, 2000

Summary of SRSF Meeting: Guysborough County Inshore Fishermen's Association

Location: Fishermen's Hall, Canso NS

Attendance: 45-50 association members, Pat Rhynold and Ginny Boudreau, John Kearney, Flora Murphy

Time: 6:30pm-7:30pm

SRSF Agenda/Object of attending the membership meeting:

- The process/history of the CURA/SRSF;
- Address the research concerns of the association;
- Emphasis the importance of working together to achieve the research concerns of the association and its members;
- To ensure that a general understanding is had by all GCIFA members of the SRSF.

Concerns and Questions raised by the association members.

C/Q: Are these studies going to be useful to the association and its members? Will they see the studies that come out of this research? Will they be able to apply it to their work and lives?

C/Q: What impact can these studies have when they are trying to work with DFO? There is a concern that DFO will not accept any study that they have not been involved in conducting.

C/Q: How will their concerns and the studies have an impact when they are trying to work with and against large corporate companies?

C/Q: What is the point of a long-term study when the fishermen may not be fishing 5-10 years from now?

Many of the members seem focused on short-term results. It is important that during the initial stages of this project that they are informed of advances and that they feel that they will gain from a partnership with the SRSF.

C/Q: Why hasn't DFO put any money into Eastern Nova Scotia (the Canso area in particular)?

A general feeling of being neglected by DFO, and concern with the approaches and methods that DFO embodies.

-Fishermen feel disempowered and skeptical about the future of their industry.

-They are strongly focused on short-term outcomes, and need tangible outcomes to encourage their participation in this project.

Summary of SRSF Meeting: Guysborough County Inshore Fishermen's Association

Time: 11am – 2pm

Location: Canso, Fishermen's Hall

Attendance: Ginny Boudreau, Tony Davis, Flora Murphy, Pat Rhynold

Summary

The meeting provided an excellent opportunity to discuss the project's progress, the direction for the coming months and as well an additional opportunity to foster the working relations between the GCIFA and the SRSF. The discussion addressed several issues related to the SRSF project, including the association's attitudes toward the project. The membership are pleased with the progress made to date, they have been cooperative in providing information and are utilizing the human resources their for the association and in the office. As well, Ginny and Ashley have made substantial progress obtaining background information and are keen to explore the various information avenues. The listserv is a resource that should be used for the CRCs and the interns to discuss and share the information they have obtained and the experience they are able to share with each other. Further, Ashley and Ginny have been developing a GCIFA web page, which is now operational, it would be useful to have this site linked with the SRSF webpage.

Flora will be making weekly trips to Canso to work with Ginny and Ashley and to act as a resource for them. It should be noted that these visits are not designed to be "check-ups" but instead as an opportunity for the organisation to draw on resources there for them.

July 11, 2000

Summary of SRSF Meeting: Guysborough County Inshore Fishermen's Association

Attendance: Ashley Bouchie, Ginny Boudreau, John Kearney, Flora Murphy, and Pat Rhynold

Location: Canso, Fishermen's Hall

Summary

- John will provide GCIFA with a copy of Ildiko Asztalos' master thesis on Country Harbour, Guysborough County.
- John recommends a book by Janis Raymond which contain statistics by port.
- John will send out subscription to SRSF partners for the CCBM listserv.
- John will look for Tom Potchery source.

Ginny and Ashley recommend that seminars be held in a cooler room.

August 10, 2000

Summary of SRSF Meeting: Guysborough County Inshore Fishermen's Association

Location: Fishermen's Hall, Canso

Attendance: Ginny Boudreau, Ashley Bouchie, Tony Davis, Flora Murphy, and Pat Rhynold

Summary

- Ginny and Ashley have been having difficulty obtaining statistical information for Guysborough County and statistics by port.
- Agreement with DFO, GCIFA and SRSF to meet on August 16, 2000 at 10:30am in Halifax to discuss the project and how DFO can be of assistance in providing statistical information.
- Tony will provide Janis Raymond information for Ginny and Ashley.

Gulf Nova Scotia Bonafide Fishermen's Association

April 19, 2000

Summary of SRSF Meeting: Membership of Gulf Nova Scotia Bonafide Fishermen's Association

Location: Lakevale Mini Trail Community Centre

Attendance: Sandy Benoit and 25-30 members, Tony Davis, John Kearney, Flora Murphy

Time: 8pm – 9pm

SRSF Agenda/Object of attending the membership meeting:

- The process/history of the CURA/SRSF;
- Address the research concerns of the association;
- Emphasis the importance of working together to achieve the research concerns of the association and its members;
- To ensure that a general understanding is had by all GNSBFA members of the SRSF.

Questions and Concerns expressed by members of the GNSBFA:

Q/C: How are the CRC and the Intern going to work and obtain the information from the fisher harvesters?

Q/C: Is this worth our time?

Some of the members are tired of participating in studies that they do not feel they get any feedback or help from.

Q/C: What substantial information or benefits are we going to get from this project?

Q/C: Do you have a process which guides you through this project, (an agenda that we have for them, what do the directors and researcher benefit from this project)?

Q/C: What is the Native involvement in this project?

Q/C: How are these results going to be any different from studies done in the past?

Clearly associating this project with studies (DFO) done in the past. Need to find a means to give them a feeling of some control of the research agenda and stress our bottom up philosophy.

June 2, 2000

SRSF Meeting Summary: Gulf Nova Scotia Bonafide Fishermen's Association

Attendance: Sandy Benoit, Tony Davis, Flora Murphy, Jana Purdy, Kay Wallace

Location: St. Francis Xavier University

Summary

- Discussion on the importance of setting up the office and the resource that it will be for the membership.
- With the completion of setting up the office they will be able to focus on compiling the background documents on the association.
 - Membership numbers
 - Ports (Statistics Canada / DFO / Dominion Bureau)
 - Number of licenses / type
 - Mobility of licenses
 - Licenses by port
- Basic information can be obtained from the local DFO area office in Antigonish.
- Specific project, defining it well and then framing it so that it can be linked with university researchers.
- Jana's special project will focus on Hake and Cod predation on Lobster.

June 20, 2000

Summary of SRSF Meeting: Gulf Nova Scotia Bonafide Fishermen's Association

Location: Lakevale Mini Trail Community Centre

Attendance: Flora Murphy, Jana Purdy, Kay Wallace

Summary

- Agreement that by July 10 they will have an outline of their background document.
- Jana feels that she needs an extension on her special project, has not had enough time to develop.

Agreement that Maria Recchia should be contacted to work with them to apply for the DFO permit. The permit would allow them to conduct their own study on the Hack and Cod predation on Lobster.

July 13, 2000

Summary of SRSF Meeting: Gulf Nova Scotia Bonafide Fishermen's Association

Location: Lakevale Mini Trail Community Centre

Attendance: Sandy Benoit, John Kearney, Flora Murphy, Jana Purdy, and Kay Wallace

Summary

- Agreement that Kay and Jana will go to the local regional DFO office for Statistical District information on license holders to create an inventory and profile of their membership.
- They met with Maria Recchia on July 1 and were pleased; they will draw on her knowledge next year when they apply for the permit.
- Decision to slow down with their desire to initiate a study of the Cod and Hack predation on Lobster.
 - Jana will complete the literary review and then go out on the boats to observe the DFO observer. She will consult John Phyne to review questionnaire, Jim Williams to assist with the design of the boat observation period, and Maria Recchia concerning the questions and approach.
 - Kay will continue to work on background document, inventory of license holders and the significance of lobster to the Association.
 - Completion date for the first draft of the background document will be the end of August.

August 9, 2000

Summary of SRSF Meeting: Gulf Nova Scotia Bonafide Fishermen's Association

Summary

Documents that may be produced by the association.

- Summary of the process and set up of the new office, this summary would be useful for the members, the association and St. FX. It may also identify areas that the association may need to address.
- Section I
Review of the Association.
 - History of the Association
 - Constitution
 - Membership trends
 - Demographics of members
 - Key concerns of membership
 - Previous work/studies that have been done in the St. Georges' Bay
- Section II
 - A) Socio-Economic Document
 - Description of fisheries in each of the ports which the association has members, through time
 - Fleet size
 - Number of harvesters
 - Fish harvested
 - Landed catch and value
 - B) Significance of the Fishery in the Area
 - Population, income, occupations through time, and spin off jobs
 - History of fisheries, i.e. Number of licenses
 - Methods
 - Quota system – what is transferable

August 24, 2000

Summary of SRSF Meeting: Gulf Nova Scotia Bonafide Fishermen's Association

Location: Lakevale Mini Trail Community Centre

Attendance: Tony Davis, Flora Murphy, Jana Purdy, and Kay Wallace

Summary

- Concern from the association executive regarding the cost of being engaged in the SRSF project.
- Clarification of some budget items and discussion of how to ease their concerns.
- ACOA's FRAME funding will not support fisheries related associations and organisations.
- Kay will look into funding for rural settings, such as funding from Industry Canada and Agriculture Canada.
- Kay is meeting with the RDA, John Parker and Veronica Gillis.
- Kay will check on the association's taxation status (NGO, non-profit, charitable).
- Tony will provide Kay with the draft document from Mike Chadwick and Erin Breen.
- Tony will call Lorris Keizer concerning the BNSBFA's malfunctioning A:/ drive and look into antivirus software.
- Tony will check into Digital Recorders.
- Agreement that Kay will contact Afton and possibly Pictou Landing concerning a partnership with GNSBFA, possibly to focus on training and skill sets.

Mi'Kmaq Fish and Wildlife Commission

May 10, 2000

Summary of SRSF Meeting: Mi'Kmaq Fish and Wildlife Commission

Attendance: Louie Beaubien, Tony Davis, Tanya Francis, Dodd GooGoo, John Kearney, Flora Murphy, Darlene Paul, John Prosper

Location: Afton First Nation

Summary

- Discuss the potential for the implementation of a distance education centre at the band office in Afton.
- Short introduction to the SRSF and Tony Davis, Kearney and Flora Murphy.

May 31, 2000

Summary of SRSF Meeting: Mi'Kmaq Fish and Wildlife Commission

Attendance: Tony Davis, Flora Murphy, Harold Paul, and John Prosper

Location: Afton First Nation

Summary

- John Prosper makes suggestion that Harold compose a list of areas to work in and

• Discussion of summer research steps.

1) Collect background information that exists.

- Gather information from Traditional Ecological Knowledge study.
- Land use maps (John Prosper would like to gain GIS capacity for the Commission)

2) Mi'Kmaq Dictionary

- Education Dept. at St. FX
- Father Pacifique, Francis-Smith
- Bernie Francis

3) Other Sources

- Nash source – Archeology of eels (Tony will provide)
- Jesuit Relations – St. FX Library
- Eskasoni Band- GIS mapping eels
- Tony will work on getting copy of Jane's honour's thesis on eel stew
- TARR – Treaty Research

- The SRSF will provide Harold's bus travel if necessary.
- Agreed Steps:
 1. Gather eel publications
 2. Mi'Kmaq knowledge that is available and accessible
 3. Gather language on eel, environment, ecological, customs, conditions
 4. Jesuit Relations – Historical Docs. and mapsArcheological evidence

June 12, 2000

Summary of SRSF Meeting: Mi'Kmaq Fish and Wildlife Commission

Location: Afton First Nation

Attendance: John Kearney, Flora Murphy, and Harold Paul

Summary

- Harold will have a work plan done by the end of June.
- Agreement that the first draft of their background document will be completed by August 7, but there is room for flexibility considering the progress they are able to make.
- At the end of the summer the research issue will be clarified and refined as a result of the background information that has been compiled.

Harold will look into the Atlantic Policy Centre and their treaty information.

July 12, 2000

Summary of SRSF Meeting: Mi'Kmaq Fish and Wildlife Commission

Location: Afton First Nation

Attendance: John Kearney, Flora Murphy, Harold Paul, and Kerry Prosper

Summary

- MFWC will focus on two watersheds:
 1. Antigonish Harbour – very popular Eeling area in 1950's and 60's
 2. Pomquet
- Factors leading to the decline of the eel population.
 1. Forestry – obtain information from DNR (Antigonish and Halifax), Amherst geometric centre
 2. Agriculture – Archives
 3. Community Development
 4. Mining
 5. Commercial Fishing – Fish buyer records, DFO, elder interviews
 6. Recreational Fishing – Food fishermen, interviewing elders
- Skills desired by MFWC:
 - interpreting maps, understanding of scientific language
- Application of Language (Story, History, Cultural Context)
- Explore the meaning of the eel to Native Communities (Big Cove, Lenix Island, Campbellton River NB, and Restigouche).
 - Traditional uses of eel
 - Language inventory, include Maliseet words
 - Spiritual relations to eels
 - Mardina Marshall, UCCB
- Agreement to focus on 4 areas in the next 1 _ months:
 1. What is the Mi'Kmaq connection to eels?
 2. The spiritual connection?
 3. Stories that are connected to the importance of eels.
 4. Inventory of related Mi'Kmaq words.
- Flora will check with the St. FX TSG concerning Kerry, Bill, Ginny and Kay's access to

August 8, 2000

SRSF Meeting Summary: Mi'Kmaq Fish and Wildlife Commission

Location: Afton First Nation

Attendance: Tony Davis, Flora Murphy, Harold Paul, and Kerry Prosper

Summary

- Section I: Development of the Initial Document

Categories

1. Words for 'eels' e.g. life stages, sizes
2. Words for eel e.g. environment (when are the appropriate times to eel)
3. Eel fishing words (techniques)
4. Eel usage
5. Mi'Kmaq cultural understanding of eel
6. Mi'Kmaq spirituality and medicinal uses of eel

These categories would be separated by source and date to show changes over time and possibly geographical region. It is likely that the same words will appear in different categories. It may be useful to first compile a list and then to put in categories.

- Section II: Land Use and Settlement

1. Rainfall
2. Occupation / Use (Dept. of Agriculture)
3. Run off
4. Settlement Patterns
5. Aerial Photos
6. Maps (Church maps)
7. Document the set-up of reserves to demonstrate change of population settlements
8. Eel population (if they exist)
9. Economic / Taxation policies
10. Forestry Practices

- Kerry will inquire about the Mi'Kmaq photo exhibition previously at the St. FX gallery, should be information from the Peabody Museum and the X gallery.

August 30, 2000

Summary of SRSF Meeting: Mi'Kmaq Fish and Wildlife Commission

Location: Afton First Nation

Attendance: Tony Davis, Flora Murphy, Harold Paul, John Prosper, and Kerry Prosper

Summary

- Kerry will continue to look into Roy Cunningham photographs dating back to early eel fishing times.
- Bernie Frances and Wilfred Prosper will be contacted and interviewed for their extensive knowledge of Mi'Kmaq language.
- Kerry has been in touch with Steven Augustine in Ottawa concerning the Mi'Kmaq language.
- Kerry would like to interview some people with the Afton community, but would like to be sure of the proper pronunciation before he initiates these interviews.
- Kerry and Flora will continue to look into the Peabody Museum and the St. FX Art Gallery.