
November 9th, 2016

Re: EAC correction request of CAB comment response in the Public Certification Report for Canadian 4VWX Purse Seine Herring Fishery

Dear Assessment Team,

Thank you for your detailed response to our comments submitted on the PCDR. We are pleased to hear that some concerns are noted and the CAB will be monitoring the fishery closely in audits. Many of the recommendations given by the team are excellent and will lead to progress in the management of this fishery, if followed. We would have liked to see some of these as binding conditions to ensure implementation, rather than recommendations, therefore we look forward to the assessment team's close follow up of these in audits.

We request a correction to the report to accurately reflect our position on the management decision taken at the July 7th advisory committee. Your response to our stakeholder comments, states:

Regarding the TAC, the team noted that the main management strategy, the TAC, has not often been changed in response to changes in stock status. However, it is clear that the matter is discussed for we understand that ***at the 2016 DFO Scotia Fundy Herring Advisory Committee meeting on July 7, there was near unanimous agreement, including from the EAC, to roll over the TAC for the 2015/16 fishing year at 50,000t.*** As stated above, the assessment team will be considering the responsiveness and appropriateness of management responses to changes in stock status at future surveillance audits. (emphasis added)

Please find attached an email from the fishery manager following the July 7th meeting with a summary that states:

At the Scotia-Fundy Herring Advisory Committee (SFHAC) meeting on July 7, representatives of the purse seine fleet recommended maintaining a TAC of 50,000t, but reducing pressure on German Bank through a 10,000t cap on landings and a reduction from a 5 to a 4-day fishing week during the spawning period. Additionally, the industry cap on landings in the Scots Bay area was to be increased from 7000t to 9000t, to balance out the increased restrictions on German Bank. This proposal was supported by the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries & Aquaculture representative. A representative from the Fundy Weir Fishermen's Association, the Ecology Action Centre, and Tall Ship Whale Adventures advised a need for more caution. (emphasis added)

Also, attached is a statement we released when the TAC was announced confirming our disagreement with the decision to roll over the 50 000t TAC for the 2015/2016 fishing season. We

would appreciate it if you could revise the PCR to accurately reflect our disagreement as expressed during the advisory committee.

Thank you,



Shannon Arnold
Marine Policy Coordinator
Ecology Action Centre