



DFO Gaspé - Lower St. Lawrence Area: Pilot Project

- Commercial Fishery
for **Tourism** Purposes
- Presented in French by *Danièle Laurin*
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Vision :

To develop a sustainable fishery by integrating approaches or alternatives to ensure the viability of the lobster fishing industry on the south of the Gaspé Peninsula.



Goal :

To promote the culture and heritage of the coastal fishery on the Gaspé Peninsula.





Objectives :

- To support and contribute to the improvement of the economic viability of lobster fishing
- To build collaboration and partnerships between the industry and the DFO Gaspé-Lower St. Lawrence Area.
- To bring about cultural change by developing new skills and competencies in the lobster fishing industry.



A new approach :

Outings at sea that will offer visitors a tourist experience with a qualified lobster fisher ready to present and explain the culture and heritage of the coastal fishery on the Gaspé Peninsula.



Challenges : The 3 Ps

- Problems to overcome: Challenges in the Canadian lobster fishery.
- Program support for restructuring measures in the lobster fishery.
- Partnership building: Struggling coastal communities searching for solutions for viable and sustainable development.



DFO's Role :

- Making sure that the decisions for the project conform to DFO's policies, regulations, and mandate.
- Contributing to the establishment of a regulatory and the resource management framework for the pilot project.
- Developing conservation measures and procedures in support of the concept of a *commercial fishery for tourism purposes*.
- Supporting our partner in this project, the Professional Fishers' Group of the Southern Gaspé Peninsula (Regroupement des pêcheurs du sud de la Gaspésie - R.P.P.S.G.).



Pilot Project 2011

- Who : Fishers holding a lobster licence (having taken a prerequisite training course)
- When : From July 1st to September 15th
(varies according to species)
- How : vessels authorized for the commercial fishery (less than 13.71 m / 45 feet)



Where : 6 sites have been proposed

- 2 in the regional municipalities of Baie des Chaleurs-Bonaventure and Port Daniel
- 2 in the regional municipality of Rocher Percé
- 2 in the regional municipality of Gaspé coast (including the Gaspeg First Nation)





Conclusion:

- **Networking:**

Dialogue between ministers and partners –(D.F.O./C.E.D./R.P.P.S.G.), a work plan, an implementation calendar, and the willingness to work together have all facilitated the evolution of the pilot project.

Several local economic partners will be sought throughout the project in order to ensure its implementation and to promote excellence in tourism.

- To date, our work plan has reached step 2; ;
 - Implementation – the responsibility of the R.P.P.S.G.

☺ Thank you

☺ Photo on page 1: Magalie Hardy