

Sound Fisheries Management Strengthening Adjacency



FFAW | UNIFOR
Fish, Food & Allied Workers

Adjacency

- Longstanding, internationally recognized cornerstone of responsible fisheries management
- Key principle of:
 - United Nations declaring Exclusive Economic Zones
 - Signing of the Law of the Sea Treaty
 - 1992 Rio Declaration, Agenda 21
 - 1995 FAO Code of Conduct of Responsible Fisheries:

“States should appropriately protect the rights of fishers and fishworkers, particularly those engaged in subsistence, small-scale and artisanal fisheries, to a secure and just livelihood, as well as preferential access, where appropriate, to traditional fishing grounds and resources in the waters under their national jurisdiction.”

The Evolution of Fisheries Policy

1970s: focused on declaring the 200-mile zone and gaining management of adjacent waters;

1980s: focused on expanding capacity in both harvesting and processing, as well as creating regulatory systems to handle the vast resources now under jurisdiction;

1990s: rapidly-approaching issues of stock collapses, cuts in resources to government, focus on Aboriginal fishing rights. Implemented license retirement programs, improving technologies for by-catch, and retraining programs for fish harvesters. New licensing policy, the *Oceans Act*, a move toward co-management; and

2000s: market fluctuations and resource challenges. Fisheries policies aimed to create conditions to allow harvesters become more economically self-reliant, and moving away from top-down management toward a system of co-management.

Goals of Fisheries Policy - Adjacency

Atlantic Fisheries Policy Review concluded that fisheries policy must be made with the following goals in mind:

- Spurring economic growth, job creation and the new economy;
- Promote competition, efficiency and innovation;
- Enhance international competitiveness, in light of economic globalization; and,
- Produce a net benefit for the Canadian economy

Adjacency

“The adjacency criterion requires that priority of access should be granted to those who are closest to the fishery resource in question. The adjacency criterion is based on the explicit premise that those coastal fishing communities and fishers in closest proximity to a given fishery should gain the greatest benefit from it, and on the implicit assumption that access based on adjacency will promote values of local stewardship and local economic development.”

Report of the Independent Panel on Access Criteria 2002

Northern Shrimp IFMPs

Objectives in Northern Shrimp IFMPs as far back as 1990 stated objectives were:

- Optimum exploitation of all northern shrimp stocks with due regard to effective resource conservation and orderly long-term development of the entire northern shrimp fishery
- **Fair access to, and equitable sharing of, the northern shrimp resources by all legitimate Canadian user groups, with particular emphasis on the needs of the people and communities most adjacent to the resource**
- Canadianization of all aspects of the northern shrimp fishery, harvesting, processing and marketing – so the maximum benefit from this fishery accrues to Canadian user groups
- Development of a modern commercially viable, and self-sustaining northern shrimp fishery

Recognition of Adjacency was Not Absent in 1977-78

- First fished in SFA 4, much more northern
- Labrador harvesters adjacent to the area
- Understood that the fishing conditions off northern Labrador and Baffin Island would require the use of vessels that were large, safe, and able to navigate through icy, rough northern waters
- Minister LeBlanc stated in 1977, “intermediate and small boats, more than 10,000 of them, had only limited range. Hence, the large trawler fleet had the duty and opportunity of going further afield”

Recognition of Adjacency in 1977-78

“The first interest that has to be considered – and as long as I am the minister the first interest that is considered – is the interest of the fishermen starting with those who live in the communities that are most isolated and whose mobility is most limited. It was in the name of the small coastal communities and the small fishermen who could not compete with the foreign fishing fleets that we argued successfully with the rest of the world that Canada should manage the 200 mile limit.” – The Honourable Romeo LeBlanc

New Access in 1997

- Over 90 percent of applications received by DFO from individuals, groups, provinces, and municipalities referenced that adjacency should maintain significance when making this decision
- Minister Mifflin: “Certain fundamental principles underlie the sharing of the increase in the 1997 northern shrimp Total Allowable Catch. **One of the most important is adjacency.**”

Question 3:

If LIFO were modified or abandoned what are the elements of an access and allocation regime for the northern shrimp fishery?

The guiding principles for a new access and allocation regime were stated by the current Liberal Government in September 2015:

"The best possible decisions are reached for the future of the resource and the maximum benefit for the people and coastal communities who rely on the resource."

Principles of the New Access and Allocation Regime

1. Conservation and Sustainable Harvest, as per current management plan language.
2. Respect and fulfill the obligations on fishery resources as defined in the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, the Nunatsiavut Claims Agreement and the Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement.
3. Adjacency: those who live nearest the resource shall have priority access to the resource and be the primary beneficiaries of the harvesting of the resource.

The Goals of Adjacency

1. Spurring economic growth and job creation in the adjacent area;
2. Facilitating the growth and sustainability of vibrant communities and a sustainable resource base;
3. Promote values of local stewardship and local economic development; and
4. Produce a benefit for the Canadian economy.

Applying Adjacency in the Northern Shrimp Fishery to SFA 6

- Priority access to the shrimp resource shall be given to those who are adjacent to where the resource is to be harvested, which ensures that the resource benefits the coastal communities.
- Allocation of the resource for harvesting purposes shall go to inshore owner-operators and adjacent community groups, followed by the offshore fleet.
- Adjacency can be applied consistently to other shrimp fishing areas.

Community Benefits – the St. Anthony Basin Resources Incorporated (SABRI)

- Support for tourism infrastructure in the region – L'Anse aux Meadows, trail development, such as signage, kiosks, etc.
- Salt fish project & mussels project
- Youth scholarships
- Bait and ice breaking

A Northern Shrimp Fishery Guided by Adjacency

- All of Shrimp Fishing Area 6 shall be harvested by the inshore fleet.
- All adjacent community-based license or special allocation holders shall maintain an annual quota. This quota will now be harvested by the inshore fleet. Includes landing these quotas at the plant supported by the community-based license.

SABRI and an Inshore-exclusive SFA 6

- Inshore fleet will provide revenue to SABRI for accessing the SABRI quota.
- SABRI will be able to maintain its important community-based development work.
- Opportunity for more work at the St. Anthony plant due to more inshore shrimp.
- Increased local economic benefits due to strengthened inshore fleet shrimp fishery and strong work season at the plant.
- Creates stronger and more sustainable regional economy.

Regional Impacts of Operations

Port	Landings (#)	Groceries	Maintenance	Fuel	Total
St. Anthony	330	\$264,000	\$165,000	\$2,037,750	\$2,466,750
Charlottetown	155	\$124,000	\$77,500	\$957,125	\$1,158,625
Twillingate	147	\$117,600	\$73,500	\$907,725	\$1,098,825
Seldom	108	\$86,400	\$54,000	\$666,900	\$807,300
LaScie	102	\$81,600	\$51,000	\$629,850	\$762,450
St. Lunaire	75	\$60,000	\$37,500	\$463,125	\$560,625
Old Perlican	69	\$55,200	\$34,500	\$426,075	\$515,775
Carmanville	59	\$47,200	\$29,500	\$364,325	\$441,025
Bay de Verde	56	\$44,800	\$28,000	\$345,800	\$418,600
Valleyfield	51	\$40,800	\$25,500	\$314,925	\$381,225
Port de Grave	49	\$39,200	\$24,500	\$302,575	\$366,275
Cook's Harbour	42	\$33,600	\$21,000	\$259,350	\$313,950
Catalina	36	\$28,800	\$18,000	\$222,300	\$269,100
Musgrave Harbour	24	\$19,200	\$12,000	\$148,200	\$179,400
Lumsden	23	\$18,400	\$11,500	\$142,025	\$171,925
St. John's	16	\$12,800	\$8,000	\$98,800	\$119,600
Bridgeport	12	\$9,600	\$6,000	\$74,100	\$89,700
Bonavista	8	\$6,400	\$4,000	\$49,400	\$59,800
Joe Batt's Arm	6	\$4,800	\$3,000	\$37,050	\$44,850
Black Duck Cove	4	\$3,200	\$2,000	\$24,700	\$29,900
Hant's Hr	3	\$2,400	\$1,500	\$18,525	\$22,425
Port Saunders	3	\$2,400	\$1,500	\$18,525	\$22,425
Fogo	2	\$1,600	\$1,000	\$12,350	\$14,950
Port au Choix	2	\$1,600	\$1,000	\$12,350	\$14,950
Harbour Grace	1	\$800	\$500	\$6,175	\$7,475
Total Expenditures	1383	\$1,106,400	\$691,500	\$9,231,525	\$11,029,425

The Impact of the FFAW-Unifor Proposal

- The inshore shrimp fleet will not be destroyed.
- Most or all of the current shrimp plants will be able to remain open.
- Approximately 3,000 good paying jobs will remain in rural NL. Thousands more indirect jobs as well.
- Communities will not be left with a financial crisis.

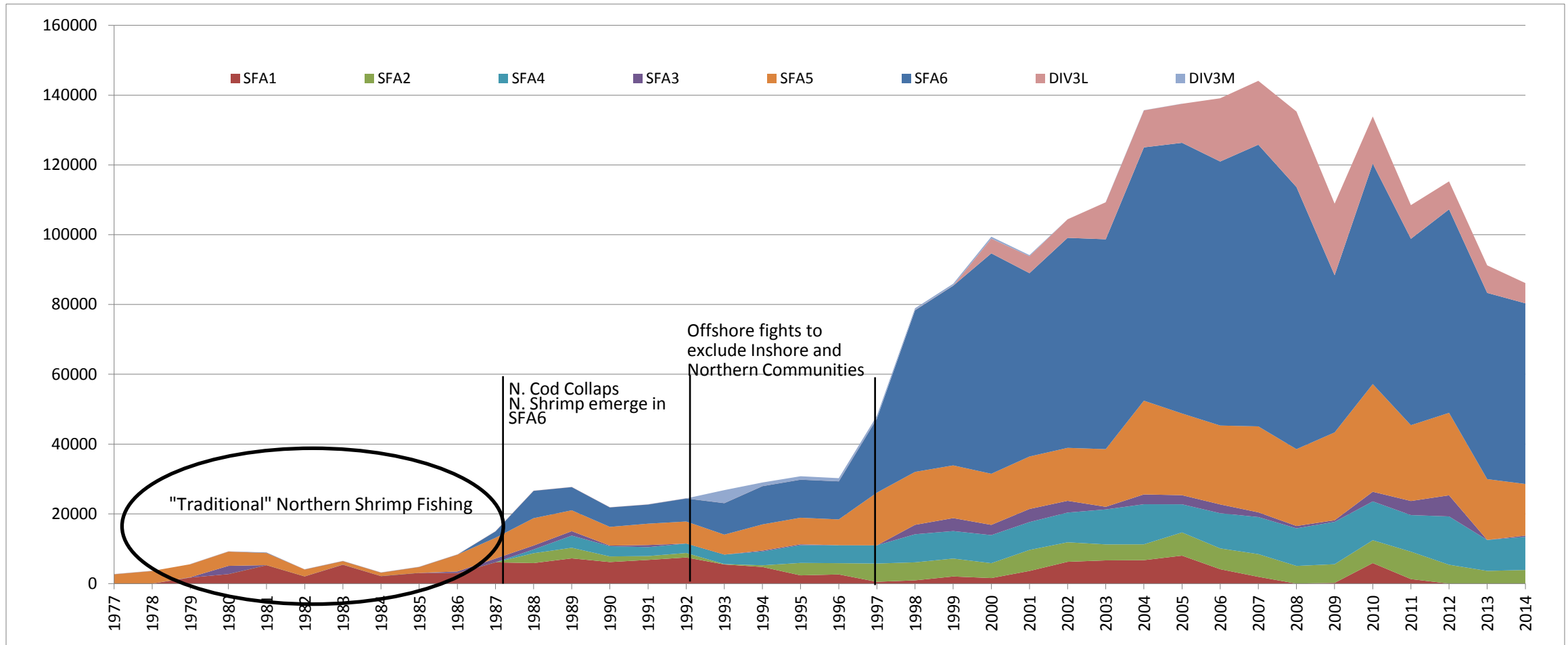
The Truth About LIFO

- The overall purpose of LIFO is to maintain the viability of the offshore fleet regardless of any other stakeholder, including a special allocation holder.
- No inshore plant is safe from LIFO. In St. John's CAPP stated that its current business model does not allow for much processing of industrial shrimp in onshore plants.
- If LIFO is maintained, there is no way to know which, if any, inshore shrimp plants will be maintained.
- The only way to secure the future of all shrimp plants, including St. Anthony, and SABRI is to abolish LIFO, remove thresholds, and secure SFA 6 for inshore harvesters.

The Impact of the FFAW-Unifor Proposal

- Rural NL will have access to the fishing resources necessary to navigate this current ecological shift so as to ensure the continued growth of the rural economy for years to come.
 - Increased groundfish/change in community structure
 - We need regions and communities to harness the benefits of the resources - this will likely include more groundfish.
 - Need to plan. Not like the late 1980s – late 1990s!
 - Can't flick the switch back on and have a successful industry

Tracking the “Traditional” Fleet



Conclusion

- In 2015, the province developed a socio-economic presentation on the impacts of LIFO.
 - If LIFO is maintained in 2016, this is the cost – **3,000 good paying jobs.**
 - If the offshore loses its quota allocation in SFA 6, it will cost 54 jobs.
 - The offshore is viable and sustainable without SFA 6. The inshore will be destroyed.
- Establish Principles that will support a strong vibrant rural economy for years to come.

Vibrant communities need a
strong inshore shrimp fishery.



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