

## **CRITERIA AND REQUIREMENTS**

### **LFA23**

### **MFU'S SNOW CRAB COMMUNITY FISHERY**

### **2024 SEASON**

#### **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR THE DRAW**

1. Only members in regulation, interested and ready to conform to all the following criteria and requirements are eligible for the draw.
2. A core fisherman who already benefits, during the same year, from snow crab fishing revenues (deckhand, substitute operator, grandfathered clause or else) from the mid-shore fleet or through his own allocation is not eligible for the draw.
3. A core fisherman must have paid all his annual dues from 1997 to 2023 inclusively, or from the year he entered the inshore fishery until 2023, inclusively to be eligible for the draw.
4. A new entrant qualifies for the snow crab draw if he purchases a core license that would have been active the season before the transfer.
5. Any core fisherman who has been inactive will be required to pay the dues for the years of inactivity, and payment must be made in full prior to the draw to be eligible.
6. Any active core fisherman who has paid his annual MFU's dues must provide one of the following items to be eligible to the draw:
  - a) A valid Record of Employment (T4) from the previous year, showing a minimum of \$25,000 of gross revenues from his core fishing licenses;  
Or
  - b) For fishermen whose main fishery from a core licence falls within the critical or cautious zone, established by the Precautionary Approach of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO): Proof of sea trips (copy of logbooks and hail-out confirmation numbers), copy of dockside landing form and/or a proof of product sales to a buyer demonstrating substantial fishing effort from their core licenses in the year preceding the draw.
7. A fisherman must confirm his participation in the draw by calling at (506) 395-6366.
8. The non-eligible fishermen who would have put their name in the draw and got drawn will receive a written notice explaining the reason of their disqualification in a reasonable delay.

9. The winning fishermen, according to the order of the names drawn in each community, will have to decide if they accept the allocation or not, 72 hours after receiving the confirmation of their allocation by the Opilio (U.P.M./M.F.U.) Inc. team. The absence of a confirmation within the prescribed delay will be considered as a refusal and the allocation will be offered to the next fishermen on the list.
10. A fisherman who, during the current year, participates in or institutes legal procedures that may be prejudicial to a member, employee, director or any other individual directly or indirectly related to the Maritime Fishermen's Union or any of its subsidiaries (Opilio (U.P.M./M.F.U.) Inc. , Homarus, etc.) is not eligible for the draw.
11. Starting in 2025, a new entrant who purchases a core licence for a species that falls within one of the Critical or Cautionary Zones, as established by the Department of Fishery and Oceans (DFO) Precautionary Approach, will be required to provide proof that the licence they purchased was active the season prior to the licence transfer and, starting in his second year of fishing, he must provide a valid Record of Employment (T4) from the previous year showing a minimum of gross fishing income of \$25,000 from his core licences to be eligible for the draw.

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR SELECTED FISHERMAN**

1. The snow crab license must be issued in the name of a MFU's member.
2. The snow crab allocation must be fished with an inshore vessel of 44 feet and 11 inches or less in total length.
3. The inshore vessel used for snow crab fishing must meet Transport Canada safety standards. If the boat does not meet the safety standards, a second boat, which must also meet the regulations, must be chosen within seventy-two (72) hours, failing which, the allocation will be given to the next name on the list.
4. The vessel will need to be ready for fishing on the fishery opening date and must conform to all DFO's requirements for the fishery.
5. All selected participants will need to sign a contract with Opilio (U.P.M./M.F.U.) Inc. and those who will charter a boat will be required to provide a copy of a contract signed between the fishermen in order to clarify the distribution of the revenues and expenses.
6. A member who, voluntary and/or for an unjustified reason, chooses to abandon the season before the end date of the fishery announced by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) and without having caught at least his share of the allocation, could have his eligibility for the snow crab draw withdrawn for up to five (5) years following the season of his abandonment.



**OPILIO (U.P.M./M.F.U.) Inc.**  
**L'UNION DES PÊCHEURS DES MARITIMES**  
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7. All members shall respect and comply with all standards, requirements, measures, directives, laws and regulations established by competent authorities, including but not limited to DFO, that will be in effect during the snow crab fishing season, failing which, they may have their eligibility for the snow crab draws withdrawn for up to five (5) years following the violation.
  
8. The members understand that starting in 2024, data such as performances (e.g., catch-per-trap rate, etc.), fishing effort, years of experience, as well as compliance with laws and regulations established by Opilio (U.P.M./M.F.U) Inc. and the competent authorities, could be taken into account by the Opilio (U.P.M./M.F.U) Inc. team in decision-making regarding future fishing plans.