

## Whelk

SABRI has been contributing to the whelk fishery for three years now. This year SABRI facilitated a meeting between whelk fishermen and Derek Green of E.J. Green Fisheries in St. Anthony to discuss plans for the upcoming season. Derek Green again this year purchased whelk in our area through buyer, Gertie Larkin in Cook's Harbour. The whelk was shipped to Conche to be processed.

At the end of the season, SABRI will be reimbursing fishermen in the area from Big Brook to Goose Cove for the expenses of bait and trucking of the product to Cook's Harbour. The amount will be 5¢ for every pound of whelk caught and sold. Fishermen are asked to bring the receipts for their whelk to the SABRI office when they finish the season and they will be reimbursed accordingly.

## Seafood Chowder

SABRI is currently working with a local entrepreneur to have a microwavable seafood chowder analyzed for shelf life, etc. at the Marine Institute in St. John's. So far results show a very good product and after all tests are complete SABRI will evaluate further the idea of marketing and production of the product.

## Promotional Package

St. Anthony Basin Resources Inc. is working closely with the Town of St. Anthony to assist with the development of a promotional package for the area. After consultation with area stakeholders, M5 Advertising of St. John's was chosen to complete the package.

Items to be included are a display booth presentation and a folder with insert sheets featuring attractions from each community in the region including services, infrastructure, tourism, etc. This package would be available for use by any group interested in

promoting economic development in the area.

The contributors to this project are Rising Sun Developers, SABRI, Town of St. Anthony, and federal and provincial funding agencies.

## Northern Coalition

In 2000, SABRI became a member of the organization Northern Coalition. This group includes aboriginal/regional based groups who hold northern shrimp allocations and reside in remote northern communities adjacent to the northern shrimp.

Objectives of the Northern Coalition include:

- Long-term sustainable development of the Northern Shrimp Fishery;
- Increase the visibility of the member organizations and the role they collectively play in job creation and northern development;
- Increase the member's share of all fish resources directly adjacent to their shores with particular emphasis on shrimp and turbot;
- Coordination of efforts in promoting the issues and problems facing northern communities;
- Cooperation on the purchase and operation of an offshore vessel.

Membership consists of:

- Labrador Fishermen's Shrimp Union Company Limited
- Torngat Fish Producers Co-operative Society Limited
- Labrador Inuit Development Corporation
- Makivik Corporation
- Qikiqtaalul Corporation
- Unaaq Fisheries Limited
- St. Anthony Basin Resources Inc.
- Fogo Island Co-operative Society Limited



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# Tides

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## SABRI involved in mussel farming

SABRI became involved in mussel farming in 2000 when it became a 35 per cent owner in a local mussel farm, Arctic Aquafarms. After consultation with staff aquaculturalist at Nordic and various industry people, the SABRI Board decided to explore the possibility of establishing mussel farms in our area to employ some of our citizens.

In conjunction with Nordic and the Marine Institute, SABRI requested a site evaluation to be done in the SABRI region which would locate suitable sites where mussel farms could be established. There are five sites which could be viable mussel farms. SABRI then proceeded to apply to Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture for exploratory licences to grow mussels at three of these sites. The other two sites will be explored by other parties in the area. The three farms are located in the St. Lunaire-Griquet area with one in South West Bay in St. Lunaire, one in North West Arm in Griquet and one in North West Bay in St. Lunaire.

Through a partnership between SABRI and Human Resources Canada, SABRI was able to hire two people for 15 weeks for 2001 to work alongside the employees of Arctic Aquafarms in Milan Arm. Justin Pilgrim of St. Lunaire-Griquet and Austin Reardon of Goose Cove began work on July 23<sup>rd</sup> and both are very excited to be working at such an initiative. They are gaining knowledge of how to start a mussel farm, how to maintain a farm, how to grow



Joe Ollerhead of Arctic Aquafarms showing the growth potential of mussels at the farm in Milan Arm.

mussels and how to harvest them. When licences are approved, SABRI will hire additional employees in 2002 to establish and maintain these farms. After sufficient growth of 2-3 years, these farms will produce up to 1-million pounds of mussels.

## St. Anthony Seafoods faces challenges of the shrimp industry

October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2001..... St. Anthony Seafoods is back into shrimp production after a two-month shutdown of the inshore shrimp fishery. Landings are spotty at present with most shrimp being landed on the east coast of the province due to lower catch rates farther north. With the colder weather the quality is good but there is a lot of roe at this time so it lowers yield and increases raw material costs.

Since our last update, St. Anthony Seafoods was active in cod, mackerel and turbot. We established a basic hand-cutting line in cod for filleting and

transshipped to other processors for final production. Local mackerel was handpacked and frozen for bait. We purchased some turbot and done head and gut (H&G) production for the Taiwanese market. We have continued to coordinate the purchase and transshipment of rock and toad crab.

The new factory vessel, *Arctic Endurance*,



landed here in September for its first trip since completion of the new harbour project but we became the target of a protest by area fishermen concerned with the inshore shrimp closure. This was repeated in late September with a shutdown of our factory by the same fishermen for the same reason.

Overall the fishery has been challenging and the industry continues to face lower market price for almost all species. A major hurdle facing the fishing industry is government's push to create employment at the risk of the industry's viability.

# TOAD CRAB FISHERY

## A success story

After a very successful year in 2000, SABRI continued its involvement in developing the toad crab fishery to make it a viable venture for our fishermen. During 2000, 25 toad and rock crab fishermen landed 490,000 lb. of product. The crab was purchased by St. Anthony Seafoods and then trucked to Valleyfield where it was processed by Beothic Fish Processors.

After lobbying for additional licences by SABRI and the FFAW, DFO issued an additional four toad crab licences for 2001 for area 4R. This brings total licences to 29 toad crab (12 in 3K, 17 in 4R) and four rock crab (2 in 3K, 2 in 4R). All 33 licences are being utilized by fishermen in the area from Big Brook to Goose Cove.

For 2001, 725,000 lbs of toad crab and 50,000 lbs of rock crab were landed and purchased by St. Anthony Seafoods. This season SABRI provided an additional 10 pots to each of the rock and toad crab fishermen. This brought the total number of pots provided to each fishermen up to 50. In a joint partnership, SABRI and Beothic paid the transportation costs of trucking the crab to Valleyfield. Beothic also provided bait to the fishermen free of charge whenever they had it available. "SABRI's ongoing commitment and contribution have helped make our involvement a success," says Pierce Perry of Beothic.

Plans are ongoing for the 2002 season to see what improvements can be made to the fishery which would accommodate the fishermen. The partnership between Beothic, FFAW, St. Anthony Seafoods and SABRI and the patience by the fishermen have helped make this fishery a viable and successful one.



Two fishermen from Boat Harbour, Paul Woodward (left) and Randy Woodward, move toad crab from fish boxes into tote pans at the St. Anthony Seafoods' wharf.

NORTHERN PEN PHOTO

## Increase in small loans available to fishermen

In 2001, SABRI increased the amount of small loans available to fishermen to \$20,000. The previous amount was \$10,000. Loans are accessible to fishermen residing in the SABRI region for repairs, etc. needed to be done to their boats. The loan can be taken out for a maximum of five years with a 50% guarantee from SABRI. As well, SABRI provides some interest relief once the loan has been repaid.

The loan program is being administered by Eagle River Credit Union with coordination by SABRI. For those who are interested please contact the SABRI office.

## Ready for shrimp

The new Clearwater boat, *Artic Endurance*, made its first trip to St. Anthony in September. The vessel carries 525 tonnes of shrimp per trip. *Arctic Endurance* travels with a crew of 28 men who operate on a two trips on, two trips off basis. In addition, there is a Japanese technician and a fisheries observer.



## Community grants under review

SABRI issued its last instalment of round one of the community grants in 2001. The communities included Raleigh, St. Anthony Bight, Goose Cove, Noddy Bay and St. Anthony. Each grant was valued at \$10,000 and was issued to the council or local service district of the community to use for the best interest of the community and its residents. All 17 communities have now received their first instalment. The program will now be re-evaluated to see what changes can be made to improve the program.

In reports received from the communities, they were very thankful for the grant as it helped with the cost of some much needed work to different areas of the communities. The grants were used for different purposes such as the building of a municipal park, maintenance to community halls, repairs to wharves, improvement of water systems, etc. The work was performed by local residents who needed hours to qualify for Employment Insurance.

With such positive feedback the grant will definitely continue in some capacity.



Taking part in the presentation were : Front (l-r) Cyril Taylor, mayor of Raleigh; Pat Powell, Town of Goose Cove East; Robert Mesher, mayor of St. Anthony; back — Sam Elliott, executive director and Charlie Reardon, board chairman.

## SABRI, Clearwater present marine engineering scholarships

SABRI, in conjunction with Clearwater Fine Foods, has presented Marine Engineering Scholarships for the third straight year. This year's recipients are Byron Blake of St. Lunaire-Griquet



On hand for the presentation of scholarships were Chad Simms, an instructor at CONA, Byron Blake, Randy McGrath, Sam Elliott of SABRI, Gary Green of the Marine Institute and Rick Penney of CONA.

NORTHERN PEN PHOTO

and Randy McGrath of Goose Cove. Both are currently enroled in year one of the program at College of the North Atlantic in St. Anthony. Year two and three will be completed at Marine Institute in St. John's. Both students are very excited to get started on obtaining a career in a field they have always been interested in.

This scholarship program will now be reviewed by SABRI and Clearwater to see if there are ways of improving it to be more beneficial to the people of our area. There has not been a lot of interest in our area for Marine Engineering even though "there is a world wide shortage of Marine Engineers," says Peter Matthews of Clearwater. With this year's scholarship recipients, the total number of students now enroled in the program through SABRI's and Clearwater's contribution is five. Each scholarship is valued at \$10,000 and is distributed over the course of the program.

## Entrance scholarships awarded local students

In 1999 SABRI established a scholarship for Level III students who were attending post-secondary institutions in the Fall. The scholarship is valued at \$1000 with one awarded to each of the three high schools in the area per year.

This year's recipients are Jodi Woodward of James Cook Memorial, Ruby Hillier of Bayview Collegiate and Kayla Reardon of Harriot Curtis Collegiate.

Jodi is currently attending Memorial University in St. John's where she is completing her first year

of General Studies. Ruby is attending College of the North Atlantic in Corner Brook working towards a Diploma in Office Administration. Kayla is enroled in

the Office Administration Program at the College of the North Atlantic in St. Anthony. She hopes to become a medical bookkeeper.



JODI WOODWARD



KAYLA REARDON



RUBY HILLIER