



Notice to Fish Harvesters

April 22, 2020

UPDATE TO THE MANDATORY COLOUR SCHEME FOR GEAR MARKING IN EASTERN CANADA

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) – The Department wishes to inform the fishing industry that the colour scheme for gear marking of ropes has been updated to include a “Scientific licences” category, as well as to address specific matters in the toad crab fishery for fishing area 24 (Gulf Region) and in the snow crab fishery for management areas 2J North and 2J South (Newfoundland & Labrador Region).

The updated detailed colour scheme can be viewed in the attached version 3.0 of the document titled “*Gear Marking Eastern Canada - for non-tended fixed gear fisheries – Mandatory Colour Scheme*”.

For additional information

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GEAR MARKING EASTERN CANADA for non-tended fixed gear fisheries, crab trap fisheries and lobster trap fisheries MANDATORY COLOUR SCHEME

MANDATORY COLOUR SCHEME (Region and Species colours)

	GLF - blue		MAR - black		NL - red		QC - green		Multi-region fishery ¹	
Toad crab	X	purple			X	purple	X	purple		
Rock crab	X	Blue *	X	blue	X	blue	X	blue		
Lobster	X	yellow	X	yellow	X	yellow	X	yellow		
Whelk	X	white	X	white	X	white	X	white		
Snow crab	X	orange	X	orange	X	orange	X	orange	X	orange
Gillnet - small pelagic	X	grey	X	grey	X	grey	X	grey		
Gillnet – groundfish	X	brown	X	brown	X	brown	X	brown		
Longline	X	pink	X	pink	X	pink	X	pink		
Squid (trap)					X	green				
Cod (trap/pot)					X	red*				
Shrimp trap			X	green						
Hagfish			X	black*						
Red crab			X	red						
Jonah crab			X	purple						
LFA 41			X	Red/white pattern ²						
Scientific licences ³	X	black / white pattern ²	X	black / white pattern ²	X	black / white pattern ²	X	black / white pattern ²		

*Blue & blue, black & black and/or red & red combination means there should be two distinct strands of the same colour interlaced within the same rope section (one single strand is not acceptable)

¹ “Multi-region fishery” is specific to instances of inter-regionally managed fisheries, where each Region is wholly responsible for managing their own fleet but they share the exact same fishing area, licence conditions, and so on, as another fleet in another Region. Each Region issues the same licence conditions to their harvesters. A common base colour was given to ensure a regional division was not created within a shared industry.

² Pattern strand is necessary as no other solid colours are available. The selected fisheries must use a twine that contains a two colour pattern on one of the single strands (white/black pattern, red/white pattern). This is to be used in addition to the Regional colour. See Annex 4 for a pamphlet showing examples of twine colours such as a red/white pattern strand colour (named “Oh Canada” in pamphlet).

³ The “Scientific licence” colour scheme implementation is subject to regional analysis on a case by case basis depending on the type of activity being conducted.



**EASTERN CANADA COLOUR SCHEME PER FISHING AREA (third colour)
FOR LOBSTER & SNOW CRAB**

As some of the interregional snow crab fisheries in the Gulf of St Lawrence already have some colour marking, efforts were made to avoid completely new colour schemes.

The following is the Eastern Canada break down of the colour scheme for lobster and snow crab fishing areas, per Region:

- the double stacked cells represent the regional colour (top) and species colour (bottom), with the single cell immediately to their right representing the fishing area colour.

Additional notes:

- Areas showing “none” in the single cell means that a third colour is not applied.
- Some licence holders hold licences to fish for the same species in multiple fishing areas within the same Region. Unless otherwise specified, the category “*Multiple area*” includes these fish harvesters only. This was done so markings do not have to be interchanged between fishing areas.

GULF REGION

Lobster fishing area colours

23		24		25		26A		26B		Multiple areas	
blue	red	blue	green	Blue	none	blue	white	blue	black	blue	yellow
yellow		Yellow		Yellow		yellow		yellow		yellow	

Snow Crab fishing area colours

12		12E		12F		19		Multiple areas	
yellow	none	yellow	yellow	yellow	blue	blue	green	blue	yellow
orange		orange		orange		orange		orange	

Toad crab fishing area colour

24	
blue	white
orange	



MARITIMES REGION

Lobster fishing area colours

27		28		29		30		31A		31B		32	
black	blue	black	grey	black	brown	black	yellow / black pattern	black	pink	black	purple	black	white
yellow		yellow		yellow		yellow		yellow		yellow		yellow	

33		34		35		36		38	
Black	orange	black	none	black	green	black	red	black	black
Yellow		yellow		yellow		yellow		yellow	

41		multiple areas	
black	none	black	yellow
red/white		yellow	

Snow crab fishing area colours

North-ENS		23		24		4x		Multiple areas	
black	none	black	green	black	black	black	blue	black	yellow
orange		orange		orange		orange		orange	



NEWFOUNLAND & LABRADOR REGION

Lobster fishing area colours

3		4		5		6		7		8		9	
red	red / white pattern	red	black / white pattern	red	yellow / black pattern	red	orange	red	green	red	black	red	brown
yellow		yellow		yellow		yellow		yellow		yellow		yellow	

10		11		12		13A		13B	
red	grey	red	none	red	red	red	blue	red	yellow
yellow		yellow		yellow		yellow		yellow	

14A		14B		14C	
red	white	red	purple	red	pink
yellow		yellow		yellow	

Snow crab management area colours

2J North		2J South		3A		3B, 3C, 3BC		3D		4		5A	
red	blue	red	blue	red	black / white pattern	red	yellow / black pattern	red	black / blue pattern	red	yellow / green pattern	red	red / white pattern
orange		orange		orange		orange		orange		orange		orange	

6A		6B		6C, 8A		9A		3LNO < 65'		3NO > 65'		11E	
red	pink / blue pattern	red	red / green pattern	red	orange	red	black	red	purple	red	grey	red	pink
orange		orange		orange		orange		orange		orange		orange	

11W		10A Inner		10A Outer, 10B, 11S		Outside 8 mile		Area 12 inshore		13	
red	red		brown		white		yellow		green		none
orange		orange		orange		orange		orange		orange	



QUEBEC REGION

Lobster fishing area colours

15		16		17		18		19		20A		20B	
green	red	green	green	green	black	green	blue	green	brown	green	white	green	grey
yellow		yellow		yellow		yellow		yellow		yellow		yellow	

21		22		Multiple areas	
green	orange	green	none	green	yellow
yellow		yellow		yellow	

Snow crab fishing area colours

12		12A		12B		12C		12E		12F		13	
yellow	none	green	green	green	blue	green	pink	yellow	yellow	yellow	blue	green	none
orange		orange		orange		orange		orange		orange		orange	

14		15		16		16A		17		Multiple areas	
green	white	green	orange	green	red	green	none	green	black	green	yellow
orange		orange		orange		orange		orange		orange	

Toad crab fishing area colour

12	
yellow	purple
Orange	



ANNEX 1

Interlacing coloured twine within existing rope

Figure A - Colour combo identifying Region and Species

as per colour scheme this is Quebec (green), snow crab (orange) interlaced on same rope section



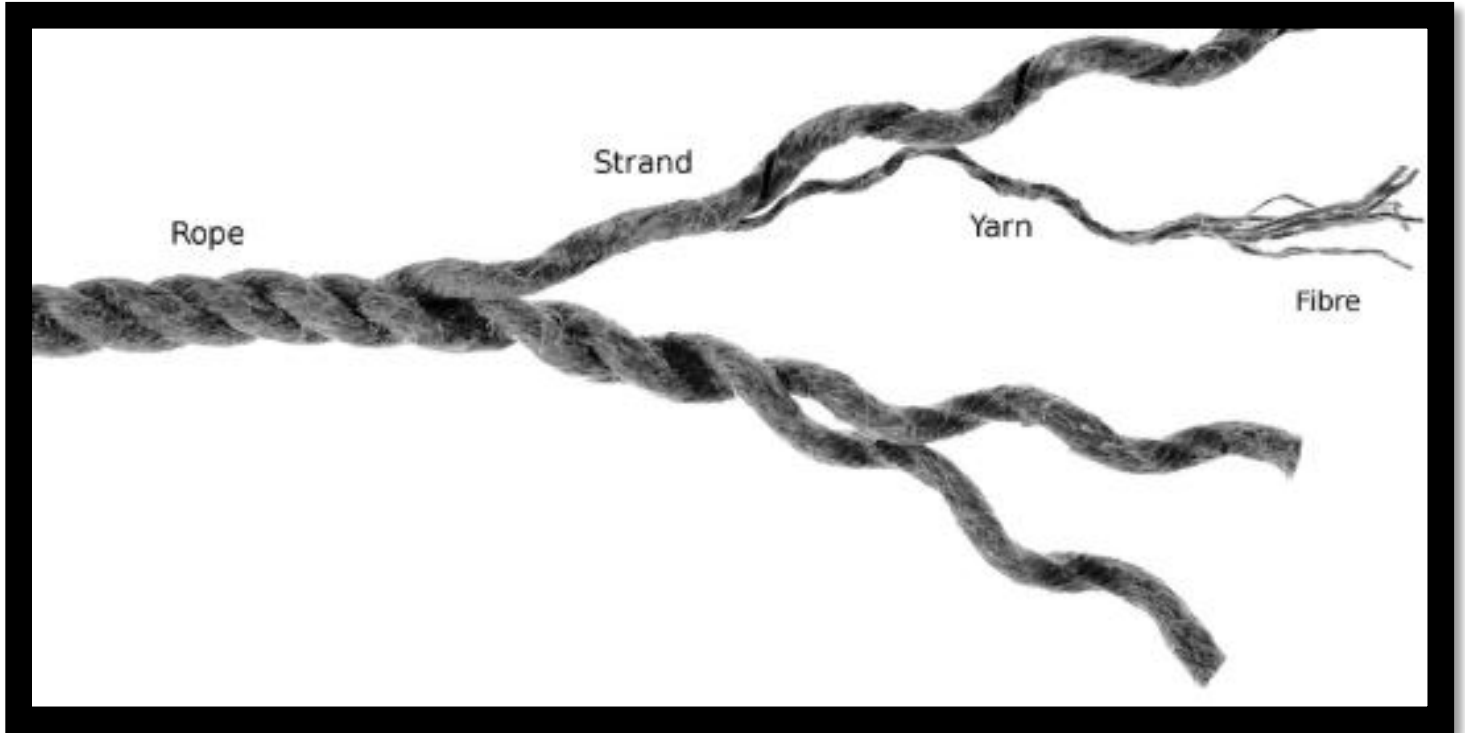
Figure B - Colour combo identifying Region, Species and Fishing Area

Region & species interlaced on same section of rope, Fishing area on subsequent section of rope as per colour scheme this would be Quebec (green), snow crab (orange), CFA 12A (green)





ANNEX 2 Parts of a rope





ANNEX 3 New rope with Integrated coloured yarns

Colour combo identifying Region, Species and Fishing Area throughout full length of rope:

- Region & species coloured yarns interlaced on same strand
- Fishing area coloured yarn interlaced on a subsequent strand

as per colour scheme this would be Maritimes (black), lobster (yellow), LFA 35 (green)



Close up:





ANNEX 4 Colour Chart

Canadian company pamphlet showing twine colours and patterns:

