
Public Survey

Southwest New Brunswick Marine Resources Planning

Final Report

Confidential

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**The Southwest New Brunswick
Marine Resources Planning Process**

**Committee
FIS001-7001**

Southwest New Brunswick

MARINE RESOURCES PLANNING

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Introduction

The Southwest New Brunswick Marine Resources Planning Process Committee (the Committee)¹ commissioned Corporate Research Associates (CRA) to conduct the first round of public consultations on the planning process via a public opinion survey.

The primary objective of the survey was to inform the public of the marine resources planning process and give them an opportunity to provide initial input. The target area for the survey included communities in Southwestern New Brunswick in close proximity to the Bay of Fundy.

Background

In early 2004, the Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans and the New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture began discussions to improve resource planning and management of the southwestern portion of the Bay of Fundy. As a result, the Bay of Fundy Marine Resources Planning Process and Committee were established. Once in place, the BOFMRP Committee established its Vision Statement:



“The planning process should consider the ecosystem as a whole. It should be action-oriented and financial gain should not be the driving force. Participants must develop a common, balanced vision which respects a healthy ecosystem. This will result in healthy, vibrant coastal communities.”

Public participation was to be part of the Marine Resource plan that followed. The Committee would seek public review of and feedback on the planning process. The Committee determined it would develop background information on its work and a public opinion survey to solicit feedback.

This information and survey was delivered to the public in two ways: 1) through a mail out to households in the region and 2) through the establishment of a website. The results from the surveys received back from either mail survey or on-line survey by the end of May 2006 are presented in the following report.

¹ Initially, this Marine Resources Planning Process and Committee were titled the **Bay of Fundy Marine Resources Planning Process** and the **Bay of Fundy Marine Resources Planning Process Committee**, however, a similar process is being conducted in Nova Scotia and thus to differentiate the two, the Process and Committee for this province are now titled the **Southwest New Brunswick Marine Resources Planning Process** and the **Southwest New Brunswick Marine Resources Planning Process Committee**.



Methodology

The Committee, assisted by CRA, developed a mail-out package consisting of a short 4-question survey, a “Letter to the Community”, and a “Background” document. In addition, a website was developed to house this information and invite public feedback via an on-line survey.

Mail Out

- Delivered during the last week of April and the first week of May of 2006 to approximately 12,300 households in communities in Southwestern New Brunswick in proximity to the Bay;
- Included the signed information letter from the committee, the survey to gather public opinion, and a postage paid business mail reply envelope pre-addressed to CRA;
- As of end of day May 31st, a total of 996 completed mail surveys had been returned to CRA. This represents a return rate of 8.1%.

Website

- www.BOFMRP.ca was launched at 12:00 Noon on April 24th, 2006.
- The site provides background on the work of the Committee, information on the planning process, a listing of committee members, an information letter, the committee’s process initiative phase 1 report, and an on-line public opinion survey.
- As of midnight May 31st, a total of 56 completed surveys were submitted on-line.

Reporting

This report contains an Executive Summary, Detailed Analysis and Study Methodology. In the Detailed Analysis of this report, graphs are used to illustrate key findings. These graphs show the percentage of participants indicating a response. Each graph notes the sample size for the question as follows (n=1052). This indicates the number of people who responded to each question. The report also includes a number of appendices:

- Survey questions (Appendix A).
- Banner tables (Appendix B) that present results for each question. All figures are expressed as a percentage. As all percentages presented in the banner tables have been rounded to the nearest whole number and as all questions on the survey permitted multiple responses, percentages will add up to more than 100 percent.
- Full verbatim comments (Appendix C) which are respondents’ answers to the open ended questions or their inserted responses under “other”.
- Related documentation used in the mailing and website are also included (Appendices D & E).



Executive Summary

Input from the Public Opinion Survey indicates that the Bay of Fundy is a strong force in the lives of those living near it in Southwestern New Brunswick. They highly value the Bay for its natural marine environment, its recreation and employment, but also for the way of life around the Bay. Most feel closely connected to the Bay of Fundy because they live or own land there, and because they work and play there. As a result, these residents care deeply about the Bay's future.

Residents appear anxious about the future of the Bay and there was a very strong response to the need to preserve and protect it in a variety of ways. The conservation of the Bay's marine life, as well as its fish stocks and spawning sites led as aspects for protection. Additionally, there is strong emphasis on preservation of its ecosystem and beaches.

With this concern, participants had much to say related to the development of a Marine Resources Management Plan. Given the opportunity to provide input to the plan, almost half of the survey respondents provided their opinions and comments, many with significant written contributions. So what did residents have to say? In the end, their input addressed over 20 different themes, which were often multi-faceted and inter-related.

Aquaculture was one of their most common concerns. This industry is a concern in terms of the perceived amount of pollution it generates and a perceived lack of regulation to which it appears subject. There were calls for more accountability and even for relocation of sites to land or deep water. On the other side, however, there was also recognition of the employment that spins from this industry and its importance to many residents in this region.

Liquefied natural gas (LNG) drew a great deal of comment that was either opposition to LNG in the Bay in general or to LNG specifically in the Passamaquoddy Bay/Head Harbour Passage area. Generally, key concerns were for the potential risks perceived to the Bay's ecosystem and intrusion on existing industries. Concerns focused on the high-risk use of Canadian waters for the benefit of an American operation. There was fear of tankers and accidents, which may destroy the Bay.

The fishery captured the attention of numerous residents who claim to see a depletion of fish stocks through overfishing and destructive fishing practices and the displacement of the local fishery by a corporate fishery. The solution, according to this group, rests in more government regulation and stronger enforcement of existing regulations to ensure a future for this industry and its livelihoods.

A desire for protection of the Bay, a clean shoreline and a unique ecosystem were often tied to those who feel a beautiful locale, a way of life, and their legacy are being threatened. For some there is a sense that the Bay, the shoreline and the ecosystem are in decline and are being sacrificed for economic purposes.

Beyond these leading themes are many others – a call for protection of livelihoods in the Bay, an end to pollution, a limit on industrial development, better access, promotion of tourism and many more. Additionally, some applauded the work of the Committee and supported the concept of a marine resources management plan, while acknowledging it will be “a huge task”.



Detailed Analysis

Assets Most Valued

Participants were first asked to explain what their household valued most about the Bay of Fundy. They were allowed to supply as many responses as were applicable. A list of potential responses was provided, but there was also an opportunity to specify any additional responses. The top responses can be seen in the graph below (Table Q1). The key themes in the list are as follows:



Natural Resource. The Bay is highly valued as a natural phenomenon and resource – its environment, its marine life – and there is value seen in keeping it as a healthy resource.

Culture & Heritage. Value in the Bay was also often linked to the life and culture in this region and to the associated history and heritage that has contributed to and supported this way of life.

Recreation. Several residents enjoy the Bay for its recreational and leisure activities. This also included public access to coastal waters.

Employment. The industry and employment supported by the resources of the Bay are also of high value to a lot of residents in the area. (Table Q1)

What Does Your Household Value MOST about the Bay of Fundy?

(n=1052)

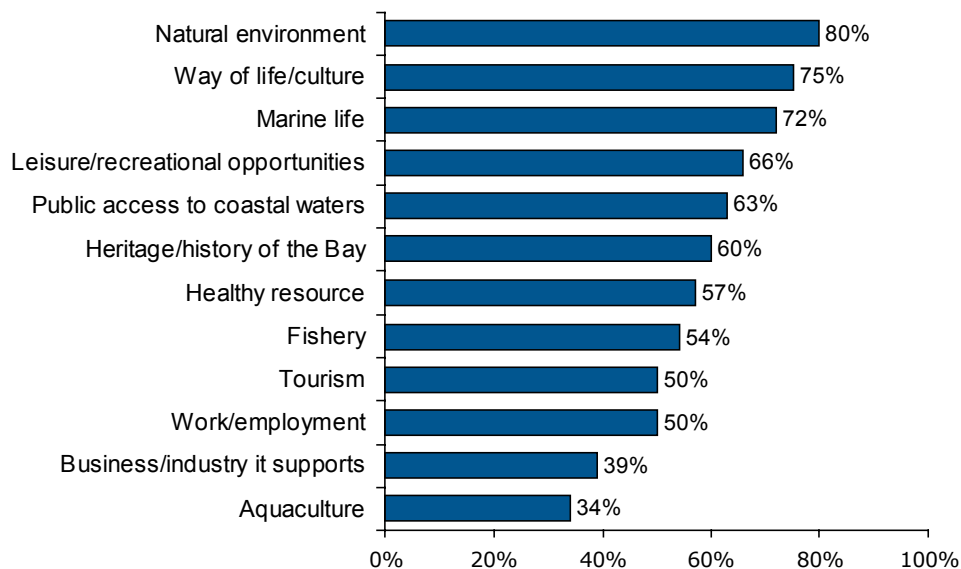


Table Q1



Connection to the Bay

Participants were next asked to explain what their household’s connection was to the Bay of Fundy. Again, they were permitted to supply as many responses as applied. A list of potential responses was provided, but there was also an opportunity to specify any additional responses. As seen in the graph below (Table Q2), virtually all the responding households in the survey’s target area felt a direct connection to the Bay of Fundy. The most common responses centred on the following:



Land Ownership. The most common connections related to owning land along the coast and/or physically living on the Bay of Fundy.

Recreation. Given that “recreational and leisure opportunities” are one of the most valued aspects of the Bay of Fundy, it’s not surprising that many residents feel a connection to the Bay through their recreational activities on or around the Bay.

Employment. As would be expected, the other major connection to the Bay is employment. In fact, employment in Bay-related industries was quite significant when the various industries are considered. Its spread across multiple industries is also notable. In this segment, the fishing industry is the most common employment connection. (Table Q2)

Which of the Following Describes Your Household’s Connection to the Bay of Fundy?

(n=1052)

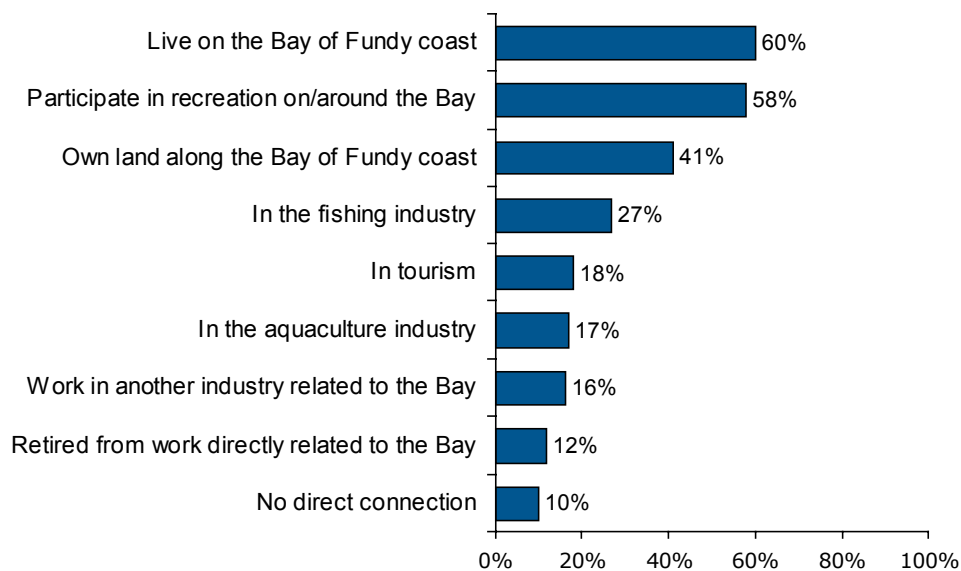


Table Q2



Important Aspects to Preserve and Protect

Respondents were then asked to explain what aspects of the Bay of Fundy are most important to preserve and protect. Again, they were permitted to supply as many responses as applied. A listing of potential responses was provided, but there was also an opportunity to specify any additional responses. Indicative of the concern felt by residents in the survey target area of Southwestern New Brunswick, all aspects, with one exception, received very strong response as being “most important to preserve and protect”.



The most important areas can be categorized as follows:

Marine Life. As seen in the graph below (Table Q3), a great emphasis was placed on the natural elements of the Bay – the marine life, the ecosystem, the fish stocks and spawning sites.

Access. However, not far behind was access to the Bay environs – its beaches and its wharves. Aquaculture sites were noted as of importance to fewer. (Table Q3)

What Aspects of the Bay of Fundy are Most Important to Preserve & Protect?

(n=1052)

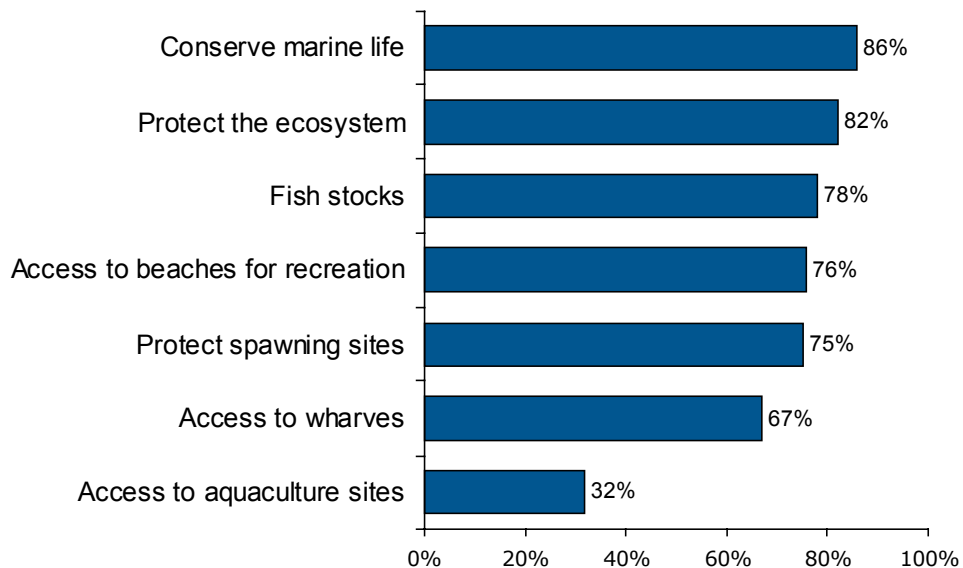


Table Q3



Feedback into BOFMRP Development

Participants were then invited by the Southwest Bay of Fundy Marine Resources Planning Committee to feed their comments into the development of the marine resources management plan. Please note that this question was completely open to respondents' comments and did not offer any pre-established listing of responses.



Approximately half of the survey respondents supplied input to this question. As seen in the graph that follows (Table Q4), participants answering this question offered comments/opinions on a wide range of subjects regarding the Bay of Fundy. The two biggest issues related to:

Industries of Concern. Topping the list were responses related to the impacts of two specific industries in the Bay region – aquaculture and liquefied natural gas (LNG).

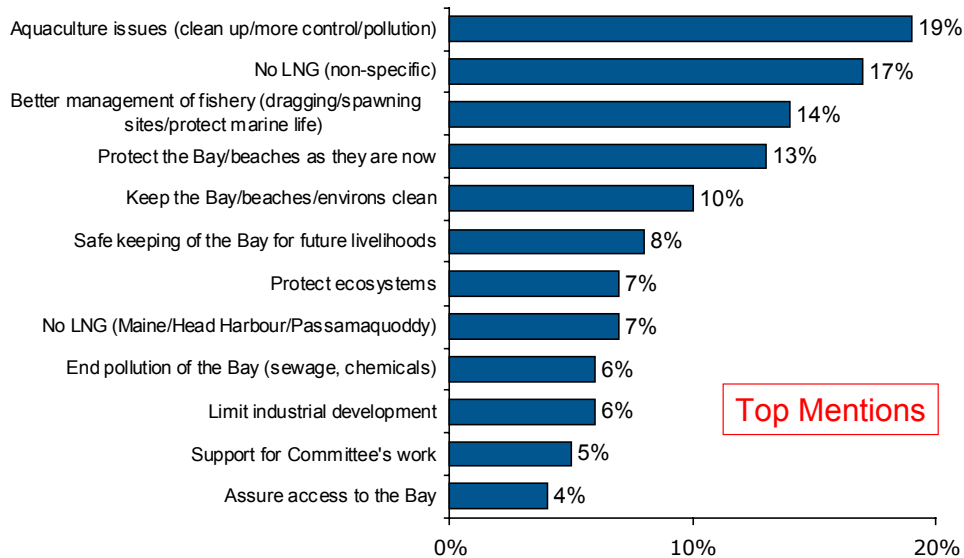
Ecosystem Issues. There were also areas of environmental and ecosystem concern: better management of the fishery, protection/cleanliness of the Bay ecosystem and beaches. (Table Q4)

A full set of verbatim comments can be found in Appendix C.

Comments to the Development of the Bay of Fundy Marine Resources Management Plan?

(Among Those with Comments)

(n=498)



Top Mentions

Table Q4



Public Feedback

The verbatim comments offered by survey respondents regarding the development of the Marine Resources Management Plan were very diverse, wide-ranging and offer a great volume of input for the Committee. The full comments are provided in Appendix C at the conclusion of this report.



However, to help summarize and understand the results of this question, an examination of the key themes will be conducted by providing some of the actual verbatim comments offered up by residents. This summary will group verbatim comments as best as possible, which is difficult given the mixture of diverse comments and interconnectedness of many issues related to the Bay. In any case, the summary will provide insights into the themes raised by the public. Over 20 different themes will be explored in this section.

Aquaculture Issues

Among those who offered comments to this feedback question, aquaculture issues were the leading topic. There were many concerns related to the impact of this industry on the Bay and many suggestions as to what should be done. The key aquaculture themes along with illustrative verbatim comments are as follows:

Aquaculture Pollution. Participants often expressed concerns about the aquaculture industry as a significant polluter of the Bay.

- Many references were made to “garbage”, “trash”, “debris”, and “litter” that is found floating in the Bay or littering the shoreline from both active and abandoned aquaculture sites. This included mention of such items as old motors, ropes, styrofoam, plastic, cages, stands, compensators, black pipes, netting, feed bags, plastic totes, bleach bottles, etc.

“Aquaculture operations need to clean up all the trash and debris from the beaches. For example, look at Fisherman's Cove on Bliss Island (broken cages, rope, etc.). Also, all operations need to mark all the floating lines around their existing or once existing sites.”

“We are deeply concerned about the garbage that is piling up on our beaches. The garbage is usually from the aquaculture sites. Black pipes, netting, feed bags, and some regular garbage as well. It makes you wonder what exactly we aren't seeing and its effects.”

- For some, even more disturbing were the more serious pollutants they consider a consequence of aquaculture. They called for the aquaculture industry to clean or dredge beneath cages to clear the areas of feed residue and fish waste, and also complained of oily scums and hydraulic fluid on the water along with chemical smells, slimy areas on seaweeds and feces onshore.

“Why are aquaculture businesses not made to dredge & clean beneath cages, it's a polluting industry...at Campobello the beaches are covered with refuse from aquaculture endeavours.”



Regulation of Aquaculture Industry. There appeared to be a sense that the industry is in need of more controls – more accountability – more enforcement before damage goes too far.

- A significant call came from survey participants for an increase in regulation of the aquaculture industry. Some perceived sites as “out of control” and in need of “a lot of control and management” and “teeth in the regulations”; while others recommended it be “placed under a microscope”, “more closely monitored” and “policed more closely” – that there be “more regulations/rules” and “stricter control”.

“I believe [in] more regulations/rules for aquaculture sites...these sites are mostly mismanaged and are responsible for a large portion of garbage/waste in our waters and on our beaches. If the regulations are there, then we need to reinforce them or get them out of our Bay.”

“For the development of any future aquaculture or fishery in the Bay, a more professional approach is needed...[and]...A clear set of government imposed standards would be mandatory.”

- Suggestions for accountability on use of some type of firm site identifiers – logos, colours, codes, site identity numbers.

“Develop a means of identifying (logos, colour, codes, etc.) especially all pieces of all materials placed in waters by commercial interests. Primarily, but not exclusively, aquaculture.”

“Each aquaculture site should be issued an identity number and all their equipment should have that number on it. That way you would know which site is doing the damage and not blame it on the complete industry.”

- Mention of how crucial some regulation will be for the future health of the Bay’s ecosystem and that damage now occurring will “be felt for decades to come”.

“I support aquaculture (and the important jobs the industry brings), but we must be cautious about the impact of the industry on the Bay. Sites should be limited to appropriate locations, and monitored closely to be sure they are not adversely affecting a fragile ecosystem.”

“I think there should be stricter control on the aquaculture industry. The impact on the marine life due to feed loss and high fish concentrations is not understood, and the damage will take a long period of time to undo.”

Site Locations. Tied to concerns over ensuring the health of the Bay, some suggestions emerged for aquaculture site relocations.

- Some comments showed concern for the unhealthy environment created by sites located directly on the shoreline of the Bay.

“Aquaculture has taken over most of our area and serene coves and bays. This cannot be healthy for our coastal waters and marine life.”

“Aquaculture will eventually be the ruin of the natural ecosystems where salmon cages are and surrounding areas. Not a healthy resource for the Bay of Fundy or any water on earth.”



- Some comments favoured the reduction or removal of aquaculture sites from the shoreline of the Bay, using instead either land-based or offshore locations that would limit further risks to the habitat and wild species. A few even called for an end to the industry.

“Aquaculture or sea cages should be placed on land in holding tanks. Ever seen what it looks like under the cages?”

“Relocation of aquaculture sites and equipment to an offshore region. Such offshore industries are currently sustained in western Canada and European waters.”

“Take back these aquaculture sites in the Bay of Fundy. There are too many, too much overcrowding, too much control by one particular company, too much destruction of other fish stocks, too much of the other fish species being crowded out. Too much greed and pollution.”

The Benefits of Aquaculture. Despite concerns over aquaculture generated garbage and pollution and despite concerns that the industry needs regulation and controls, several supported aquaculture and called for recognition of the employment that it brings to the area and support to help sustain the industry.

“The government, both Federal and Provincial, needs to continue to support the aquaculture industry even though there is only one primary stakeholder. Without aquaculture, our population will continue to decrease as everyone is forced to move away to find employment.”

“Protect aquaculture at all cost! Tourism and special interest environmental groups do not feed the people of Charlotte County.”

“Aquaculture is an asset to the Bay of Fundy if it is managed properly. It provides employment for a number of people that our traditional fisheries can’t supply anymore.”

Opposition to LNG

A great deal of feedback related to introduction of liquefied natural gas to areas of the Bay. There is a notable opposition to the development of LNG terminals and shipping in the Bay generally, and specifically, there is also a clearly defined opposition to the arrival of the LNG industry in Maine.

General Concern Over LNG. Led by a large chorus of succinct “no LNG” and “stop LNG” responses, concern typically centred on the impact of an LNG industry in the Bay in relation to potential hazards to the marine ecosystem and the fishing industry.

“Keep LNG out! We don't need the danger it brings to our people, potential collisions with fishing boats, loss of fishing grounds, or the decrease to our marine life and the Bay of Fundy.”

“Please help to keep LNG tankers out or life as we know it will be gone along with work, fishing, aquaculture, recreation, our ecosystem, and tourism.”

“The LNG tankers should not be allowed in the Bay. The income that the Bay contributed to the economy in this area is in danger because one shipwreck and you can kiss the Bay good bye. No amount of money can ever replace!!!”



Concern Over Maine LNG Site. Much concern surfaced related specifically to the LNG site to be completed in Maine and the movement of the LNG tankers through Canadian waters, especially in the environs of Passamaquoddy Bay, Head Harbour Passage, Campobello Island, Deer Island, Grand Manan, and St. Andrews.

- A good number called for the intervention of the Canadian government to refuse LNG tankers access through Canadian waters to the Maine site.

“NO LNG coming through Canadian waters in the Campobello, Deer Island, Grand Manan, and St. Andrews areas. If Americans want it, let the Americans have it in their waterways.”

“Refuse LNG proposals. Surely Canada has the legal right to keep the US out of our waters.”

“The main thing that comes to mind is not allowing the LNG project to take place in the Passamaquoddy Bay area. Hopefully our government will have the balls to stand up for us and not cave in to US pressure. Keep our way of life!”

- A number worried over the effects to the way of life on the islands of the southwestern Bay of Fundy. This included their concern regarding transport in these waters and the associated dangers posed to marine life, restrictions to the aquaculture and fishing industries, and the potential for loss of the Bay’s ecosystem that supports life in the communities of this region.

“Tanker traffic will pose a threat to our way of life, i.e., fishing, aquaculture, recreation, and tourism. Not to mention the threat if marine life such as whales, porpoises, seals, and the many species of fish in these waters. The restriction on fishermen, fish farmers, and others when LNG carriers are in the area is not ‘innocent passage’.”

“I am a fourth generation fisher. The families have always made a living from the Bay, but I am scared that if the LNG ships are allowed to transit the narrow passage of Head Harbour, that it will all come to an end. The tides in this area are the second highest in the world [and] with the narrow passage and unpredictable weather it is certain that a disaster will happen, ending the way of life, as we know it.”

“We would like to make sure the LNG terminal/tankers proposed in Maine would not be allowed to pass through the dangerous waters of Head Harbour. The possible disaster to the ecosystem of this portion of the Bay would never be recoverable to people in our lifetime.”

Health and Management of the Fishery

Overall, concerns related to the health of the fishery in the Bay and a need for better management of this resource were common. There was some sense of poor stewardship in the harvesting of this resource, of monopolization by the larger corporations, and of a need for more government intervention to protect fish stocks for future generations.

Damage to Fish Stocks. Damage to fish stocks, overfishing, destructive fishing practices such as dragging, the potential spread of disease from aquaculture sites, and the encroachment on spawning areas were some of the key topics identified.



“Thirty years ago I could stand on the old clam factory clam shell pile on the shore after the tide had warmed the shells and on the incoming tide catch a dozen flounders within a short time. I believe there is now barely a flounder in the whole Bay. Why? Over fished? Aquaculture sites? Species died out? Some other reason?”

“A way of life is already lost – flounder fishing in coves, hand dragging for scallops and hand lining for groundfish. Clam resource is depleted, not to mention the weir fishery.”

“Has to be something done about the overfishing of our herring. When large seiners have their quota, they still fish hundreds of tons of herring a day, then put them on sardine carriers to bring in as the carriers’ catch, therefore getting around the quota.”

“There is only one spawning site left in the Bay of Fundy, the ‘Head of the Bay’. Let’s shut it down before it’s too late.”

Loss of Local Fishery. There was some suggestion that government policy and corporate strategies have displaced the local fishery and that these individual livelihoods have been taken over by business.

“Just a concerned citizen who knows what government has done to make life here on Grand Manan worse, not better – example, licenses at high prices keeping them from the younger men of our island.”

“Stop consolidating fishing licenses and allowing companies to monopolize. Big companies lose touch with the Bay and make bad choices in management of their resources.”

“Fishing practices that maintain small businesses rather than corporate fishing should be promoted.”

Government Regulation Needed. A number called for practices and regulations to protect various fish stocks and spawning sites.

- Destructive fishing practices were panned, particularly dragging and there was even some call for support to a return to the traditional fishery.

“Maybe ban large commercial boats with drags that disturb the ocean bottom, go back to small fishing craft and local fishermen so they can make a decent living.”

“How long does it take to tell that dragging is NOT a good thing? Conserve fisheries...before they are on the brink of extinction (groundfish).”

“Abolish fish dragging – destroys the bottom of the bay, kills a lot of fish and shellfish, for no reason.”

- A couple of respondents made particular mention of a need for better protection of the Bay’s herring at the spawning area at Scott’s Bay.



“My main concern is that over the years, many areas where herring used to go to spawn have been wiped out due to selling spawn to Japanese markets. Scott’s Bay at the head of the Bay of Fundy is one of the few spawn grounds left. Why is it not protected? We don’t want to go the way of the cod fishery.”

“Purse seiners should not be allowed to catch spawn adult herring in Scott’s Bay in the summer spawning season.”

- The base for better management was identified by some as already there – and just needs acting on existing regulations and with existing resources.

“The Bay of Fundy does not require a plan as such...there are controls in place to ensure that issues are properly dealt with (i.e., the ASEC Committee)...there needs to be more supervision by Fisheries & Oceans to ensure that illegal lobsters and scallops are kept to a minimum.”

“Management of the Bay of Fundy is imperative, not just now, but for generations. Nothing is as sensitive or can be decimated in such a short time through mismanagement or bureaucratic bull.”

“There are no ongoing records to document the marine ecosystem’s health. At one time the Biological Station did that as part of its mandate.”

“Interested parties are too numerous and intense...to join hands under a united umbrella. Where will the management get its teeth except from the higher political levels – state, provincial & federal.”

Protection of the Bay

To many who responded to this question, the Bay is and has been an integral part of their lives for a long time. They spoke of its beauty and a special way of life, and expressed fear that these could be ruined. They want the resource protected both for themselves and future generations.

“I believe that the health and productivity of the Bay area are vital to the well being of all who live and work in this area. It is essential that governments and other agencies move decisively to protect this sensitive environment from any further damage.”

Beauty and Majesty. A good number of respondents revel in the beauty of the Bay area and would like that beauty to continue.

“As a former resident and now a frequent visitor, I feel the Bay area is one of the most beautiful natural areas in the world. I am also a scuba diver and can tell you from hundreds of hours under the surface of the Bay that it is one of the most interesting, abundant and beautiful places on earth. I have dove many sites in the Caribbean that cannot rival the amazing wonders of the Bay of Fundy!”

“I would love to see the Bay of Fundy marine resources & the beauty of the beaches kept up for many years to come. I grew up in Beaver Harbour & I love the resources & beauty.”



“Protecting the beauty and pristine nature of the Bay is extremely important. There is no more wonderful place to be on a sunny summer day.”

“The Bay of Fundy whether travelled by land or by sea provides a beauty and a majesty that inspires the seasons of the year and all weather conditions. We will be poor spiritually and economically if we fail to protect and sustain the Bay of Fundy.”

A Way of Life. A good number of respondents spoke of the Bay as a constant in their lives and the lives of their families. For some it is not just a bay, it is a presence they feel in their day-to-day living.

“I was born on Deer Island in 1917 and moved to St. Andrews in 1921 with the family. My grandfather started his lobster business and built the largest lobster pound on Deer Island. I am the only surviving member left. This area means a lot to me. The Bay of Fundy is my home.”

“Do like to know that there is a balance in all the life around the water. We are bent on destroying things that are a part of our way of life. Enjoying these very special surroundings is something we should never take for granted.”

“The Bay of Fundy as it is now means everything to us living where we do. A paradise would be spoiled forever. It would be heartbreaking if ruined forever. Don't let this happen. Keep St. Andrews as it is. It's 100% perfect.”

“Just leave St. Croix River good so I can watch the tide go up and down through my apartment window at the Ganong Building.”

“Born and brought up in Lorneville. Although not a "fishing family", life here rewards those of us that keep the benefits of 'Sea Air'.”

Dangers in the Offing. There is a sense, as one participant noted, that “the Bay needs help”, or as another more cynically put it “what you had is all over, what was left is gone”, or as a third warned, “protect what we have now, you are well on the way to losing it”. More specifically, some spoke of the need to protect the Bay from big business and even from irresponsible recreation.

“The Bay is here for the people who care about it, NOT for the big companies to come in and exploit it and risk its demise.”

“We love our waters and don't want them tampered with by people who are only interested in (money) for themselves. We love our fish that we catch and whale watching [and] our magnificent dulse. Please save our waters.”

“Would like to have Bay of Fundy water put back to former, natural state so our children, grandchildren, etc. can enjoy them ...not concerned with a few fortunate increasing their bank accounts at the expense of future generations.”



A Clean Shoreline

When providing feedback into the planning process, a good number of those making comments mentioned maintaining or restoring clean beaches and water. There was a mix of beach descriptors that suggest at least some beaches are seen to be in devolution from “inviting”, “natural”, “beautiful” and “alive” to “despoiled”, “ruined” “3rd world” and “yucky”. Blame for this was often placed on commercial enterprises.

A Treasure. A small cluster of those commenting on keeping the Bay clean described a culture in the area that has for years appreciated the cleanliness of the Bay and that longs to keep the Bay in a pristine state.

“We live near the Bay of Fundy and we like it very much. We have been near the Bay of Fundy for over 50 years. We hope it stays clean for all.”

“I am 85 years old. I would like to see it cleaned up.”

“Lots of childhood memories (swimming every day...) and still making memories. Long walks on the beaches. Don’t spoil the Bay of Fundy!”

A Responsibility. Some expressed concern with the state of beaches and then called for those responsible to be held accountable for the cleanup.

“I think that the beaches should be kept clean. If anyone used the beaches for their work, they should be responsible for keeping it clean.”

“I live on Oak Bay in Charlotte County. I have a strong objection to people driving their trucks on the beach (for clamming) and their 3 or 4 wheelers (simply to make noise). Is there no law to prevent this?”

“We don’t see the forest for the trees. Aquaculture sites and beaches need to be monitored and cleaned up. If we don’t care enough about our own mess, who is going to take us seriously?”

“Why are old sea cages brought on shore....they are disgusting and tie up our enjoyment of the coastline. Why can’t they be dealt with in the same area that they were brought out of?”

“Anyone using our Bay, whether for work or pleasure, should keep it clean.”

Safe Keeping for Livelihoods into the Future

The need to keep the Bay safe to ensure the future of livelihoods for the area’s population was a concern for a number of survey respondents. They identified family and other locals whose work is directly linked to the Bay and called for protection of its resources to ensure these livelihoods continue into the future.



Area Livelihoods Rely on the Bay. This feedback often referred to a “son”, “daughter”, “husband”, “family” or “local person” making their livelihood on or from Bay of Fundy waters both in the past and currently.

“My family (as far back as I know) has lived off the Bay successfully. Always being very respectful and thoughtful of future generations. They worked hard to keep the Bay intact.”

“I am particularly interested in the future of the Bay of Fundy as it was a vital resource for my family as I was growing up and hopefully will be for others in the future.”

“My family (forefathers) have been involved with boat building, fishing and some of the young people still are involved or trying to make a living in this great part of the world.”

Protect Bay livelihoods. Several called for responsible action and protection of the Bay’s health to ensure existing livelihoods remain safe and continue into the future.

“Our lives, jobs are totally dependent on the continued safe keeping of our waters.”

“We believe the Bay of Fundy is very important resource where many of our neighbors make their living...Everything we do, must be done responsibly, while always taking into account the effects on the Bay, including the rich marine life it supports & the livelihoods it supports.”

“There are too many people in this area who rely on ‘the Bay’ for supporting their families, never mind all other aspects. The Bay is too important to lose any of its qualities due to lack of anticipation or lack of preservation. Would be a disaster beyond what any words could possibly say.”

“In Charlotte Co., almost everyone living on or near the Bay of Fundy, our coastal waters, depend on it and its health either through work or pleasure and its economic value has great effects on our kids and their kids to come. The government won't do anything about the rising problems, so we as the Bay keepers must!!!”

Fear of Unemployment and Population Loss. There were some warnings that without a healthy Bay to support related enterprises, the area would face a growth in unemployment/welfare and potential loss of population as workers migrate to other areas.

“In protecting the Bay of Fundy please remember the amount of people who use the Bay of Fundy as a means of survival. The last thing the government needs is another bum coming for welfare because their livelihood was taken from them.”

“Employment must still be provided for people working [and] living in these areas or we will lose our heritage when the younger people seek employment elsewhere.”

“All work or industry is linked in some way to our Bay...would suggest that anything to do with nature and the Bay be protected as well for children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews to seek a living in our country, unless we want them all to leave and go elsewhere.”



Protect Ecosystems

The state of the Bay of Fundy ecosystem, specifically, was a point of concern for a number of people responding to the survey. There was a sense among this group that the ecosystem is in need of protection and is showing signs of deterioration. Blame was sometimes placed directly on economic interests.

An Ecosystem in Need of Protection. For some, there is little doubt the ecosystem is in need of protection and that this “should be the priority for resource management” in the Bay of Fundy. To a degree, there was a sense that decline is rooted in more attention being paid to economic rather than environmental issues.

- There was some concern that the ecosystem is in “decline” and that once lost, “it is gone forever”.

“I think it is criminal the way this great ecosystem has been allowed to deteriorate over the years as a dumping place for all matters of waste.”

“I believe protection of the Bay's environment and ecosystems are of the utmost importance. If we cannot preserve and keep in good health these two elements, then we stand to lose virtually everything else.”

- There were some calls to resist sacrificing the ecosystem for economic purposes.

“Think long term, resist risking the natural ecosystems for short term profits by a few.”

“Do not just focus on the economical issues such as fisheries and salmon cages. Be sure to focus on the total overall health of the Bay's ecosystem (or micro-ecosystem).”

“I see the ecosystem in my area of the bay represented as a low priority in the reality of use. The future of the Bay of Fundy seems to hang on who wants to make money from it coming before any other consideration.”

- Over-harvesting of seaweed/rockweed surfaced as a worry for a few respondents based on the impact it will have on the environment of the Bay’s small organisms and, in the end, the whole ecosystem.

“I fail to understand why permits would be given to harvest seaweed along our beaches and from our shore lines. This is the environment where many small organisms live & this disruption cannot help but destroy this form of sea life. This in turn will affect the entire ecosystem. Please act upon this practice before it is too late.”

“Rockweed harvesting should be better managed. There is over-harvesting of the more easily accessed areas, which is leading to and has changed the ecosystem – bare areas, loss of crabs, increase mussels, lack of protected coverage. When this industry first started all was okay, but the last 3 years have been awful. We have noticed such a large change. Perhaps the difference now in the last few years is the influx of harvesters that come from outside the area. They are only after EI stamps and then return to their home province. They couldn't possibly care about our Bay like those of us that live on it year round.”



Protection Measures. A few protection measures were identified and these dealt broadly with such issues as erosion, preparing for environmental change, limiting seaweed harvesting, setting up protected areas, and voicing concerns about the ecosystem.

“The shoreline needs protection from the wake of large ships. There should be regulations on their speed to reduce the wake from a level which causes an erosion of shoreline.”

“Knowing that climate change and higher seawater levels are coming, it is important to recognize the impact and plan accordingly.”

“They take far too much seaweed, upsetting the system (eco). There needs to be more protection for that.”

End Pollution of the Bay

Among comments, there was an unease with the amount of pollution being deposited into the Bay of Fundy. One participant pointed out the immediate consequence of pollution – “Anti-pollution should be at the top of the list. Once a spot is polluted, it's ugly and unwelcoming.” The types of pollutants mentioned generally fell into three categories: sewage and similar waste products, garbage and flotsam, and hazardous chemicals.

Sewage is Leading Pollution Concern. More mentions were made related to dumping of raw sewage and other untreated waste products into the Bay than for other types of pollution. Reference was made to discharges of raw sewage from individual septic systems, to discharge from the Saint John sewage system, to aquaculture waste products.

“Already there is far too much 'raw' sewage released into the system. Even if Saint John cleans up its act, I am sure there must be other areas doing the same damage.”

“I would strongly support any measures that prevent the use of the Bay of Fundy as a septic tank... faulty septic systems of individual homeowners, to the waste generated by aquaculture sites combine to make the Bay of Fundy less hospitable to its natural inhabitants.”

“We have a large septic system sitting on a bank at Head Harbour again beside the road and looming near the beaches below. My point is: environmental and access control already in place are ignored with...abandon.”

Garbage and Debris are Other Notable Pollutants. Garbage going into the Bay is a concern for some responders, whether it is from the aquaculture industry, from ships and boats on the Bay or from derelict buildings.

“Given the fact that the Bay is being used by many large vessels, as well as recreational vessels, I believe something needs to be in place to ensure [The Bay] doesn't become a 'dumping' ground for everyone's garbage.”

“I am appalled at the mess of buildings that have fallen into the water at the Wilson's Rd. Wharf, Campobello. Why is it not cleaned up? Polluting unsafe & unsightly.”



“Educate the fisherman on the fact that the ocean is not a large dumping ground for their oil... and broken plastic lobster crates.”

“Have less... emptying debris into the Bay. It could degrade or destroy sensitive fishing grounds.”

Hazardous Wastes are a Concern in the Bay. A number of mentions were made of various hazardous chemicals and substances going into the Bay from area industries.

“All sorts of discharges... radioactive liquid effluent from Point Lepreau.”

“Stop chemicals from pulpwood industry being dumped into rivers.”

“Police the wharves and fine those who dump oil and fuel into the ocean. I live across from one and see small oil slicks from bilge pumping quite often.”

“Prevent ships from emptying bilge water into our Bay. Enforcement... and heavy fines are necessary....”

Limit Industrial Development

There was some fear of industrial development on and around the Bay of Fundy. Participants made numerous calls to “keep industrialization out”, “keep heavy industry from intruding”, “keep heavy industry away” and for “limited industrial development”, “heavy industry...banned”, “a freeze on the development of industrial sites”.

Fears for Ecosystem Underpin Opposition to Heavy Industry. The reason for opposition to industrial development in and around the Bay seems to centre on perceptions of ongoing destruction of the Bay’s ecosystem or as one put it, “industry is killing an irreplaceable gift”.

“Conditions in the Bay of Fundy will continue to deteriorate as long as wealthy industrialists are allowed to extend their deadline to curb pollution (i.e., 1994, 1998, 2004 and now 2012?). The blocks of foam we see in the harbour early in the morning are evidence.”

“The threat of environmental degradation or destruction by industrial and commercial operations is scary.”

“Industrialization of the Bay (especially Passamaquoddy Bay) by heavy industry such as the open pit mine (aggregate quarry) at Bayside and possible LNG terminals in Maine will absolutely destroy forever its inherent resource and esthetic value.”

“Continued industrialization of the Bay of Fundy should be curtailed to maintain the present health and, if possible, improve the health of the Bay of Fundy.”

“Industry needs to stay aware of the fact that they directly affect the condition of the ecosystem that they are working in.”



Views of the Committee's Work

The work of the Southwest Bay of Fundy Marine Resources Planning Process Committee, as explained in the information mailing and on the web site, received some appreciative comments. Several participants took the time to thank the Committee members for their work and some responded to what they had seen with encouraging comments to “keep up the good work”. On the other hand, there were a few comments questioning the membership and allowance for public involvement.

Support for the Concept. A number of participants specifically mentioned they “support” or “fully support” the concept of a marine resources management plan.

“I think it's about time something positive is being done for our environment and the future of our livelihood around our waters. Good luck, you have my support.”

“I fully support the concept and will follow with great interest.”

“I support the concept of the Bay of Fundy Marine Resources Management Plan.”

“Excellent idea, we sometimes need to be protected from ourselves. I would support this endeavour.”

“We support the concept of a resources management plan to protect [and] sustain the health of the Bay, recognizing that people make a living from these waters too. Finding the right balance is important.”

A Huge Task. A few gave their approval to the concept – “good plan for the area”, but then also warned it will not be easy to accomplish and will entail action at many levels.

“I think it is a very good idea, long overdue. It will also be difficult to carry it through. Public involvement is key, but can be difficult to get.”

“Good to see that this process is fully underway. Very important that all stakeholders be involved in developing the management plan. Look forward to greater public participation in the process. Would like to see some sort of zoning done. Education of the public is a very important part of the plan.”

“Some way must be found to sustain the Bay of Fundy for all the stakeholders, a huge task I am sure! To retain the culture/traditions of the Bay and it's people and yet move ahead in a safe way to a sustainable future.”

Questions re Committee Composition. A few respondents alluded to the composition of the Committee and the perception of special interests possibly represented in its membership.

“What is the real purpose of this group? Not as described in our “Dear Neighbour” dribble. Who will gain the most? I see from the signatures a lot of groups represented with one interest – how can the public get on board – that does not belong to a group – more information to the public by mail – not everyone has access to a website.”



“It would have been more informative if the members' names had been followed by what their vested interest was in being a part of the committee... Who are these people and how did they come to be on such a committee? Are they natives of the Bay of Fundy or imports?”

“Is it possible to have a management plan for the Bay of Fundy that really respects the interest of everyone? What a challenge!”

“I am a retired fisherman of 55 years. Some of your committee I like, some not....”

Access to the Bay

Participant comments registered some call for better public access to the Bay of Fundy. They identified special areas where access roads have been blocked to the public due to private land sales over the years. They also complained about fewer areas for the general public to reach the Bay as a result of the access provided to special interests – i.e., fishermen, aquaculture, tourism.

Reasons for Public Access. Comments explained a need for public access “to view coves and special features of the coast”, “to ramps for small recreational watercraft”, “to beaches and property frontage on the shoreline”, “to beaches and natural walks”, “to community harbour wharf” and “to see people who want to fish have more public access to beaches and wharves”.

“We are also interested in Coastal Trails and the preservation of public access to view coves & special features of the coast. We would like to encourage better, safe and convenient access to the coast for all responsible users.”

Development is Blocking Access. Growth in private ownership, development of waterfront properties and industry encroachment were noted as reducing access in some areas.

- There were mentions of areas where access to the Bay is disputed, where waterfront development and property gating have cut beach access.

“Public access to the beaches is being denied by recent water front development to the point that only access in Chamcook to the harbour is on the Glebe Road. An historical access on the point off the St. Andrews North Road was taken and fenced in 2001, blocking the Queen's Highway and repeated complaints as to this encroachment have had no effect on protecting the public's access to the beach...It has become an enclave of the rich and no one cares.”

“For the past 25 years I have had access to the beach and anchorage in Chamcook Harbour via St. Andrews North Road. Recently, this has been closed off and access to beach and harbour... is restricted to a footpath around a gate...The right-of-way should be reopened or an alternative right-of-way should be made available....”

“When the beaches opened for clamming on Hills Point... there is no place to get to the beach without crossing someone's land. Years ago the road at Milman's Lane was a public road. Now there is a gate across it and all lanes going to the shore are all closed off too. I think the government should purchase a piece of land and give these people access to the beach.”



- Multiple mentions were made that recreational access in other areas is also disappearing.

“We own a canoe and we know of only two public access points to the salt water. One in St. Stephen and one in St. George. It is a seriously long paddle from these points to the Bay of Fundy. We go to Maine when we want to use the salt water...We gave up on Canada years ago. Here, the access is split between fishermen, aquaculturists and tourism, whale watching and kayak rentals. The general public has been shut out.”

“We feel there are far too many aquacultural sites and it has taken our accessibility to beaches and natural walks! Years ago one could walk anywhere along the waterfronts, this is no longer possible. Too much land front has been sold privately!”

Tourism Promotion

Although there were a number of references to tourism, a call for a balance of tourism with the fishery and aquaculture industries was the only common element emerging.

“I would like to see a balance of tourism around our natural resources, maybe a new wharf uptown where the fishermen can tie up their boats and local markets can buy fresh from the fishermen. Something like St. Andrews, but on a bigger scale.”

“Keep people working in the fishery industry and tourism....”

“Maintain the fishery, aquaculture industries and tourism through conservation.”



Other Feedback Themes

A variety of themes also emerged from comments referred to by somewhat fewer participants. Many are just a more detailed opinion of some of the issues already discussed. In any case, these areas are summarized in the following table and also provide illustrative verbatim comments.

Other Themes	Key Verbatim Comments
<p>A Balanced Program for the Bay</p> <p>This involved a few calls for a program that, with the environment in mind, will also address the combined needs of such stakeholders as aquaculture, fishery, tourism, recreation, shipping, industry and have “proper management tools in place” with which to follow through.</p>	<p><i>“Balanced approach which will reflect the investments of all, yet preserve the natural environment...”</i></p> <p><i>“Optimum integration of multiple users!”</i></p> <p><i>“A balanced approach has to be utilized in which economics is not the major consideration for resource management.”</i></p> <p><i>“To balance the need to preserve nature and heritage with the need to provide a strong economic base that will provide jobs, especially for young families.”</i></p>
<p>Development of Natural Environment</p> <p>Suggestions for development included a few calls for designation of marine parks and development of recreational opportunities (including nature parks, walking/cycling trails), restoration of traditional beaches, designation of a provincial park and launching of a government ferry service.</p>	<p><i>“It’s time to remember the past and all the wonders that were ‘The Bay’. Build the West Isles National Marine Park and truly preserve some of it.”</i></p> <p><i>“More planning to implement restoration of local traditional beaches to their original coastal beauty.”</i></p> <p><i>“Have a government ferry to Campobello Island like the one from Canada to Deer Island. Build a provincial park on part of Minister’s Island.”</i></p>
<p>Alternative Power Sources</p> <p>A few proponents of tidal power recommended its development given the high tides of the Bay and suggested looking again at the previously proposed Passamaquoddy Hydro Project. There was also a mention of wind generation, an alternative power source, which was felt would work well in the Bay environment.</p>	<p><i>“Investment in development of tide energy is a sensible alternative to nuclear power. Tidal power has been in existence in Norway for years. We have the highest tides in the world.”</i></p> <p><i>“Since there are few days in this part of Atlantic Canada when the wind does not blow, I cannot see why investment in wind generators is not more enthusiastically received instead of money poured into nuclear power. I also cannot believe that our present technology hasn’t looked at or developed something that could generate energy using tidal power – we have the highest tides in the world twice a day!”</i></p>
<p>No Tankers in the Bay</p> <p>A few participants prophesied “great danger” to the Bay from large oil tankers that visit its waters. Their requests were to “stop” and “keep out” these ships.</p>	<p><i>“Keep the big tankers out of our waters. If an accident happens, there goes the way of life for all the people who make a living off the Bay of Fundy.”</i></p> <p><i>“Keep larger ships out of the area which may cause unrecoverable contamination problems to the environment.”</i></p>



Other Themes	Key Verbatim Comments
<p>No Quarrying in the Bay Area</p> <p>There were a few calls for removal of the rock quarry at Bayside and a few for a ban on aggregate and rock removal in the Bay area.</p>	<p><i>"The open pit mine – illegally operated... under the pretense of being a 'quarry' (no environmental impact study required)... needs to be terminated..."</i></p> <p><i>"Feel that the coastline should not be scarred by a quarry such as the one in Bayside, NB."</i></p>
<p>Fines and Penalties for Pollution</p> <p>A few participants mentioned pollution infractions should be enforced, require cleanup and carry substantial fines.</p>	<p><i>"Those who do make profits using the Bay should be held accountable for their pollution. Each business could pay a fee to government to cover costs of beach cleanup."</i></p> <p><i>"Industry should be held more accountable for their waste products."</i></p> <p><i>"Pollution enforcement and heavy fines are necessary."</i></p>
<p>Education on Ecosystems</p> <p>Calls were made by a few for education and promotion to better inform the public of the uniqueness of the Bay of Fundy ecosystem.</p>	<p><i>"The Bay of Fundy is '1' of '3' ecosystems in the world. People need to be informed of this and educated as to how the Bay of Fundy lives each day, each month..."</i></p> <p><i>"First thing that comes to mind... is perhaps ways and means to promote, inform, educate (outreach strategy) a population who may not be fully aware of the diversity... can a festival be planned to offer holistic view of the Bay of Fundy issues/challenges/promotion...?"</i></p>
<p>Fishermen as Advisors</p> <p>A few suggestions emerged for Committee to tap into the experience of fishermen, who know the Bay, its resources and the industry, and to seek their advice and direction.</p>	<p><i>"The fishermen of the Bay of Fundy need to be listened to. They have had many generations of experience in the Bay as fishermen and know what is happening as far as the fish industry is concerned."</i></p> <p><i>"I think the lobster and scallop fishermen know what is best for the welfare of the Bay of Fundy. Their input should be taken in high consideration on this management plan. They know what is best for their future and the future of the Bay of Fundy."</i></p> <p><i>"In the fishery, the fishermen need a more active role in conserving their fish stocks, such as having a say on whether to allow other fishers into their area."</i></p>
<p>Local Resources for Local Residents</p> <p>A few stated firmly that resources and property in the Bay of Fundy should be for "local people...New Brunswickers ...Canadians". In terms of resources, there was a sense that outsiders will not have the respect for the limits that local people would have.</p>	<p><i>"It is important to make sure the resources are used by local people not people from other provinces (i.e., clams and blood worms)."</i></p> <p><i>"Ownership of property should be by Canadian citizens."</i></p> <p><i>"How can American boats come into Canadian Bay of Fundy waters and fish around our salmon sites and catch harbour pollock and flounder, but we're not allowed across the line?"</i></p> <p><i>"The company has employees that aren't local people. They take far too much seaweed, upsetting the system (eco)."</i></p>



Study Methodology

- Study Topic:** Bay of Fundy Marine Resources Planning Process
- Study Type:** Public opinion survey by means of:
- a self-administered mail survey, and
 - an on-line survey at www.BOFMRP.ca
- Respondents:** Residents of households located in Southwestern New Brunswick who responded to a mail-out survey that went to approximately 12,300 households in the target area, or residents who went on-line to complete the web survey as advertised in newsprint in Southwestern New Brunswick on two occasions.
- Language of Survey:** English.
- Survey:** Survey was composed of four questions. The final question was totally open-ended to allow respondent input in the planning process.
- # Surveys:** Total of 1,052 questionnaires were submitted including 996 paper surveys returned to CRA by postage paid, pre-addressed business mail reply envelopes and 56 completed on the website.
- Field Dates:** Delivery of survey packets by Canada Post Unaddressed Admail began April 24th and continued for approximately one week across the target area in Southwestern New Brunswick.
- The website at www.BOFMRP.ca was launched at noon April 24th.
- For the purposes of creating this report, data collection was cut at midnight, May 31st.
- Surveys continue to be received by mail and on the website and, at present, are being collected and stored by CRA.



Appendix A: Survey Questionnaire

Public Survey

"Your Input is Important"

1. What does your household value MOST about the Bay of Fundy? **[Check as many as apply]**

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Work / Employment</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Public access to coastal waters</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Business / Industry it supports</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Marine life</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>The fishery</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Tourism</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Aquaculture</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Heritage / History of the Bay</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Leisure / Recreational opportunities</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Healthy resource</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Way of Life / Culture</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Other (Please specify: _____)</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Natural environment</i> | <i>(use back if you need more space)</i> |

2. Which of the following describes your household's connection to the Bay of Fundy? **[Check as many as apply]**

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>In the fishing industry</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Own land along the Bay of Fundy coast</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>In the aquaculture industry</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Live on the Bay of Fundy coast</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>In tourism</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Participate in recreation on/around the Bay</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Work in another industry related to the Bay</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>No direct connection</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Retired from work directly related to the Bay</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Other (Please specify: _____)</i> |
| | <i>(use back if you need more space)</i> |

3. What aspects of the Bay of Fundy are most important to preserve and protect? **[Check as many as apply]**

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Fish stocks</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Conserve marine life</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Access to aquaculture sites</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Protect the ecosystem</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Access to beaches for recreation</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Protect Spawning sites</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Access to wharves</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Other (Please specify: _____)</i> |
| | <i>(use back if you need more space)</i> |

4. Do you have any comments that you would like to provide into the development of the Bay of Fundy Marine Resources Management Plan? **[use back if you need more space]**

5. Name **[OPTIONAL]**: _____

Please place this completed questionnaire in the envelope provided and mail to Corporate Research Associates. Thank you!

Appendix B: Tabular Results

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES & OCEANS CANADA

- Public Survey: "Your Input is Important" -

TABLE Q1:

What does your household value MOST about the Bay of Fundy?

	OVERALL %
Natural environment	80
Way of life/culture	75
Marine life	72
Leisure/recreational opportunities	66
Public access to coastal waters	63
Heritage/history of the Bay	60
Healthy resource	57
The fishery	54
Tourism	50
Work/employment	50
Business/industry it supports	39
Aquaculture	34
Scenic beauty	1
Other	3
No answer	< 1
SAMPLE SIZE (#)	1052

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES & OCEANS CANADA

- Public Survey: "Your Input is Important" -

TABLE Q2:

Which of the following describes your household's connection to the Bay of Fundy?

	OVERALL %
Live on the Bay of Fundy coast	60
Participate in recreation on/around the Bay	58
Own land along the Bay of Fundy coast	41
In the fishing industry	27
In tourism	18
In the aquaculture industry	17
Work in another industry related to the Bay	16
Retired from work directly related to the Bay	12
No direct connection	10
Seasonal resident	< 1
Other	3
No answer	1
SAMPLE SIZE (#)	1052

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES & OCEANS CANADA

- Public Survey: "Your Input is Important" -

TABLE Q3:

What aspects of the Bay of Fundy are most important to preserve and protect?

	OVERALL %
Conserve marine life	86
Protect the ecosystem	82
Fish stocks	78
Access to beaches for recreation	76
Protect spawning sites	75
Access to wharves	67
Access to aquaculture sites	32
Protect shorelines	< 1
Other	5
No answer	1
SAMPLE SIZE (#)	1052

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES & OCEANS CANADA

- Public Survey: "Your Input is Important" -

TABLE Q4:

[THOSE WITH COMMENTS] Do you have any comments that you would like to provide into the development of the Bay of Fundy Marine Resources Management Plan?

	OVERALL %
Aquaculture issues/Cleanup/More control/Pollution	19
No LNG (non-specific)	17
Better management of fishery (dragging/spawning sites/protect marine life)	14
Protect the Bay/beaches as they are now	13
Keep the Bay/beaches/environs clean	10
Safe keeping of the Bay for future livelihoods	8
Protect ecosystems	7
No LNG-Maine/Head Harbour Passage/Passamaquoddy.....	7
End pollution of Bay (eg., sewage, chemicals)	6
Limit industrial development	6
Support for Committee's work	5
Assure access to the Bay	4
Promote tourism/encourage tourism	3
Need to create a balance/program that meets all needs	2
Develop natural environment (eg. walking trails/parks)	2
Alternative power source/Tidal Power/Wind/Solar	2
Keep tankers out of the Bay	2
End Bayside Quarry/Don't remove gravel & rock from coastline	2
Heavy fines/penalties for pollutuion	2
Support for aquaculture	2
Education on ecosystems/enivronment	2
Listen to the fishermen/they have experience & knowledge	1
Questions for the Committee	1
Area and resources for Canadians/NBers/locals	1
Need for government help/support/involvement	< 1
Other	16
SAMPLE SIZE (#)	498

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES & OCEANS CANADA

- Public Survey: "Your Input is Important" -

TABLE Q4:

[TOTAL SAMPLE] Do you have any comments that you would like to provide into the development of the Bay of Fundy Marine Resources Management Plan?

	OVERALL %
Aquaculture issues/Cleanup/More control/Pollution	9
No LNG (non-specific)	8
Better management of fishery (dragging/spawning sites/protect marine life)	7
Protect the Bay/beaches as they are now	6
Keep the Bay/beaches/environs clean	5
Safe keeping of the Bay for future livelihoods	4
Protect ecosystems	3
No LNG-Maine/Head Harbour Passage/Passamaquoddy.....	3
End pollution of Bay (eg., sewage, chemicals)	3
Limit industrial development	3
Support for Committee's work	2
Assure access to the Bay	2
Promote tourism/encourage tourism	2
Need to create a balance/program that meets all needs	1
Develop natural environment (eg. walking trails/parks)	1
Alternative power source/Tidal Power/Wind/Solar	1
Keep tankers out of the Bay	1
End Bayside Quarry/Don't remove gravel & rock from coastline	1
Heavy fines/penalties for pollution	1
Support for aquaculture	1
Education on ecosystems/environnement	1
Listen to the fishermen/they have experience & knowledge	1
Questions for the Committee	1
Area and resources for Canadians/NBers/locals	< 1
Need for government help/support/involvement	< 1
Other	8
No comments	53
SAMPLE SIZE (#)	1052