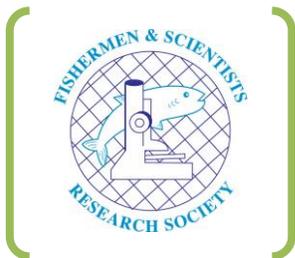




Fishermen and Scientists Research Society Annual Report | 2015



FISHERMEN AND SCIENTISTS RESEARCH SOCIETY

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Message from FSRS President

The FSRS has seen its share of ups and downs again this past year, but with new vision and hope, we continue to persevere. As President, I've tried to listen and to respect the views of fishermen and scientists as well as the FSRS staff who all care deeply about the long term sustainability of our livelihoods, our way of life and of course, the FSRS.

I hope our collaboration between scientists and fishermen continues, and serves as a model for others.

In closing, I'd like to thank my fellow Board members for their support and commitment, as well as all the volunteers who help make our work possible.

Respectfully submitted,



Ken Snow



About Us

The Fishermen and Scientists Research Society is a non-profit organization, incorporated in 1994, that exists to promote the long term sustainability of our marine fisheries resources through collaboration and effective communication between fishermen and scientists.

The FSRS has a lot to be proud of; here are a few of our accomplishments from the last year:

- We hosted another **successful annual conference and AGM** in February. [Read all about it](#) in last winter's Hook, Line and Thinker.
- Last July we launched our [Facebook page](#) and have since built a community of over 140 followers. This is a great platform for our members to share ocean related news from their communities. If you haven't already done so, [like the page](#) today! This was the first step taken to **better communication with our members** and we followed with our improved [Hook, Like and Thinker format](#) in September that is both web and mobile friendly. Keep an eye on your inbox and catch up on FSRS news from wherever you are!
- We received **important funding** in 2015 that allowed us to continue undertaking the crucial research we do. Continued support from Fisheries and Oceans Canada went towards our core project, and funding received through the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture allowed us to continue the important research involved in the [Lobster Settlement Collector](#) project and the [Atlantic Lobster Moulting and Quality](#) project.

- And of course, the FSRS underwent an important **management transition** in August as we wished Dina Desveaux all the best in her new adventures and welcomed Shannon Scott Tibbetts and Tricia Pearo Drew to new roles. They have both continued to lead the FSRS in a positive direction and we know we can expect great things for 2016!



FSRS Staff Jessica Cosham, Elizabeth Baker, Tricia Pearo Drew, Shannon Scott Tibbetts

Mission, Vision and Values

Our Mission

A partnership based on effective communication and common goals between fishermen, scientists and the general public. This alliance facilitates collaborative research and the collection of relevant information that promotes the conservation of North Atlantic fisheries stocks.

How is our partnership promoted?

1. The fishermen actively participate in fisheries research, improving the process by making available to scientists information that only fishermen can obtain on a daily basis.
2. Communication between FSRS members is encouraged, which promotes a network of knowledge and interest in the activities and research throughout the fisheries community.
3. Fishermen participate in the development of a sound information base, which contributes to more effective resource management and conservation.

Our Vision

By promoting cooperative data collection and communication between fishermen and scientists, FSRS aims to foster collaborative research and leadership in coastal communities.

Our Values

- Collecting and reporting of accurate scientific information.
- Communicating, educating and promoting the nature and importance of the responsible commercial fishing industry in Atlantic Canada.
- Constantly acting with fairness and integrity in dealing with clients and employees.
- Conducting themselves in a professional and dignified manner and relating to others with courtesy and respect.

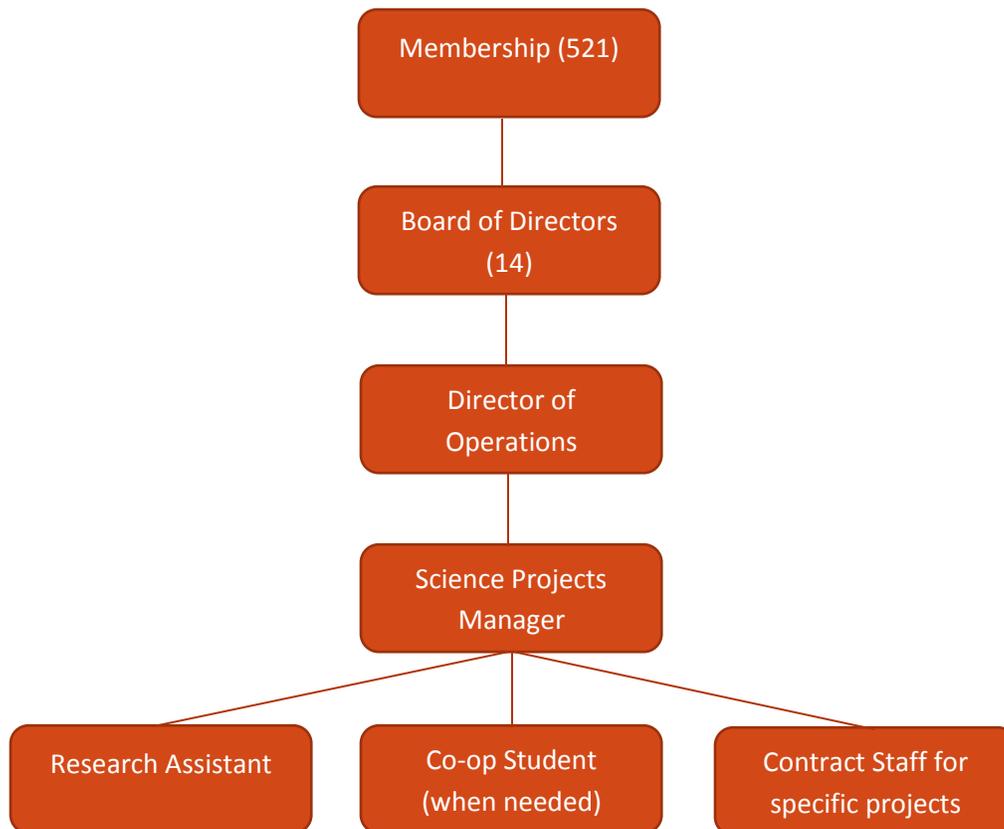


Young lobsters found in the passive collector (Lobster Settlement Collector project).



Elizabeth Baker, one of our fantastic staff, lobster sampling.

Current Organizational Structure



The Board of Directors is elected each year at the annual general meeting. Shannon Scott Tibbetts is the current Director of Operations. She reports directly to the Board. In this newly established role, the Director of Operations will provide seamless team management and development, program delivery, and quality control and evaluation. Tricia Pearo Drew is the Science Projects Manager. She assists in the planning, implementation, financing and evaluation of the organization's major long-term programs and services, along with various other tasks. Jessica Cosham was hired as the Research Assistant in September. In 2015, the FSRS also employed two co-op interns to help with various projects as well as a summer fisheries technician to help with our summer field work.

Board of Directors 2015

Ken Snow	President
Eugene O’Leary	Vice President
Dr. Jean Lavallée	Treasurer
Peter Hurley	Secretary
James Gray	Director
Bill Bond	Director
Hubert Boutilier	Director
Josh Fricker	Director
Garnet Heisler	Director
Alex MacDonald	Director
Craig Nickerson	Director
Dr. Angelica Silva	Director
Dr. Fraser Clark	Director
Winfred (Jr.) Risser	Director

Executive Summary

FSRS Membership

The FSRS boasts 521 members with a great mix of fishermen and scientists, students, and the general public. We have a wide range of members from across Canada as well as internationally. Membership continued to be free for 2015 and 2016, though donations are always welcome!

Committees:

Scientific Program Committee

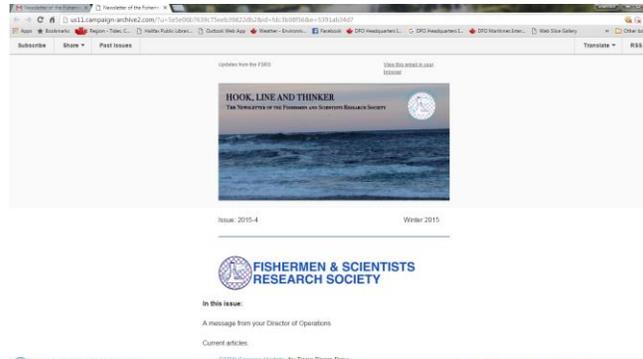
The Scientific Program Committee has met four times in person or via conference call. This committee reports on all of our projects as part of the annual conference. This committee reviews proposals for scientific merit and value to fishermen and acceptability to communities and seeks ideas of interest to members; staff provide project updates at the meetings and develop guidelines for reviewing and approving projects.

Communications Committee

The Communications Committee has met four times in 2015 in person or via conference call. The committee works together on promotion of the FSRS via the FSRS e-newsletter, FSRS website, Facebook page, and outreach events.

E-Newsletter

The FSRS e-newsletter is produced quarterly and was switched to a different format for the last two issues (September and December) but can still be found online at <http://www.fsrns.ca/newsletter.php>.



Website

The FSRS website is www.fsrns.ca. You can find information on the Fishermen and Scientists Research Society and the projects in which we are involved. Interested in becoming more involved, either through our committees or becoming a member? Check it out!



Facebook and Twitter

We launched a Facebook page in July and we hope that you have LIKED it. Also check us out through Twitter (@fsrs_info), <https://www.facebook.com/fsrs.ns>.



Events and Outreach

- ▶ CFRN Lobster Node Meeting January 26 & 27, 2015 (attended by Dina Desveaux and Tricia Pearo Drew)
- ▶ AANS meeting January 29, 2015 (Attended by Shannon Scott Tibbetts)
- ▶ FSRS Annual conference February 19 and 20, 2015
- ▶ CaNOE conference (Magali Grégoire attended June 2015)
- ▶ World Oceans Day mail out
- ▶ Fishermen's Forum (Shannon attended October 4 & 5, 2015)
- ▶ US / Canada Lobster Symposium (Tricia and Shannon attended November 2015)
- ▶ CFRN annual meeting November 17-20, 2015 (attended by Shannon)

Research by the FSRS

- Lobster Recruitment Project: Collecting scientific data on the juvenile lobsters out of standard science traps- data collection done by volunteer fishermen.
- 4VsW Sentinel Monitoring Project- Collection of groundfish data along Atlantic coastline from longline vessel- data collected by fishermen.
- Nearshore Temperature Monitoring Project: Deployment of data loggers to record year round temperature data along Atlantic coastline.
- Coastal Fisheries Data Compilation and mapping: Collection of fishing data via focus groups in fishing communities to aid in area response planning in the event of oil spills.
- Lobster Settlement Collector project: monitoring and collection data on the young of the year lobsters using passive collectors deployed in June/July and retrieved in October/November.

The FSRS was awarded contracts from the following organizations:

- Eastern Shore Fishermen's Protective Association: contracted to conduct sea sampling from fishing vessels, shore based samples and implement the v-notch program in LFA 32 and 31B.
- Université Sainte Anne: contracted to help coordinate the sampling Lobster Moulting and Quality program as well as the data analysis of the data collected.
- AMEC Foster Wheeler: contracted to work on the lobster monitoring portion of Petitcodiac causeway monitoring.

Resources and Financial Management

REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT

To the Members of Fishermen and Scientists Research Society,

We have reviewed the statement of financial position of Fishermen and Scientists Research Society as at December 31, 2015 and the statements of revenues and expenditures, changes in net assets and cash flow for the year then ended. Our review was made in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements and, accordingly, consisted primarily of inquiry, analytical procedures and discussion related to information supplied to us by the society.

A review does not constitute an audit and, consequently, we do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements. Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that these financial statements are not, in all material respects, in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for profit organizations.

Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
February 18, 2016

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Budget Highlights

Highlights	2015 Actual Cost	2014	2013
Revenue	\$467 845	\$467 160	\$587 788
Expenses	\$357 892	\$506 416	\$666 721
Revenue-Expenses	\$109 952	-\$39 256	-\$78 933
Surplus carried forward from previous year (includes A/R, outstanding invoices, etc.)	\$207 239	\$206 847	\$293 104

Cash December 31, 2015	\$205,917.84
A/R	\$73 227
A/P and accrued liabilities	\$(21 446)
Total Surplus 2015	\$257 698.84

The FSRS is grateful to receive funding and support from the Federal and Provincial levels of government: Fisheries and Oceans Canada for Lobster Recruitment Project, Sentinel Program, Communications program as well as Coastal Fisheries Data compilation and Mapping project, as well as the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture for the Lobster Settlement collector project.

Work Plan 2016 2017

- Hired another staff member (Elizabeth Baker) in January 2016 to help with the implementation of another of our research projects.
- We will be working on our **Strategic Plan** for the next five years and we are looking for your suggestions. Let us know how we can make the Fishermen and Scientists Research Society better for our members and our supporters. Please feel free to send your thoughts to info@fsrs.ns.ca.
- Maintain current projects as well as seek out other work relevant to the FSRS mission and hire staff as needed for each new project or initiative.
- We have a newly formed Client Engagement committee as well as a Nominations Committee to improve upon our Board representation across the Maritimes region.
- The communications committee works together on promotion of the FSRS via the FSRS website, Facebook page and outreach events. We will be updating the website, keep checking back for more on the FSRS!
- Currently looking for members to help us with our membership recruitment. Can inquire through FSRS staff and online (www.fsrs.ns.ca).
- Will be looking to design a new logo - stay tuned for a contest!
- Seeking funds to get back into school systems to promote sustainable fishing and coastal communities.

This Work Needs Your Help

Please contact the FSRS if you have an interest in helping us with our outreach goals. We are always interested in more engagement in our committees as well. info@fsrs.ns.ca

Your Donation is More Important than Ever Before

We are proud to continue to offer a free membership. To ensure our sustainability, consider **donating** to the FSRS today. Every dollar makes a difference.

Here's to another great year! And don't forget to let us know what you would like to see from us.

Donations by mail may be made to: Fishermen and Scientists Research Society
P.O Box 25125, Halifax, NS
B3M 4H4

Volunteer and Make a Difference

Contact the FSRS office at 902-461-8119 or info@fsrs.ns.ca if you are interested in volunteer opportunities that we may have available in the 2016-2017 year.