

Base decisions on science

If the fisheries and aquaculture minister meant his recent statements about “making the right decisions based on good science,” the proposal for two 100-acre fish farms for Jordan Bay will be rejected.

Fact: DFO has warned that because Jordan Bay is too shallow and the currents are too weak, it is an inappropriate area for industrial fish farming.

Fact: Copper (in salmon feed and in net anti-foulants) kills lobster larvae. So do aquaculture pesticides used to control sea lice.

Fact: Sea lice are not exclusive to the New Brunswick side of the Bay of Fundy.

Fact: Jordan Bay is a known lobster nursery and lucrative lobster fishing area.

Nearby sites in Shelburne Harbour, with similar conditions of poor currents and shallow depths, have a history of disease and pollution.

Perhaps the upcoming Marine Trade Show in Shelburne will shed some light on why the government is setting itself up for another failure, as well as putting a lobster fishery at risk. Why would the minister consider only one option for economic development — another mega-project with exaggerated job “promises”?

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