

Canada and European Community (EC) Relations: "The Nose of the Bank"

West German trawlers have, this year, conducted a directed fishery for cod on the Nose of the Bank, a small portion of the Grand Bank projecting beyond the Canadian fisheries zone. Because this fishery was not anticipated when the fishing allocations for the relevant stock were made, it constitutes overfishing of the established Total Allowable Catch (TAC). Spanish, Portuguese and other trawlers have also fished in this area.

The issue of West German overfishing became public this spring. On May 13, 1985, the Newfoundland House of Assembly passed a unanimous resolution urging the Government of Canada to extend the 200-mile fisheries zone to cover the entire continental shelf.

In an effort to find a solution to this serious conservation problem, Canada and the EC have agreed to further consultations to search for mutually acceptable solutions.