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Canada funds new technology for snow crab vessels

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By Responsible Seafood Advocate

Funding to help nine snow crab companies install refrigerated seawater systems on vessels

The Government of Canada and the Province of New Brunswick are jointly funding new technology for snow crab vessels in New Brunswick, through the Atlantic Fisheries Fund (AFF).

The funding, with a total value of CDN \$670,073 (U.S. \$485,630), will help nine snow crab companies install refrigerated seawater systems on their vessels. These systems allow crab harvested at sea to be stored in seawater while on board, reducing injuries and overall stress on the crab which has a positive impact on the quality of the meat and helps to limit mortalities.

“The snow crab fishery is a vital part of the New Brunswick economy and significantly contributes to many communities across our province,” said Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries Minister Margaret Johnson. “We encourage the implementation of new technology that assists the fishery. Refrigerated seawater systems allow vessels to potentially stay at sea for longer periods, which increases productivity and operating efficiencies, and helps the environment.”

The AFF will invest over \$400 million over seven years to support Canada’s fish and seafood sector. The fund aims to help Canada’s seafood sector transition to meet growing market demands for products



Government funding will help nine snow crab companies in New Brunswick install refrigerated seawater systems in their vessels. Photo of snow crab by Totti, via Wikimedia Commons.

that are high quality, value-added, and sustainably sourced. The New Brunswick snow crab industry exported \$349.3 million worth of products in 2022.

An advertisement banner for Devi Seafoods. On the left and right sides, there are images of cooked shrimp on a plate with garnishes. In the center, the text reads "SHRIMP SUPPLY SOLUTIONS FROM THE SOURCE". To the right of the text is the Devi Seafoods logo, which consists of a stylized orange and blue flame-like shape above the text "Devi Seafoods" and "contact@deviseafoods.com" below it.

(<https://www.deviseafoods.com>).

“To date, this investment has benefited many members of our group,” said Joël Gionet, president of the Association des Crabiers Acadiens. “This is a well-appreciated program as it improves the way our harvesters operate on the fishing grounds.”

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