Commercial Fishing

By David Grioux

My name is David Grioux and I am from Fort Resolution. My dad and I used to go commercial fishing at Simpson Islands. We always left in July and fished all summer.

When we leave our community we load the boat with our guns, fishing nets, fishing hooks, fishing clothes (including gloves), tools, parts for the outboard motor, stoves (propane and gas), wood, lamps, a tent, groceries, plywood (2x4's) and a flashlight.

As you can see, there is quite an outlay before you start and have to catch enough fish and get a good price to make it worth your while.

Simpson Islands are about 80 miles northeast of Fort Resolution. There are many island and the water is clear. You can catch all kinds of fish there - northern pike, whitefish, pickerel, trout and inconnu.

Once the nets are set we visit them every two days. If you don't, the fish will die and have to be thrown away.

The fisheries officers have the responsibility of making sure the lake doesn't get fished out. Quotas are set on different lakes and when the fishermen take the fish to market the fisheries officers will how many have been taken so far. Once the quota for that lake has been reached, fishing stops. The fisheries officer also checks that the nets have a mesh size no less than 5.5 inches so that the smaller fish can escape to grow bigger and spawn.

That is how we make sure there will be fish in the lake for years to come.

Nám Na Łuwe Xaumdhen

David Giroux súlye-u, Déninukuệ ts'i past'e. Setá chu Simpson Islands huwe ghạ náither panat'i pat'e. July k'e huwe xa hija để, harelyu zik'e beghạ náither ni.

Háyorıla ch'ás híkı dé, harelyu vasié ts'ı yılye: vık'ıdhe-u, jëth-u, huwe gha náithër xa yúwe-u, tles toth dzáz-u, ts'ók'ën-u, tsës-u, lobale-u, beghashëlyi-u, dechën kël-u, harelyu t'a vasié dináilti xa nithën sı.

?asıé la dınáaltı at'e, luwe xaunıdhën xa dé. Luwe lá thilú aeldu tsamba dıltsıxat'e.

Simpson Islands si, Dėninukųė ts'į k'ėdiona dechën, yūdas chu yūtth'įz chu taniz huk'e. Nu la xel tth'i tu te begha hit'į. Luwe la hilu at'e, harelyų: vuldai-u; hū-u; vehch'uė-u; huwezane-u, beghūle tth'i.

Tậbil tàilya tl'aghe để, náke dzik'e t'ánelt'u, nanila. Hánejáile để, luwe legháde-u, aglděl xaaa.

Tu k'e t'ánelt'e huwe hilchu dúwéle sni si vááze xaváile. Luwe xahn děné harelyu yék'erihtl'is-u, t'anelt'e huhdzi si veyër dé, hút'a huwe xaunidhën not'e. Luwe xahn děné tábil tth'i nelvi vat'e, solághe děne chéth tániz vááze xaváile. Xát'e dé, huwe t'a nechilé si náda-u, nechá vája dé, lenelye xalu.

Xát'u t'a, yunedhe xaaa si luwe la-1 xalu.

- Chipewyan