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LANDINGS

News & Views from Maine's Lobstering Community

June 2019 | Vol. 27, No. 6

DMR TO HOLD MEETINGS WITH LOBSTERMEN IN JUNE, AUGUST TO DISCUSS WHALE RULES

By Patrick Keliher, DMR Commissioner

In the coming weeks, DMR will hold meetings with the seven Lobster Zone Councils to facilitate the development of a plan that meets targets established by the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team (TRT) for right whale protection.

The measures put forward by the TRT are driven by federal laws designed to protect whales: the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). Because of the current status of right whales [18 deaths in 2017 and a declining birth rate], the ESA and the MMPA require action, and action will be taken by NOAA if Maine fails to come up with a plan that meets their goal.

As a reminder, the TRT has recommended broad measures for Maine that include removing 50% of vertical lines from the Gulf of Maine and the use of a weak rope topper.

I'm committed to working with industry to guide the development of a plan to present to the National Marine Fisheries Service that is informed by your unique knowledge and insight. At these meetings we will present proposals for your consideration that come from an analysis of vertical line data and fishing practices along the coast.

For this process to work your input is critical.



DMR Commissioner Pat Keliher and staff will meet with all the lobster zone councils this month to discuss how best to reduce lobstermen's vertical lines by 50%. MLA photo.



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MEETING DATES FOR WHALE RULE DISCUSSIONS

DMR will be meeting with lobster zone council members and lobstermen from each region on the following dates:

- June 4, Zone B, Whale meeting, 6 pm, Trenton Elementary School.
- June 6, Zone C, Whale meeting, 6 pm, Deer Isle Elementary School Performing Arts Center.
- June 10, Zone G, Whale meeting, 6 pm, Kennebunk High School auditorium.
- June 13, Zone E, Whale meeting, 6 pm, Wiscasset Middle/High School.
- June 18, Zone A, Whale meeting, 6 pm, Washington Academy Gym.
- June 20, Zone D, Whale meeting, 6 pm, Camden High School Gym.
- June 27, Zone F, Whale meeting, 6 pm, Freeport High School Performing Arts Center

The National Marine Fisheries Service will also hold public meetings with lobstermen during July to discuss the risk reduction goal set in April and receive feedback from lobstermen on possible state actions.

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COASTAL OUTLOOK *Thoughts from MLCA President Patrice McCarron*

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MLCA Alliance is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, established in 2010, which achieves its charitable mission through programs in education, research and charity.

Following a cool, wet spring, Maine's lobster season has officially begun. The familiar sound of diesel boat engines starting up at 4 a.m. can be heard up and down the coast while trucks bearing trailers full of traps careen down to local harbors.

While all seems well on the surface in Maine's lobster fishery, behind the scenes much is going on. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) declared in April that lobstermen throughout New England will have to reduce the risk of North Atlantic right whales becoming killed or seriously injured by fishing ropes by 60% to 80%. The endangered whales, which migrate yearly from southeast waters to Cape Cod Bay and on to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, have seen their population diminish in recent years due to human-caused deaths and a declining birth rate. Under the Endangered Species and Marine Mammal Protection Acts, NMFS is mandated to protect the species throughout its range. Maine Department of Marine Resources (DMR) officials agreed in April to reduce the number of vertical lines (those that connect a lobster buoy to the traps below) used by lobstermen by 50% in order to meet the risk reduction goal set by NMFS.

DMR will be meeting with the seven lobster zone councils this month to discuss how best to achieve this unprecedented reduction. Lobstermen, particularly those offshore, already use a technique called "trawling up" to link multiple traps together, tethered by two endline buoys. How to maintain safety and profitability will be vigorously debated by just about everyone on the coast this summer.

Finding adequate bait for those lobster traps remains a hot topic among lobstermen. With a sharp cut in the amount of herring available, lobstermen are looking to other types of fish as substitutes. One species popular in Maine is Atlantic menhaden, also known as pogies. Atlantic menhaden are a carefully regulated species and the amount available to lobstermen as bait varies from year to year. Gulf of Mexico menhaden, however, are extremely abundant and only a small fraction are harvested for use as bait for southern recreational fishermen. As we report this month, with the stamp of approval from DMR now in place, several Maine lobstermen are investigating the Gulf of Mexico fish as a possible new bait source.

Adapting to changing situations is a hallmark of Maine lobstermen and, to a large extent, Maine people in general. That is certainly the case for the residents of Isle au

Haut. The small island lies seven miles from Stonington and draws its electricity through an aged submerged cable from the mainland. Knowing that the cable's days are numbered, the island's power company decided to take an unusual step: disconnect from the New England electrical grid altogether. Led by Isle au Haut Electric Company president Jim Wilson, the 140 ratepayers are looking forward to a future powered by a combination of solar arrays, super-capacitor batteries and a high-tech microgrid computer, as *Landings* details this month.

Summer wouldn't be summer without sunshine, lobster feasts and, ominously, the presence of deer ticks. The tick season grows in severity and extent each year, with the noxious pests creeping further north. The Maine Center for Disease Control cautions anyone who spends time outdoors to be aware of the danger deer ticks can pose. As we note, deer ticks can spread not only Lyme disease, but also devastating illnesses such as Powassan and anaplasmosis. Taking precautions, such as wearing light colored clothing and using repellents, can reduce your chance of being bitten and falling ill.

Lobstermen and anyone else who spends time on the water should also remember to take care of their eyes. The sun is a

delight after a long winter and cold spring, but it also can take its toll on the eyes. Cataracts, macular degeneration and other eye problems can result from too much UV light. Elisabeth Maxwell notes in *Landings* this month that to block 100% of UV light, make sure your polarized sunglass lenses are made of polycarbonate material. Taking care of your eyes now will help keep them well in the future.

Monique Coombs, staff at the Maine Coastal Fishermen's Association, writes this month about the power of good public relations. In an era of endless social media post and reposts, finding a way to tell the stories of Maine fishermen in an upbeat and compelling way grows ever more important. Airing disagreements, squabbling through Twitter, "flaming" each other via Facebook or other applications can quickly erase any good impressions previously made about Maine fishermen. As Coombs puts it, "Mainers are a proud group, especially Maine lobstermen and groundfishermen, and we need to do a better job communicating that pride. Let's all do our part to share the story of our industry and tell consumers the positive stories that we want them to hear."

We hope you enjoy this issue of *Landings* and look forward to your ideas for future editions.

Patrice



What would summer be without the Maine Lobster Boat races? This month the racing season kicks off in Boothbay Harbor. Maine Coast News photo.

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ROB BEAL PROMOTED TO MARINE PATROL MAJOR

DMR press release

Rob Beal, a 14-year veteran of the Maine Marine Patrol was promoted to Major and began serving in the new position May 21. Beal began his career with the Marine Patrol in 2005, first serving as a field officer, then as Sergeant, supervising officers and boat specialists in southern Maine. Beal replaces Rene Cloutier who recently retired after a 25-year career in Marine Patrol.

Beal's responsibilities will include operational field command, as well as planning, coordinating, assigning, and overseeing Marine Patrol enforcement activities. He will also coordinate responses to requests by other agencies and represent the Marine Patrol on homeland security and other emergency preparedness issues. A native of Southwest Harbor and Wiscasset, Beal worked as a lobsterman in Southwest Harbor and Bar Harbor prior to joining the Marine Patrol.

"Major Beal has shown tremendous leadership and work ethic as an officer and as a Sergeant," said Colonel Jay Carroll. "His knowledge of the industry from the perspective of a fisherman and a Marine Patrol Officer has given him insights that will be invaluable in his new leadership role."

Beal has led many challenging Marine Patrol searches over the years, coordinating logistics of search personnel from multiple agencies, outreach to family members, and communications with press. He and Sergeant Matt Talbot were featured in 2018 in a Bangor Daily News article touting Marine Patrol's work.

"Major Beal has consistently operated at a high level during difficult, complex searches, providing steady leadership and valuable communications to families and communities facing difficult situations," said Colonel Carroll.

Beal was instrumental in establishing a partnership between Operation Game Thief and the Maine Marine Patrol in 2014. OGT provides a confidential system for reporting violations of natural resource laws in Maine. Today, Beal serves as a liaison to the OGT board of directors. He received the Maine Lobstermen's Association (MLA) Officer of the Year Award in 2007 and the Northeast Conservation Law Enforcement Chiefs Association Officer of the Year Award in 2009.

"Marine Patrol has many responsibilities and challenges today and we're fortunate to have someone with Major Beal's experience and track record step into this important role," said Colonel Carroll.




Rob Beal, left, served as Marine Patrol sergeant in southern Maine before being promoted to Major in late May. Col. Jay Carroll, right. DMR photo.

Jay Carroll was promoted to Colonel in early April. Carroll had served at Lieutenant of Division II, from Searsport to the Canadian border, since 2014. Prior to serving as Lieutenant, Carroll served for thirteen years as a field Sergeant in Hancock and Washington Counties, one year as a Boat Captain in Knox County, and four years as an Officer in the Port Clyde patrol area. Carroll began his career in law enforcement in 1994 as a Reserve Officer in the Bar Harbor Police Department. He then served as a Deputy Sherriff with the Knox County Sherriff's Office until 1996, when he joined the Marine Patrol, steadily rising through the ranks from Officer to Colonel."

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SOUTHERN MENHADEN MAY FIND THEIR PLACE IN MAINE LOBSTER FISHERY

By Melissa Waterman

You can't help loving a menhaden, at least if you're a lobsterman. Plump, full of fat, a nice oily fish that schools in the thousands along the East Coast each summer. Atlantic menhaden (*Brevoortia tyrannus*) are harvested to become fish meal, oil and lobster bait. This year Maine lobstermen are waiting anxiously for the annual menhaden migration to arrive in the Gulf of Maine to supplement the scanty supply of herring available for bait.

But there's another type of menhaden, *Brevoortia patronus*, that lives its life in the Gulf of Mexico. The fish are caught by vessels operating out of Texas and Louisiana and used as bait in the blue crab, crayfish, and eel fisheries as well as by sport fishermen targeting king mackerel, red drum, sharks and tunas. The majority of the catch, however, is landed by vessels in the "reduction" fishery, which catch the fish to be processed for fish oil and meal. The interstate fish stock is managed by the Gulf of Mexico Marine Fisheries Commission and, as of its last stock assessment in 2015, the Commission concluded that menhaden is not overfished nor is overfishing occurring. Furthermore, the Gulf of Mexico menhaden fishery achieved recognition by the Marine Stewardship Council as a sustainable fishery in 2018, attesting to the health of the stock and its management.

Until April of this year, however, Gulf of Mexico menhaden was not an approved bait for Maine lobster and crab fishermen. It took pressure this spring from South Thomaston lobsterman David Cousens and other midcoast lobstermen to push the Department of Marine Resources (DMR) to give that approval. "I said that we needed to get the stuff approved," Cousens explained. "We could have multiple trucks coming up here every week!" DMR added Gulf of Mexico menhaden in mid-April to its list of approved baits, but only as a frozen product.



The Gulf of Mexico menhaden stock is robust. Much of the harvest goes to fish meal and oil. Photo courtesy of Menhaden Fisheries Coalition.

Maine's bait suppliers traditionally get Atlantic menhaden from companies operating in New Jersey and Virginia. To supplement that supply, however, small wharves and lobster cooperatives are making contact independently with companies harvesting the Gulf of Mexico menhaden.

Most processors operating in the Gulf of Mexico, such as giant Omega Protein, catch menhaden to convert into fish meal and oil. A few smaller companies, such as Louisiana Bait Products, process the fish for the bait market. Louisiana Bait Products produced 10 million pounds of menhaden in 2016, harvested by its purse seine boat. The fish are Individually Quick Frozen (IQF) in two brine freezing tanks, then delivered by company trucks. One midcoast lobsterman, who asked to remain anonymous, is excited by the volume of menhaden Louisiana Bait Products can produce. "They've got freezers to store the menhaden but when they are full, they have to stop fishing until they are empty," the lobsterman said, adding that the company is ready to send trucks to Maine when that happens.

Unlike the dismal forecast for the Atlantic herring fishery, the Gulf of Mexico menhaden fishery remains robust. "The oil boats [reduction fishery fishing vessels] landed more last year than we used for bait all year," the midcoast lobsterman commented. With the recent approval of the fish for Maine lobster bait, there is the potential that more boats will move into the bait fishery in that region. Total menhaden landings in 2017 were 460,700 metric tons, according to National Marine Fisheries Service records. The amount landed by bait vessels was about 2% of that total, according to the Gulf of Mexico Marine Fisheries Commission.

If an appetite develops among Maine lobstermen for southern menhaden, the Gulf states may see an uptick in the number of vessels fishing solely for the bait market.

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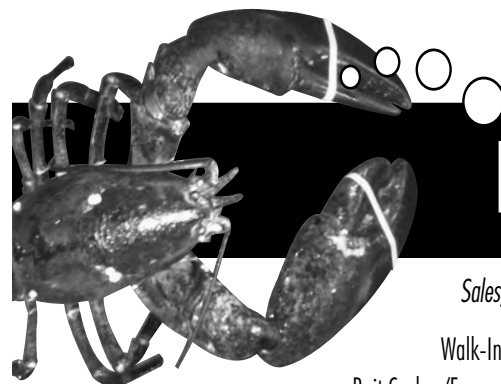
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ISLE AU HAUT TAKES STEP TOWARD ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

By Melissa Waterman

“Resiliency” is a popular word these days, used to describe everything from human beings to national politicians. For Jim Wilson, president of the Isle au Haut Electric Power Company and professor emeritus of marine policy at the University of Maine, resiliency is the goal of the company’s new project, an endeavor that will wean the small island community from its 35-year-old underwater electricity cable to the mainland.

“We are planning for the loss of the cable,” Wilson said matter-of-factly. The cable, which connects the 140 ratepayers on the island to the New England electricity grid, is well past its anticipated lifespan. The cost to replace it is prohibitively high. Instead, the Power Company will create a microgrid electricity system powered by a large field of solar panels to provide power to the entire island. The solar energy will be stored in two ways: in large super-capacitors (a new kind of battery suitable for longer-term storage) housed in a shipping container and in large tanks of heated water that will be used to heat private residences and town buildings. The entire system will be controlled by a microgrid controller, a computer system that will automatically call upon different sources of electricity — solar, the super-capacitors, a new efficient diesel generator and the old cable — in a fraction of a second.

“We are only the second company in the country to use super-capacitor batteries. The other is NorthWestern Energy in Montana, but in recent weeks a number of other companies have made similar commitments,” Wilson said.

“The Isle au Haut community has spent a lot of time discussing this,” he continued. “We’ve had three votes on it. There’s really strong support in the community. The economics of it are really strong as well. A new cable would double electricity rates [currently 32 cents per kilowatt hour]. The new solar approach will keep rates near their current level and will retain on the island the money we used to spend to buy grid-based electricity and fuel for heating.”

But even more important than the economics of the project in Wilson’s mind is the independence that the microgrid will give the island. He likens it to the resiliency of Maine’s forests or marine ecosystems.

“Prior to World War II, before DDT, every year in the forests in Maine and the North there would be ten, twenty, thirty spruce budworm infestations of ten to fifty acres. These places would get hit hard and the forest decimated. Then birds would come from all over and eat the worms up and limit the destruction,” he explained. “The result was a patchy forest, diverse in terms of species and age distribution. The lack of uniformity gave the northern forests resiliency. They were strong and stable despite losing small patches of trees occasionally.” The use of DDT resulted in a reduction in that patchiness, leading eventually to large-scale budworm infestations that could not be controlled, he said.

“Isle au Haut will be its own local electrical ecosystem, a small semi-independent patch in a large system,” Wilson said. “We can fail but if we do it’s our own fault. The other side of that coin is that if the mainland grid goes dark, Isle au Haut will be insulated from that broad-scale failure.”

The Maine lobster fishery, with which Wilson has been closely involved for decades, is similarly resilient. The Maine Legislature moved authority for managing aspects of the fishery from the Department of Marine Resources to lobstermen through the lobster zone council system in 1994, effectively localizing how the fishery was run. Lobstermen in each zone elect members to their zone council, which then can decide on matters such as how many traps are allowed each lobsterman or whether the zone is open to new entrants.

“An ecosystem tends to be very decentralized. What characterizes ecosystems is the intensity of local interactions. You can’t manage an ecosystem on a large scale,” Wilson said. “Centralization means that you can be subject to a widespread disaster.” He referred to the time in the early 1990s when Maine’s lobster fishery was still under the authority of the New England Fishery Management Council, not the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, as it is now. “Back then there was ongoing debate among the agencies about imposing uniform rules throughout the range of the stock. That meant from Hatteras to the Canadian border,” he said. Such rules, implemented on such a vast scale, would completely ignore the local variations — the patchiness — of the New England lobster fishery. The threat of such a plan, Wilson said, helped prompt the subsequent shift in management authority.

The Isle au Haut Electric Power Company has received no grant money thus far for the microgrid project. As a cooperative, the company does not turn a profit, instead operating on a break-even basis each year. Without a profit, it cannot take advantage of the 30% Investment Tax Credit offered by the federal government. So the Power Company plans to set up a new company with private investors who can take advantage of the tax credit to offset other gains. “There are two or three people right now waiting for



Stephen Smith, left, and Jim Wilson, right, in front of the solar modules delivered to Isle au Haut. Photo courtesy of Mainebiz.

the final cost estimates to come in. They will own the new company that we’ve formed and sell the electricity to the co-op at a set rate. That has the effect of transferring most of the benefit of the Federal tax credit to the co-op,” Wilson explained. “It will give them a fair return at the same time.” At some point in the future, the Power Company will buy out the investors and dissolve the company altogether.

Getting the microgrid project off the ground has been the collaborative effort of many people, Wilson noted. “Bills Stevens, the general manager of the Power Company, and Steven Strong, who runs Solar Design Associates in Harvard, Massachusetts, plus our board members, many of whom are retired business people — we’ve all worked together on this,” he said. Dynamic Grid Systems in Portland designed the microgrid software; the super-capacitor batteries will come from Kilowatt Labs of New York.



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING SCHEDULE
All meetings take place in Belfast, unless otherwise indicated.

June 5
5 p.m., Maine Maritime Museum, Bath

STEAMING AHEAD

The timeline to get half of our vertical lines out of the water is becoming clearer. The majority of the planning work will take place this summer. The Department of Marine Resources (DMR) announced that it will hold two rounds of zone council meetings on the issue in June and August. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will hold one round of meetings in July. The purpose of these meetings will be to update lobstermen on the rule-making process and solicit feedback from the industry on potential management strategies to reduce risk of right whales becoming entangled in lobster gear. Due to the lengthy federal rulemaking process, the new whale rules are not expected to be implemented until the 2021 fishing season.

Here's what we know: NMFS is requiring all lobster fishing areas and states to reduce the risk of serious injury and mortality to right whales posed by the lobster fishery by 60% to 80%. Maine will achieve this risk reduction by removing half of its vertical lines from the water and incorporating weak rope on the top portion of endlines. These management changes will affect all Maine lobstermen, including those who fish inside the exemption area. Importantly, lobstermen who fish inside the exemption line will still be allowed to fish floating groundlines. We know that management changes to be included in the next round of whale rules will include:

- Removing half of Maine's vertical lines from the water but include a ¼ mile safety buffer in state waters where lobstermen would not have to meet trawling-up requirements.
- Expanded gear marking and unique gear marking for Maine lobster gear.
- 100% mandatory harvester reporting.
- Phase in of vessel tracking, beginning with federal permit holders.

While we are clear on what needs to be accomplished to meet the goal post for this next round of whale rules, how we do it is yet to be determined. It is important for Maine lobstermen to participate in helping the state decide how we achieve this goal to guarantee that we maintain a diverse fleet, do not create safety risks for lobstermen, ensure that measures are operationally feasible and that the lobster fishery remains an economic engine for our coastal communities.

At the May Lobster Advisory Committee (LAC) meeting, DMR announced that it must submit a draft plan for the Maine lobster fishery to meet NMFS' risk reduction mandate by September 2019. DMR was clear that if Maine is not able to agree upon a strategy to do this, NMFS will do it for us. DMR plans to incorporate significant input from Maine lobstermen in drafting this plan. The May LAC meeting was the first step in this process.

DMR will hold seven zone council meetings in June to bring lobstermen up to speed on the risk reduction mandate and present several strawman proposals to achieve that target. Strategies for lobstermen to consider include removing vertical lines from the water through trawling up, trap reductions, or a combination of the two. Other possibilities include removing rope through fishery closures, such as

closing the state waters fishery during winter months or a seasonal closure during a time of high risk of interactions with whales. Lobstermen could further reduce entanglement risk by integrating 1,700-pound weak rope on all or part of the buoy line. The June zone council meetings will help lobstermen understand just how much risk reduction could be achieved by the various approaches and consider

which strategies pose the least economic, operational and safety concerns.

DMR will hold a series of follow-up zone council meetings in August to allow lobstermen time to digest the information, discuss alternative approaches in their communities, and provide DMR additional input on the preferred methods to get vertical lines out of the water. DMR will review this feedback and draft a state-wide plan to present to the LAC in September. The LAC will provide feedback before the DMR submits its draft plan to NMFS later that month.

DMR has already done a significant amount of

groundwork on the complicated task of removing half of our vertical lines from the water. The agency has developed several strawman proposals that demonstrate how much rope can be removed from the water based on different approaches. DMR has looked at trawling-up options by proposing a minimum number of traps on a trawl based on distance from shore. DMR has also examined options that would combine trap limits of 600 traps and 400 traps with various trawling-up scenarios in order to meet the required 50% reduction in rope. DMR has included a ¼ mile safety exemption along the coast and islands, where lobstermen would not have to meet the new trawling-up requirements. Keep in mind that DMR's work to date is only a starting point for discussion.

NMFS plans to hold its own series of meetings this summer to get feedback from Maine lobstermen. The agency will hold four meetings along the Maine coast in July. In addition to strategies to achieve the 60% to 80% risk reduction, NMFS wants to hear from lobstermen their thoughts on proposals for expanded gear marking requirements, 100% harvester reporting and a phase-in of vessel tracking systems.

While the details are yet to be determined, it is clear that these developing whale rules will change the way Maine lobstermen fish. And it is clear that identifying risk reduction strategies that continue to support fleet diversity, keep lobstermen safe and foster the economic health of their communities will be a real challenge. Every lobsterman should be paying attention to this issue. Every lobsterman should be thinking about what changes can be made; which ones may work, which would pose significant problems, and then be able to explain why.

If you are a Maine lobsterman, please make time to attend this summer's meetings so that you understand what lies ahead. This will be your opportunity to help shape a solution that will protect both right whales and the lobster industry.

As always, stay safe on the water.

Patrice



How lobstermen will meet the 50% reduction in vertical lines will be the focus of a series of important state and federal meetings with lobstermen this summer. MLA photo.



MAINE LOBSTERMEN'S ASSOCIATION UPDATE

LOBSTER BILLS AT THE MAINE LEGISLATURE

The 129th Maine Legislature has been busy considering many legislative proposals. The MLA has been monitoring bills before the Marine Resources Committee, as well as the Department of Marine Resources (DMR) budget, energy and climate change proposals and bond requests. This session will end by June 19.

To date, the Legislature has approved legislation to clarify the provisions of the temporary medical allowance for lobstermen so that a lobsterman may continue to fish his or her licenses when well enough to do so. The Legislature passed a temporary provision to allow Gray Zone lobstermen to haul their gear without night-time restrictions in September and October during the 2019 fishing season. This provision will be reviewed by DMR, and the Marine Resources Committee will consider making this a permanent provision next year. The Legislature also changed the Lobster Class III license provision to allow lobstermen to fish with up to four (increased from two) unlicensed sternmen. The bill that proposed to cap the lobster license waiting list at 10 years was carried over to the next session; it will be reconsidered in January 2020.

There are a few lobster-related bills that are still under consideration by the Legislature and are likely to be passed. One bill will allow Monhegan's student license holders to fish during the island's closed season since that is when they are out of school, but with limits on the number of traps that can be fished. The Governor's climate change bill is expected to pass. This legislation will establish greenhouse gas emission reduction goals and renewable energy goals, as well as establish the Maine Climate Council with 39 members to develop a plan to meet those goals.

PASSED

LD 340 An Act To Clarify the Temporary Medical Allowance Relating to Lobster and Crab Fishing Licenses, sponsored by Rep McCreight of Harpswell, was amended and passed into law. This law change clarifies that a lobsterman with a substantial illness or medical condition who has been granted a temporary medical allowance may continue to fish under the license as long as s/he does not fish concurrently with the individual authorized to fish under the temporary medical allowance. It adds domestic partners to the list of individuals authorized to fish under this provision and clarifies that the license holder is liable for the activities of the individual fishing under the temporary medical allowance whether or not the license holder is present on the vessel.

LD 618 An Act To Remove Nighttime Restrictions on Lobster Fishing in a Certain Area in the Bay of Fundy, sponsored by Rep Tuell of East Machias, was amended to a Resolve requiring the DMR to allow lobstermen to raise and haul lobster traps during any time of the day from September 1, 2019 through October 31, 2019 in the gray zone. The gray zone encompasses approximately 210 square miles around Machias Seal Island where there are overlapping claims of sovereignty by the United States and Canada. This bill requires DMR to define this area in rule to ensure the boundaries of this area are clearly delineated. DMR must submit a report to the Marine Resources Committee by February 1, 2020. The Committee has the authority to report out a bill with a permanent solution based on the report.

LD 676 An Act to Simplify Maine's Lobster Licensing System, sponsored by Rep Faulkingham of Winter Harbor, was amended to increase the number of unlicensed crew members a Class III lobsterman may engage to from 2 to 4 to assist in licensed activities.

CARRIED OVER TO SECOND SESSION

LD 28 An Act Regarding Access to Lobster Licenses, sponsored by Rep McCreight of Harpswell, proposes to give lobster licenses to those who have completed the Apprentice program and been on the waiting list for 10 or more years. The Marine Resources Committee received a lot of testimony during the public hearing on February 5 which was roughly split between those who supported and opposed the bill. During the February 19 work session, the Marine Resources Committee voted to table this bill due to the many changes that the lobster industry is currently facing as result of herring cuts and potential whale rules. The bill will be reconsidered during the second session in 2020.

LD 936 Resolve, Establishing a Commission To Study the Existing and Potential Effects of Freshwater and Marine Debris on Maine's Freshwater and Coastal Habitats and Species, sponsored by Rep Devin of Newcastle, proposes to establish a 13 member committee tasked with studying freshwater and marine debris and how it affects Maine's freshwater and ocean and coastal ecosystems, habitats and species. The Marine Resources Committee voted to carry this bill over to the next session on May 23.

DEAD

LD 174 An Act to Promote Youth Participation in the Maine Lobster Fishery, sponsored by Rep McDonald of Stonington, proposed to allow a child 12 years old or younger, who does not hold a student license, to assist a Class I, II or III lobster license holder while lobstering. The Marine Resources Committee moved the bill out of committee on March 19 with a unanimous ought not to pass vote. This bill was killed on March 26.

LD 314 An Act to Simplify Apprenticeship Requirements for Student and Apprentice Lobster and Crab Fishing License Holders, sponsored by Rep Faulkingham of



The Marine Resources Committee dealt with a full slate of lobster-related bills this session, which will end June 19. MLA photo.

Winter Harbor, proposed to allow a person with an Apprentice or Student lobster license an alternate method to demonstrate Apprentice Program completion through verified landings of at least 4,000 pounds of lobster over a period of not less than 2 years. The Marine Resources Committee majority (7) voted ought not to pass. This bill was killed on March 21.

LD 675 An Act to Provide Equity in the Lobster Promotion License Surcharge, sponsored by Rep Faulkingham of Winter Harbor, proposed to replace the 3-tiered lobster promotion charge with a single promotion surcharge of \$310 for all 3 classes of licenses. The Marine Resources Committee voted a majority ought not to pass. This bill was killed on March 26. MLMC is up for reauthorization in 2021 at which time changes to the funding structure could be considered.

LD 914 An Act to Enhance the Recruitment and Retainment of Marine Patrol Sergeants, sponsored by Sen Deschambault of York, proposed a 5% salary increase for Marine Patrol Sergeants to remedy a problem with availability pay so that they are compensated in the same way as IFW sergeants. DMR has pledged to work with Sergeants to rectify this situation. This bill was killed on April 11.

LD 937 An Act Regarding the Sale and Release or Abandonment of Balloons, sponsored by Rep Devin of Newcastle, proposes to subject a person who releases or abandons a balloon outdoors to penalty. It also requires a seller of balloons to register with the Department of Environmental Protection and to display in a conspicuous place at each purchase counter information concerning the risks and safety hazards of balloons. This bill was killed on May 9.

LD 941 An Act to Further Define the Monhegan Lobster Conservation Area, sponsored by Rep Devin of Newcastle, is a concept draft which proposed to redefine the status of the Monhegan Lobster Conservation Area. This bill was killed on May 7.

LD 1287 An Act to Protect the Penobscot River and Penobscot Bay from Mercury Contamination, sponsored by Rep Dodge of Belfast, proposed to require dredging in the Penobscot River and in Penobscot Bay north of the southern tip of Islesboro Island to comply with certain sampling requirements prior to being permitted. This bill was voted ought not to pass by the Environment and Natural Resources Committee in late April and killed on May 2.

STILL UNDER REVIEW BY THE LEGISLATURE

LD 430 An Act To Establish and Promote a System of Safe Disposal of Expired Marine Flares, sponsored by Rep McCreight of Harpswell, proposes to establish programs for the collection and disposal of expired marine flares. On March 4, the Criminal Justice voted to support an amended version of this bill. The amendment is pending final review and approval by the Committee.

LD 955 An Act to Prohibit Offshore Oil and Natural Gas Drilling and Exploration, sponsored by Rep Devin of Newcastle, proposes to prohibit activities relating to offshore oil and natural gas exploration, development and production within the boundaries and jurisdiction of the State. The Environment and Natural Resources Committee had a divided vote on May 22.

LD 956 An Act To Allow Student License Holders To Fish for or Take Lobsters during a Closed Season, sponsored by Rep Devin of Newcastle, proposes to allow Monhegan student license holders to fish during the closed season. A majority of the Marine Resources Committee supported an amended bill to allow Monhegan students age 8 to 11 to fish 10 traps, 11 to 14 to fish 25 traps and those 14 to 23 to fish 50 traps during the closed season.

LD 994 Resolve, To Require the Approval by the Public Utilities Commission of a Proposal for a Long-term Contract for Deep-water Offshore Wind Energy (emergency), sponsored by Sen Woodsome of York, proposes to direct the Public Utilities Commission to approve the long-term contract for capacity and associated energy between Maine Aqua Ventus I, GP, LLC and Central Maine Power Company submitted to the commission in December 2017. *The Utilities, Energy and Technology Committee voted with a divided report on May 23.*



MAINE LOBSTERMEN'S ASSOCIATION UPDATE

MLA continued from page 7

LD 1679 An Act to Establish the Maine Climate Change Council to Assist Maine to Mitigate, Prepare for and Adapt to Climate Change, sponsored by Sen Woodsome of York, is the Governor's climate change bill. This bill proposes to establish greenhouse gas emission reduction goals of 45% by 2030 and 80% by 2050 and renewable energy goals in our electricity sector of 80% by 2030 and 100% by

2050. It also establishes the Maine Climate Council comprised of 39 people to develop a climate plan to meet those goals. There is a seat on that council for marine fisheries. The Committee on Environment and Natural Resources voted unanimously in late May to support the bill with a few minor amendments.

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

May 28, 2019

May 28, 2019

The Honorable Neil Jacobs, Ph.D., Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Environmental Observation and Prediction and Acting Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere

Dear Acting Under Secretary Jacobs:

We are writing in regard to the ongoing North Atlantic right whale take reduction efforts and their significant impact on the Maine lobster industry.

As you are aware, Maine fisheries officials and stakeholders have been actively engaged on the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team (ALWTRT) and in correspondence with NOAA Fisheries, with the primary objective of providing the most relevant data possible to ensure that the resulting measures target areas of high risk and yield conservation benefits possible for right whales. We have been closely monitoring these developments and appreciate the opportunity to raise with you some concerns that are of great ecological and economic importance.

A key component of the consensus agreement from the April ALWTRT meeting was that each state or Lobster Conservation Management Area (LCMA) achieve a 60 percent risk reduction in their respective jurisdiction. While lobstermen and regulators in Maine have put forward a plan to reduce the fleet's vertical lines by 50 percent thus demonstrating their strong, long-standing commitment to responsible stewardship, we are concerned that some of the proposals put forth by other jurisdictions appear to be insufficient. Specifically, some of these plans would not be able to meet the stated target or would rely on measures that would negatively affect all of LCMA-1 (including all of Maine's federal permit holders). We believe it is unfair and untenable for states to be held to differing standards and, as a result, not achieve the agreed-upon level of risk reduction. NOAA Fisheries must ensure equity across all fleets and states in LCMA-1 as well as amongst all LCMAs.

In addition to demanding parity in whale conservation plans across U.S. jurisdictions, we strongly believe NOAA Fisheries also must ensure that Canada implements equitable measures given its several fisheries' significant contributions to right whale deaths and injuries. We are concerned that when attributing the serious injury and mortality to gear of unknown origin, NOAA Fisheries' methodology assumes that the risk in U.S. and Canadian waters is the same - despite strong scientific and empirical evidence to the contrary.



From left, DMR staff Erin Summers, DMR Commissioner Pat Keliher, MLA president Kristan Porter, Senator Collins, and MLA executive director Patrice McCarron met in 2018 to discuss the situation facing Maine lobstermen with regard to new whale regulations. Photo courtesy of Sen. Collins office.

We believe that the risk reduction target and management measures used to reduce risk to whales should more accurately reflect the proportion of entanglements seen in the data related to each country, regardless of temporal distribution.

Furthermore, we urge you to put the Decision Support Tool through a peer review process, as it is clear there are components of this tool that deserve a higher level of scrutiny. One such component is the severity score for various gear configurations and the means by which it was established. We are troubled that NOAA Fisheries opted to conduct a poll of the ALWTRT members to calculate the risk posed to whales by different types of gear in lieu of using existing datasets. We understand that the tool also appears to be extremely sensitive to these severity scores, underscoring their importance. As such, we encourage NOAA Fisheries to devote immediate attention to this component of the tool to ensure that it is accurately guiding these significant policy changes. A peer review process could also help to address the fact that the data used do not accurately reflect the distribution shift of right whales since 2010.

In the coming weeks and months, the Maine Department of Marine Resources will hold Zone Council meetings to present draft proposal options to the industry, and also work with their counterparts in other states to ensure that the proposals for LCMA-1 are sufficient and equitable in their impact to fishermen who operate in that management area. Finally, we are encouraged to learn that NOAA Fisheries anticipates holding four scoping meetings in Maine on a timeline that allows the state to consult with the industry on the development of its proposal. We appreciate your agency's willingness to allow for and facilitate these opportunities for industry engagement.

We welcome your feedback and urge your immediate attention to the above-mentioned issues, and respectfully request answers to the following specific questions:

- How will NOAA Fisheries ensure that the proposals from all relevant states and lobster management jurisdictions are held to the same standard and achieve the required 60 percent risk reduction target?
- How will NOAA Fisheries ensure that the risk reduction requirements more accurately reflect the proportion of entanglements seen in the data related to the U.S. compared to Canada?
- How does NOAA Fisheries plan to collaborate with- and also hold accountable Canadian fisheries interests?
- Will NOAA Fisheries allow for the Decision Support Tool to undergo a peer review process? If not, why not?
- How does NOAA Fisheries plan to work with Maine's lobster fishery to protect and maintain the diversification of the fleet as right whale take reduction efforts move forward?

Thank you for attention to this matter. We look forward to continuing to work with your agency toward a science-informed and equitable solution that protects the fragile right whale population without unfairly or disproportionately burdening the Maine lobster industry.

Sincerely,

Susan M. Collins

Susan M. Collins
United States Senator

Chellie Pingree

Chellie Pingree
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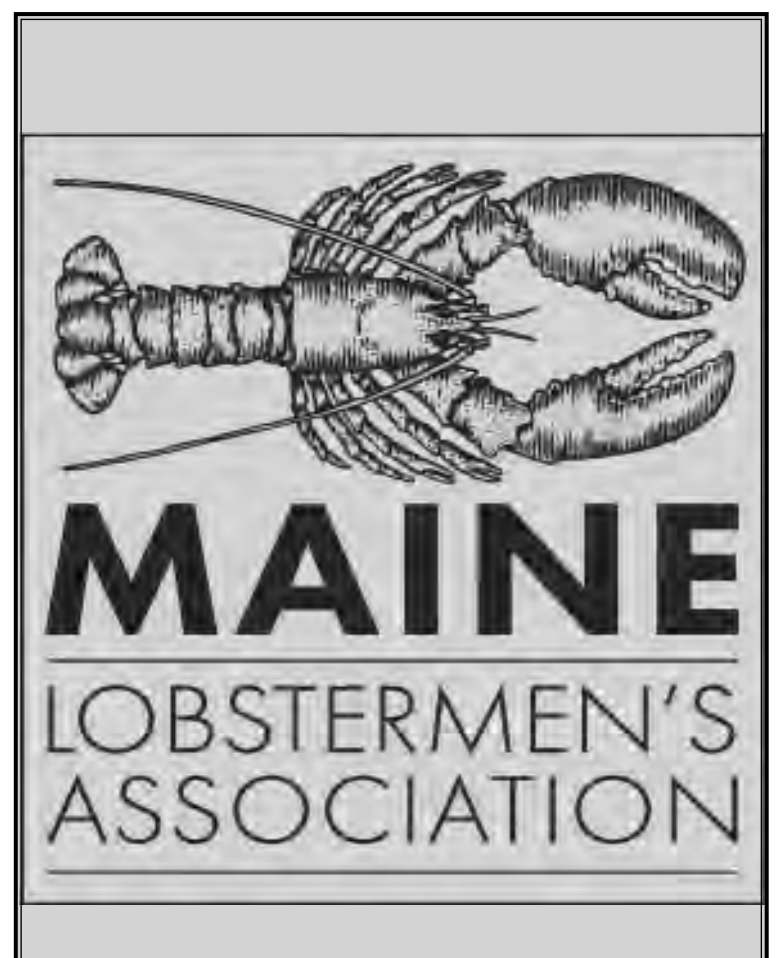
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Leading up to the New Shell season this year, the MLMC will create excitement and awareness among media and consumers with a "New Shell Waitlist." Waitlist participants will sign up to be notified when the New Shell season starts and will be able to order through participating online shippers. One lucky member of the waitlist will win a New Shell weekend in Maine and a season of Maine Lobster deliveries.



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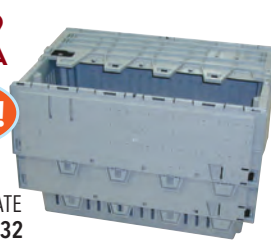
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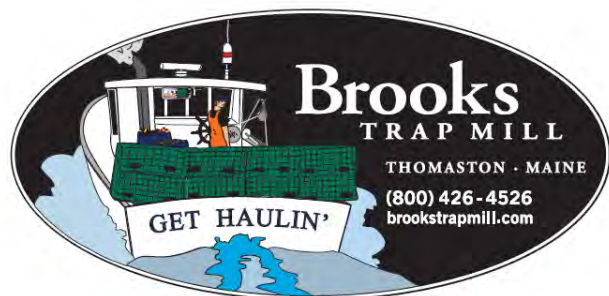
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I have been lobstering for 66 years. Lobstering is the largest shellfish harvest in the state, worth \$500 million. Aquaculture leases are rapidly increasing, and I don't think the rules are in place for an equal playing field for lobstermen, fishermen or the Maine people. I don't think we should allow selling Maine's oceans. Now is the time to protect the working waterfront – that means for everyone. – Ernie Burgess

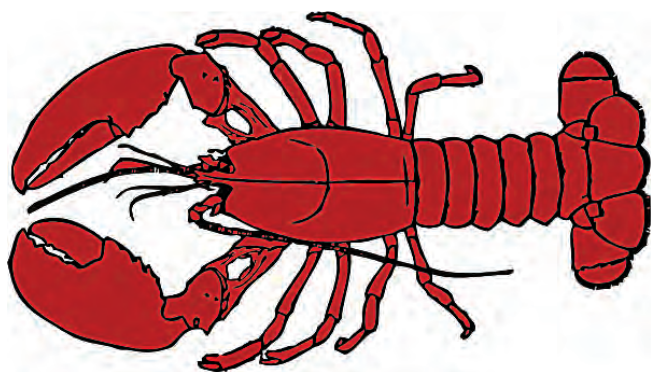
I am a sternman and I am interested in aquaculture. The time is now to get the rules right so both can survive. – Kelsey Fenwick



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HAVING THEIR VOICES HEARD MOTIVATES NEW MLA MEMBERS

By Antonina Pelletier

There's no doubt that Maine lobstermen are feeling anxious about the future. While only time will tell what the fishery will look like future years, one thing is clear: lobstermen are making sure their voices are heard. And they are doing that by joining the Maine Lobstermen's Association (MLA).



Ken Beebe, Harpswell.

Ken Beebe has been fishing out of Harpswell since 1980. His 26' General Marine boat hits the water twice a week when he fishes his singles inshore. Monday through Friday, Beebe runs a high-end painting company and has an oyster aquaculture farm in front of his home in South Harpswell. He is passionate and knowledgeable about Maine's lobster fishery. "People need to understand how hard we work," he said. He acknowledges that part of his motivation to join the MLA for the first time recently was the exceptional deal he got on his vessel insurance, however he is quick to note that he joined because he believes the MLA needs money to address issues like the herring shortage and right whale regulations. "I feel as though I have better notes on what's going on [by being a member]," Beebe said. "I joined because I wanted a voice."

Joe Wedge is a fourth-generation lobsterman from Great Cranberry Island although he fishes his 38' South Shore out of Southwest Harbor. Like so many lobstermen, he had been meaning to join the MLA for years but "I'm not a meeting person." His grandfather Karl, a longtime member of the MLA, was the man who gave Wedge his introduction to lobstering. Still, despite his grandfather's example, Wedge never joined. "When

I was younger, I wasn't paying attention and I didn't have time," he explained. Now, as his teenage sons are getting into fishing, Wedge's perspective has changed. "I want to be part of the solution," he said, referencing MLA's hard work on representing lobstermen on the right whale rule discussions. His sons, Austin, 16, and Joshua, 14, now are also members. "Being members keeps us connected to the process," he says. "I'm happy to be a part of an organization that works for everyone."

Michael Hunt of Corea is also the father of two young sons who fish. Gavin, 12, and Dawson, 10, fish during the summer months when they are out of school. "They learn stuff at school [about right whales], but we have to give them a



Michael Hunt, Corea. Photo courtesy of the BDN.



different perspective when they get home," Hunt said. He bought memberships for himself and his boys because he felt it was important for the entire family to be part of the MLA. Hunt serves on the Zone A Lobster Council when not fishing offshore in his 46' Wesmac. When asked why he decided to join this year his response was simple: "Seems like the MLA is the biggest voice fighting for us right now."

LOBSTER BAKES LONG A SUMMER HIGHLIGHT



For as long as Maine lobstermen have hauled lobsters, lobster bakes along the shore have been a summer tradition. There are many different techniques but the foundation remains the same: heated rocks, lobster, seaweed and happy diners!

Photos courtesy of Digital Maine Repository, a partnership of the Maine State Library, Maine State Archives and community institutions around the state.



IT'S SUMMERTIME: KEEP YOUR EYES PROTECTED!

By Elisabeth Maxwell

As the days lengthen and the temperatures warm, lobstermen along the coast are preparing for another summer on the water. While every To Do list automatically includes items like repairing traps and painting buoys, it is worth adding a seemingly small but important item to the list: eye protection.

For lobstermen, sunglasses and hats are less a fashion statement and more an important tool. Hat brims can help shade your face and eyes from sunlight but they do not protect from the glare and reflection off the surface of the water. Proper eyewear is key to reducing the risk of both acute injury and chronic conditions that stem from overexposure to light.

Ultraviolet (UV) light is a group of wavelengths ranging from 10 to 400 nanometers on the electromagnetic spectrum. UV light is shorter than visible light, meaning that it isn't noticeable to the human eye, and makes up about 10% of the light coming from the sun. And while UV light is instrumental in influencing the body to produce Vitamin D (responsible for absorption of calcium and other important minerals), it is also highly damaging when a person is exposed for long periods.

Damage from the sun

There are several common ailments that can result from overexposure to sunlight, ranging from temporary conditions that resolve with basic care to irreversible damage that may require extended treatment. Common symptoms include eye redness, blurred vision, general pain in the eye, light sensitivity, and tear production. If you, or someone you know, experience any of these symptoms, it is important to see an optometrist to confirm the underlying cause and determine proper treatment.

Photokeratitis, also called ultraviolet keratitis or snow blindness, is similar to a sunburn and causes swelling of the cornea. Symptoms of photokeratitis typically are not noticed until hours after exposure and include increased tears, blurred vision, and a painful feeling of sand in the eyes. This condition is usually temporary but needs to be treated with antibiotic tear eye drops. Photokeratitis

The amount of UV protection you receive from sunglasses has nothing to do with the color or darkness of the lens. Instead, look at the type of material used to make the lens.

is common among welders and can be prevented by wearing eye protection to block UV light.

Years of exposure to the sun can lead to the development of cataracts, a clouding of the lens in the eye. There are several different types of cataracts that form in different parts of the lens and may require surgery. Although there is some variation among the different types, most cataracts develop slowly and do not interfere with eyesight during the early stages. You may need to be checked for the development of cataracts if you are experiencing symptoms such as clouded, blurred, or dim vision, increased sensitivity to light or glare, or seeing what appears to be halos around lights.

Macular degeneration is another condition in which long-term sun exposure damages tissue within the retina. The macula is an area near the center of the retina that is made up of millions of sensitive, light-sensing cells and is responsible for our central vision. Although macular degeneration is most common in older individuals, evidence suggests that prolonged sun exposure contributes to the development of this condition. As the tissue within the macula begins to be compromised, vision becomes blurred and may eventually be lost entirely. Macular degeneration typically progresses slowly, but the rate may be faster in

some individuals.

These are just a few examples of how prolonged sun exposure can negatively affect your eye health. Many other types of conditions can occur and a professional should be consulted for any significant change in the health of your eyes.


What to know when buying sunglasses

The amount of UV protection you receive from sunglasses has nothing to do with the color or darkness of the lens. Instead, look at the type of material used to make the lens. Polycarbonate lenses block 100% of UV light while triacetate (commonly used in cheap sunglasses) only blocks about 40% of UV light.

Some sunglasses have UV protection but are not polarized. However, all polarized sunglasses block 100% of UV light, so they might be worth the extra cost.

If you wear prescription glasses, you might consider buying photochromic lenses which provide 100% UV protection. These lenses appear clear when indoors but darken automatically in sunlight and are available in a wide variety of styles, including bifocal prescriptions. Photochromic lenses may be a good choice if you are often moving between indoor and outdoor settings or do not want to keep track of two pairs of prescription glasses.




When considered in the context of years spent on the water, purchasing a quality pair of sunglasses and using them consistently makes sense in terms of your long-term vision.



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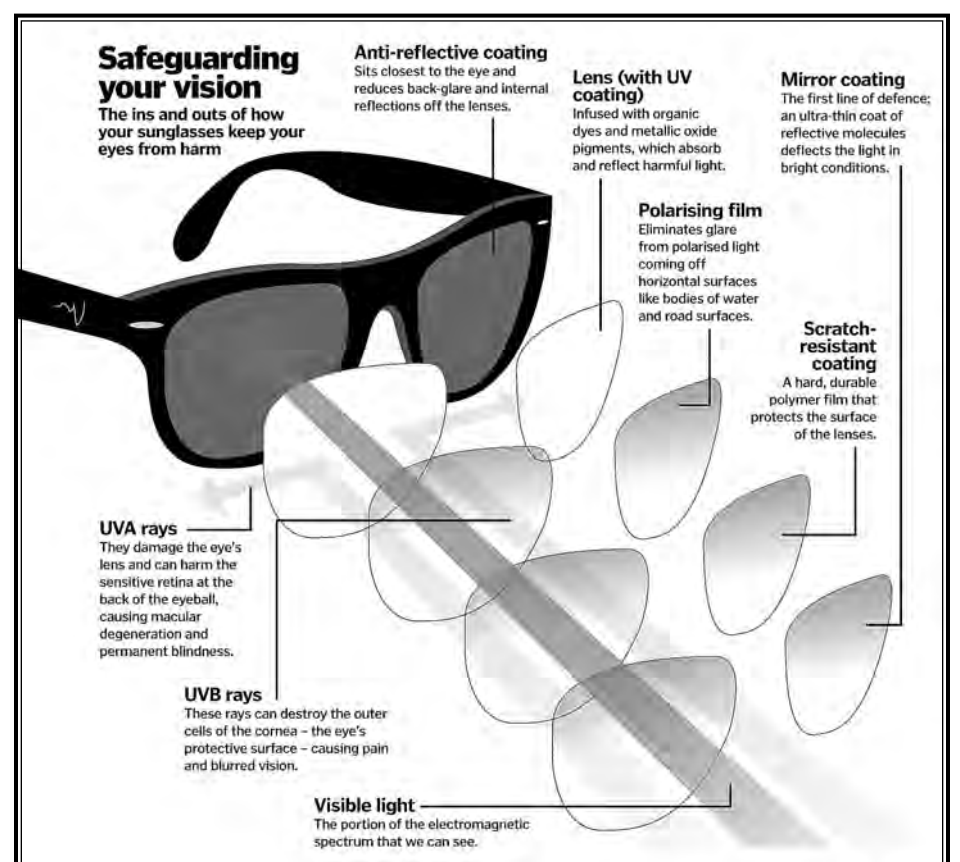


Image courtesy of How It Works Daily.com.



GUEST COLUMN: *Pay attention to what you say!*

By Monique Coombs

The Public Relations Society of America defines public relations as “a strategic communication process that builds mutually beneficial relationships between organizations and their publics.” Public relations (PR) can arguably be more important than paid advertising and marketing because PR is earned, rather than paid for. PR is often more positive and based on stories that validate a product or organization and moves people to think that something is important. PR is so critical, in fact, that companies like Burger King, Coca-Cola, and Nike have multiple PR firms on retainer to watch over their every move and favorably control the narrative in the media.

Good PR can change the way people think about an organization, or in this case, an industry.

The fishing industry in Maine and across the U.S. is more frequently in the news for unfortunate and dire issues rather than good news and positive outcomes. Whether it’s “Cod value plummets” or “Bait crisis” or “Lobster boom won’t last,” the media is full of stories that, although are often true, rarely take the time to frame the story in a way that doesn’t leave the reader thinking the commercial fishing industry is destructive, careless, or ill-fated.

Most consumers understand that about farmers, yet they still don’t quite connect fishermen to the seafood on their plates. We need to remind them.

In 2017, the Maine Coast Fishermen’s Association began working with Knack Factory, a production company in Portland, to create short videos for social media outlets. These videos, named “Hard Tellin’,” depicted various parts of the commercial fishing industry in humanizing, engaging, and positive ways. From alewives and scallops to young fishermen and seafood, audiences viewed refreshing and positive videos; these videos got well over 150,000 views across the Fishermen’s Association’s media outlets.

In 2018, the Fishermen’s Association worked with Ihila Productions to put short video content to the test again when a hotel was proposed for the waterfront side of Commercial Street, an area of working waterfront where that kind of business would have drastically altered its character and usability. The video, “12 Little Wharves,” featured a handful of fishermen from Portland to Harpswell sharing their wonder, admiration, and concern for the working waterfront. In just a few days the video had been viewed over 300,000 times; the possibility of a hotel being built on Commercial Street became history.

The “Hard Tellin’” and “12 Little Wharves” videos were not a marketing campaign for the Fishermen’s Association; they were an effort to change the way the public perceives the Maine fishing industry, from one that is dehumanized and over-generalized to something of value deserving support, admiration, and empathy.

While good PR on social media outlets can create a wave of support and enthusiasm, it can all be quickly disintegrated however with one poorly considered comment from an individual.

A simple Facebook outburst of anger or frustration, a meme expressing outrage towards a group, or a severe comment on an article someone else posted can change the way someone might think about commercial fishing and fishermen and, even more concerning, all these things are admissible in a court of law. In 2019, social media statuses and comments are frequently used in court to diminish the credibility of witnesses, prosecutors, and defendants.

If you’re angry, upset, or frustrated, rather than posting it on social media where it could negatively reflect on the industry, here are a few other things that you can do:

- Join an association that can advocate on your behalf.
- Attend meetings. Social media is a great place to share meeting times and how to get involved.
- Pick up the phone and call someone who might know the answer to your questions. Association board members are usually informed because they are participating in various meetings and on email lists, and fishermen have seats on the council. They would all rather hear from you than read negative stuff on Facebook.
- Stop attacking your own industry and fellow fishermen. (Same team, guys.)



Monique Coombs is the Director of Marine Programs for the Maine Coast Fishermen’s Association.

Maine’s commercial fishing industry is made up of locally-owned and family-operated businesses, a hard-working group of people who depend on the ocean for their livelihood and are the foundation of many of Maine’s coastal communities. Most importantly, Maine fishermen harvest healthy, local, sustainable food that not only provides nourishment but also jobs for many people in the state. Most consumers understand that about farmers, yet they still don’t quite connect fishermen to the seafood on their plates. We need to remind them.

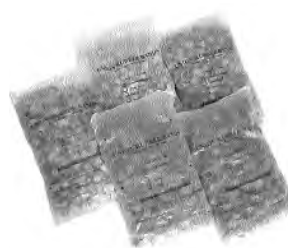
Maine’s coast is almost 3500 miles in length and that doesn’t include all the islands. Only Florida and Louisiana have more coastline than Maine. Maine is a small state with a lot of very close-knit communities and everyone who works on the water shares strong values, a commitment to work, a deep regard for tradition, and high hopes for the next generation. Mainers are a proud group, especially Maine lobstermen and groundfishermen, and we need to do a better job communicating that pride. Let’s all do our part to share the story of our industry and tell consumers the positive stories that we want them to hear.



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Bob Baines, Spruce Head



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Last name	offense date	statute	statute description	disp date	court disp	fine value	Admin Suspension
Babson, Bryce Tyler	27-Dec-18	12-6174.3 Ch. 75.02A1b	WET STORAGE OF LOBSTER GEAR OVER 30 DAYS		OPEN		
Batson, Adrian L	16-Feb-19	12-6174.3 Ch. 75.02	VIOLATION OF REGULATION PROTECTED RESOURCES - TRAP POT FISHERIES		OPEN		
Baudanza, Michael J	09-Mar-19	12-6174.3 Ch. 75.02A1b	WET STORAGE OF LOBSTER GEAR OVER 30 DAYS		OPEN		
Beal, Ricky L	31-Dec-18	12-6174.3 Ch. 25	VIOLATION OF REGULATION - CHAPTER 25 - LOBSTER		OPEN		
Bickford, Troy E	15-Jan-19	12-6174.3 Ch. 75.02A1b	WET STORAGE OF LOBSTER GEAR OVER 30 DAYS		OPEN		
Blasius, Randall F	27-Mar-19	12-6421.1.C	CLASS III LOBSTER AND CRAB FISHING WITHOUT LICENSE		OPEN		
Blasius, Randall F	30-Apr-19	12-6431-G.1	NON OWNER OPERATION VESSEL		OPEN		
Brown, Chad, M	27-Nov-18	12-6174.3 Ch. 25.75	VIOLATION OF REGULATION LOBSTER - IMPORT/EXPORT PERMIT	08-Jan-19	ADJU	100	
Caramihalis, Cory M	11-Jul-18	12-6431.1	POSSESSING LOBSTER BEYOND MINIMUM OR MAXIMUM	27-Dec-18	GUIL	\$1000	
Carr, Jason E	14-Dec-18	12-6421.2	LOBSTER AND CRAB FISHING LICENSSES - LICENSED ACTIVITY	05-Feb-19	ADJU	\$250	
Cates, Brian	25-Sep-18	12-6440	RAISING OR HAULING TRAPS DURING CLOSED PERIOD	31-Jan-19	NGUI		
Chandler, Leo H	07-Mar-19	12-6174.3 Ch. 75.02A1b	WET STORAGE OF LOBSTER GEAR OVER 30 DAYS		OPEN		
Cirone, Alfred C	16-Feb-19	12-6174.3 Ch. 75.02A1b	WET STORAGE OF LOBSTER GEAR OVER 30 DAYS		OPEN		
Clancy, Joseph P	03-Feb-19	12-6174.3 Ch. 25.08	VIOLATION OF REGULATION UNTAGGED LOBSTER TRAPS		OPEN		
Clarke, David M	26-Sep-18	12-6952-A.1.B	POSSESS LOBSTERS ON BOAT RIGGED FOR DRAG, TRAWL, SEINE, OR NET	07-Mar-19	GUIL	\$2200	
Dannenberg, Carl S	13-Dec-18	12-6431.1	POSSESSING LOBSTER BEYOND MINIMUM OR MAXIMUM	05-Feb-19	GUIL	\$2400	
Davenport, James W	07-Oct-18	12-6421.1.C	CLASS III LOBSTER AND CRAB FISHING WITHOUT LICENSE	10-Dec-18	ADJU	\$150	
Demole, Riley J	01-Sep-18	12-6421.1.B	CLASS II LOBSTER AND CRAB FISHING WITHOUT LICENSE	14-Feb-19	NGUI		
Dorr, Harmon C	07-Feb-19	12-6174.3 Ch. 75.02A1b	WET STORAGE OF LOBSTER GEAR OVER 30 DAYS	02-Apr-19	ADJU	\$300	
Dow, James N	08-Nov-18	12-6431.1	POSSESSING LOBSTER BEYOND MINIMUM OR MAXIMUM	14-Jan-19	GUIL	\$1200	
Dunham, Richard D	10-Aug-18	12-6431.1	POSSESSING LOBSTER BEYOND MINIMUM OR MAXIMUM	13-Dec-18	GUIL	\$1235	
Ganson Jr, George	01-Dec-18	12-6421.2	LOBSTER AND CRAB FISHING LICENSSES - LICENSED ACTIVITY		OPEN		
Grant, William R	03-Sep-18	12-6431.1	POSSESSING LOBSTER BEYOND MINIMUM OR MAXIMUM	07-Jan-19	GUIL	\$3395	
Grant Nathaniel S	16-Jan-19	12-6421.1.A	CLASS I LOBSTER AND CRAB FISHING WITHOUT LICENSE		OPEN		
Grant, Steven L	06-Feb-19	12-6174.3 Ch. 75.02A1b	WET STORAGE OF LOBSTER GEAR OVER 30 DAYS		OPEN		
Graybill, Warren D	31-Dec-18	12-6174.3 Ch. 75.02A1b	WET STORAGE OF LOBSTER GEAR OVER 30 DAYS	05-Feb-19	DISM		
Graybill, Warren D	03-Feb-19	12-6174.3 Ch. 75.02A1b	WET STORAGE OF LOBSTER GEAR OVER 30 DAYS	02-Apr-19	ADJU	\$145	
Graybill, Warren D	25-Mar-19	12-6174.3 Ch. 75.02A1b	WET STORAGE OF LOBSTER GEAR OVER 30 DAYS		OPEN		
Hardie, Jason J	18-Feb-19	12-6421.1.C	CLASS III LOBSTER AND CRAB FISHING WITHOUT LICENSE		OPEN		
Hawkes, Scott A	13-Sep-18	12-6174.3 Ch. 25.08	VIOLATION OF REGULATION UNTAGGED LOBSTER TRAPS	04-Dec-18	ADJU	\$205	
Hawkes, Scott A	31-Dec-18	12-6174.3 Ch. 75.02A1b	WET STORAGE OF LOBSTER GEAR OVER 30 DAYS	05-Feb-19	DISM		
Hawkes, Scott A	03-Feb-19	12-6174.3 Ch. 75.02A1b	WET STORAGE OF LOBSTER GEAR OVER 30 DAYS	02-Apr-19	ADJU	\$145	
Hodgkins, Robert T	09-Mar-19	12-6174.3 Ch. 75.02A1b	WET STORAGE OF LOBSTER GEAR OVER 30 DAYS		OPEN		
Hooper, Trevor D	08-Sep-18	12-6431-B.2.A	LOBSTER TAG SYSTEM PENALTIES - 25 OR FEWER UNTAGGED TRAPS	04-Dec-18	ADJU	\$1250	
Hooper, Trevor D	08-Sep-18	12-6174.3 Ch. 75.02	VIOLATION OF REGULATION PROTECTED RESOURCES - TRAP POT FISHERIES	04-Dec-18	ADJU	\$250	
Jellison, Bradley L	07-Feb-19	12-6174.3 Ch. 75.02A1b	WET STORAGE OF LOBSTER GEAR OVER 30 DAYS	02-Apr-19	ADJU	\$225	
Johnson, David	25-Mar-19	12-6174.3 Ch. 75.02A1b	WET STORAGE OF LOBSTER GEAR OVER 30 DAYS		OPEN		
Jones, Johnathan A	27-Jan-19	12-6421.1.C	CLASS III LOBSTER AND CRAB FISHING WITHOUT LICENSE	05-Mar-19	ADJU	\$500	
Joy, Matthew T	18-Feb-19	12-6421.1.A	CLASS I LOBSTER AND CRAB FISHING WITHOUT LICENSE		OPEN		
Kingsbury, Daniel	20-Mar-19	12-6421.2	LOBSTER AND CRAB FISHING LICENSSES - LICENSED ACTIVITY		OPEN		
Lemieux, Norbert	03-Sep-18	12-6440	RAISING OR HAULING TRAPS DURING CLOSED PERIOD	13-Dec-18	DISM		
Li, Shi Hua	29-Oct-18	12-6854.1.A	TRANSPORT LOBSTERS WITHOUT LICENSE	05-Dec-18	ADJU	\$100	
LOBSTER TRAP	28-Jan-19	12-6174.3 Ch. 25.75	VIOLATION OF REGULATION LOBSTER - IMPORT/EXPORT PERMIT		OPEN		
Look, Troy D	28-Jan-19	12-6174.3 Ch. 25.75	VIOLATION OF REGULATION LOBSTER - IMPORT/EXPORT PERMIT		OPEN		
Maloney, Ryan D	30-Nov-18	12-6174.3 Ch. 25.08	VIOLATION OF REGULATION UNTAGGED LOBSTER TRAPS	14-Jan-19	ADJU	\$750	
Miller Zachary	09-Mar-19	12-6421.2	LOBSTER AND CRAB FISHING LICENSSES - LICENSED ACTIVITY		OPEN		
Murphy, Parker	08-Oct-18	12-6174.3 Ch. 75.02	VIOLATION OF REGULATION PROTECTED RESOURCES - TRAP POT FISHERIES	04-Dec-18	ADJU	\$250	
Nappi, Nicholas P	19-Oct-18	12-6436.1.B	TAKE, TRANSPORT, SELL, POSSESS V-NOTCHED LOBSTER	12-Feb-19	ADJU	\$1800	
Northrup, Harold	05-Jan-19	12-6174.3 Ch. 75.02A1b	VIOLATION OF REGULATION PROTECTED RESOURCES - WET STORAGE LOBSTER GEAR	02-Apr-19	ADJU	\$250	
OCEAN TREASURE TRADING	27-Jan-19	12-6854.1.A	TRANSPORT LOBSTERS WITHOUT LICENSE		OPEN		
Pearson, Adam T	04-Dec-18	12-6434	MOLESTING OR DISTURBING LOBSTER GEAR		OPEN		
Pearson, Adam T			MOLESTING OR DISTURBING LOBSTER GEAR		Admin Suspension		03/7/19 - 03/06/2022
Pinkham, Veril W	22-Jul-17	12-6431.1	POSSESSING LOBSTER BEYOND MINIMUM OR MAXIMUM	30-Jan-19	GUIL	\$1800	
Rideout, Shawn P	01-Mar-19	12-6421.1.A	CLASS I LOBSTER AND CRAB FISHING WITHOUT LICENSE		OPEN		

DMR VIOLATIONS, ADJUDICATION, ADMINISTRATIVE SUSPENSIONS DECEMBER 2018-MAY 2019

Last name	offense date	statute	statute description	disp date	court disp	fine value	Admin Suspension
Riva, Aaron	05-Nov-18	12-6421.1.D	APPRENTICE LOBSTER AND CRAB FISHING W/OUT LICENSE	04-Dec-18	ADJU	\$180	
Smith, Aaron D	12-Nov-18	12-6436.1.B	TAKE, TRANSPORT, SELL, POSSESS V-NOTCHED LOBSTER	05-Jan-19	GUIL	\$830	
Smith, Michael	31-Dec-18	12-6174.3 Ch. 25	VIOLATION OF REGULATION - CHAPTER 25 - LOBSTER		OPEN		
Swindell, Randy Z	31-Dec-18	12-6174.3 Ch. 75.02A1b	WET STORAGE OF LOBSTER GEAR OVER 30 DAYS		OPEN		
Toothaker, Quinten	02-Mar-19	12-6174.3 Ch. 75.02A1b	WET STORAGE OF LOBSTER GEAR OVER 30 DAYS		OPEN		
Tibbetts, Michael A			molesting lobster gear 1st & 2nd offense		Admin Suspension		12/21/18-12/20/20
Tibbetts, Michael A			no class I lobster license		Admin Suspension		
Tripp, Barry	17-Aug-15	12-6421.1.A	CLASS I LOBSTER AND CRAB FISHING WITHOUT LICENSE	15-Dec-18	DISM		
Trundy, Daniel M	24-Apr-19	12-6431.1	POSSESSING LOBSTER BEYOND MINIMUM OR MAXIMUM		OPEN		
Trundy, Gregory A	24-Apr-19	12-6174.3 Ch. 75.02A1b	WET STORAGE OF LOBSTER GEAR OVER 30 DAYS		OPEN		
Waldron, William R	28-Nov-18	12-6431.4	POSSESSING MUTILATED UNMEASURABLE LOBSTER	11-Feb-19	GUIL	\$600	
Wallace, Jonathan W	07-Feb-19	12-6174.3 Ch. 75.02A1b	WET STORAGE OF LOBSTER GEAR OVER 30 DAYS		OPEN		
Wiggins	11-May-18	12-6174.3 Ch. 25	VIOLATION OF REGULATION - CHAPTER 25 - LOBSTER	19-Dec-18	ADJU	\$200	12/19/18-12/19/19
Wiggins	11-May-18	12-6421.1.A	CLASS I LOBSTER AND CRAB FISHING WITHOUT LICENSE	19-Dec-18	ADJU	\$200	12/19/18-12/19/19

BE AWARE: THE TICKS ARE OUT THERE

by Maine CDC

Warmer weather is on its way, which means that everyone needs to be doing their part to help prevent tickborne diseases. Providers reported over 1,400 cases of Lyme disease in 2018 (preliminary data as of 3/25/19). May is Lyme Disease Awareness Month each year in Maine—the perfect time to remind everyone to be “Tick Aware and Tick Alert” when spending time outdoors since ticks are most active in warmer weather.

Lyme disease is treatable and most individuals recover completely with proper treatment, however easiest way to avoid tickborne diseases is prevention. This summer please remember to be “Tick Aware and Tick Alert”:

- Use caution in areas where ticks may be found;
- Wear light-colored clothing that covers arms and legs;
- Use an EPA approved repellent such as: DEET, picaridin, IR3535, and oil of lemon eucalyptus; and
- Perform tick checks daily and after any outdoor activity on yourself and pets. Taking a shower after exposure to a tick habitat is an effective way to wash off any unattached ticks and provides a good opportunity to do a tick check.

Lyme disease is caused by a bacterial infection that is passed through the bite of an infected deer tick. Adults over the age of 65 years and children between the ages of 5 and 15 years have the highest rates of the disease in Maine. Individuals that work and play outside are more likely to be exposed to ticks. Ticks must be attached for 24 to 48 hours before they can transmit the bacteria that can cause Lyme disease. Proper tick checks will allow you to find and remove ticks before getting Lyme disease.



If you are bitten by a tick or spend a lot of time outdoors, make sure to monitor for symptoms for up to 30 days after exposure. Also be sure to call your health-care provider if symptoms develop. The most common symptom of Lyme disease is a skin lesion called *erythema migrans* (EM), better known as the “bull’s-eye” rash. This usually appears 3-30 days after the tick bite. Other symptoms include fever, headache, and joint or muscle pain.

Lyme disease is not the only disease that can be carried by deer ticks in Maine. Anaplasmosis, babesiosis, *Borrelia miyamotoi*, and Powassan are other tickborne infections found in Maine. The number of provider-reported human cases of anaplasmosis, babesiosis, and Powassan decreased in 2018 while reported cases of *Borrelia miyamotoi* increased slightly. All four remain a public health concern for the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Maine CDC).

While the deer tick is the only species of tick in Maine that can pass the bacteria that causes Lyme disease, there are a number of other species of ticks found across the state. Tick identification is important, especially when removing ticks. There are tick identification resources available to order at the Maine CDC website. The University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick ID Lab also offers identification and testing services as well as educational references.

RESOURCES ON TICKS AND DISEASE

Maine CDC has Lyme disease information available on the website at www.maine.gov/lyme.

Lyme disease data is available through the Maine Tracking Network at www.maine.gov/lyme under EPI Information on the left hand side of the page.

University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick ID Lab submission instructions can be found at <http://extension.umaine.edu/ipm/tickid>.

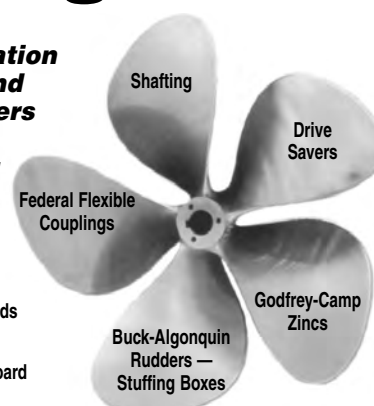
For additional questions, please call Maine CDC at 1-800-821-5821 or email disease.reporting@maine.gov.

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GREEN CRABS MAY BE GOING TO THE DOGS

By Beth Staples, University of Maine Division of Marketing and Communications. Reprinted with permission.

Angela Myracle's research is going to the dogs. Or, more accurately, for the dogs. As a scientist with Maine EPSCoR's Sustainable Ecological Aquaculture Network (SEANET), Myracle looks for innovations in aquaculture.

And when the assistant professor of human nutrition at the University of Maine spied dog treats at a local supermarket that were made with lobster from Iceland, she thought, "What about dog biscuits made with green crabs from Maine?" If the novel idea becomes a market reality, Myracle says it could be a win-win-win situation.

Voracious green crabs are decimating Maine's clam population, threatening the livelihoods of clambers, and clogging lobster traps. Female green crabs lay about 185,000 eggs a year, according to Fisheries and Oceans Canada. And one green crab reportedly can devour 40 half-inch clams in a single day.

These invasives could be to blame, at least in part, for the decrease in Maine's soft-shell clam harvest. According to the Department of Marine Resources, the harvest has plummeted from 9.3 million meat pounds in 2015, to 7.3 million pounds in 2016 to 1.4 million pounds in 2017.

So if a business entrepreneur cooked up natural, nutritious green crab treats for dogs, Myracle says people who earn their living on the sea and mudflats might be incentivized to harvest green crabs as bycatch to earn additional money. Which would result in green crabs (*Carcinus maenas*) being removed from the environment.



*Invasive and tasty?
UNE photo.*

But would the treats pass the sniff test? Would pups find that dog biscuits made with green crabs are a treat? Fergus, Nala, Myst, Ruby and Emerald did.

Myracle says the unofficial favorite of area canine taste-testers was the green crab and whole wheat biscuit. They wolfed it down, she says. The green

crab and oat biscuit was runner-up. As for the green crab and rice biscuit, one pooch spit it out.

Myracle and undergraduate Anna Smestad, a human nutrition and pre-med major from Corinna, Maine, are continuing to experiment with ingredients and the baking procedure. Currently, they cook about 10-15 crabs — shell and all — for as long as 90 minutes, then mash them. They mix the resulting crab meal with whole wheat flour, then bake it. Myracle and Smestad also are continuing to examine the digestibility of the biscuits, as well as their nutritional value, texture and pliability. "It's about taking a simple idea to solve a complex problem and help the Maine economy," says Myracle.



The invasive green crab could be the base of a new dog treat, according to University of Maine researchers. D. Delano photo.

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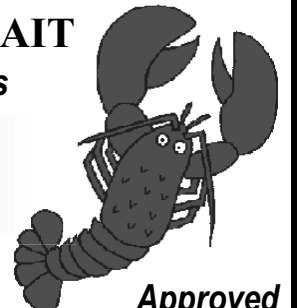
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DEEP WATER TEMPERATURE READINGS RECORD STEADY CHANGES

By Lisa Cavanaugh, Cape Cod Commercial Fishermen's Alliance
First published April, 2019.

"When I first started fishing, I didn't realize how important water temperature could be," says Greg Walinski, "but obviously it plays a big role in everything we do." Walinski's Cape Cod-based vessel Alicia Ann is one of 28 boats from Maine to Rhode Island outfitted with deep water temperature sensors as part of an ongoing program from NOAA's Northeast Fisheries Science Center Oceanography Branch.

Originally created to monitor the Gulf of Maine and the Southern New England shelf using lobster traps, the Environmental Monitors on Lobster Traps (eMOLT) project began in 2001 and has netted five million hourly records of temperature, as well as thousands of records of salinity and current velocity.

"We have nearly two decades of historical data from the lobster traps, which were pulled once a year, but we didn't have real time data," says project leader Jim Manning, a NOAA oceanographer based in Woods Hole. "So five years ago, we began to develop a system that was robust enough to work on other gear types and could give us daily records in real time.

"While our main objective is to collect data to adjust and validate numerical models that attempt to estimate water temperature changes, another priority is to ensure the fishermen see the data on board." When a fisherman hauls the probe, he can see his observation compared to what historically it should be based on climatology projections.

The eMOLT program has collaborated with fishing industry associations, academic science institutions, and research centers including the Gulf of Maine Research Institute (GMRI), the Fishermen's Alliance, and the Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies. Aaron Whitman, a research technician at GMRI, has been working with fishing vessels outfitted with Electronic Monitoring cameras. "These temperature depth loggers can enhance reporting by captains," he says. "My overall goal is to help fishermen, and to ultimately link the temperature measurements with the Flounders EVTR online reporting system."

Whitman believes that this valuable data couldn't be amassed without fishermen's help: "It's only fishermen who are going to all these places and can collect this information." Bluetooth-enabled sensors, designed by Nick Lowell of Lowell Instruments, are sheathed in protective PVC and attached to gill nets, trawlers, long lines and handlines. Once the gear is hauled up, the Bluetooth connection downloads data to a "raspberry pi," a small touch screen computer, on each vessel.

"The data is stored to the raspberry pi's Wi-Fi folder and also sent to a solar transmitter unit so pieces of the data are transmitted immediately via satellite," says Whitman. "The logger takes a temperature reading every minute, and we throw out the first three and last three minutes, which are essentially the times when the sensor is going down with the gear and being hauled up, to get the most accurate bottom temperature data possible."

Once the sensor has downloaded its data, all those temperatures show up as a graph, which can be viewed by the captain. GMRI has been part of the temperature sensor program since 2017, and segued out of the program this spring, although Whitman continues to assist. "Once we put the sensors on then the funding gets picked up by the Gulf of Maine Lobster Foundation and NOAA to support the vessels and keep it going," he says. "But we are still in cooperation with them."

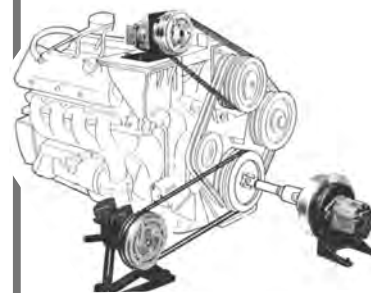
"Our historical data from the years of lobster trap sensors shows a clear temperature rise," says Manning. "I send a plot of the data to fishermen once a year and they can view the day-to-day time series. They can see for themselves how the temperature of the bottom has really gone up."

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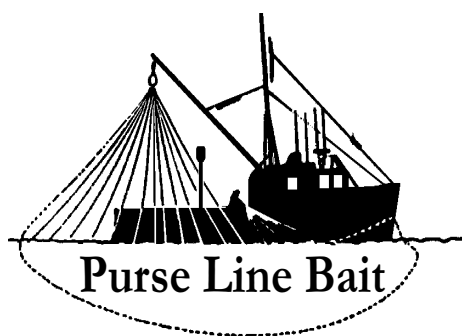
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In the NEWS

SNOW CRAB FISHERMEN RECEIVE FUNDS FOR RIGHT WHALE PROTECTIONS

The snow crab industry in northern New Brunswick is getting more than \$2 million over three years to implement a series of initiatives designed to reduce the risk of endangered North Atlantic right whales becoming entangled in fishing gear. The Acadian Crabbers' Association will research and test technologies such as breakaway gear and ropeless buoys, the federal and New Brunswick governments announced on Tuesday in Shippagan. Hydrophones will also be used to help track the whales. Fishermen began testing ropeless traps last year using two different methods — one based on acoustic release and another that uses an inflatable buoy. Both use sonar to track and communicate with the traps. Traditional crab traps or pots are loaded with bait and lowered to the ocean floor with a rope and buoy attached to mark their location on the surface. Right whales tend to spend a lot of time at the surface — coming up to breathe, feed and socialize, so this slack line creates a risk of entanglement, officials have said.

COPEPOD PRESENCE KEY TO RIGHT WHALE MOVEMENTS

Scientists have established firm links between the warming of deep waters in the Gulf of Maine and the reduction of food for the North Atlantic right whale, the world's second-most endangered marine mammal. The researchers, led by Nick Record of the Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences in Boothbay, showed the warmer water in the eastern Gulf has sharply reduced the numbers of the whales' favorite prey, the copepod *Calanus finmarchicus*, a tiny flea-like creature they scoop up by the millions with their sieve-like baleen. In Cape Cod Bay and the western Gulf of Maine — where right whales still come in large numbers in the spring — copepod numbers have remained strong. But in the eastern Gulf, where copepods are more dependent on seasonal hibernation, the data showed steep declines and deepwater warming much more severe than Record had expected.

SCIENCE CONFERENCE FOCUSES ON EASTERN MAINE

The State of the Science will take place on June 17 and 18 at the University of Maine in Machias to discuss ecosystem-based fisheries management in eastern Maine, bringing together experts from local governments, fishing, science, and academic communities. The conference is the first step toward producing a comprehensive understanding of the current knowledge of the region's watersheds, and intertidal, nearshore, and offshore ecosystems. Keynote speakers will present their research on these four ecosystems, including their governance and socioeconomics. The conference will then use breakout discussions to identify gaps in knowledge and next steps.

The conference is hosted by the Eastern Maine Coastal Current Collaborative (EM3C). The EM3C partners are tasked with developing a scientific research framework that supports ecosystem-based fisheries management in the Eastern Maine Coastal Current and its associated watersheds.

Speakers include Jon Hare, Science and Research Director, Northeast Fisheries Science Center; Paul Anderson, Executive Director, Maine Center for Coastal Fisheries; Heather Leslie, Director, Darling Marine Center; Kristan Porter, MLA President; Mike Sargent, MLA Board Member; Carl Wilson, Bureau of Marine Science Director, Department of Marine Resources. For more information or to register visit <http://stateofthescienceconference.org>.

TARIFFS HITS MAINE LOBSTER INDUSTRY HARD IN 2018

The latest data from the Maine International Trade Center (MITC) reports that Maine's lobster exports to China have plunged nearly 84% in the wake of the U.S.-China trade war. China retaliated with tariffs on a variety of seafood products in response to the Trump administration's tariffs on Chinese goods last year. Maine had been on track to have a record year, with US\$87 million worth of lobster exported through June 2018, more than double the \$42 million worth shipped in 2017. In May, the U.S. announced a tariff increase on Chinese goods to begin in July. The Chinese government then responded by announcing it would raise tariffs on U.S. imports.



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Events Calendar

You can find more information, links, and photos at www.mainelobstermen.org.

June 4
Lobster Zone Council B whale meeting, 6 p.m., Trenton Elementary School

June 5
MLA Board of Directors meeting, 5 p.m., Maine Maritime Museum, Bath. FMI: 967-4555.
Maine Coast Fishermen's Association annual meeting and celebration, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Maine Beer Co., Freeport. FMI: 956-0752.

June 6
Lobster Zone Council C whale meeting, 6 p.m., Deer Isle-Stonington Elementary School
Shellfish Advisory Council meeting, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., DMR Office, Augusta.

June 10
Lobster Zone Council G whale meeting, 6 p.m., Kennebunk High School Auditorium

June 11-13
New England Fishery Management Council meeting, DoubleTree Hilton, South Portland.

June 13
Lobster Zone Council E whale meeting, 6 p.m., Wiscasset Middle High School Gym.

June 17-18
State of the Science Conference, University of Maine at Machias. FMI: www.stateofthescienceconference.org.

June 18
Lobster Zone Council A whale meeting, 6 p.m., Washington Academy Gym.

June 20
Lobster Zone Council D whale meeting, 6 p.m., Camden Hills Regional High School Gym.

June 23
Boothbay Harbor Blessing of the Fleet, 1:30 p.m., Fishermen's Memorial Park.

June 24-26
NEFMC Atlantic menhaden assessment workshop II, Raleigh, NC.

June 27
Lobster Zone Council F whale meeting, Freeport High School.

July 12
Mary E's Birthday Gala, fundraising event at the Maine Maritime Museum for the 1906 schooner Mary E, 5-10 p.m., Bath. FMI and tickets: www.mainemaritimemuseum.org/event/mary-es-birthday-gala.

July 14
Stonington Fisherman's Day, Stonington Fish Pier. FMI: www.deerisle.com/event/fishermens-day-2019.

July 19-21
Yarmouth Clam Festival, Yarmouth. FMI: <http://clamfestival.com>.

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15 JUNE Boothbay Harbor Ashlee Lowrey (207) 808-9230	29 JUNE Moosabec Reach, Beals Island/Jonesport Jay Mills (207) 598-6347	28 JULY Harpowell Kristina York (207) 449-7571	17 AUGUST Long Island Lisa Kimball (207) 332-3968 Amy Tierney (207) 317-1576	All Races: Sign-up 8 to 9 AM Races Start 10 AM
16 JUNE Rockland Nick O'Hara (207) 542-4348 Mike Mayo (207) 542-1879	7 JULY Stonington Cory McDonald (207) 664-4525 Genevieve McDonald (207) 266-5113	10 AUGUST Winter Harbor Chris Byers (207) 963-7139	18 AUGUST Portland Katie Werner (207) 807-1832	
23 JUNE Bass Harbor Wayne Rich (207) 244-9623	21 JULY Friendship Robin Reed (207) 975-9821	11 AUGUST Merritt Bracket Pemaquid Brent Fogg (207) 380-4909 Sheila McLain (207) 677-2100	19 OCTOBER Annual Meeting/Awards Banquet Robinson's Wharf, Southport Jon Johansen (207)-223-8846	Listen on VHF Channel 10

The 2019 Racing Season is Dedicated to Galen Alley, who dominated the racing scene for 10 years.

SCULPTOR TRANSFORMS LOBSTER INTO FINE ART

By Melissa Waterman

From a distance, it looks like a heap of discarded lobster claws, an assortment you might find above the high tide line at the beach. But come closer and you will notice that the claws gleam in multiple shades of green, brown, blue and red. Each of the one hundred claws is made of blown glass. They lie upon four plates of thick glass imbued with X-ray images of real lobster claws, suspended over a white surface.

This is not your typical pile of lobster shells.

The work, entitled *Glass Claws: Pulse Point*, is a sculpture created in 2007 by artist Richard Remsen. It was purchased this year by the Farnsworth Art Museum in Rockland and is part of the museum's exhibit entitled *Maine: The Farnsworth Collection*.

"Icons, like the lobster, are very simple. When people see them they recognize what they are."

Remsen received his bachelor of fine arts degree in sculpture from the Rhode Island School of Design in 1974, where he studied with famed glassblower Dale Chihuly. After graduation he promptly returned to Maine, where he opened The Foundry in the old blueberry processing building on his West Rockport farm.



West Rockport sculptor Richard Remsen created one hundred colorful glass lobster claws for his piece. Farnsworth Museum photo.

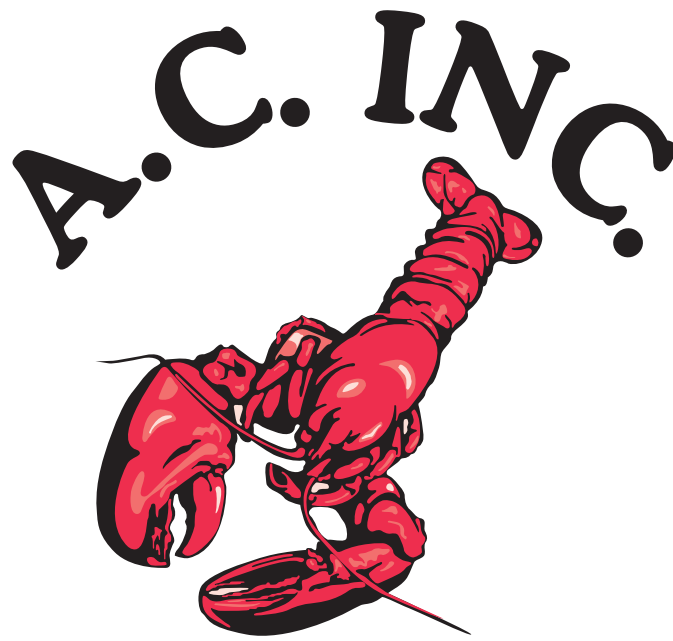


He began creating bronze sculptures as well as blown and cast glass pieces, including a line of glass fishing lures. He even crafted metal lobster claw hammers and golf putters.

"Icons, like the lobster, are very simple. When people see them they recognize what they are," Remsen said in an interview published on the Maine Art Hill web site. "It draws on the history of their memories, and it gives an added dimension to the work."

"[Glassblowing] is such a spontaneous process. The glass is hot. I have to be moving. There is color. It's like painting, but I use light and optics. Trying to figure out how the different colors will blend," said Remsen.

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