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Maine Lobstermen's Community Alliance

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MAINE RECEIVES FEDERAL GRANT TO EXPLORE OFFSHORE WIND FUTURE

By Melissa Waterman

On October 1, the Department of Commerce’s Economic Development Administration (EDA) announced an award of $2,166 million to the Governor’s Energy Office (GEO) to develop a roadmap for offshore wind energy development in the Gulf of Maine. The EDA grant will be matched with $267,624 in state funds and $112,457 in local funds.

Celina Cunningham, deputy director of GEO, will be coordinating the offshore wind development planning project.

“The award is an opportunity for the state and stakeholders to develop a holistic, comprehensive road map and plan for advancing offshore wind in the state in compatibility with existing uses,” she said in a recent interview. “There is a lot of interest in offshore wind development in the Gulf of Maine. This is an opportunity to make sure that if and when offshore wind projects occur, Maine’s interests come first. It will allow Maine to be proactive about where and how wind development occurs as compared to other interests.”

Developing a road map for offshore wind industry growth will involve representatives from many different sectors. “While many sectors will be represented in the roadmap, the fishing community’s participation and collaboration is critical to helping us make sure Maine’s interests are represented with the federal government, developers, and other states as we go forward,” said Tony Ronzio, deputy director of the Governor’s Office on Policy Innovation and the Future.

Plans for offshore wind farms are popping up throughout New England and the mid-Atlantic states. At an October workshop on wind energy and science organized by the Responsible Offshore Development Alliance (RODA), Walter Cruikshank, acting director of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), noted that there are currently 16 active wind leases that have been permitted by BOEM, stretching from Cape Hatteras to Cape Cod. Block Island Wind has been operating off Block Island, Rhode Island, since 2016. Vineyard Wind, a $2.8 billion wind project in Massachusetts, is undergoing a cumulative impacts analy-
November promises to start off with a bang, as the American presidential election comes to a close during the month’s first week. This election season has been full of sound and fury and many will breathe a sigh of relief when it is over.

Maine lobstermen are breathing their own sighs of relief as 2020 also draws to a close. When the COVID-19 pandemic erupted this spring, the regular markets for Maine lobster — restaurants, resorts, cruise ships, casinos — abruptly closed their doors. Lobstermen and seafood dealers alike wondered how Maine’s abundant harvest of lobsters would find buyers during a time when much of the world was closed. But, as an article first published in MaineBiz shows, demand for Maine’s signature seafood remained steady, helped by nimble marketing shifts by the lobster supply chain and the Maine Lobster Marketing Collaborative and a positive response from grocery store chains and other retail businesses. Direct-to-consumers sales, whether online or face-to-face blossomed; the boat price has defied the predictions of doom and gloom. What the future holds, no one can say, but 2020 may turn out to be a decent season for many Maine lobstermen.

A recent grant from a private California foundation will help expand direct-to-consumer marketing of not only lobster but all Maine seafood products. The $2.5 million grant from the Silicon Valley Community Foundation will allow the Island Institute and Luke’s Lobster to expand the company’s e-commerce platform to include more seafood products from throughout the coast. The money will be used to recruit fishermen, aquaculturists and seafood companies, develop specific marketing materials to draw customers to the platform, and support creation of B corporations within the state’s fishing industry. Certified B corporations are legally required to consider the effect of their business decisions on workers, customers, suppliers, community, and the environment. As Rob Snyder, president of the Island Institute, said, “This will allow other seafood suppliers to get onto the platform. As a way to keep lobster and other Maine seafood flowing, it will be very valuable.”

Far out to sea, an issue not related to COVID-19 is brewing. Unlike marine regions to the south, the Gulf of Maine does not have a long-time advocate for Maine’s scallop fishermen said at today, “said Togue Brawn, owner of Downeast Dayboat and a long-time advocate for Maine’s scallop fishermen said at the time.

NOAA Fisheries released its preliminary population estimate for North Atlantic right whales in late October. The numbers are discouraging. The preliminary report estimates that only 366 right whales were alive in January 2019, a decrease from last year’s estimate of 412 right whales alive in January 2018. The report notes that, “A continued population decline that began in 2011, coinciding with an oceanographic regime shift and redistribution of whales, was anticipated.” But a spate of whale deaths in Canada and the U.S. have made the loss of any single whale of extreme importance. The estimate will undergo further analysis and a peer review process before being finalized in 2021.

Finally, all lobstermen recognize that life at sea can be dangerous and exhausting. That is also true for the many migratory birds that leave the Gulf of Maine region in the fall to return to southern latitudes for the winter. It’s a long and tiring journey. Often those birds find a few moments of rest aboard the region’s lobster boats. But, as our photos illustrate, sometimes that rest is taken not on the boat, but on the lobsterman himself.

We hope you enjoy this issue of Landings and look forward to your suggestions for future issues.
By Ben Martens

Three years ago, the Maine Coast Fishermen’s Association (MCFA) began working with fishermen and local businesses to improve scallop management and give a voice to scallop fishermen on important regulatory issues. As a result, the New England Fishery Management Council voted at its October 1 meeting in favor of regulations that protect both the scallop resource and the smaller Northern New England scallop fishermen.

The outcome of the meeting ensures that there will be a scientifically set limit on scallops harvested from the Gulf of Maine and meaningful investments in science and accountability to ensure the resource continues to grow.

The Council moved forward a set of regulations that will set aside the first 800,000 pounds of allowable scallop quota for the Northern Gulf of Maine (NGOM) Permit Holders and General Category IFQ fleet of Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts. After the first 800,000 pounds any additional quota will be split 95% to the big Limited Access boats and 5% to the NGOM quota. The scallop set-aside will allow for preferential access for the small boats within this area and create stability for the small-boat fleet.

The allowable catch will be set based upon stock assessments in the area, so the decision by the Council does not mean that 800,000 pounds will be available to be caught in 2021. Fishermen should anticipate an allowable catch similar to last year, in the 200,000 to 300,000-pound range.

“The NGOM scallop fishery was established with the goal of preserving a diverse fishery. This decision from the Council does that by allowing small boats to benefit from the recovery of the scallops off the Maine coast while still allowing access for bigger fishing businesses once the resource can support that level of catch. Small boats matter. We don’t often get a win, but after ten years of persistence, we did today,” said Togue Brawn, owner of Downeast Dayboat and a long-time advocate for Maine’s scallop fishermen.

Scallops are one of the most valuable commercial fisheries in the United States, but for decades the resource had been absent from the Gulf of Maine. As waters warmed and the state scallop resource rebounded, scallops began to rebuild in offshore federal waters. With the potential growth of the scallop fishery in the Gulf of Maine, access became a contentious issue as businesses from southern New England and the mid-Atlantic vied for access and control of the fishery. In response, fishermen from around the state, the Department of Marine Resources, Downeast Dayboat, and MCFA worked collaboratively to ensure that the small boats had a seat at the table and were heard throughout this process.

This was a big win for Maine’s fishing communities and the diverse fleet along our coast. Fishermen and community members came together to make sure that the resource would be protected and that Maine fishermen could continue to land local scallops.

Ben Martens is the executive director of the Maine Coast Fishermen's Association.

The NEFMC’s decision will preserve access for small boat scallop fishermen. MCFA photo.
DESPITE UNCERTAIN START TO FISHERY’S SEASON, LOBSTER ROLLS ON

By Laurie Schreiber
First published in MaineBiz. Reprinted with permission

Stonington lobster fisherman John Williams usually hauls his boat out in February for annual maintenance and paint in preparation for the start of the spring fishing season. “Then COVID started,” he says.

The health emergency was worsening and the economy shutting down. That included one of the lobster industry’s biggest markets — restaurants. The large cruise ship and casino markets also slammed shut. International freight and shipping to China, emerging as a large consumer of lobster, had nearly stopped. “I got thinking about it and said, ‘This doesn’t look very good. We won’t have any market,’” Williams says.

Dealers were saying they couldn’t move product. Williams almost removed his traps from the water. Then one dealer — a family member — said he could use a few lobsters. So Williams called his regular dealer. “I said, ‘What going on?’ he remembers. “He said, ‘I’ll take them.’ In two weeks, things changed.”

The Maine Lobster Marketing Collaborative and individual dealers scrambled to find new retail markets — catering to home chefs, advertising on consumer media outlets such as Real Simple and Thrillist, and building on existing relationships with grocers. The collaborative developed media content on how to cook lobster, how to shuck lobster — all the things that might be handled at a restaurant.

Since summer’s start, there’s been a flurry of lobster consumption through direct-to-consumer sales online and in grocery stores, says Hugh Reynolds, owner of Greenhead Lobster, a Stonington lobster dealership. Reynolds leveraged relationships with retailers that wanted to promote more lobster, including value-added products he was developing at a Bucksport processing plant he aged relationships with retailers that wanted to promote more lobster, including value-added products he was developing at a Bucksport processing plant he opened last year. The consumers were home cooks and folks craving a night out when restaurants started outdoor seating.

“People had not had a night out in months and lobster seemed to be the ‘home treat’ of choice,” Reynolds writes on his blog. "And when people did start to go out, New England-style lobster shacks across the country were the ideal setting for an outdoor meal. Lobster rolls are a good ‘take-out’ option and a classic summer meal, and the demand has been there despite the challenges.”

“The big pivot seems to have been into retail and into direct-to-consumer sales,” says Patrice McCarron, executive director of the Maine Lobstermen’s Association. "It was difficult to comprehend how lobster would go into retail in a meaningful enough way to make up for the lack of restau- rants and food service. But it appears that sector has grown significantly and has accounted for a bigger market share than it has traditionally been, and it seems to be a fairly stable segment.”

"I give credit to the dealers,” says Stonington fisherman Frank Gotwals. "They really made an effort to move toward home sales and supermarkets.”

For Stonington, the shift is meaningful. With a population just over 1,000, according to the 2010 census, its harbor is home to between 300 and 400 fishing vessels, each run as an independent business by its captain and employing one or two stern men. The small Hancock County vil- lage, on the south end of Deer Isle, is Maine’s big- gest lobster fishing port.

Along its winding main road are traditional seafood dealer wharfs, views of the sea and islands, and a tiny downtown featuring bed-and-breakfasts, the Thrillist, and building on existing relationships with grocers. The collaborative developed media content on how to cook lobster, how to shuck lobster — all the things that might be handled at a restaurant.

Today, the lobster fishery is Stonington’s economic engine. "Stonington is kind of unique,” says town manager Kathleen Billings. "We’re closest to the fishing grounds.” In addition to direct jobs, lobstering is twined into the community’s larg- er economy. “We have the marine hardware stores, the people who do the truck- ing, the bait businesses. There are the garages that fix the trucks,” says Billings.

There’s the downtown grocery. "He opens at 3 or 4 o’clock in the morning and there’s a line out the door, with the guys going in to get food before they head out on their boats,” she says. "The activity also attracts visitors. "Tourists go to Bar Harbor to see the park, they go north to see the moose and they come here to see the lobstermen,” she continues.

Although the value of Stonington’s lobster landings declined from $68 mil- lion in 2016 to $51 million in 2019, the town has outperformed other ports for at least the past five years. "It’s a stunning value, when you think of putting that much money into the economy of an island,” says Robin Alden, a co-founder of Stonington’s Maine Center for Coastal Fisheries.

Statewide this summer, says McCarron, "There was a ton of anxiety going into the season when the pandemic hit, because restaurants and food service shut down and over three-quarters of seafood is consumed in restaurants. We were wondering, No. 1, if fishermen fished, would there be a market for their product?”

Fishermen were also concerned the per-pound price paid to them would not be high enough to cover their costs. Some fishermen shifted operations going into the season in order to avoid overburdening the supply chain. "Anecdotally, I’ve heard of older people not setting traps," McCarron says. "People were being careful about the number of traps they set.” But the timing of the pandemic’s start is considered something of a silver lining. Early spring is always slow for the fishery.

"By and large, the lobster fishery lucked out,” says Carla Guenther, chief sci- entist at the Maine Center for Coastal Fisheries. "People were able to shift to direct marketing, because we didn’t have the hogs we didn’t have the hogs come in.” As mid-September, lobsters also hadn’t been as plentiful as they usually are at that time of year. So the market, as it geared up, has been able to absorbavail- able product. "I think the lobster haven’t struck yet in their full bloom,” says Reynolds. "But we’re still anticipating a good fall like we had last year.”

Scarcity helped boost payments to fishermen, who are seeing per-pound pric- es of $4.50 or more — close to what they saw at this time a year ago. Combined with "surprisingly healthy retail demand, prices have been a lot stronger than what we anticipated in the midst of COVID in March and April,” says Reynolds.

"It’s like the stars have been in alignment to allow us to limp along as opposed to crash,” says Guenther. "It’s a season of just-enough.”

"We’re taking it a day at a time,” says McCarron. "We’ve been really pleased that the dealers and processors have been so effective in building new markets. We hope those continue. But I wouldn’t want to guess what next week or next month brings in this pandemic economy. I think everyone will continue to be cautious.”

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John Williams aboard his boat in Stonington. Photo by Fred Field.
ysis by BOEM, the results of which are due this December. The 804-megawatt Mayflower Wind project continues to move ahead in the state, with plans to be online in 2025. New York and New Jersey have announced a combined target of 16.5 gigawatts of wind energy production between them by 2035, with plans for additional offshore wind solicitations later this year.

Far offshore, however, only one wind project has been completed. Dominion Energy finished construction this fall of Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind in federal waters 27 miles off Virginia Beach. The two turbine, 12-megawatt pilot project will provide the company with operational information to move on to a 2,600-megawatt wind farm, scheduled for construction in 2024.

The EDA award will give Maine the opportunity to plan for a future that is just over the horizon, that of floating wind turbines located in deep water. To date, there are no such turbines in the U.S. Hywind Scotland Equinor has been operating 6-megawatt floating turbines off Scotland since 2017 and is currently developing a second floating wind farm located in the North Sea. The University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center tested its floating wind turbine design, called VoltturnUS, in 2013 off Castine; that design will be the basis for the 12-megawatt turbine installation, called New England Aqua Ventus, three miles off Monhegan Island.

“The road map is a means to grow an industry,” Cunningham said. “This is a window of opportunity to reach the next level of development. In the Gulf of Maine, offshore wind has to be floating turbines.” Maine’s forest industry recently completed an EDA-funded economic road map for that sector. Forest Opportunity Roadmap/Maine (FOR/Maine) drew on a collaboration among industry, communities, government, education, and nonprofits to focus on the future of Maine’s forest industry, which had suffered economically in past decades. The aim of the group’s work was to ensure that the state strategically adapts and capitalizes on changing markets and to maintain a leading role in the global forest economy. FOR/Maine completed its road map in 2018, with five principal goals (http://formaine.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/FORMaine_Report_DL_041119.pdf). In September 2019, the EDA awarded the University of Maine $1.1 million to support the FOR/Maine coalition in implementing the roadmap to stabilize, diversify and grow Maine’s forest economy by 40% over the next five years.

The state also received another $2 million EDA grant in April to help develop an economic roadmap and action plan for the state’s marine economy. The award provides funding to support Maine’s Marine Economy initiative, a three-year project to match Maine’s marine-related products with global markets and to attract investment in new markets. The new project, called Seafood Economic Accelerator for Maine (SEAMaine), is overseen by the Maine Technology Institute and FocusMaine; the Island Institute in Rockland is managing the program.

So what will the offshore wind development road map look like? The answer to that will be determined by those who will be involved in the project. “We will set up a structure with subject-specific working groups,” Cunningham said. “This will be a stakeholder-driven process. The structure also will serve us through the duration of the state’s interaction with BOEM.” The Gulf of Maine Offshore Wind Task Force was formed in 2019 to identify opportunities for renewable energy leasing and development in the Gulf of Maine. The Task Force, with representatives from Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts, will offer a unified perspective to BOEM on offshore wind development in the region.

To create the economic road map, the project will examine Maine’s port and infrastructure assets and needs, manufacturing and supply chain needs, workforce development, as well as environmental and fisheries issues. The project will officially launch in early 2021. “The process is meant to represent Maine fishermen. The more we know about where their concerns are, the better we can represent them with BOEM,” added Ronzio.
Maine Lobstermen's Association

Advocating for a sustainable lobster resource and the fishermen and communities that depend on it since 1954.

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Board of Directors' Meeting Schedule
In response to CO/VID-19, the MLA has suspended all in-person meetings. The Board is meeting virtually every two weeks.

STEAMI NG AHEAD

The ancient Greeks were spot on when they said, “The only constant in life is change.” As I write this, the Presidential election is just one week away, and with that comes change. By the time the newspaper is printed, we will know who has been elected President and who won the many Congressional seats being contested.

Whether our nation has elected a Republican or Democrat, Maine lobstermen will continue to face many difficult challenges, challenges that will require tough decisions for all of us. Like most, I will be relieved when this election is over. The aggressive campaigning and attack ads have become mind-numbing. Elections are strange times and seem to bring out the worst in some of us. The campaigns get folks fired up and create divisions among neighbors, friends, and families. You don't need to go further than your TV or Facebook to know exactly what I'm talking about.

The lobster industry is not immune to this because the industry is very diverse. We live in different communities; we operate small and large vessels; we fish seasonally and year-round; we fish alone or with crew; with new, modern gear or with our old gear that we somehow patch together. We have different political philosophies, different priorities and different local circumstances. In normal times, we are tolerant of each other and there is a place for everyone. It is this characteristic of the lobster fishery that has kept the industry sound for so long.

This is also why, when it comes to politics, the MLA does things a bit differently than most organizations. The MLA is neither Democrat nor Republican because our members are Democrat, Republican and Independent. The MLA does not pick sides when it comes to elections because we must stand ready to work with whichever politicians are in power and whoever the citizens of Maine elect to represent the state. The MLA works to sustain those things that all lobstermen believe in and that hold the lobster industry together – our sense of pride in our fishery, our strong stewardship ethic, our duty to sustain our communities, and our commitment to ensuring our children and future generations will have a place in the fishery.

When the MLA was established in 1954, Republican President Dwight Eisenhower was in office. Since then we've been through five Democratic administrations (Kennedy, Johnson, Carter, Clinton and Obama) and six Republican administrations (Nixon, Ford, Reagan, Bush, Bush and Trump). Maine has had tremendous bipartisan leadership in Congress during the MLA's history, including Republicans Margaret Chase Smith, William Cohen, Olympia Snowe and Susan Collins and prominent Democrats like Edmund Muskie and George Mitchell. Over the decades the MLA has worked with all of these incredible leaders in support of policies that sustain and support the Maine lobster industry.

With age comes wisdom; the MLA's long history has provided us with a perspective unavailable to younger organizations. We've seen the political landscape change over time, and we are feeling the effects of that change very deeply today. While environmental legislation is largely associated with the Democratic party, many of our nation's most important environmental laws were enacted through Republican administrations. These laws laid the foundation for sustainable resource management which has allowed the lobster fishery to thrive as well as providing clean water and air for millions. Fortunately, some of these laws have evolved into sledgehammers that today threaten the survival of the Maine lobster fishery and its culture, traditions and communities.

While I know that many lobstermen do not see eye-to-eye on who would best serve our industry as the country's next President or state Senator, I believe that when that settles, the MLA will remain clear about our shared duty to preserve this fishery and its traditions. The MLA will continue to serve as the steady, well-respected and informed voice to ensure that this gets done.

No one relishes change, particularly not lobstermen. Yet change is coming. There is no way to avoid that reality. My firm hope is that you continue to stand in unity with the MLA to make sure that the Maine lobster industry continues to remain robust, vital and available to those generations of aspiring fishermen who come after us.

The MLA gains its strength from the core elements of this fishery: independence, contentiousness, and fierce commitment to our heritage. Those are the qualities that unite, rather than divide us, in these difficult days. Lobstermen are survivors and always find a way through the storm. As always, stay safe on the water.

Jeffrey Anderson, Executive Director
andi@mainelobstermen.org

The MLA works to ensure fishing opportunities for future generations. MLA photo.

DRAFT WHALE RULES

As of October 28, Maine lobstermen continue to wait for the release of the whale rules from NMFS but have not received any updates in a while. GARFO (Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office) submitted the draft rule to the Office of Management and Budget in Washington, DC on July 8. The agency has had up to 120 days to release the rule, which means it should be out by early November. The proposed rule is on a very tight deadline (in federal time) because Judge Boasberg has set a firm deadline of May 31, 2021 for adoption of the Final Rule. Once the proposed rule is published, it is anticipated that the public will have 75 days to provide comment.

According to NMFS, the agency “is planning to conduct five or six regionally tailored public presentations on the proposed rule via webinar, followed by a similar number of webinar meetings for the public to provide comment. NMFS is working on a draft Biological Opinion, which it expects to share with the New England Fishery Management Council and the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council at their December 2020 meetings, and with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission at its February 2021 meeting.”

While we won't know what management alternatives will be included in the Proposed Rule, NMFS has provided some information through its court filings. NMFS has stated on the record that it will analyze all of the plans submitted by the states for inclusion in the proposed rule. In a court-de-
laration, NMFS wrote: “Once all the states’ proposed measures were known, NMFS was able to analyze the expected conservation benefits from them, and was able to determine the measures to include in the federal rulemaking to accomplish the necessary conservation benefits for North Atlantic right whales. The agency was then able to draft proposed regulations, draft a DEIS, and conduct analysis pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act on the eradication of the federal fisheries with the new management measures.”

There have also been suggestions that NMFS has included an area closure as an on-the-proposed DMR whale plan. This possibility has been on the table since January 2020, however, when DMR received a response from GARFO to its proposed whale plan. GARFO wrote, “Because your proposal does not meet the 60-percent risk reduction target, we will be obligated to consider additional measures through our federal rulemaking and we intend to propose measures that would apply outside of 12 nautical miles to ensure that the full package of state and federal measures achieves at least a 60 percent reduction in risk.” We now simply must wait to see what NMFS has included in the proposed rule.

**LOBSTER ZONES TWEAK DMR WHALE PLAN PROPOSAL TO ADAPT TO LOCAL CONDITIONS**

DMR held a series of online Zone Council meetings in late September and early October to discuss proposals for zone-specific conservation equivalencies to the proposed DMR whale plan. The conservation equivalency proposals for each zone were developed by a subcommittee of lobstermen. A proposal for conservation equivalency must meet or exceed the risk reduction that would be achieved if the DMR plan were adopted for that zone.

All seven subcommittees put forward a proposal for a conservation equivalency, involving either changing trawling up minimums or the number and/or location of weak points required on an endline. Four zone councils voted to adopt to conservation equivalencies proposed by their subcommittees; three zone councils had a few concerns with their subcommittees’ proposal and committed to explore additional ideas with DMR. Zone A explored dividing the zone into east and west portions; the eastern portion would adopt the subcommittee proposal and the western end the DMR plan. Zone A voted to approve this revised conservation equivalency in late October. Zone G is exploring a hybrid option for weak points in endlines, with one weak point on one end and two on the other, in order to relax some of the trawling up requirements in its subcommittee’s proposal. Zone B is exploring options to more gradually increase the number of traps on a trawl.

**MMPA LIST OF FISHERIES**

The MLA submitted comments to NMFS on the annual proposed List of Fisheries, as required by the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). According to NMFS, “the LOF for 2021 reflects new information on interactions between commercial fisheries and marine mammals. NMFS must classify each commercial fishery on the LOF into one of three categories under the MMPA based upon the level of mortality and serious injury of marine mammals that occurs incidental to each fishery. The classification of a fishery on the LOF determines whether participants in that fishery are subject to certain provisions of the MMPA, such as registration, observer coverage, and take reduction plan (TRP) requirements.”

NMFS includes the Maine lobster fishery in the broad category “Trap/Pot Fisheries, Northeast/Mid-Atlantic American lobster trap/pot,” where it is classified as a Category I fishery due to “frequent incidental mortality and serious injury of marine mammals.” The MLA has requested that NMFS consider the Maine state and federal waters fisheries as stand-alone fisheries and reclassify the state waters fishery as Category III, “remote” risk, and Category II, “occasional” risk of incidental mortality and serious injury of right whales.

**AMERICAN LOBSTER BENCHMARK STOCK ASSESSMENT RESULTS POSITIVE FOR GULF OF MAINE**

The 2020 American Lobster Benchmark Stock Assessment by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) presents contrasting results for the two American lobster stock units, with record high abundance and recruitment in the Gulf of Maine and Georges Bank stock (GOM/GBK) and record low abundance and recruitment in the Southern New England stock (SNE) in recent years. The GOM/GBK stock is not overfished nor experiencing overfishing. Conversely, the SNE stock is significantly depleted with poor prospects of recovery.

Extensive research has highlighted the influence of the environment on American lobster life history and population dynamics. Among the critical environmental variables, temperature stands out as the primary influence. Further, the lobster’s range in New England is experiencing changing environmental conditions at some of the fastest rates in the world. Therefore, considering these environmental influences is vital when assessing the lobster stocks and was a focal point of this stock assessment. Environmental data time series included water temperatures at several fixed monitoring stations throughout the lobster’s range, average water temperatures over large areas such as those sampled by fishery-independent surveys, oceanographic processes affecting continued on page 8

### Summary of Conservation Equivalency Proposals for Maine Lobster Zones

**as of October 28, 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distance from shore</th>
<th>STATUS QUO</th>
<th>DMR Proposal</th>
<th>Zone A East</th>
<th>Zone A West</th>
<th>Zone B</th>
<th>Zone C</th>
<th>Zone D</th>
<th>Zone E</th>
<th>Zone F</th>
<th>Zone G</th>
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<tr>
<td>Implemented 2014</td>
<td>Implemented Dec 2019</td>
<td>Split south of Cross Island at 67° longitude, 18° min</td>
<td>Approved by ZA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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**Minimum Trawl Length**

- **shore to exemption line**: N/A
- **exemption line to 3 miles**: 2’
  - 3’s
  - 5’s/10’s
  - 10’s/20’s
- **3 to 6 miles**: 3’s
  - 4’s/8’s
  - 8’s/15’s
  - 10’s/20’s
- **6 to 12 miles**: 5’s (A,B,C)
  - 10’s (D,E,F)
  - 15’s (with 20’s (F,G)
- **12+ miles**: 15’s
  - 20’s
  - 25’s

**Weak Points in Buoy Lines**

- **shore to 3 miles**: N/A
- **3 to 12 miles**: N/A
- **12+ miles**: N/A

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*Where two trawling up options are listed, the first (lower number) is limited to one endline, the second (higher number) may have two endlines*

**Continued on page 8**

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the environment, and other environmental indicators such as lobster prey abundance. Shifts were detected for the GOM/GBK stock in 1996 and 2009 and one shift was detected for the SNE stock in 2003. The GOM/GBK stock shifted from a low abundance regime during the early 1980s through 1995 to a moderate abundance regime during 1996-2008 and shifted once again to a high abundance regime during 2009-2018. Conversely, the SNE stock shifted from a high abundance regime during the early 1980s through 2002 to a low abundance regime during 2003-2018. New reference points were developed to account for the changing regimes.

In this assessment, three reference points are used to characterize stock abundance. Abundance Threshold -- calculated as the average of the three highest abundance years during the low abundance regime. Stock abundance that falls below this limit is considered depleted because the stock’s ability to replenish itself is diminished. Abundance Limit -- calculated as the median abundance during the moderate abundance regime. Stock abundance that falls below this limit is considered significantly depleted and in danger of stock collapse. This was the only abundance reference point recommended for the SNE stock due to its record low abundance and low likelihood of reaching this threshold in the near future. Abundance Target -- calculated as the 75th percentile of exploitation during the current abundance regime. The stock is considered to be experiencing overfishing if exploitation exceeds the exploitation threshold.

Fishery/Industry Target -- calculated as the 25th percentile of the abundance during the high abundance regime. In this case, when abundance falls below this target, the stock’s ability to replenish itself is not jeopardized, but it may indicate a degrading of economic conditions for the lobster fishery.

Two reference points are used to evaluate the fishing mortality condition of the stocks. Exploitation Threshold -- calculated as the 75th percentile of exploitation during the current abundance regime. The stock is considered to be experiencing overfishing if exploitation exceeds the exploitation threshold.

Exploitation Target -- calculated as the 25th percentile of exploitation during the current abundance regime. Based on these reference points, the GOM/GBK stock is not depleted and overfishing is not occurring. The average abundance from 2016-2018 was 256 million lobster, which is greater than the fishery/industry target of 212 million lobster. The average exploitation from 2016-2018 was 0.459, below the exploitation target of 0.461.

The SNE stock is significantly depleted; overfishing is not occurring. The average abundance from 2016-2018 was 7 million lobster, well below the abundance threshold of 20 million lobster. The average exploitation from 2016-2018 was 0.274, falling between the exploitation threshold of 0.290 and the exploitation target of 0.257.

Stock indicators were also used as an independent, model-free assessment of the lobster stocks. These indicators are based strictly on observed data and are free from inherent assumptions in the population dynamics models. GOM/GBK stock indicators showed similar results to the assessment model, with increasing abundance and distribution of recruits and larger-sized lobster over time. However, abundances of young-of-year (YOY) lobster have been negative or neutral since the 2015 stock assessment and YOY abundance appears particularly poor in the southwestern areas of the stock. Recent research has indicated lobster larvae may be settling in habitat outside that covered by current surveys, but these trends are concerning and need to be further researched. Exploitation generally declined through time to its lowest levels in recent years. Fishery performance indicators were generally positive in recent years with several shifting into positive conditions around 2010. New stress indicators were developed for this assessment, including shell disease prevalence with several shifting into positive conditions around 2010. These indicators are based strictly on observed data and are free from inherent assumptions in the population dynamics models. GOM/GBK stock indicators showed similar results to the assessment model, with increasing abundance and distribution of recruits and larger-sized lobster over time. However, abundances of young-of-year (YOY) lobster have been negative or neutral since the 2015 stock assessment and YOY abundance appears particularly poor in the southwestern areas of the stock. Recent research has indicated lobster larvae may be settling in habitat outside that covered by current surveys, but these trends are concerning and need to be further researched. Exploitation generally declined through time to its lowest levels in recent years. Fishery performance indicators were generally positive in recent years with several shifting into positive conditions around 2010.

Atlantic Menhaden quota set for 2021-2022

The ASMFC Atlantic Menhaden Management Board (Board) approved a total allowable catch (TAC) of 194,400 metric tons (mt) for the 2021 and 2022 fishing seasons, which represents a 10% reduction from the 2018-2020 TAC level. The 2021-2022 TAC was set based on the ecological reference points (ERPs) approved by the Board in August, and reaffirms the Board’s commitment to manage the fishery in a way that accounts for the species role as a forage fish. “This TAC represents a measured and deliberate way for this Board to move into the realm of ecosystem-based management,” said Board Chair Spud Woodward of Georgia. “The TAC strikes a balance between stakeholder interests to maintain harvest on menhaden at recent levels, while also allowing the ERP models to do what they are intended to do.” Based on projections, the TAC is estimated to have a 58.5% and 52.5% probability of exceeding the ERP fishing mortality (F) target in the first and second year, respectively. The TAC will be made available to the states based on the state-by-state allocation established by Amendment 3 (see accompanying table for 2021 and 2022 based on a TAC of 194,400 mt).

In determining which level to set the TAC, the Board also considered recent updates to the fecundity (FEC) reference points, and current stock condition. According to the latest assessment results, the 2017 estimate of fecundity, a measure of reproductive potential, was above both the ERP FEC target and threshold, indicating the stock was not overfished. A stock assessment update is scheduled for 2022 which will inform the TAC for 2023 and beyond.

HERRING MANAGEMENT AREA 1A

The Area 1A herring catch was increased by 1,000 metric tons on October 22, required by the herring regulations when the New Brunswick weir fishery lands less than 2,942 mt of herring, based on data through October 1. ASMFC seasonal spawning closures for the 2020 herring fishery ended on October 8 for eastern Maine and November 3 for western Maine, Mass and New Hampshire.

Western Maine and Massachusetts/New Hampshire Spawning Closure

September 23 through November 3, 2020 (default closure dates).

Eastern Maine Spawning Area

August 28 through October 8, 2020 (default closure dates).

The ASMFC manages fishing effort associated with harvesting the Area 1A herring quota. The Area 1A sub-annual catch limit (ACL) is 2,957 metric tons (mt) after adjusting for the research set-aside, the 30 mt fixed gear set-aside, and the fact that Area 1A closes at 92% of the sub-ACL. The Board allocated 72.8% of the sub-ACL for Area 1A to Season 1 (1,152 mt).

ASMFC has set the Season 2 (October 1 – December 31) days out measures for the season which started on October 11. The Season 2 fishery started of October 11/12 with three (3) consecutive landings days per week and moved to two (2) consecutive landings days per week starting October 18. As of October 16, it was estimated that approximately 445 metric tons (mt) of the Area 1A TAC remains available for harvest. The Season 2 quota is 914 metric tons (mt), which is 27.2% of the Area 1A sub-annual catch limit (ACL), however this was increased by 1,000 mt on October 22 due to low landings in the New Brunswick weir fishery.

2020 Atlantic Herring Landings

For data through October 22, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Quota 2020</th>
<th>Landings 2020</th>
<th>% 2019 Quota Landed YTD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1A</td>
<td>4,214</td>
<td>2,508</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1B</td>
<td>481</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3,120</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>4,378</td>
<td>4,054</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>12,195</td>
<td>6,948</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DMR UPDATE ON CARES ACT FUNDS

On October 16, DMR Commissioner Kilcher sent this correspondence to Maine’s commercial fishing license holders who DMR determined were eligible to apply for CARES Act relief funds. Applications from eligible commercial fishermen must be received by November 9, 2020.

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act authorized the U.S. Secretary of Commerce to provide $300 million for economic assistance to participants in the U.S. seafood industry financially affected by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. On May 7, 2020 the Secretary of Commerce announced the specific allocation of those funds to states, Tribes and territories with coastal and marine fisheries participants, based on historical revenues associated with eligible sectors. Maine has been allocated $20 million to provide relief to eligible participants.

Depending on other activities in which you participate, you may also be deemed eligible to apply in other sectors. You may apply in any and all sectors for which you are deemed eligible. However, you can only receive one payment for any combination of commercial fishing, aquaculture and/or for-hire activities. You will be notified with a separate letter if you are eligible to apply for an additional payment for also being licensed as a seafood dealer in 2019.
According to records held by Maine DMR, you meet all of the following eligibility criteria:

- You are a Maine resident;
- You will be 18 years of age or older at the closure of application process (November 9, 2020);
- You held a commercial fishing license (other than a student license) in 2019, and your landings for one or more species show a greater than 35% revenue loss from January-June 2020 as compared to the average for the same period in the previous five years (2015-2019).

If you choose to apply, you will have to self-certify in the application process that the following statement is true:

**Receiving these funds will not make you “more than whole” in terms of your income for 2020.**

To determine if you will be made “more than whole” you must determine if receiving a check from these funds, either alone, or in combination with sources of CARES Act Relief that you have already received, combined with your other sources of income for 2020.

To apply online, through www.maine.gov/dmr. The application can be completed using a computer, tablet, or smartphone. If you apply online, you will receive an email confirming that your application has been submitted.

You can apply over the phone, by calling 207-624-6566, Monday-Friday from 8:30 am—4:00 pm. The individual whose name will be on the check must be the person who calls to submit the application. At times of heavy call volume, you may need to leave a message, but please leave your contact information, and your call will be returned to complete your application. When your application is completed, you will receive an email confirming that your application has been submitted.

If it is possible for you to apply online, please make every effort to do so, in order to keep the phone lines available for applicants without computer or internet access. To complete the application, you will need your Social Security number, and your landings number. Your Social Security number is a requirement of the Program, because this income is taxable.

Finally, if you choose to apply, please be advised of the following:

- Any funds received through this program are taxable income, and you will receive a 1099 form for the 2020 tax year;
- Knowing or intentional falsification of the application could result in a civil or criminal penalty for violation of Class D crimes include a fine of up to $2000 and up to a year in jail.
- State and federal auditors are authorized to audit records of those who receive funds.

If you have additional questions not addressed by this letter, please consult the FAQ on the Maine DMR website.

I know that the financial impacts of the coronavirus have been extremely severe on Maine's commercial fishing industry, and I realize that these payments are highly unlikely to fully compensate many of you for your losses this year. However, I hope it provides some measure of relief during this challenging time.

There's still plenty of time to apply for Seafood Trade Relief through the Maine Farm Service Agency (FSA). The application deadline is December 14. This program is fully funded and all applications will receive full consideration. This is not a grant or a loan so it does not need to be paid back. The benefit is taxable income.

As of October 23, Maine’s FSA offices have received 2,200 applications totaling more than $37.5 million. Of these, 1,245 have been approved with $12,378,131 in payments made. There are 977 payments pending estimated at $16,164,101. To date, no applications have been disapproved.

Commercial lobstermen are eligible to apply for funds in the amount of 50 cents per pound, for 2019 lobster landings. You must hold a valid state or federal commercial lobster license and your catch must be sold through a legally permitted or licensed seafood dealer. To apply, average adjusted gross income (AGI) for tax years 2016-2018 cannot be greater than $900,000 unless at least 75% of the AGI is derived from farming, ranching, forestry, seafood production, or related activities. No person, business or legal entity can receive more than $250,000 in payments through this program.

Lobstermen must self-certify 2019 lobster landing on the application, Form CCC-916, and submit it to a local FSA office. This can be done by mail, email or fax, or in person by appointment only. There are several supplemental forms which must be submitted within 60 days of your application. Your application is not complete and cannot be processed until all forms are received by FSA.

Finally, if you choose to apply, please be advised of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application (Form CCC-916), the 2020 STRP Application</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACH Payment Enrollment (Form SF-3881); or provide a cancelled check</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Average Adjusted Gross Income certification and consent (Form CCC-941)

Member’s income from Form CCC-901, only if incorporated

Farm Operating Plan for Entity (CCC-902-E), only if incorporated

Farm Operating Plan for Individual (CCC-902-I-1), only if sole proprietor, self-employed, DBA

Certification of Income from Fishing, Farming, Ranching, Forestry Operations (Form CCC-94), only if Avg AGI exceeds $900,000.

Call your local FSA office for more information on the application process. FSA can mail you the forms, or send an email so you can fill them out electronically.

**Summary Seafood Trade Relief Program for Maine (as of October 23)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total Apps</th>
<th>Total Approved</th>
<th>Payments Pending</th>
<th>Payments Pending</th>
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<td>Androscoggin</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>$52,463</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cumberland</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>$3,719,226</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>$2,824,309</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>$894,917</td>
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<td>Hancock</td>
<td>639</td>
<td>$12,495,029</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>$5,868,783</td>
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<td>$6,626,246</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kennebec</td>
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<td>Knox</td>
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<td>$8,200,201</td>
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<td>Penobscot</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sagadahoc</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>$694,753</td>
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<td>$1,045,089</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>$195,815</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>2,222</td>
<td>$37,542,232</td>
<td>1,245</td>
<td>$21,378,131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$16,164,101</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Maine Farm Service Agency

**PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM LOAN PAYBACK**

On October 8, the US Small Business Administration (SBA) announced the release of a simpler loan forgiveness application for Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans of $50,000 or less.

The action streamlines the forgiveness process for PPP borrowers with loans of $50,000 or less. SBA began approving PPP forgiveness applications and remitting forgiveness payments to PPP lenders for PPP October on October 2, 2020. SBA will continue to process all PPP forgiveness applications in an expeditious manner. Simpler loan forgiveness application can be found online by googling, "PPP Loan Forgiveness Application Form 3508S" or visit www.sba.gov/document/sba-form-3508s-ppp-loan-forgiveness-form-3508s."
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**DON’T LET DIABETES COST YOU AN ARM & A LEG**

_by U.S. Preventive Medicine_

Every 17 seconds, someone in the United States is diagnosed with type 2 diabetes, a chronic condition burdening 34 million adults in the U.S. alone. Every _day_ 230 Americans diagnosed with diabetes will suffer an amputated limb, according to an article published in the American Journal of Managed Care. Diabetes is the seventh leading cause of death in the United States, and, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), having type 2 diabetes doubles your chances of heart disease or stroke; the #1 cause of death today.

Fortunately, type 2 diabetes is preventable with early risk detection and lifestyle changes. However, many Americans don’t know they are at risk. **More than 88 million U.S. adults have prediabetes, but 84% of them don’t know they have it.**

According to the CDC, Factors, including age, gender, race, family history, and weight, can be used to determine your likelihood of developing type 2 diabetes.

There is a 1 in 3 chance you have prediabetes.

If you are at risk, changes to your diet and physical activity can drastically lower your chances of developing type 2 diabetes. **Studies show losing just 5% to 7% of your bodyweight can reduce your risk of diabetes by as much as 58%.**

By incorporating small behavior changes into your day-to-day routine, you can substantially reduce your risk over time. To help make these lifestyle changes possible, the Maine Lobsterman Association has partnered with the State of Maine, the CDC, and U.S. Preventive Medicine, Inc. (USPM) to offer The Preventive Plan™ to qualified members and their families.

The Preventive Plan™ is a year-long, HIPAA-secure lifestyle change program that combines mobile app technology, a connected smart scale, and highly trained, professional health coaches to help participants lose weight and keep it off. Participants who completed USPM’s diabetes prevention program lost an average of 7% of their starting body weight.

Beginning January 1st, members of the Maine Lobstermen’s Association, and qualified family members, will have access to The Preventive Plan™ — at no cost to participants.

If you are interested in participating in The Preventive Plan™, visit www.uspm.com/dpp to reserve your spot today. Participation will be limited to the first 150 qualified participants.

Don’t let your MLA membership expire with your tan lines.

Renew today.

virginia wadleigh pic

renew online, by phone or by mail

www.mainelobstermen.org
207-967-4555

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MARKETING UPDATES

Digital advertising was an important component in marketing Maine Lobster this year. MLMC ran digital ad campaigns targeting both consumers and supply chain customers, using social media and online display ads. The campaigns were designed to highlight our new Home Cooks resources for consumers and drive wholesale customers to the Buyer’s Guide for more information.

Measurement tools show that we were able to increase the likelihood of a purchase for tens of thousands of home cooks and large scale buyers. Wholesalers who were exposed to our ads are 43% more likely to buy Maine Lobster. The Home Cooks campaign resulted in a lift in the intent to purchase for 26,000 consumers.

Contact: 781.606.7770 | info@knottco.com
Name: ____________________________________________
Business Name: ___________________________________
Address: __________________________________________
City: _______________________________________________________________________________________
State: __________________ Zip: __________________________
Phone: _______________________________________________________________________________________
Email: _______________________________________________________________________________________

MLA Legal Defense Fund: 2 Storer St, Suite 203, Kennebunk, ME 04043 www.mainelobstermen.org 207-967-4555

Save Maine’s Lobster Industry
The MLA is raising $500,000 for the Legal Defense Fund. We’re close! Please help us reach our goal.

Donate TODAY to #SaveMaineLobstermen

Under $100

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Tele Aasen
Robin Alden
William Alexander
Sean Allen
George Anderson
Terrance Ashton
Judith Baker
Lacie Bacherider
Nancy Beal
Kevin Belling (Drivetrain)
Thomas Bell
A. Berlin
Leonard Bishko
John Blake
John and Andrea Beeveridge
Theodore Boyce
Lisa Brackett
Robert L. Brauns
Norman Brazer Jr.
Brynmorgan Press
Linda Burley
Peter Burnett
John and Carolyn Burr
Catlin Callahan
Julie Carter
Patrick Conrad
William Crowell
Curtis Brand Music
Chris Cushman
Jes Daniels
Orville Darling
Nancy Davis
Howard Dentremont Jr.
Demeree DiBiase
Peter Eaton
Jon Emerson
Erin Fitzgerald
Kyle Foley
Rachel Fowle
Kate Fox
Joshua French
Alison Gagne
Tiffany Gardner
Sandra L. Gates
Kara George
William Gilpatrick
Asa Goodband
Great Sea Vegetables
Rhonda Lee Green
Damian Hall
Stan Hall
Erik Hansen
Gregory D Havener
Pat Havener
Hunter Herron

Under $100 cont’d

Stephen Hewitt
Evan Rodin
Molly Samuels
Blaine E Blackmore
Scott Blackmore
W. Kennedy Boone III
James Bourque
Philip Boenhardt
Hung Bowen
Kent Bradstreet
Eric Brazer
Amy Brazer
Peter W Brewer
Foy W Brown
Robert Brown
Norman Burns
Stephen Burns
Greg Bryer and Gerri Pattison
Peter W Brewer
John W Chipman
John Clinton
Daniel S Clough
Jeffrey Cockburn
Wesley Coffin
Philip R Condon
Jocelyne Coombs
Riley Coombs
Walter Coombs
Marilyn Crowell
Dennis Davis
Eric Davis
Walter Day
Alex De Koning
Fiona De Koning
Elaine Embowski
Charles Dillon
Charles Dodge
Benjamin A Dolber
Jerry Doughty
Forrest Dow
Downeast Fishing Gear
Edgar Drew
Jordan Drouin
Earth and Water Group
Anne Eggars
Betsy Eggars
Peter Emerson
Kyle Emmons
Michael Emmons
Doris Ewing
Nathan Fagonde
A. Michael Faulkingham
Michael G Faulkingham
Nick Faulkingham

Under $100 - $299

Rebecca Robinson
John C Holliday
Marcia Howell
Christina Hunninghaus
Craigh Hutchinson
Curtis Jack
Cynthia Jensen
Alden Johnson—Scania tee
dana E. Johnson
William Johnston
Evon Jones
Lori Karickoff
david King Sr.
Jackson Sam Kinney
Summer Kinney
Paul Kinsella
Kevin Kling
Ellen Kornetsky
Robert Krist
Anthony Kunylak
Patricia LaGasse
Erlly Laphy
Kenneth F Lemont
Gary Libby
Patricia Linscott
Nicole Look
Daniel Lunt
Irving McConchie
James McGrath
Sarah McKinnon
Mike Mesko
Edward & Deb Meyers
John Meyn
Jed Miller
Tracy Moody
Kent & Miam Multiken
Eye Murray
Helen Naylor
Kyle Nichols
Robert R Oberlander
Jim O’Connell
Brent L Oliver
Mary Otten
Russell Pancoast
Pandemonium Holdings LLC
Summer Paradis
Andrea Pellechza
David Percival
Evan Perette
Janet Pollack
Amanda Porter
Douglas Rackercliff
Darrin & Nicole Randall
Jeanne Rapone
Robert Redmarkider
Michelle Rioux

Under $100 - $299 cont’d

Arthur Bilings
Timothy Black
Blaine E Blackmore
Scott Blackmore
W. Kennedy Boone III
James Bourque
Philip Boenhardt
Hung Bowen
Kent Bradstreet
Eric Brazer
Amy Brazer
Peter W Brewer
Foy W Brown
Robert Brown
Norman Burns
Stephen Burns
Greg Bryer and Gerri Pattison
Peter W Brewer
John W Chipman
John Clinton
Daniel S Clough
Jeffrey Cockburn
Wesley Coffin
Philip R Condon
Jocelyne Coombs
Riley Coombs
Walter Coombs
Marilyn Crowell
Dennis Davis
Eric Davis
Walter Day
Alex De Koning
Fiona De Koning
Elaine Embowski
Charles Dillon
Charles Dodge
Benjamin A Dolber
Jerry Doughty
Forrest Dow
Downeast Fishing Gear
Edgar Drew
Jordan Drouin
Earth and Water Group
Anne Eggars
Betsy Eggars
Peter Emerson
Kyle Emmons
Michael Emmons
Doris Ewing
Nathan Fagonde
A. Michael Faulkingham
Michael G Faulkingham
Nick Faulkingham

Gifts $100 - $299

Charles Alley
Jason Alley
Jeffrey D Alley
Leigh Alley
Rick Alley Jr
Stefanie Alley
Timothy Alley
Daniel L Ames
Lawrence Ames
Herman Anderson Jr.
George P Andrews
Mike Arsenault
Elaine Dembowsi
Atmoscaper Design
John Bacon
Andrew Balser
Michael Balser
William Banfield
Larry Barker
Derrick L Bel
Farrel Beal
Glenda Beal
Oscar Beal
Robert L Beal
Walter Bel
John Benning
Glenn Billings

Gifts $100 - $299 cont’d

Mary L Fay
Mark Fennard
Michael G Floyd
Donald Foye
Friendship Lobster Boat
Race Committee
FV Theresa K
Spencer Gamage
Charles Gebhardt
Ryan Geel
George’s River Canvas
Jay Glover
John Glover
Kevin Glover
Alan Gnuttii
Sheldon Goldthwait Jr
Alexander Gonzalez
Chris Goodale
Jeffrey Grey
Kate Griffin & Rich Leidering
Joe Guttenlag
Kendall Hall
Jamien Hallowell
Samuel Harrington
Travis Harrington
Jessica Hathaway
Andrew Havener
Wayne Havener
Gary E. Hawkes
Bruce Heanssler
Richard & Bonnie Heanssler
Jim Henderson
Christopher Herring
Todd Hubbard
Island Fishing Gear & Napa
Auto Parts
Island Lobster Supply
Frederika Jenner
Chris Jennens
Angela Johnson
David Johnson
Era Johnson
Lincoln Johnson
Rachel Johnson
Don Johnson
Michael Johnson
Heather Jones
Keith Jordan
Samuel Joy
Carlton Joyce
Jason Joyce

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Continued on the next page
$100 - $299 cont’d
Spencer Joyce
Jeff Kaufman
David Kasselwakas
Roger Kellett
Christopher Kelsey
Irene Kenneth
Sharon Kern
Rodney & Marcia King
Arnold Kinney
Scott S Kittredge
Knight Marine Service
Matthew D Knowlton
Dana Knudsen
Kris Koeber
Isaac Lash
Barbara Lawrence
Edwin G Lawson
Burton R Leach
Garrett Lemoine
Letter Financial Advisors
Robert Levine
Heather Lewis
K Prescott Low
Nathanial Lyon
Carol MacLeod
John Mahany
David Mahonen
Frank Maltais
Jason Mann
Thomann Marr
John Marsh
John Matthews
William R Matthews
Adam McAfee
Genevieve McDonald
Michael McDonough
Thomas McLennan—for Jay Parrotta’s High & Tight
James R McMahen Jr
Robert McMahan
Alice McWilliams
Zachary Means
Keith Miller
Daniel Miller
Peter Miller
Ryan Miller
Edward and Mary Mitchell
William Moore
Miss Madison LLC
Jonathan Murray
Karl Murphy
Peter Murphy
Nancy J Inc
Anonymous
Richard C Nelson
Mike Norcia
Chelsea Nunan
Cooper Nunan
Mark Nystrom
George E Olsen
Travis & Keith Otis
Philip D Paige
Michael Parenteau
H. Parsons
Timothy Peabody
Nicolas Pellechca
Antonina Pelliterra
Jay Perrotta—for Travis Otis’ short curly locks
Edward Perry

$100 - $299 cont’d
Clayton Philbrook
Perenosco Bay & River Pilots
Alton Pinkham
Port Clyde Fresh Catch
Michael Porter
Alan A Post
Gilbert Post
Richard Post
Lawrence Pye
Kelly Ralph
 Chestor A Rice
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Philip Spalding
Ted Spurling Jr
Jenni & Gary Steele
Craig Steward
Cody Stewart
Lisa Stopkowski
Crawford Taisley Jr.
Elliot Thomas
David Thurrow
Courtland Tolman
Dana Tracy
Lawrence Tracey
Annie Tsielakis
Richard M Turner Sr.
Ciela Uhart
Alexander Varner
Allan Vitkus
Peter Vogel
Richard Waldron
Brandon Wallace
Soony Warren
Kachina Watt
Lee Watkins
Derek Webber
Ron Weeks
Jean A Welch
Christopher Weller
Jeanne L Whitter
Walter R Willey IV
Wesley Willick
Jeret Winchenbach
Eugene C Witham
Jason Witham
Barry L Wood Sr
Cheryl Worthing

$300 - $499 cont’d
Donald Wright
Jason York
Alli Young
Chris Young
Luke Zable
Mark Zable

Gifts $300 - $499
Patrick Annis
Bob Baines
Jeff & Lindsay Alley
Jude Berry
Mary Blackmore & Sally Haskell
Laurin Brooks
David Bullwinkle
E. Vance Bunker
Mark Cheney
Troy Cheney
Cranberry Isles Fisherman’s Co-op
Roger Chipman
Martha T Dudman
Timothy Dyer
John Fenwick
Adam Gamage
Gail Gamage
Frank J Gowels
John C Griffin
Edward Hutchins II
John’s Bay Boat
Keag Store
William D McLean
Jim McMillan
Steve N Miller
David Neibig
Adam Scott
Sherman Stanley
Charles H Tarbox
Welch Engineering
Blaine C White
Jason Zanie

Gifts $500 - $999
Adventure Advertising of Maine (tee-shirt sales)
Brian Alley
Joshua Ames
David Barker
Rex Benner
Mark Bennett
Randall Betts
Joel Billings
Brian Billings
David F Black
Gordon Bok
Steve Budrow
Dwight Carver
China Hill Restaurant & Bar
Jason Chipman
Herbert Coombs
David Cozens
Laurie Crane
CSM, Inc.
John Daggett
George Dow
Tristan Salman
Dwight Carver
Jason York

$500 - $999 cont’d
Green Flash Fisheries
Edward D Grant
Chris Guilford
Earl Hamilton
Joshua Hatch
Andrew Hawke
Nicholas Hawke
Shawn Howard
Richard Howland
Bobby Ingalls
Charles Ingalls
Alan Inzerillo
Island Fisherman’s Wives
Michael Jennings
Stuart Jones
Mark Jones
Clayton Joyce
Kennedy Marine, Inc
J Edward Knight Insurance Agy
Michael Karpn
Keith Lane
Craig Lazaro
Joseph C Locurto
Travis Lant
Douglas McLennan
Johnny McCarthy
Joshua Miller
Midcoast Diesel Performance
Midcoast Marine Supply
Moody’s Gifts (see shirts)
New Harbor Lobster Co-op
Northeast Marine Survey
Cody Nunan
Christopher Nunan
Ladd Olsen
Tara Perez
Luke Philbrook
Micah Philbrook
Mike Philbrook
Woodbury A Post
Pier Fish & Lobster
Michael S Prior
Jeffrey Putnam
William Putnam
RDR Lobster & Shellfish, LLC
Sam Rosen
Rugged Seas, Inc.
Matt Simmons
Ryan & Laurie Schoppee
John Sieders
Joseph Staples
Spruce Head Marine
David A Sullivan
David Tarr
Tranzon Auction House
Bryan Thomas
Michael Tripp
Jim Tripp
True North Fisheries
Vinalhaven Fishermen’s Co-op
Richard Wall
Harlan Warren
Weirs Motor Sales, Inc.
Wes Harris
Weirs Motor Sales
Wes Harris

$1000 - $4999 cont’d
Bernd Wolff
Donald Young
Jack Young
Leonard Young
Linda Zuke

Gifts $1000 - $4999
Jeremy S Alley
Jeremy Alley
Atwood Lobster Co
Banger Savings Bank
Rachel Bishop
Billings Marine Service
Bramhall’s Lobster Wharf
Jarod Bray
Bring It Inc.
Carter’s Lobsters
Larry Coombs
Bruce Crowley
Dustin Delano
Delano Seafood Shack
Wayne Delano
Jeffrey A Donnell
Zachary R Donnell
Phillip Doucette
Dysarts
Eric Emmons
Elizabeth Fenwick
First National Bank
Fisherman’s Heritage Lobster Co-op
Michael Flangan
Edward N Foye
Stephen Gaebcke
Gillespie Marine LLC
Benjamin Heanssler
Michael Hunt
Sam Hylar
Journey’s End Marina
Stephen Lash
Lee Marine
Nicholas Lemieux
Ian Lussier
Maine Coast Fishermen’s Assoc.
Jack Merrill III
Jim Meriman
Midcoast Marine Supply
Mary Olsen- Moody’s Gifts
Navroc Marine Electronics
NE Marine & Industrial Inc
NH Commercial Fishermen’s Assoc.
Peter & Susan Nite
Matthew Nowell
Alfred Osgood
Jay & Lynn Perrotta (haircut)
Peter Philbrook
Josh Pollk
Harold Poole
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Royal River Boat Repair, Inc
Tulsa Salmon
Mark Seward
Jerome Simmons
Jay Smith Jr
Smithwick & Mariners Inc.
So Bristol Fishermen’s Co-op
Sorrento Seafood

Thank you for helping to save Maine’s Lobster Industry
2020 Donors - as of 10/26/20

Continued on the next page

MLA Legal Defense Fund: 2 Storer St, Suite 203, Kennebunk, ME 04043 | www.mainelobstermen.com | 207-867-4555
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2020 Donors - as of 10/26/20

$1,000 - $4,999 cont’d

John Stanley*  
Starlight Inc.  
Stonington Lobster Co-op  
Town of Stonington  
David A Thomas*

Alex Todd*  
Vessel Services Inc.  
Southern Maine Lobstermen’s Association  
Richard Wall*  
Keith Wallace*  
Ronald T Watkinson*  
Ted Weber*  
Thomas Werner*  
Jeff White*  
John and Judy Williams*  
Bob Williams*  
Gregg Whitten*  
Justin J Wright*  
Julian Zuke*

Gifts $5,000 - $9,999

Alec Phippen*  
Abraham Philbrook*  
Beals-Jonesport Co-op Inc  
Corea Lobster Co-op  
Hamilton Marine (tee shirts)  
Rockland Lobster Boat Races  
Spruce Hid Fishermen’s Co-op  
Swans Isl. Fishermen’s Co-op  
Western Sea Inc.  
York Lobstermen’s Assoc.

$10,000 - $49,999

Bar Harbor Bank & Trust*  
Brooks Trap Mill*  
Colby & Gale*  
Machias Savings Bank*  

Gifts $50,000 & above

Donald Sussman

The Harbor Challenge:

Cape Porpoise Lobstermen:  
Frenchboro Lobstermen:  
York Harbor Lobstermen:  

Gifts In Memoriam

In Memory of Arnie Gamage  
Gail Gamage

In honor of David Provencher:  
Doris Ewing

In memory of Hugh Watts:  
Sheldon Goldthwait Jr

In loving memory of Sherri Cook:  
Robin Amorello  
Antonina Pelletier  
Susan Salomon  
Jeanne Rapone

Dear LDF Supporters:

I want to personally thank all of you who have donated to the MLA Legal Defense Fund. Without you, the lobster fishery’s point of view would not have been heard by the federal court and we could have had a very different outcome. I am amazed at the generosity of so many fishermen, businesses, and non-fishing individuals who have given money because they know how much the coast of Maine stands to lose both financially and traditionally if the lobster industry is forever changed.

As most of you know, the way Maine’s lobstermen are being targeted by outside interests has changed. Environmental organizations and individuals now use the court system to get what they want. With huge war chests these environmental groups are determined to influence policy with lawsuit after lawsuit.

In any legal attack on Maine’s lobster fishery, no single individual can effectively represent his or her interests: it’s just too expensive. The environmentalists have been driving this issue for way too long. It’s time for the lobster industry to invest so that we can do more than just respond to their agenda.

If anyone thinks that once these immediate court cases are ruled on, it is all over… think again! We still have a long way to go to ensure that the Maine lobster fishery can continue to operate and that our kids and grandkids can have the same chances to fish as we had. The reality is that this situation is more likely than ever normal. A new lawsuit to protect endangered right whales could and probably will be filed at any time. Regardless, as we have during the past 66 years, the MLA, with your help, will continue stand ready to defend our way of life.

I am truly grateful for your tremendous generosity.

Kristan Porter, President, Maine Lobstermen’s Association

We’re almost there!

We’re almost there but we still need your support! The LDF supports an array of legal policy and advocacy work to #SaveMaineLobstermen in the face of evolving right whale protections and other threats to our industry. With so much at stake, the lobster industry must invest in fighting for its future. We can no longer allow the environmentalists to drive the agenda. Through the LDF, the lobster industry can put our interests forward and be proactive in fighting to save Maine’s lobster industry.

• MLA’s talented legal team represents Maine’s lobster industry in ongoing court cases
• MLA’s legal team and policy experts will continue make a strong case against ropeless fishing for the Maine lobster fishery and keep our lobster grounds open.
• MLA’s legal team and policy experts will navigate the complexities of the ESA and MMPA to ensure the continued operation of the fishery as it faces new permitting requirements.
• Keep all options open to ensure a future for the Maine lobster fishery.
• Be ready to file suit against harmful court rulings or federal rulemakings

Ways you can donate:

• Online: www.mainelobstermen.org  |  By mail  |  By phone: call 207-967-4555

Name: ________________________________  □ $5000  
Business Name: ___________________________  □ $1000  
Address: _______________________________  □ $500  
City: ________________________________  □ $365 “a dollar a day”  
State: ______ Zip: ______  □ $100  
Phone: ________________________________  □ Other: ______

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Thank you to all the 2020 Donors
Smithwick & Mariners Insurance
Falmouth, ME -- Discounted vessel insurance plus 5% discount with proof of CG approved Drill Conductor course with in the last 5 years. Wooden boat, Builders coverage, no lay up period, discounted electronics deductible, and automatic coverage of researchers and more! Call Scott Smithwick 207-370-1883

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Boothbay Harbor, ME -- Fuel discount for MLA members. 207-633-2300

Fuel

SW Boatworks
Lamonie, ME -- $1000 discount for hull or top on a 38' CB or 44' CB. 207-667-7427

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Atlantic Bug Bait
Machias, ME -- $1 off bucket of hog hide. $40 off a pallet. 207-255-5955

Old School Pig Hide Bait
Cutler, ME -- $1 off per bucket (must show current MLA card). 207-812-5211

Bait

Back River Tax Accounting
Brunswick, ME -- Free initial consultation and review of previous tax returns. 207-607-7118

Back River Financial Group
Falmingsdale, ME -- Free initial consultation and review of previous years tax returns. 207-622-3772

Accounting

Newcastle Chrysler-Dodge-Jeep
Newcastle, ME -- 10% discount on all parts and service. $250 additional discount on any new vehicle after you make your best price. 207-563-3959

Weirs Buick - GMC
Arundel, ME -- Purchase a new GMC and get a free Bullet Liner. Must show MLA card 877-861-0070

Automotive

Atlantic Bag Bait
Machias, ME -- $1 off bucket of hog hide. $40 off a pallet. 207-255-5955

Old School Pig Hide Bait
Cutler, ME -- $1 off per bucket (must show current MLA card). 207-812-5211

Atlantic Edge Lobster
Boothbay Harbor, ME -- Fuel discount for MLA members. 207-633-2300

Fishing, Marine & Industrial

Hamilton Marine
Jonesport, Kittery, Portland, Rockland, Searsport, Southwest Harbor, ME -- Discounts available to commercial fishermen.

Penobscot Marine Museum
Scarsport, ME -- Free admission for MLA members.

Museums & Entertainment

BioNTech, Inc.
York, ME -- Free initial consultation and review of previous years tax returns.

Back River Financial Group
Falmingsdale, ME -- Free initial consultation and review of previous years tax returns. 207-622-3772

Accounting

New England Propeller Inc
Plymouth, MA -- Discounts on marine propeller, shafting, and related items, sales & repairs. 508-746-8804

Northwest Marine, Inc.
Stretch Island, ME -- 10% off on all apparel and promotional product orders. 207-363-0145

Suzy Q's Fashion
Rockland, ME -- 10% off on all apparel and promotional product orders. 207-363-0145

Gifts

Commercial Fisheries News
Deer Isle, ME -- Discounted annual subscription rate for $18.75 with MLA membership noted on check. 800-989-5253

National Fishermen, North Hollywood, CA -- Special annual subscription rate for $12 for 12 issues. 800-959-5073

Newsletters

Cape Porpoise Lobster
Cape Porpoise, ME -- 10% off on picked lobster meat. 800-967-4268

Winter Harbor Fishermen's Coop
Winter Harbor, ME -- 10% off on picked lobster meat. 207-963-5857

Lobster & Seafood

Coastal Hydraulics
Seabrook, NH -- 10% discount on all in stock items for MLA members. 603-474-1914

Hews Company, LLC
South Portland, ME -- 10% off on hydraulic components & Cable Craft cables. 207-767-2136

Hydraulics

Show your MLA card to receive great discounts at these fine businesses!
TO YOUR HEALTH: Keep a close eye on your daily sodium intake

By Melissa Waterman

Nachos! Pretzels! Potato chips!
If you are like me, these are the snacks you are most drawn to: salty, crunchy and full of useless calories. But, if you are also like me, you may be prone to high blood pressure, as are a vast number of people in this country. Too much sodium, which those crunchy snacks are full of, can lead to an increase in blood pressure and an associated risk of stroke and heart disease.

Yet sodium is an essential chemical for the human body. Sodium is an electrolyte that helps the body maintain the right balance of fluids, transmit nerve impulses, and assist the contraction and relaxation of muscles.

The kidneys naturally balance the amount of sodium stored in the body. When you are lacking sodium, the kidneys basically hold on to whatever sodium they can find. When sodium levels are high, the kidneys excrete the excess in urine. But if for some reason the kidneys can’t eliminate enough sodium, it starts to build up in the blood. Because sodium attracts and holds water, blood volume increases, which makes the heart work harder and increases pressure in the arteries.

The balance between sodium and another electrolyte, potassium, helps maintain good blood pressure. People who reduce the amount of sodium in their diet, who increase potassium consumption, or who do both can lower their blood pressure, thus reducing the risk of other serious health problems. Good sources of potassium are vegetables, like baked potatoes and tomatoes, fruits, such as bananas, seafood, and low-fat dairy products. Lowering sodium intake, however, is the first thing to do to find this balance.

Where does dietary sodium come from? The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) report that most of the sodium Americans consume comes from packaged, processed, store-bought, and restaurant foods. Only a small amount comes from salt added during cooking or at the table.

Americans consume an average of more than 3,400 milligrams (mg) of sodium each day. The 2015-2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans recommend that Americans consume less than 2,300 mg of sodium daily. Surprisingly, more than 40% of the daily sodium consumed comes from just ten types of foods, according to the CDC. Number one on that list: bread and rolls.

It’s tricky identifying foods with high levels of sodium. The best method when buying processed items at the grocery store is to look at the sodium level on the label. For example, items that some might consider healthy, such as deli turkey breast or cottage cheese, actually contain high levels of sodium. Condiments, such as ketchup, soy sauce, salad dressing and mustard, tend to have a lot of sodium in them. Canned foods, such as soup, are loaded with sodium. And, of course, those tasty snacks mentioned above are sodium powerhouses.

Whether you are 20 or 70 years old, it is important to monitor how much sodium you take in each day. Consume too much for too long and your body may begin to rebel, leading to high blood pressure, heart disease, stroke, kidney disease and congestive heart failure.

How to reduce daily sodium intake, from the CDC

At the Grocery store

• Buy fresh, frozen, or canned vegetables with no salt or sauce added.
• Choose packaged foods labeled “low sodium,” “reduced sodium,” or “no salt added” when available.
• Read food labels and compare the amount of sodium in different products, then choose the options with the lowest amounts of sodium.
• When buying prepared meals, look for those with less than 600 milligrams (mg) of sodium per meal, which is the upper limit set by the FDA for a meal or main dish to be labeled “healthy.”
• Check the amount of sodium per serving, and don’t forget to check the number of servings per container.

At Home

• When cooking, use alternatives to replace or reduce the amount of salt you use, such as garlic, citrus juice, salt-free seasonings, or spices.
• Prepare rice, pasta, beans, and meats from their most basic forms (dry and fresh) when possible.
• Eat more fruits and vegetables.
• Limit sauces, mixes, and “instant” products, including flavored rice and ready-made.

Old School Pig Hide

From one fisherman to another...

We save you money!

31 Number Nine Rd, Cutler, ME 04626
oldschooltrucking2@gmail.com
207-812-5211

MLA members get $1 off per bucket
# DMR AQUACULTURE

## LEASE APPLICATION STATUS FOR NOVEMBER (as of 10/22/20)

### Experimental Lease Applications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Applicant/Company</th>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mussel Bound Inc.</td>
<td>N of Thomas Isl. Frenchman Bay</td>
<td>Bar Harbor</td>
<td>3.58 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>Approved 5/26/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downeast Institute</td>
<td>Near Mud Hole Pt, Extrn Bay, Mud Hole Cove</td>
<td>Bar Harbor</td>
<td>4 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>Approved 4/21/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downeast Institute</td>
<td>Joan’s Pound, Black Duck Cove, Eastern bay</td>
<td>Bar Harbor</td>
<td>0.84 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>Appl submitted, comments due 9/11/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downeast Institute</td>
<td>Elmer’s Pound, Black Duck Cove, Eastern Bay</td>
<td>Bar Harbor</td>
<td>1.14 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>Appl submitted, comments due 10/2/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferda Farms LLC</td>
<td>E Lower Coombs Isl, New Meadows River</td>
<td>Brunswick</td>
<td>3.86</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>Site Review Complete 9/9/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sea Run Fisheries &amp; Habitat</td>
<td>E of Western Head &amp; Lil Bvr Isl, Cutler Hbr</td>
<td>Cutler</td>
<td>4 acres</td>
<td>Finfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>Site Review Complete 3/20/2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mussel Bound Inc.</td>
<td>Barlett Narrows, Blue Hill Bay</td>
<td>Mount Desert</td>
<td>3.55 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>Public Hearing Postponed as of 11/1/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doyle, Victor</td>
<td>E of Barlett Isl, Blue Hill Bay</td>
<td>Mount Desert</td>
<td>1 acre</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>Public Hearing Postponed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dirigo Marine Resources, LLC</td>
<td>E of Wolfe’s neck, Recompose Bay</td>
<td>So Freeport</td>
<td>3.85 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>appl rec'd, comment period closes 11/2/20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Standard Lease Applications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Applicant/Company</th>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Western Bay Oyster Co.</td>
<td>off Old House Cove, Western Bay, Spruce Pt</td>
<td>Bar Harbor</td>
<td>3.36 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Public hearing scheduled 10/13/20 2 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tightrope Farms</td>
<td>south of Carlton Island, Salt Pond</td>
<td>Blue Hill</td>
<td>7.25</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Site Review complete 6/23/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nice Oyster Company, LLC</td>
<td>E of Woodward Pt, New Meadows River</td>
<td>Brunswick</td>
<td>4.49 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>Scoping Session sched 10/19/20 7 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shearwater Ventures LLC</td>
<td>E of Lt3 Chebeague, Casco Bay</td>
<td>Chebeague Isl</td>
<td>3.79 acres</td>
<td>Marine Algae</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Site Review complete 4/28/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schoodic Seafarm LLC</td>
<td>off Long Mill Cove, Gouldsboro Bay</td>
<td>Cores</td>
<td>2.2 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Application received 9/24/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summit Point LLC</td>
<td>NE of Claplet Isd, Casco Bay</td>
<td>Falmouth &amp; Cumberland</td>
<td>100 acres</td>
<td>Marine Algae</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Site Review pending as of 12/2/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Stone Point Oysters LLC</td>
<td>Damariscotta River</td>
<td>Damariscotta</td>
<td>5.12 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Public Hearing 10/20/20 3 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Dickinson</td>
<td>800 ft SW Hog Island, Damariscotta River</td>
<td>Damariscotta</td>
<td>1 acre</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Site Review complete as of June 18, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spinney Creek Shellfish, Inc.</td>
<td>NW of Rt 93 Bridge, Spinney Creek</td>
<td>Eliot</td>
<td>2.75 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Site Review complete 3/18/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harrrasekct Oyster Co.</td>
<td>S of Bowman Isl &amp; Stockbridge Pt, Casco Bay</td>
<td>Freeport</td>
<td>7 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Site Review Complete 9/4/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Love Point Oysters, LLC</td>
<td>SE of Winslow Park, Casco Bay</td>
<td>Freeport</td>
<td>4.78 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Site Review Complete 9/11/2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Love Point Oysters, LLC</td>
<td>S of Crab island, Casco Bay</td>
<td>Freeport</td>
<td>4.15 acres</td>
<td>Oysters</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Site review Pending as of 2/20/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glidden Point Oyster Co.</td>
<td>West shore, S of Jacks Pt, Damariscotta River</td>
<td>Newcastle</td>
<td>5.5 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>Public Hearing 10/27/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frenchman Bay Oyster Co.</td>
<td>W &amp; S of Ingalls Isl. Sullivan Harbor</td>
<td>Sorrento</td>
<td>5.85 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Site Review pending as of 10/17/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mook Sea Farms Inc.</td>
<td>S of Wiley Pt &amp; N of Fitch Pt, Damaris. River</td>
<td>South Bristol</td>
<td>3 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Hearing scheduled 11/16/20, 3 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harvey, Brian</td>
<td>W of Haynes Pt, Goose Cove, Western Bay</td>
<td>Trenton</td>
<td>6 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Site Review Pending as of 3/27/2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Francisco, Peter W</td>
<td>E of Middle Ground, New Meadows River</td>
<td>West Bath</td>
<td>5.5 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Approved 5/19/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeer, Amanda</td>
<td>S of Lanes Isd, Inner Casco Bay</td>
<td>Yarmouth</td>
<td>9 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Site Review complete 5/8/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine Source Seafood</td>
<td>E of Lane’s Isl, Casco Bay</td>
<td>Yarmouth</td>
<td>3.48 acres</td>
<td>Oysters</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Site Review Complete as of 4/2/2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henninger, Thomas</td>
<td>Broad Cove, Casco Bay</td>
<td>Yarmouth</td>
<td>5.9 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Application submitted 7/9/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wolfe Neck Oyster Co. LLC</td>
<td>SE of Lanes Island, Casco Bay</td>
<td>Yarmouth</td>
<td>8 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>Site Review complete 5/22/20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Experimental Lease: up to 3 years, 4 acres and is non-renewable

**Standard Lease: term is up to 20 years, size is up to 20 acres and is renewable**

For more information, visit the DMR website

[www.maine.gov/dmr/aquaculture and select “Map & Lease Inventory (pending & current)”](http://www.maine.gov/dmr/aquaculture)

The MLA recommends you sign up for email alerts about aquaculture by selecting the big red email button at the bottom of their aquaculture page.

Understand the process! You can make a difference!
$2.5 MILLION INVESTMENT TO GROW SEAFOOD E-COMMERCE

By Melissa Waterman

In October, Luke’s Lobster and the Island Institute, a non-profit organization based in Rockland, received a $2.5 million grant from the Silicon Valley Community Foundation of California to build new markets for Maine’s seafood while the world grapples with the COVID pandemic. The money comes from a donor-advised fund within the Foundation; the Foundation’s goal is to advance innovative philanthropic solutions to challenging problems.

The collaboration between Luke’s Lobster and the Island Institute will build resilience in the seafood supply chain and provide opportunities for Maine’s fishermen and aquaculturists, according to an October press release.

“It took a while to put this partnership together,” explained Rob Snyder, president of the Island Institute. “We [Snyder and Luke Holden, founder of Luke’s Lobster] started talking about it when COVID hit. We anticipated a much worse summer for fishermen and we were scrambling to figure out what to do.”

According to Snyder, $1 million of the grant will take the form of a forgivable loan from the Island Institute to Luke’s Lobster. That loan will be used to amplify the company’s existing e-commerce platform.

When the COVID pandemic took hold this spring, Luke’s Lobster closed nearly all of its national and international lobster shacks. It then launched its e-commerce platform several months earlier than planned. Initially all of its national and international lobster shacks. It then launched its e-commerce platform. When the COVID pandemic took hold this spring, Luke’s Lobster closed nearly all of its national and international lobster shacks. It then launched its e-commerce platform several months earlier than planned. Initially all of its national and international lobster shacks. It then launched its e-commerce platform. When the COVID pandemic took hold this spring, Luke’s Lobster closed nearly all of its national and international lobster shacks. It then launched its e-commerce platform several months earlier than planned. Initially all of its national and international lobster shacks. It then launched its e-commerce platform.

“The loan will be forgiven when the company hits a specific metric,” Snyder said. “That is the ability of Luke’s to recruit seafood companies to its platform and support creation of B corporations.” Certified B corporations are businesses that balance profit with social impacts. They are legally required to consider the effect of their business decisions on workers, customers, suppliers, community, and the environment. Luke’s Lobster is a certified B corporation, as are larger companies such as Cabot Creamery, Ben & Jerry’s, and Stonyfield Organic.

The remaining funds will be used to develop content and marketing strategies for Luke’s e-commerce site. “It’s super expensive,” Snyder said. “This is what it costs to do it well. And think about what it would cost for all Maine seafood. It’s really a daunting task.”

Americans on average ate 16.1 pounds of seafood in 2018, according to the most recent Fisheries of the United States report, the highest amount since 2007. Fresh and frozen finish accounted for 6.3 pounds per capita, fresh and frozen shellfish totaled 6.0 pounds. Much of that shellfish came in the form of shrimp (4.0 pounds). Average seafood consumption is still considerably lower than the two four-ounce servings of seafood each week suggested in the USDA Dietary Guidelines for Americans. In addition, much of seafood that is consumed, between 85% and 95%, is imported.

“It’s an age-old problem: how to get people to eat more seafood,” Snyder said. Getting on-line customers to click a button and buy seafood from Maine will require content which educates them on all aspects of the seafood and how to prepare it. A considerable focus of this partnership will be to create digital content aimed at educating consumers about the ease and health benefits of preparing seafood at home, as well as telling stories of Maine’s fishermen, aquaculturists, and coastal communities. The content production and educational campaign will help ensure Maine’s premium seafood stays top of mind while the world grapples with the COVID pandemic.

Continued on page 23

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Continued on page 23
NEW DIRECTOR AT NERACOOS

The Northeast Regional Association of Coastal Ocean Observing Systems (NERACOOS) recently announced the appointment of Dr. Jake Kritzer as the organization's new Executive Director. Kritzer is taking over from Dr. John Baaridh "Ru" Morrison, the founding Director and leader of NERACOOS for the past 10 years, who retired from the position in late 2019. Kritzer will also be assuming the role of co-chair for the NECAN Steering Committee alongside Sam Siedlecki of the University of Connecticut.

INDIGENOUS FISHING STIRS VIOLENCE IN NOVA SCOTIA

Jason Marr, an indigenous lobsterman in Nova Scotia, was unloading his live catch at a storage facility in late October when an angry mob of 200 commercial fishermen began pounding on the door, screaming to be let in. Marr barricaded himself inside a cold storage area. When the authorities arrived at the plant, Marr's ordeal was not yet over. As several officers surrounded him, the commercial fishermen formed a human chain and began passing crates of lobster from the building to the shoreline, dumping more than 3,000 pounds of his live lobsters. Then, just days after the plant was ransacked, it was burned to the ground. The fire is being investigated as arson, upsetting a small community whose local economy depends on fishing.

NEW MENHADEN QUOTA SET FOR 2021-2022 SEASONS

The ASMFC's Atlantic Menhaden Management Board (Board) approved a total allowable catch (TAC) of 194,400 metric tons (mt) for the 2021 and 2022 fishing seasons, which represents a 10% reduction from the 2018-2020 TAC level. The 2021-2022 TAC was set based on the ecological reference points (ERPs) approved by the Board in August, and reaffirms the Board's commitment to manage the fishery in a way that accounts for the species role as a forage fish. "This TAC represents a measured and deliberate way for this Board to move into the realm of ecosystem-based management," said Board Chair Spud Woodward of Georgia. "The TAC strikes a balance between stakeholder interests to maintain harvest on menhaden at recent levels, while also allowing the ERP models to do what they are intended to do."

MAINE FAIR TRADE TO BECOME AQUACULTURE FACILITY

A Maine aquaculture company plans to buy the Gouldsboro property that was home to the nation’s last sardine cannery and use it as part of a salmon- and cod-farming operation. American Aquaarms said Friday it has reached an agreement to buy the Maine Fair Trade Lobster processing plant in the Gouldsboro village of Prospect Harbor. The property was a sardine cannery for a century until that business shut down in 2010. The company plans to build a hatchery and processing facility on the 11-acre site. It would use the facility as part of an operation to grow finfish species such as salmon and cod at ocean sites in Frenchman Bay. Global AS, an investment company based in Norway, founded American Aquaarms in 2019 after the founding of Norcod, a Norwegian cod farm with two facilities in operation.

NEW ENGLAND FISHERIES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL PASSES 100% MONITORING PROVISION

The New England Fishery Management Council approved a plan to require human or electronic monitors on all New England fishing boats targeting groundfish such as cod and haddock. The controversial measure seeks funding from Congress to help pay for the monitors. Some in the fishing sector believe that 100% monitoring will improve depleted fisheries by providing better data on the stocks' actual status, while providing fishermen an incentive to more precisely target species that are within set quotas. The Nature Conservancy is providing $2 million to help pay for electronic or video monitoring equipment. If Congress does not provide full funding for 100% monitoring, the industry would still be required to pay to monitor up to 40% of at-sea trips.
• Analyzing the effectiveness of current vessel strike reduction measures to determine modifications that may be necessary.

• Advancing Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team recommendations to reduce fishing entanglement mortality risk by 60%.

• In collaboration with commercial fishermen and other stakeholders, testing ropeless fishing gear under real world conditions to adapt existing technology in ways that could significantly reduce the amount of entangling line in the water in the future.

• Continuing to respond to and investigate stranded, entangled, and seriously injured right whales as part of the ongoing Unusual Mortality Event (UME) that was declared in 2017.

LOBSTER INSTITUTE ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR RETIRES

Press release, The Lobster Institute

After 20 years of service to the Lobster Institute, associate director Cathy Billings retired September 21.

Cathy is a true champion of the lobster industry and its hardworking men and women. Throughout her career, she collaborated with the Lobster Institute directors — first Bob Bayer, and now Rick Wahle — to help build partnerships and networks of lobster harvesters, dealers, processors, government agencies and researchers in New England and Atlantic Canada. Her leadership contributed to the Lobster Institute’s reputation as a center of discovery, innovation and outreach dedicated to promoting, conducting and communicating research focused on the sustainability of the American lobster fishery.

Cathy’s vast knowledge of the industry is compiled in her book, The Maine Lobster Industry: A History of Culture Conservation and Commerce, published in 2014. She also was instrumental in writing numerous grants to secure research funding and facilities for Maine’s coastal economy.

In her role as outreach coordinator, Cathy founded the Canada-U.S. Lobster Town Meeting in 2004, a two-day annual meeting bringing together all sectors of the industry, scientists and policy makers from both sides of the border. The event alternates between U.S. and Canadian venues.

She also organized the Lobster Institute’s annual holiday fundraiser dinner and saw the creation of Big Claw white wine, sale proceeds of which benefit the Institute.

Working at the Lobster Institute and for the state’s most valuable fishing industry is “hands down, the best job I’ve ever had,” Cathy said. “The men and women I’ve met in the lobster industry continually impress and amaze me with their work ethic, their knowledge and their commitment to making the lobster industry in Maine a model of sustainability and a heritage of which to be proud.”

Collaboration continued from page 21

with consumers looking for a sustainable, traceable, and healthy protein,” according to Luke Lobster’s web site.

Such promotion will have the benefit of starting with a strong brand identity. “People identify seafood with place,” Snyder said. “Maine has a strong reputation for an extraordinarily pure environment.”

Maine seafood producers, harvesters, and fishermen will be able to offer their products through Luke’s Lobster’s website. Applicants will be evaluated through a review by a selection committee, which is made up of two members from Luke’s Lobster, two members from the Island Institute, and a member from the Maine Coast Fishermen’s Association.

The funding also requires Luke’s Lobster and the Island Institute to provide technical assistance on clean energy and water quality improvements to fishing wharves and B corporation training for businesses interested in certification. The project will also evaluate methods to decarbonize the seafood supply chain.

“We will be working with Luke’s Lobster to see which uses in the supply chain produce the most carbon, things like trucking, refrigeration, activities on the wharf,” Snyder said. “This assessment is in part because Luke’s Lobster is interested in the issue but also to understand it as a case study. The goal is to help incentivize businesses to decrease their climate impacts.”

Snyder noted that the Island Institute has worked with Luke’s Lobster in various ways over the years. “The company is transparent and committed to social and environmental outcomes and was an obvious choice for us,” he said. “This will allow other seafood suppliers to get onto the platform. As a way to keep lobster and other Maine seafood flowing, it will be very valuable.”

Whale report continued from page 1

fishing gear in both U.S. and Canadian waters remain the two known factors in the whale’s ongoing decline. Since the population peaked at 481 in 2011, after accounting for 103 births, roughly 218 North Atlantic right whales have died of presumed anthropogenic causes, or roughly 24 whale deaths per year. The current potential biological removal number, essentially the mortality level that is considered to be sustainable, is 0.9 mortalities and serious injuries per year.

NOAA Fisheries is working with stakeholders and Canadian authorities to reduce vessel strikes and entanglement risks, the leading causes of mortality, through a series of ongoing actions. These include:

• Analyzing the effectiveness of current vessel strike reduction measures to determine modifications that may be necessary.

• Advancing Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team recommendations to reduce fishing entanglement mortality risk by 60%.

• In collaboration with commercial fishermen and other stakeholders, testing ropeless fishing gear under real world conditions to adapt existing technology in ways that could significantly reduce the amount of entangling line in the water in the future.

• Continuing to respond to and investigate stranded, entangled, and seriously injured right whales as part of the ongoing Unusual Mortality Event (UME) that was declared in 2017.

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November 2020 | LANDINGS | Page 23
BIRDS ON BOATS

Every autumn songbirds and other birds begin their migration to the south. It is a long and perilous journey fraught with danger and fatigue. Thank heavens for lobster boats (and lobstermen), where a tired bird can take a break!

We feature here a small selection of photos contributed by lobstermen, showing various fall visitors to their boats. It is worth noting that seagulls do not migrate. But they can be just plain silly, as the photo on the left illustrates.

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