5-1-2021

**Landings, vol. 29, no. 5**

Maine Lobstermen's Community Alliance

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/landings

Part of the [Agricultural and Resource Economics Commons](https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/landings) and the [Aquaculture and Fisheries Commons](https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/landings)

**Repository Citation**


https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/landings/97

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@UMaine. It has been accepted for inclusion in Landings: News & Views from Maine's Lobstering Community by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UMaine. For more information, please contact um.library.technical.services@maine.edu.
VINEYARD WIND 800-MW OFFSHORE WIND FARM APPROVED, FISHERMEN’S CONCERNS NOT ADDRESSED

By Melissa Waterman

On May 11, the Bureau of Offshore Energy Management (BOEM) within the Department of Interior released its final record of decision permitting construction and operation of Vineyard Wind, an offshore wind farm located in federal waters southeast of Martha’s Vineyard. The $2.8 billion project is a joint venture of the energy firms Avangrid Renewables, part of Iberdrola, and Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners.

The Responsible Offshore Development Alliance (RODA), a membership-based coalition of fishing industry associations and fishing companies, immediately denounced the decision. “For the past decade, fishermen have participated in offshore wind meetings whenever they were asked and produced reasonable requests only to be met with silence,” said Annie Hawkins, RODA executive director. “From this silence now emerges unilateral action and a clear indication that those in authority care more about multinational businesses and energy politics than our environment, domestic food sources, or U.S. citizens,” RODA wrote.

Construction on Vineyard Wind is expected to begin this summer. The project is permitted up to 84 turbines which could generate 800 megawatts of electricity, vastly more than is currently produced by the Block Island Wind Farm three miles off Block Island. The electricity will travel via cables buried six feet below the ocean floor to Cape Cod, where the cables will connect to a substation and feed into the New England grid. The company said that it expects to begin delivering wind-powered electricity in 2023.

Continued on page 5

Maine Fishermen’s Cooperatives

Maine Co-ops Working for Maine Fishermen.

Proud sponsors of Landings.

LEARNING ABOUT CAREERS IN THE MAINE LOBSTER INDUSTRY

By Melissa Waterman

Too many people in the state think that the Maine lobster industry is simply oilskin-clad lobstermen routinely hauling traps time after time after time, according to Curt Brown. A new class that began this spring hopes to dismantle that perception. Called “The Business of Maine Lobster,” the ten-week virtual class “will open people’s eyes to the career opportunities of the lobster industry,” said Brown, marine biologist with Ready Seafood in Portland and one of the class organizers.

An economic study conducted by Colby College professor Michael Donihue in 2018 found that the annual economic impact of the Maine lobster industry, not counting the lobstermen themselves, was $244 million and provided 1,306 jobs. Donihue’s research showed that the broader annual contribution to the Maine economy was nearly $1 billion and the industry supported 4,000 jobs. Those jobs occur in multiple fields, from transportation and finance to engineering and marketing. But still the image of lobstering as a solitary endeavor by a captain and sternman persists. “In parts of the state, no one understands the complexity of it,” Brown said.

To counter that perception “The Business of Maine Lobster” aims to give students an overview of critical aspects of the lobster supply chain and identify career pathways to employment in the industry. The initial concept for the class came from Annie Tselikis, executive director of the Maine Lobster Dealers Association, Betsy Lowe of Acadia Seafood in Sorrento, and Brown. It is offered through

Continued on page 4
We are entering that season of the year when the pace of life seems to quicken. Certainly the days are longer but there’s just so much to do: fix new trap tags to the traps, go over all the rope and gear, secure bait, and get ready for the next round of right whale protection measures. The tasks come as thick as mosquitoes as summer takes hold along the Maine coast.

The lobster industry is a major feature of the coast both in summer and winter. As an economic study conducted at Colby College a few years ago revealed, the supply chain businesses related to the lobster fishery alone account for nearly $1 billion in revenue for the state each year and provide more than 4,000 jobs, often in places where employment opportunities are limited. A new class offered this spring, “The Business of Maine Lobster,” hopes to open people’s eyes to the many career opportunities in the lobster industry beyond working on a boat. The 10-week class was organized by the Washington County Community College’s Workforce and Professional Development Program and the Machias Valley Center for Entrepreneurship. Class participants studied everything from the basic biology of a lobster to storage and inventory management, quality assurance, grading, distribution, transportation and marketing. “The most important thing to take away from the class is not just that there are job opportunities in the industry but that there are career opportunities,” said Curt Brown, of Ready Seafood in Portland and one of the class organizers.

One topic reverberating along Maine’s waterfront this month is the ongoing push by the Mills administration to secure a federal permit to construct a large wind turbine array off southern Maine. That effort was encouraged when the Bureau of Offshore Energy Management (BOEM) in May gave final approval to Vineyard Wind, the nation’s first full-scale industrial wind farm in federal waters. The $2.8 billion project is a joint venture of the energy firms Avangrid Renewables, part of Spanish-based Iberdrola, and Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners. Construction on the turbines it is likely that the entire 75,614-acre area will be abandoned by commercial fisheries due to difficulties with navigation.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) released its annual Fisheries of the United States report in May, providing 2019 landings and value figures for commercial, recreational and aquaculture fisheries. While the volume of landings in New England dropped in 2019, largely due to reductions in the herring fishery, the lobster fishing ports of Stonington and Vinalhaven both remained among the top ports by value. Stonington was ranked 22nd, landing $51 million in 2019, and Vinalhaven ranked 28th, landing $40 million.

Despite cancellation of the Maine Fishermen’s Forum this year, the Forum board once again awarded college scholarships to children of fishermen and fishing families. The 23 students hailed from throughout the coast and will use these funds to attend secondary school or advanced training in their chosen fields. The Forum board, which awarded $43,500 this year, is to be commended for raising these funds during a difficult pandemic year.

Landings continues its focus on lobstermen’s health with an article this month on how to protect your knees. Anyone who has spent long hours on a boat knows that the constant motion takes a toll on the knees. Most fishermen put up with deteriorating knee joints with painkillers and other treatments until the time comes for replacement surgery. Certain techniques, however, can prevent long-term injury, as authors Scott Fulmer and Ann Backus point out.

Landings begins a new feature this month called Landings News. The many businesses that support this newspaper often have news to share or new products and services to offer and we want to give them the opportunity to let Landings readers know what’s new.

And finally, we feature some of the vibrant art of Alison Bramhall, owner of Festive Fish. Bramhall, a self-taught artist, translates the marine creatures and seascapes that are the Yarmouth Clam Festival’s namesake into art that will brighten your day. Bramhall stated, “My connection to the ocean is essential. Being out there, it detoxes my body and clears my mind.”

We hope you enjoy this issue and we welcome your feedback.
LOBSTER NOW NATION’S SECOND MOST VALUABLE SEAFOOD

By MLA staff

On May 20, NOAA released its 2019 Fisheries of the United States Report, providing fisheries statistics, including commercial landings and value, for the country. In 2019, U.S. commercial fishermen landed 9.3 billion pounds of seafood valued at $5.5 billion. These figures are essentially unchanged from 2018, with a less than 1% decline in volume and 2% in value.

For the 23rd consecutive year, Dutch Harbor, Alaska led the nation as the port with the highest volume of seafood landed (763 million pounds valued at $190 million). For the 20th consecutive year, New Bedford, Massachusetts had the highest valued catch (116 million pounds valued at $451 million), due in large part to the highly valued sea scallop fishery. Sea scallops account for 84% of the value of landings in New Bedford.

In 2019, New England showed a 14.9% decrease in landings volume, driven primarily by reductions in the herring and lobster fisheries. The South Atlantic, on the other hand, had a 13.4% increase in landings volume, driven by increases in North Carolina and the east coast of Florida.

For the 23rd consecutive year, Dutch Harbor, Alaska led the nation as the port with the highest volume of seafood landed (763 million pounds valued at $190 million). Maine.

Stonington was ranked 22nd in the nation based on value, landing $51 million in 2019 versus $60 million in 2018. Vinalhaven ranked 28th in value, bringing in $40 million versus $39 million in 2018. Other Maine ports in the top 50 included Portland (40th), Friendship (45th) and Beals Island (48th).

Lobster was the second most valuable seafood landed in 2019, worth $668 million, with salmon ranking first at $790 million. Lobster ranked tenth in value with 130 million pounds of lobster harvested. Maine.

The United States continues to be a major importer of seafood. Between 70% and 85% of the seafood consumed in the United States (by edible weight) is imported. This percentage has been rising in recent years. A significant portion of this imported seafood is caught by American fishermen, exported overseas for processing, and then reimported to the United States. Exports decreased slightly in 2019 compared to 2018.

Lobster exports declined from 115,981,000 in 2018 to 91,947,000. In 2019, 61% of lobster was exported to Canada, followed by 12% to China, 6% to Hong Kong, 4% to Italy and 3% to Taiwan.

2018 vs. 2019 U.S. Lobster Exports (in pounds)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>63,177,000</td>
<td>55,799,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>20,005,000</td>
<td>10,994,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China-Hong Kong</td>
<td>7,116,000</td>
<td>3,189,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>6,104,000</td>
<td>4,119,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taiwan</td>
<td>2,061,000</td>
<td>2,553,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>2,941,000</td>
<td>1,880,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>2,020,000</td>
<td>1,546,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>3,830,000</td>
<td>1,511,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>1,858,000</td>
<td>1,077,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>6,867,000</td>
<td>7,369,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Smithwick & Mariners Insurance Agency

We are a full-service independent insurance agency providing personal, commercial, business & marine insurance.

Agents for the MLA Hull Insurance Program!

LOCAL KNOWLEDGE - DEDICATED TO SERVICE

366 U.S. Route 1 • Falmouth, ME 04105 • Tel: 800-370-1883 • Tel: 207-781-5553 • Fax: 207-781-5571
77 North Water Street, New Bedford, MA 02740 • Tel: 800-348-1405 • Tel: 508-993-7411 • Fax: 508-990-7733

With affiliated offices in Damariscotta, Bath, and Kennebunk
www.smithwick-ins.com
the Washington County Community College’s Workforce and Professional Development Program and the Machias Valley Center for Entrepreneurship and is facilitated by Denise Cilley, Entrepreneurship Program director at Sunrise County Economic Development Council and director of the Machias Valley Center for Entrepreneurship.

“The Business of Maine Lobster” began on April 22 and meets each Thursday evening for three hours. The class is free to all participants. “[As workforce training] it was important to be able to offer it for free,” Cilley explained. Funds were donated by Machias Savings Bank and the Maine Quality Center, part of the Maine Community College system’s workforce training.

Students can take the class for three college credits or choose to participate in as many individual sessions as they wish without credit. “We have 30 students right now. One-half are enrolled for college credit and the others can pick and choose sessions. The students are a mix, with the majority over 40,” Cilley said. “We even have people from New York who are planning to move here and work in the industry.” Several prison inmates are taking the class through the Department of Corrections transitions program as well.

Class participants cover a lot of ground, from the basic biology of a lobster to storage and inventory management, quality assurance, grading, distribution of live lobster, transportation and marketing. Different experts in the industry give presentations each week, plus students have weekly reading assignments. “We’ve put a lot of time and preparation into those three hours. Three hours seems like a lot of time but we’ve found each week that we could just keep on going,” Brown said.

Milly Martin, general manager of the Vinalhaven Fisherman’s Cooperative, thinks the class is “fantastic.”

“There’s always room to learn more about the industry,” she said. She found the anatomy of a lobster and its life cycle particularly interesting as well as the session on shipping and handling. “I knew a lot about that but we then got into temperature and pH. It made me think about trying to get the fishermen to add aeration to their tanks. You don’t want the lobster’s heart rate to go up,” she said.

Toward the final weeks of the class, students explore workforce opportunities with a panel of industry employers and complete a final project that addresses specific challenges the students have identified during the class. For example, most lobster-buying wharves store lobster crates in the water. To know how much lobster a business currently holds, someone must count the crates. Is there a technology that would allow that process to be automated?

“The most important thing to take away from the class is not just that there are job opportunities in the industry but that there are career opportunities,” Brown emphasized. “You can build a successful career as part of a team and grow throughout your career. And you may never actually touch a lobster.” The many types of business related to lobstering allow those who have a college degree and those without to find work in the state and often in their own communities, Brown added. “If you are willing to work and willing to learn, you can have a good year-round job.”

In the Washington County Community College’s Workforce and Professional Development Program and the Machias Valley Center for Entrepreneurship and is facilitated by Denise Cilley, Entrepreneurship Program director at Sunrise County Economic Development Council and director of the Machias Valley Center for Entrepreneurship.

“The Business of Maine Lobster” began on April 22 and meets each Thursday evening for three hours. The class is free to all participants. “[As workforce training] it was important to be able to offer it for free,” Cilley explained. Funds were donated by Machias Savings Bank and the Maine Quality Center, part of the Maine Community College system’s workforce training.

Students can take the class for three college credits or choose to participate in as many individual sessions as they wish without credit. “We have 30 students right now. One-half are enrolled for college credit and the others can pick and choose sessions. The students are a mix, with the majority over 40,” Cilley said. “We even have people from New York who are planning to move here and work in the industry.” Several prison inmates are taking the class through the Department of Corrections transitions program as well.

Class participants cover a lot of ground, from the basic biology of a lobster to storage and inventory management, quality assurance, grading, distribution of live lobster, transportation and marketing. Different experts in the industry give presentations each week, plus students have weekly reading assignments. “We’ve put a lot of time and preparation into those three hours. Three hours seems like a lot of time but we’ve found each week that we could just keep on going,” Brown said.

Milly Martin, general manager of the Vinalhaven Fisherman’s Cooperative, thinks the class is “fantastic.”

“There’s always room to learn more about the industry,” she said. She found the anatomy of a lobster and its life cycle particularly interesting as well as the session on shipping and handling. “I knew a lot about that but we then got into temperature and pH. It made me think about trying to get the fishermen to add aeration to their tanks. You don’t want the lobster’s heart rate to go up,” she said.

Toward the final weeks of the class, students explore workforce opportunities with a panel of industry employers and complete a final project that addresses specific challenges the students have identified during the class. For example, most lobster-buying wharves store lobster crates in the water. To know how much lobster a business currently holds, someone must count the crates. Is there a technology that would allow that process to be automated?

“The most important thing to take away from the class is not just that there are job opportunities in the industry but that there are career opportunities,” Brown emphasized. “You can build a successful career as part of a team and grow throughout your career. And you may never actually touch a lobster.” The many types of business related to lobstering allow those who have a college degree and those without to find work in the state and often in their own communities, Brown added. “If you are willing to work and willing to learn, you can have a good year-round job.”
FEDERAL AGENCIES VOICE RESERVATIONS ABOUT VINEYARD WIND IMPACTS

By Melissa Waterman

Despite the fact that the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) issued its final record of decision in early May permitting the 800-megawatt (MW) Vineyard Wind offshore wind farm in waters southeast of Martha’s Vineyard, several federal agencies registered their concerns about the project’s impacts.

The Army Corps of Engineers, in its official contribution to the record of decision, forecast a generally negative effect on commercial fishing due to limitations on fishing within the planned 62-turbine array.

“While Vineyard Wind will have beneficial impacts to the local economy, it is anticipated that there will be negative economic impacts to commercial fisheries... due to the placement of the turbines it is likely that the entire 75,614-acre-area will be abandoned by commercial fisheries due to difficulties with navigation,” according to the Corps.

The Responsible Offshore Development Alliance (RODA) had asked BOEM to ensure 4-nm-wide vessel transit lanes between the turbines, which it contended would enhance safety for fishermen. BOEM, however, declined to adopt that plan. "Primary concerns with the inclusion of a transit lane focused on the precedent that may be set with the addition of transit lanes that would limit the potential of offshore wind leases to meet state demand and reduce economic benefits from offshore wind development," BOEM stated in its decision.

"We strongly oppose BOEM’s approach of giving greater credence to commenters without the relevant expertise in marine operations over the fishing industry’s expert testimony regarding safety. We do not know, nor were fishermen asked, the safety and operating impacts of this spacing across the entire coast,“ according to RODA. "Instead of learning from fishermen’s experience, BOEM now rewards those who ignore traditional knowledge and shoehorn data into predetermined outcomes based on political preference or financial goals."

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in its contribution to the decision, highlighted two major concerns: the effect of Vineyard Wind and other large arrays on its fisheries surveys and on the endangered North Atlantic right whale.

NMFS noted that it sees “major adverse impacts to NMFS Northeast Fisheries Science Center scientific surveys... The adverse impacts to NMFS surveys will gradually increase in intensity and scope if future wind energy projects are approved throughout the Northeast U.S. Continental Shelf Ecosystem.”

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration research vessels that conduct the science surveys are restricted from operating closer than 1 nautical mile from wind installations, and NOAA aircraft used in surveys and whale monitoring will likewise be subject to flight height restrictions around planned turbines, which will stand more than 800 feet above sea level.

The Army Corps had a gloomy prediction of the long-term impact of Vineyard Wind on commercial fishermen and the local economies along the coast. “The extent of impact to commercial fisheries and loss of economic income is estimated to total $14 million over the expected 30-year lifetime of the Project. Vineyard Wind has established compensation funds for Massachusetts and Rhode Island fishermen to mitigate for the potential loss in economic revenue associated with the potential loss of fishing grounds. When considering these factors, the project as proposed is anticipated to have a negligible beneficial effect to local economics.”

Material in this article was drawn from a May 18 article in National Fisherman.

Vineyard Wind from page 1

Vineyard Wind developers have agreed to pay $37.7 million to commercial fishermen in Massachusetts and Rhode Island to compensate them for future losses. But many commercial fishermen in New England remain staunchly opposed to the wind turbines, proposed to be built on traditional fishing grounds for scallops, squid, sea bass and other fish. Fishermen say that it will be dangerous to navigate among turbines, particularly in poor weather and because of interference with radar navigation systems.

While projects such as Vineyard Wind are touted as providing well-paying jobs, many economists are skeptical. Offshore wind energy development is far advanced in Europe and it is European companies that are vying to construct similar projects in the U.S. The equipment and technology for creation of large-scale offshore wind farms and the manufacturing jobs associated with them are mostly located in Europe.

Vineyard Wind’s approval reflects the Biden administration’s emphasis on increased renewable energy production in the country, specifically from offshore wind energy. The Administration has announced that it intends to fast-track permits for other projects off the Atlantic Coast. In addition, it plans to provide $3 billion in federal loan guarantees for offshore wind projects and invest in upgrades to ports across the United States to support wind turbine construction.

 according to RODA, “Instead of learning from fishermen’s experience, BOEM now rewards those who ignore traditional knowledge and shoehorn data into predetermined outcomes based on political preference or financial goals.”

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in its contribution to the decision, highlighted two major concerns: the effect of Vineyard Wind and other large arrays on its fisheries surveys and on the endangered North Atlantic right whale.

NMFS noted that it sees “major adverse impacts to NMFS Northeast Fisheries Science Center scientific surveys... The adverse impacts to NMFS surveys will gradually increase in intensity and scope if future wind energy projects are approved throughout the Northeast U.S. Continental Shelf Ecosystem.”

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration research vessels that conduct the science surveys are restricted from operating closer than 1 nautical mile from wind installations, and NOAA aircraft used in surveys and whale monitoring will likewise be subject to flight height restrictions around planned turbines, which will stand more than 800 feet above sea level.

The Army Corps had a gloomy prediction of the long-term impact of Vineyard Wind on commercial fishermen and the local economies along the coast. “The extent of impact to commercial fisheries and loss of economic income is estimated to total $14 million over the expected 30-year lifetime of the Project. Vineyard Wind has established compensation funds for Massachusetts and Rhode Island fishermen to mitigate for the potential loss in economic revenue associated with the potential loss of fishing grounds. When considering these factors, the project as proposed is anticipated to have a negligible beneficial effect to local economies.”

Material in this article was drawn from a May 18 article in National Fisherman.

Vineyard Wind Project

Located 14 miles south of Martha’s Vineyard, the Vineyard offshore wind farm will connect onshore via submarine cables. Plans call for construction to start in 2019. It will be one of the largest offshore wind farms in the world when it comes online.

NEED A LENDER

WHO UNDERSTANDS YOU?

Farm Credit East specializes in providing loans and lines of credit to Maine’s commercial fishing industry. With long- and short-term financing options for real estate, boats and equipment, Farm Credit East is the right choice for you. We provide attractive rates and solid advice for aquatic businesses of every type and size. Our lending experts understand your business. Call them today at the branch office closest to you.

800.831.4230 | FARMCREDITEAST.COM
Maine Lobstermen’s Association

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

President: Kristan Porter
Cutter, 460-0560

1st VP: Dustin Delano
Friendship, 542-7241

2nd VP: John Williams
Stonington, 367-2731

Treasurer: Jim Dow
Bass Harbor, 460-2565

Secretary, Chris Welsh
Kennebunk, 205-2093

Directors
Bob Baines, Spruce Head, 356-9121
Jen Beal, Middle, 479-9624
Sonny Beal, Beals Island, 356-1684
Laurin Brooks, Kennebunk, 468-2165
Herman Coombs, Orr’s Island, 807-8586
Gerry Cushman, Port Clyde, 372-6429
Jamiel Hallwell, S. Bristol, 380-7976
Robert Ingalls, Bucks Harbor, 271-7199
Mark Jones, Boothbay, 315-9977
Jason Joyce, Swan’s Island, 526-4109
Jack Merrill, Islesford, 244-7888
Ted Miller, Machias, 372-6941
Troy Plummer, Boothbay, 356-7280
Craig Stewart, Long Island, 653-9194
John Tipp, Spruce Head, 601-9744
Thomas Werner, Cape Elizabeth, 807-1648

Staff

Executive Director
Patrick McCarron
patrick@mainelobstermen.org

Membership Director
Andi Pelletier
andi@mainelobstermen.org

Office Assistant
Becky Marshall

Maine Lobstermen’s Association
2 Storer St., Suite 203
Kennebunk, ME 04043
207.967.4555
www.mainelobstermen.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ MEETING SCHEDULE
June 2, Belfast.

STEAMING AHEAD

It’s hard not to feel good about the world as spring moves into summer and pandemic restrictions are relaxed. It’s been such a long year for everyone and it is a relief to hope that life will feel a little more normal this summer.

By all accounts, Maine is on track to have an historic tourist season given all the pent-up desire among people to get together and, of course, enjoy Maine’s signature seafood product. The expectation of high local demand and low inventory of lobster should set us up for a strong lobster season.

Even as we prepare to reclaim important parts of our lives and livelihoods from the pandemic, the lobster industry is undeniably facing an uncertain future. There are so many concerns over what future whale regulations and the increasing momentum to develop large offshore wind farms mean for our industry. I view both whales and wind as existential threats to Maine’s centuries-old lobster fishery.

Each of these issues on its own could fundamentally alter every lobsterman’s future; having to deal with them both at the same time is certain to deal the lobster industry a harsh one-two punch. How we respond will determine our future.

We are now in a long-term race to save our fishing heritage as we go head-to-head with well-funded environmental groups, multi-national energy companies, and sadly, parts of our own state and federal government. The MLA will bring to bear every resource that we have to ensure that the concerns of Maine’s lobstermen are heard and understood. The MLA Legal Defense Fund makes this possible. MLA has been and will continue to work diligently, day by day, month by month, to fight for what we believe in – our fishermen, the sustainable wild-caught food they provide, the jobs and economic stability they create for our rural coastal communities, and the continued opportunity for our children to live and work in Maine.

The MLA cannot be successful, however, if the fishing industry is not willing to stand together. We all know that fishermen are not going to agree on everything as these issues evolve. Yet lobstermen must be willing to listen to each other and be tolerant of those who do not share their view on every issue. Unfortunately, as many of you know, such tolerance is not a hallmark of our fishing culture. But despite this paradox, lobster industry leaders have been successful in the past in meeting and overcoming the many challenges lobstermen have faced. It is time for that sense of unity to once again come to the forefront in the face of these enormous threats.

Maine’s lobster fishery is strong because of its diversity and yet we have a long history of beating each other up over our differences. You constantly hear things like, “Those boys are overcapitalized and only know the good times,” or “Those big boats are just greedy,” to which the response is, “They don’t like to work hard,” or “They’ve already made their money and now they want to shut it down for everyone.”

This is not the first time Maine’s fishermen have faced extraordinarily tough times. As Maine’s groundfishing industry was dismantled piece by piece more than 20 years ago, the large and small boat fleets did not work together. Maine’s fishing communities suffered. Much of the state’s federal scallop fleet suffered a similar fate. By contrast, af-
ter large-scale closures of the federal scallop fishery, the New Bedford fleet formed the Fisheries Survival Fund. The group’s name says it all – they joined together so their fishery would survive. They agreed to fund scallop research and proactively and aggressively engage in the management process. Their efforts have paid off – New Bedford has remained the country’s most lucrative port for 20 straight years.

So, let’s stop judging each other and start focusing on our common interest – finding a way for everyone, big or small, to have a place in Maine’s lobster fishery in 10 years. Given what is ahead for us once the final whale rule and Biological Opinion come into force, every single lobsterman on the coast of Maine inevitably will have to change how he or she fishes. The years ahead will be extremely stressful.

Maine’s fishing industry groups have put their differences aside and are leading by example. We have formed a loose coalition to speak with a unified voice on offshore wind. The MLA is working closely with the Maine Lobstering Union, Maine Coast Fishermen’s Association, Maine Lobster Dealers Association, Downeast Lobstermen’s Association, Southern Maine Lobstermen’s Association, and others. We collectively submitted comments raising concern over NMFS’s draft Biological Opinion. We are working together to counter whale measures and offshore wind development because these issues will hurt all of Maine’s fishing industry and our communities, not just lobstermen.

This work is difficult. We do not agree on every detail. Voices get raised. But when we hit areas of disagreement, we collectively take a step back to focus on common ground. Then we move forward. And we do not stop.

If Maine’s fishing communities succumb to old habits and stop working together, I can assure you the environmental groups and the multi-national energy companies will exploit this weakness in a flash. We will NOT survive unless we work together. We must put our egos aside and focus on ensuring a future for Maine’s fishermen.

The future will be uncomfortable for everyone. We must agree to let go of our old grudges, let go of what each of us as individuals believes is the best way for the lobster industry to operate and get ready for some very uncomfortable conversations. We must be vigilant in remembering those things that unite us and stop arguing over those things that divide us.

“Together we stand, divided we fall” will be a self-fulfilling prophecy if we can’t pull together. I would guess that not one of you reading this today wants to see lobster boats disappear from harbors, whales fall into ruin, and your sons and daughters living far from their childhood homes. It’s a picture that can become reality in ten short years. So please, find ways to unite in order to ensure a future for all Maine’s fishermen.

As always, stay safe on the water.
The MLA Board discussed several bills currently before the Legislature. Three bills on offshore wind development are before the Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee. LD 101, put forward by Rep. Faulkingham, would ban all offshore wind development in state waters for 10 years but would allow the Monhegan project and cables from offshore projects. The Board voted to support LD 101 and oppose LD 1619, LD 336, sponsored by Sen. Lawrence, would task the Public Utilities Commission with negotiating long-term contracts to pay for research on the development of floating offshore wind. The MLA board voted to oppose this bill. The Marine Resources Committee is considering LD 391, which replaces LD 28 from last session, which proposes to allow those who have been on the lobster waiting list for at least 10 years to get into the fishery. The MLA board opposes this due to concerns over the 98% risk reduction proposed by NMFS to protect whales, potential loss of fishing grounds due to offshore wind, and lack of a plan to deal with latent effort.

The MLA expects that NMFS will finalize the Biological Opinion (Biop) by May 31 for submission to the court. The draft Biop proposes reaching a 98% risk reduction over ten years. The Biop will outline the framework for the risk reductions to protect right whales required during that period. NMFS made it clear during the recent round of public hearings on the Proposed Whale Rule (under the Marine Mammal Protection Act) that the Final Whale Rules are not expected to be published until this summer, and that it anticipates that new rules will be phased in over several months. This means that Maine lobstermen will not know what the new whale rules are until at least this summer. At that time we will also learn when each measure needs to be implemented. We expect to gain more clarity on this on May 31 when NMFS submits its documents to the court.

The Take Reduction Team has reconvened to address risk from gillnets and other trap/pot fisheries. NMFS is updating its Decision Support Tool to assess proposed conservation measures to be implemented by the gillnet fisheries and trap/pot fisheries (other than New England lobster) to achieve a 60% risk reduction. NMFS expects to conduct scoping meetings this summer and publish a proposed rule in the fall. The next MLA meeting will be on June 2 in Belfast.

**ROUND 2 COVID-19 FEDERAL AID TO SEAFOOD INDUSTRY**

Maine is receiving a $4.5 billion investment from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) approved by Congress. These funds will support recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, improve the lives and livelihoods of Maine people, make investments in solving Maine’s long-term challenges, and develop strategies for new opportunities. Of this $4.5 billion, Congress has dedicated nearly $3.2 billion to recovery efforts like bolstering public health, including COVID-19 testing and vaccinations, enhanced unemployment benefits, stimulus payments to families, business supports, and more. The remaining $1.3 billion is allocated to Maine to be used at the discretion of the Governor and Legislature to respond to the pandemic and support economic recovery. Governor Mills has published The Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan outlining how these funds will be invested.

The Governor's proposal includes a $26 million one-time investment to support Maine's seafood sector and DMR's infrastructure needs. The Governor's proposal requires legislative approval in order to be finalized. The Governor’s proposed seafood industry investments include:

- $10 million for Maine's seafood processing and dealer sectors, which successfully responded to a massive shift in seafood markets in 2020. DMR and the Maine Technology Institute (MTI) would use these funds to deploy grants and loans for seafood processors and distributors to upgrade and retrofit equipment to remain successful and spur greater resilience and growth in Maine's seafood industry.
- $16 million for investment in climate impact-related infrastructure needs, which would be used to purchase a new 57-foot offshore Tier 4 technology Marine Patrol Vessel to patrol the offshore portions of Area 1 and the Area 3 fishery (up to $8.3 million), investment in public health monitoring equipment to support the aquaculture and shellfish industries, and improvements to boat ramps, docks and other infrastructure at DMR facilities (up to $8 million). It would also be used to fund a portion of initial costs for 100% mandatory lobster harvester reporting and vessel monitoring, as well as research on whales and offshore wind (up to $3 million).
- $1 billion to recovery efforts like bolstering public health, including COVID-19 testing and vaccinations, enhanced unemployment benefits, stimulus payments to families, business supports, and more. The remaining $1.13 billion is allocated to Maine to be used at the discretion of the Governor and Legislature to respond to the pandemic and support economic recovery. Governor Mills announced that new rules will be phased in over several months. Rules are not expected to be published until this summer, and it anticipates that new rules will be phased in over several months. This means that Maine lobstermen will not know what the new whale rules are until at least this summer. At that time we will also learn when each measure needs to be implemented. We expect to gain more clarity on this on May 31 when NMFS submits its documents to the court.

The Take Reduction Team has reconvened to address risk from gillnets and other trap/pot fisheries. NMFS is updating its Decision Support Tool to assess proposed conservation measures to be implemented by the gillnet fisheries and trap/pot fisheries (other than New England lobster) to achieve a 60% risk reduction. NMFS expects to conduct scoping meetings this summer and publish a proposed rule in the fall. The next MLA meeting will be on June 2 in Belfast.

**RIGHT WHALES – NMFS REPORT TO FEDERAL COURT**

**Biological Rule and Final Whale Rules**

The deadline for NMFS to submit the final Biological Opinion to the court is May 31. In NMFS’s last update to the court on March 30, the agency wrote that it “is working toward completion of a final Biological Opinion by May 31, 2021.” It did not provide the court with a timeline to finalize the Whale Rules. During the public hearings on the draft whale rules, GARFO explained that the agency must respond to all public comments, update its analysis, and then finalize its preferred alternative. This will be sent to NMFS headquarters and, ultimately, for review and approval by the Office of Regulatory and Information Affairs (ORIA) in the president’s Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Due to the many steps in the process, the agency staff stated that they do not expect to release the Final Whale Rules until this summer.

**Take Reduction Team (TRT)**

NMFS held a series of small group Take Reduction Team meetings to review updates to the Decision Support Tool (DST), which NMFS uses to assess the risk reductions of proposed whale conservation measures. While the Final Rule for the lobster fishery being finalized, NMFS is preparing to begin rulemaking to address risk to large whales from gillnets and trap/pot fisheries not covered in the current rulemaking. NMFS has scheduled two TRT meetings to discuss management options for the gillnet and other trap/pot fisheries to be held virtually on June 28 and July 1 from 3pm to 6pm. More information of these meetings and updates to the DST are available on the TRT website at https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/new-england-mid-atlantic/marine-mammal-protection/atlantic-large-whale-take-reduction-plan#the-team.

**NEW ENGLAND AQUA VENTUS I**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced its “Notice of Public Scoping and Public Meetings” requesting public input on the scope of an Environmental Assessment for the proposed offshore wind demonstration project “New England Aqua Ventus I.” An Environmental Assessment will be prepared by DOE pursuant to the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). DOE proposes to authorize the expenditure of federal funding by the University of Maine to design, construct, and commission an offshore wind energy demonstration project called New England Aqua Ventus I, which would consist of one turbine on a floating foundation located approximately 2.5 miles south of Monhegan Island. Additional project activities and/or potential impacts from the project could occur in or near Boothbay, Boothbay Harbor, Brewer, Continued on page 8
Vessels that have declared into the Area 1A fishery may land herring five (5) seasons: 72.8% (1,058 mt) available for fixed gear set-aside, and closing the Area 1A across two sea-sons. ASMFC has allo-cated the Area 1A across two sea-sons. The University of Maine has begun col-laborating with New England Aqua Ventus, LLC (NEAV) as a partner and project developer.

Summer 2020
The University of Maine was approved to revise the proposed project from two turbines to one turbine.

Spring/Summer 2018
The University of Maine is exploring possible subsea cable route alterna-tives. The University would complete key studies including marine and ter-restrial archaeological surveys, historic property identification and sound studies to support the subsea cable route selection and development of the draft EA.

Winter 2017-2018
The University of Maine is completing key studies including marine and terrestrial archaeological surveys, historic property identification and sound studies which are needed to support the draft EA development.

Summer 2017
The Draft EA for this proposed project is being developed. DOE has also ini-tiated National Historic Preservation Act section 106 consultation for the proposed project and is identifying potential consulting parties including Native American tribes, local historical societies and town officials to par-ticipate in the section 106 consultation process.

Spring 2017
On February 28, 2017 DOE conducted two public scoping informational meetings in Tenants Harbor, Maine. On March 1, 2017 DOE conducted a public scoping informational meeting on Monhegan Island, Maine. DOE would like to thank all of those who were able to participate in these meet-ings.

The public scoping comment period ended on March 22, 2017.

Colorado 80401, or by email to AquaVentus1EA@ee.doe.gov. Additional meet-ing information may be found at www.energy.gov/node/2053718.

2021 AREA 1A HERRING SEASON
The Area 1A Atlantic herring season opens on June 13. The Area 1A sub-an-nual catch limit (ACL) is only 1,453 metric tons (mt) after adjusting for the carryover from 2019, the 30 mt fixed gear set-aside, and closing Area 1A when landings reach 92% of the sub-ACL. ASMFC has allo-cated the Area 1A across two sea-sons: 72.8% (1,058 mt) available for season 1 (June 1 – September 30) and 27.2% (395 mt) available for season 2 (October 1 – December 31). The fishery will start on June 13 at 6:00 p.m.

Vessels that have declared into the Area 1A fishery may land herring five (5) consecutive days a week. One landing per 24 hour period. Vessels are prohib-ited from landing or possessing herring caught from Area 1A during a day out of the fishery.

- Vessels may harvest up to 240,000 lbs (6 trucks) per harvester vessel.
- A harvester vessel may transfer herring at-sea to another harvester vessel.
- A harvester vessel may not make any at-sea transfers to a carrier vessel.
- Carrier vessels may not receive at-sea transfers from a harvester vessel.

2021 MAINE MENHADEN SEASON
The State Allocation menhaden fishery opens Monday, June 14 with harvest days on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Vessel weekly limit is set at 23,800 pounds (68 barrels).

The Episodic Event fishery will operate on Tuesdays and Fridays with a weekly vessel limit of 14,000 pounds (40 barrels).

The Incidental and Small Scale fishery will operate on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays with a daily vessel limit of 6,000 pounds.

Transfers at sea of menhaden to either a harvester or carrier vessels are pro-hibited during the State Allocation, Episodic Event and Small Scale fisheries.

During all three fishery phases, menhaden must immediately be stored in bar-rels, crates or fish totes, or a combination thereof, upon harvest and remain stored either on the harvester vessel and the dory towed by the harvester ves-sel, if utilized for all gear types. Menhaden cannot be transferred to another vessel while at sea. Menhaden cannot be received from another vessel while at sea. Same-day reporting is required by commercial menhaden harvesters during the state allocation and episodic event fisheries. The noncommercial menhaden fishery daily limit has been amended from 1,000 pounds to 1,050 pounds to reflect the amount landed in three barrels.

MAINE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE [AS OF MAY 20]

The 130th Maine Legislature continues its work on numerous bills that may impact Maine lobstermen. The Marine Resources Committee has concluded its work however several wind bills are still under consideration by the Marine Resources Committee and the Judiciary Committee. The DOE budget and bond is-sues are still under review by the Appropriations and Financial Affairs (AFA) Committee. Due to COVID, the state Capitol complex is not holding in-person meetings and all public hearings and participation are conducted via Zoom or through YouTube.

Passed
LD 338, An Act To Amend the Law Governing the Maine Lobster Marketing Collaborative (DMR bill) reauthorizes the MLMC for five more years, with a sunset of October 1, 2026.

LD 1182, An Act To Allow Commercial Lobster License Holders To Engage in Demonstration Fishing with a Special Charter License (Rep. Faulkingham of Winter Harbor) allows commercial lobstermen to also hold a marine harvest-ing demonstration license if they use different buoys and tags for the demon-stration harvesting than they use for their commercial lobstering.

Not Passed
LD 767, An Act To Require the Participation of Marine Patrol Officers in Proceedings for Administrative Suspension of a License or Certificate (DMR bill) proposed to allow a marine patrol officer to represent the Department of Marine Resources interests in hearing for administrative suspension of a license or certificate. The Judiciary Committee voted ought not to pass on April 15.

LD 502, An Act To Broaden the Definition of “Working Waterfront” with Respect to Land Use Planning (Rep. McDonald of Stonington) was a concept draft to facilitate a review of working waterfront property to assess whether statutory or regulatory changes are needed to better recognize and account for water-dependent commercial activities associated with working waterfront in the State’s land use planning, resiliency planning and climate change adaptation strategies. The Environment and Natural Resources Committee voted ought not to pass on April 8.

LD 1346, An Act To Protect Maine’s Waters (Rep. Alley of Beals) was a concept draft to explore significant changes to Maine’s aquaculture leasing laws. The Marine Resources Committee voted ought not to pass on April 20.

Tabled
LD 391, An Act To Amend the Laws Regarding Marine Resources (Rep. McCreight Harpwell) is a concept draft to allow the Marine Resources Committee to make changes to the lobster limited entry program. This bill is the updated version of LD 28 An Act Regarding Access to License Holders discussed during the last legislative session. Rep Faulkingham presented an amendment to im-plement a phased in approach to give commercial licenses to apprentices who have been on the waiting list for at least 10 years. The MLA opposed this bill citing concern over significant challenges facing the lobster industry from whale rules and offshore wind development. The Marine Resources Committee held a public hearing; then voted to table this bill on May 6 for consideration during the next session.

LD 1663, An Act to Improve Boating Safety in Maine Waters (Rep Fay of Raymond) proposes a that beginning in 2023 anyone born after 2002 may not operate a motorboat propelled by machinery of more than 10 horsepower unless they have either (1) a certificate of boating safety education issued to that person in accordance with rules adopted by the department; or (2) a valid Maine operator’s license or an unexpired license to operate a commercial vessel issued to that person by this State or the United States Coast Guard. The Inland Fish and Wildlife Committee held a public hearing on May 5 and two work sessions and voted to table this bill.
LD 336, An Act To Encourage Research To Support the Maine Offshore Wind Industry (Sen. Lawrence of York) would require the Public Utilities Commission to negotiate and, to the maximum extent practicable, enter into or, order an offshore wind development project, including the Monhegan offshore wind energy demonstration project. The Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee held a public hearing on May 11.

LD 101, An Act To Prohibit Offshore Wind Energy Development (Rep. Faulkingham of Winter Harbor) would prohibit any department or agency of state government from permitting, approving or otherwise authorizing an offshore wind energy development project, including the Monhegan offshore wind energy demonstration project. The Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee held a public hearing on May 4. During the May 18 work session the committee tabled this bill.

LD 1619, An Act to Establish a Moratorium on Offshore Wind Power Projects in Maine’s Territorial Waters (Emergency), would establish a 10-year moratorium on offshore wind development in state waters, but would allow for construction of cables, transmission lines and portside infrastructure that may support the Monhegan offshore wind demonstration project and offshore wind developed in federal waters. This bill was submitted by the Governor. The Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee held a public hearing on May 4 but a work session has not yet been held.

LD 221, which outlines changes to the Governor’s proposed budget through June 30, 2023, proposes to add several new positions to Maine DMR including:
- Two positions (1 policy and 1 science) to support Maine’s work related to the protection of North Atlantic right whales,
- Two scientists to support DMR’s work to understand the impacts of offshore wind development on the Gulf of Maine and Maine’s fisheries,
- Funding three marine patrol positions to reach a full complement of marine patrol officers,
- One position to support the administration of the aquaculture program and one position for the state’s shark tagging program.

The Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee held a public hearing on May 20 but the budget has not yet been voted on.

LD 987, An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Portland Harbor Commercial Revitalization Project’s Confined Aquatic Disposal Cell and Dredging Projects (Sen. Chipman of Cumberland), seeks a $28,000,000 bond to construct a confined aquatic disposal cell within Portland Harbor and conduct a maintenance dredging program for the facilities of Portland and South Portland in order to promote commercial economic growth, maintain the working waterfront and improve the sediment and water quality of the harbor, allowing the marine industry to continue to grow and support the State’s economy. The Appropriations Committee held a public hearing April 29.

ATLANTIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION MEETING

Lobster Management Board Meeting Summary
The American Lobster Management Board met in May to consider: 1) Technical Committee (TC) recommendations on pursuing a management strategy evaluation (MSE) for the lobster fishery, 2) an update on the development of Draft Addendum XXVII on Gulf of Maine/Georges Bank (GOM/GBK) resiliency, and 3) electronic vessel tracking for the lobster fishery.

The Lobster TC recommended that ASMFC pursue a two-phase MSE on the GOM/GBK lobster stock to provide short-term stock-wide scale management guidance while concurrently building the framework to provide long-term, spatially-explicit management advice. The TC recommended development of a formal process to establish lobster fishery management goals and objectives and the formation of a steering committee for additional scoping and work plan development. The Board expressed interest in pursuing an MSE however, and postponed development of an MSE until the August meeting in order prioritize work on Draft Addendum XXVII.

Staff updated the Board on the development of the Draft Addendum XXVII, which aims to increase biological resiliency of the GOM/GBK stock. Per the Board’s direction, the Plan Development Team (PDT) presented draft management options to develop a trigger mechanism that would automatically require the implementation of management measures to improve the biological resiliency of the GOM/GBK stock if reached. The TC also provided guidance on indices of abundance that could be used to develop triggers, how triggers could be defined, and the types of management measures that would be expected to increase resiliency of the stock. After reviewing the PDT and TC recommendations, the Board indicated the addendum should prioritize resiliency over standardization of measures across management areas, include relatively conservative trigger levels to maintain the current abundance regime, and consider a tiered approach with multiple trigger levels. The Board agreed to form a subcommittee to provide further guidance on the document’s development and will consider Draft Addendum XVII for public comment in August 2021.

Finally, the Board discussed electronic vessel tracking in the lobster fishery. State partners presented results of recent work to test additional tracking devices, integrate cell-based tracking with ACCSP’s SAFIS eTRIPS mobile trip reporting application, and to create trip viewers within SAFIS eTRIPS online. This work expanded upon the Commission’s 2020 pilot project. As in previous discussions, the Board emphasized the urgent need for high-resolution spatial and temporal data to characterize effort in the federal lobster and Jonah crab fleet. These data are critical for informing Atlantic right whale risk reduction models, marine spatial planning discussions, and improving offshore enforcement.

The Board agreed to create a technical work group including representatives from NOAA Fisheries, state and federal law enforcement, and members of the Board to develop objectives, technological solutions, and system characteristics for vessel tracking devices in the federal lobster and Jonah crab fisheries. The work group will provide a report and recommended next steps to the Board at the August 2021 meeting.

Atlantic Menhaden Meeting Summary
In May the Atlantic Menhaden Board reviewed the Fishery Management Plan (FMP) Review for the 2020 fishing year and considered changes to current allocations. In 2020, total commercial landings decreased by 12% from 2019 with directed landings that count towards the total allowable catch or TAC estimated at 177,830 mt, 82% of the 2020 TAC (216,000 mt). Landings from incidental catch and small-scale fisheries, which are not accounted for under the TAC, increased in 2020 to approximately 6,330 mt, the highest level since the provision was implemented in 2013.

The Plan Review Team (PRT) highlighted recommendations for the Board’s consideration regarding (1) the current 10-fish biological sample requirement to categorize the impact of the commercial gear types on the menhaden population, (2) required catch and effort data from North Carolina’s pound net fishery to develop a catch per unit effort index, and (3) whether jurisdictions that harvest under the incidental catch provision prior to their quota being met are consistent with the incidental catch and small scale fishery measures in Amendment 3. In considering the FMP Review, the Board provided guidance to the PRT that biological sampling and catch and effort data from pound net fisheries should be evaluated during the next benchmark stock assessment and that the incidental catch and small-scale fisheries provision in the FMP should be addressed in the next management document. The Board approved the FMP Review, state compliance, and de minimis requests from Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.

The Board also discussed the current commercial quota allocations. Landings data through 2020, as well as relinquished quota and quota transfers, were presented to highlight recent trends in the distribution of landings along the Atlantic coast. In addition to commercial quota allocations, the Board discussed whether other provisions of the FMP, such as the incidental catch and small-scale fisheries provision and Episodic Event Set-Aside Program, should be re-evaluated through a new management document.

The Board formed a work group to develop allocation options to better align jurisdictions’ commercial quotas with current landings and resource availability while providing fishery access to all jurisdictions. Additionally, the work group will review the incidental catch and small-scale fisheries measures and consider measures to reduce the need for quota transfers. The work group will provide a report to the Board at the Commission’s Summer Meeting with the intent of the Board initiating an addendum at that time.
MLA MEMBER DISCOUNT DIRECTORY

**Vessel Insurance**

Smithwick & Mariners Insurance
Falmouth, ME -- Discounted vessel insurance plus 5% discount with proof of CG approved Drill Conductor course w/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

**Fishing, Marine & Industrial**

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

**Accounting**

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

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

**Boat Builders/Repairs**

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

**Bait**

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

**Museums & Entertainment**

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

Maine Maritime Museum
Bath, ME -- Free admission to MLA members.

**Shipyards**

Nautilus Marine Fabrication, Inc.
Trenton, ME -- 5% Discount on propeller reconditioning.
207-667-1119

**Newspapers**

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

**Government**

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

Nautilus Marine Fabrication, Inc.
Trenton, ME -- 5% Discount on propeller reconditioning.
207-667-1119

**Refrigeration Services**

Liferaft Services, LLC
Woods Hole, MA -- Discounted annual subscription rate for $18.75 with MLA membership noted on check.
800-989-5253

**Propellers**

Navtronics, LLC
York, ME -- 5% off of purchases.
207-363-1150

**Safety Training & Equipment**

McMillan Offshore Survival Training
Belfast, ME -- 25% discount on USCG Drill Conductor training.
207-338-1603

**Traps & Supplies**

Maine Camp Outfitters
Sunset, ME -- 10% off all apparel and promotional product orders.
800-560-6090

**Flowers & Gifts**

Maine Lobstermen's Association
Kennebunk, ME -- 10% off all apparel.
207-967-4555

**Hydraulics**

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

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

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

**Salvage & Livestock**

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

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.
207-563-5959

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

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

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.
207-563-5959

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

**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

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

**Deckhand Electronic Logbook**
Bellingham WA -- Discounts & Specials for MLA members. Call for more info.
888-210-3117

**DuraBrite**
Garden City NY -- Free shipping for MLA members.
201-915-0555

**Navtronics, LLC**
York, ME -- 5% off of purchases.
207-363-1150

**Maine Camp Outfitters**
Sunset, ME -- 10% off all apparel and promotional product orders.
800-560-6090

**Maine Lobstermen's Association**
Kennebunk, ME -- 10% off all apparel.
207-967-4555

**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 hydraulic components & Cable Craft cables.
207-767-2136

**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

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

**Deckhand Electronic Logbook**
Bellingham WA -- Discounts & Specials for MLA members. Call for more info.
888-210-3117

**DuraBrite**
Garden City NY -- Free shipping for MLA members.
201-915-0555

**Navtronics, LLC**
York, ME -- 5% off of purchases.
207-363-1150
BUY AMERICAN
BUY AQUAMESH®

1.800.762.6374 • www.riverdale.com • sales@riverdale.com

BLACK COD
HERRING
POGIES
REDFISH
ROCKFISH
SALT
TUNA

FRESH IN BOXES
FRESH BY TANK AND BARREL
FRESH BY TANK AND BARREL
FROZEN IN BOXES
FROZEN IN BOXES
FROZEN IN BOXES
FROZEN IN VATS/BOXES

FRESH BAIT
DIRECT FROM O’HARA

Why buy secondhand when you can buy fresh from O’Hara?

19 Front Street
Rockland, ME 04841
oharabait.com

FRESH BY TANK AND BARREL
FROZEN IN BOXES
FROZEN IN VATS/BOXES
FROZEN IN BOXES

FRESH BY TANK AND BARREL
FROZEN IN BOXES
FROZEN IN BOXES
FROZEN IN BOXES

FRESH BY TANK AND BARREL
FROZEN IN BOXES
FROZEN IN BOXES
FROZEN IN BOXES

50 LB BAGS

SERVICE
DEPENDABILITY
QUALITY

SINCE 1907

BLM MARINA
ROCKLAND, ME

KITTERY PORTLAND ROCKLAND SEARSPORT SW HARBOR JONESPORT

One Stop FISHERMEN’S SHOP

Wayne Hamilton started selling commercial fishing supplies out of his Searsport garage in 1977. Since then, he and the Hamilton Marine crew have made it their mission to put the right products in the hands of the commercial fishermen, and at the best prices! All six Hamilton Marine stores have extensive commercial sections, if not entire warehouses, dedicated to stocking and supplying the people of the fishing industry. If you are a lifetime lobster fisherman or a sternman just starting out...

Hamilton Can Help!

Wayne Hamilton takes a few HM Crew members out to learn about lobsters in Searsport, Maine. Photos by Sophie Engstrom ©

800-639-2715 hamiltonmarine.com

BUY AMERICAN
BUY AQUAMESH®

1.800.762.6374 • www.riverdale.com • sales@riverdale.com

BLACK COD
HERRING
POGIES
REDFISH
ROCKFISH
SALT
TUNA

FRESH IN BOXES
FRESH BY TANK AND BARREL
FRESH BY TANK AND BARREL
FROZEN IN BOXES
FROZEN IN BOXES
FROZEN IN BOXES
FROZEN IN VATS/BOXES

FRESH BAIT
DIRECT FROM O’HARA

Why buy secondhand when you can buy fresh from O’Hara?

19 Front Street
Rockland, ME 04841
oharabait.com

FRESH BY TANK AND BARREL
FROZEN IN BOXES
FROZEN IN VATS/BOXES
FROZEN IN BOXES

FRESH BY TANK AND BARREL
FROZEN IN BOXES
FROZEN IN BOXES
FROZEN IN BOXES

50 LB BAGS

SERVICE
DEPENDABILITY
QUALITY

SINCE 1907

BLM MARINA
ROCKLAND, ME

KITTERY PORTLAND ROCKLAND SEARSPORT SW HARBOR JONESPORT

One Stop FISHERMEN’S SHOP

Wayne Hamilton started selling commercial fishing supplies out of his Searsport garage in 1977. Since then, he and the Hamilton Marine crew have made it their mission to put the right products in the hands of the commercial fishermen, and at the best prices! All six Hamilton Marine stores have extensive commercial sections, if not entire warehouses, dedicated to stocking and supplying the people of the fishing industry. If you are a lifetime lobster fisherman or a sternman just starting out...

Hamilton Can Help!

Wayne Hamilton takes a few HM Crew members out to learn about lobsters in Searsport, Maine. Photos by Sophie Engstrom ©

800-639-2715 hamiltonmarine.com

BUY AMERICAN
BUY AQUAMESH®

1.800.762.6374 • www.riverdale.com • sales@riverdale.com

BLACK COD
HERRING
POGIES
REDFISH
ROCKFISH
SALT
TUNA

FRESH IN BOXES
FRESH BY TANK AND BARREL
FRESH BY TANK AND BARREL
FROZEN IN BOXES
FROZEN IN BOXES
FROZEN IN BOXES
FROZEN IN VATS/BOXES

FRESH BAIT
DIRECT FROM O’HARA

Why buy secondhand when you can buy fresh from O’Hara?

19 Front Street
Rockland, ME 04841
oharabait.com

FRESH BY TANK AND BARREL
FROZEN IN BOXES
FROZEN IN VATS/BOXES
FROZEN IN BOXES

FRESH BY TANK AND BARREL
FROZEN IN BOXES
FROZEN IN BOXES
FROZEN IN BOXES

50 LB BAGS

SERVICE
DEPENDABILITY
QUALITY

SINCE 1907

BLM MARINA
ROCKLAND, ME

KITTERY PORTLAND ROCKLAND SEARSPORT SW HARBOR JONESPORT

One Stop FISHERMEN’S SHOP

Wayne Hamilton started selling commercial fishing supplies out of his Searsport garage in 1977. Since then, he and the Hamilton Marine crew have made it their mission to put the right products in the hands of the commercial fishermen, and at the best prices! All six Hamilton Marine stores have extensive commercial sections, if not entire warehouses, dedicated to stocking and supplying the people of the fishing industry. If you are a lifetime lobster fisherman or a sternman just starting out...

Hamilton Can Help!

Wayne Hamilton takes a few HM Crew members out to learn about lobsters in Searsport, Maine. Photos by Sophie Engstrom ©

800-639-2715 hamiltonmarine.com

BUY AMERICAN
BUY AQUAMESH®

1.800.762.6374 • www.riverdale.com • sales@riverdale.com

BLACK COD
HERRING
POGIES
REDFISH
ROCKFISH
SALT
TUNA

FRESH IN BOXES
FRESH BY TANK AND BARREL
FRESH BY TANK AND BARREL
FROZEN IN BOXES
FROZEN IN BOXES
FROZEN IN BOXES
FROZEN IN VATS/BOXES

FRESH BAIT
DIRECT FROM O’HARA

Why buy secondhand when you can buy fresh from O’Hara?

19 Front Street
Rockland, ME 04841
oharabait.com

FRESH BY TANK AND BARREL
FROZEN IN BOXES
FROZEN IN VATS/BOXES
FROZEN IN BOXES

FRESH BY TANK AND BARREL
FROZEN IN BOXES
FROZEN IN BOXES
FROZEN IN BOXES

50 LB BAGS

SERVICE
DEPENDABILITY
QUALITY

SINCE 1907

BLM MARINA
ROCKLAND, ME

KITTERY PORTLAND ROCKLAND SEARSPORT SW HARBOR JONESPORT

One Stop FISHERMEN’S SHOP

Wayne Hamilton started selling commercial fishing supplies out of his Searsport garage in 1977. Since then, he and the Hamilton Marine crew have made it their mission to put the right products in the hands of the commercial fishermen, and at the best prices! All six Hamilton Marine stores have extensive commercial sections, if not entire warehouses, dedicated to stocking and supplying the people of the fishing industry. If you are a lifetime lobster fisherman or a sternman just starting out...

Hamilton Can Help!

Wayne Hamilton takes a few HM Crew members out to learn about lobsters in Searsport, Maine. Photos by Sophie Engstrom ©

800-639-2715 hamiltonmarine.com
Support the Lobstermen’s Relief Fund

The Lobstermen’s Relief Fund benefits distressed families and children of commercial lobstermen along the coast of Maine in times of need.

Donate online at mlcalliance.org or by mail
MLCA Relief Fund, PO Box 315 Kennebunk ME 04043

WHEN YOUR ENGINE MEANS BUSINESS,
MILTON CAT MEANS MORE.

Milton CAT is the Northeast and upstate New York Caterpillar dealer. Our complete range of marine power systems solutions is backed by a team with exceptional knowledge and experience.

- More engine choices.
- More fully equipped and staffed locations.
- More support for your commercial fishing vessel, ferry, tug, or pleasure craft.
- More ordering and delivery options for unparalleled part availability.

Contact:
Kevin Hampson, 508-634-5503, Kevin_Hampson@miltoncat.com

---

2021 MAINE LOBSTER BOAT RACING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHEDULE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>19 JUNE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>20 JUNE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>27 JUNE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3 JULY</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>11 JULY</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>15 AUGUST</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>19 JULY</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>24 AUGUST</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>25 JULY</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>31 AUGUST</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7 SEPTEMBER</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>15 SEPTEMBER</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>21 SEPTEMBER</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>22 SEPTEMBER</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>25 SEPTEMBER</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1 OCTOBER</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All Races: Sign up 8 to 9 AM; Races Start 10 AM

Exception: Long Island: Sign up 10 to 11 AM; Start 12 PM
PROPELLER SHAFTS

- Free Pickup & Delivery in Maine
- Premium Quality 22 Grade
- Split & Tapered Couplings
- Fast Turnaround
- Shafts up to 3” Diameter

R.E. THOMAS
MARINE HARDWARE INC.

(207) 422-6532 | www.remarine.com

It's time to join or renew at the Maine Lobstermen's Association.

Our job is to support you and the future of the industry. Please support us. www.mainelobstermen.org

BROOKS TRAP MILL & MARINE SUPPLIES

Jonesboro, ME Portland, ME Thomaston, ME West Bath, ME Wakefield, RI
(207) 434-5791 (800) 244-8727 (800) 426-4526 (855) 840-6027 (401) 782-4412

We specialize in what you need!
Custom Lobster Traps, Custom Aquaculture Gear,
Specialty Wire, Buoys, Rope, Fishing Supplies,
Aquaculture Supplies and MORE!!

With FIVE locations & trucks delivering throughout New England, we are closer to you than ever......giving YOU easier access to great prices and SUPERIOR CUSTOMER SERVICE!

Visit us online at:
WWW.BROOKSTRAPMILL.COM
MARKETING UPDATES

The MLMC’s issues management goal is to maintain consumer confidence in Maine Lobster.

We recently conducted a survey of consumers and found:

- Few consumers are fully aware of the issue with North Atlantic right whales.
- The right whale issue has no measurable impact on the reputation of Maine lobstermen or the purchasing habits of consumers.
- Consumers who are aware of the issue want to see the fishery as part of the solution.

The MLMC will continue to create educational content to highlight the perspective of the fishery and long standing efforts in sustainability.
Save Maine’s Lobster Industry

We’re in a 10 year battle to save our industry

“
One of the world’s most sustainable fisheries could be shut down and we cannot let that happen. Right Whales are not dying in Maine lobster gear.

Patrice McCarron, executive director
Maine Lobstermen’s Association

With your help, the MLA continues to fight to save Maine’s lobster Industry.

- The Maine lobster fishery is facing a 98% risk reduction over the next 10 years
- The Maine lobster fishery is at risk of being shut down due to right whale deaths happening elsewhere
- This could mean the end of the lobstering tradition for our children

MLA Legal Defense Fund

Contributions to the Maine Lobstermen’s Association Legal Defense Fund allow us to proactively represent the lobster industry’s interests at multiple levels.

Legal and Policy
Represent the lobster industry’s interests in the courts & regulatory processes

Science
Demand that policy decisions are based on sound science

Conservation
Work with lobstermen and other stakeholders to identify conservation strategies and research priorities

Communications
Educate the public, courts and decision-makers on the Maine lobster industry’s heritage, economic importance and commitment to stewardship and sustainability practices

#Save Maine Lobstermen
Save Maine’s Lobster Industry

2021 MLA Legal Defense Fund

Contributions to the Maine Lobstermen’s Association Legal Defense Fund allow us to continue the fight to preserve a future for Maine’s lobster fishery.

Gifts $10,000 - $49,999
Mass. Lobstermen’s Association
John C Ready III
Brendan Ready

Gifts $5,000 - $9,999
Colby & Gale Downeast Lobstermen’s Association
Maine Aquaculture Association
Mass. Lobstermen’s Association
John C Ready III
Brendan Ready

Gifts $1,000 - $4,999
W. Kennedy Boone III
Jerome Briggs
Dustin Delano
Elizabeth Fenwick
Michael Flanigan
Samuel Hyler
Chips Johnson
Jack Merrill III
Josh Polk
Matt Poole
Craig Sproul
Lee Watkinson

Gifts $500 - $999
Joshua Ames
Sonny Beal
Mark Bradstreet
Jerome Briggs
David Cousins
Hews Company LLC
Cranberry Island Lobster Co.
Todd Hubbard
Stuart Jones
Jennifer Kelley

Gifts $500 - $9999
Midcoast Marine Supply (T-shirt sales)
Phillip Morris
William Most
Cody Nunan
Robert O’Hara Jr
Old School Pig Hide
Alton Pinkham
Jeffrey Putnam
Edward & Linda Robbins
Sam Rosen
Keith Simmons
Kathryn Simmons
Kathryn Slocum
Ronald Weeks

Gifts $300 - $499
Jason Alley
Alison Farrell
Herman Faulkingham
Thomas Fernald
Chad Gamache
Blaine Hutchinson
Donald Jones
Samuel Joy
Steve Miller
Zachary Piper
Todd & Kim Simmons
Samantha Thompson
Chuck Williams

Gifts $100 - $299
Barry Baudanza
John Benning
Thomas Bennett
Hugh Bowen
Russell Bray
Eric Brazer
Greg Byer
John Clinton
Patrick Clough
Coastal Builders
Jason Colby
Joseph Donnelly
Jordan Drouin
Diana Hilt
William Faulkingham
Harland Flynn
Sandrea Gates
Kevin Glover
Michael Hutchings
Bobby Ingalls
Bruce Johnson
Roger Kellett
Kyle Koerber
Gene Lazaro
Kenneth Lement
Gary Libby
Ryan Miller
Marianne Masters
Mike & Karen McConnell
Kyle Nichols
William Nichols
Justin Philbrook
Janet Pollack
William Putnam
Margie–Alice Reyes
Steve Rosen
Joseph Salisbury
Michael Sargent

Gifts $100 - $299 Cont’d
Irving Brett Schwab
Randall Shepard
Isaac Simmons
Cari Stewart
Virginia Wadleigh
Kenneth Weed
Walter Willey IV
Donald Wright

Gifts Under $100
A.M. Associates Inc (T-shirt sales)
Judith Baker
Nancy Beal
Theodore Boyce
Jon Emerson
Corey Engle
Debra Furman
Jeffrey Greiner
Greg Haven
Allison Hepler
Lindsay Hocking-Hauser
Must Be Nice Lobster Co
Gordon Murray
Zoe Pellegrino
Ready Real Estate
John Rohrer
Sadie Samuels
Bradley West
Caleb Wiesing
Richard Wilson
Amber Wotton

Gifts In Memoriam
In Memory of Gilbert Collamore Sr
Clinton Collamore

DONATE TODAY to #SaveMaineLobstermen

We are now in a 10-year battle to prevent Maine’ lobsters heritage from begin erased. Your donation to the LDF makes this effort possible.

Name: __________________________________________
Business Name: _____________________________________
Address: __________________________________________
City: ___________________ State: __________ Zip: ___________
Phone: ___________________ Email: ____________________

I’d like to donate:

☐ $10,000 (Brooks Trap Mill Challenge)
☐ $5,000 (Alec Phippen Challenge)
☐ $1,000 (Jay Smith Challenge)
☐ $500
☐ $365 “a dollar a day”
☐ $100
☐ Other: ____________________

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

Show your support for these businesses!
TO YOUR HEALTH: Simple techniques to protect your knees

By Scott Fulmer, University of Massachusetts, and Ann Backus, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Does it seem like everyone either has knee pain or knows someone who does? A group of 286 lobstermen interviewed every three months from 2012 through 2015 reported new knee injuries at a rate of 4 per every 100 fishermen. Half of them required some kind of treatment for the injury. The lobstermen, of course, may have been involved in other strenuous activities earlier in life, like football or hockey, for example. Old injuries can be exacerbated by years of lobstering. Some lobstermen also may do other demanding work, like construction. For comparison, however, residential construction workers in 2019 had an overall injury rate of 3 per 100 workers, which is less than that reported by the lobstermen in the survey. The construction workers’ injuries also were from all body locations, not just the knees.

In 2013, 26.6% of lobstermen (105 of 395) interviewed, both captains and sternmen, reported experiencing knee pain within three months prior to the interview. Only 24 of the 105 received medical treatment, an indication that an incentive for treatment is likely to be lacking. In other words, what happens to lobstermen’s knees when they lean against the inside of the boat for stability while they pull the trap onto the washboard. Other actions lobstermen mention specifically include the repetitive forceful activity of kicking away the trawl that falls under the hauler combined with the exertion required to stand on the hard deck of a rocking boat.

In 2015 reported new knee injuries at a rate of 4 per every 100 fishermen. Half of them required some kind of treatment for the injury. The lobstermen, of course, may have been involved in other strenuous activities earlier in life, like football or hockey, for example. Old injuries can be exacerbated by years of lobstering. Some lobstermen also may do other demanding work, like construction. For comparison, however, residential construction workers in 2019 had an overall injury rate of 3 per 100 workers, which is less than that reported by the lobstermen in the survey. The construction workers’ injuries also were from all body locations, not just the knees.

In 2013, 26.6% of lobstermen (105 of 395) interviewed, both captains and sternmen, reported experiencing knee pain within three months prior to the interview. Only 24 of the 105 received medical treatment, an indication that an incentive for treatment is likely to be lacking. In other words, what happens to lobstermen’s knees when they lean against the inside of the boat for stability while they pull the trap onto the washboard. Other actions lobstermen mention specifically include the repetitive forceful activity of kicking away the trawl that falls under the hauler combined with the exertion required to stand on the hard deck of a rocking boat.

What does an older lobsterman mean, then, when he says he’d do things differently? To prevent contact stress on the inside of the boat, some have installed padding on the inside of the hull. Construction tradespeople who often kneel will wear kneepads. Floor covers, for example, often wear custom-fit kneepads from the Proknee company of Maine. Some may find that better boots reduce stress on the knees by improving the alignment of the legs. The ocean is not going to stop rocking the boat, but wooden boats are heavier and less reactive to the ocean than fiberglass boats. They are easier on the knees because stability can be maintained with less biomechanical acceleration at the knee.

Wooden boats “feel better” even if they are harder to maintain.

To help with the problem of kicking traplines out of the way, use a rope locker or rope bin. A rope locker is a space under the deck into which the trawl falls as it comes off the hauler. There is a slim opening in the deck next to the hull and under the rail, through which the trawl falls into the below-deck space. Rope lockers can be retrofitted in a fiberglass boat: these days fiberglass boat manufacturers, such as Taylored Boats of Addison incorporate rope lockers into their builds. One recent example is the open stern 44’ Willis Beal Grand Finale built by Taylored Boats. Maine Marine Patrol now specifies that each of its patrol boats have a rope locker.

A less involved solution to trawlline underfoot is a rope bin, which can be made out of a 3-foot piece of plywood mounted on a similar length piano hinge. This mounting should be about 4 inches off the deck surface to allow for a kick space or toe kick, such as is found under kitchen cabinets. A small wooden stop can be mounted on the bulkhead. As rope comes from the hauler, the plywood falls against the stop and the rope falls into the open bin. As the traps are set, the rope pays out of the bin and when empty, the lobsterman can lean against the bin to close it. Improvements like a rope locker or rope bin will not only reduce the wear and tear on knees and hips from repeatedly kicking rope out of the way, but also will reduce the chance of getting a foot caught in the trawl in the trawl line as it pays out and potentially be pinned against the rail or pulled overboard.

If you would like more information please contact Ann Backus, abackus@hsph.harvard.edu. As usual we welcome comments about this article and your ideas about how to make lobstering physically less stressful.

To understand what can be done to prevent knee injuries, identify the preventable actions at work that contribute to knee pain in the first place. These are forceful exertions, repetition, awkward posture, and contact stress. Contact stress is what happens to the knees when you kneel on them. It is also what happens to lobstermen’s knees when they lean against the inside of the boat for stability while they pull the trap onto the washboard. Other actions lobstermen mention specifically include the repetitive forceful activity of kicking away the trawl that falls under the hauler combined with the exertion required to stand on the hard deck of a rocking boat.

What does an older lobsterman mean, then, when he says he’d do things differently? To prevent contact stress on the inside of the boat, some have installed padding on the inside of the hull. Construction tradespeople who often kneel will wear kneepads. Floor covers, for example, often wear custom-fit kneepads from the Proknee company of Maine. Some may find that better boots reduce stress on the knees by improving the alignment of the legs. The ocean is not going to stop rocking the boat, but wooden boats are heavier and less reactive to the ocean than fiberglass boats. They are easier on the knees because stability can be maintained with less biomechanical acceleration at the knee.

Wooden boats “feel better” even if they are harder to maintain.

To help with the problem of kicking traplines out of the way, use a rope locker or rope bin. A rope locker is a space under the deck into which the trawl falls as it comes off the hauler. There is a slim opening in the deck next to the hull and under the rail, through which the trawl falls into the below-deck space. Rope lockers can be retrofitted in a fiberglass boat: these days fiberglass boat manufacturers, such as Taylored Boats of Addison incorporate rope lockers into their builds. One recent example is the open stern 44’ Willis Beal Grand Finale built by Taylored Boats. Maine Marine Patrol now specifies that each of its patrol boats have a rope locker.

A less involved solution to trawl line underfoot is a rope bin, which can be made out of a 3-foot piece of plywood mounted on a similar length piano hinge. This mounting should be about 4 inches off the deck surface to allow for a kick space or toe kick, such as is found under kitchen cabinets. A small wooden stop can be mounted on the bulkhead. As rope comes from the hauler, the plywood falls against the stop and the rope falls into the open bin. As the traps are set, the rope pays out of the bin and when empty, the lobsterman can lean against the bin to close it. Improvements like a rope locker or rope bin will not only reduce the wear and tear on knees and hips from repeatedly kicking rope out of the way, but also will reduce the chance of getting a foot caught in the trawl line as it pays out and potentially be pinned against the rail or pulled overboard.

If you would like more information please contact Ann Backus, abackus@hsph.harvard.edu. As usual we welcome comments about this article and your ideas about how to make lobstering physically less stressful.

To understand what can be done to prevent knee injuries, identify the preventable actions at work that contribute to knee pain in the first place. These are forceful exertions, repetition, awkward posture, and contact stress. Contact stress is what happens to the knees when you kneel on them. It is also what happens to lobstermen’s knees when they lean against the inside of the boat for stability while they pull the trap onto the washboard. Other actions lobstermen mention specifically include the repetitive forceful activity of kicking away the trawl that falls under the hauler combined with the exertion required to stand on the hard deck of a rocking boat.

What does an older lobsterman mean, then, when he says he’d do things differently? To prevent contact stress on the inside of the boat, some have installed padding on the inside of the hull. Construction tradespeople who often kneel will wear kneepads. Floor covers, for example, often wear custom-fit kneepads from the Proknee company of Maine. Some may find that better boots reduce stress on the knees by improving the alignment of the legs. The ocean is not going to stop rocking the boat, but wooden boats are heavier and less reactive to the ocean than fiberglass boats. They are easier on the knees because stability can be maintained with less biomechanical acceleration at the knee.

Wooden boats “feel better” even if they are harder to maintain.

To help with the problem of kicking traplines out of the way, use a rope locker or rope bin. A rope locker is a space under the deck into which the trawl falls as it comes off the hauler. There is a slim opening in the deck next to the hull and under the rail, through which the trawl falls into the below-deck space. Rope lockers can be retrofitted in a fiberglass boat: these days fiberglass boat manufacturers, such as Taylored Boats of Addison incorporate rope lockers into their builds. One recent example is the open stern 44’ Willis Beal Grand Finale built by Taylored Boats. Maine Marine Patrol now specifies that each of its patrol boats have a rope locker.

A less involved solution to trawl line underfoot is a rope bin, which can be made out of a 3-foot piece of plywood mounted on a similar length piano hinge. This mounting should be about 4 inches off the deck surface to allow for a kick space or toe kick, such as is found under kitchen cabinets. A small wooden stop can be mounted on the bulkhead. As rope comes from the hauler, the plywood falls against the stop and the rope falls into the open bin. As the traps are set, the rope pays out of the bin and when empty, the lobsterman can lean against the bin to close it. Improvements like a rope locker or rope bin will not only reduce the wear and tear on knees and hips from repeatedly kicking rope out of the way, but also will reduce the chance of getting a foot caught in the trawl line as it pays out and potentially be pinned against the rail or pulled overboard.

If you would like more information please contact Ann Backus, abackus@hsph.harvard.edu. As usual we welcome comments about this article and your ideas about how to make lobstering physically less stressful.
Brooks Trap Mill joins forces with Friendship Trap

Friendship Trap Company is now part of Brooks Trap Mill in Thomaston. The company’s owner, Chris Anderson, passed away in September 2020. The affiliation opens up a new pool of resources that will be mutually beneficial for both Brooks Trap Mill and Friendship Trap Company, according to the company’s Facebook page. Friendship Trap was founded by Pike Bartlett in 1977 and was one of the state’s first manufacturers of wire mesh lobster traps.

Self-cleaning marine coating now available

Durabrite Lights offers ceramic coatings for marine applications. These coatings are meant to protect lobstermen’s most prized possession...their boats! Our own line of Super Hydrophobic Ceramic Defense Coating Series uses state-of-the-art technology to enable your items to have maximum durability and stay new longer as well. Factory applied or field retrofitted, this coating will turn your investment into a self-cleaning, UV-resistant, game changer for all kinds of extreme applications, including marine, high-end automotive, and construction.

DMR IMPROVES ACCESS TO AQUACULTURE DATA

From DMR

The Maine Department of Marine Resources has launched three new pages on its website to provide improved access to aquaculture data. Searchable, sortable tables offer visitors an interactive resource for the most up-to-date information on Standard and Experimental Leases, Lease Applications Under Review, and Active Limited Purpose Aquaculture (LPA) Licenses. DMR’s website will continue to provide alphabetized lists of lease decisions along with pending applications and related documents.

The new content provides a way for visitors to search and sort leases by species, lease type, status, water body, town, expiration date and acreage. Links are provided for each lease to decision documents as well as a map showing lease locations.

Tables also provide an opportunity for users to search and sort lease applications under review by applicant and lease type, and LPAs by license holder, species, location and gear type.

Each new table offers the option to download data in a manner similar to what is available through DMR’s Open Data Portal, allowing users to conduct their own analysis. Each page is accessible at https://www.mainegov/dmr/aquaculture/leases/index.html

Innovative machine saves time, prevents injuries

The Alliance Rubber Company’s new Seafood Banding Machine automates lobster banding previously done by hand. Manufactured in the United States, this machine decreases the pain and swelling in fingers, forearms, and carpal tunnel wrist area from manual banding operations. Furthermore, the Seafood Banding Machine significantly increases the amount of seafood sent to market by providing consistent operating throughout the day. In celebration of the new product, Alliance Rubber is giving away one Seafood Banding Machine. Visit the company’s official sweepstakes page at: https://info.rubband.com/seafood-banding-machine-giveaway and complete the entry form.

New electronic software approved for federal reporting

Real Time Data’s Deckhand Pro electronic logbook platform has been approved by the Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (GARFO) as eVTR software suitable for submitting vessel trip reports. The company plans to make the software available for purchase and download beginning in June. Webinars and tutorials will also be available throughout the summer in conjunction with the rollout of GARFO’s eVTR regulations.

If you have news about your company’s products or services you would like the world to know about, send your information to melissa@mainelobstermen.org by the middle of each month.
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.

**DMR AQUACULTURE**

**LEASE APPLICATION STATUS FOR JUNE** (as of 5/21/21)

### 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>Sea Run Fisheries &amp; Habitat</td>
<td>E of Western Head &amp; L1/4 Br Isl, CUTLER Hebr</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>Coffin, Chad</td>
<td>W of Moore Pt, NE of Pound of Tea, HARASSERKET River</td>
<td>Freeport</td>
<td>1.62</td>
<td>shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>appl submitted Comments due 12/12/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whiskey Stones, LLC</td>
<td>E of Dogs Head, Harpswell Sound</td>
<td>Harpswell</td>
<td>0.481 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec’d Comments due 3/3/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chebeague Island Oyster Co. LLC</td>
<td>NW of L1/4 Chebeague, CASCO Bay</td>
<td>Long Island</td>
<td>1.72</td>
<td>shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>Application submitted comments due 5/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doyle, Victor</td>
<td>E of Barlrett 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>Musiel Round Inc.</td>
<td>Barlrett Narrows, Blue Hill Bay</td>
<td>Mount Desert</td>
<td>3.55 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>Public Hearing Scheduled 3/10/21 3:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dingle Marine Resources, LLC</td>
<td>E of Wollf’s neck, RECOMPENSE Bay</td>
<td>Freeport</td>
<td>3.85 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>app rec’d comment period closes 8/2/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norumbega Oyster, Inc</td>
<td>South of Merry Island, Damariscotta River</td>
<td>South Bristol</td>
<td>3.96</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>Comments due 2/26/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Francis, Arnold</td>
<td>East of Birch Point, Dyer Bay</td>
<td>Stevens</td>
<td>2.86 acres</td>
<td>shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>Lease granted 3/26/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Francis, Arnold</td>
<td>Smelt Brook, Dyer Bay</td>
<td>Stevens</td>
<td>3.7 acres</td>
<td>shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>Lease granted 3/26/2021</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>Acadia Aqua Farms LLC</td>
<td>NE of Sunken Ledge, Frenchmen Bay</td>
<td>Bar Harbor</td>
<td>68.3 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Scoping Session sched. For 2/5/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pemaquid Mussel Farms LLC</td>
<td>Mt Desert narrows, E of Grogins Ledge</td>
<td>Bar Harbor</td>
<td>32 acres</td>
<td>shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Scoping Session sched.11/19/20 5 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>Johnson, Timothy</td>
<td>SE of Barnes Pt, Middle Bay</td>
<td>Brunswick</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Application rec’d 3/15/21, site review TBD</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>application rec’d 4/21/21, site review TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shearwater Ventures LLC</td>
<td>E of L1/4 Chebeague, CASCO Bay</td>
<td>Chebeague Id</td>
<td>3.79 acres</td>
<td>Marine Algae</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Site Review complete 4/29/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summit Point LLC</td>
<td>N of Lower Basket Ledge</td>
<td>Chebeague Id</td>
<td>53.38 acres</td>
<td>Marine Algae</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Scoping Session 11/12/20 6 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schoodic Seafarm LLC</td>
<td>off Long Mill Cove, Gouldsboro Bay</td>
<td>Corea</td>
<td>2.2 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>App rec’d 4/24/20, site review scheduled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summit Point LLC</td>
<td>NE of Clapboard Isl, CASCO Bay, Fulmars &amp; shellfish</td>
<td>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>Summit Point LLC</td>
<td>S Lower Basket Ledge</td>
<td>Cumberland</td>
<td>see above</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dickenson, Christopher</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>Public Hearing May 10 3 pm - remote</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dodge Cove Marine Farm</td>
<td>SE of Dovg Pt</td>
<td>Damariscotta</td>
<td>11.6 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Site Review complete 3/17/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spinney Creek Shellfish, Inc.</td>
<td>NW of R1 95 Bridge, Spinney Creek</td>
<td>Eliot</td>
<td>2.75 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>hearing sched for 6/16/21 - see MLA calendar for more info about participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffin, Bailey</td>
<td>W of Som &amp; Pige Isl, CASCO Bay</td>
<td>Freeport</td>
<td>6.84 acres</td>
<td>shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Scoping Session 12/22/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harasserket 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 Winlow Park, CASCO Bay</td>
<td>Freeport</td>
<td>4.78 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Site Review complete 9/11/20</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>Maine Ocean Farms, LLC</td>
<td>E of Wolfe’s Neck, RECOMPENSE Cove</td>
<td>Freeport</td>
<td>9.88 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Site Review complete 9/9/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islesboro Marine Enterprises, Inc</td>
<td>NE of Hat Island, Penobscot Bay</td>
<td>Islesboro</td>
<td>6 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Application rec’d 11/21/20, site review TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gildien Point Oyster Co.</td>
<td>West shore, s of Jack’s Pt, Damariscotta River</td>
<td>Newcastle</td>
<td>5.5 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>Public Hearing 1/27/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hermit Island Oyster Co. LLC</td>
<td>Hermit Isl, Small PH BR, New Meadows RV</td>
<td>Phippsburg</td>
<td>2.56 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Scoping Session 11/30/2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine Fresh Sea Farms LLC</td>
<td>Clark Cove, Damariscotta River</td>
<td>So. Bristol</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>Marine Algae</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Scoping Session 11/9/20 6 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frenchman Bay Oyster Co.</td>
<td>W &amp; S of Ingalls Isl, Sullivan Harbor</td>
<td>Soorrento</td>
<td>5.45 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Site Review pending as of 10/17/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dewey’s Shellfish, LLC</td>
<td>NW of Peters Island&amp;Damariscotta River</td>
<td>South Bristol</td>
<td>0.45</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Scoping Session sched 11/19/20 6 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brewer, Robert</td>
<td>E of Penobscot Bay SW of Andrews Island</td>
<td>Stonington</td>
<td>3.26</td>
<td>shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Site Review 12/21/20 4 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>Butterfield, Keith</td>
<td>SE of Little Moisher Island</td>
<td>Yarmouth</td>
<td>2.72 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish/algae</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Scoping Session 11/16/20 5 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henninger, Thomas</td>
<td>Broad Cove, CASCO Bay</td>
<td>Yarmouth</td>
<td>3.9 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Application submitted 7/9/20</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>Public Hearing 3/16/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moser, Amanda</td>
<td>S of Lanes Isl, 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>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>

**For more information, visit the DMR website**

www.maine.gov/dmr/aquaculture and select "Map & Lease Inventory (pending & current)"

Understand the process! You can make a difference!
Despite the fact that the Maine Fishermen’s Forum was cancelled this year due to COVID-19, the Forum’s Board was able to award 23 educational scholarships to children, grandchildren or dependents of Maine fishing families. The scholarships assist students in at least their second year of college or vocational school to pay for school expenses.

Funding for the scholarships comes from many sources, the most popular of which is the annual Friday night auction held at the Forum. The auction brings out the crowd, many of whom compete with each other in raising the bid prices on everyday items skyhigh.

This year the auction was held online, but the enthusiasm of the participants remained the same. Bids flopped in for items such as an Icelandic sweater, a sea bag commemorating the Hayley Ann, lost at sea in early 2020, and overnight accommodations at the Samoset Resort in Rockport. It was the handknit socks, made each year by Maggie Raymond, however that really got the bids going. After a steady increase in bid amounts, the wool socks were finally won with a $455 bid from Hank Soule, longtime Forum board member.

This year the Board awarded $43,500 to the following students, a remarkable feat in a remarkable year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>SPONSOR</th>
<th>HOMETOWN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aubrey Anderson</td>
<td>Alan Miller</td>
<td>Spruce Head</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mackenzie Arey</td>
<td>Heron Arey</td>
<td>Milbridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Beard</td>
<td>Matthew Beard</td>
<td>Portland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hayden Brewer</td>
<td>Russell Brewer</td>
<td>Boothbay Harbor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacquelyn Cook</td>
<td>John Cook, Jr.</td>
<td>Perry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reece Dannenberg</td>
<td>Carl Dannenberg</td>
<td>Sedgwick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paige Dennison</td>
<td>Kory Dennison</td>
<td>Vinalhaven</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margaret Kelly</td>
<td>Thomas &amp; Peter Kelly</td>
<td>Portland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Labrecque</td>
<td>Raymond H Swett Jr</td>
<td>Southport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Levi Little</td>
<td>James R. Little</td>
<td>Phippsburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adeline McDonald</td>
<td>Jason McDonald</td>
<td>Deer Isle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erin Moody</td>
<td>Brian Moody</td>
<td>Harpswell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nolan R. Murphy</td>
<td>Shawn Murphy</td>
<td>Seal Cove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adam Norwood II</td>
<td>Adam Norwood</td>
<td>Blue Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moriah Nutter</td>
<td>William Nutter</td>
<td>Deer Isle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shaw Pinkham-McKnight</td>
<td>Ronald Pinkham</td>
<td>Five Islands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caitlyn Rich</td>
<td>Lawrence Rich</td>
<td>South Portland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan Rich</td>
<td>Todd Rich</td>
<td>Long Island</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jon Robbins</td>
<td>Stephen H Robbins, Jr</td>
<td>Little Deer Isle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madigan Saunders</td>
<td>Charles Saunders</td>
<td>Harpswell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosemary Train</td>
<td>Steve Train</td>
<td>Long Island</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libby Reed</td>
<td>Leroy Weed Jr.</td>
<td>Stonington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooper Wirkala</td>
<td>Jim Wirkala</td>
<td>Spruce Head</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Many thanks to these fine businesses, the MLA’s Keeper members!

Accutech Marine Propellor
Alliance Rubber
Atlantic Bug Bait
Bar Harbor Bank & Trust
Beals-Jonesport Coop Inc.
Beals Lobster Pier
Bell Power Systems
Berman Simmons, Atty
Bowdoin College Dining Services
Chapman & Chapman Chase Leavitt
Coastal Documentation II
Conary Cove Lobster Co.
Downeast Boat Co.
Farrin’s Boatshop
Finestkind Scenic Cruises
First National Bank
F. W. Thurstin Co. Inc.
Georgetown Fishermen’s Cooperative
Gulf of Maine Lobster Foundation
Guy Cotten, Inc.
Infect Refractories Inc.
Inland Seafood
Interstate Lobster Co.
Island Fishing Gear & Auto Parts
Island Fishermen’s Wives
John’s Bay Boat Co.
Journey’s End Marina
Kip’s Seafood
Lobster Trap Co.
Lonnie’s Hydraulic Inc.
M&B Fish Co.
Machias Savings Bank
Maine Center for Coastal Fisheries
Maine Financial Group
Maine Fishermen’s Community Alliance
Maine Ocean Lobster
Maine Sea Grant
Marine Hydraulic Engineering Co. Inc.
McMillan Offshore Survival Training
Midcoast Marine Supply
Navico Marine Electronics
Net Your Problem
New England Marine & Industrial Inc.
Northeast Marine Survey
Novatec Breads LTD
Pack Edge
Penobscot Bay & River Pilots Assn.
Pete’s Marine Electronics
Polyform US
Port Clyde Fishermen’s Cooperative
Port Lobster Co.
Power Product Systems
RE Thomas Marine Hardware
Riverdale Mills
Rope Razor
South Bristol Fishermen’s Cooperative
Superior Marine Products
Tenants Harbor Fishermen’s Cooperative
Twin City Financial Group
Vinalhaven Fishermen’s Cooperative
William Coiffin & Sons
Winter Harbor Fishermen’s Cooperative
Worcesters Lobster Bait

Maine Coastal News
Covers the Coast Like No One Else!

What happened at the lobster boat races this year? Slow or fast we covered it all.

What is going on in the boat shops and yards?

Pick up on a local newsstand or receive it via subscription.

Maine Coastal News
P.O. Box 719, Winterport, Maine 04496
(207) 233-8846
RESEARCHERS FABRICATE SUPER-STRONG LOBSTER UNDERBELLY

MIT researchers have created a synthetic hydrogel that mimics the stretch and strength of a lobster's underbelly. The material could provide a blueprint for stretchy protective fabrics and artificial tissues. A lobster's underbelly is lined with a thin, translucent membrane that is both stretchy and surprisingly tough. This marine under-armor is made from the toughest known hydrogel in nature, which also happens to be highly flexible. An MIT research team has fabricated a hydrogel-based material that mimics the structure of the lobster's underbelly. The researchers ran the material through a battery of stretch and impact tests and showed that the synthetic material is remarkably "fatigue-resistant," able to withstand repeated stretches and strains without tearing.

GROWING LOBSTER IN A LAB

Wisconsin firm Cultured Decadence is a cellular agriculture startup using cell culture and tissue engineering to create lobster directly from live lobster cells — basically, lab-grown lobster. The company says its product will be indistinguishable in form and function from wild-caught lobster, only without the shell. To grow a lobster, Cultured Decadence sources Maine lobsters, selects small tissue samples in its lab, isolates the cells from the tissue and uses them to grow meat in a controlled environment. The company is still focused on research and development and will ramp up prototyping later in the year.

CHINA LAGGING ON IMPORTS OF LOBSTER

China is not living up to its commitments to purchase U.S. seafood under the 2020 trade agreement between the two countries, according to Matt Tinning, Director of Sustainability and Public Affairs, at the U.S. fishery trade body Atlantic Sea Processors Association. The U.S. China Economic and Trade Agreement, also known as the "phase one deal," was signed in early 2020 and bound China to Chinese purchases of lobster were significantly less than in 2017, despite a trade agreement established last year. Photo courtesy of the Wall Street Journal.

FISHERY CLOSURES IN GULF OF ST. LAWRENCE

As fisheries reopened in Massachusetts on May 14, fisheries in Canada's Gulf of St. Lawrence are closing as right whales are detected there. The first right whale was detected in Canada in April 25. Canada's Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) issued its first 15 day snow crab fishery closure on April 26, and has issued notice of 7 closures as of May 21. DFO has also implemented seasonal fishery closures due to persistent sightings in some areas. The closures affect fisheries with open seasons: snow crab, toad crab, rock crab, lobster, whelk, Greenland halibut (fixed gear), winter flounder (fixed gear), bait (fixed gear), and herring (trap net). Closures will also be in effect for Atlantic halibut (fixed gear), mackerel (gillnet) and herring (gillnet) when gear is left unattended. For more information, visit www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fisheries-peches/commercial-commerciale/all-arc/narw-bmnb/index-eng.html#notices.

MAINE SEAFOOD BUSINESS WINS PRODUCT OF THE YEAR AWARD

Hancock Gourmet Lobster Co. of Topsham has won Product of the Year for their Maine Shore Dinner for 2, an award given by the Specialty Food Association. The Specialty Food Association is a membership-based trade association representing 3,500 businesses. Judges consider quality, taste, innovativeness, ingredients, merchandisability, and best in class when determining finalists through a blind tasting. The Maine Shore Dinner for 2 includes two lobster tails, one dozen mussels, eight shrimp, eight sea scallops, and two ears of corn packaged in a large foil bag that can be cooked on the grill or in the oven.

New England Propeller

Factory Repair Station for All Makes and Types of Propellers

Top 10 Distributor for Michigan Wheel
- Michigan 3 Blade Dyna-Jets
- Four Blade DCO + Dyna Quad
- Five Blade Hi-Tong Michigan
- Aluminum & Stainless Outboard & I.O. Propellers

Check out our shipping rates!!! 2 Days to Alaska. Overnight to Maine!!!

Over 4,000 Propellers in Stock

Hale MRI 3D Computerized Scanning and Dynamic Balancing

Gear Drives
- Federal Flexible Couplings
- Gear Mounts
- Godfrey-Camp Zinks
- Bush-Hagon Rubber - Shifting Boxes

Federal Flexible Couplings
- Flat Tanks Fabricated to USCQ Spares
- Duracone-Cutless Bearings
- Sierra Engine Parts
- PSS Mechanical Seals

R 7) the South Shore Sleeve with a heat shrink cover.
5) a four tuck splice of candy cane weak rope into a 3/8" buoy line;
4) a butt splice of red weak rope into 3/8" buoy line;
3) an eye-to-loop splice of red weak rope into a 3/8" buoy line;
2) a three tuck splice of red weak rope into 3/8" buoy line;
1) a four tuck splice of red weak rope in 3/8" buoy line;

Refrigerate Me!

Sales, Service, Maintenance and Installation of:
Walk-In Coolers/Freezeers • Lobster Coolers & Tanks
Bait Coolers/Freezeers • Ice Machines & Equipment • Process Refrigeration

Emergency Service Available
(207) 893-0145

www.appliedrefrigeration.com

Registered Efficiency Alliance Contractor

Commercial, Industrial
Serving all of New England
Licensed, Insured, Certified
Camden author Ali Farrell’s book, Pretty Rugged, True Stories from Women of the Sea, illustrates the stature women have within the Maine lobster fishery today with striking photographs and the words of lobstering women. Farrell interviewed 26 women who speak eloquently about the paths that led them to become captains of their own lobster boats and what they faced as they pursued their chosen career. The women range in age, including 100-year-old Virginia Oliver of Spruce Head, and come from eighteen different fishing ports.

Farrell’s father fished offshore and her mother produced and sold lobster tanks. She has always felt a connection to the men and women of the lobstering industry. “My father had all kinds of stories from fishing off of Newfoundland, and after talking shop with my female fishermen buddies, I decided they deserved to tell their stories to the world,” she said in a 2020 interview. “It is a very uncommon and unique lifestyle to learn about, especially for those who are from away.”

The book highlights the family histories of the female lobstermen, many of whom first began fishing with their fathers or uncles. The details of their lives, the difficulties of balancing family and work, and the hard rules by which they and all other lobstermen live when at sea are recounted in the women’s own words.

Farrell recently completed a children’s book entitled A Lobster Girl Can, published earlier this year. Pretty Rugged is a coffee table-style book and is available at prett yruggedbooks.com and on Amazon.
By Melissa Waterman

Alison Bramhall exudes energy. The Yarmouth native is a self-taught artist whose works offer vibrant views of the Maine coast and the species found there. Her company, Festive Fish, produces a variety of marine-inspired products, from cards and dish towels to pillows and custom-painted oars.

Bramhall grew up sailing with her family. "We'd sail from Portland up to Mount Desert Island every summer. My dad would wash our hair on deck with the water hose. I lived in my bathing suit," she recalled. Making art came naturally to her. "I would copy the comics page while my dad and sister watched football," she recalled. "And then I started painting [hair] barrettes." With support from her mother, Bramhall picked up several accounts in Portland for her hand-painted barrettes; she was just 14 at the time.

Since then, Bramhall has turned her eye for color and design to just about anything. First it was hand-painted boxer shorts, then furniture, silk ties, and assorted baby items. She worked in Boston, then on the West Coast, finally returning to Maine. Along the way she developed a deep love of travel and kayaking, visiting far-flung places such as Palau, Ireland, and Alaska. She began her company, Festive Fish (www.festivefish.net) in 1997, well before the age of Internet marketing, building her business via word of mouth.

Bramhall typically starts her creative process with a card and then digitizes the image for reproduction on different products. She also does custom creations, such as brightly decorated oars and interior murals. The signature element in all of her work is a striking use of strong, saturated colors reflecting her views of the marine world.

"My connection to the ocean is essential. Being out there, it detoxes my body and clears my mind," she said.