On November 16, the Maine Lobstermen’s Association (MLA) announced the launch of a three-year, $10 million fundraising campaign to fight new federal regulations that threaten the future of the Maine lobster industry. The campaign comes in response to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) release in August of its Biological Opinion which requires the fishery to reduce risk to North Atlantic right whales by 98% in ten years. "The federal government has adopted a draconian plan intended to protect North Atlantic right whales. But their plan is a lose-lose for all. It will not protect right whales, and it will eliminate the Maine lobster fishery. If we don’t meet the 98% risk reduction mandate, it will be illegal for the federal government to continue to permit the lobster fishery," said Patrice McCarron, executive director of the MLA.

The fundraising campaign will support a four-pronged effort to combat the new rules. The legal fight began in September, when the MLA filed a lawsuit in U.S. District Court in Washington, D.C. against NMFS’s ten-year plan, arguing among other points, that the agency did not use the best available data to build the plan. In addition, the MLA is working with scientists to ensure that NMFS is required to use the most up-to-date science related to right whales. The MLA also will engage with lobstermen to develop innovative fishing gear that protects right whales and also guarantees the continuation of the fishery. Finally, the MLA will ensure that public is aware of the serious threat faced by lobstermen and the thousands of small businesses in the state that depend on them.

Katie Werner, co-owner of Island Lobster Company on Peaks Island, urged Maine businesses that rely on a robust lobster fishery to support the MLA’s fundraising campaign. "This isn’t just a campaign to save Maine lobstermen, this is a vital step in saving our state’s economy, not only my business but other businesses that rely on tourism," she said. "I’m challenging other companies to step up and be part of this cause."

The lobster industry is critical to Maine. It contributes nearly $2 billion a year to the state’s economy and supports at least ten thousand jobs. Department of Marine Resources Commissioner Patrick Keliher is estimating that 2021 is shaping up to be a record year for lobster value as the fishery is already up $230 million over last year.

On November 16, the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit issued a ruling to reinstate the 967-square-mile Lobster Management Area (LMA) 1 closure. The Appeals Court determined that Bangor District Court Judge Lance Walker’s October ruling to delay implementation of the LMA 1 closure was based on a misunderstanding of the record, and that the court over-stepped its role in rejecting the judgment of the agency charged by Congress with the protection of whales — the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

The court noted that, "Congress has placed its thumb on the scale for the whales.”

In response to the ruling, Maine Lobstermen’s Association (MLA) president Kristan Porter said, "The MLA is extremely disappointed with the Appeals Court ruling. This massive closure in LMA1 will create economic hardship for too many Maine lobstermen who have already invested in gear, rigged up, and are fishing these waters."

The state agreed. “This industry is suffering from whiplash, trying to change plans based on these rapidly evolving court decisions,” said Department of Marine Resources (DMR) Commissioner Patrick Keliher. "Moving gear around 30 miles off-shore at this time of the year also poses a serious safety risk for fishermen. Fishermen’s lives are at stake and NOAA and the courts have an obligation to take fisherman safety into consideration when they make these decisions."

By MLA staff

Continued on page 5

By MLA staff

Continued on page 5
On November 16, on Widgery Wharf in Portland, the Maine Lobstermen’s Association (MLA) announced its ambitious goal: to raise $10 million over three years to support its fight against new federal regulations that threaten the existence of the Maine lobster fishery.

That threat is as real and as deadly as a blizzard at sea. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) regulations released in August call for a 98% reduction by the year 2030 in the risks presented by lobster gear to the endangered North Atlantic right whale. "The federal government has adopted a draconian plan intended to protect North Atlantic right whales. But their plan is a lose-lose for all. It will not protect right whales, and it will eliminate the Maine lobster fishery. If we don’t meet the 98% risk reduction mandate, it will be illegal for the federal government to continue to permit the lobster fishery," the MLA stated at a press conference that day.

The MLA is calling on all businesses and individuals who rely on the Maine lobster fishery — everyone from local restaurants and real estate firms to boat builders and bait dealers — to contribute to this campaign. As Dustin Delano, vice president of the MLA, said, "If the federal government shuts down this fishery, they’re not telling any of us to get a new job... they’re telling us to get a new life. We must ensure that this fundraising campaign is a success because if we can’t afford to fight back, we’re done."

Later that same day, the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit issued a ruling to reinstate the 967-square-mile Lobster Management Area (LMA) 1 closure, overturning Bangor District Court Judge Lance Walker’s ruling in October putting the closure temporarily on hold. The October-to-January closure is part of NMFS’s ten-year risk reduction plan. The closure went into effect immediately, requiring lobstermen and Jonah crab fishermen to remove all gear from the area. "This industry is suffering from whiplash, trying to change plans based on these rapidly evolving court decisions," said Department of Marine Resources (DMR) Commissioner Patrick Keliher in response to the decision. "Moving gear around 30 miles offshore at this time of the year also poses a serious safety risk for fishermen. Fishermen’s lives are at stake and NOAA and the courts have an obligation to take fisherman safety into consideration when they make these decisions."

Commissioner Keliher also provides a look back on 2021 in this issue of Landings. As he points out, the department has been focused intently on the whale issue this year, while also addressing other concerns, such as lobster stock resiliency and federal assistance to fishermen affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Commissioner Keliher notes that this year, while full of legal and regulatory conflicts, has proved profitable for lobstermen: preliminary figures indicate that the landed value of the harvest is up by $230 million compared to last year.

Offshore wind energy development also remains a hot topic for the lobster industry. The Responsible Offshore Development Association (RODA), a fishing industry-based group, filed notice with the Bureau of Offshore Energy Management (BOEM) that if certain legal issues and fisherman’s concerns related to the Vineyard Wind I project, which BOEM approved earlier this fall, were not corrected, it would sue. "We and individual fishing groups and associations have attended every meeting, written thousands of pages of comments, met with state and federal regulators, and gone above and beyond to improve this process," Annie Hawkins, RODA executive director said. "Yet all the government did was agree to the voluntary ‘mitigation’ practices proposed by the developer."

Landings continues its health series with a focus on depression. Depression affects an estimated one in 15 people in the United States. It often begins in the late teens and early 20s and is caused by several factors, among them genetics and traumatic experiences. Two out of five Maine residents report feelings of depression during the COVID pandemic. River Martin, a staff person at NAMI Maine said, “A lot of people are reaching out for the first time and talking about it [depression]. We are starting to see a shift in thinking about mental health and physical health.”

Finally, this month begins the holiday season. Throughout the coast, people in harbors large and small find ways to celebrate their connections to the sea despite a rising tide of challenges to their way of life. We hope you will look at the photos in Landings and consider the importance of lobstering to Maine’s history, economy and culture at a time when its very existence is under siege.

Thank you and happy holidays!
GUEST COLUMN:  We cannot win this battle without your support

By Kristan Porter and Dustin Delano

It’s never easy to ask for help. But the truth is if all of us whose livelihoods depend on Maine’s lobster industry don’t step up in a big way, we are all in deep trouble.

As you know, the federal government has laid out a 10-year plan that is supposed to protect right whales. But we see the writing on the wall. We know that there is no realistic way for Maine lobstersmen to comply with what the government is asking us to do.

The Maine Lobstermen’s Association (MLA) board of directors has said enough is enough — we’re not going to let this happen without a fight.

The MLA has hired the best legal team we could find and we filed a lawsuit in US. District Court in Washington, D.C. in September. We are aiming big — the MLA is going after NMFS’s entire 10-year plan because it is that plan that ultimately will erase Maine’s lobster industry.

We believe that the National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS) failed to use the best scientific information and does not account for the success of all the conservation measures we’ve adopted over the last 20 years when it developed this flawed plan.

Scientists know that right whales are rare off the coast of Maine and several recent publications show they continue to shift even further away from where we fish. Fighting this fight in court won’t be cheap, but we don’t have a choice. Environmental groups have deep pockets.

So, we’re asking you to ask yourself — what can I do to help MLA fight back and win? We all know that this has been a good year. Despite record expenses, we’ve generally had good hauls and higher prices at the dock this season. Now is the time to contribute, and if we all give even a little — it will help a lot.

There are about 4,800 licensed lobstersmen in Maine. If each of us gave just $1,000 to the MLAs “Save Maine Lobstermen” fund, we’d have $4.8 million closer to our $10 million goal. That’s nearly halfway! If each gave just $500, we’d have $2.4 million more to help us win.

Each one of our board of directors is committed to putting his money where his mouth is. We have all pledged to donate at least $1,000. We’re asking you to do the same and to ask your friends and other lobstersmen you know to give as well.

We’re proud of the support that we have already received. The Port Clyde Co-op has pledged to donate $5,000 a year for the next three years, and the York Lobstermen’s Association just donated $5,000 for the second year in a row. But we also know we can’t fight this fight alone.

That is why we are asking Maine’s business community, which relies on a strong lobster industry to keep the local economies going, to back us in this battle. You know who they are — the businesses in your towns where you shop, eat, do your banking, buy your vehicles, and get your gas. Ask for their help. Share the website, www.savemainelobstermen.org, or tell them to call MLAs office at 207-967-4555.

We are in a decade-long battle to save the lobster fishery and we need everyone to be involved!
I came across this quote from Mark Twain the other day: “Predictions are difficult, especially when it involves the future.” Not a day goes by that I don’t hear a question from a fisherman about what will happen with whales, wind, sustainability, or another big issue facing the industry. My goal is to provide certainty to the lobster industry, but the future right now is impossible to predict and the road to certainty is uphill and difficult. What always impresses me though, is knowing that the Maine lobster industry will lean into the many challenges it’s facing — none of which you want or deserve.

**Whales**

There are many things happening with several court cases, and DMR is working with our legal team to finalize our strategy. As the cases move forward, I will send a message to industry members who are being impacted by right whale rules with a breakdown of what the state focus will be.

As you know, Maine Federal District Court Judge Lance Walker issued an order in October that prevented the LMA 1 Restricted Area from taking effect. This was a rare bit of good news, but very short lived. As I was writing this article the First Circuit Court of Appeals reinstated the closed area and sent it back to Judge Walker with instructions to close the area “promptly.” The First Circuit’s opinion clearly sided with whales over the fishery when it considered relative harms: “And, while there are serious stakes on both sides, Congress has placed its thumb on the scale for whales.”

While the State was not asked to engage in this case, we did follow it very closely. Ultimately, we decided that our focus needed to remain on the larger case because it has much broader implications for the overall fishery, including the potential of an outright shut down. The industry must do the same.

The larger lawsuit in Washington, D.C. was brought forward by the environmental organizations challenging NMFS’s old Biological Opinion. We expected that suit to go away now that the new Biological Opinion and rule are final but, as we know, it’s never enough for the environmental groups. The judge has allowed them to file a supplemental suit, so DMR has now hired outside legal counsel to fully engage in this case. The firm we hired (Nossaman) is out of Seattle and they have great knowledge in the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) that are driving these challenges. Nossaman has represented a range of clients in these types of cases, including the State of Alaska.

DMR has been granted intervenor status in the D.C. case and we are looking carefully at what our options are (the MLA and MLU are also intervenors). It is important to point out that the case filed in D.C. also targets the fishery in state waters. All lobster fishing effort by Maine license holders is in the environmental organizations’ crosshairs.

The MLA has also filed suit in D.C. challenging portions of the Biological Opinion and the Final Rule; we are looking closely at how we will engage. This is an important effort that focuses on the science and data that NMFS is using, DMR has created an extensive record that supports this effort as well as the MLU. These cases may all converge in front of one judge, but that is yet to be seen.

Governor Mills has been very supportive of our needs and has contributed $230,000 from her contingency fund for DMR’s legal efforts, with a promise of finding additional resources for our growing legal bills.

In October, Governor Mills co-signed a letter with the members of the Congressional delegation to Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo urging her to withdraw the final whale rule by highlighting the flawed and incomplete data on which the rule relied. The letter made clear that the closure had the potential to cause irreparable harm to Maine’s lobster industry while doing little to protect right whales. The Secretary’s response was simple. “North Atlantic right whales are in crisis, and we need to take immediate, meaningful actions to mitigate the primary threats to the species: entanglements and vessel strikes.”

DMR is also working to improve the science on which future management decisions will be made. The Governor and the Legislature supported our requests for more staff as well as money for research. We are in the process of hiring new science staff as well as policy support. DMR’s science staff deployed seven archival sound traps in October throughout the Gulf of Maine, including one in the LMA1 Restricted Area, to listen for right whales. Data won’t be downloaded and analyzed until spring or summer 2022.

**Guest Column: A tough time to predict the future**

**By Patrick Keliher**

Patrick Keliher is the Commissioner of the Department of Marine Resources.

Continued on page 23
In its ruling to reinstate the closure, the Appeals Court considered several factors including whether there is a strong likelihood that the case will succeed on its merits and if there is likely to be irreparable harm if the closure is not implemented.

On the merits of the case, the Appeals Court concluded that NMFS’s justification for the LMA1 Closure made it “likely that the Agency ruling at issue here will be sustained given the deference that a court must accord to executive agencies carrying out congressional mandates.”

On the issue of irreparable harm, the Appeals Court noted that there are two competing interests: harm to right whales and harm to lobstermen.

The Court wrote, “The difficult question, then, is how does one balance that increased risk of impeding Congress’s aims and increasing right whale fatality against the certain risk of economic harm to the plaintiffs? In this instance, we answer that question by looking to Congress for guidance,” before noting Congress’s “plain intent . . . to halt and reverse the trend toward species extinction, whatever the cost.”

The Appeals Court also reasoned that if any right whales are lost or presumed lost because the LMA 1 Closure was not implemented, NMFS then may need to implement more stringent whale conservation measures which “could cause lobster harvesters additional harm.”

“This decision foreshadows the grave future our lobster fishery faces if NMFS’s 10-year whale plan is not rescinded in favor of a plan based on sound science,” said MLA executive director Patrice McCarron. “The 10-year whale plan that the federal government has adopted will not protect the right whales, but it will eliminate the Maine lobster fishery. It is a lose-lose for all.”

Commissioner Keliber emphasized the need for the state to remain focused on a lawsuit that is potentially even more impactful than the Union lawsuit. “As tough a loss as this is, the state will continue to focus its legal resources on the case in the D.C. District Court that challenges the biological opinion and has the potential of a complete fishery closure. Those stakes are extremely high and demand our full attention,” Commissioner Keliber noted.

The LMA 1 closure is now in effect and the Appeals Court has sent it back to Judge Walker “to resolve, if necessary, any disputes concerning the prompt removal of the banned gear from the LMA 1 restricted area. Given the already lost time and the short period remaining for the seasonal closure, we encourage the parties to act promptly.”

In its announcement that the LMA 1 closure was in effect immediately based on the court’s ruling, NMFS stated, “Given the capacity of offshore fishing vessels to remove and relocate trawls as well as potential weather and safety concerns, we anticipate it could take up to two weeks for all lobster and Jonah crab trap/pot gear to be removed from the LMA 1 Restricted Area.” DMR has stated that it will confirm the timing of the closure and will communicate pertinent details to the industry when they are available.

Kristan Porter, president of the MLA, noted that the MLA’s Board of Directors is one hundred percent committed to this fundraising campaign. The board is challenging not only lobstermen but anyone who relies on a strong lobster industry to make a generous contribution.

“Lobstermen have been honest brokers and stepped up every time the federal government has required new whale conservation measures because we care deeply about our fishery and about the whales,” said Porter. “But this time, we have no choice but to fight back and we can’t do it alone.”

“If the federal government shuts down this fishery, they’re not telling any of us to get a new job... they’re telling us to get a new life,” said Dustin Delano, vice president of the MLA. “I’m fully invested in taking care of the ocean because my livelihood depends on it, and I’m fully invested in ensuring this fundraising campaign is a success because if we can’t afford to fight back, we’re done.”

The MLA created a website, SaveMaineLobstermen.org, which provides details on its proposed actions as well as opportunities to donate.

“Just as Maine lobstermen can’t solve whale deaths that aren’t occurring in our fishery, Maine lobstermen cannot save our lobstering heritage without broad support,” McCarron said. “The MLA urges every Mainer and business person, anyone who feels a sense of pride about a connection to Maine’s lobster fishery and our lobstering heritage, to step up and make a contribution to Save Maine Lobstermen.”
I cannot believe it is December already — what a year it's been! In some ways, I feel like the Maine lobster industry has been run over by a truck and then kicked in the gut over and over again. Certainly being put under a court-mandated deadline. Under the 10-year plan, NMFS has us scheduled for another 3 and Area 2 (2.5%).

Then in November I learned that NMFS wants to move the goal post. The current 98% risk reduction target in the first phase of the 10-year plan should be prepared to respond firmly, with legal and scientific ammunition, when they do so. We also must engage with the research and science community to ensure that the whale conservation plan is based on state-of-the-art science and not just what NMFS cobbled together to get a plan out quickly because it was under a court-mandated deadline.

We must particularly remain diligent in the regulatory arena. As we have just seen with risk reduction targets, NMFS will continue to throw one curve ball after another at us, moving the goal posts when they want to. We must be prepared to respond firmly, with legal and scientific ammunition, when they do so. We also must engage with the research and science community to ensure that the whale conservation plan is based on state-of-the-art science and not just what NMFS cobbled together to get a plan out quickly because it was under a court-mandated deadline.

I wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. And as always, stay safe on the water.

My response? "You've got to be kidding!" None of this makes sense. It does not pass the straight face test. It does not properly account for changes in right whale distribution and the rarity of sightings where Maine lobstermen fish. It does not take into account the lack of documented entanglements in Maine lobster gear.

What do you do when you know the government is wrong but your concerns continually fall on deaf ears? In this case, we fight. Fight for accountability from our government. Fight for the use of state-of-the-art science for right whale conservation measures that will help right whales without eliminating the Maine lobster fishery.

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I wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. And as always, stay safe on the water.
The MLA board of directors met on November 4 via Zoom to discuss its Save Maine Lobstermen campaign, updates on right whale management and ASMFC’s federal lobster boat vessel tracking plan.

The MLA Board has endorsed a $10 million fundraising campaign over three years. The MLA will be promoting this campaign broadly within the lobster industry and to the public. Board members noted that it has been a good year financially for lobstermen and they hope many will contribute generously.

In the November issue of Landings the MLA published an overview of the all the lawsuits pending that address right whales and an overview of the 10-year whale plan and how the current round of whale rules fit into it. The MLA has filed suit against NMFS’s 10-year whale plan, which requires a 98% risk reduction. MLA is also an intervenor in the Washington D.C. court case and an Amicus to the legal case challenging the LMA 1 closure. The lobster industry must have strong legal representation to navigate the complex web of lawsuits and regulatory requirements. The lobster industry is facing elimination by 2030 if we don’t fight back.

During its November Take Reduction Team (TRT) meeting, NMFS informed the team that both the right whale population and the Potential Biological Removal (PBR) rate have declined. NMFS’s risk reduction goal was previously based on whales known to have died during the year, as evidenced by a carcass found, or documented evidence that many more whales die that are never seen. Now NMFS is using a methodology that is based on both the whales seen dead and as well as the others that they know have died but were never seen. The risk reduction goal now will be based on all dead whales, those seen and those assumed to have died. NMFS will begin discussions on how to address the need for additional risk reduction in the lobster industry at its December TRT meeting.

The ASMFC is drafting a change to the lobster management plan to require mandatory vessel tracking for federally permitted lobstermen. ASMFC will meet in December to finalize the draft management plan which will then go out for public comment in January. The MLA Board will meet again on December 8 via Zoom.

**VESSLE TRACKING REQUIREMENTS FOR FEDERAL LOBSTER BOATS**

ASMFC’s Lobster Management Board will meet on December 6 to finalize its proposal to require all federally permitted lobster and Jonah crab vessels to use a vessel monitoring system. ASMFC is considering requiring low cost, accessible options such as cell devices that would report location at 1 ping per minute. Tracking devices would be required to be on board and powered at all times when the vessel is in the water (unless under repair). Public hearings are expected to be scheduled in January, and the final vote to approve this requirement would happen winter/spring 2022.

**MLA LAUNCHES $10 MILLION CAMPAIGN TO SAVE MAINE LOBSTERMEN**

The MLA is raising $10 million to fund its efforts to Save Maine Lobstermen from extinction as NMFS implements its draconian whale rules over the next eight years. Funds raised will enable the MLA to implement a four-pronged strategy to save Maine’s lobstering heritage.

**Legal and Policy:** MLA is suing the federal government to stop the 10-year whale plan that will decimate Maine’s lobster industry. MLA has asked the court to fix the plan using accurate science so that we can save right whales without sacrificing the lobster fishery.

**Science:** MLA is engaging with scientific experts to ensure that the most up to date, cutting-edge science is the basis of any right whale conservation plan. This includes use of state-of-the-art modeling and objective research that will guide effective management decisions.

**Conservation:** MLA is working with Maine lobstermen to continue efforts to develop innovative gear solutions that protect right whales and support the continuation of Maine’s lobstering heritage.

**Communications:** MLA is building support to ensure the public understands that Maine’s lobstering heritage is at risk and may disappear forever, erasing generations of locally owned and operated fishing businesses and the economic engine of Maine’s coastal communities.

By all accounts, it has been a tremendous year for the Maine lobster fishery. The DMR reported that the value of lobster landings has increased by $230 million to date compared to last year. MLA urges you to consider what is at stake for you, your community, the state of Maine, and our lobstering heritage if the lobster industry doesn’t stand up for itself! Ten million dollars is a lot to raise, but it is a small investment compared to the loss of our lobstering heritage.

As you think about how much you plan to invest in your lobster business this year — whether it is to upgrade your boat, engine, or gear — or how much you plan to spend on a well-deserved vacation this winter — also think about the value of preserving your ability to even set traps in a few short years.

We need everyone to pitch in what you can. It will take all of us who care about the future of the lobster industry working together if we are to be successful against the federal government and deep-pocketed environmental groups.

Thank you for your continued support of the MLA and thank you for considering a generous donation to Save Maine Lobstermen. Visit www.savemainelobstermen.org for more information and to make your donation.

**RIGHT WHALE POPULATION IN DECLINE, RISK REDUCTIONS MAY INCREASE**

The TRT met on November 2 with updates on the right whale population and anticipated new risk reduction requirements. The updated right whale population continues to decline. The new estimate is 336 whales (~200 males and 136 females). The Potential Biological Removal (PBR) figure has been reduced to 0.7 (down from 0.8).

In the past, NMFS has based risk reduction goals on the number of right whales observed dead or seriously injured. However, scientists now estimate that there are many that die and are never seen. NMFS will now require commercial fisheries to reduce the risk to all right whales that are known to have died, as well as those that they assume have died but were never seen. This means that U.S. commercial fisheries currently are exceeding PBR; the revised risk reduction goal will increase to 90% or more. NMFS will continue this discussion with the TRT in December.

**NMFS RELEASES WHALE PLAN OUTREACH GUIDE FOR MAINE**

NMFS has released an outreach guide for Maine lobstermen detailing the requirements of Final Whale Rule that was released in September 2022. The LMA 1 closure was reinstated on November 16. The remaining requirements for trawling up, weak points and gear marking will be effective in May 2022. The Final Whale rule includes the following:

- **Exempt State Waters Gear:** 3 purple marks (1 x 36” in top 2F and 2 x 12”) and 1 weak point (half way down). Required by state of Maine regulations Chapter 75.
- **Non-exempt State Waters Gear:** 3 purple marks (1 x 36” in top 2F and 2 x 12”), 1 weak point (half way down), and trawling up (zone specific). Required by Federal Whale Rules.
- **Federal Waters Gear:** 4 purple marks (1 x 36” in top 2F and 3 x 12”) and 4 green marks (4 x 12” within 6” of each purple mark), 1 or 2 weak points (vary by zone and distance from shore), trawling up (vary by zone and distance from shore), and LMA 1 closure (Oct through January). Required by Federal Whale Rules.

This guide includes zone specific maps of the trawling up requirements which clearly show minimum trawl numbers required by distance from shore.


Left: gear marking 2 fathom below buoy with 36” purple mark and 12” green mark. Right: federal gear marking with 12” purple and 12” green marks.

NMFS photos.

Continued on page 8
Environmental Lawsuit Challenging Biological Opinion and Final Rule (D.C. District Court)

Nov. 23 – Proposed briefing schedule filed.

Next Steps – The court will set a schedule for the case to proceed.

MLA Lawsuit Challenging Biological Opinion and Final Rule (D.C. District Court)

Nov. 23 – MLA request a schedule for the case to proceed.

Next Steps – The court will set a schedule for the case to proceed.

MLA lawsuit on LMA 1 closure:

Oct. 16 – Bangor District Court put the implementation of LMA 1 closure on hold.

Nov. 5 – Bangor District Court denied government and NGO request to implement closure pending an appeal of his decision.

Nov. 16 – First Circuit Court of Appeals grants government request to reinstate closure pending full appeal.

Next Steps – Appeals Court will give its final ruling, but the court has been clear that the closure will remain in place. Bangor District Court has not yet set a schedule to decide the lawsuit challenging the legality of the LMA 1 closure.

2021 HERRING SEASON UPDATE

Given the extremely low herring quota, herring landings were short-lived this season. Even with the addition of 1,000 metric tons of quota reallocated to the Area 1A quota due to low landings in New Brunswick, season 1 landings were caught by August 3 and season 2 was only open for one day.

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

- Accutech Marine Propeller
- Alliance Rubber
- Bar Harbor Bank & Trust
- Beals-Jonesport Coop Inc.
- Beals Lobster Pier
- Bowdoin College Dining Services
- Chapman & Chapman Chase Leavitt
- Coastal Documentation II
- Conary Cove Lobster Co.
- Downeast Boat Co.
- Farrin’s Boatshop
- Fineskift Scenic Cruises
- First National Bank
- F. W. Thurston Co. Inc.
- Georgetown Fishermen’s Cooperative
- Gulf of Maine Lobster Foundation
- Guy Cotten, Inc.
- Infab Refractories Inc.
- Inland Seafood
- Interstate Lobster Co.
- Island Fishing Gear & Auto Parts
- Island Fisherman’s Wives
- John’s Bay Boat Co.
- Lobster Trap Co.
- Lommie’s Hydraulic Inc.
- M&B Fish Co.
- Maine Center for Coastal Fisheries

Northeast Marine Survey
Novatec Braids LTD
Pack Edge
Port Clyde Fishermen’s Cooperative
Port Lobster Co.
RE Thomas Marine Hardware
RG Tax Accounting and Resolution
Riverdale Mills
Rope Razer
Superior Marine Products
Tenants Harbor Fishermen’s Cooperative
Twin City Financial Group
Varnyr Insurance Inc.
Vinalhaven Fishermen’s Cooperative
William Coffin & Sons
Winter Harbor Fishermen’s Cooperative
Worchester’s Lobster Bait
HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

Thank you to these businesses for supporting the Maine Lobstermen’s Community Alliance!

HAIL BACK FLANNEL
Super soft and durable, perfect for layering. Classic channel logo on the chest $68.95
Rugged Seas

LOBSTER CLAW TRIVET
A steel claw trivet, centerpiece or work of art. Unpolished steel, handmade and unique. Industrial ME

CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS
Hand painted in the salty air on 10 oz canvas duck, with authentic mooring line and waxed sail thread. Custom colors & styles. $40.00
Cobalt Sky Studio

HEART STEEL WINDCHIME
Steel lobster claws and a heart show your lobstering love and bring the coast to your home. $125.00
Industrial ME

SEAWORTHY TOTE
Limited edition hardworking tote with waterproof base and nickel clasps. Made from recycled bibs, each is one of a kind! $129.95
Rugged Seas

BUOY PILLOWS
All items are made to order in our farmhouse studio in Monroe, Maine. We use duck canvas. Free shipping on all orders. Any colors you choose- we also match buoy colors! $48.50
Cobalt Sky Studio

LOBSTER CLAW LONG SLEEVE BABY ONESIE
Light blue organic cotton with three snap closure and a navy lobster claw on the front. Super cute and super soft! $30.00
Industrial ME

CHANNEL MARKER CREWNECK SWEATSHIRT
Soft crewneck sweatshirt with classic logo and channel marker on the chest. $56.00
Rugged Seas

LARGE DRY CLUTCH
The perfect pouch for carrying your phone & other essentials at sea & keeping them dry. Made from recycled bibs, each one is unique!
Rugged Seas

LOBSTER CLAW STERLING PENDANT
Floating heart style lobster claw pendant in sterling silver. Handmade in Maine. 20’ chain and perfect for every occasion. $135.00
Industrial ME

Cobalt Sky Studio
www.cobaltskystudio.com or text 207-408-2513

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The Challenges Remain Real…

Just as we were all expecting/hoping to return to normalcy in our lives (both personally and business-wise) we’re faced with another wave of pandemic-based problems.

The delays we are experiencing in receiving supplies and materials continue – and in the meantime, we’re still rebuilding our workforce and focusing on our customers’ orders.

We’re all in this together and rest assured: we are doing everything in our power to get back to our normal level of customer service as soon as possible.

Thank you all for your patience.

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Jimmy Emerson – Columbia Falls jimmye@friendshiptrap.com (207) 483-6555 (800) 539-6558
Mike Wadsworth mikew@friendshiptrap.com (207) 542-0841
Save Maine’s Lobster Industry

We’re in a 10-year battle to save our industry.
Thank you for your generous support!

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

$5,000 - $9,999
Colby & Gale
Downeast Lobstermen’s Assn.
Ian Janoski
Maine Aquaculture Assn.

$1,000 - $4,999
Bob Baines
Sonny Beal
Beals Jonesport Lobster Co-Op
W. Kennedy Boone III
Jarred Bray
Jerome Briggs
Peter Conforti
David Cousins
Dustin Delano
Jeffrey Donnell
Jarod Bray
W. Kennedy Boone III
Beals Jonesport Lobster Co-Op
Sonny Beal
Bob Baines
Gifts $1,000-$5,999 continued

Mass. Lobstermen’s Assoc.
John C Ready III
Brendan Ready

$500 - $999 continued
Coles Baines
Calvin Bayley
Mark Bennett
Mark Bradstreet
Dwight Carver
Mark Cheney
John Chipman
Cranberry Island Lobster Co.
George Dow
Eric Emmons
Peter Flanigan
Donald Foye
Frank Gottesman
Andrew Hawke
Eric Harjula
Hews Company LLC
Todd Hubbard
Stephen Hutchinson
Bobby Ingalls
Michael Jennings
David Johnson
Donald Jones
Mark Jones
Stuart Jones
Jennifer Kelley
Kristofer Koerber
Michael Kramp
Craig Lazaro
Jeff Libby
Travis Lunt
Doug & Laura McLennan
Dan Morris
Philip Morris
William Most
Christopher Nunan
Cody Nunan
Robert O’Hara Jr
Nicholas Page
Old School Pig Hide
Alton Pinkham
Jeffrey Putnam
Bill & Julie Putnam
Edward & Linda Robbins
Sam Rosen
Sadie Samuels
Keith & Kathryn Simmons
Kathryn Skocum
Paul Smith
Nathaniel Snow
Willis Spear Jr.
David Sullivan
Charles Tarbox
David Thurlow
Jim Tripp
Ronald Watson
Ronald Weeks
Thomas Werner
Jeff White
Peter Wilde
Eben Wilson
Leonard Young
Jason Zanke

$300 - $499
Jason Alley
E Vance Bunker
Norman Burns
John Clinton
Robert Donnell
Alison Farrell
Herman Faulkingham
Donald Foye
Adam Gamage
Chad Gamage
Earl Hamilton III
Ed Hutchins
Blaine Hutchinson
Bruce Johnson
Donald Jones
Samuel Joy
Alden McFarland
Zachary Piper
Harry Ross
Bradford Scott
Todd & Kim Simmons
James Smith
Zachary Stolz
Ted Sturpling
Charles Tarbox
Samantha Thompson
Chuck Williams

Gifts $100 - $299
Dorothy Ahlgren
A.M. Associates Inc (T-shirt sales)
Anonymous
Rick Alley Jr.
Laurence Ames
Ted Ames
William Ball
Barry Baudanza
Nancy Beal
Robert Beal
Ellen Becht
John Benning
Thomas Bennett
Brian Billings
Cindy Boyt
Susan Boyt
Hugh Bowen
Russell Bray
Eric Brauer
Carla Bryson
Ernie Burgess
Stephen Burns
Steven Burns
Albert Buswell
Greg Byrer
Patrick Coughlin
Coastal Builders
Clinton Collamore
Jason Colby
Ben Crocker Sr.
Ronald Currier

Gifts $100 - $299 continued
Eric Davis
Howard Dentremont Jr.
Charles Dillon
Benjamin Dolber
Joseph Donnelly
Patricia Doherty
Forrest Dow
Jordan Drouin
Martha Dunham
Leonard Egley
Mary Faulkingham
Michael Faulkingham
William Faulkingham
Rick Feld
Michael Floyd
Harland Flynn
Spencer Gamble
Sandra Gates
Kevin Glover
Wayne Gray
Jeffrey T Grey
Greg Griffin
John Griffin
Greg Haveren
Bruce Heanssler
Jim Henderson
Michael Hutchings
Alice Ingraham
Island Fishermen’s Wives
Assn. (sale of stickers)
Dana Johnson
Roger Kellett
Jackson Sam Kinney
Larry Knapp
Dana Knudsen
Kyle Koerber
Keith Lane
Edwin Lawson
Gene Lazaro
Kenneth Lern-orn
Gary Libby
Osca Look III
Nathaniel Lyon
Ryan Miller
Tommy Marr
Marianne Masters
Mark McAuliffe
Mike & Karen McConnell
Dana McIntire
Robert McIntire
Shane McIntire
James McMaham Jr
Robert McMaham
Chris Nelson
Richard Nelson
Randy Newcomb
Kyle Nichols
William Nichols
Chelsea Nunnah
Arthur O’Keefe
George Olsen

Gifts Under $100
Robin Alden
Ams/Walsh Family

The end of the year is near—Make your donation today!
Burdensome Federal Regulations Threaten to End Maine’s Lobster Industry

New federal rules intended to protect the North Atlantic right whale have set a course to eliminate the Maine lobster fishery and end Maine’s lobstering tradition.

The plan will end the Maine lobster fishery but won’t save right whales.

The Maine Lobstermen’s Association (MLA) is fighting back! We are putting 65 years of experience as the leader of the world’s most sustainable fishery to work to find a solution that will protect right whales AND Maine’s lobstering heritage.

Join the Fight to Save Maine Lobstermen

Fighting the federal government and solving complex environmental problems takes resources. We must raise $10 million over the next three years to lead this fight.

What will funding support?

Funding will directly support legal efforts to challenge flawed federal regulations through lawsuits, regulatory processes, development of innovative gear solutions, and education to save Maine lobstermen AND right whales.

Join The Fight Today!
SaveMaineLobstermen.org
The Issue:

In 2021, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) released a 10-year whale plan that requires the Maine lobster fishery to reduce risk to right whales by 98 percent. This is an unachievable goal that the lobster industry cannot survive. Now the government is threatening to require these deep cuts even sooner.

The Challenge:

Maine lobstermen are not to blame. There has not been a single right whale entanglement in Maine lobster gear in almost 20 years and Maine lobster gear has never been linked to a right whale death.

New research shows that right whales rarely visit the waters where Maine lobstermen fish. Simply put, the federal government is wrongly holding Maine lobstermen accountable for the decline of the right whale population.

The Solution:

The MLA is engaged in a four-prong strategy to Save Maine Lobstermen AND right whales.

Legal and Policy — The MLA is suing the federal government to stop the 10-year whale plan that will decimate Maine’s lobster industry. MLA has asked the court to fix the plan using accurate science so that we can save right whales without sacrificing the lobster fishery.

Science — MLA is engaging with scientific experts to ensure the most up-to-date, cutting-edge science is the basis of any whale conservation plan.

Conservation — MLA is working with Maine lobstermen to continue efforts to develop innovative gear solutions that protect right whales and support the continuation of Maine’s lobstering heritage.

Communications — MLA is building support to ensure that our community understands that Maine’s lobstering tradition is at risk and may disappear forever, erasing generations of locally-owned and operated fishing businesses and the economic engine of Maine’s rural coastal communities.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

TO MAINTAIN A ROBUST LOBSTER INDUSTRY TODAY AND FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS AND THE THOUSANDS OF FAMILIES THAT RELY ON IT

Join The Fight Today!
SaveMaineLobstermen.org
Help Us Fight Back.

Contributions to #SaveMaineLobstermen allow us to fight for the future of Maine’s lobster fishery.

Under $100 continued
Terrence Ashton
Judith Baker
Erich Bohrmann
Theodore Boyce
Norman Brazer Jr.
Kara Breese
Foy Brown
Linda Burley
James Coakley
Orville Darling
Demarie DiBase
Edgar Drew
Cara Dunn
Daniel Emerson
Jon Emerson
Corey Engle
Debra Furman
Brian Green
Jeffrey Greiner
Andrea Hart
Allison Hepler
Stephen Hewitt
Lindsay Hocking-Hauser
Linda Hooper
C Hutchinson/BHS Special Svcs
Team
Angela Lanicelli
Paul Lario
Ingrid Levesque
Chloe Maxmin
Michael McGlone
Mary Medina
Kathleen Menard
John Miller
Mark Minton
George Munson
Must Be Nice Lobster Co
Gordon Murray
Robert Oberlander
Roz & Dolly Pachter
Zoe Pellegrino
Evan Pinette
John Rohrer
Andrew Rudalevich
Molly Samuels
Miranda Shinn
Jim Smith
Andrea Torok
Michael & Patricia Weare
Kenneth Weed
Bradley West
Mark White
Caleb Wiesing
Amber Volto - in honor of Friendship's 2020 Xmas lights
Gifts In Memoriam
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Clinton Collamore
In memory of Rick Knight Jr.
Eric Brazer
Michael Flanigan
David & Dana Ranata
Michael & Patricia Weare
In Memory of Albert Osgood Sr.
Lee Osgood
In Memory of Marc Bradley
Lee Osgood
In Memory of Rodney Dyer
Lee Osgood
Courtland Tolman
In Memory of Greg Hoyt
Alyson Ames
Calvin Bayley
Ellen Becht
BHS Special Service Team
Kara Breese
Cindy Boyt
Susan Boyt
Patricia Doherty
Linda Hooper
Rosalyn Pachter
Andrea Torok
The Walsh Family
Gifts In Memoriam cont’d
In Memory Of Tim Dyer
Courtland Tolman
In Memory Of Orlando Wallace
Keith Wallace
In Memory Of Ernest Wallace
Keith Wallace
In Memory Of Richard Wallace
Keith Wallace

What’s the fishery worth to you?

Yes! I’ll donate today!

☐ $10,000
☐ $5,100 ($1700/ year for 3 years)
☐ $5,000
☐ $1,000
☐ $500
☐ $365 “a dollar a day”
☐ Other: __________________________

Do the Math:
500 donations of $5000 = $ 2.5 million
1000 donations of $1000= $1 million
Together we fight.
Together we win.

Name: __________________________________________
Business Name: _______________________________________
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City: _______________________________________________
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MLA Legal Defense Fund: 2 Store St, Suite 203, Kennebunk, ME 04043  www.maine lobster men.org  207-967-4555
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2022 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

The Maine Fishermen’s Forum Board of Directors offers a scholarship fund to benefit children or grandchildren or a legal dependent of someone actively involved in harvesting wild caught or farmed Maine seafood or a Maine based resource law enforcement officer regardless of financial need or academic achievement.

Applications will be accepted through March 3, 2022. Scholarships will be awarded by a random drawing to be held on Friday, March 4, 2022.

You qualify for the scholarship drawing ONLY IF you check all 4 items below.

Do you qualify? (Both questions must be answered YES to qualify)
☐ Are you in College now, as a sophomore, junior or senior? You must be at least a sophomore in college or be in at least the second semester of a Certificate Program to apply.
☐ Are you a child, grandchild or legal dependent of someone participating in Maine’s seafood industry?

What is required? (Both of these items are required to be a valid candidate)
☐ Did you provide an official transcript or Registrar’s letter of current standing?
☐ Did you complete this application and send to the address at the top of this letter.

Undergraduates attending a two or four year college who are in at least the second year of their program or students who are in at least the second semester of their Certificate Program will be eligible.

Please note that previous winners are not eligible.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student Name____________________________________________________________________________________________
Mailing Address__________________________________________________________ Home Phone_____________________
City______________________________ State_____ Zip Code________   Email: _____________________________________

SCHOOL INFORMATION (High School students are not eligible)

College/University Name____________________________________________ _   Expected Year of Graduation: ____________
Location of College _________________________________________________   Your Major __________________________

**COLLEGE Standing as of Sept 2021 (circle one)  Freshman  Sophomore  Junior  Senior

MAINE SEAFOOD INDUSTRY FAMILY MEMBER INFORMATION

Name____________________________________________________________ Relationship____________________________
Mailing Address_________________________________________________________ Phone__________________________
City________________________ State______ Zip Code_________   Email: _________________________________________

Vessel Name or Commercial License Number __________________________________________________________________

Describe participation in the Maine seafood industry____________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________________________

You qualify for the scholarship drawing ONLY IF you check all 4 items below.
MLA Seeks Nominations for Board of Directors

**MLA Members** -- Don’t miss your opportunity to influence the future of your organization and your industry!

### Annual Meeting be announced

#### Did you know?
- MLA Directors are elected for a 3-year term
- MLA Directors meet monthly (except August)
- Board members expected to attend at least 4 meetings/yr

#### Overview of MLA Board
- Maximum # of Board members: 21
- Current Board: 21 members
- **Number of Directors with Terms expiring:** 7
- Average age of MLA Board: 49
- Youngest MLA Board member: 26
- Oldest MLA Board member: 73

#### MLA Board representation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Term Expire</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>1 expiring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>1 expiring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>1 expiring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>2 expiring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>2 expiring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islands</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 2022 Board Priorities
- Dedicated lobstermen who care about the future of the industry
- Lobstermen who can talk about the industry’s needs and priorities
- Balanced industry representation across the state

---

**Nomination Requirements**
- To make a nomination, you must be a MLA member in good standing.
- All nominees must hold a Maine lobster license & be a MLA member in good standing.
- **Deadline for nominations:** February 4, 2022.
- Feel free to nominate yourself, or someone else.

**Nominee Information (must be MLA member)**

Name: __________________________
Fishing Port: _______________________
Zone: ___ Town of residence: ________________

Please let us know how this nominee could contribute to the MLA Board:
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

**Person submitting nomination (must be MLA member)**

Name: __________________________
Lobster Lic. #: _____________________

Thank you for helping to keep the MLA strong!

Mail your nomination to the MLA office: MLA, 2 Storer St, Ste 203, Kennebunk, ME 04043
Or feel free to call in your nomination to 967-4555 or email: patrice@mainelobstermen.org.

---

**2021 MARKETING HIGHLIGHTS**

- Ran a **digital advertising campaign** that resulted in over 260,000 people being more likely to purchase Maine Lobster
- Conducted a **broadcast media tour** featuring lobsterman Chris Welch and an **advertorial** in Fast Company that shared key messages about the industry’s commitment to protecting right whales, reaching local and national audiences
- Implemented the first ever **Maine Lobster Week** to drive lobster consumption during peak fall season locally and nationally
- Created the **Maine Lobster Innovation Guide** featuring consumer research about increased lobster demand and new product concepts to inspire food manufacturers and retailers to create more products using Maine Lobster
- Generated extensive positive media coverage through **promotions** including Valentine’s Day Tail Bouquet, the Maine Lobster Suite, Mother’s Day Seafood Box, and Maine Lobster Butter released in celebration of National Lobster Day

The MLMC will distribute a full summary of 2021 marketing results in January.

---

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DMR AQUACULTURE LEASE APPLICATION STATUS FOR DECEMBER
(as of 11/18/21)

For an interactive source of pending lease applications, please see DMR’s new “Table of Lease Applications Under Review” where you can find maps and documentation with just one click.

Go to: www.maine.gov/dmr/aquaculture/leases/pending.html and click INTERACTIVE DATA TABLE at the top of the list.

### Standard Lease Applications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Applicant/Company</th>
<th>Site Description</th>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DMR Bureau of Sea Run Fish</td>
<td>S side, E of Western Head, W of Little River</td>
<td>Cutler</td>
<td>4.0 acres</td>
<td>Finfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>Pub Hearing 12/6/21, Washington Acad 4:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sea Run Fisheries &amp; Habitat</td>
<td>E of Western Head &amp; Ll Brv Isl, Cutler Herb</td>
<td>Cutler</td>
<td>4.0 acres</td>
<td>Finfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>Site Review Complete 3/20/2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muscongus Bay Aquaculture NW of Gldden Ledge, Damariscotta River</td>
<td>Edgecomb</td>
<td>3.93 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App submitted; Comments due 11/8/2021</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whisky Stones, LLC</td>
<td>E of Dugs 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>Doyle, Victor</td>
<td>E of Barlett Isl, Blue Hill Bay</td>
<td>Mount Desert</td>
<td>1 acre</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>Public Hearing Postponed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bracy L, and Lombardo, P</td>
<td>N of Coombs Cove, Pemaquid River</td>
<td>Pemaquid</td>
<td>1.6 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec’d 7/19, comments due 8/21/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miller, Mark</td>
<td>SE of Eagle Island, Whitleer’s Bay</td>
<td>St. George</td>
<td>3.9 acres</td>
<td>Marine Algae</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>Lease Granted 11/10/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson, Ezra et al.</td>
<td>NE part of Hutt Coat Harbor</td>
<td>Swan Island</td>
<td>1.6 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec’d 5/22, comments due 6/26/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunt, Stewart</td>
<td>Upper Basket Island Ledge, Casco Bay</td>
<td>Yarmouth</td>
<td>3.9 acres</td>
<td>Marine Algae/algae</td>
<td>2 yrs</td>
<td>App rec’d 5/24/21, comments due 6/26/21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Experimental Lease Applications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Applicant/Company</th>
<th>Site Description</th>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acadian Sea 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>Lease Granted 10/29/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pemaquid Mussel Farms LLC</td>
<td>Mt Desert narrows, E of Googins Ledge</td>
<td>Bar Harbor</td>
<td>32 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Application rec’d 3/7/21, site review TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson, Timothy</td>
<td>SE of Barretts Pt, Middle Bay</td>
<td>Brunswick</td>
<td>17 acres</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>Great Ledge Cove Seafood LLC</td>
<td>NE Ll Chebeague Isl, Wtrns Charders Cove</td>
<td>Chebeague Isl</td>
<td>6.85 acres</td>
<td>Marine Algae</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Scoping session Aug 30, 2021, 5 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schoodic Seafarm LLC</td>
<td>off Long Mill Cove, Gosbyboon Bay</td>
<td>Corea</td>
<td>2.2 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>App rec’d 9/24/20, site review scheduled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summit Point LLC</td>
<td>S of Cliff Island, Casco Bay, Falmouth &amp;</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>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 p.m. –remote</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dodge Cove Marine Farm</td>
<td>SE of Dodge Pt</td>
<td>Damariscotta</td>
<td>12.26 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>app rec’d 7/15/21, site review TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffin, Bailey</td>
<td>W of Sow &amp; Pigs Isl, Casco Bay</td>
<td>Freeport</td>
<td>6.84 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Application rec’d 6/16/21, Site Review TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harraseeket 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>Lease granted 10/25/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Love Point Oystars, LLC</td>
<td>SE of Winslow Park, Casco Bay</td>
<td>Freeport</td>
<td>4.78 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Public Hearing 10/26/2021, 4:30 Freeport</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>Public Hearing 10/26/2021, 4 pm Freeport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooke Aquaculture USA, Inc</td>
<td>Off Black Island</td>
<td>Frenchboro</td>
<td>15 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Public Hearing 11/8/2021, 4 pm, SW Harbor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restorative Aquaculture LLC</td>
<td>Middle Bay, E of Scragg Island</td>
<td>Harpswell</td>
<td>9.89 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>App rec’d 10/20/21, site review TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islesboro Marine Enterprises, Inc</td>
<td>NE of Flat Island, Penobscot Bay</td>
<td>Idateboro</td>
<td>6 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Application rec’d 4/1/21, site review TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moosabec Mussels Inc.</td>
<td>Off old point, Jordan River</td>
<td>Lamesine</td>
<td>89.78 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Lease renewal; comments due 6/26/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I George Faux Inc</td>
<td>S of Great Salt Bay, Upper Damariscotta River</td>
<td>Newcastle</td>
<td>1.8 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Scoping Session Nov 18, 2021, 5 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine Oyster Inc.</td>
<td>E and S of Lehanm Isl, Upper Sheepscot River</td>
<td>Newcastle</td>
<td>10 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Application rec’d 6/17/21, site review TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hermit Island Oyster Co, LLC</td>
<td>Hermit Island, Small Pt Hic, New Meadows River</td>
<td>Phippsburg</td>
<td>2.56 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Application rec’d 5/26/21, site review TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine Fresh Sea Farms LLC</td>
<td>Clark Cove, Damariscotta River</td>
<td>So. Bristol</td>
<td>3.6 acres</td>
<td>Marine Algae</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>Application rec’d 5/26/21, site review TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dewey’s Shellfish, LLC</td>
<td>NW of Peters Island/Damariscotta River</td>
<td>South Bristol</td>
<td>0.58 acre</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Application rec’d 8/16/21, site review TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heron Island Oyster Company</td>
<td>w/in Fish Cove, at Gldden Ledge, E sideof Damariscotta river</td>
<td>South Bristol</td>
<td>1 acre</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Application rec’d 10/4/21, site review TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morning Star Fisheries, LLC</td>
<td>Sheepscot River, W of Boston Island</td>
<td>Southport</td>
<td>4.5 acres</td>
<td>Marine Algae</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Scoping Session 8/26/21, 8 pm Southport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brewer, Robert</td>
<td>E of Penobscot Bay SW of Andrews River</td>
<td>Stonington</td>
<td>3.26 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>App rec’d 10/20/21, site review TBD</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 Mossher Island</td>
<td>Yarmouth</td>
<td>2.72 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish/algae</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Application rec’d 5/26/21, site review TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hemminger, 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>Nickerson, Travis</td>
<td>E of Blaney Pt</td>
<td>Yarmouth</td>
<td>2.80 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>20 yrs</td>
<td>Application rec’d 10/4/21, site review TBD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Understand the process! You can make a difference!

**Standard Lease:** term is up to 20 years, size is up to 100 acres and is renewable

**Experimental Lease:** up to 3 years, 4 acres and is non-renewable.
By Nathaniel Barola

On October 19, the Responsible Offshore Development Alliance (RODA), an organization of fishing industry and companies, filed a 60-day notice of its intent to sue over the decision by the Bureau of Offshore Energy Management (BOEM) to permit Vineyard Wind 1, an offshore wind project in federal waters off Massachusetts.

"Offshore wind has inherent conflicts with fishing and this is a huge threat to seafood production as we know it," stated RODA’s Executive Director Annie Hawkins in an email. "We can’t let the first project set a precedent that it’s okay to ignore the concerns and recommendation of fishermen who have lived on those waters for centuries.

The Secretary of Interior through BOEM granted the Vineyard Wind 1 Project final approval in July. The wind farm would encompass more than 65,000 acres of seafloor and feature 84 fixed wind turbines generating 800-megawatts of electricity when completed.

"This Administration is moving full speed ahead on offshore wind, with plans to build 30 gigawatts in U.S. waters in less than 10 years and then a lot more," Hawkins noted. "The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management’s leasing regulations allow developers to do almost anything they want, instead of upholding the public interest. There are no real requirements for projects to be sited and designed to avoid fisheries. There aren’t even any criteria for weighing the importance of fishing or fishing communities."

RODA stated its intent to file a lawsuit if federal officials do not make changes to the project that bring it into compliance with the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, and other federal laws that were enacted to protect the nation’s environment, industries, and people. The Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act controls federal leases for offshore mineral and energy resources. The Clean Water Act helps control pollution and discharge from companies into important oceans and rivers. The Endangered Species Act conserves and protects endangered and threatened species along with their habitats. If the legislative violations are not resolved within a 60-day period, RODA will move forward with suing the federal government for its failure to address these issues.

Hawkins emphasized that fishermen’s concerns have not been recognized by BOEM, despite years of involvement.

“We and individual fishing groups and associations have attended every meeting, written thousands of pages of comments, met with state and federal regulators, and gone above and beyond to improve this process,” she said. “We’ve made various reasonable requests, from some baseline research on environmental impacts to suggesting a reasonable network of transit lanes so that fishermen can pass safely through project areas. Yet all the government did was agree to the voluntary ‘mitigation’ practices proposed by the developer.”

The intent to sue letter comes a month after RODA submitted a petition for the U.S. First Circuit Court of Appeals to review BOEM’s decision. The court has yet to make a ruling on the petition.

Hawkins reiterated the long-term importance of RODA’s action. “We need to make the government and wind developers understand that the ocean isn’t the wild west and they can’t just take whatever they want. This would apply to all current and future projects, not just Vineyard Wind or those in Southern New England,” Hawkins said.
Depression is a mental health disorder, affecting an estimated one in 15 adults in the United States, according to the American Psychiatric Association (APA). It is characterized by certain symptoms that persist for more than two weeks, such as loss of interest in once-enjoyable activities, changes in appetite, increased fatigue, feelings of worthlessness, difficulty concentrating or making decisions, sleeping too much or too little, and thoughts of death or suicide. Severe depression can wipe a person out, rendering them unable to function at work or at home.

Many factors contribute to the onset of depression, according to Martin. “There’s genetics or a traumatic event which can occur at any time in life. Depression is also caused by a chemical imbalance in the brain,” he said. Continuous exposure to violence, abuse, or poverty may make some people more vulnerable to depression.

The onset of depression often occurs when a person enters the later teenage years or early 20s. Afterward it may be reoccur throughout one’s life. “But depression can come at any time,” Martin cautioned. One in six people will experience depression at some point, according to the APA.

Depression is very different from general sadness or grief. Sadness and grief are normal reactions to loss of a loved one or a job and may ebb over time. Depression is a black hole into which no light comes. The depressed person is enveloped in feelings of worthlessness or self-loathing and may find the activities of daily life impossible to manage.

The COVID pandemic has had a clear effect on the mental health of Maine residents, according to Mental Health of Maine Adults During the Pandemic, a 2021 study commissioned by the John T. Gorman Foundation. More than two out of five people in the state have been dealing with depressive symptoms during the pandemic.

Certain activities can help reduce the symptoms of depression. For many people, regular exercise creates positive feelings and improves mood. Getting sound sleep on a regular basis, eating a healthy diet and avoiding alcohol, which is a depressant, can also reduce symptoms of depression. Finding a therapist to talk to, however, is a key element for many people navigating their way out of depression; NAMI Maine and other organizations can help a person locate a therapist in their area.

Medications may also help release a person from the grip of chronic depression. Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) are considered safe and generally cause fewer side effects than other types of antidepressants, according to the Mayo Clinic. A person may need to try several medications or a combination of medications before finding one that works. Some medications require several weeks or longer to take full effect.

“Reaching out for services is the strongest thing a person can do,” Martin said. “You are bettering your life and overall wellness.” The pandemic has led more people to seek mental health help from his organization, a result that encourages Martin. “A lot of people are reaching out for the first time and talking about it [depression]. We are starting to see a shift in thinking about mental health and physical health.”

Where to seek help

The Maine Statewide Crisis Hotline 1-888-568-1112
Call this 24/7 line to speak with a trained crisis clinician if you are concerned about yourself or someone else.

Intentional Peer Support Warmline 1-866-771-9276
Call this 24/7 peer support line to speak with a trained peer support specialist who has life experience with mental health and/or substance use recovery.

NAMI Maine Helpline 1-800-464-5767, Option 1
The NAMI Maine Helpline provides support, education, and advocacy for anyone with questions about mental health concerns.

Man Therapy, www.mantherapy.org
This is not a helpline, but it is a great resource for men who may be hesitant to talk about mental health.
GULF OF MAINE RESEARCH INSTITUTE BUYS PORTLAND’S UNION WHARF

Union Wharf, part of Portland’s working waterfront for 228 years, is being purchased by the Gulf of Maine Research Institute (GMRI) to maintain access for fishermen, oil spill responders, lobster wholesalers, and other maritime businesses. The wharf has been in private hands since it was constructed in the aftermath of Portland’s destruction in the American Revolution. Members of the Poole family have owned it outright since the 1950s. The Poole’s – led by brothers Charlie and Malcolm – are selling to their immediate neighbor, GMRI, a marine research institution that purchased and rehabilitated Wrights Wharf just to the west as its headquarters. GMRI’s bid wasn’t the highest, but they chose to sell to the institute because of its commitment to remain long-term stewards of the pier as the anchor of the working waterfront. GMRI president Don Perkins said his organization decided to try to purchase Union Wharf when it became clear no private maritime commercial companies or nonprofits were coming forward to take on the challenging and specialized mission of owning and operating a working commercial pier.

MAINE INVESTING $10 MILLION IN SEAFOOD INFRASTRUCTURE

The state will invest $10 million in federal funds through the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan to allow Maine seafood dealers and processors to upgrade their infrastructure. The new Seafood Infrastructure Investment Program will launch early next year and will be administered through the Department of Marine Resources. It will provide grants to Maine seafood dealers and processors to upgrade buildings, equipment, and utilities. These grants will help seafood dealers and processors increase the supply of Maine-harvested seafood; strengthen their ability to deliver to markets in Maine, across the United States, and around the world; and create and sustain jobs throughout Maine’s seafood industry. The Department of Marine Resources will begin accepting applications in the coming months. A range of funding will be offered, including smaller grants for facilities improvements and larger grants for capital projects.

MAINE'S FISHING HISTORY THROUGH ONE FAMILY

A new book on a historic fishing family was published recently. The Nunans of Cape Porpoise was created by photographer Robert Dennis and writer Shelley Wigglesworth. It tells the story of the Nunan family’s long history of fishing beginning in 1861 up to the present. The books is full of interviews with the current Nunan fishermen, their boats, their forefathers, and of Nunan’s Lobster Hut, begun in 1953. A portion of the proceeds from book sales benefit the Maine Coast Fishermen’s Association. To learn more, visit www.kportimages.com/The-Nunans-of-Cape-Porpoise.

Gouldsboro residents overwhelmingly voted for a moratorium ordinance that immediately halts for six months the review and issuance of municipal permits for American Aquafarms or other proposed 10-acre-plus finfish aquaculture ventures seeking to base their operations in town. The ordinance gives the Gouldsboro Planning Board time to review, and possibly propose amendments to, the town’s comprehensive plan as well as its land use, site plan, subdivision, and shoreland zoning ordinances that currently do not address finfish aquaculture development.

The ordinance was created largely in response to American Aquafarms’ plan to convert East Coast Seafood Group’s dormant Maine Fair Trade complex in Prospect Harbor into a large-scale operation which would process 66 million pounds of Atlantic salmon per year and raise its own juvenile fish to replenish its stocks at a hatchery on site.

ASMFC SEeks INPUT ON LOBSTER VESSEL TRACKING REQUIREMENT

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission’s (ASMFC) Lobster Management Board will meet via webinar on December 6 at 1pm to discuss the release of a draft plan to the public that would require electronic vessel tracking in the federal lobster and Jonah crab fisheries. This proposed action aims to address a critical need for high-resolution spatial and temporal data to characterize federal lobster fishing effort.

ASMFC has discussed potential specifications and requirements for tracking devices, harvesters, and states that will be necessary to ensure these data needs are met. ASMFC is planning to hold public hearings in January 2022 and adopt final measures in winter/spring 2022. For more information and to register to attend this meeting, go to https://www.asmfc.org/calendar/12/2021/american-lobster-management-board/1840.

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

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December 1 and 2
NOAA Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team meeting, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. FMI: www.fisheries.noaa.gov/new-england-mid-atlantic/marine-mammal-protection/atlantic-large-whale-take-reduction-team#pcoming-team-meetings.

December 2-12

December 3
NEFMC Scallop Committee meeting, 9 a.m.

To register: www.nefmc.org/calendar/dec-3-2021-scallop-committee-meeting.

December 6
ASMFC Lobster Management Board, to discuss vessel tracking on federal lobster boats, 1:00 p.m. via webinar. FMI: www.asmfc.org/calendar/12/2021/American-Lobster-Management-Board/1840.

December 6
BOEM Guidance for Mitigating Impacts to Fisheries Meetings, East Coast workshop on fixed gear, 10 a.m. to Noon. FMI: brian.hooker@boem.gov.

December 7
Maine Lobster Marketing Collaborative Board, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. FMI: info@lobsterfrommaine.com

Maine Offshore Wind Fisheries Working Group, 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. FMI: www.maineoffshorewind.org.

December 7-9
NEFMC meeting, Newport, RI. To register: www.nefmc.org/calendar/december-2021-concil-meeting.

December 8
MLA Board of Directors meeting, 5 p.m., via Zoom.

December 13
Fisheries hot water: Defining sentinel indicators of resilience in the American lobster fishery; part of Collaborative Chats series, hosted by Maine Sea Grant via Zoom, 4 p.m. FMI: https://seagrant.umaine.edu/extension/american-lobster-initiative/events.

December 14
Maine Offshore Wind Roadmap Advisory Committee Meeting, virtual meeting, 9 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. FMI: http://maineoffshorewind.org.

December 17
ASMFC Northern Shrimp Section meeting, via webinar, 9-11 a.m. FMI and to register: www.asmfc.org/calendar/12/2021/Northern-Shrimp-Section/1841.

January 1, 2022
Happy New Year!

January 12
Early life history of American lobsters in coastal southern New England waters, part of Collaborative Chats series, hosted by Maine Sea Grant via Zoom, 5:30 p.m. FMI: https://seagrant.umaine.edu/extension/american-lobster-initiative/events.

This page has been cut. Please see the next page for the rest of the content.
HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

The people of the Maine coast celebrate their connection to the sea at all times of the year, but perhaps most colorfully in the holiday season. From Eastport to York, the small towns and harbors light up in celebration.


A lobster trap Christmas tree rises in Rockland. MLA photo.

Santa Claus arrives in Kennebunk. R. Dennis photo.

A peaceful winter scene at the Jonesboro Grange. R. Hodgson photo.

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