In 2021, the Maine Lobstermen’s Association (MLA) took a drastic step. The board of directors voted to sue the federal government, specifically the National Marine Fisheries Service, for its ill-founded and deeply flawed Biological Opinion on the lobster fishery and associated ten-year conservation plan. According to the agency, its actions were necessary to protect the endangered North Atlantic right whale. MLA was not willing to accept NMFS’s conclusion that responsibility for the whales’ demise was on the backs of Maine lobstermen. MLA’s review of the data revealed that conclusion was based not on fact but on overly precautionary assumptions. “The MLA knew that there wasn’t much choice. We either sued to stop this plan or our fishery would be gone in a very short time,” Kristan Porter, MLA president, said.

No one sues the federal government blithely. You need extremely deep pockets, powerful allies, an exceptional legal team and remarkable perseverance. The MLA, a membership organization founded in 1954, had the final three items. It lacked the first.

The MLA board reached out to its base — the state’s lobster industry — for help through its SaveMaineLobstermen campaign. Many contributed during the early launch of the campaign. Individual lobstermen generously donated as much as $5,000, businesses like Colby & Gale and Brooks Trap Mill gave generously. But it was John and Brendan Ready of Ready Seafood in Saco who were the first industry members to step up with a major contribution. The two brothers made two generous donations to the campaign and then hit the road to ask others to do the same.

“We knew we were on the right side of this one. We didn’t want to lose what we have here in Maine. [The lawsuit] was the right thing and the only chance we had. The money raised was peanuts compared to who we were up against,” commented Curt Brown, Ready Seafood. Lobstermen were quick to take action. Some donated their reimbursement checks from the Department of Marine Resources. Some challenged other fishermen in their harbors to step up. Small businesses, from local restaurants to gift shops, started donating a portion of their sales to the campaign. Individuals organized “All Hands on Deck”

Continued on page 23
What a busy summer the Maine Lobstermen’s Community Alliance and the Maine Lobstermen’s Association are having! Sure, the weather’s been a bit uncooperative but we’re certainly feeling a groundswell of enthusiasm from all of you at the many events we’ve held this summer. Whether it’s at the lobster boat races or at public gatherings in towns like Stonington and Portland, so many people have been showing their support this summer for the organizations’ efforts to protect the Maine lobster fishery and the communities that depend on it. So, thank you!

In this issue of Landings members of those communities speak about their profound sense of relief at the successful conclusion of the MLA’s legal suit against the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). It was a true David vs. Goliath tale, of a small organization that knew it was being unjustly accused tackling the bureaucratic weight of a federal government agency. It took a lot of effort, a top-notch legal team, and a huge amount of money raised from individuals, towns, and businesses to fight this battle. But the MLA did it, and the Maine lobster fishery is grateful.

Unfortunately, the clock continues to tick. By the end of 2028 the lobster fishery will again face possible stringent regulations designed to protect the endangered North Atlantic right whale. Ensuring that the fishery is ready and has valid, peer-reviewed scientific data available to counter regulatory overreach remains critical. Fundraising and educational events are popping up all over, as Kevin Kelley, MLA director of advancement, writes in this issue. Despite the poor weather this summer, people certainly have had a lot of fun!

Keeping track of right whales continues to be a complex task for scientists and federal agencies. In the Gulf of St. Lawrence, where the whales have been congregating to eat and court since approximately 2010, whale researchers have seen puzzling behaviors this summer. The whales go to the Gulf of St. Lawrence to stock up on cold-water copepods, tiny crustaceans that are the animals’ principal food. But this year the whales are turning up in unexpected areas of the Gulf, as we note in this issue.

Other researchers are busy keeping track of Maine’s lobster population. Anna Dorrance is one of the Department of Marine Resources’ sea samplers. Lobstermen voluntarily take the samplers out on their fishing trips in each of Maine’s seven lobster zones throughout the summer and winter months. The samplers identify everything that comes up in every trap during the trip. They gather data on all lobsters hauled, including those thrown back as too small or large. These data are important for understanding the future strength of the state’s lobster population. Working as a sea sampler requires the ability to focus in all sorts of weather. As Dorrance notes, being resistant to sea sickness is a plus, too.

We also hear in this issue from the daughter of a Long Island lobsterman on what it means to be part of a fishing family. Carli Stewart, who works for National Fisherian, writes about the unique stresses lobstermen and their families experience in a regulatory climate that is constantly changing. Like the salmon trollers of Alaska, whose fishery was briefly closed by a district court decision this spring, lobstermen feel that they have done all they have been asked to do to protect an endangered species, and yet still have been blamed for the species’ precarious state. “Year after year, I watched the anguish in my father’s face as more regulations were put into place for one of the most sustainable fisheries in our country,” Stewart writes.

In our series “To Your Health,” Landings looks at a potentially deadly threat found on any fishing boat – the possibility of sepsis. Sepsis is blood poisoning caused by the entry of bacteria through a cut or injury. It is particularly easy to get blood poisoning while fishing because there are lots of harmful bacteria in the marine environment and because so many fishermen ignore cuts until they reach port. Taking the time to clean and treat the wound will keep sepsis and a trip to the hospital emergency room at bay.

Finally, we’d like to remind our readers that on August 27 at the Maine Maritime Museum in Bath The Mallet Brothers Band will hold a concert specifically to raise funds for the Maine Lobstermen’s Community Alliance. We are delighted that this mainstay of the Maine music world will be performing on our behalf.

Everyone should come to celebrate the Maine lobster fishery and to hear some wonderful music!
As my dad steams around the west side of Long Island, Maine on the F/V Carl & Co. I sit on the bow in the same spot I have claimed since he bought the boat when I was about four years old. Each lobstering season has always looked different for my dad; I always fear the new issues he must face. Though the stress doesn’t seem like it would be worth it from the outside looking in, I know that my dad would never choose a different way of life, and I don’t say that lightly. Most people have careers that have been strictly built to support their family financially, but for our family life has always revolved around fishing. Like many families that have been on this tiny island for generations, we continue to face the uncertainty of the Maine lobster fishery’s future.

Year after year, I watched the anguish in my father’s face as more regulations were put into place for one of the most sustainable fisheries in our country. I have always seen firsthand the stewards that make up this industrious community. The traditions of this lifestyle have persisted in my brother and me. Fishing is so much more than just a strong work ethic and catching fish—it’s a way of life. I chose the path of being an advocate for fishing families while my brother, Cody, became a fisherman. Cody fishes on his own boat F/V One More, on and offshore the coast of Maine, and holds a permit for the Northern Gulf of Maine Scallop season. Both my dad and brother started fishing out of rowboat punts at the age of eight, hand hauling their lobster traps close enough to shore that there were always eyes on them if something went wrong. Both of us were inspired by the different aspects of what our father did on and off the water. For years, our family has shown each other the ins and outs of this industry generations, our family has shown each other the ins and outs of this industry.

I understand the importance of keeping these mammals safe, but it isn’t fair to be facing regulation after regulation for an industry that has done all we can to self-regulate and ensure we are fishing as safely as possible,” my dad explained. Year after year, I watched the anguish in my father’s face as more regulations were put into place for one of the most sustainable fisheries in our country. Since the 1850s, Maine lobstermen have ensured self-regulation within their fishery to further create sustainability for the sake of the stock and the ability to see their kids become lobstermen as well. Maine lobster fishermen have persisted through many waves of change: they’ve altered their gear to help protect the endangered right whales, they have stayed involved in conservation efforts to make sure the fishery remains viable, and they have fought the federal government to save this critical Maine industry.

With regulations and legal suits involving the endangered right whale, Maine lobstermen fear the same outcome as Alaska troll fishermen. “We have been blamed for endangering a species that has never had a death involving Maine lobster gear and has had no entanglement in almost two decades. I understand the importance of keeping these mammals safe, but it isn’t fair to be facing regulation after regulation for an industry that has done all we can to self-regulate and ensure we are fishing as safely as possible,” my dad explained.
If there is one consistent theme to this summer’s Save Maine Lobstermen fundraisers it is joyous fun in miserable weather! Our latest “All Hands on Deck” fundraiser took place on Sunday, July 16 in a historic barn on a hill overlooking East Penobscot Bay, or at least that’s what we were told. The thick fog and grey skies that surrounded Edgewood Farm in Deer Isle made it tough to enjoy the view outside, but the eclectic treasures that filled the barn’s interior provided plenty to see!

Organized by MLA board member John Williams and his wife Judy, the event featured a free community lunch of lobster rolls, potato chips, cole slaw — and homemade whoopie pies! Approximately 100 community members and summer visitors turned out to hear from MLA Board president Kristan Porter and to learn more about MLA’s recent Appeals Court victory and ongoing efforts to protect Maine’s lobstersing heritage. They also enjoyed musical performances by several local bands, made up of local lobstermen and fishing families, who volunteered their time to the cause.

We’d like to thank John and Judy, Edgewood Farm owners Loring and Claudette Kydd, and everyone who volunteered time to play in one of the bands or to help prepare food.

When MLA launched its Save Maine Lobstermen campaign in November 2021, we set a goal to raise $10 million in three years. We knew that wouldn’t be easy, but what we didn’t know was how much fun we would have trying to reach that goal. It was heartwarming to hear from community members who stopped to thank MLA staff for the work we have put into the effort that has helped to clear at least some of the dark cloud that has been hanging over the heads of hardworking fishing families for several years now.

I stopped at the Brooksville Free Public Library last month to check out the Peninsula Lobstering Exhibit. Artist Sarah Baskin organized the art exhibit after speaking with local lobstermen about the unprecedented challenges they have faced. The show, which ran through July 20, featured 40 artists who spend all or part of their year on the Blue Hill Peninsula. Fifty percent of all sales from the exhibit will be donated to our non-profit partner organization, Maine Lobstermen’s Community Alliance, which works closely with the MLA to protect a sustainable lobster resource and the fishermen and communities that depend on it.

We are extremely grateful to all the artists who participated. If you missed the show but still want to check out the artwork, visit peninsula_lobstering_exhibit on Instagram or Sarah Baskin Art on Facebook.

We’ll also be at the 46th annual Machias Wild Blueberry Festival which runs August 18-20. They say blueberries put Machias on the map, but nothing goes better with a slice of blueberry pie than fresh lobster! MLA will be set up in the County Courthouse lot on Saturday, August 19th selling gear, talking to folks, and happily accepting donations to our Save Maine Lobstermen campaign. Come say hi and visit www.machiasblueberry.com for more information on that festival.

Continued on page 20
Th is widespread support made the impossible a reality. On June 16, a panel of judges at the U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington, D.C., unanimously overturned the lower court’s verdict on the MLA’s case, vacating the Biological Opinion without closing the fishery. Said the court, “IL as the lobstermen claim, the federal fishery is not the problem, then the phase one rule is not the solution. No law allows the Service to keep in place a useless rule.” The court was highly critical of Judge Boasberg’s interpretation of the law, “The presumption in favor of the species is, like an adequate margin of safety, a blunt tool. The presumption significantly expands the Service’s veto power, prevents the agency from ‘paying attention to the advantages and the disadvantages’ of the action, and invites the unnecessary economic dislocation wrought by worst-case thinking.”

The MLA’s perseverance – despite countless doubters and naysayers – won the day. “The lobster industry is a mainstay of Maine’s economy, and this is a great victory for both the families that rely on this work for their livelihood as well as the communities around the state that benefit from the industry,” said Machias Savings Bank president Barker. “We’re firmly committed to Moving Maine Forward, which is only possible when we support each other. The success of the MLA’s appeal case is a testament to the strength we have when we stand together to support our neighbors and the industries that our state depends on.”

“It’s a really wonderful thing to see it happen. It’s a tribute to everyone on the coast and to the MLA who took some real body blows over the years. But the MLA stood up to the punches and won the fight,” Brown said. “The words of the appeal judge who wrote the verdict are very powerful. Really strong words. But it’s what we’ve been preaching for years and years and years.”

Charelne Hoyt, whose son and husband lobster out of Kittery, helped organize a hugely successful community fundraiser in that town earlier this year. Hoyt felt a surge of relief upon hearing the verdict.

“My son Mark recently bought a larger boat. Ledgehammer, with the dream of making a good living from his hard work. While I am deeply relieved that the MLA won the recent appeal, and my husband and son can continue to make a living, I am far more profoundly relieved that they will both be able to continue making a life, a life that fulfills and strengthens them as marvelous human beings,” she wrote in an email.

Amanda Smith, who lobsters with her husband from Beals Island, is a member of the Great Harvest Housewives for the Fishing Industry, an informal group of women whose husbands or partners are lobstermen. Last fall, after the Monterey Bay Aquarium’s “red” listing of lobster, Smith and her friends got angry. They held two rallies last fall to educate people and to contribute to the MLA’s campaign.

And when the verdict was released, “It breathed new life into our hope, which was starting to wane,” Smith said. “When I found out, I started crying. I know we aren’t done yet by any means, but it gives us breathing room. Winning this is so positive and so crucial in the industry. With all the fog this summer and bad weather and the lobsters not picking up, this was really good news.”

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Sight of Relief continued from page 1

By MLA staff

The Alaskan salmon troller fishery may seem entirely unconnected to the Maine lobster fishery but in fact the two fisheries have faced similar mortal threats from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

In 2020, an environmental organization called Wild Fish Conservancy sued NMFS, arguing that commercial fishing was depleting endangered orcas’ principal food source, Chinook salmon (the orca whale population is estimated to be 73 animals). The Wild Fish Conservancy argued that the agency’s biological opinion on the troller fishery was inadequate to slow the whales’ population decline and in addition, was deeply flawed. In 2022, a district judge found in the Wild Fish Conservancy’s favor. Then, in May, the district court vacated the biological opinion supporting the commercial harvest, forcing cancellation of the summer and winter salmon seasons. NMFS must create an entirely new biological opinion.

But on June 21, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit overturned the district judge’s decision, allowing the fishery to open on as usual on July 1. The appeals court panel ruled that the district court judge was mistaken when he vacated portions of the biological opinion that allowed for commercial chinook salmon trolling in the region, even if the document was flawed. The court added that the plaintiff’s motion to vacate the Biological Opinion before the Trollers Association — had shown that the impact of the commercial fishing industry likely outweighs the “speculative environmental threats” of keeping the fishery open while the biological opinion is redrafted, Seafood Source reported in late June.

In support of the Alaska trollers, MLA president Kristan Porter wrote a letter of encouragement to Amy Daugherty, executive director of the Alaska Trollers Association.

Hello Alaska Trollers. My name is Kristan Porter and I am president of the Maine Lobstermen’s Association.

I have been watching what is happening to you guys from the east coast. The situation you are all in is very similar to the one we are in. Basically it is the environmental groups trying to force the hardworking fisherman out of business, using whales as a vehicle to do it.

Like you pride ourselves on having one of the most sustainable fisheries in the U.S., making sure that we always have a fishery for the next generation. Without the Lobster Fishery here in Maine the coastal communities would disappear and our way of life would be gone. That is why we couldn’t go down without a fight.

We decided a few years ago that we would do whatever it took to save our fishery from being shut down by the ENGOs and NMFS, even going so far as suing the federal government. As you have probably heard we WON that case. This win did not come without some really dark days when we almost threw in the towel, but too much was at stake. We made some pretty bold decisions hoping the fishermen and the local communities would financially help us and they did. Now you too have won a huge victory in the courts. Congratulations on your stay. You now have time to come up with a permanent fix.

The reason I am writing you is to tell you DO NOT GIVE UP! I don’t know what your strategic options might be but explore them all and don’t leave anything on the table. Neither of us are out of the woods yet but we have definitely turned the tide in our favor. Our future looks a lot brighter than it did just a few weeks ago. Just remember, our way of life is worth fighting for ... right to the end.

Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Assessment for a Wind Energy Research Lease on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf Offshore Maine

On July 21, 2023, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) issued a Notice of Availability (NOA) in the Federal Register of a draft environmental assessment (EA) for the potential issuance of a wind energy research lease. BOEM issued a public notice in the Federal Register, 85640-85660, announcing the availability of the draft EA and an opportunity for public comment. The draft EA provides a description of the research project, the potential issuance of a wind energy research lease, and the potential impacts of the proposed activities that are expected to take place should this research lease be issued. The NOA announced the start of the public comment period, a 60-day period, and, as well as the dates and times for public meetings on the draft EA. After BOEM holds the public meetings and addresses public comments submitted during the review period, BOEM will publish a final EA. The EA will inform BOEM’s decision whether to issue the research lease.

You are invited to attend public meetings to learn more about the proposed activities and the EA and provide oral comments that BOEM will consider during preparation of the final EA. Virtual public meetings will be held on the following dates and times (Eastern Time):

- **Tuesday, August 1, 2023:** 5:00 p.m.
- **Thursday, August 3, 2023:** 1:00 p.m.

Registration for the virtual public hearing is required and may be completed at https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/maine/gulf-maines. Meeting information will be sent to registrants via their email address provided for EA registration. The draft EA and public comments about the proposed Project can be found on BOEM’s website at https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy-state-activities/maine/gulf-maines. Comments can be submitted in any of the following ways:

- **Orally or in written form during any of the public meetings identified in this notice.**
- **In written form by mail or any other delivery service, enclosed in an envelope labeled “Gulf of Maine Research Lease EA” and addressed to Chief, Office of Renewable Energy Programs, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, 45600 Woodland Road, Sterling, VA 20166.**
- **Through the regulations.gov web portal: Navigate to http://www.regulations.gov and search for Docket No. BOEM-2023-D042. Click on the ‘Comment’ button below the document link. Enter your information and comment, then click “Submit Comment.”**

For further information, contact Jessica Stromberg, BOEM Office of Renewable Energy Programs, 45600 Woodland Road, Sterling, Virginia 20166, (703) 787-1730 or jessica.stromberg@boem.gov.
Everyone in the lobster industry should remember the date of June 16 with pride. It is the day that the lobster industry earned a historic victory when a panel of three Appeals Court judges unanimously ruled that the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) had abused its discretion and overregulated Maine's lobster industry.

The events leading up to this historic win began to unfold in earnest in 2017, when 17 North Atlantic right whales died primarily in Canadian waters. That was when NMFS set in motion its plan to blame the lobster industry for the decline in the right whale population.

Lobstermen responded immediately, expressing frustration and bewilderment that they were being blamed for the right whale decline in spite of having compiled with numerous protection measures over the past twenty years. They questioned why significant new restrictions on them were necessary. Regulators dismissed these concerns, chalking it up to the usual knee jerk reaction from lobstermen who grumble anytime regulations are proposed.

Yet, this time the lobstermen’s reaction to NMFS’s plan to hold them accountable for the abrupt decline of the right whale was different. Maine lobstermen — all of them — were adamant that NMFS was wrong. And because this felt so wrong to each and every lobsterman, the MLA set out to understand what was harming right whales by sifting through scientific studies and decades of right whale injury and mortality data. The MLA needed to understand why NMFS and the lobster industry’s points of view were so far apart.

As the MLA dug through the data, we raised red flags over numerous issues concerning how the agency was interpreting, modeling and presenting the data. The MLA called the agency out at meetings, sent emails and letters, requested corrections — you name it, the MLA tried it. Yet at every turn NMFS dug its heels in and refused to budge.

It was clear that NMFS had locked into a strategy that had its heels in and refused to budge. These flags over numerous issues concerning how the agency was interpreting, modeling and presenting the data. The MLA called the agency out at meetings, sent emails and letters, requested corrections — you name it, the MLA tried it. Yet at every turn NMFS dug its heels in and refused to budge.

The MLA immediately appealed the District court ruling. The MLA would not allow Maine lobstermen to be held accountable for saving right whales that they were not harming.

The MLA channeled its belief in the lobster industry to leave no stone unturned in the fight. We hired lawyers, we went on payment plans, and we launched a fundraising campaign. At a time when it seemed that nearly everyone had been brainwashed by NMFS and the environmental groups into believing that the lobster industry was driving the right whale species toward extinction, Maine people and businesses stepped up to make the lawsuit possible.

Even when the MLA lost its case in Washington D.C. District Court in 2022, the Maine lobstering community continued to support us. The MLA immediately appealed the District court ruling. Our supporters understood that the fight would not be easy and that more funds were necessary to stay in it. You stuck with us.

It was then that MLA’s hard work and perseverance finally paid off. Not only did the MLA win its appeal, but the association also played a critical role in changing federal law to help save the fishery. Who would have thought that a small grassroots fishing association could achieve two massive wins in two of our three branches of government? Historic indeed!

These victories are truly a David and Goliath tale. The MLA has put it all on the line to fight for what we believe in — Maine's lobster industry. Your trust and support of the MLA, and the belief from so many communities, businesses and individuals in the importance of the fishery have made these victories possible.

Thank you to all who support the MLA.
The MLA Board of Directors met on July 12 in Belfast. President Kristan Porter introduced MLA’s new Policy and Advocacy Associate Rebecca Nuzzi. Rebecca addressed the board with a summary of her background and her excitement at working for the MLA.

Patrice congratulated the board on MLA’s historic win in the U.S. Court of Appeals on June 16 to enthusiastic cheers around the room! The three-judge panel vacated NMFS’s Biological Opinion and Final Rule, providing a very detailed rationale of why it overturned Judge Boasberg’s decision. MLA legal counsel Mary Anne Mason noted how rare it is to get such well thought and thorough unanimous opinion, making it clear that NMFS cannot use its old tricks against the lobster fishery in the future. Defendants have until July 31 to appeal this decision. The Appeals court will not deliver its mandate to Judge Boasberg until the case is settled without challenge. The Department of Justice’s motion to dismiss the environmental groups’ case is on hold until the MLA case is settled. Once the Appeals Court delivers its mandate to the District Court, parties will have five days to brief the Court of Motion to dismiss that case.

Kevin Lipson, from the law firm Venable, is representing the MLA and co-plaintiffs MCCA, Atwood Lobster, Bean Maine Lobster, and Bug Catcher in the lawsuit against Monterey Bay Aquarium (MBA). Lipson summarized the basis of the defamation lawsuit against MBA. MBA’s response was to dismiss the case, or have it heard in California instead of Maine. MBA’s motion to dismiss was denied in its reply, claiming that it did not defame the industry because its recommendation was based on tentative scientific data and theory rather than hard evidence! The MLA and other plaintiffs’ response will be filed on July 24, and MBA’s final filing will be on August 22. The court is expected to rule some time in October.

Patrice provided several additional policy updates on the MLA’s FOIA request and a ruling against MLA on its request for correction of NMFS’s use of whale data under the Information Quality Act. There has been much activity on offshore wind. The MLA submitted strong comments to BOEM on June 12 in opposition to offshore wind development in the Gulf of Maine. Representative Golden introduced a bill to ban offshore wind in LMA 1. In the Maine Legislature, a bill to ban offshore wind (LD 1884) is dead while the bill the procure offshore wind (LD 1895) is still under consideration. A separate bill (LD 1847), to set visual standards for offshore wind, was vetoed by Governor Mills. In July BOEM will hold outreach meetings with the fishing industry in Portland, Ellsworth and Rockport. Patrice will share talking points with the board. The bill to create a lobster innovation fund to pay fishermen to test innovative gear (LD 1552) was funded at $50,000 instead of $1 million. The MLA will be actively recruiting Olex and Time Zero users for its Lobster Proprietary Data Project to aggregate lobster trip data collected by each software. These data will be fishermen-owned and held by the Fishery Knowledge Proprietary Data Project to aggregate lobster trip data collected by each software. These data will be fishermen-owned and held by the Fishery Knowledge Trust. The data can be used in policy decisions for wind and whales with data under the Information Quality Act.

Continued on page 8

SENATOR COLLINS SECURES FUNDS TO SUPPORT LOBSTER INDUSTRY

Senator Collins announced on July 13 that the Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) appropriations bill was officially approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee and now awaits consideration by the full Senate and House. Through this bill, Senator Collins advanced more than $35 million and key language to support Maine’s lobster industry.

“Flawed and incomplete data is being used to inform regulations, creating unnecessary, burdensome requirements for Maine lobstermen and women,” said Senator Collins. “This funding would support Maine’s iconic lobster industry by improving the incomplete and imprecise science upon which the federal government relies. As the Vice Chair of the Appropriations Committee, I will continue to advocate for this funding as the appropriations process moves forward.”

Funding and legislative language advanced by Senator Collins in the FY24 appropriations bill includes $30 million—a $4 million increase over FY23 levels—to provide $6.8 million of these funds were allocated to Maine. DMR then had to develop a distribution plan for approval by NOAA. $10 million was to provide direct relief to lobstermen to offset the cost of compliance with the May 2022 federal whale rules. $6.8 million of these funds were allocated to Maine. DMR then had to develop a distribution plan for approval by NOAA. Maine lobstermen were deemed eligible for payment if they held a state lobster license in 2022 and made 50 or more lobster fishing trips from 2019-2021 or landed at least 32,392 lbs. from 2019-2021. Lobstermen who also held a federal permit and purchased EEZ tags in 2022 were eligible for two times the payment of a state-only license holder. The amount of payment was calculated by taking the available funds and dividing them among eligible state license holders and federal permit holders. DMR estimates that state license holders will receive approximately $1,700, and that state license holders who also held a federal permit will receive approximately $3,800. However, exact amounts will depend on the number of lobstermen who are eligible to receive payment.

Patrice provided several additional policy updates on the MLA’s FOIA request and a ruling against MLA on its request for correction of NMFS’s use of whale data under the Information Quality Act.
the Gray Zone. Lobstermen who fish in the Gray Zone, located ten miles off the Maine coast between the U.S. and Canada, are increasingly frustrated that their Canadian counterparts undermine U.S. protections and threaten the sustainability of the lobster stock because they fish under a different regulatory scheme.

In 2021, Congress reinstated Congressionally Directed Spending, which are spending provisions in federal appropriations legislation included primarily at the request of a member of Congress. Senator Collins also advanced $36.65 million in Congressionally Directed Spending in the appropriations bill, including $440,000 for the University of Maine to develop a North Atlantic right whale habitat characterization plan and $1,477,000 for the Island Institute in the Financial Services and General Government (FSGG) appropriations bill. “This investment would back the Island Institute’s efforts to strengthen the economic resilience of lobster industries and communities along coastal towns from Damariscotta to Eastport,” said Senator Collins.

MLMC CELEBRATES THE MAINE LOBSTER ROLL

The Maine Lobster Marketing Collaborative (MLMC) is partnering with local restaurants and nationwide distributors to debut a new special, the “Celebrate the Maine Lobster Roll,” beginning July 15. This promotion is part of the MLMC’s “Maine Characters” campaign celebrating the hardworking individuals responsible for carrying on this heritage industry and bringing lobsters to diners each season. The “Maine Characters” campaign will spotlight the broad impact the fishery has in Maine and will feature the stories of the individuals behind the industry — from the fishermen to the processors, dealers, trap builders, restaurants owners and more.

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

Accutech Marine Propeller
Agri-Access
Atlantic Edge Lobster
Beals-Jonesport Coop Inc.
Beals Lobster Pier
Bowdoin College
Dining Services
CEI
Chapman & Chapman
Chase Leavitt
Coastal Documentation II
Coastal Equipment Corp.
CSL Plasma
Downeast Dayboat
Farin’s Boatshop
Fineskind Scenic Cruiser
First National Bank
F. W. Thurston Co. Inc.
Georgetown Fishermen’s Cooperative
Gulf of Maine Lobster Foundation
Guy Cotten, Inc.
The Hanover Insurance Group
Harbor Bait
Inha Refractories Inc.
Inland Seafood
Interstate Lobster Co.
Island Fishing Gear & Auto Parts
Island Fishermen’s Wives
John’s Bay Boat Co.
Lobster Trap Co.
Lomnie’s Hydraulic Inc.
M & B Fish Co.
Machias Savings Bank
Maine Center for Coastal Fisheries
Maine Coast Fishermen’s Association
Maine Financial Group
Maine Lobstermen’s Community Alliance
Maine Ocean Lobster
Maine Sea Grant
Marine Hydraulic Engineering Co. Inc.
McMillan Offshore
Midcoast Marine Supply
Midcoast Solar LLC
Milan Cat
Nauticus Marine
Fabrication
New England Marine & Industrial Inc.
New England Propeller
Northeast Marine Survey
Novatec Braids LTD
Olivecr Investments, LLC
Pack Edge
Port Clyde Fishermen’s Cooperative
Port Lobster Co.
RE Thomas Marine Hardware
RG Tax Accounting and Resolution
Riverdale Mills
Rope Razor
Seacoast Lobster Bands
Seacoast Tours of Freeport
Shearwater Marine Surveying
South Bristol Fishermen’s Cooperative
Superior Marine Products
Tenants Harbor Fishermen’s Cooperative
The Clam Shack
Varney Insurance Inc.
Vinalhaven Fishermen’s Cooperative
William Coffin & Sons
Winter Harbor Fishermen’s Cooperative
Woods Hole Group

“Celebrate the Maine Lobster Roll” will provide customers with materials including toothpicks, placemats, sandwich paper and postcards that feature “Maine Characters,” along with a QR code linked to the “Maine Characters” digital hub. Every roll sold through the promotion will help support the fishery. A portion of the proceeds from the rolls will go to the Maine Lobstermen’s Community Alliance, an organization that works to ensure the health and sustainability of the fishery. Individuals can take part in “Celebrate the Maine Lobster Roll” at participating restaurants:

- The Boathouse Restaurant, Kennebunkport
- The Clam Shack, Kennebunkport
- DiMillo’s, Portland
- The Highroller Lobster Co., Portland
- Island Lobster Company, Portland
- Luke’s Lobster, Portland location only
- Portland Lobster Co., Portland
- Union River Lobster Pot, Ellsworth

The “Celebrate the Maine Lobster Roll” also will be available for purchase online via Get Maine Lobster. Visit LobsterfromMaine.com/MeetTheMaineCharacters and share on social media by using #MaineLobster and #CelebrateTheMaineLobsterRoll.

MAINE LANDS 1/3 OF STATE MENHADEN QUOTA BY MID-JULY

Maine’s 2023 menhaden season opened to pound nets and fish weirs on June 1 and to all other gears on June 19. Maine’s allocation of Atlantic menhaden quota is 4.80% of the available 233,550 metric tons, or 24,510,314 pounds. Maine is also able to participate in the Episodic Events Fishery Set Aside program estimated at approximately 5.1 million pounds for the 2023 fishing year (set aside is 1% of total quota). DMR reported landings of 8,403,990 pounds through July 18.

State allocation fishery: The fishery begins annually on the third Monday in June. The 2023 season allows weekly landings on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Landings are limited to 18,000 pounds or 51 barrels per harvester vessel per week, and are limited to one landing per calendar day. DMR is authorized to prohibit menhaden fishing for up to 14 days during the State Allocation fishery, if necessary to slow the rate at which the quota is caught.

Photo by M. Carpenter for MainePublic.

MAINE LOBSTERMEN’S ASSOCIATION UPDATE

MLA update continued from page 7

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Turn to page 9 for more updates.
**MAINE LOBSTERMEN’S ASSOCIATION UPDATE**

**Episodic event fishery:** The episodic fishery may be authorized by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission following the closure of the state allocation and episodic event fisheries. Landings will be allowed Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays with harvesters limited to 6,000 pounds or 17 barrels per harvester vessel per day. Only one landing is allowed per calendar day.

**Small scale fishery:** This fishery opens only after the full utilization of the state allocation and episodic event fisheries. Landings will be allowed Mondays, Fridays and harvesters limited to 6,000 pounds or 17 barrels per harvester vessel per day. Only one landing is allowed per calendar day. Gear allocation and episodic event fisheries. Landings will be allowed Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

**Pound nets and fish weirs only:** These gears only may land 7 days per week during each fishery (state, episodic and small-scale). Gears must be marked with buoys including full name and DMR Landings number. These gears may start fishing on June 1st, limited to 1,050 pounds or 3 barrels daily. Starting the third Monday in June, pound nets and fish weirs will be limited to 18,000 pounds or 51 barrels per harvester vessel per week. During the episodic fishery, the daily landing limit will be 6,000 pounds or 17 barrels and may not exceed 12,000 pounds or 34 barrels per week. During the incidental fishery, the daily landing limit will be 6,000 pounds of 17 barrels and may not exceed 18,000 pounds or 51 barrels per week.

**SMALL HERRING SEASON OPENED MID-JULY**

The ASMFC Herring Management Board set the sub-annual catch limit’s (ACL) for Area 1A and quota allocation by season. The Area 1A sub-ACL is 3,050 metric tons (mt) after adjusting for the overrun from 2021, the 30 mt fixed gear set-aside, and the fact that Area 1A closes at 92% of the sub-ACL. ASMFC’s seasonal allocation is 72.8% available from June 1 – September 30 and 27.2% from October 1 – December 31 for Area 1A.

ASMFC opened the fishery on July 16 with five consecutive landing days a week. Only one landing is allowed per day. Small mesh bottom trawl vessels with an Atlantic herring Limited Access Category C or Open Access D permit that have declared into the fishery may land herring six (6) consecutive days a week.

Vessels with an Atlantic herring Category A permit may harvest up to 320,000 lbs. (8 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.

### Cumulative Landings Atlantic Herring

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Quota (mt)</th>
<th>Total Catch</th>
<th>% of ACL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1A</td>
<td>3,315</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1B</td>
<td>555</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3,589</td>
<td>456</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>4,806</td>
<td>5,119</td>
<td>106%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACL</td>
<td>12,387</td>
<td>5,481</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: NMFS Atlantic Herring Quota Monitoring

**NMFS FISHING BUSINESS COST SURVEY**

NOAA’s Social Sciences Branch invites active, federally-permitted commercial fishing vessel owners to participate in a voluntary survey to collect information about calendar year 2022 commercial fishing expenses. Currently, this survey is the only way NOAA Fisheries collects this kind of information in our region. The survey is open through September 1, 2023.

NOAA will use the data collected to develop economic analyses that inform commercial fishing regulation and policies, better understand the effects of regulations on commercial fishing businesses and communities, track trends in business costs over time, evaluate the economic performance of fishing fleets, better understand profitability of fishing fleets, expand the new cost survey data visualization tool which vessel owners can use for business planning.

The survey will collect cost information on the vessel, at-sea operation, business overhead, and crew expenses. It will also collect information on quota leasing costs and earnings, and the value of the vessel and vessel permits. Examples of specific expenses include new/upgraded fishing gear, new/upgraded safety equipment, fuel, bait, ice, vessel insurance premiums, permit(s), mooring fees, workshop or storage, association fees, business vehicle use and leasing quota and days at sea (if applicable). Participation and individual responses to this survey are confidential.

The survey is available online at [https://www.fishingcostsurvey.com/NOAA_Fishing_Cost_Survey](https://www.fishingcostsurvey.com/NOAA_Fishing_Cost_Survey). Alternatively, fishermen can request a hard copy of the survey or request to take the survey by phone or webinar. Contact Gregory Ardini at (508) 495-4710 or gregory.ardini@noaa.gov if you wish to participate.

**BOEM HOLDS OFFSHORE WIND MEETINGS WITH FISHERMEN**

Representatives from Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) visited Maine in July to hear fishermen’s views about where to site offshore wind facilities in the Gulf of Maine. The Biden Administration has set a goal of deploying 30 gigawatts of offshore wind energy capacity by 2030. The State of Massachusetts alone seeks to procure 10 GW of offshore wind and the state of Maine 3 GW. BOEM presented data and maps and asked fishermen for feedback on these data and how they were used based on their on-the-water knowledge.

BOEM explained that the leasing process starts with a large area. As the agency receives feedback from the public, areas are removed from consideration. According to BOEM, the process seeks to avoid as much conflict as possible and minimize impacts on the environment and existing uses. To that end, BOEM shared modeled runs that would remove LMA 1 from consideration for offshore wind development and maps that showed that the majority of wind developers interested to date are seeking to locate outside of LMA 1.

MLA representatives attended all three meetings. The MLA reiterated that Maine lobstermen strongly oppose offshore wind and that the 1,440 turbines necessary to achieve the offshore wind capacity envisioned by the states of Massachusetts and Maine in a fragile ocean ecosystem is a recipe for disaster.

The MLA emphasized that LMA 1 should not be considered as a potential lease area. This area is in the process of expanding its data collection this area. The lobster industry is in the process of expanding its data collection and days at sea (if applicable). Participation and individual responses to this survey are confidential.

BOEM intends to publish its draft Wind Energy Areas in October, which will encompass approximately 2 million acres. The agency will hold additional public meetings and accept written comments on the proposal.

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-Cheryl Clegg

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—John Petersdorf, CEO of Bean Maine Lobster Inc.

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MAINE LOBSTER

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MARKETING UPDATES

MLMC partnered with local restaurants and online shippers in Maine to promote the ‘Celebrate the Maine Lobster Roll’ campaign. Participating restaurants and shippers served a special lobster roll to celebrate and support the hardworking people behind each meal. Restaurant materials featured with each roll included a QR code driving consumers to our dedicated website showcasing compelling stories and images that share the importance of lobster to families and coastal communities in Maine. Special thank you to the restaurants and shippers who participated in this promotion and donated a portion of proceeds to Maine Lobstermen’s Community Alliance.

Learn more about the people behind the fishery at LobsterFromMaine.com/meet-the-maine-characters
You don’t have to be an extrovert to be a lobster sea sampler, but it certainly doesn’t hurt. Anna Dorrance fits the bill. The 25-year-old began work as a Department of Marine Resources (DMR) sea sampler in May 2022 and her enthusiasm for the job is as great today as the first day she went to sea.

“T have an undergraduate degree in Marine Sciences [from the University of New Hampshire] but I wanted to do applied science, not write papers that no one ever reads,” she said. “The data we collect gets used and helps to better understand lobsters and the fishery.”

Dorrance was introduced to the Gulf of Maine as a child when her family and grandmother spent a week each summer in York. “I spent all my time crawling around on the rocks and swimming. I remember telling my mother I was OK when I warmed up enough in the water to shiver!” she said.

DMR sea samplers are sent to any of the seven zones along the coast for their sampling trips. In her first year, Dorrance did most of her trips in southern Maine. Now living in Gardiner, she spends much of her work time this year going out with lobstermen from midcoast and Downeast harbors.

Lobstermen volunteer to take sea samplers on their trips, Dorrance’s days begin early, based on when a particular lobsterman wants to start. “Our goal is to not disrupt the fisherman, to stay out of the way,” she said. Once on board the sampler identifies everything in each trap hauled and collects data on all the lobsters caught. “There have to be at least 100 traps in the trip and not a long soak time,” she continued. One of the more important sets of data gathered by sea samplers focuses on what is tossed back into the ocean by lobstermen — lobsters that are too small or occasionally too large to keep. These data give vital information about the significance of the Maine fisheries conservation practices.

Some lobstermen will pre-sort the catch into legals and non-legal sized lobsters for her; others will simply put the lobsters into a separate crate for Dorrance to sort herself. The days are long and sometimes the Gulf of Maine can be rough. Dorrance confesses to bouts of seasickness but has found that with time, and the judicious use of seasickness tablets, she can function and get her work done.

At the end of the year DMR puts together a summary of sea sampling data gathered that season. Each individual lobsterman receives a similar report summarizing what was gathered aboard his or her vessel. “It gives them a sense of what the whole season looked like and by trip. It shows them what happens to the data we collect,” Dorrance said. “They are generally really interested in it.”

While each trip is different, one thing remains the same for Dorrance — her enjoyment talking with the lobstermen who participate in the program. “It’s amazing the amount of knowledge out there that’s not written down. I can hear what their concerns are and it really makes me think about research questions that would be applicable to the industry.”

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Wrong response. You have just broken your skin, letting in a flock of potentially life-threatening bacteria and viruses. Plus you are working in a less-than-hygienic wet environment where noxious pathogens are prevalent. You could become extremely sick from septicemia.

Septicemia, or sepsis, is the clinical name for blood poisoning by bacteria. It is the body’s most extreme response to an infection. When something bad enters your body, the immune system immediately begins to fight it. Sometimes the immune system goes overboard and causes widespread inflammation throughout the body. Left untreated, sepsis leads to septic shock, when the body’s blood pressure plummets, leading to massive organ failure and possibly death.

You can’t ignore any wounds while fishing because sepsis develops very quickly. When infected a wound may swell up, become red and hot, and fill with pus. As the bacteria move into the blood stream, red streaks may begin extending from the injury into the surrounding tissue and toward the heart. The area becomes extremely painful.

As sepsis spreads, a person quickly may become feverish, have a high heart rate, feel nauseated or vomit, become sensitive to light, have cold hands and feet, and become lethargic, anxious, confused or agitated. If the sepsis progresses to septic shock, the death rate is as high as 50%.

What’s out in the ocean that could cause such a severe response? Bacteria. Bacteria are pretty nimble creatures. They can live in salt water, they can live in the tissues of marine animals, and they can live in us. The pH levels of human blood and ocean water are quite close. The average pH of ocean water is around 8.1 and the pH of blood around 7.3. A pH of 7 is neutral, so both ocean water and blood are slightly alkaline. Bacteria that live in salt water will have no problem living in your blood.

One bacteria that packs a wallop, as Harvard School of Public Health director of outreach Ann Backus noted in an earlier article in Landings, is *Aeromonas hydrophila*. Our warm and slightly alkaline blood is just what *A. hydrophila* likes. Once introduced through a puncture or cut, it rapidly will cause a major infection which can progress to sepsis.

There are many other species of bacteria which can live and reproduce in our tissues and blood. The point is that each and every wound experienced while on board must be treated immediately, not delayed until the boat gets on the mooring.

If you get cut or punctured while on board, the first thing is to stop what you are doing and wash the wound with soap, antibacterial if you have it on board, and fresh water. Salt water will NOT disinfect a wound. Cover the wound well and keep it dry. Monitor the injury for swelling. Swelling and red streaks can happen quickly, so keep an eye on it. If it starts to swell, turn red and hurts, go find your doctor.

If you have the symptoms of sepsis, someone should take you to the hospital immediately. There you will likely receive a blast of antibiotics, intravenous fluids to maintain blood flow to your organs and maintain your blood pressure, and possibly vasopressor medications, which tighten blood vessels.

You may be 180 pounds, lift weights in the gym, and never even get the common cold, but if you work at sea, you can be knocked flat in hours by microscopic bacteria that you will never see. Pay attention!
Women on the Water organizers (L to R) Jess Yeomans, Anna Conathan, and Robin Lapoint were all smiles at the first Women on the Water event. J. Yeomans photo.

Jess Yeomans, Anna Conathan, and Robin Lapoint organized “Women on the Water” event at Geary’s Beer Garden in Portland on July 15. This first annual event celebrated women who create art, crafts and food, and who have been inspired by their lives on the water.

The sun came out for the afternoon and people were happy to peruse (and purchase) products in order to raise funds for the MLA. Many attendees were interested to learn about the #SaveMaineLobstermen campaign and plans are being laid for next year’s event.

Many thanks to DoryWoman Rowing, Whale & Anchor, in-bloom Illustrations, Slack Tide Maine, Salt & Sap, Metta Maine, Plot Twist Pretzels, Lady Shuckers, Geary Brewing Co., and 1820 Brewing Co. for supporting our lobstermen!

One final note, tickets are selling fast for what promises to be the party of the summer on Sunday, August 27th at Maine Maritime Museum in Bath. We’re anticipating more than 1,000 people to turn out for “Music, Masts & Lobster Traps,” a daylong celebration of Maine’s lobstering heritage. Demonstrations, displays, and of course lobster will be available during the day with paid admission to the Museum (MLA members with proof of membership get in free!).

At 3 p.m., the gate will open for a concert featuring Maine’s own Mallett Brothers Band. Tickets to the concert are sold separately from admission to the museum and can be purchased online at https://mlcalliance.org/events/music-masts-lobster-traps.

All funds raised at this event will benefit the Maine Lobsterman’s Community Alliance, which, with support from MLA, is working to ensure a vibrant future for Maine’s fishing families and the communities in which they live and work.

This celebration is being sponsored by Rugged Seas, First National Bank, First Federal Savings, Bell Power Systems, XTRATUF, Mere Point Oyster Company, Mast Landing Brewing Co., Guy Cotten, Brooks Trap Mill, Pine State Trading.

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NOAA SAYS OFFSHORE WIND CONSTRUCTION WILL EFFECT ITS FISHERIES RESEARCH

Monitoring plans by federal agencies and offshore wind power developers will not be enough to make up for the disruption that building dozens to hundreds of wind turbines will bring to annual fisheries surveys on the Northeast U.S. continental shelf, according to a recent report by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) scientists. With three wind turbine projects now approved by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) – and more in various planning stages from southern New England to the Carolinas – BOEM and NOAA recognize that constructing wind turbine arrays would force changes on how NOAA conducts its annual at-sea surveys to monitor U.S. fish stocks and other marine resources.

SALMON FARM POSED FOR CONSTRUCTION IN MILLINOCKET

Katahdin Salmon has proposed to build an inland facility in Millinocket to hatch, raise and process salmon in freshwater tanks on the former mill site owned by the economic development nonprofit Our Katahdin. The two parties have signed a lease for the use of up to 40 acres on the 1,400-acre site.

With a common goal of supporting a sustainable commercial fishery, more than 40 member groups representing multiple facets of the fishing industry have come together under the umbrella of the Fishing Gear Coalition of Atlantic Canada (FGCAC). The coalition has collected and recycled more than 2,700 tons of fishing material in the past year. Industry associations, local, provincial and federal government, universities, First Nations communities and different unions that support the fishing and aquaculture industry are among the coalition members. “One of the things that we strive to do and stand for, our mission, is working together to develop sustainable solutions for end-of-life, abandoned, lost and discarded fishing and aquaculture gear,” Smith says.

NOAA PLANS BROADENING ROPELESS GEAR PROGRAM

Last winter as part of a pilot project, some Massachusetts lobstermen were allowed to fish in areas that are seasonally closed to protect endangered North Atlantic right whales. But they had to use so-called “on-demand” or “ropeless” fishing gear and work with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to share their feedback. Now NOAA wants to expand the program to include lobster and other fixed-gear fishermen throughout New England. Federal officials have proposed issuing permits to more than 200 people come together, “ says Sonia Smith, project manager for the coalition. “It’s really been an eye-opener to see so many passionate people come together,” says Sonia Smith, project manager for the coalition. “One of the things that we strive to do and stand for, our mission, is working together to develop sustainable solutions for end-of-life, abandoned, lost and discarded fishing and aquaculture gear,” Smith says.

YOUNG LOBSTERMAN LOST AT SEA

Tylar Michaud of Steuben was presumed lost in the waters near Petit Manan Point on Friday, July 21. His boat, Top Gun, was found empty that evening near Jonesport. Michaud, 18, was hauling alone.

Rescuers searched for Michaud throughout the night Friday. That search was hampered Saturday by fog, and on Sunday, the U.S. Coast Guard suspended its search for Michaud “pending further developments.” However, as of press time, Maine Marine Patrol, Army National Guard, Air National Guard and Maine State Police are continuing their search efforts.

Michaud graduated from Sumner Memorial High School in June and was set to start classes at Maine Maritime Academy in Castine this fall. Local lobsterman Mack Kelley knew Michaud well as a friend of his younger brother. “As Tylar got older, I took him on my boat. He grew up on the back of my boat,” Kelley said in a Bangor Daily News interview. “When he first started he was filling bait buckets and trying to keep up with banding the lobsters, and you could tell he was passionate about fishing.”

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August 2-6  Maine Lobster Festival, Rockland.

August 12  Winter Harbor Lobster Boat Races

August 15  Aquaculture Public Hearings - Great Ledge Seafood, LLC & Stewart Hunt, 1:30 p.m. (Great Ledge Cove Seafood) and 3:00 p.m. (Stewart Hunt), Chebeague Island Town Hall. FMI: https://www.maine.gov/dmr/meetings/tue-08152023-1200-aquaculture-public-hearings-great-ledge-seafood-llc-stewart-hunt.


August 19  Long Island Lobster Boat Races

August 20  Portland Lobster Boat Races

August 22  Coastal Fisheries Fanfare: An Evening of Music & Merriment, Maine Center for Coastal Fisheries, 5-8 p.m. Tickets at www.coastalfisheries.org.

August 23  Aquaculture Public Hearings - Dodge Cove Marine Farm & Maine Oyster, Inc. 11:00 a.m. (Dodge Cove) and 3:00 p.m. (Maine Oyster). Damariscotta Town Hall. FMI: https://www.maine.gov/dmr/meetings/wed-08232023-1200-aquaculture-public-hearings-dodge-cove-marine-farm-maine-oyster-inc.


September 13  U.S.-Canada Transboundary Resources Steering Committee meeting, Halifax, N.S.

September 26-28  NEFMC meeting, Plymouth, MA.
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