The Bureau of Offshore Energy Management (BOEM) held outreach meetings in Portland, Ellsworth, and Rockport, as well as in Massachusetts and New Hampshire in late July. The purpose of these meetings was to seek on-the-water knowledge from the Gulf of Maine fishing community to improve the spatial models that will be used to identify draft Wind Energy Areas to site offshore wind. BOEM plans to announce the specific Areas in October or November.

BOEM scheduled these meetings in response to feedback it received during its May Gulf of Maine Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Task Force meeting in Bangor, which offered an in-depth dive into the data used to identify Wind Energy Areas. BOEM's offshore wind leases will be sited within a Wind Energy Area. BOEM also sought knowledge directly from those who know the Gulf of Maine best: the men and women who live and work on the water.

Skeptical members of the fishing community attended the July outreach meetings and listened as BOEM officials walked them through the wind energy leasing process. BOEM also presented a series of spatial modeling maps depicting varying levels of suitability for offshore wind energy development throughout the Gulf of Maine. In each of the Maine meetings, lobstermen said loudly and clearly: no leases in LMA 1.

BOEM staff readily admitted that finding suitable areas for development is a challenging task. "One thing that we knew coming into this, and it's been reiterated many times by folks coming into these meetings, is that there is no place in the Gulf of Maine that's free of conflict. People fish everywhere," Zachary Jylkka, BOEM project coordinator, said. Nevertheless, BOEM is federally mandated to proceed with the wind energy leasing process using the best available data at its disposal.

Numerous fishermen expressed frustration that BOEM is proceeding in its process to issue offshore wind leases in the Gulf of Maine in late 2024 without the

Continued on page 6

On July 27, LD 1895 An Act Regarding the Procurement of Energy from Offshore Wind Resources became law. This law aims to achieve 3,000 megawatts (3 GW) of installed offshore wind by 2040. According to Governor Mills, the new law allows for critical port development, creates opportunity for Maine workers and businesses in the emerging offshore wind industry, and protects critical lobstering areas from offshore wind development. Maine is the seventh U.S. state to establish a competitive offshore wind energy solicitation process. LD 1895 met with strong opposition from many in Maine’s fishing industry. "The MLA opposes LD 1895 to procure energy from offshore wind resources," testified Kristan Porter, President of the Maine Lobstermen’s Association (MLA). "With 20,000 individuals employed aboard Maine’s fishing vessels or directly in the seafood supply chain, the productive and fragile waters of the Gulf of Maine should not be used as testing ground for new offshore wind technology or to site large industrial wind farms."

While the fishing industry was not successful in stopping the passage of this bill, many of the industry’s concerns were heard. The complex bill was amended several times before the Governor signed it. The new law includes provisions to avoid or minimize impacts of offshore wind development on marine wildlife, fisheries and Maine’s coastal communities. It requires developers to invest in research "to better understand how offshore wind power projects can coexist with minimal impact to existing ocean users, wildlife, fisheries and the marine environment" and supports "re-

Continued on page 6

Photo courtesy of Avangrid Renewables.

#SAVE MAINE LOBSTERMEN DONORS

MLA UPDATE

LOBSTER INSTITUTE DIRECTOR RETIRES

MALLETT BROS BAND BENEFIT ROCKS BATH

Continued on page 6

www.mackboring.com  •  800-MACK-ENG

By Rebecca Nuzzi, MLA Policy and Advocacy Associate

MAINE ADOPTS NEW LAW TO ADVANCE OFFSHORE WIND

Seeks to Protect Fishing Industry

By MLA staff

Nothing Comes Close. The Uncompromising Scania V8 Engines

Inside

COASTAL OUTLOOK

Thoughts from the MLCA president

GUEST COLUMN: Summer wrap-up from DMR

BAIT SUPPLY REMAINS STRONG

MLA UPDATE

#SAVE MAINE LOBSTERMEN DONORS

LOBSTER INSTITUTE DIRECTOR RETIRES

MALLETT BROS BAND BENEFIT ROCKS BATH

Continued on page 6
You are probably noticing a change along the waterfront. With Labor Day behind us, the line of folks waiting for lobster rolls at Red’s Eats is shorter. The number of out of state cars taking all the available parking spots around different harbors is fewer. The sense of crowds everywhere has ebbed, a little. Summer has passed and fall is just around the corner.

But for Maine’s lobstermen, this is prime time. The fall season is underway and thus far, seems to be going well. While the weather is always a roll of the dice, September is expected to be a good deal sunnier and drier than the early summer months. But who knows what the Gulf of Maine may come up with?

The Gulf of Maine was the focus of a series of meetings held by the Bureau of Offshore Energy Management (BOEM) in August in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Maine. BOEM organized the meetings to hear fishermen’s thoughts about the data being used to narrow down areas most suitable for offshore wind development, called draft Wind Energy Areas, in the Gulf. BOEM plans to hold its first wind energy lease auctions in the Gulf in late 2024.

Lobstermen turned out for the three meetings held in Maine, repeatedly saying that the data used by BOEM is incomplete and that no leases should occur in Lobster Management Area 1, regardless of what the federal models indicate. BOEM plans to publish a draft Areas in October or November.

Department of Marine Resources Commissioner Patrick Keliher reflects on the summer in his column this month. The low point of the season was the search for young lobsterman Tylar Michaud who was lost at sea in late July. His body was recovered in August. Commissioner Keliher highlights the research efforts underway by the department to further understand the movements of endangered right whales along the coast, and to help lobstermen receive financial aid for gear modifications they have made to date to protect whales.

At this time of the year, lobstermen begin to worry about having enough bait available until the end of the fishing season. In years past, a lack of fresh and frozen bait combined with a drastic reduction in the herring quota led many to use more menhaden.

This year, as we note in this issue, menhaden are in good supply due to an increase in the state’s quota. Herring are not as plentiful; landings have remained low since the season opened July 16. Yet most bait dealers interviewed felt many to use more menhaden.

Get noticed in LANDINGS!

2023 Advertising Rates

- Full page (10 x 14.65 inches) $945
- Half page (10 x 7.35 inches) $500
- Quarter page (4.9 x 7.35 inches) $280
- Eighth page (4.9 x 3.5 inches) $165
- Business Card (3.5 x 2 inches) $55

Color ads are an additional 87.5% Discount for multi-month commitment.

The advertising deadline is the second Monday of each month. Please contact Melissa Waterman (mellisa@maineloBSTermen.org or 967-6221) for more information.

Thank you to all who attended Music Masts & Lobster Traps!

You can still donate.

Proceeds benefit the Maine Lobstermen’s Community Alliance, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that is working to support the Maine Lobstermen’s Association’s efforts to protect Maine’s lobstering heritage.

Visit www.mlcalliance.org

Thank you!
GUEST COLUMN: Recap of the 2023 summer

By Patrick Keliher

We’ve had a summer with more than our fair share of rain and fog, but despite the weather it started on a good note, with the Washington, D.C. Appellate Court ruling that gave hope to the lobster industry. Sadly, however, the summer of 2023 also included a stark reminder of how easily life can be lost, when 18-year-old lobsterman Tylar Michaud’s body was recovered from the waters near Addison on August 21st, one month after he was reported missing.

I’m grateful for the tremendous efforts of all who joined in the difficult search. Many agencies and individuals devoted countless hours. It speaks volumes about the profound impact a loss like this can have.

While the recovery brings home the hard reality of the loss of this promising young man, the closure it provides will hopefully help those who have been so deeply touched by this tragedy begin to heal. My deepest condolences go to Tylar’s family, friends, and his community.

Legal Victory

The June appeals court decision made it clear that the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) can no longer have its thumb on the scale when determining the risk posed by the lobster industry to endangered North Atlantic right whales. However, this victory doesn’t mean we can lower our guard. On the contrary, it means we have much more work to do.

As I stated in an earlier message to the industry, I’m proud of the collaboration between the legal teams for the industry and the State. It’s rare that government and industry are so aligned, but the facts are now clear: NMFS chose a path that was not supported by law, lacked guaranteed benefits for whales, and completely disregarded the economic devastation it would cause.

The court ordered NMFS to re-do its Biological Opinion using the best available science when determining the risk the lobster industry poses to right whales, and to make a more accurate assessment of the risk posed by the lobster industry.

I know that harvester reporting and vessel tracking, will support a better understanding of the actual overlap between whales and lobster gear, and a more accurate assessment of the risk posed by the lobster industry.

Menhaden

This summer also saw Maine begin the menhaden season with a major increase in quota, from 2 million pounds to more than 24 million pounds. That ten-fold increase in state quota has provided both menhaden and lobster harvesters more needed certainty in their ability to harvest and source bait. By putting controls in place through rulemaking, DMR has managed to stretch that quota through most of the summer. It is my hope that with additional transfers we will avoid even entering the small-scale fishery this year. That of course is dependent on how long fish remain present this fall.

Funding for Gear Modification

DMR has also been administering a program over the summer to provide funds appropriated by Congress to state license holders who held a license in 2022 and federal permit holders with EEZ tags in 2022 who incurred expenses associated with harvester reporting and vessel tracking, until 2028 and provided funding for DMR to monitor right whale presence in the Gulf of Maine. We will now be better positioned to have real data that can be used to avoid further unnecessary damage to the industry by NOAA.

That work will include the use of passive acoustic monitors throughout Maine’s portion of LMA1 and parts of LMA3 to detect right whale vocalizations, aerial surveys, boat-based marine mammal surveys, and expanded monitoring of right whale food (zooplankton) in the Gulf of Maine.

The data resulting from that work, combined with vessel tracking and tracking of vessels, will help support a better understanding of the actual overlap between whales and lobster gear, and a more accurate assessment of the risk posed by the lobster industry.

Menhaden

This summer also saw Maine begin the menhaden season with a major increase in quota, from 2 million pounds to more than 24 million pounds. That ten-fold increase in state quota has provided both menhaden and lobster harvesters much-needed certainty in their ability to harvest and source bait. By putting controls in place through rulemaking, DMR has managed to stretch that quota through most of the summer. It is my hope that with additional transfers we will avoid even entering the small-scale fishery this year. That of course is dependent on how long fish remain present this fall.

Funding for Gear Modification

DMR has also been administering a program over the summer to provide funds appropriated by Congress to state license holders who held a license in 2022 and federal permit holders with EEZ tags in 2022 who incurred expenses associated with harvester reporting and vessel tracking, until 2028 and provided funding for DMR to monitor right whale presence in the Gulf of Maine. We will now be better positioned to have real data that can be used to avoid further unnecessary damage to the industry by NOAA.

That work will include the use of passive acoustic monitors throughout Maine’s portion of LMA1 and parts of LMA3 to detect right whale vocalizations, aerial surveys, boat-based marine mammal surveys, and expanded monitoring of right whale food (zooplankton) in the Gulf of Maine.

The data resulting from that work, combined with vessel tracking and tracking of vessels, will help support a better understanding of the actual overlap between whales and lobster gear, and a more accurate assessment of the risk posed by the lobster industry.

I know that harvester reporting and vessel tracking are not liked by all, but they are necessary to ensure that future NMFS rules are based on real data, not on their “assumptions.” We will keep industry updated on this important work as it progresses.

Menhaden

This summer also saw Maine begin the menhaden season with a major increase in quota, from 2 million pounds to more than 24 million pounds. That ten-fold increase in state quota has provided both menhaden and lobster harvesters much-needed certainty in their ability to harvest and source bait. By putting controls in place through rulemaking, DMR has managed to stretch that quota through most of the summer. It is my hope that with additional transfers we will avoid even entering the small-scale fishery this year. That of course is dependent on how long fish remain present this fall.

Funding for Gear Modification

DMR has also been administering a program over the summer to provide funds appropriated by Congress to state license holders who held a license in 2022 and federal permit holders with EEZ tags in 2022 who incurred expenses associated with harvester reporting and vessel tracking, until 2028 and provided funding for DMR to monitor right whale presence in the Gulf of Maine. We will now be better positioned to have real data that can be used to avoid further unnecessary damage to the industry by NOAA.

That work will include the use of passive acoustic monitors throughout Maine’s portion of LMA1 and parts of LMA3 to detect right whale vocalizations, aerial surveys, boat-based marine mammal surveys, and expanded monitoring of right whale food (zooplankton) in the Gulf of Maine.

The data resulting from that work, combined with vessel tracking and tracking of vessels, will help support a better understanding of the actual overlap between whales and lobster gear, and a more accurate assessment of the risk posed by the lobster industry.

I know that harvester reporting and vessel tracking are not liked by all, but they are necessary to ensure that future NMFS rules are based on real data, not on their “assumptions.” We will keep industry updated on this important work as it progresses.

Menhaden

This summer also saw Maine begin the menhaden season with a major increase in quota, from 2 million pounds to more than 24 million pounds. That ten-fold increase in state quota has provided both menhaden and lobster harvesters much-needed certainty in their ability to harvest and source bait. By putting controls in place through rulemaking, DMR has managed to stretch that quota through most of the summer. It is my hope that with additional transfers we will avoid even entering the small-scale fishery this year. That of course is dependent on how long fish remain present this fall.

Funding for Gear Modification

DMR has also been administering a program over the summer to provide funds appropriated by Congress to state license holders who held a license in 2022 and federal permit holders with EEZ tags in 2022 who incurred expenses associated with harvester reporting and vessel tracking, until 2028 and provided funding for DMR to monitor right whale presence in the Gulf of Maine. We will now be better positioned to have real data that can be used to avoid further unnecessary damage to the industry by NOAA.

That work will include the use of passive acoustic monitors throughout Maine’s portion of LMA1 and parts of LMA3 to detect right whale vocalizations, aerial surveys, boat-based marine mammal surveys, and expanded monitoring of right whale food (zooplankton) in the Gulf of Maine.

The data resulting from that work, combined with vessel tracking and tracking of vessels, will help support a better understanding of the actual overlap between whales and lobster gear, and a more accurate assessment of the risk posed by the lobster industry.

I know that harvester reporting and vessel tracking are not liked by all, but they are necessary to ensure that future NMFS rules are based on real data, not on their “assumptions.” We will keep industry updated on this important work as it progresses.

Menhaden

This summer also saw Maine begin the menhaden season with a major increase in quota, from 2 million pounds to more than 24 million pounds. That ten-fold increase in state quota has provided both menhaden and lobster harvesters much-needed certainty in their ability to harvest and source bait. By putting controls in place through rulemaking, DMR has managed to stretch that quota through most of the summer. It is my hope that with additional transfers we will avoid even entering the small-scale fishery this year. That of course is dependent on how long fish remain present this fall.

Funding for Gear Modification

DMR has also been administering a program over the summer to provide funds appropriated by Congress to state license holders who held a license in 2022 and federal permit holders with EEZ tags in 2022 who incurred expenses associated with harvester reporting and vessel tracking, until 2028 and provided funding for DMR to monitor right whale presence in the Gulf of Maine. We will now be better positioned to have real data that can be used to avoid further unnecessary damage to the industry by NOAA.

That work will include the use of passive acoustic monitors throughout Maine’s portion of LMA1 and parts of LMA3 to detect right whale vocalizations, aerial surveys, boat-based marine mammal surveys, and expanded monitoring of right whale food (zooplankton) in the Gulf of Maine.

The data resulting from that work, combined with vessel tracking and tracking of vessels, will help support a better understanding of the actual overlap between whales and lobster gear, and a more accurate assessment of the risk posed by the lobster industry.

I know that harvester reporting and vessel tracking are not liked by all, but they are necessary to ensure that future NMFS rules are based on real data, not on their “assumptions.” We will keep industry updated on this important work as it progresses.
GULF OF MAINES "RECORD-BREAKING" NORTHWEST ATLANTIC TEMPERATURES

By Melissa Waterman

The headlines were designed to shock: "Marine Heat Records Shattered" "Unprecedented Temperatures at Sea" or, as NASA put it, "The Ocean has a Fever." Sea surface temperatures throughout the globe hit high marks this summer, particularly in the Northwest Atlantic.

The Gulf of Maine, however, has had a relatively cool summer, which is odd given that the Gulf has been warming at a rate 3.5 times faster than the global average. In an interview with Boston's WBUR radio station, Dave Beidelmier, director of the climate center at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute (GMRI), succinctly explained the reason. "It was unusually rainy, gray and overcast for much of June and July. This is highly unusual in New England this time of year. And this broader meteorological pattern has basically kept cooler, wetter conditions here," he said.

The damp, cool, overcast and foggy weather that Mainers complained about for most of the summer had the net effect of keeping the Gulf of Maine cooler than it would have been given the overall temperature hike in the Atlantic Ocean this year.

But what effect will the record-breaking heat in the Northwest Atlantic have on the Gulf ecosystem in the future? That depends on how often such heat waves occur, according to GMRI scientist Kathy Mills. "The Gulf of Maine has been warming for years now—approximately one degree F. each decade since the early 1980s, more rapidly since 2010. There are short-term marine heat waves that cause short-term effects," she said. Mills pointed out that in 2012, when Gulf temperatures shot up to record highs during the spring and early summer, longfin squid quickly moved into the Gulf. Researchers think that they may have preyed on the remaining Northern shrimp in the region; other researchers found that squid made up the majority of prey found in the bellies of tuna that season.

The damp, cool, overcast and foggy weather that Mainers complained about for most of the summer had the net effect of keeping the Gulf of Maine cooler than it would have been given the overall temperature hike in the Atlantic Ocean this year.

But what effect will the record-breaking heat in the Northwest Atlantic have on the Gulf ecosystem in the future? That depends on how often such heat waves occur, according to GMRI scientist Kathy Mills. "The Gulf of Maine has been warming for years now—approximately one degree F. each decade since the early 1980s, more rapidly since 2010. There are short-term marine heat waves that cause short-term effects," she said. Mills pointed out that in 2012, when Gulf temperatures shot up to record highs during the spring and early summer, longfin squid quickly moved into the Gulf. Researchers think that they may have preyed on the remaining Northern shrimp in the region; other researchers found that squid made up the majority of prey found in the bellies of tuna that season.

The long-term consequences of continued warming in the Gulf of Maine have already been seen in shifts among marine species found here. Northern shrimp have sought cooler waters. Cod populations have shifted to the Gulf's cooler easterly waters. New species, such as black sea bass and blue crabs, are now found in areas previously too cold for them to survive.

Something similar could take place in the greater Atlantic Ocean. "If there are repeat patterns of short-term heat events in the Northeast Atlantic, then we will see how the impacts play out among species," Mills said.

The Labrador Current, which travels south from the Arctic Ocean, and the Gulf Stream, which brings warmth north, influence the temperature in the Gulf of Maine. As the Arctic Ocean continues to warm and melt, the Labrador current has become both warmer and weaker. The Gulf Stream, once a sharply contained river of warm water, now has become a broader, more diffuse current. Its warm water spreads into the Gulf of Maine much more than in years past, adding to the Gulf's temperature change.

"These drivers are not going to reverse any time soon," Mills said.

While the Gulf of Maine has remained relatively cooler this summer than the neighboring Northwest Atlantic due to poor weather, July was still the fourth warmest July on record, according to GMRI data. In addition, the impacts of the developing El Niño weather pattern were not fully in place this summer, noted Mills. "We're just beginning to see El Niño now, not in the early summer. If it persists through next summer, it could be a major shock."
The fundamental fact of the lobster fishery is that a lobster trap must have bait in it to catch lobster. What that bait is depends on the preferences of the lob- sterman, the availability of different baits and, of course, the price. As Maine lobstermen head into the busy fall months, they keep a close eye on what types of lobster bait are available and in what quantity.

According to Jimmy Wotton, co-owner of Georges River Bait Company in Warren, frozen or "hard" bait is in good supply. "We've got plenty of bait," he said in mid-August, "with frozen pogies, redfish, carp, rockfish." The demand for frozen menhaden, or pogies, is low at the moment due to strong landings coming from local boats fishing for the popular fish. Wotton anticipates demand will rise for his frozen pogies when the menhaden schools move off in mid-September.

"We're still waiting for the herring," Wotton continued (the season opened on July 16). "The fish are in shoal water now and the big boats can't get in. That will change though." In Herring Management Area 1A (inshore), vessels can catch up to 175 tons of the quota allotted to the area between June 1 and September 30; the remaining 27.2% is available from October 1 to December 31. The Area 1A quota this year is 3,315 metric tons (7.3 million pounds).

"We are sitting pretty good [in terms of supply] although prices [for bait] have dropped a bit," he said.

Brandon Lovejoy at J&K bait in Addison says supply and demand are "good overall." Prices for both herring and menhaden are down from last year. Like other bait dealers, he's noticed that the amount of herring coming in is less this year than last summer. "A lot of boats are fishing menhaden so that's strong," he said.

Maine's quota for menhaden jumped sharply this year. Last year the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) amended the menhaden fishery management plan, increasing the overall quota and changing the allocations to each state. The Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for menhaden in 2023 is 233,550 metric tons, a 20% increase from the previous year. Maine's allocation of the TAC is now 4.26%, or 24,310,314 pounds. In prior years Maine was allowed just a half-percent of the total quota. Maine was only able to exceed that quota by tapping unused quotas from other states allowing the Maine fleet to land at least 20 million pounds in each of the past four years.

Menhaden is flowing into lobster traps in Downeast Maine, according to Ben Durkee, proprietor of Bring It bait in Jonesport. His major problem? "We're competing against guys selling it cheaper," he said. The Department of Marine Resources Marine Patrol Bureau has instigated reports of Maine boats fishing more often and above their weekly quota this summer. "Throughout the coast, we've written plenty of tickets [this season]," said Marine Patrol Colonel Matt Talbot.

Durkee gets his herring from U.S. and Canadian suppliers. "It's still popular and the price is down a little compared to last year," he said. But, like Wotton, he also is waiting for volume to go up. "The boats are sort of struggling this year. They're trying to find where they are," he said.

Lobstermen have learned to adapt to newer baits, such as pig hide, because the supply is steady. According to Durkee, pig hide remains a popular bait among lobstermen in his area, who often combine it with fresh bait. "But the price for it is up this year," Durkee said.

Tom Camino, owner of Nor'east Bait in York, focuses on pig hide bait, although this year he has also begun stocking frozen redfish heads from Iceland and Norway. He found that procuring pig hide from his usual suppliers, large pork manufacturers, has gotten harder since 2020. "The big companies are selling the hides overseas, through the fat trim market, primarily to China," he said. "I've gone to smaller plants but they have labor and product issues. I'll order a full truck and get half."

To ensure he has the variety and amount that his customers need, when they need it, Camino decided in 2021 to stock up on inventory in the winter and, as he put it, "just sit on it. If you don't then you will run out in summer and then when you order, they've raised their prices." He's also noticed this year that with the abundance of pogies, the demand for pig hide has dropped slightly.

---

BAIT SUPPLY REMAINS STRONG

By Melissa Waterman

Keliher continued from page 3

ciated with complying with the latest federal right whale regulations, including gear marking, weak links, and trawling up.

In June, DMR mailed out letters explaining to each harvester whether they were eligible for a payment under this program or not. Eligibility requirements were outlined in a FAQ document. Harvesters who were deemed ineligible for the funds were given a chance to appeal that decision. We received over 100 ap-
ppeals and have conducted a thorough review of each one over the past month.

To ensure天上 quantity and amount that this season's customers need, when they need it, Camino decided in 2021 to stock up on inventory in the winter and, as he put it, "just sit on it. If you don't then you will run out in summer and then when you order, they've raised their prices." He's also noticed this year that with the abundance of pogies, the demand for pig hide has dropped slightly.
sponsibly sited offshore wind power projects with generation facilities located in areas outside of the area of the Gulf of Maine where the majority of lobster fishing or other significant commercial fishing occurs.

The state of Maine has been exploring offshore wind opportunities since 2008 when the Ocean Energy Task Force was established under the Baldacci Administration. The University of Maine launched a prototype floating offshore wind turbine off Castine in 2013. During this time, Statoil (now Equinor) explored developing an offshore wind pilot project in the waters offshore Boothbay but ultimately withdrew its plan. The University of Maine continues to pursue development of floating platforms for offshore wind turbines.

In 2020, the Mills Administration began pursuing its plan to develop a floating offshore wind research array of up to 12 turbines in waters off southern Maine. The state submitted its lease application to BOEM in October 2021 and currently is awaiting a decision. The Mills Administration published an Offshore Wind Roadmap in February 2023 detailing strategies for Maine to realize economic, energy, and climate benefits from offshore wind.

The new law does not create a specific requirement to develop floating offshore wind technology. Maine could procure offshore wind energy from fixed-wind turbines. This is a departure from earlier versions of the procurement bill. The new law directs the Governor’s Energy Office (GEO) to establish a schedule for the competitive solicitation of offshore wind projects and develop a Request for Proposals (RFP) to meet the state’s goals to develop 3 GW of offshore wind by 2040. By January 2026 (or three months after the first BOEM auction for offshore wind leases in the Gulf of Maine), the state’s Public Utilities Commission (PUC) must issue an RFP from developers for projects not less than 600 MW for cost-competitive commercial-scale developments. The PUC must ensure that selected projects will result in contracts that are cost-effective for ratepayers, considering potential economic, environmental, and other benefits of offshore wind. The PUC is further directed to prioritize projects that “have generation facilities located outside of Lobster Management Area 1.” The PUC must also prioritize projects that demonstrate an ability to provide in-state economic benefits, provide ratepayer benefits, support Fair Labor practices, promote employment and contracting opportunities for federally recognized Indian tribes, workers from disadvantaged communities, and certified businesses.

The new law further directs the Office of Tax Policy to explore development of a “Fishing Community Protection Tax Incentive Program” and report its findings back to the Legislature by February 2024. The program should include a tax credit of up to $16 million annually for up to 20 years for qualified investors in offshore wind power projects. The tax credit will be designed to incentivize siting wind projects outside of LMA 1, protect ratepayers from additional costs associated with siting projects outside of LMA 1, and increase Maine’s competitiveness in securing offshore wind projects and benefits.

Offshore wind development proposals must include a “Fishing Communities Investment Plan” to provide an annual investment in fishing communities, which may include loans, grants, and subsidized interest rates to support fishermen and fishing-related businesses. Developers must also commit to pay at least $5,000 per megawatt of offshore wind power to the Offshore Wind Research Consortium Fund. The Fund’s research investment will include fisheries research, environmental and wildlife research, monitoring and mitigation, and conservation.

The new law also authorizes the PUC to participate in regional or state-specific transmission procurement and conduct competitive solicitations for the development and construction of offshore wind energy transmission or related infrastructure projects. The PUC may consider proposals for projects that serve to upgrade the existing grid, extend the grid closer to offshore wind projects, upgrade optimal landfall approaches, or provide an interconnection between offshore wind substations.

Correction: The September issue of Landings incorrectly reported that all Senate Democrats supported LD 1895, Senator Grohoski and five House Democrats, Representatives Crafts, Hepker, Milliken, Perry, and Stover opposed the bill. We apologize for the error.
“Now more than ever, it is important that we all raise awareness and show our unwavering support for the Maine lobster industry as they face enormous downward price pressure, lower catches and rising costs, limitations and boycotts related to right whales, and much more. This industry drives our economy here in the Midcoast and throughout Maine and has supported many families here for generations. It is also an industry that takes sustainability and conservation VERY seriously. We need to stand with our lobstermen and women to do all we can to help the cause. The Maine Lobster Festival is proud to be part of the Save Maine Lobstermen campaign and these organizations’ important work,” said Kinney.

Congresswoman Chellie Pingree and Rockland Mayor Louise MacLellan-Ruf also participated in the news conference.

Both the MLCA and MLA were delighted to be included in this year’s Festival and plans are already in the works to have an even bigger presence next year!

We barely had time to restock the shelves of our #SaveMaineLobstermen gear store before we had to pack the car yet again and head on over to Machias for the 46th Annual Machias Wild Blueberry Festival on Saturday, August 19th.

There is no question that both the blueberry and lobster loom large over the economy of Downeast Maine, and MLA was pleased to have a booth in the courthouse lot along with several other local organizations and craftpeople. MLA board president Kristan Porter spent the afternoon selling #SaveMaineLobstermen T-shirts and sweatshirts and talking about the challenges facing the lobster industry to folks from all over the country. No matter where they live, though, they all had one thing in common — their support for Maine’s lobster industry. Without fail, everyone who stopped by our MLA tent and the cheerful face of office administrator Mindy Coath to have a booth in the courthouse lot along with several other local organizations and craftpeople.

On Saturday, July 29, we loaded the car with #SaveMaineLobstermen and MLA merchandise and headed to Milbridge for the 2023 Milbridge Days celebration. The theme of this year’s festival, celebrating the town’s 175th birthday, was “Party like a LobStar!” and they sure did! The weekend festival featured concerts, a grand parade, events for kids, and (of course!) the annual Fire Department Lobster Cookout. We dare say thousands of people filled the streets and stopped by the MLA booth on Main Street to purchase gear, renew their membership, learn about the work MLA is doing, or just say hi. Special thanks to the festival committee and especially Cathy Chipman for inviting MLA to be a part of this wonderful community celebration.

On August 3, the MLA, in collaboration with the Maine Lobstermen’s Community Alliance (MLCA), was delighted to announce a partnership with the Maine Lobster Festival in Rockland to raise awareness of the importance of the Maine lobster industry, and the families and communities it supports, through the #SaveMaineLobstermen campaign.

At a news conference announcing the first-ever partnership between our industry advocacy organizations and the popular Lobster Festival, MLA chief operating officer Amber-Jean Nickel, who is also president of the MLCA, thanked Festival Director Shannon Kinney for working with our organizations to help raise awareness and funds with donation buckets around the event.

“The Maine Lobstermen’s Community Alliance and the Maine Lobstermen’s Association are pleased to be working closely with the leadership of the Maine Lobster Festival to not only showcase our state’s iconic lobster, but to highlight the generations of hardworking men and women who have dedicated their life to ensuring the future of this sustainable fishery,” said Nickel.
MAINE LOBSTERMEN’S ASSOCIATION UPDATE

Maine Lobstermen's Association

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

President: Kristan Potter
Gulick, 460-0560
Vice-President: Craig Stewart
Long Island, 653-6914
Vice-President: Jarod Bray
Matinicus, 542-8061
Treasurer: Jim Dow
Bass Harbor, 460-2565
Secretary: Chris Welch
Kennebunk, 205-2993

Directors
Bob Baines, Spruce Head, 596-9121
Joshua Beal, Milbridge, 479-9624
Sonny Beal, Beals Island, 356-1684
Laurin Brooks, Kennebunk, 468-2165
Herman Coombs, Orr’s Island, 807-9829
Gerry Cashman, Port Clyde, 372-6429
Dustin Delano, Friendship, 542-7241
Jameas Hallowell, S. Bristol, 380-7976
Robert Ingalls, Bucks Harbor, 271-7199
Jason Joyce, Swan’s Island, 526-4109
John McCarthy, Vinalhaven, 863-9984
Jack Merrill, Islesford, 244-7884
Troy P Antonio Pelletier, MLA membership director, has trekked the coast with Mindy Coath, our administrator extraordinaire, and Rebecca Nuzzi, our new policy associate, to many of the lobster boat races this summer. They sold MLA swag, talked with anyone and everyone about the MLA’s legal efforts, and collected donations.

People gave money but also stayed to chat about why our work is so important to them and their community, what the MLA means to them, or to tell tales of their lives and the lives of their parents or grandparents on the water. Lobstermen may bicker, we may not see eye-to-eye, but we have proved that we will all join forces to protect what is important for this fishery. So, if you see a ‘Save Maine Lobstermen’ hoodie, hat or shirt, thank the person for their support!

Adding to our adventures, MLA staff have spoken at fundraisers and festivals throughout the summer, which have given all of us opportunities to really chat about the details. Yes, the MLA won its court case, remanding NMFS’s ill-conceived Biological Opinion back to the lower court.

However, the clock is still ticking. NMFS must revise the Biological Opinion and resulting whale rules in order to comply with the Endangered Species Act after 2028. The MLA must continue to be at the table to ensure that sound science and unbiased assumptions are baked into the MLA’s legal arguments.

It’s why you call the coast home, yet it is also something that small actions of support add up to big impacts. The Maine Lobster Marketing Collaborative asked every visitor to Maine to eat lobster (and eat it every chance they could!). A new organization, the New England Fishermen’s Stewardship Association, stepped forward a few months ago to join the fight against offshore wind energy development and other activities that threaten the Gulf of Maine and its fishermen.

I truly hope that you look at this time, filled with so many changes and challenges, and recognize that you aren’t in it alone. You have a team working behind the scenes who are dedicated to you, your families and Maine’s lobster heritage.

Good luck in the fall season and may you stay safe.

---

STEAMING AHEAD
BY AMBER-JEAN NICKEL, COO

The summer fog lifted (for most of us) and Maine’s coast is once again showing off its beauty. It’s hard not to notice! It’s why you call the coast home, yet it is also something that will never get old.

The MLA has been out of the office as much as possible these past three months, at boat races, festivals and fundraising events, in order to spread the word that the fight against punitive federal regulations targeted at the lobster fishery is ongoing.

While the National Marine Fisheries Service’s (NMFS) regulatory sword that was hanging over our heads is gone, the MLA must continue to be at the table to ensure that sound science and unbiased assumptions are baked into the MLA’s legal arguments.

People really are amazed when I tell them how much we’ve accomplished with such a small staff. There are never enough hours in the day but some how the magic happens. It is not unheard of to start getting texts or emails before breakfast or well into the late night and every hour in between. Our aim is to get lobstermen the information and support and they need to know what is going on at the state and federal levels and what to be prepared for.

By attending summer festivals, like Milbridge’s 175th anniversary, the MLA is spreading the word about its work and the challenges ahead for the Maine lobster fishery. MLA photo.

---

Your Membership Matters.
MAINE LOBSTERMEN’S ASSOCIATION UPDATE

MLA DIRECTORS MEETING

The MLA Board did not meet in August. The next Directors’ meeting is sched-
uled for September 13 at Darby’s Restaurant in Belfast.

RIGHT WHALE UPDATE

Three Whale Lawsuits Still Pending

The MLA remains active in three lawsuits related to North Atlantic right
whales. The MLA earned its historic victory in June 2023 when theWashington
D.C. Appeals Court unanimously ruled that the National Marine Fisheries
Service (NMFS) violated the law in issuing its most recent Biological Opinion
and whale rule. The win overturned the D.C. District Court’s previous ruling.
NMFS had until July 31 to challenge the Appeals Court’s unanimous ruling but
were granted a 30-day extension. The MLA case remains open to challenge un-
til August 31. Once all challenges are resolved, the Appeals Court will order
District Court Judge Boasberg to require NMFS to develop and implement a
new Biological Opinion which can no longer use worst-case scenarios and
pessimistic assumptions as the basis for whale conservation regulations.

In May, the federal government filed a motion to dismiss NMFS’s case against
NMFS. That case accused NMFS of not making its whale rule stringent enough. The Court will not rule on this motion until the Appeals
Court issues an order back to the District Court regarding MLA’s lawsuit. The
federal government has until August 31 to challenge the Appeals Court’s deci-
sion.

In March 2023, the MLA, along with several other plaintiffs, sued the
Monterey Bay Aquarium for defamation over its red listing of Maine lobster.
As of August 2023, all parties have filed replies and responses to the original
Complaint. Parties are awaiting a decision from the court on a timeline for
the next phase of this case.

Right Whale Tagging Workshop

A right whale tagging workshop is scheduled for September “to review and
evaluate progress in current telemetry tag attachment technologies for large
whales, and to inform potential future tagging of North Atlantic right whales.” The three-day workshop is primarily focused on convening experts on telem-
etry tags, large whales and their health; however, the first day (September 12)
will be open to all interested parties via webinar. This will provide the public
an opportunity to attend presentations and discussions on right whale conser-
vation research needs, the history of telemetry tag development and use for
large whales, the regulatory permitting environment in the United States and
Canada and tagging best practices. The workshop has been organized by NOAA
Fisheries, the Marine Mammal Commission, and the Office of Naval Research
in coordination with the Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

The expert-only sessions will review experiences using different tag types on
large whales, review follow-up studies to examine the effects of tagging on
behavior, and examine the feasibility of different telemetry tag types with re-
spect to research questions. The results of the workshop will inform U.S.
and Canadian regulatory agencies regarding: 1) North Atlantic right whale man-
agement questions that could be answered through satellite telemetry, 2) Risks
and benefits of each tag type, and 3) Questions or gaps in knowledge to be con-
sidered in evaluating proposals to tag North Atlantic right whales.

A workshop summary will be presented at the North Atlantic Right Whale
Consortium Meeting in October 2023. The public can register to attend the
workshop at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/narw-tagging-workshop-virtual-at-
tendance-tickets-69851855277?aff=oddtdtcreator.

Ropeless Consortium and North Atlantic Right Whale Consortium Annual Meetings

The Ropeless Consortium’s Annual Meeting will take place on October 23; the
North Atlantic Right Whale Consortium Meeting will be held October 24-25. Both meetings will be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia and will be offered with an
option to participate by videoconference and a limited possibility to participate
in person. The live meeting will consist of a limited number of live presentations as well as Q&A sessions with presenters (both live and pre-recorded) in each of the top topics. Most pres-
entations are pre-recorded and should be viewed in advance of the meeting.
Participants will also have an opportunity to submit questions/comments in
advance of the meeting and participate via teleconference during the meeting. The ropeless consortium meeting will feature updates on the latest research regarding ropeless gear, while the right whale consortium meeting will feature updates on the latest research on right whales in the U.S. and Canada. FMI: www.ropeless.org and
www.narwc.org.

On Demand Gear Inter-operability workshop

NOAA Fisheries is hosting an On-Demand Interoperability Workshop from November 28-30 in the Boston area. According to NOAA, collecting, transmit-
ning, and visualizing on-demand gear location information in near real-time is
challenging in high density fishing areas. Fishing vessels have different onboard
technology, most lack internet connectivity, and there are many companies of-
fering different approaches for deploying, tracking, and retrieving on-demand fishing gear. This workshop seeks to bring together on-demand fishing gear man-
ufacturers, underwater acoustics experts, fishing industry leaders, federal and
state fishery managers, and other relevant partners to discuss the development of
draft acoustic communication standards, and data specifications, so stop-
ning the interoperability of on-demand fishing. November 28-29 will focus on the
technical components, while November 30 will bring together state and Federal
agency managers to discuss future steps for implementing on-demand fishing.

NEW REPORT DETERMINES ROPELESS FISHING NOT ECONOMICALLY VAILABLE

The Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) completed the second
phase of a multi-year project evaluating the operational, technological, and
socio-economic impacts of ropeless lobster gear. The report determined that if ro-
peless gear had been deployed fleet-wide in Massachusetts last year, the loss of
annual revenue was estimated to be $40 million and the foregone harvest was
3.5 million pounds lost. The findings estimate the changes in cost and operating revenue associated with the use of on-demand gear on a per-trip basis for Massachusetts fishing vessels.

NMFS PUBLISHES REPORT ON RISK OF KNOTS AS WEAK POINTS

NMFS recently released an August 2022 report that determined that knots
should not be approved as weak inserts for buoy lines under the Take
Reduction Plan regulations. The report presents advice from the Working
Group on Marine Mammal Unusual Mortality Events on the entanglement risk
to whales from knots in fixed gear fisheries.

NMFS writes, “Although it is a complex issue, the Working Group agreed that
knots in buoy lines could increase the risk of an entanglement. Some knots in
buoy lines are inevitable. However, based on the findings from this report, pre-
vious concerns raised by members of the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction
Team about the risk of knots, and additional concerns about the effectiveness
and enforceability of knots as weak inserts, are supported.” The report is avail-
able online at https://repository.library.noaa.gov/view/noaa/51032.

RIGHT WHALE DEATHS, ENTANGLEMENTS

As of August 28, NMFS has two confirmed right whale deaths. The first was a
perinatal mortality observed off of North Carolina, and the second was Right
Whale 3343 off Virginia Beach which is a suspected vessel strike. Four se-
rious injuries have been observed, all from entanglement: Right Whale 4904
off North Carolina (January), Right Whale 2128 (Argo) off North Carolina (January), Right Whale 4545 off Southern Massachusetts (February) and Right
Whale 2900 in the Gulf of St. Lawrence (June). The location is where the whale
was observed and does not represent the origin of the entangling gear.
NMFS reported a new right whale entanglement (Right Whale 4042, a 13-year-
old male) on July 16 in the western part of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. A trailing
line was visible but no buoys or traps were seen. This whale was last seen gear
free on July 8, 2023 in Canadian waters. This entanglement is currently classi-
fied as a non-serious injury because it has no constricting wrap.

OFFSHORE WIND UPDATES

LD 1895 An Act Regarding the Procurement of Energy from Offshore Wind
Resources was signed into law on July 27. The MLA strongly opposed the off-
shore wind procurement bill. This law sets a new state goal to achieve 3,000
megawatts (3 GW) of installed offshore wind by 2040. The complex law includes
directives for port development, opportunity for Maine workers and business-
es in the emerging offshore wind industry, and protections for the lobster in-
dustry. The final law includes several provisions aimed at protecting the lob-
ster industry including priority consideration of offshore wind proposals sited
outside LMA 1, development of a tax incentive program to offset the cost to
developers of siting outside LMA 1, and a requirement that developers invest in
research on impacts of offshore wind, among other provisions. A full summary
of the new law appears in this issue of Landings.

Correction: The MLA pages in the September issue of Landings incorrectly re-
ported that all Senate Democrats supported LD 1895. Senator Grohoski and five
Democrats on the House side (Representatives Crafts, Hepler, Milliken, Perry, and
Stover) opposed the bill. The MLA is tremendously grateful for their support and
we apologize for the error.

In August, the MLA signed onto a letter organized by New England Fishermen’s
Continued on page 10
Stewardship Association (NEFSA) sent to the New England, New York and New Jersey federal delegations and Governors. The letter highlighted important research findings regarding the impacts of offshore wind on fisheries, and outlined three objectives: 1) rescind the existing Gulf of Maine Call Area; 2) inform commercial-scale leasing with data from the Maine Research Array and only proceed after sufficient research and monitoring has been conducted; and 3) conduct a Programmatic Environmental Review for the Gulf of Maine prior to identifying any commercial wind energy areas. The letter was endorsed by Responsible Offshore Development Alliance (RODA), the MLA, Maine Coast Fishermen’s Association, Downeast Lobstermen’s Association, Long Island Fishing Association, New England Young Fishermen’s Association, Maine Lobstering Union, and New Hampshire Commercial Fishing Association.

The MLA submitted comments to BOEM on its draft Environmental Assessment which characterizes the potential environmental impacts of the site assessment activities that are expected to take place should the wind energy lease for the Research Array be issued to the State of Maine. The MLA’s overarching concern is that BOEM’s conclusions of “minor to negligible” impacts across all categories are questionable because BOEM does not have sufficient data to support them. The MLA also questioned the need for the Research Array if BOEM moves forward with commercial offshore wind development before the project can contribute meaningful data.

Bait Update

Menhaden

The 2023 Maine 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 lbs. Maine is also permitted to participate in the Episodic Events Fishery Set Aside (EESA) fishery program after the state allocation has been landed, with approximately 5.1 million lbs. for the 2023 season.

State Allocation Fishery: As of August 21, the DMR reported landings of 20,036,403, or 82% of the state menhaden quota.

Herring

The ASMFC Herring Management Board set the sub-annual catch limit (ACL) for Area 1A, and quota allocation by season. The 2023 Area 1A quota is 3,050 metric tons (mt), after adjusting for overages from 2022. The 30 mt fixed gear set-aside, as well as the fact that Area 1A closes at 92% of the sub-ACL. ASMFC’s seasonal allocation for Area 1A is 72.8% from June 1 - September 30, and 27.2% from October 1 - December 31.

The 2023 Area 1A fishery opened on July 16, with fishermen permitted one landing per day, on five consecutive days per week. Atlantic herring Category A permit holders may harvest up to 320,000 lbs (or 8 trucks) per harvester vessel. Herring cannot be transferred between harvester and carrier vessels while at sea.

Note: the Area 1A fishery closed on August 26 through September 30.

Cumulative Landings Atlantic Herring

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Quota (mt)</th>
<th>Total Catch</th>
<th>% of Annual Catch Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1A</td>
<td>3315</td>
<td>2092.8</td>
<td>63.13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1B</td>
<td>555</td>
<td>193.8</td>
<td>34.92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3589</td>
<td>456.6</td>
<td>12.72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>4806</td>
<td>5140.1</td>
<td>106.95%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Annual Catch Limit

12287
7177.8
58.40%

Source: NMFS Atlantic Herring Quota Monitoring

The Atlantic herring Area 1A (inshore Gulf of Maine) fishery regulations include seasonal spawning closures for portions of state and federal waters in Eastern Maine, Western Maine and Massachusetts/New Hampshire. ASMFC implemented the Eastern Maine spawning closure from August 28 through October 8, 2023. This is the default closure because there were no samples available from the Eastern Maine spawning area to determine spawning condition. No samples are available for Western Maine or the Massachusetts/ New Hampshire spawning areas, the closure will begin on the default date of September 23 for both areas.

National Seafood Strategy

In August, NOAA Fisheries released its first National Seafood Strategy in response to the unprecedented challenges facing the U.S. seafood industry, including climate change, the coronavirus pandemic, new technologies and other ocean uses, significant labor shortages, and aging infrastructure. The National Seafood Strategy vision is to ensure that U.S. seafood continues to be produced sustainably; the seafood sector contributes to the nation’s climate-ready food production and to meeting critical domestic nutritional needs; seafood production increases to support jobs, the economy, and the competitiveness of the U.S. seafood sector; supply chains and infrastructure are modernized with more value-added activity in the United States; and opportunities are expanded for a diverse and growing seafood workforce. The report is available online at https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/feature-story/nnaf-fisheries-releases-national-seafood-strategy.
Trident Sustainable Plastic Solutions is focused on cold-chain, temperature sensitive bait and processing applications.

- With over 35 years in the plastics industry, let us show you the lowest cost of ownership.
- Our products are best in class and with a range of recyclable options.
- Find out what products can be recycled, reused and reduced.
- Let us custom tailor a solution for your specific needs.

Our mission is to provide extremely long life, plastic products and the ability to keep them out of our oceans, waterways and landfills.

Proud to be a fourth-generation seafood wholesaler in Maine

If you’re selling shellfish, lobsters, crabs, soft-shell clams, periwinkles, scallops, etc., you may want to give us a call.

WE WOULD LOVE TO SERVE YOU!

There’s always an advantage with A.C. Inc.

LET US HELP YOU MARKET YOUR PRODUCT!

Buying product from dealers, wharfs, fishermen and harvesters.

AC Inc.  Beals, ME 04611    207-497-2261
BROOKS TRAP MILL & MARINE SUPPLIES

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

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

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

Visit us online at:
WWW.BROOKSTRAPMILL.COM

AQUAMESH®
by Riverdale Mills
Still Making History

Proudly Made
in the USA
Since 1980

Our History, Your Legacy
A tribute to the revered Riverdale Aquamesh®
Aquamesh® features high strength steel wire, the heaviest
zinc coating, and Riverdale’s proprietary marine grade
PVC coating. Aquamesh® is pure and simple.
It is the best; built for you, built to fish.

+1.508.234.8715
sales@riverdale.com
RIVERDALE.COM
WE’RE READY FOR YOUR TRAP & KIT ORDERS

We want to thank all of you, customers old and new, for your patience as we’ve worked to face the changes and challenges of the last couple of years. We want you all to know that we’re here and ready to talk about your upcoming orders.

OUR BUSINESS IS BUILDING YOUR LOBSTER GEAR.
We have your whale rigging.

The Maine Mold

breakaway link

The strongest

whale-safe rope

alternative available

when properly installed.

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

Join or renew today.

www.mainelobstermen.org
2 Storer St #203, Kennebunk, ME
207-967-4555

MAINE LOBSTER
THE SWEETEST ON EARTH

MARKETING UPDATES

We’re continuing to promote the people behind the Maine Lobster fishery this season with an article written by the MLMC that has been distributed to newspapers and online media outlets nationwide. The article features one of Katie and Thom Werner’s favorite recipes from their family-owned restaurant, Island Lobster Co. on Peaks Island, weaving in information of their multi-generational fishing family with inspiring tips for preparing their Maine Lobster BLT at home.

So far, the article has generated over 1.6 million impressions with 49 placements across the country.

www.lobsterfrommaine.com

facebook.com/lobsterfrommaine
twitter.com/lobsterfromme
instagram.com/lobsterfrommaine
FISH SMARTER.

Ruggedized gear tracking technology designed for the rigors of commercial fishing. Customized updates and alerts anytime, anywhere.

Find us locally at:
Navroc Marine Electronics
156 New County Road, Rockland ME
Email: jason@rockbound.net • Phone: (207) 596-7803

www.blueoceangear.com/fishing
Twin Disc’s MGX series marine transmissions and QuickShift® controls provide smooth, fast shifting along with amazing slow-speed control. And the QuickShift® control head isn’t just another pretty face: it’s designed to be workboat tough!

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

LOANS AND LEASES FOR:
- BOATS
- TRUCKS
- REAL ESTATE
- PERMITS
- BAIT STORAGE FACILITIES
- WHARVES
- EQUIPMENT
- HAUL OUT AND REPAIR
- OPERATING LINES

Farm Credit East
800.831.4230 | FARMCREDITEAST.COM

NORTH ATLANTIC POWER PRODUCTS
15 Continental Drive – Exeter, NH 03833
Call: (888) 460-7419 or (603) 418-0470
Email: djones@glpower.com
Your authorized Twin Disc Distributor for New England, New York & New Jersey

NORTH ATLANTIC POWER PRODUCTS
We’re here for you!

QuickShift® with amazing slow-speed control. And the options for real estate, boats and equipment, Farm Credit East is the right choice for you. We provide attractive rates and solid advice for aquatic businesses of every type and size. Our lending experts understand your business. Call them today at the branch office closest to you.

WE’RE FIGHTING BACK AND WINNING!

MLA is suing the federal government and now the Monterey Bay Aquarium in our effort to combat false claims and ensure a future for lobster fishermen and their families.

Join the fight to SAVE MAINE LOBSTERMEN.
Donate at least $1,000 and receive this new, exclusive sweatshirt.

"Lobstermen are very responsible stewards of the ocean. We cannot sit back and let lies to the contrary prevail."

-John Petersdorf, CEO of Bean Maine Lobster Inc.
Many thanks to the businesses that not only support us but offer a discount to YOU, our members.
Thank you to those whose donations to #SaveMaineLobstermen Campaign total $100,000 or more

John and Brendan Ready
Machias Savings Bank
Bar Harbor Bank & Trust
First National Bank
Donald Sussman

Donations listed were received by 8/24/23.

Gifts $20,000 - $39,999
- Robinson’s Wharf Fundraiser
- Town of Cutler
- Town of Friendship
- Hamilton Marine
- Maine Aquaculture Association
- Town of Stonington
- Gifts $2,500 - $4,999
- Delano Seafood
- Friend & Friend
- Maine Camp Outfitters
- Town of Sorrento
- Gifts $1,000 - $2,499
- A Silver Lining - Jess Pinkham, Brian Alley
- Laurence Ames
- Bar Harbor Chamber of Commerce
- Eric Beal
- David Black
- Brown’s Boat Yard
- Judge W. Kennedy Boone III, Ret.
- Tricia Ann Carver

$1,000 to $2,499 cont’d
- Larry Combs
- Ben Doliwer
- Joe Doyle
- Go Fish!
- Brian Eaton
- Lillian Eby & Jeff Fogelson
- Elizabeth Fenwick
- Bruce Fernald
- Michael Flanigan
- Travis Gamage: The Penalty Box
- Kevin Glover
- Peter Goldstein
- Earl Hamilton
- David Healten
- Chip Johnson
- Nathan & Janet Jones
- Kristofor Koerber
- Stuart Levenbach
- Coleen Lydon
- Moody’s Diner
- Moody’s Shellfish
- Mornings in Paris
- Jonathan Murphy
- NH Commercial Fisherman’s Association
- Jeffrey Norton Wood
- Brent Olsen
- Alfred Osgood
- Nicholas & Kristin Page
- Douglas M. Ricci
- Todd Savage: The Penalty Box
- Mark Sewell
- David A. Thomas
- Courtland & Roxanne Tolman
- Town of Frenchboro
- Town of Kittery
- Town of Mount Desert
- Town of Vinalhaven
- Lee Watkins
- Ronald Watkins
- Chris Welsh
- Wendy Webster Good Fine Art
- Whitney’s Tin-Town Marine
- Eben Wilson
- Dominic Zanick

$20,000 - $39,999 cont’d
- Gifts $500 - $999
- Travis Alley
- American Lobster Products
- Josh Beal
- Blue Smoke Concepts
- Russell Brown: Percy L Brown & Sons
- Chandler River Fuel Service
- Barbara & James Chesney
- City of Auburn
- Deer Isle Sunset Cong Church
- Robert Dociell
- Michael G. Floyd
- Timothy Field
- BR & CR Hughes
- Mark Jones
- KA ORA Bracelets
- Sean Kelley
- Chris Kelsey
- Kyle Koerber
- Edwin G. Lawson
- Martin Leeman
- John McCarthy
- Raymond & Judith McCaskey
- Katherine Miller
- Steve N. Miller
- Tim Morong
- New England Marine & Industrial
- Leland R. Osgood
- Port Lobster Company
- Andrew Ray & Sarah Buchen-Ray
- Karen Rizcalla, St. George Realty
- Matthew Samuels
- Martha Silver
- Paul Smith
- John Tripp
- Rita Tripp
- Weatherwane Seafoods
- Wind Horse Arts
- Jeff White
- Chitana Young

Gifts $300 - $499
- Carla Bryson
- Stephen Burns

$300 - $499 cont’d
- Scott E. Drake
- Michael Foster & Jill Jensen
- Geary Brewing Co. Staff
- Chris Jenness
- Bobby Ingalls
- Kathi & Bruce Jordan
- Kylick Charters LLC
- Maine Camp Outfitters
- Jane Sinder
- David Sullivan
- Charles Tarbox
- Tiller & Rye Grocers

Gifts $100 - $299
- Diane Adair
- Ted Ames & Robin Alden
- Herman Anderson
- George Andrews
- Emily & Ron Axelrod
- John Barrett
- Glenda Beal
- Naftal Bechar
- William & Catherine Becker
- Thomas Bennett
- Joanna Bentely
- Bobbi & Dana Billings
- Russell Bray
- Eric Brazer
- Emie Burgess
- Linda Burton
- Albert Buswell
- Susan Buxton: Day Boat Fresh
- Bonnie & Gary Castanino
- Roger Chipman
- Julie Cleveland
- Daniel Clough
- Diane & Daniel Colinaco
- Lydia Coleman
- Alcynore Coon
- Diane Cowan
- Mark & Margery Cyr
- Orville Darling
- Darwin & Jacqueline Davidson
- Palmer Davies
- Steven Davis
- Jesse Davison
- Howard Dentremont
- Charles Dillon
- Dock’s Seafood
- Natalie Donnelly
- William Dowling, Jr.
- Donna Druskin
- Terrance & Sandra Eaton
- Barbara Edson
- Stephanie Evan
- Cameron Field
- Friendship Lobster Treats
- Judith Gary
- Alexander Gonzalez
- Shelley Grant
- Barrett Gray, Boyco’s Motel
- Eugene Guilford
- Jason G. Hamilton
- Pearl Hardie
- Gary & Susan Harmatz

Gifts $100 - $299 cont’d
- Curt & Sally Haskell
- Nicole & Larry Heath
- Susan Heissenbuttel
- Allison Hippler
- Stephen & Lisa Hewitt
- Michael Higgins
- Ditta Baron Hoeber
- Alice Ingraham
- Island Spirits
- Bruce Irwin Johnson
- Roger Kellett
- The Kelley Family
- Dana Knudsen
- William Knott & Kristine Geels
- Rachel Korenkelicz
- Stephen Kosasz
- Alyssa & Dale Landrith
- Wicked Adventure
- Redemption
- Burt Leach
- Gary Libby
- Larry & Barbara MacAdams
- John McCann
- Robert McManan
- Mark Minton
- Howard Moorefield
- Bill Most
- Christopher Nelson
- Richard Nelson
- Chelsea Nunnan
- Dave Nute
- Robert H. Oberlander
- Brent Oliver
- George Olsen
- Travis Ots Family
- Katherine Page & Alan Hein
- Anne Pease
- Tara & Matthew Perez
- Cathy Proctor
- Nancy Plummer
- Edward Reddy
- Scott Reinser
- RIG Tax Accounting & Resolution
- Gordon Rittmeyer
- John Rohr
- Michael Rowan
- Tammy Rowe
- Michael Sargent
- George Sass
- John Seiders
- Michael Sherman
- Constance Sinclair
- Sarah Smith
- Bobbie Speigelman
- Ted Spurling
- John & Soni Stanton
- Stonington Lobster Boat Race Committee
- Andrew Svenson
- Gary Taylor
- Zachary Teal
- Matthew & Rya Trundy
- Noel Twigg
- Diana Tyler
- Keavany Tyler

Donate $1,000 or more and receive this exclusive sweatshirt.

Your support keeps us fighting.

MLA Legal Defense Fund: 2 Storer St, Suite 203, Kennebunk, ME 04043
Gifts $100 - $299 cont’d
VIP Maine Mobile
Eloise Vitteli
Allan Vittus
Richard Waldron
Michael Webber
Walter Whetstone
Jeanne & Richard Whittier
Wesley Willink
Richard Wilson
Crayke Windsor
E Richard Young
Fred Backman
Petrea Allen
Katya Abazajian

Gifts Under $100
Katya Abazajian
Petrea Allen
Fred Backman
Linda & Chris Berlow
Dana Betts, Sr.
Linda & Chris Berlow
Fred Backman
Petrea Allen
Katya Abazajian

Gifts Under $100 cont’d
Donalee Dolan
Oaky Dover
Kim Drain
Lynn Duryea
Eastern Tides Design
Gerry Fogerty
Fraternal Order of Eagles: Ladies Aux. Social Fund 1248
Sandra Gates
Kathyse Gorham
Jerry Goto
Michael Gray
Mike & Penny Greenberg
Anonymous
James & Elaine Herlan
Jorge Hernandez
Eve Jameson
Alice Jaskolka
Margaret Jicha
Mary Jones
Robert Jordan
Debbie Kelley
James Klick
Jeffrey Knuckles
John & Teresa Lynch
Priscilla & Ralph Masciovecchio
Richard Marchione
John Meyn
Raymond & Carol Michaud
Dana Morin
Namaste Clean Soaps
Harry Nelson
Willem Nieuwkerk

Gifts Under $100 cont’d
H. Oliver & C. Goddard,
Coastline Physical Therapy
Russel Pancost
Penny Pengra
Lucy & Jerome Pieh
Evon Pinette
Port Clyde Kayaks
Pheebe Quattrucci
Red’s Eats
Rigid Fishing
Will Roese
Bonnie Rogers
Donna Rogers
Jan Salas
Molly Samuels
Shenanigan’s by Sam
Marshall Shepard
Joshua Scherz
Jim Smith
Carl Steiniker
Roger Stephenson
Paula Stover
Susan Tananbaum & Joe Frazier
Marquita Temple
The Community Gourmet
William Thurlow
Gary Tylinski
Mary Lou Weaver
Michael Weisman
Mary Wells
Richard & Aileen Wenzel
Travis Widdecomb

Gifts In Memoriam:
Ed & Mary Blackmore
Curt & Sally Haskell
Edward Chickering, Sr.
Debbie Kelley
Douglas Cressey
Priscilla & Ralph Masciovecchio
Dana Morin
Michael Weisman
Carol Susan Ferraro
William & Catherine Becker
Andrew Svenson
Gary Tylinski
Greg Gamage & Arnie Gamage
Travis Gamage
Peter Goldstein
Nicole & Larry Heath
John & Teresa Lynch
William Kruff & Kristine Gels
Kathy Madrazo
W Haverne
Patricia Allen
Gene Kelley
Donalee Dolan
The Kelley Family
Connor Lazarro
Jason G Hamilton
Jane Kantz Pemberton
Dana Knudsen
Gladie Radley
Jason G Hamilton
Charles Rogers, Sr.
Donna Rogers
Dale Torrey, Sr.
James & Elaine Herlan
Raymond & Carol Michaud
Christopher & Gail Nelson
Andrew Ray & Sara Buchen-Ray
Mary Lou Weaver

Gifts In Honor Of:
Craberry Isles Co-op
Emily & Ron Axelrod
Tim Dyer
Larry Combs
The Joy Family
Bruce Erwin Johnson
Chris & Carole Page
Coles Lydon
The Steele Family
Darwin & Jacqueline Davidson
Frasers & Rob Williams
Lillian Eby & Jeff Fogelsong
Those that go down to the sea in their ships
Mark Minton

Maine lobstermen had a major victory in their fight to stay on the water and continue Maine’s lobstering tradition – but the fight isn’t over.
-Cheryl Clegg

Maine lobstermen had a major victory in their fight to stay on the water and continue Maine’s lobstering tradition – but the fight isn’t over.
-Cheryl Clegg

WE MAY HAVE WON A MAJOR BATTLE, BUT THE WAR IS NOT OVER YET.

My Gift:  
☐ $10,000  
☐ $5,000  
☐ $2,000  
☐ $1,000  
☐ $500  
☐ $365 “a dollar a day”  
☐ Other: __________

Make this a yearly gift

My Info:
Name: ____________________________
Business Name: __________________
☐ please use my business name in my listing
Address: __________________________
City: ___________________ State: ___ Zip: __________
Phone: ____________________________
Email: ____________________________

Make this a yearly gift for YOU and your family!

Everyone who donates at least $1,000 in 2023 will receive an EXCLUSIVE #SaveMaine Lobstermen sweatshirt.

www.savemainelobstermen.org 207-967-4555
### Experimental Lease Applications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Acres</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>App Status</th>
<th>Comments Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harpswell, David Wilson</td>
<td>E of Hog Island, Muscongus Bay</td>
<td>4 acres</td>
<td>Marine Algae</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App #1 rec'd 9/27/22, site visit completed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harpswell, David Wilson</td>
<td>E of Hog Island, Muscongus Bay</td>
<td>3.89 acres</td>
<td>Marine Algae</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App #2 rec'd 9/27/22, site visit completed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bristol, Unicorn Oyster</td>
<td>E of Perkins Point, Damariscotta Rvr</td>
<td>3.9 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 11/17/22, site visit completed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brunswick, Green, Christopher</td>
<td>The Reach</td>
<td>2.71 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 11/18/22, site visit completed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chebeague Isl, Chebeague Island Oyster Co.</td>
<td>SW corner Chandlers Cove, Casco Bay</td>
<td>2.4 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 3/21/23, comments due 4/22/23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumberland, Nappi, Brent</td>
<td>East of Sturdivant Isd, Casco Bay</td>
<td>4 acres</td>
<td>Marine Algae</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 4/11/22, comments due 5/14/22</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Damariscotta, Black Stone Point Oyster</td>
<td>E of Blackstone Pt, Great Salt Bay</td>
<td>3.45 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 3/9/23, comments due 6/10/23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer Isle, Salt of the Earth Seafarm</td>
<td>E of Barred Isd, Penobscot Bay</td>
<td>3.95 acres</td>
<td>Marine Algae</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 11/15/23, comments due 7/15/23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edgecomb, Glidden Point Oyster Co.</td>
<td>SW of Dodge Pt, Damariscotta River</td>
<td>3.97 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 12/1/22, site visit completed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falmouth, Martin, Thomas</td>
<td>E of Brothers Islands, Casco Bay</td>
<td>0.15 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 2/7/22, comments due 3/12/22</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falmouth, Nappi, Brent</td>
<td>S of Clapboard Isd, Casco Bay</td>
<td>4 acres</td>
<td>Marine Algae</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 11/15/22, comments due 3/12/22</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freeport, DelMann, Levi</td>
<td>W of Little French Isd, Casco Bay</td>
<td>3.92 acres</td>
<td>Marine Algae</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 3/10/23, site visit completed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freeport, Love Point Oysters LLC</td>
<td>East of Penningill Island, Megunti Bay</td>
<td>3.99 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 6/1/23, comments due 7/11/23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freeport, Ryan, Stuart</td>
<td>SW side of Williams Isd, Casco Bay</td>
<td>2.4 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish/algae</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 2/7/22, comments due 3/12/22</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friendship, Catts, Joe</td>
<td>E of Friendship Long Isd, Medipuscom River</td>
<td>2.2 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 12/31/22, site visit completed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harpswell, Wilson, David</td>
<td>Wilson Cove, Middle Bay</td>
<td>4 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 5/22/22, site visit completed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harpswell, Wilson, David</td>
<td>SE of Dougherty Pt, Long Reach</td>
<td>4 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 4/12/22, comments due 5/15/22</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isleboro, Grindle, Kimberly</td>
<td>Turtle Head Cove, Penobscot Bay</td>
<td>4 acres</td>
<td>Marine Algae</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 1/31/23, comments due 3/4/23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isleboro, Lindolof, Lake</td>
<td>W of Middle Isd, Penobscot Bay</td>
<td>4 acres</td>
<td>Marine Algae</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 3/21/23, comments due 4/22/23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kennebunkport, Hutchins II, Edward</td>
<td>NE of Cape Porpusse Harbor</td>
<td>4 acres</td>
<td>Marine Algae</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App withdrawn by applicant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Island, Great Ledge Cove Seafood</td>
<td>W of Eld Chebeague Isd, Casco Bay</td>
<td>4 acres</td>
<td>Marine Algae</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 6/20/23, comments due 7/22/23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Island, Shearwater Ventures LLC</td>
<td>NW of Eld Chebeague Isd, Casco Bay</td>
<td>3.86 acres</td>
<td>Marine Algae</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 3/21/23, comments due 4/22/23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newcastle, Smith, Andrew</td>
<td>Upper Dove Cove, Damariscotta Rvr</td>
<td>3.96 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App withdrawn by applicant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portland, Restorative Aquaculture</td>
<td>WSW of Mackworth Isd, Casco Bay</td>
<td>3.38 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish/algae</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 2/18/22, site visit completed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Searsport, S.V. 11th Hour, Inc.</td>
<td>SW of Sears Isd, Penobscot Bay</td>
<td>3.94 acres</td>
<td>Marine Algae</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 3/21/23, comments due 4/22/23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Searsport, Nichols Fisheries</td>
<td>S of Sears Isd, Penobscot Bay</td>
<td>3.94 acres</td>
<td>Marine Algae</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 1/31/23, comments due 2/18/23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Bristol, Glidden Point Oyster Co.</td>
<td>W of Promis Isd, Damariscotta River</td>
<td>3.99 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 2/28/23, comments due 4/1/23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Bristol, Nor'easter Oyster Co.</td>
<td>Mdld Branch, NE of Peabow/W of Foster, Johns Rvr</td>
<td>3.32 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 7/18/23, comments due 8/19/23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Bristol, Norumbega Oyster Inc.</td>
<td>Eastern Shore S of Merdy Isd, Damariscotta Rvr</td>
<td>2.78 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 2/28/23, comments due 4/1/23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. George, Allisons Fisheries</td>
<td>W of Coldwood Island, end of St. George River</td>
<td>4 acres</td>
<td>Marine Algae</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 7/13/23, comments due 8/12/23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. George, Miller/Hyvarinen/Philbrook</td>
<td>NW of Seavy Ledges, Penobscot Bay</td>
<td>3.99 acres</td>
<td>Marine Algae</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 6/1/23, comments due 7/1/23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. George, Schroder, Jeffrey</td>
<td>Turkey Cove, St. George River</td>
<td>9 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 2/23/23, comments due 3/25/23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. George, Schroder, Jeffrey</td>
<td>Turkey Cove, St. George River</td>
<td>2 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 6/1/23, comments due 7/1/23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. George, Tarbox, Brian</td>
<td>NW of Norton Isd, Wheeler Bay</td>
<td>3.99 acres</td>
<td>Marine Algae</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 6/22/23, comments due 7/22/23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steuben, Pinkham, Randy</td>
<td>E of Chair Pond Head, Pegren Hill Bay</td>
<td>3.99 acres</td>
<td>Marine Algae</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>Apps 1/2 rec'd 3/28/23, comm. due 4/29/22</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swans Island, Johnson, Ezra et al.</td>
<td>NE part of Butt Coat Harbor</td>
<td>1.6 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>Lease Granted 8/7/23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waldoboro, Bennett, T &amp; Simmons, A</td>
<td>N of Harstack Island, Medomak River</td>
<td>2.52 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 3/32/23, comments due 4/22/23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walpole, Dodge Cove Marine Farm</td>
<td>N of Glidden Ldg, W of Fitch Cv, Damariscotta Rvr</td>
<td>1.9 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 3/21/23, comments due 4/22/23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yarmouth &amp; Freeport, Dear Marine Resources</td>
<td>NE of Mosher Island, Casco Bay</td>
<td>3.9 acres</td>
<td>Marine Algae</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 8/4/22, site visit completed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>York, So Mil Sustainable Shellfish</td>
<td>W of Sewall's Bridge, York Rvr</td>
<td>0.97 acres</td>
<td>Shellfish</td>
<td>3 yrs</td>
<td>App rec'd 3/21/22, comments due 4/23/22</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Understanding the process! You can make a difference!

- **Scoping Session**
- **Application Submitted**
- **Public Comments**
- **Site Review**
- **Public Hearing**
- **DMR Decision**
Standard Lease Applications

Bar Harbor Pemaquid Mussel Farms
Mt Desert narrows, E of Georges Ledge
32 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
Pub. Hear. 5/2/23 4pm Mt. Desert Isl HS Lib.

Bay Harbor Acadia Aqua Farms LLC
SW of Georges Ledge, Frenchman Bay
48 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
Hearing completed 3/28/22

Boothbay Harbor The Flying Place LLC
W of Beals Great Way Cove, Flying Place Pound
5.37 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
App rec'd 3/21/23, site review TBD

Brunswick Ferda Farms LLC
E of Lower Coombs Isl, New Meadows Rvr
2.33 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
App rec'd 2/28/22, site visit completed

Brunswick Johnson, Timothy
SE of Barnes Pt, Middle Bay
17 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
Lease Granted 5/30/23

Chebeague Isl Great Ledge Cove Seafood
NE of Chebeague Isl, Witten Chronicles Cv
6.85 acres
Marine Algae
20 yrs
Pub. Hear. 6/15/23 1:30 Chebeague Isl Hall

Chebeague Isl Hunt, Stewart
N/C of Seal Ledge, Casco Bay
13.75 acres
Shellfish/algae
20 yrs
Pub. Hear. 6/15/23 1:30 Chebeague Isl Hall

Damariscotta Mook Sea Farms Inc.
SE of Burting Island, Toonset Bay
7.46 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
App rec'd 1/10/22, site visit completed

Deer Isle Barrows, Abigail
South of Big Hay Isl, Pickering Cove
4.24 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
App rec'd 5/8/23, site review TBD

Deer Isle Deep Blue Aquaculture LLC
W of Hog Island, Eastern Penobscot Bay
41.2 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
App rec'd 4/4/23, site review TBD

Deer Isle Melvin, A & Klein, J
Between Oak Pt & Campbell Isl, Fish Creek
4.74 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
Scop. sess. 8/4/23 7pm Deer Isle Parish House

Edgcomb Glidden Point Oyster Co.
Damariscotta River
2 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
Scop. sess. 7/27/23 3pm Edgcomb Town Hall

Freeport Coffin, Bailey
W of Sow & Pig Isl, Casco Bay
9.64 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
Pub. Hear. 5/23/23 1pm Freeport Town Hall

Freeport Sparta, Kenneth Curtis
W of Crab Isl, Casco Bay
8.25 acres
Shellfish/algae
20 yrs
App rec'd 3/25/22, site visit completed

Georgetown Gaffney, Michael & Mark
N of Little Pheobe Isl, Robinhood Cove
7 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
App rec'd 11/24/21, site visit completed

Hancock Taunton Oyster Co, Inc.
South of Burting Island, Toonset Bay
7.46 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
Scop. sess. 7/18/23 6pm Hancock Town Office

Harpswell Butterfield, Keith
SW of Lower Goose Isl, Casco Bay
25 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
Scop. sess. 1/14/22 4pm Harpswell Town Hall

Harpswell Goose Island Oysters LLC
W of Upper Goose Isl, Middle Bay
10.4 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
App rec'd 1/31/23, site review TBD

Harpswell Love Point Oysters LLC
Middle Bay, SW of Upper Goose Isl
3.20 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
App rec'd 2/11/21, site visit completed

Harpswell Quahog Bay Conservancy
E of Snow Island, Quahog Bay
1.36 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
App rec'd 5/18/23, site review TBD

Harpswell Restorative Aquaculture
E of Scrag Island, Middle Bay
9.89 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
App rec'd 10/20/21, site visit completed

Harpswell Wilson Cove Oysters LLC
Wilson Cove, Middle Bay
5.21 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
App rec'd 8/22/22, site visit completed

Long Island Great Ledge Cove Seafood
S of Chebeague Isl, NW Channel Rocks, Casco Bay
9.03 acres
Marine Algae
20 yrs
App rec'd 4/9/23, site review TBD

Long Island Oceans Balance
West of Cow Isl Ledge, Casco Bay
4 acres
Marine Algae
20 yrs
App rec'd 12/1/22, site review TBD

Long Island Summit Point LLC
N of Cow Isl, Casco Bay
6.4 acres
Marine Algae
20 yrs
App rec'd 3/29/23, site review TBD

Newcastle Dodge Cove Marine Farm
SE of Dodge Pt, Damariscotta Rvr
12.26 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
Pub. Hear. 8/23/23 11am Damariscotta Town Off.

Newcastle George Faux, Inc.
S of Great Salt Bay, Upper Damariscotta Rvr
1.8 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
App rec'd 2/5/22, site visit completed

Newcastle Maine Oyster Inc.
E & S of Lemaun Isl, Upper Sheepscot Rvr
10 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
Pub. Hear. 8/23/23 3pm Damariscotta Town Off.

Newcastle Norumbega Oyster Inc.
E of Upper Dodge Pt, Damariscotta Rvr
6 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
App rec'd 9/9/22, site visit completed

North Haven Maine Island Aquaculture
SW of Hog Isl, Marsh Cove
15 acres
Shellfish/algae
20 yrs
Pub. Hear. 4/4/23 North Haven Comm Bldg

Phippsburg Clam Hunter Seafood
North end of Morse Rvr, Spirit Pond
2.52 acres
Shellfish
10 yrs
Scoping session 9/14/22 4pm Phippsburg Lib.

Phippsburg Clam Hunter Seafood
W of Parker Head, Kennebec Rvr, Mill Pond
96 acres
Shellfish
10 yrs
Scoping session 9/14/22 6pm Phippsburg Lib.

Phippsburg Hermit Island Oyster Co.
Hermit Isl, Small P't Hbr, New Meadows Rvr
2.51 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
Pub. Hear. 7/11/23 1pm Phippsburg Town Hall

Phippsburg Hermit Island Oyster Co.
The Branch, New Meadows River
0.62 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
Pub. Hear. 7/11/23 1pm Phippsburg Town Hall

Scarborough Saltwind Seafarm LLC
W of Nonesuch Point Scarborough Rvr
2.31 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
App rec'd 7/11/23, site review TBD.

South Bristol Dewey's Shellfish LLC
NW of Peters Isl, Damariscotta River
0.58 acre
Shellfish
20 yrs
App rec'd 8/16/21, site visit completed

South Bristol Heron Island Oyster Co.
Fitch Cv @ Gldenld Igd, E side Damar Rvr
1 acre
Shellfish
20 yrs
App rec'd 10/4/21, site visit completed

South Bristol Maine Fresh Sea Farms LLC
Clark Cove, Damariscotta River
3.6 acres
Marine Algae
10 yrs
Lease Granted 7/6/23

Southport Brewer, J/Morning Star Fish
N of Dot's Isl, Sheepscot Rvr, Ebeneezer Hbr
1.37 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
App rec'd 6/6/23, site review TBD

St. George Balano, JW & McCoy, MR
Harrington Cove, Wheelan's Bay
1.98 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
App rec'd 7/26/22, site review TBD

St. George Cotton/Thomas/Davis Apost
End of St. George Rvr, Deep Cove, W of Pt Clyde
5.74 acres
Marine Algae
20 yrs
Scop. sess. 8/7/23 3pm St. George Town Office

St. George Miller, Keith
SE of Elwell Isl, Rakkibay, Penobscot Bay
11 acres
Marine Algae
20 yrs
App rec'd 8/2/23, site review TBD

St. George Miller, Keith & Ryan
SE of Elwell Isl, Wheelery Rvr
12.8 acres
Marine Algae
20 yrs
Scop. sess. 9/19/23 7pm St. George Town Off.

St. George Miller, Keith & Ryan
West of Norton Isl, Rakkibay
11.1 acres
Marine Algae
20 yrs
Scop. sess. 9/19/23 7pm St. George Town Off.

St. George Muss Mahdyori LLC
Deep Cove, W of Pt Clyde, End of St. George Rvr
4.44 acres
Marine Algae
20 yrs
App rec'd 3/30/23, site review TBD

Stuken Francis, Arnold
Smith Brook, Dyer Rvr
3.56 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
App rec'd 8/18/22, site review TBD

Stuken Francis, Arnold
E of Beuch Point, Dyer Rvr
2.91 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
App rec'd 8/18/22, site review TBD

Sturtevant Brewer, Robert
SW of Andrews Isl, Penobscot Bay
3.26 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
App rec'd 10/20/21, site visit completed

Swan's Island Joyce, Jason & Isobha
Mill Pond, Burnt Coat Harbor
9.95 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
Scop. sess. 1/23/23 4pm Swals Isl Town Off.

Unog. Terr. Baines, Robert & Cole
W Penob. Bay, W of Hewit Isl, S of Clam Cladges
7.33 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
App rec'd 1/6/22, site review TBD

Yarmouth Butterfield, Keith
SE of Little Mosher Isl, Casco Bay
2.72 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
Pub. Hear. 6/28/23 1pm Yarmouth Town Hall

Yarmouth Henninger, Thomas
Little John Isl, Casco Bay
6.37 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
App rec'd 4/4/23, site review TBD

Yarmouth Nickerson, Travis
E of Blaney Pt, Casco Bay
2.8 acres
Shellfish
20 yrs
Pub. Hear. 9/28/23 1pm Yarmouth Town Hall

Yarmouth Summit Point LLC
S of the Nubbin, Casco Bay
9.3 acres
Marine Algae
20 yrs
App rec'd 3/29/23, site review TBD

For an interactive source of pending lease applications, please see DMR's table of Pending Aquaculture Lease Applications, where you can find maps and documentation.

Go to: www.mainelobstermen.org and from the Aquaculture dropdown menu, select Maine Aquaculture Leases and LPAs, then Pending Lease Applications.

Scoping Session and Hearing information can also be found at www.mainelobstermen.org.
Finding ways to help Downeast lobstermen and shellfish harvesters get the health services they need is one of the goals of the Downeast Health Research Collaborative. Tora Johnson, a professor of social sciences and geography at the University of Maine in Machias, led the Collaborative’s recent study on injury, pain, and substance use among fishermen in Washington and Hancock Counties. The Collaborative’s report on the subject calls for “a better understanding of prevalence, risk and structural factors in injury, pain management and substance use among lobster and shellfish harvesters.”

To compile data on health and injuries, the Collaborative sent out surveys to licensed lobstermen and shellfish harvesters in the two counties as well as local health care providers and fisheries advocates. Surveys were returned by 106 harvesters and 88 providers and advocates. In addition, 19 personal interviews were conducted.

What they found was not surprising. Lobstermen and shellfish harvesters hurt themselves often. The injuries may be to the back or elbow, shoulder or neck. They create pain, enough to cause 43% of respondents to stop work. But a self-employed fisherman can’t stop work for long; his or her income is dependent on being on the water or catching the tide to go clamming.

So what do the injured harvesters do? Some try over-the-counter pain relief, visit a doctor or other medical professional, go to a chiropractor, or attempt to relieve the pain by stretching or exercise. For a significant number, they self-medicate with opioids, marijuana, heroin, and alcohol.

"A lot of it was due to the injuries... and the doctors prescribing the pain medications, and I got addicted to it. And it took off from there. It's just stupid... It started with my back and just escalated." one lobsterman.

Children told a similar story. "They never understood how my back hurt, and they never understood what was wrong with me. They never understood why I was in pain." Another stated, "I have never been sick. I have always been in pain."

"In this industry, you have to work hard. You have to work through the pain, because that's what you're expected to do," said one fisherman.

A majority of respondents (70%) admitted they had avoided going to the doctor or seeking other medical care. They don't seek medical care because of difficulties related to insurance, time lost to get to a medical office, or the cost. In addition, fishermen choose not to go to the doctor because of apprehension about how they will be treated. Some felt they were talked down to in previous visits; others believed they would be in trouble because of opioid use. Such hesitancy is also complicated by the unique sense of self that fishermen have – singularly independent and opinionated. Medical practitioners and fishermen may find it hard to communicate.

"There’s no value given to education and to somebody who is an expert, they think their opinion is just as good. I don’t need anyone to kiss my feet, but you came into my door. If you don’t respect my opinion, then why did you come here?" commented one physician.

And then there’s the issue of insurance. Of the 106 surveys returned, 27% of respondents said that they do not have any insurance. Of the rest, 48% were either on MaineCare or Medicare. Those interviewed said that acquiring insurance was a bureaucratic nightmare, made worse by lack of access to a computer or to the Internet. Changes due to the Affordable Care Act, which erased many cheap catastrophic care health plans, made any type of insurance unaffordable for some.

"The catastrophic plans they have now are not affordable. A real true catastrophic plan, my catastrophic plan was my life insurance. That’s 40 bucks a month," said one fisherman.

Downeast Maine is a tough corner of the coast. Distances between towns are long, the weather is always a factor, and the economy is fragile at best. Dealing with health issues is made difficult not only by these factors but by a mindset that precludes those who just “work through it.” Unfortunately, that path leads too often to permanent disability or serious drug addiction.

"When you do this work, you can’t go to the doctor when you need to. I mean, do you think that helping yourself is the right answer?" asked one fisherman.

The Downeast Health Research Collaborative report makes clear recommendations on how to improve health outcomes in Washington and Hancock Counties, from injury prevention and an insurance program specifically tailored to fishermen to mobile health units that travel to the docks. Other suggestions include health interventions at emergency rooms and clinics and trainings for healthcare providers on fishing culture.

"If you're asking if I'd seek medical advice, that's kind of almost the last alternative," said one lobsterman.

"The catastrophic plans they have now are not affordable. A real true catastrophic plan, my catastrophic plan was my life insurance. That’s 40 bucks a month," said one fisherman.

came over to our booth stopped by to say they stand with our lobstering families and to encourage MLA to keep up the good fight!

Later that evening, Kristan brought the fundraising effort down the road to Helen’s Restaurant where he was the guest “barback” for the evening. Kristan took drink orders from those waiting for a table in return for a “Fill the Boot” donation. This event was inspired by successful guest bartending nights last winter at The Penalty Box in Damariscotta. We raised a little money for MLA’s Legal Defense Fund and helped spread the word about the work MLA is doing to protect our fishing families and communities.

If you have a local bar or restaurant in your town that might be interested in hosting a guest MLA bartender for a fundraising event, shoot me an email at kevin@mainelobstermen.org and we’ll get it set up!

While summer 2023 may be slowly coming to an end, the work to protect Maine’s lobstering heritage will continue. Watch for additional details after Labor Day, but definitely makes plans to save Friday, November 10 to join us for Maine Lobster Night at the Maine Mariners hockey game in Portland. Can you believe we’re already talking about ice?!

To learn more about the ongoing Save Maine Lobstermen campaign, upcoming events and legal updates, visit https://savemainelobstermen.org.

Every person and every dollar counts!
NOTABLE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE LOBSTER RESEARCHER RETIRES

By Melissa Waterman

Rick Wahle has been a presence in the world of lobsters for decades. But as of August 31, Wahle retired from the University of Maine and his role as Director of the Lobster Institute. Assistant director Chris Cash is acting as interim director.

Wahle, who describes himself as a "Jersey boy," came to Maine in 1985 to work as a graduate student with Robert Steneck, a marine biology professor at the University. In collaboration with local South Bristol lobstermen, Steneck and Wahle began sampling for young-of-the-year lobsters (those that had just settled on the seafloor) in the Thread of Life by diving to the bottom and suctioning up everything within a half-meter-square area, then identifying the results on board.

"It was a really thrilling hands-on experience, seeing the lobster in their own environment and linking that with what the lobstermen were working the grounds saw," Wahle recalled. Wahle pursued his PhD from 1985 to 1990, interacting with lobstermen throughout the midcoast as the sampling program expanded.

"It instilled a huge appreciation in me for this industry. It really gave me a great start here," Wahle continued.

During his time as a post-doc at Brown University, Wahle studied not lobsters but barnacles to gain a better understanding of larval dynamics. He enjoyed his research, yet lobsters kept calling. The fishery in Rhode Island was strong at that time and the sampling techniques perfected by Steneck and Wahle piqued the interest of local lobstermen. "I got some money and sampled in Narragansett Bay one summer. They [the R.I. Department of Environmental Management] set up sites there and their Massachusetts got interested and then the [Canadian] provinces got interested," Wahle said.

Thus the American Lobster Settlement Index was born. Wahle landed a second post-doc position involving lobster sampling in Ireland and the United Kingdom and then faced a decision. He had applied for permanent research positions at the University of Alaska and the Bigelow Laboratory in East Boothbay. Both institutions offered him a job. Wahle chose to return to Maine, becoming senior research scientist at Bigelow in January 1995. He remained at the laboratory for fifteen years.

"All the while I was keeping the lobster settlement monitoring going. There were lots of spinoff questions from that. I received National Science Foundation funding to do additional lobster research," Wahle said. He also had the opportunity to work on other population biology questions, such as the larval success of sea urchin populations in Maine. "That parlayed into questions concerning scallop larva and population biology," he said.

He continued to oversee the Lobster Settlement Index while diving regularly to conduct samples until 2005. By that time, the Maine Department of Marine Resources and state and provincial marine resource agencies had adopted the sampling program and expanded its scope. Today sampling sites are located across the Gulf of Maine, and in Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland.

After years using divers in shallow areas to assess juvenile lobster populations, Wahle and Boothbay Harbor lobsterman Matt Parkhurst developed a new methodology for sampling deeper water, called a passive collector. The goal was to determine if young lobsters were using deeper waters as nursery areas as the Gulf of Maine warmed.

"Matt wanted to have something a lobsterman could haul," Wahle recalled. "He fabricated the first prototype with the same coated wire as in traps, which we tested in 2005. A passive collector is a shallow rectangular box filled with cobbles held horizontally by two bridles. It is lowered onto the sea floor in deep water in late spring or early summer, then retrieved in the fall, at the end of the settlement season. The technology was simple and it worked. "They rapidly adopted it in both the U.S. and Canada," Wahle said.

Wahle joined the University of Maine School of Marine Sciences faculty in 2009. Then in 2018 he became head of The Lobster Institute, taking over from the Institute's founder Bob Bayer. The Institute, begun in 1987, promotes and conducts research on the lobster fishery in the U.S. and Canada. It is well-known for its work on the U.S.-Canada Lobster Town Meeting, held in alternate countries each year. Most recently, the Institute was part of successful application to the National Science Foundation's Navigating the New Arctic Program for a three-year collaborative research study on the connection between the warming Arctic Ocean and the rapid changes in New England's and Atlantic Canada's lobster fisheries.

Upon retirement, Wahle stepped down as a lead investigator but will remain involved in the study. "I plan to offer a collaborative course through the University of Maine and the University of New Brunswick on climate and fisheries," he said. "We're starting to arrange it now to be offered in September 2024."

Retirement can be a jolt for some people. In Wahle's case, he's looking forward to it. "What I hope to be doing is continue to work in different areas that I think are important. Being retired gives me a chance to take in the big picture, to spend time with people and do things I haven't had a chance to do," he said.

Dr. Rick Wahle retired on August 31 after a long career as a lobster researcher. University of Maine photo.

---

Small enough to care; big enough to deliver

Family-owned business since 1993

Shop: 207-730-5531
Adam: 207-730-1651
Don: 207-730-2063
Eric: 207-653-6195
Email: searosetrap@gmail.com
www.searosetrap.com

HY-LINER ROPE COMPANY

SINK ROPE
FLOAT ROPE

Highest quality ropes made in Maine
SuperSink • SteelLiner • EasyPull • Float Ropes

HY-LINER ROPE COMPANY
ST. GEORGE, MAINE

---
COST OF ROPELESS FISHING MORE THAN JUST PRICE OF GEAR

By Melissa Waterman

The Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries released a report titled "Estimating the Costs of Using On-demand Gear in Massachusetts Lobster Fisheries" in July. The report found that if on-demand, or “ropeless,” gear had been used by all commercial lobstermen in Massachusetts last year, annual revenue from the lobster fishery would have dropped by $40 million; approximately 3.5 million fewer pounds of lobster would have been landed.

The scope of the report is limited to the Massachusetts lobster fishery. It does not consider the impacts of adopting on-demand gear in lobster fisheries outside of Massachusetts, the interaction of this gear with fisheries interacting with Massachusetts lobster gear or enforcement costs.

Ropeless fishing gear is the subject of intense interest by the federal government and environmental organizations because it removes vertical line from the water, lessening the risk that an endangered North Atlantic right whale or other whale species could get entangled. The gear typically consists of a buoy, attached to a lobster trap, that is released either by a time-release mechanism or by acoustic signals transmitted from the surface.

Other studies have looked at the economic cost to lobstermen to purchase ropeless gear. This report looks at both the cost to buy the gear and also the costs associated with fishing it. A computer model was developed to estimate the time required to use ropeless gear based on factors including vessel length, gear configuration, and fishing area. Other data incorporated into the model included data from NOAA’s ropeless gear testing program, economic assessments based on surveys of vessel owners/operators, and geospatial analyses.

The computer model’s results indicate that the complete conversion of Massachusetts state and federal lobster fishing vessels to ropeless gear would have numerous economic effects.

- The average per-trap throughput rate (the time required to haul, sort catch, and redeploy) would have increased by 1.82 minutes, inversely proportional to the number of traps fished per trawl;
- The average annual net revenue across all Massachusetts lobster fishing vessels using on-demand gear, assuming the gear would be acquired using a low-cost loan, would have been -$29,300, a decrease of $47,263 per vessel on average;
- The average annual net revenue among all lobster fishing vessels, assuming all on-demand gear acquisition costs were subsidized, would have been $1,377, a decrease of $16,586 per vessel on average;
- Lobster landings in Massachusetts would have been reduced by 3.74 million pounds.

The report goes on to say that the scenarios produced by the computer model “represent the upper bounds of potential economic impact to lobster fishing operations, additional operational issues that are unknown or poorly characterized at this time could increase costs further.” The report notes, however, that as more effort is made to improve ropeless gear, it may become less expensive and time-consuming to operate.

The report concludes by stating that “A comprehensive understanding of the ways that on-demand gear could be integrated into lobster fisheries will require significant additional research, including a more thorough evaluation of the operational constraints and parameters of various types of on-demand gear and their economic impacts to fishing businesses.”

A lively crowd attended Music, Masts & Lobster Traps at the Maine Maritime Museum on a beautiful Sunday afternoon in Bath. The August 27 event featured a concert by The Mallett Brothers Band to benefit the Maine Lobstermen's Community Alliance (MLCA), in partnership with the Maine Lobstermen's Association (MLA), and was organized by Jesse Roche, a local commercial fisherman, and Kevin Kelley, MLA director of advancement.

"The MLCA’s mission is to build better understanding of Maine’s lobster fishery and to support the families and communities who depend on it by supporting education, research and charity," Kelley said. "The MLA and the MLCA work closely together in our efforts to keep this sustainable and historic fishery strong for the next generation."

Ticket holders also enjoyed a riverside beer garden hosted by Mast Landing Brewery, XTRATUF, and Rugged Seas where Mere Point Oyster Company offered freshly shucked oysters and Long Reach Kitchen and Catering provided lobster rolls, lobster stew and other lobster favorites.

The concert kicked off with acoustic tunes by Maine troubadour Paddy Mills. Then the Mallet Brothers Band took the stage. Led by Luke and Will Mallett, the band energized the crowd with a roster of country-style and rock tunes, touched by the distinctive sounds of fiddle and mandolin played by Andrew Martelle. As the day ended and the air became cooler, concert goers kept the temperature turned up dancing and singing along with the band.

SAILING DRONES PLY GULF OF MAINE

Keep an eye out for two small robotic sailboats cruising through the Gulf of Maine to collect "high-resolution seafloor bathymetry and backscatter data along predetermined survey tracklines" for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. These high-visibility bright orange vehicles are not crewed. The 23-foot Saildrone Voyager vehicles operate independently 24 hours a day, using wind and solar power to cruise at 2 to 4 knots along pre-determined waypoints. They are equipped with Automatic Identification System transponders, navigation lights, radar reflectors and cameras. The Saildrones will be operating in the Gulf of Maine through October 18.

ANOTHER WIND FARM APPROVAL

The Department of the Interior announced in late August that it approved another offshore wind energy project to be located in federal waters near Rhode Island south of Martha’s Vineyard. The Revolution Wind project will have an estimated capacity of more than 700 megawatts of renewable energy, capable of powering nearly 250,000 homes, and is expected to create about 1,200 jobs during construction, regulators said. The project’s proposed plan will include 65 wind turbines and two offshore substations. This is the department’s fourth approval of a commercial-scale, offshore wind energy project, joining the Vineyard Wind project off Massachusetts, the South Fork Wind project off New Jersey, and the Ocean Wind 1 project off New York.

GULF OF ST. LAWRENCE DEEP WATER LAYERS HEATING UP

Data from Fisheries and Oceans Canada show that deepwater temperatures in the Gulf of St. Lawrence have been increasing overall since 2009. In 2022, average temperatures hit new record highs at depths of 150 to 300 meters throughout the Gulf and passed the threshold of 7°C (44.6°F) at 300 meters for the first time. Average monthly temperatures at the sea surface also set new records in August and September 2022, the data showed. The news is worrisome to oceanographers, who say they’re already seeing the impact of the warming water on different species in the Gulf, such as an increase in sightings of great white sharks in parts of the Gulf, and of lobsters expanding into new places that might have been too cold a decade earlier.

FOUND A BLUE CRAB?

Blue crabs, once found solely below Cape Cod, are showing up more frequently in the Gulf of Maine as waters warm. Manomet and the Maine Department of Marine Fisheries are calling on fishermen to track and report their sightings and observations through an online survey. Blue crabs are aggressive and tend to prey on young lobsters and shellfish, so a growing population could pose a threat to Maine’s lobster fishery, as well as oyster farmers and clam diggers. On the other hand, blue crabs support a strong commercial fishery in mid-Atlantic states. Anyone who finds a blue crab is encouraged to report it at https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/c21e755f8e1b29eb81bf024745b68b?portalUrl=https://manometinc.maps.arcgis.com.

MARITIME PROVINCES HERRING QUOTA CUT

The Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans has set the herring quota for waters off southwestern Nova Scotia and New Brunswick at 21,000 tons for 2023, an 11% reduction from the previous year. DFO said the herring stock in the region is in a critical zone — where serious harm is occurring — for the fifth year in a row, based on the most recent assessment. The yearly quota has dropped by 30% since 2018.

Buy yourself a bag!

The Maine Lobstermen’s Community Alliance has been selected by Hannaford to be part of its Community Bag program during the month of September. One dollar from the sale of each reusable bag sold at the Kennebunk Hannaford store will go to the MLCA. So head down to the Kennebunk store and purchase your bag today!
The evolution of the Maine lobster boat and stories of the Downeast men who built them.

By Daniel Sheldon Lee
Published by Down East Books.
Available now online or at local bookstores.

More details on all of these events can be found online at www.mainelobstermen.org

September 6
Maine Offshore Wind Research Consortium Advisory Board Meeting, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., DMR office building, rm. 118, Augusta.

September 12
Right Whale Tagging Workshop, 9am to 4pm, Online, FMI: https://www.narwc.org/2023-meeting-details.html.

September 13
MLA board meeting, Darby’s restaurant, Belfast. FMI: 967-4555.

September 14
ASMF Atlantic Herring Days Out meeting, 10:30 noon, online, FMI: https://asmfc.org/calendar/9/2023/Atlantic-Herring-Days-Out-Meeting/2207.

September 18-22
Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization meeting, Vigo, Spain.

September 19
Shellfish Advisory Council Meeting, 12:30-3:30 p.m., DMR office building, rm. 118, Augusta.
Aquaculture Public Scoping Session, Keith Miller & Ryan Miller, 7 p.m., St. George Town Office, Tenants Harbor.

NATIONAL FISHERMAN’S 2023 HIGHLINER,
CURT BROWN

By Melissa Waterman

Curt Brown, 43, a Cape Elizabeth lobsterman and marine biologist at Ready Seafood, was named one of National Fisherman’s 2023 Highliners. Each year the magazine selects individuals from around the country as Highliners, commercial fishermen known for giving back to the industry, locally, nationally or globally.

“I definitely don’t deserve any award with the word ‘highliner’ in it. Any of my sternmen over the years can confirm that!” Brown said. “Having said that I am very proud and very humbled by this award.” Brown also serves as co-chairman of SEA Maine, a seafood economic accelerator. Brown began lobstering when he was eight years old. He continues to fish today from Cape Elizabeth, often in the company of his two children, Finn and Clara. He attended the University of Maine where he received his M.S. in marine biology and marine policy.

He began work as marine biologist at Ready Seafood in 2015, where he has been tireless in educating seafood buyers, schoolchildren and people off the street about the sustainability of the Maine lobster fishery and the conservation practices of Maine lobstermen.

During the past several years Brown spent endless hours on the road, galvanizing lobster dealers, processors and others to give their support to the Maine Lobstermen’s Association’s (MLA) Legal Defense Fund for its fight against the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Regulations put in place by NMFS to protect the endangered North Atlantic right whale stood to dismember the Maine fishery and bring economic ruin to coastal communities.

In June, the U.S. Appellate Court in Washington, D.C. ruled in favor of the MLA, removing the threat posed by NMFS regulations for the next several years.

“Were in real danger of losing what we have here. Myself, the MLA and many others fought with facts and common sense. I’m so proud to be part of such an amazing industry,” Brown said. “Losing was never an option. The two biggest reasons why are enjoying their lunch break on the stern right now, in between baiting and banding!”

FOR SALE: 1980 Atkinson 45 x 17 3406 Cat 400 hp, new 3:1 zf gear, all new wiring, all new hydraulics and hoses, new 5 blade wheel, new roof on the house: $175,000.

For more info contact Tim Kane at 207-598-6206.

This would make a great scallop dragger!!

September 21
NEFMC Scallop Committee hybrid meeting, Radisson Airport Hotel, Warwick, RI.

September 25-28
NEFMC meeting, Plymouth, MA.

September 28
Aquaculture Advisory Council Meeting, 10 a.m.-12 noon, DMR office building, rm. 224, Augusta, or Microsoft Teams.

October 15-19
ASMF 81st annual meeting, Beaufort, NC.

October 23

October 24-25

Tailored Financing Specifically For Your Marine Needs.

FOR SALE: 1980 Atkinson 45 x 17 3406 Cat 400 hp, new 3:1 zf gear, all new wiring, all new hydraulics and hoses, new 5 blade wheel, new roof on the house: $175,000.

For more info contact Tim Kane at 207-598-6206.
About 48 miles off Penobsot Bay lies Ragged Island, approximately 300 acres in size. It is more commonly known as Criehaven, named for the family Crie. Back in 1849 Robert Crie of Matinicus bought land on the island and moved there with his 18-year-old wife Harriet. Crie was an industrious man. In time he bought the entire island and set about raising sheep, cutting lumber, and harvesting the resources of the sea. He hired fishermen to catch cod, haddock and mackerel which were then salted and packed on the island. In addition, he established and ran the general store. Because he controlled nearly every element of the island, Robert Crie was nicknamed “King Crie.” He and his wife had five children who married, had children of their own, and remained on the island.

Criehaven had a school and post office by 1896; a mailboat service began shortly afterward. King Crie died in 1901. By the early 1900s, fishermen and their families were able to buy land and make a living as independent fishermen and farmers. The island school continued until 1941. After its closing, the population dwindled away. Today a small number of lobstermen have “berths” on the island, which allow them to fish the island’s remarkably rich waters.

These photos of the island were taken by Ida Crie in the early 1900s. Ida Crie was born in 1856 in Rockland. She married Rufus Anson Crie, of Criehaven. Her husband and father-in-law owned the renowned H.H. Crie & Co. in Rockland, purveyors of hardware and nearly everything else. Ida Crie took up photography, capturing daily scenes throughout Maine and beyond. Her images show a place and time hard to imagine today.

All photographs are courtesy Rockland Historical Society, Ida Crie Collection. Many thanks to Ann Morris for her assistance.