



## **Massachusetts Lobstermen's Association, Inc.**

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### **August 2014**

It is with great pleasure that your Association's Officers and Executive Board members officially announce the appointment of Elizabeth Casoni as our full time Executive Director. "Beth" has been in our employ since 2008 and her efforts and dedication to the job and the industry did not go unnoticed.

As our Association's needs were changing, the Officers and Executive Board members have been in discussions for quite some time to answer these questions. Moving forward, What are our goals? Where are we going? Who will that person be to direct, innovate and guide the association during these changing times?

Sometimes the answers to your questions are closer than you think and in this case it became obvious Beth was the right person for the job. Already in the mix of the daily running of the office and fielding concerns regarding industry issues, she took the initiative to reach out to fishermen to gain knowledge and understanding of what the fishermen's needs were. Demonstrating the willingness to go that extra mile, along with her skills, her think on your feet and self start attitude, made our decision an easy one. From marketing initiatives, engine repower programs, TAA, chasing down the latest scoop on bait supply as well as lobster management and whale issues, Beth has been an asset to all our members. I am confident that Beth will perform her duties with the integrity and professionalism that MLA has enjoyed for many years. Welcome aboard Beth !!!

I have been your President now for 14 years and I have seen many changes in our industry, some have been dramatic, from ever increasing overhead concerns, pipeline construction, management issues, regulation compliance, windmill concerns, price fluctuations, bait and many, many more that affect your business and families. "Your" Massachusetts Lobstermen's Association is and will be here for you each and every day, your Officers, Executive Board and Delegates are the most dedicated and hardworking individuals I have had the pleasure to work with. I want to thank them for their efforts and sacrifices to assist in all the operations of the association. I want to thank all the members for their support in making MLA what it is. As a side note we are always looking for individuals to participate in the process and get involved. I invite everyone to call Beth and ask how to do I get involved? Don't be shy!! It's your business that is at stake!!

Wishing you all a bountiful catch and stay safe. Respectfully, Bernie Feeney