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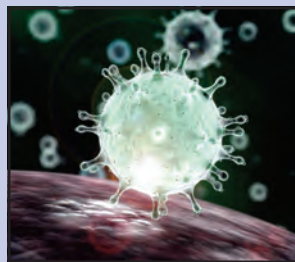
Lobster Institute

PG 18



Cooperative Research

PG 32



Coronavirus

PG 46

## Right Whale Scoping Meetings Have Been Held

On February 18th and 19th the Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) hosted two Scoping Meetings on State Response to Anticipated Changes to Federal Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan (ALWTRP) Affecting Trap Fisheries. These scoping meetings were held in Buzzards Bay and Gloucester and were well attended by Massachusetts Lobstermen's Association (MLA) members and commercial fishermen from the region. We would like to thank everyone for participating during these meetings as you are the fishermen and you know what you can and can not work with.

### DMF Scoping meeting rational:

[These Scoping Meetings were in response to the uncertainty of where recent population trends, NOAA Fisheries' Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team (TRT) has been working to amend the ALWTRP to consider federal regulatory adjustments to reduce the risk of serious injury and mortality posed by trap fishing gear, specifically vertical buoy lines, to endangered right whales that may become entangled therein.



The TRT subsequently endorsed a preliminary framework that established a 60% risk reduction target. Over the course of the last year, DMF staff has been working with NOAA fisheries to provide updated data analyses and regulatory advice. The purpose of this meeting will be to review NOAA Fisheries analyses regarding how the state can achieve this federally imposed risk reduction target. Comments received will help DMF engage on federal rule making moving forward.

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If we are not already friends on FB and you want to be please send a message as we are at the 5000 limit and we will always make room for MLA members.



### TWITTER

[www.twitter.com/masslobstermens](http://www.twitter.com/masslobstermens)

If you tweet and want to follow the MLA this is a great way to stay up to date with all kinds of fisheries related news.



### YOUTUBE

<http://www.youtube.com/user/lobsterdiva>

If you have any videos of fishing you would like to share please send them along. The MLA this has the camera rolling with all kinds of fisheries related news videos. Take a look!



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# COVER STORY

Right whales are a critically endangered species. They seasonally migrate into Massachusetts waters and aggregate in Cape Cod Bay to feed on zooplankton during the late-winter and early-spring. In recent years about 65% of the known right whale population has been seasonally observed in our waters. The entanglement of whales in fixed fishing gear, particularly vertical buoy lines, is a substantial source of human-caused mortality.] <https://www.mass.gov/doc/012820-dmf-schedules-scoping-meetings-to-discuss-anticipated-changes-to-federal-atlantic-large/download>

The MLA Delegates hosted the DMF and National Marine Fisheries Service at their February meeting to further discuss all the proposed conservation options being evaluated through the Risk Reduction Tool. The Delegates questioned several of the options and asked for clarifications on what are the currently acceptable weak contrivances are to date. Currently, there is only one option that is acceptable and that is the South Shore Sleeve. This is something that is readily available, repeatable, and enforceable. Stay tuned as we are working on several other options as are other states.

Currently, the MLA and Lobster Foundation of Massachusetts (LFoM) are working with the industry and the DMF to further the efforts to curtail any unreasonable conservation proposals that have been put forth and are now under consideration as well as developing acceptable weak contrivances. If you have any weak splices (new rope & a 6' section) you would like to have tested please send them to the LFoM 8 Otis Place, Scituate, MA 02066.

The LFoM through a MA Environmental Trust grant has purchased 640, 600' coils of 3/8" red/orange, triple strand, breaking at 1700lbs that will be deployed during the 2020 fishing season. Many of you have already signed up to participate in the field testing and we will be reaching out to you all once it has been delivered. If you have not already signed up to participate please email [beth.casoni@lobstermen.com](mailto:beth.casoni@lobstermen.com) Stay tuned!



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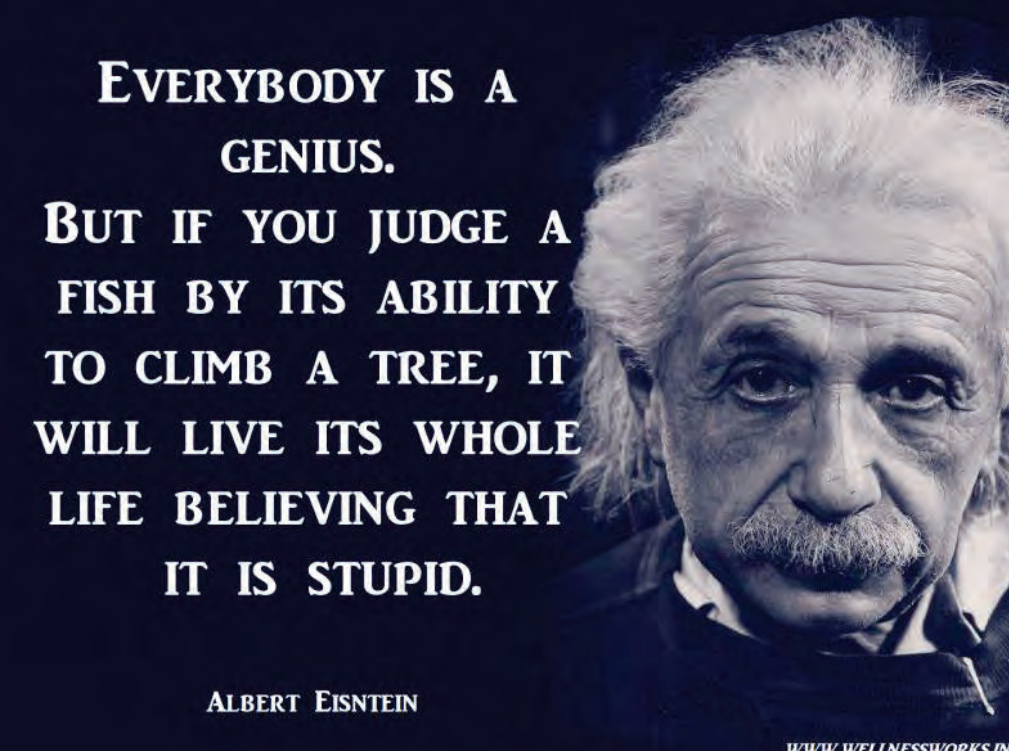
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**The Massachusetts Lobstermen's Association** would like to welcome the following new members to the Association. Your Association will continue its efforts on your behalf to conserve the resource, protect your livelihood, keep you informed, promote the industry and provide you with increasing benefits as they are developed. MLA stands ready to help you in anyway, at anytime — just let us know how!

*Safe on the water and good fishing!*

New Members	F/V Name	Port	Company
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Michael Russon	F/V Adventure	Province Town	



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ALBERT EISNTEIN

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# Calendar of Events

## MARCH

3/17 Happy St Patricks Day!

3/18 MLA Delegates Meeting- Sons of Italy  
Hall 120 Quarry St Quincy, MA 02169 7:00pm

3/25 MFAC Business meeting - DFW's  
Headquarters, 1 Rabbit Hill Rd Westborough,  
MA 01581 9:00am-2:00pm

*Please check the MLA website  
for more meetings and events  
as they will be added.*

## APRIL

4/16 MFAC Business meeting - DFW's  
Headquarters 1 Rabbitt Hill RD Westborough,  
MA 01591 - 9:00am

4/17 to 4/19 MLA Annual Weekend Industry  
Trade Show - Resort and Conference Center at  
Hyannis 35 Scudder Ave, MA 02601.

*Rooms are filling up fast - Don't delay and  
book your room today! All reservation forms  
can be found here [www.lobstermen.com](http://www.lobstermen.com)*

4/18 MLAs Annual Membership meeting will  
be held during the Annual Weekend (Time  
TBD)

## MAY

5/20 MLA Delegates meeting - Sons of  
Italy Hall 120 Quarry St, Quincy, MA 02169  
7:00pm

5/21 MFAC Business meeting - DFW's  
Headquarters 1 Rabbitt Hill Rd Westborough,  
MA 01581 - 9:00am

## JUNE

6/17 MLA Delegates meeting - Sons of  
Italy Hall 120 Quarry St, Quincy, MA 02169  
7:00pm

6/18 MFAC Business meeting - DFW's  
Headquarters 1 Rabbitt Hill Rd Westborough,  
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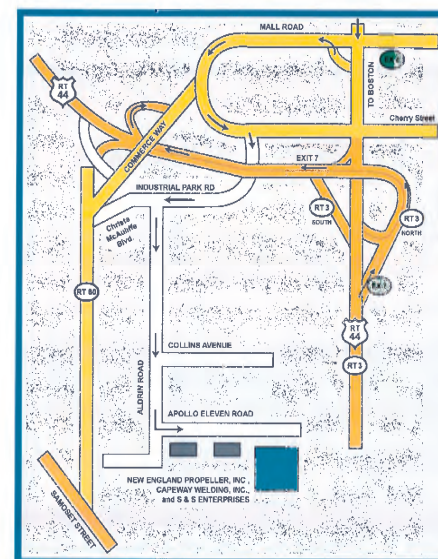
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# As the HAULER TURNS

Now that March is upon us and the winter is almost over, we are gearing up for the upcoming Massachusetts Lobstermen's Annual Weekend and Industry Trade Show April 17-19 at the Resort and Conference Center at Hyannis. We have been hearing a lot of scuttle about why the weekend dates were changed from January to April and the change in the date was made by the MLA Delegates due to a wide variety of reasons: 1. the MA Restricted Area Closure, 2. the uncertainty of a federal government shutdown, and 3. the unpredictable weather (snow, (most fishermen plow) and ice storms (no one wants to travel).

The Annual Weekend Committee is working hard to bring you all a full slate of seminars, vendors, entertainment and most of all camaraderie and we certainly hope you will take the time to come down for the weekend or just for the day. There are many informative Annual Weekend announcements in this newspaper and we hope that you will partake in all that we have to offer. Please keep in mind that the Annual Weekend and Industry Trade Show program will be uploaded to the MLAs website in early April.

As we settle in on new dates keep in mind that the April 2020 dates will again shift in 2021 going forward to be around the last weekend of March, thank you all who have made this recommendation. We truly appreciate everyone's input and patience as we transition to a new time of year for the event. If you would

like to help out before, during or after the event we are always looking for fresh ideas on how we can make things better and more interactive. Please reach out to Tracey at 781.545.6984 xt2.

In the midst of all the Annual Weekend preparations there have been two DMF Scoping Meetings that were held regarding the upcoming right whale regulations changes that will be coming down from NOAA.

The DMF was clear that these were being held to hear from you what your thoughts are on the conservation measures you can live with as they are working on all the Lobster Management Areas (1, 2, OCC) in Massachusetts to get them to the 60% conservation goal set by NOAA.

A lot of reoccurring questions and concerns were raised previously and during the meetings ranging from; why do we have to do more when there is a closure in Massachusetts when the whales are present, we are already fishing 15-30 pot trawls, I only fish 64 endlines for 800 pots, what about the ship strikes, what about Canada, I have never seen a right whale, my rope is so old it must break well under the 1700lbs., who is going to come up with these weak contrivances, we need many options to achieve a weak contrivance, what about offshore wind and the impacts to the right whales, and I only fish 200 pots. The DMF answered all the questions that they were able too and if they couldn't it was due to the pending law suit that was filed against the federal government. We will be recapping this



discussion during the DMF Roundtable during the upcoming Annual Weekend on Saturday April 18, 2020 (Time TBD)

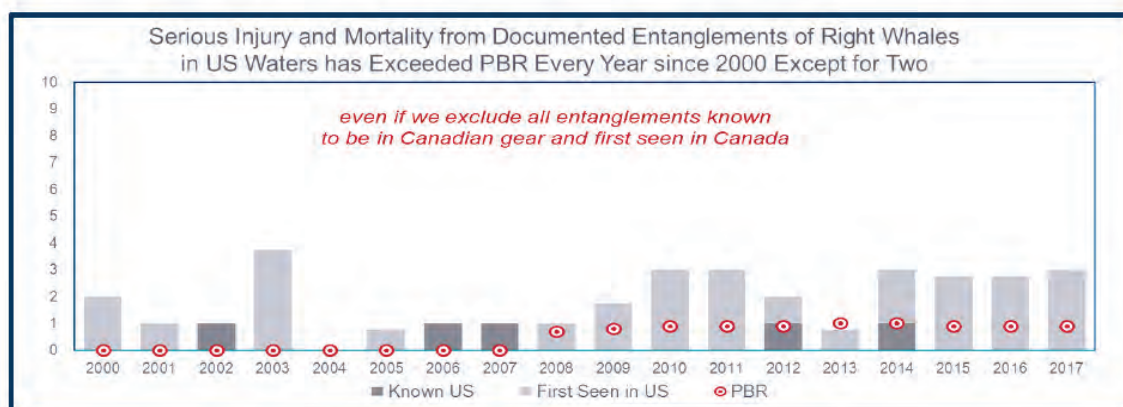
Unfortunately, there appears to be a trend here and every 5-7 years there is a law suit filed by the ENGOs because of the unattainable goal of reaching the Potential Biological Removal (PBR) of 1 right whale "Take" per year. I keep praying that there are fifteen plus right whale babies born each year and no deaths over the next 5-7 years, will be enough to keep these people out of the courts. Every documented interaction between a right whale and a vertical line is calculated into the PBR model and at the end of each year we get a total.

Here is a PBR table from 2000-2017 that was presented by NOAA:

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/nefmc.org/NEFMC-TRT-Presentation-June-2019-Asaro.pdf>

Currently, the Lobster Foundation of Massachusetts is working with a rope manufacturer to develop a weak 1700lb, 3/8" red rope and will be reaching out to several of you in early April that signed up to test this rope. This will be field tested during the 2020 fishing season and once it has been given enough feed back and scrutiny we are hopeful is will be accepted by NOAA as a weak contrivance. We are hoping that should you choose to use a weak 1700lb single vertical you would not have to then incorporate anymore weak contrivances in your line. You will however have to still incorporate the 600lb breakaway at the buoy and are hopeful this will be phased out through rule making down the road. Stay tuned!

Safe fishing, *Beth Casoni*



Summary of April 2019 Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team Meeting  
New England Fishery Management Council Portland, ME June 13, 201



Massachusetts Lobstermen’s Association  
8 Otis Place  
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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP	Full Voting \$150 Annual Dues	Associate \$150 Annual Dues	Business \$250 Annual Dues
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\*To qualify for a Full Regular Membership, you MUST (1) hold a valid Mass. Commercial Lobster License, (2) reside in Massachusetts, (3) be sponsored by either two Regular Members or one Delegate, and (4) send in a copy of your lobster license with this application.

Sponsors:

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#2 Name\_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Delegate    [ ] Regular Member

Name

**Business Name** \* Business members will now be listed in 2”x2” ad in the new MLA business section at the front of the monthly newspaper, a 2”x2” ad linked to your website will be added to the MLA website, preferential ad location selection in the newspaper and early registration and booth preferences for the MLA Annual Weekend event.

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***YOU ARE INVITED  
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April 17-19, 2020***



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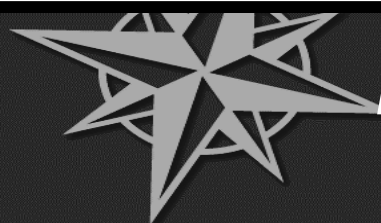
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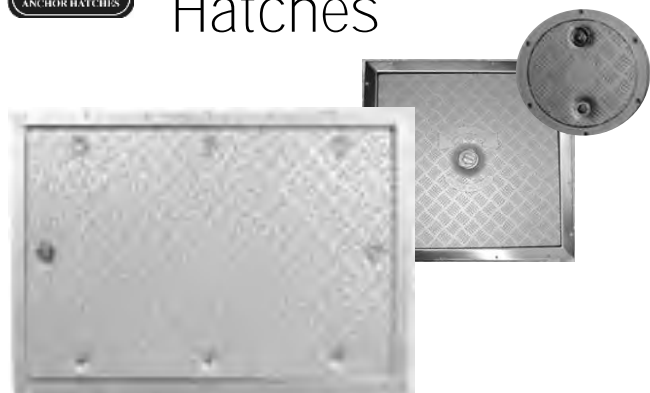
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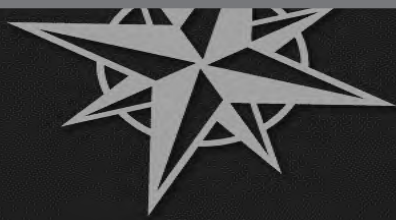
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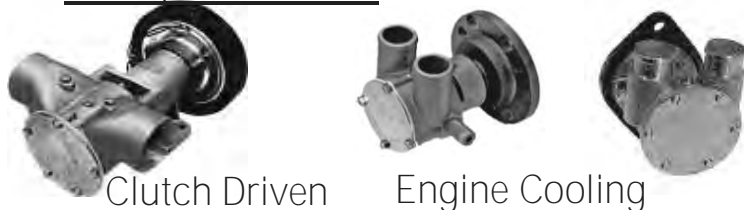


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## New England Fishery Management Council

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
February 5, 2020

**PRESS CONTACT:** Janice Plante  
(607) 592-4817, [jplante@nefmc.org](mailto:jplante@nefmc.org)

### Groundfish Monitoring Amendment 23: Council Votes to Send Draft Document out for Comment with Preferred Alternatives

The New England Fishery Management Council voted on January 29 to send Draft Groundfish Monitoring Amendment 23 out for public comment. The amendment contains numerous proposals, and the Council selected several “preferred alternatives” to help guide the public in supplying feedback. The hearings will take place this spring, likely in late March and April. The Council then will review all oral and written comments and take final action during its June 23-25 meeting in Freeport, ME.

The Council developed the amendment “to improve the reliability and accountability of catch reporting in the commercial groundfish fishery to ensure there is precise and accurate representation of catch.” Catch is defined as both landings and discards.

#### Preferred Alternatives

In short, the Council’s first preferred alternative calls for 100% at-sea monitoring on all groundfish sector trips. This coverage level could be achieved through one of two ways:

- **Human At-Sea Monitors:** People would be on board the vessels to track catches and discards; or
- **Electronic Monitoring (EM):** In lieu of human monitors, cameras would be mounted on vessels to video record catches and discards under one of two programs, both of which are fully described in Amendment 23:
  - Audit Model EM; or
  - Maximized Retention EM.

#### About the Council’s 1<sup>st</sup> Preferred Alternative

*Draft Amendment 23 contains four alternatives for at-sea monitoring coverage rates for groundfish sectors: 25%, 50%, 75%, and 100%. Here, the Council selected 100% coverage as its preferred alternative in order to solicit the broadest range of public comment possible and get a sense from industry of the maximum costs associated with this action. The Council is not bound to select 100% in June when it takes final action, and it emphasized the importance of listening to the public before making a final decision.*



*A mounted camera (top left) records catches and discards under an electronic monitoring pilot program. – The Nature Conservancy photo*





## New England Fishery Management Council

- **Uncertainty Buffer:** The Council also voted to support as a preferred alternative eliminating the management uncertainty buffer that's applied to sector annual catch limits (ACLs) for allocated stocks, but **only** if 100% monitoring is approved for all sector vessel trips. Eliminating the buffer would result in more fish being available to sector boats since 3% to 7% of each stock's acceptable biological catch currently is deducted to account for uncertainty. This uncertainty would be reduced under 100% monitoring.
- **Dockside Monitoring:** The Council supported "no action" as preferred for dockside monitoring. If no action is approved during final action, the commercial groundfish fishery would **not** be subject to mandatory dockside monitoring.

The Council selected other preferred alternatives related to: (1) establishing a review process for at-sea monitoring coverage rates; (2) adding new sector monitoring tools through a framework adjustment rather than an amendment; (3) issuing waivers to exempt vessels from industry-funded monitoring requirements if insufficient funding is available for the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS/NOAA Fisheries) to cover shoreside costs for the program; and (4) removing monitoring program requirements for vessels fishing exclusively west of 71 degrees 30 minutes west longitude.

### What's Next?

The Council will develop a public hearing document and schedule hearings throughout the region. The Council will announce the schedule as soon as it's available and post the hearing document on its website. Keep tabs on the Council's groundfish [webpage](#) for updates.

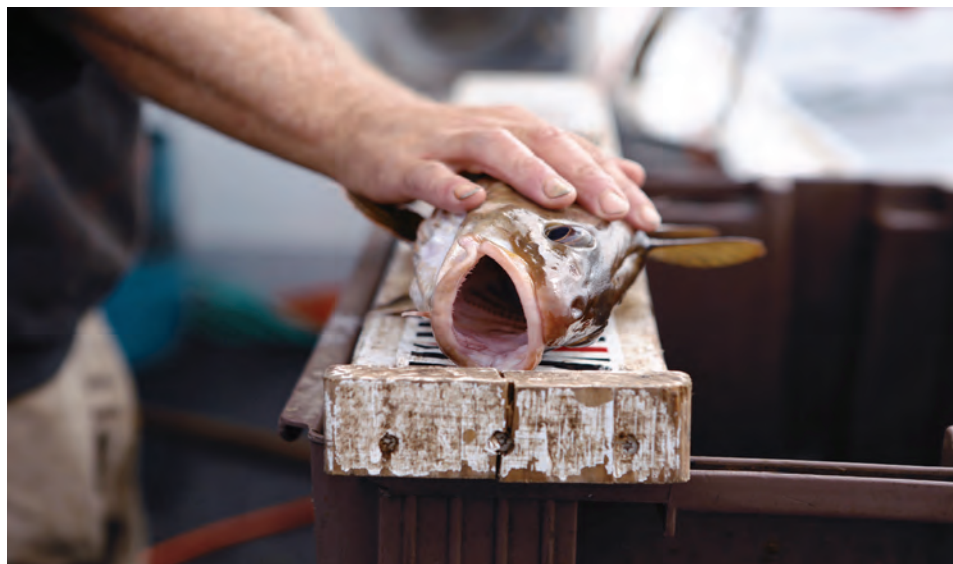
### QUESTIONS? CONTACT:

- **Dr. Jamie Cournane**, the Council's groundfish plan coordinator, at (978) 465-0492, ext. 103, [jcournane@nefmc.org](mailto:jcournane@nefmc.org); or
- **Robin Frede**, the Council's fishery analyst who led much of the work on Amendment 23, at (978) 465-0492, ext. 124, [rfrede@nefmc.org](mailto:rfrede@nefmc.org).
- Documents used during the Council's January 29, 2020 discussion on Amendment 23 in Portsmouth, NH are available at [groundfish](#).

*At right: Measuring cod on a Gulf of Maine trip under electronic monitoring. —Energy Films photo*

### Key Amendment 23 Documents

- **Decision Document:** This easy-to-read file contains tables that sum up all of the options within the amendment and provides short descriptions of the biological, economic, and social impacts, plus more. Download a copy [here](#).
- **Amendment 23 Webpage:** All of the sections within the draft amendment, as well as appendices and background materials, are available [here](#).



## FISHING PARTNERSHIP SUPPORT SERVICES

# 2020 Spring Training Schedule

This spring, Fishing Partnership Support Services will be offering **FREE** Safety & Survival and Drill Conductor trainings for commercial fishermen across the region.

Our popular **Safety & Survival Training** is a full-day, hands-on training for commercial fishermen. **Drill Conductor Certification** is a full-day training for those who have completed our Safety & Survival training and want to conduct required monthly drills on their own fishing vessels.

Find the trainings nearest you and visit our website or contact the Navigator listed to register.

### New Bedford, MA

**March 12** - Safety & Survival

**March 13** - Drill Conductor

Contact **Deb**, **Jenny**, or **Rob** to register.

### Marshfield, MA

**March 19** - Safety & Survival

**March 20** - Drill Conductor

Contact **Lori** to register.

### Barnegat Light, NJ

**March 26** - Safety & Survival

**March 27** - Drill Conductor

Contact **Nina** to register.

### Harwich Port, MA

**April 2** - Safety & Survival

**April 3** - Drill Conductor

Contact **Morgan** or **Shannon** to register.

### Southwest Harbor, ME

**April 16** - Safety & Survival

**April 17** - Drill Conductor

Contact **Nina** to register.

### New Castle, NH

**April 23** - Safety & Survival

**April 24** - Drill Conductor

Contact **Maria** to register.

### Point Judith, RI

**April 23** - Safety & Survival

**April 24** - Drill Conductor

Contact **Lori** to register.

### Ocean City, MD

**April 30** - Safety & Survival

**May 1** - Drill Conductor

Contact **Deb** to register.

### Harpswell, ME

**May 7** - Safety & Survival

**May 8** - Drill Conductor

Contact **Morgan** to register.

### Gloucester, MA

**May 14** - Safety & Survival

**May 15** - Drill Conductor

Contact **Nina** or **Maria** to register.

### Montauk, NY

**May 21** - Safety & Survival

**May 22** - Drill Conductor

Contact **Morgan** to register.

For more information, or to register for a training, contact a Navigator in your area:

### Chatham

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[Serving the North Shore]

Nina Groppo and Maria Carpenter (978) 282-4847

### New Bedford

[Serving the South Coast]

Deb Kelsey (508) 884-6661 or Jenny Amaral and Rob Jardin (508) 991-3043

### Plymouth

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## FISHING PARTNERSHIP



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# NOAA's NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE (NMFS) MARINE MAMMAL AUTHORIZATION PROGRAM CERTIFICATE FOR 2020

## **A. Authorization:**

Pursuant to Section 118 of the Marine Mammal Protection Act (Act) (16 U.S.C. 1387), the implementing regulations at 50 CFR Part 229, and subject to the terms and conditions below, NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) issues this Authorization Certificate, which, when presented in combination with a current/valid state or federal fisheries permit, authorizes the taking of non-endangered/threatened marine mammals incidental to commercial fishing operations in those fisheries listed on the reverse side.

## **B. Terms and Conditions:**

- All incidental mortality or injury of marine mammals occurring in the course of commercial fishing operations must be reported to NMFS within 48 hours after the end of each fishing trip in which the incidental death or injury occurred using the appropriate reporting form, even if the trip is observed.
- This Authorization Certificate, or a photocopy of it, must be on board the vessel during commercial fishing operations.
- Authorization Certificate holders must comply with any applicable take reduction plans and emergency regulations.
- If requested to do so by NMFS or a designated contractor providing observer services to NMFS, an Authorization Certificate holder must take aboard an observer to accompany the vessel on fishing trips and must possess a valid Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety Examination decal issued by the U.S. Coast Guard.
- When necessary to deter a marine mammal from damaging fishing gear, catch, other private property, or from endangering personal safety, the vessel owner, operator, or crew members may use measures which do not result in serious injury or death of the animal pursuant to the deterrence provisions of the Act.
- A marine mammal may not be intentionally killed in the course of commercial fishing operations except where imminently necessary in self-defense or to protect the life of a person in immediate danger. Such lethal taking must be reported to NMFS within 48 hours after the end of each fishing trip in which the mortality occurred using the appropriate MMAP mortality/injury reporting form.
- Any marine mammal incidentally taken must be immediately returned to the sea unless directed otherwise by NMFS or a NMFS-authorized observer.
- Any person who violates these Terms and Conditions, regulations under 50 CFR Part 229, or any provisions of Section 118 of the Act, shall be subject to the penalties set forth in the Act.
- This Authorization Certificate, or a copy, must be made available upon request to any state or federal enforcement agent authorized to enforce the Act, any designated agent of NMFS, or any contractor providing observer services to NMFS.
- This Certificate is not transferable. In the event of a change in vessel ownership, the Authorization Certificate is void and a new Authorization Certificate must be obtained by the new owner.
- If the registered vessel is sold or destroyed or is replaced by a new designated vessel, an authorization must be obtained for the new vessel.
- If there are changes in the mailing address or vessel ownership, please contact your state or federal fishery management office for permit corrections (phone: 978-281-9370, address: 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930) within 30 days of the change. Please also notify the Protected Resources Division of any changes at 978-281-9328.



# 2018 Atlantic, Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico Category I & II Fishery Definition Reference

Gear Type	Fishery	Cat.	Location & Details
Gillnet	Northeast sink gillnet	I	U.S./Canada border to Long Island, NY, at 72° 30' W long., south to VA/NC border & east to the EEZ.
	Northeast anchored float gillnet	II	U.S./Canada border to Long Island, NY, at 72° 30' W long., south to VA/NC border & east to the EEZ.
	Northeast drift gillnet	II	U.S./Canada border to Long Island, NY, at 72° 30' W long., south to VA/NC border & east to the EEZ. Includes any residual large pelagic driftnet effort in New England.
	Chesapeake Bay inshore gillnet	II	Between the Chesapeake Bay/Bridge Tunnel & mainland
	Mid-Atlantic gillnet	I	West of a line drawn at 72° 30' W long., south to VA/NC border, east to the eastern edge of EEZ & north of the NC/SC border. Includes any residual large pelagic driftnet effort in the Mid-Atlantic; any shark & dogfish gillnet effort, & all NC beach-anchored gillnets fished in the manner of a seine targeting species such as weakfish, speckled trout, & spot, excluding the Atlantic Ocean striped bass beach seine fishery.
	North Carolina inshore gillnet	II	Inshore of the COLREGS lines in NC
	Southeast Atlantic gillnet	II	Waters south of a line extending east from the NC/SC border to the EEZ, & east of the fishery management council demarcation line between the Atlantic Ocean/Gulf of Mexico. Excludes shark gillnetting effort using 5-inch or greater stretched mesh south of the SC/GA border.
	Southeastern U.S. Atlantic shark gillnet (≥ 5 inch stretched mesh)	II	Waters south of line extending east from the SC/GA border to the EEZ.
	Gulf of Mexico gillnet	II	Waters west of fishery management council demarcation line between the Atlantic Ocean/Gulf of Mexico & north of U.S./Mexico border.
	High Seas Atlantic highly migratory species drift gillnet	II	On the High Seas - waters outside of the EEZ.
Traps and Pots	Northeast/Mid-Atlantic American lobster trap/pot	I	Atlantic inshore & offshore waters
	Atlantic mixed species trap/pot	II	U.S./Canada border south through the waters east of the fishery management demarcation line between the Atlantic Ocean & Gulf of Mexico. Excludes other Category I, II, & III trap/pot fisheries already appearing on the List of Fisheries.
	Atlantic blue crab trap/pot	II	From south shore of Long Island, NY at 72° 30' W long. fishery management council demarcation line through the Atlantic Ocean/Gulf of Mexico - includes estuarine, coastal, & offshore waters.
	Southeastern U.S. Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico stone crab trap/pot	II	Includes all estuarine, coastal, & offshore waters in the Atlantic from NC through FL, & in the Gulf of Mexico from FL through TX.
Longline	Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico large pelagic & highly migratory species longline	I	Waters within Atlantic EEZ & on the High Seas (outside of the EEZ).
Trawl	Northeast mid water trawl (including pair trawl)	II	U.S./ Canada border through waters east of 70° W. long. to the intersection of the EEZ, primarily on the continental shelf & throughout the Gulf of Maine, Georges Bank, & Southern New England.
	Mid-Atlantic mid-water trawl (including pair trawl & flynet)	II	Cape Cod, MA, to Cape Hatteras, NC, in waters west of 70° W. long. to the intersection of the EEZ & north of a line extending due east from the NC/SC border.
	Northeast bottom trawl	II	From the U.S./ Canada border through waters east of 70° W. long.
	Mid-Atlantic bottom trawl	II	Cape Cod, MA, to Cape Hatteras, NC, in waters west of 70° W. long. & north of a line extending due east from the NC/SC border.
	Southeastern U.S. Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico Shrimp Trawl	II	Pelagic, skimmer, or bottom trawl fisheries in the Atlantic from NC through FL, & in the Gulf of Mexico from FL through TX. Includes all estuarine, coastal, & offshore waters.
	High Seas Atlantic highly migratory species trawl	II	On the High Seas - waters outside of the EEZ.
Seines, Pound & Stop Net	Mid-Atlantic menhaden purse seine	II	Mid-Atlantic region.
	Gulf of Mexico menhaden purse seine	II	Gulf of Mexico.
	Mid-Atlantic haul/beach seine	II	Waters west of 72°30' W long. & north of a line extending due east from the NC/SC border.
	North Carolina long haul seine	II	NC state waters.
	Virginia pound net	II	VA state waters, including inside Chesapeake Bay.
	North Carolina roe mullet stop net	II	Off Bogue Banks, NC.
Other High Seas Fisheries	High Seas Atlantic highly migratory species troll	II	On the High Seas- waters outside of the EEZ.
	High Seas Atlantic highly migratory species pole & line	II	On the High Seas- waters outside of the EEZ.
	High Seas Atlantic highly migratory species multipurpose vessel not included elsewhere (NEI)	II	On the High Seas- waters outside of the EEZ.

\*Note the EEZ (Exclusive Economic Zone) in the U.S. typically extends 200 nautical miles from the coast.  
For more detailed descriptions of each fishery, please reference the 2019 List of Fisheries available online at [www.fisheries.noaa.gov/action/list-fisheries-2019](http://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/action/list-fisheries-2019)

# Lobster Institute's Canada/U.S Lobster

## Town Meeting Focuses on the Future of the Lobster Industry

Over 120 people attended the Lobster Institute's Canada/U.S. Lobster Town Meeting held in Moncton, New Brunswick on January 24-25. The focus of the 2020 event was "Lobsters without borders: forging our futures together". It marked the 16th year the University of Maine's Lobster Institute has hosted the event. Town Meeting is now a long-standing tradition and premier event welcoming lobster industry members, fishery managers and scientists from both sides of the border. The industry-organized meeting makes a special effort to engage the harvesting sector to discuss the status of the lobster resource and the business of lobstering from their perspective.

On day one of the meeting participants took part in a full schedule of broad-ranging discussions, with specialists on hand to help guide the dialog. The day's discussion included the topical issues of lobster processing in North America as well as lobster marketing – how the industry in moving its combined 350+ million pounds of lobster. Lobster quality and lobster as a product in a rapidly changing globalized marketplace were the main focus concerning processing. The marketing discussions centered mainly on how lobster marketing will change with climate change, sustainability in the industry, and new marketing techniques.

The session on North American right whales centered on migration and protection measures on both sides of the border. Questions from the audience varied, with many calling for more investigations surrounding whale physiology, ecosystem food web ecology, and alternative explanations for ecosystem shifts or other sources of mortality beyond the fishing industry. Audience members asked for more information on the steps other industries, such as the cruise and shipping companies, are doing in efforts to protect the species.

The day wrapped up with a sea food reception where attendees continued to network and discuss the issues of the day.

Day two of the event included discussions media relations. There was also plenty of time for open discussion on a variety topics, in a true town-meeting style format.

Special guests at the event included the Minister of Fisheries and Communities from Prince Edward Island, the Honorable Jamie Fox; and Minister of Finance, the Honorable Ernest Steeves, who shared welcoming remarks from the host Province of New Brunswick.

Also attending were high school students from Vinalhaven School on Fox Island, Maine. These students are participating in a year-long curriculum revolving around fisheries in Maine and Canada – working with a sister school from Prince Edward Island. They took an active role in the discussions and networking; and were able to attend, in part, due to support from the Lobster Institute's Klaus Sonnenberg Memorial Scholarship.

The Lobster Institute's Canada/U.S. Lobster Town Meeting alternates between Canada and the U.S. each year. Having been hosted on the Canadian side in St. John and St. Andrews, NB, in the past, this was the first time the event was held in Moncton. The one and a half day event brings lobstermen and others connected to the fishery together to share ideas, questions, and concerns. A major goal of the Town Meeting is to foster collaboration and communication among geographic areas and sectors of the fishery. This was evident as fishermen, processors, dealers and managers traveled from Massachusetts, Maine, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia to attend the event.

The Lobster Town Meeting's open discussion format allows all participants to get a more complete picture of the entire resource and the industry, including commonalities, differences and potential future impacts. Their input helps set the agenda for research for the lobster fishery on an industry-wide basis, geared toward the responsible use of the resource while maintaining the vitality of the industry. The emphasis on collaboration and communication



stems from the fact that all sectors of the industry share and rely on a common resource that must be protected.

The event was co-chaired by Lobster Institute Board members Michel Richard, representing the Maritime Fishermen's Union (MFU); and Annie Tselikis, Executive Director of the Maine Lobster Dealers' Association. UNI Financial Service was the Premier Platinum Sponsor of the Town Meeting; with Gold Sponsorship provided by the MFU and Maine Sea Grant. The MFU also provided English to French translation services for the event; and Maine Sea Grant sponsored the recording and reporting.

All discussions at the Town Meeting were recorded and a transcript as well as a summary report is being compiled by the Lobster Institute, with assistance from a group of graduate students in the University of Maine's School of Marine Sciences' Fisheries & Policy Management class. Copies will be available (written or mp3) by contacting the Lobster Institute at lobsterinstitute@maine.edu or 207-581-1443; and will be posted on the Institute's Web site at [www.lobsterinstitute.org](http://www.lobsterinstitute.org).

The 2021 Town Meeting will be held in Portland, Maine.

For more information on this year's meeting, contact the Lobster Institute at lobsterinstitute@maine.edu; or call Cathy Billings at 207-581-2751.





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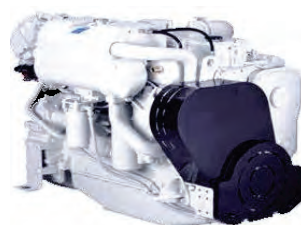
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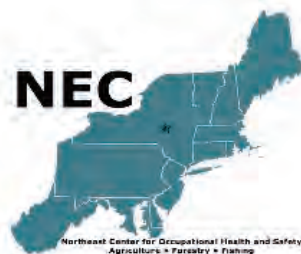
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**Some of the seminar topics for the 2020 Trade Show are as follows;**

### **Right Whale Rules & Conservation Measures**

(MLA, LFoM, GARFO & DMF) The panel will discuss the ongoing right whale; stock status, rule making & timeline of implementation, ongoing conservation initiatives, developing multiple weak contrivances effort to further reduce the serious injury and mortality between right whales and rope going forward.

### **Division of Marine Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service & Environmental Police Round Table**

This is an open forum discussion where you can talk about your fisheries concerns. If you have any specific questions for the agencies to answer, please send them to [beth.casoni@lobstermen.com](mailto:beth.casoni@lobstermen.com) by March 17th to allow time to compile the necessary data and response.

### **MA Lobstermen's Association 57th Annual Membership Meeting**

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### **Lobster Institute**

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More seminar information will be forth coming in the April newspaper. Also please be advised that these may change as we live in an ever changing world and ALL reservation forms can be found on the MLAs website [www.lobstermen.com](http://www.lobstermen.com) - The Annual Weekend Program will be posted online in early April. **DO NOT DELAY - ROOMS AND BOOTHS ARE FILLING UP!**



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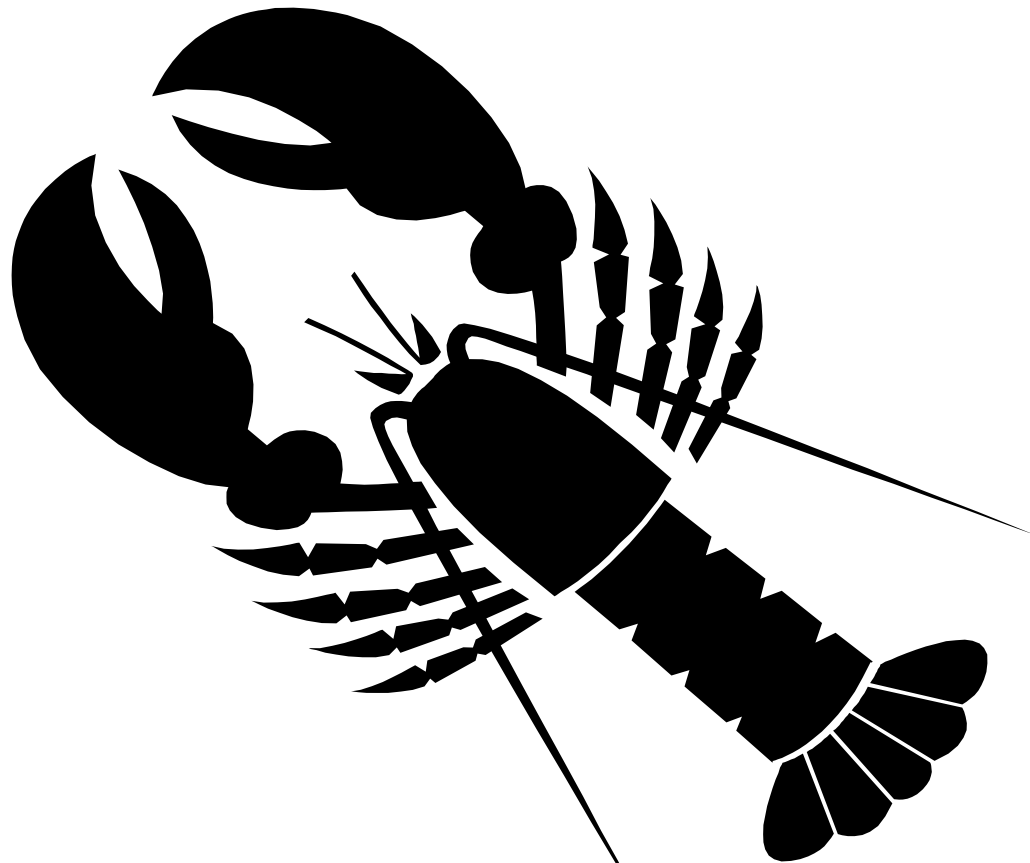
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# Foods That You Should Never Touch If You're Over 50

Chelena Goldman

We get it — adjusting your eating habits as you get older can be really hard. But when it comes to losing weight and keeping your body as healthy as possible, there's really no other choice than to starting cutting foods out of your daily diet. Not entirely sure which foods you should start avoiding or limiting in order to keep yourself fit and healthy? That's where we come in. Some of these foods may even surprise you!

## Pickles



This may come as a surprise — how can a vegetable like delicious dills be bad for you? As Today's Joy Bauer explains,

one pickle is loaded with over 1,000 milligrams of sodium. With high blood pressure being a health concern as we get older, cutting down on foods that can raise your blood pressure is key. (This isn't the only salt-filled food on our list, either.)

*Next: Too much of this food can cause problems if you're in your 50s.*

## Potatoes



This is one food you surely need to cut down on, especially if it's cut into fries or sprinkled with bacon bits. (More

on bacon a little later.) "Potatoes really are starchy," TIME explains, "and they land high on the glycemic index—right up there with rice cakes and pretzels." And when you add all the extras to it, you get a dish that expands your waistline and raises your insulin levels. If you absolutely must have a potato — they do contain vitamins — eat them as bare as possible.

*Next: Here's the worst way to start your day.*

## Breakfast pastries



We will not tell you to cut out sweets all together. (Who would ever listen to advice like that anyways?) But you should

definitely limit your sugar intake if you want to keep your weight down — and definitely avoid pastries at breakfast. Bauer tells Today that the late morning sugar crash caused by breakfast pastries affects your blood sugar levels and causes you to crave healthier foods throughout the rest of your day.

*Next: Too much of this food puts you at risk for diseases.*

## Butter



Let's be honest — butter isn't good for you in large quantities no matter what age you are.

But it's more

imperative to cut back on it as you age. In fact, cutting back on saturated fats in general — like whole milk and cheese — can greatly lower your cholesterol and your risk of heart disease. While a little butter won't kill you, swapping it out for healthier fats like olive oil or nuts is a much better option.

*Next: Your body's reaction to this beverage may change in your 50s.*

## Too much wine



But red wine is good for you, right? Well, that only counts if you drink it in moderation as prescribed by the Mediterranean

diet. As Bauer tells Today, having multiple glasses in one sitting can undo its positive properties because it inundates your organs. Plus, the sugar in wine can interrupt sleep patterns as you get older, leaving you tossing and turning at all hours because you had just one more glass.

*Next: If this is in your fridge, you should get rid of it. Stat.*

## Deli meats



Time to rethink that weekend sandwich run. Or, at least what you are putting into the sandwich. Your favorite go-to deli meats are

pumped with sodium and fat, WebMD explains, plus chemical preservative that raise your risk for certain cancers. Go for a lean meat option in your sandwiches — like skinless chicken — and pack on the veggies.

*Next: But, while we're on the subject of veggies*

## Steam bag frozen vegetables



This may be your go-to, quick-and-easy fix for getting vegetables into your diet. But this option isn't as healthy as

you think. As Livestrong tells us, pre-packaged veggie options contain added ingredients like creams, sauces, and salt, which take away some of the health benefits. Being mindful of what's in your frozen vegetables can go a long way to keeping you fit, and healthier.

*Next: A guilty pleasure food that has connections to obesity.*

## Deep dish pizza



Pizza is one of those unhealthy foods that we haven't been able to get enough of since we were kids. Even though we know all the dough, cheese,

and salty toppings are terrible for us. And as we get older, of course, those components ruin our waistlines and can contribute to long-term fight with obesity. To keep your body in check without giving up a slice of pie, steer of deep dish options. (All that bread is doing you no favors.) Opt for thin crust, less cheese, and load up on veggie toppings.

*Next: A food you should completely avoid — as delicious as it is.*



## Bacon



This is kind of a no-brainer. You shouldn't be eating bacon on a regular basis no matter what age you are. But of

course, all that bad fats and salt packed into those strips are even worse once you reach a certain age because it greatly raises your risk of heart disease and stroke. While a nibble on a rare occasion probably won't kill you, it's better to just stay away from bacon all together.

*Next: This next one may surprise you.*

## Cherries



That's right — those delectable little fruits should be limited in your diet as you get into your

50s and beyond. Despite their anti-inflammatory properties and loads of antioxidants, cherries are also packed with sugar. (And if your blood sugar is an issue, these are a big no-no.) Plus, eating too many cherries can cause upset stomach, nausea, and bloating. You can enjoy a few cherries here and there, but it's best not to go overboard.

*Next: Let's get back to this topic real quick...*

## Chicken skin



Remember when we suggested swapping out your deli meats for skinless chicken? Really, you should be trying your best to always eat your chicken without the skin. While it makes the

meat juicier, the skin is also loaded with a ton of fat, which can throw your cholesterol out of whack and add to your midsection.

*Next: When it comes to everyone's favorite dinner side...*

## Dinner rolls



It may seem like a meal isn't complete without a side of bread. But having those rolls on the side are only going to add rolls to your

waistline, especially as you get older. Plus, like with breakfast pastries, the carbohydrates in dinner rolls will make your blood pressure spike and then abruptly crash — leaving you hungry again, even after a large meal. (Especially if the rolls are made from white bread.)

*Next: A bit of a no-brainer, but it must be mentioned.*

## Soda



Breaking a soda habit can be tough. But it's crucial to your health the older you get, especially if you're a diabetic. "This sugar rush," Bauer says, "sends your blood

sugar into a tailspin, and then you get an insulin surge and that promotes inflammation." Unlike some foods on this list that can at least be eaten on a rare occasion, soda should be avoided at all costs.

*Next: Another surprising fruit to avoid.*

## Grapes



Here we have another fruit that you may think is too healthy to ever be bad for you. So what makes grapes a food to eat less of once you're in your 50s? Like with cherries,

the carbohydrate and sugar content is high and can make weight loss difficult. Take a cue from Livestrong and limit this fruit.

*Next: A food to avoid like the plague.*

## Potato chips



Once a potato becomes a potato chip, any and all nutritional value basically vanishes. You're left with an empty, processed

starch covered in blood pressure raising salt, which you're no doubt going to over eat and gain weight from. Even if you're at a social event and don't snack very often, you're better off skipping this snack and heading right for the veggie platter.

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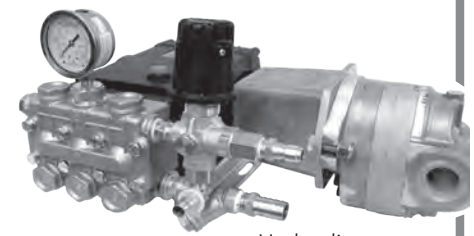
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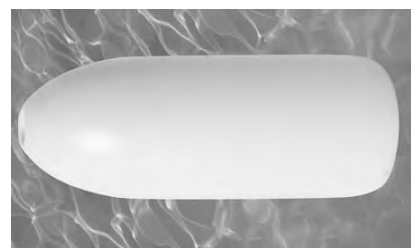
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Kathe Farris is a Boston based stay at home mom, stand up comedian and snack cake enthusiast. She hit the comedy scene a little late in life but quickly made up for it by becoming a Comic in Residence at The Comedy Studio and a finalist in the Boston Comedy Festival. She is a fixture on local stages in New England thanks to her intelligent yet accessible material. Kathe performs regularly for private and corporate events. Known for her understated demeanor and punchline-heavy writing, her act impresses audiences all over the country. In addition to performing, Kathe is on the teaching staff at ImprovBoston and runs a popular comedy workshop through the Boston Comedy Chicks.



### MIKE DORVAL .....

Mike Dorval is a Boston-based comedian and self-described "left learning dad". After a mere three months of performing, he won the New Hampshire Comedy Festival, defeating some of New England's most established comics in the process. Armed with only his joke-writing abilities and quick wit, he quickly climbed the comedic ranks and became one of the youngest headlines in Boston history. He's been praised by the Boston Globe as "One of Boston's Best".



### BETHANY VAN DELFT .....

Bethany Van Delft's "hip & grounded, laid back delivery" has earned her the honor of performing at the prestigious Just for Laughs Festival in Montreal, SF Sketc fest, All Jane Festival, Boston Calling, and made her a go to opener for some of her faves such as Phoebe Robinson, Michelle Buteau, Michael Che, Rob Delaney and Alonzo Bodden. She produces award winning comedy and storytelling shows in her home base of Boston; her series "38/7%" at the Women in Comedy Festival earned sponsorship from HBO; her monthly show "Artisanal Comedy" was named "one of the top indie nights to check out"; the hilariously cringeworthy live storytelling show/podcast she co-produced with Nick Chambers "Starstruck: Close Encounters of the Awkward Kind" was awarded Boston's Best Comedy Show. In 2019 she was named Boston Magazine "Best Comic", and her debut comedy album "Im Not a Llama" dropped Dec 2019 to good reviews and an impressive number of minutes at #2 on the iTunes charts.



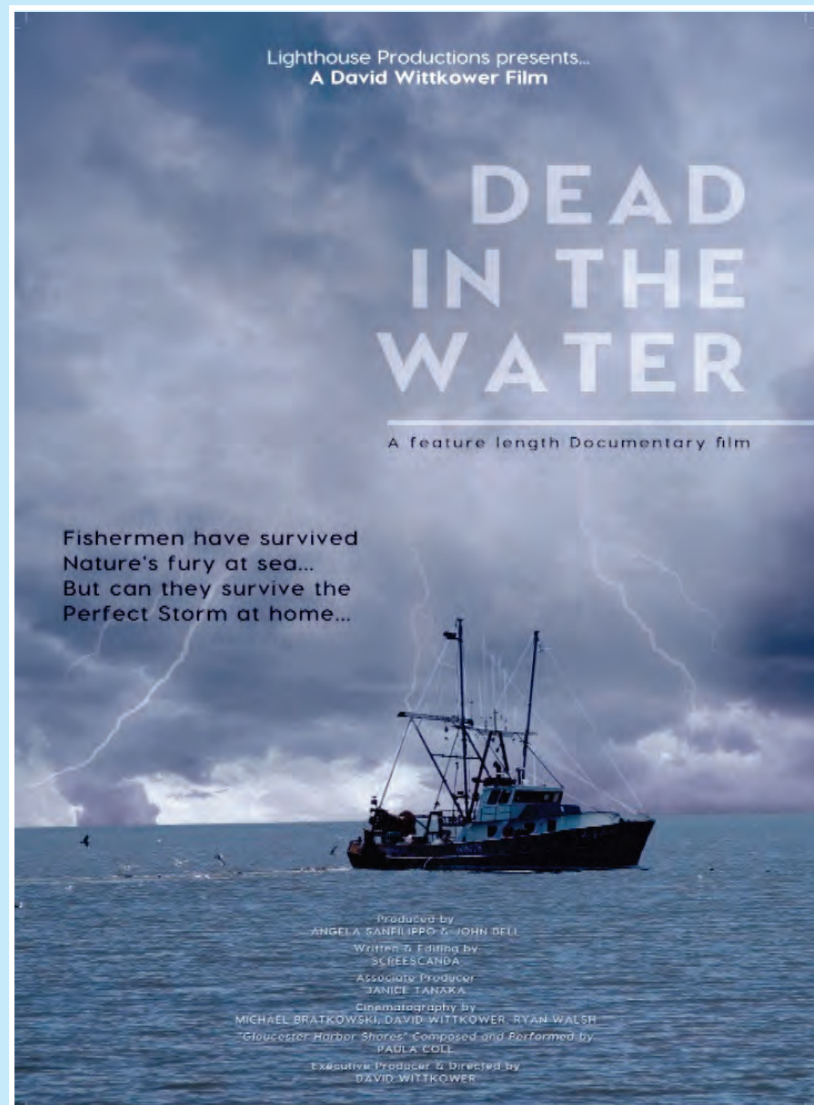
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# Cooperative Research in the Northeast Region: Stakeholder Priorities



January 2020



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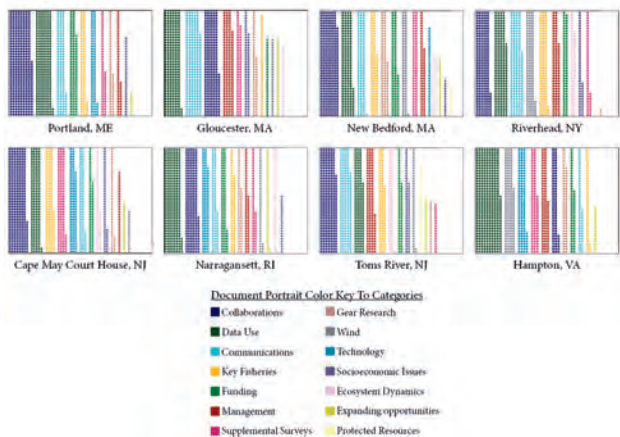


Figure 4. Document portrait depicting the frequency occurrence of topics discussed at the eight engagement sessions.

## DISCUSSION

Cooperative research in the northeast region has grown in scope and scale over the past several decades, with hundreds of scientists and fishing community members involved. There is a clear desire from the scientific and fishing communities to expand the implementation and application of cooperative research in the region. This includes employing a cooperative research approach to a wider variety of research questions and as well as involving new industry partners. In order to advance the efficacy of cooperative research, however, clear and achievable paths for applying the results of cooperative research, enhanced communication and coordination, and expanded funding are needed.

The findings detailed in this report exhibit consistencies with previous cooperative research strategic visioning exercises in the northeast, but also provide new insights and priorities (GMRI 2009). Priorities for cooperative research approaches that exhibit consistency over time include: enhanced coordination and communication, early and regular collaboration with industry partners, responsiveness to management needs, and expansion of funding opportunities (GMRI 2009). Priorities for cooperative research topics that exhibit consistency over time include: industry based surveys, conservation gear engineering, and survey performance research (GMRI 2009). New cooperative research priorities that were identified through the 2019 stakeholder engagement workshops include: offshore wind research, climate change research, recreational fisheries research, seafood marketing, and socioeconomic research. The priorities for cooperative research in the northeast region are responsive to an ever-changing suite of challenges and

opportunities, and should be assessed regularly to ensure that cooperative research efforts are focused and effective.

Recognizing the need to enhance communication, coordination, and collaboration in region, the NEFSC CRB will be piloting Annual Cooperative Research Summits in New England and the Mid-Atlantic in spring 2020. The Summits will consist of presentations from industry members involved in cooperative research, presentations from scientists involved in cooperative research, group discussions of short-term and long-term cooperative research priorities, and a poster and networking session to coordinate cooperative research across the region, clarify funding opportunities available, and forge new partnerships. The NEFSC CRB hopes that the Summits facilitate regional coordination of cooperative research, development of new partnerships, and enhanced efficacy in applying cooperative research results to assessments and management.

The NEFSC CRB would like to thank all of the stakeholders who provided input on the successes, challenges, and priorities of cooperative research in the northeast region. The thoughts and expertise that were shared openly and passionately will guide an evolution of cooperative research that is responsive and effective. The CRB looks forward to forging new lanes for communication, coordination, and application of cooperative research in the northeast region.

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## Appendix I. Communications Plan

CRB staff worked closely with NEFSC’s Research and Communications Branch (RCB) to create a communications plan that leveraged established channels and existing outreach relationships for the purpose of advertising this series of meetings throughout the region. A central pillar of the communications plan was the development of an informational website that described the objectives of the meetings, their times and locations, included the agenda, included a link to join the newly created Cooperative Research email list, and had the email and phone number of the CRB staff member that served as the main point of contact (POC) for this project. The tone of the website was inviting and emphasized a call to action for interested parties to make their voice heard. A table was created in Google Sheets to track all direct communications from stakeholders with most coming to the POC and the rest addressed to the CRB Branch Chief. The table columns included Date, Name, Profession or Affiliation, Content of the communication, and notes for following up as needed. During the organization phase CRB acknowledged that these workshops were being held during a productive time of year for members of the fishing industry in the region, and that could impact in-person attendance. Therefore, communications efforts emphasized that reaching out to the POC could help those unable to attend have their input included.

## Appendix II. Local Cooperative Research Priorities

- 1) Cooperative Biosampling**  
Stakeholders in southern New England recommended continued and increased collaboration with members of the recreational and commercial fishing community to collect specimens for biological analysis.
- 2) Cooperative Tagging**  
Stakeholders in the Mid-Atlantic recommended continued and increased collaboration with members of the recreational and commercial fishing community to tag, release, track, and recapture fish and shellfish.
- 3) Ecosystem Science**  
Stakeholders in northern and southern New England recommended applying a cooperative research approach to ecosystem science, including studies to explore species interactions, water quality, habitat, and anthropogenic stressors.
- 4) Research to Minimize Marine Mammal Interactions**  
Stakeholders in northern New England recommended continued and expanded cooperative research on fishing gear technology to reduce protected species interactions, specifically North Atlantic right whale entanglements.
- 5) Research to Support Emerging Fisheries**

Stakeholders in southern New England and the Mid-Atlantic recommended pursuing cooperative research to expand fishing opportunities with emerging species, such as Jonah crab and shortfin squid.

#### 6) Recreational Fisheries Research

Stakeholders in the in Mid-Atlantic recommended expanded cooperative research with the recreational fishing community, including explorations of catch-per-unit-effort and gear modifications to minimize discard mortality.

#### 7) Stock Structure Research

Stakeholders in northern and southern New England recommended expanding cooperative research efforts to understand stock structure of commercially important species, such as red hake and Atlantic cod.

#### 8) Aquaculture Research

Stakeholders in the Mid-Atlantic recommended that the cooperative research approach be applied to exploring tradeoffs and co-existence of aquaculture and wild harvest fisheries.

#### 9 Species Priorities

Stakeholders across the northeast region prioritized research on specific species, including Atlantic halibut, groundfish, whelk, summer flounder, black sea bass, shortfin squid, whiting, and tautog. The prioritized species were different in each state due to variable fishery participation, availability, and value.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Cooperative research provides a means for the fishing industry to contribute to the science and management process through data collection and sharing, technology development, and expert insight. Over the past several decades, cooperative research has been increasingly used in the Northeast to address research questions, develop new technologies, and inform management. In an effort to assess the efficacy of cooperative research in the region and identify priorities and topical focuses going forward, the Northeast Fisheries Science Center's (NEFSC) Cooperative Research Branch (CRB) conducted a series of engagement sessions from Maine to Virginia in August and September 2019. Stakeholders across the region identified clear and consistent priorities that covered both cooperative research approaches and topics.

The priorities for cooperative research approaches that were identified by stakeholders across the region were: 1) Increase inclusion of cooperative research data in stock assessment and management processes, 2) Recognize shortfalls of previous research and identify alternative approaches, 3) Involve industry partners in all phases of research, 4) Engage members of the recreational fishing community in the scientific process, 5) Improve communication about cooperative research opportunities and progress, 6) Improve coordination among the cooperative research community, and 7) Expand funding opportunities for cooperative research.

The priorities for cooperative research topics that were identified by stakeholders across the region were: 1) Industry-based surveys, 2) Research to understand the impacts of offshore wind energy development, 3) Research to understand and improve NEFSC survey performance, 4) Research to understand the impact of climate change on fisheries resources, 5) Socioeconomic research, 6) Seafood marketing, and 7) Conservation gear engineering.

Other priorities identified by stakeholders that were distinct to specific states and sub-regions were: 1) Cooperative biosampling, 2) Cooperative tagging, 3) Ecosystem science, 4) Research to minimize marine mammal interactions, 5) Research to support emerging fisheries, 6) Recreational fisheries research, 7) Stock structure research, 8) Aquaculture research, and 9) Resource species priorities.

The 2019 stakeholder engagement efforts clearly emphasized the need to enhance communication, coordination, and collaboration among cooperative research groups, industry members, and agencies in the region. To address this need, the NEFSC CRB will be piloting Annual Cooperative Research Summits in New England and the Mid-Atlantic in May and June 2020. The Summits will consist of presentations from industry members and scientists involved in cooperative research, group discussions that address the interests of participants, and a poster and networking session to coordinate cooperative research across the region, clarify available funding opportunities, and forge new partnerships. The NEFSC CRB encourages everyone that is interested in or has participated in cooperative research to attend a Summit.

The NEFSC CRB is grateful for the stakeholders that provided input during the engagement sessions and helped to identify the priorities presented in this report. Thank you!

## INTRODUCTION

Cooperative research is the partnering of scientists with members of the fishing industry and other stakeholders to collect fundamental fisheries information and develop new tools to support sustainable fisheries (CRCMWG 2015). At its heart, cooperative research is about providing members of the fishing community with opportunities to contribute to the science and management processes. Thus, cooperative research takes many forms, including but not limited to conservation gear engineering, fishery-dependent data collection, industry-based surveys, specimen collection, and environmental monitoring. In the northeast US, the practice of applying a cooperative research approach to address research questions, develop new technologies, and inform science and management has grown (Kennelly 2016, Gawarkiewicz & Mercer 2019). Cooperative research has been demonstrated to be key to understanding and effectively managing the diverse and ever-changing fisheries and ecosystems in the northeast region and has been instrumental in building trust among the scientific and fishing communities.

The Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC) is dedicated to engaging stakeholders from fishing communities, and the NEFSC's Cooperative Research Branch (CRB) plays a key role in this process. First, by working to communicate the needs of fishing communities to the larger NEFSC and second by facilitating the development of timely and novel research projects to answer science questions and improve management of the region's fisheries. In the past, this has included fostering partnerships between the fishing industry and science community, improving information about commercial fishing operations and harvested species, and producing tools to collect and share data to advance science and fishing. CRB recognizes that meaningful dialogue is vitally important to cooperative research, and launched an effort in 2019 to consult with stakeholders across the region to evaluate research priorities, approaches, and methods. The goal was to develop a path forward in which all partners involved in cooperative research, including industry participants, academic researchers, governmental researchers, and managers, can work effectively and productively.

## APPROACH

In August and September 2019, the NEFSC CRB spearheaded an effort to collect input from stakeholders across the northeast region to inform a strategic plan. The purpose of the effort was to gather input on the successes, challenges, and priorities for cooperative research, inclusive of all interested parties and their diverse goals and values. The CRB hosted eight meetings from Maine to Virginia in centers of fishing activity or towns that neighbored



Figure 1. Infographic depicting the locations of meetings, miles traveled, and number of stakeholders consulted by the NEFSC CRB.

fishing communities (Figure 1). The goal was to hear from members of local fishing and research communities and those in dependent industries, recognizing that their specific geographic location leads them to "... share common values, norms and beliefs created through a history of shared experiences" (NRC 1999).

In order to reach a diversity of stakeholders, CRB distributed invitations and information using several different mediums, including printed mailers and posters, a website

(<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/new-england-mid-atlantic/cooperative-research-building-collaboration-future-fisheries>), industry newspapers, email announcements, social media, and word of mouth (Figure 2). Each meeting was scheduled for 2 hours and varied in attendance numbers and audience composition. Participants included members of the commercial and recreational fishing community, fishing business representatives, researchers (academic and non-profit), state agency representatives, port representatives, offshore wind developers, New England and Mid-



Figure 2. Infographic depicting the communication mechanisms used by and types of stakeholders consulted by the NEFSC CRB.

Atlantic Fishery Management Council members, and other interested citizens. Stakeholders who were unable to attend the meeting were invited to submit written feedback directly to CRB. In total, over 160 stakeholders contributed input. More details about the communications plan are provided in Appendix I. For each meeting, the room was arranged in a circle to facilitate back and forth conversations between participants. CRB staff facilitated the discussion and took detailed notes on the input provided. The agenda of the meeting was created with the intent of spurring a discussion among the participants, and included introductions, presentation of the purpose and intended outcomes, and discussion of cooperative research successes, challenges, and priorities. Discussing the purpose and intended outcomes of the workshops helped to establish the desire for an open dialog and establish clear expectations for participants. The discussion was centered on how and why cooperative research projects have both been successful and challenged in the past, as well as what approaches, topics, and applications should be a priority for the cooperative research community to focus on going forward. During each meeting, CRB staff recorded the main discussion points on large posters displayed around the room. This enabled participants to follow along with the points being made, fill in holes, and correct any errors. In order to encourage open participation, there were no audio or video recordings of these meetings.



The NEFSC CRB compiled, compared, and quantified the recommendations from stakeholders in the detailed notes from the meetings, the summarized notes from the posters, and the written notes from participants unable to attend the meetings. The priorities for cooperative research in the region were quantified by the frequency of discussion across the region. Priorities for cooperative research that were discussed at the majority of the meetings were included as regional priorities and are detailed in the following section. Many other local research recommendations were made by stakeholders and these are outlined in Appendix II.

In addition to identifying regional priorities for approaches and research, as described above, CRB also used language analysis software (MaxQDA) to analyze the input received (Strauss & Corbin 1998). CRB staff imported all notes and written input, manually tagged topics, and allowed the software to identify priorities. The goal was to ensure that the cooperative research priorities identified below were representative of the input received and not influenced by human subjectivity.

## RESULTS

The regional priorities for cooperative research that were identified by stakeholders in the northeast fell into two categories: *Cooperative Research Approaches* and *Cooperative Research Topics*. Priorities within the Cooperative Research Approaches category are focused on methods to improve the efficacy and applicability of cooperative research. Priorities within the Cooperative Research Topics category are focused on specific science questions that were identified as timely and important. Specific regional priorities within each of these categories are detailed below, followed by a section detailing the qualitative analysis of stakeholder input. Quotes in italics are from stakeholders who participated in the 2019 engagement sessions.



Figure 3. Word cloud of key terms from the 2019 cooperative research stakeholder engagement workshops.

### COOPERATIVE RESEARCH APPROACHES

#### 1) Increase Inclusion of Cooperative Research Data to Assessments and Management

*“Management needs to recognize good, time sensitive research and use it.”*

Stakeholders across the region strongly recommended that effort be devoted to not just conducting cooperative research, but to applying results to stock assessments and management. Frustration with limited use of cooperative research results, including those produced by governmental agencies, academic institutions, and research organizations, was prevalent. Stakeholders strongly recommended that clear pathways be developed for applying cooperative research, whether it be novel fishing gear, data sources (fishery-dependent and fishery-independent data, fishermen’s ecological knowledge), or parameters (e.g. discard mortalities, catchabilities). Enhancing communication and collaboration between cooperative researchers, members of the fishing community, and end users (stock assessment scientists, ecosystem modelers, survey groups, fisheries managers) was identified as a method to achieve this goal.

#### 2) Recognize Shortfalls of Previous Research and Identify Alternative Approaches

*“We need to acknowledge that mistakes were made and start anew.”*

Stakeholders across the region recommended that the fisheries community recognize where there are shortfalls in existing approaches to research and management (such as exclusivity and rigidity) and implement new collaborative approaches that have been demonstrated to be effective in other countries, regions, and in peer-reviewed literature. A desire to prioritize collaboration and transparency was paramount.

#### 3) Involve Industry Partners in All Phases of Research

*“The best ideas come right from the fishermen.”*

Stakeholders across the region recognize that there is a continuum of cooperative research, from using industry vessels as platforms to involving industry partners in every phase of research. There is a strong desire for cooperative research efforts to be holistically inclusive of industry partners, using their expertise to identify research questions, develop project plans, implement research, and interpret and apply results. This includes offering fair incentives for providing high quality, high resolution data and considering practicality for industry research partners.

#### 4) Engage Members of the Recreational Fishing Community in the Scientific Process

*“We must respect what all groups bring to the table and understand each other’s perspective and area of expertise.”*

Stakeholders across the region recommended greater involvement of the recreational fishing community in cooperative research efforts. Participants in recreational fishing and fishing businesses provide unique perspectives and resources that would enhance the value of cooperative research going forward.

#### 5) Improve Communication about Cooperative Research Opportunities and Progress

*“A successful cooperative research project involves two-way communication between industry members, scientists, and managers”*

Stakeholders across the region recommended that all partners participating in cooperative research focus on improving communication. Specifically, there was a desire for cooperative research scientists and administrators to ensure regular and ongoing communication with stakeholders to discuss current research, successes, challenges, and needs. Face time at the docks was strongly recommended, but regional cooperative research summits to bring together members of the fishing community, scientists, and managers were also proposed.

#### 6) Improve Coordination Among Cooperative Research Community

*“No one knows what everyone else is doing. We need regionalized meetings that highlight the cooperative research work that is being done.”*

Stakeholders across the region recommended that groups working on cooperative research better coordinate their efforts to maximize collaboration and efficiency. Many different agencies and institutions conduct cooperative research, but there are limited opportunities or resources to coordinate research efforts. To improve coordination, stakeholders recommended regional cooperative research summits, informational websites, and expanded networking opportunities.

#### 7) Expand Funding Opportunities for Cooperative Research

*“We have ideas, but we need money.”*

Stakeholders across the region were concerned that the funding available to support cooperative research projects has declined in recent years. In order to realize the full potential of cooperative research in the northeast region, expanded and diversified funding opportunities are needed. Stakeholders highlighted the importance of funding flexibility to accommodate the logistical limitations of cooperative research (fishing seasons, variable compensation rates, etc.).

### COOPERATIVE RESEARCH TOPICS

#### 1) Industry-Based Surveys

*“Using industry vessels for surveys is logical and cost effective. We know how to fish and want to help with the science.”*

Stakeholders across the region recommended continuing and expanding the use of industry-based surveys to understand the distribution and abundance of resource species and the status of the region’s marine ecosystems. Recommendations for species-specific industry-based surveys included: Atlantic halibut longline survey, yellowtail flounder supplemental survey, and summer flounder supplemental survey. In addition to species-specific industry-based surveys, stakeholders recommended that a cooperative research approach be used to explore novel survey methods, including acoustics, video trawls, and fixed gear. Finally, stakeholders also recommended a cooperative research approach to understand how shifting phenology is impacting the availability of resource species to traditional surveys. For all industry-based surveys, stakeholders recommended that members of the fishing community be directly involved in the development of methods and protocols, in addition to operations.

#### 2) Research to Understand the Impacts of Offshore Wind Energy Development

*“We need baseline surveys and consideration of alternative fishing strategies in wind farms.”*

Stakeholders across the region recommended that a cooperative research approach be applied to address the many science questions surrounding offshore wind energy development. This included assessments of ecological, oceanographic, and socioeconomic impacts, as well as the impacts of exclusion of the NEFSC bottom trawl survey. Stakeholders recommended that the fishing community be involved in developing research priorities related to offshore wind energy and fisheries, developing methods and protocols, and interpreting results. Stakeholders strongly felt that on-the-water cooperative research was needed immediately to begin to understand the impacts of offshore wind energy development on fisheries resources and ecosystems.

#### 3) Research to Understand and Improve NEFSC Survey Performance

*“Size and longevity of surveys are often conflated with quality. We all want surveys to be good, but we have to work together to get there.”*

Stakeholders across the region recommended that a cooperative research approach be applied to understand and improve the performance of the NEFSC bottom trawl survey. Recommendations included cooperative research on shoulder seasons, gear performance, and catchability. In order for this research to be successful, stakeholders highlighted the need for adoption of research results, including changes to survey data use (e.g., adoption of efficiency corrections) and/or survey methods.

4) Research to Understand the Impact of Climate Change on Fisheries Resources

*“Our oceans are changing; our laws should be changing too”*

Stakeholders across the region recommended that a cooperative research approach be used to understand the impacts of climate change on fisheries resources. Members of the fishing industry have a unique understanding of how a changing climate has impacted the species they target and the environment that they rely upon and should be consulted as a source of key ecological knowledge. Other recommendations for cooperative research projects to understand the impact of climate on fisheries resources include: using fishery-dependent data to assess changing species distributions and productivity, using supplemental surveys to assess changing accessibility of species to surveys, and outfitting fishing vessels with sensors to understand changing ocean processes.

5) Socioeconomic Research

*“Economics can make or break a fishing season. It’s not all about how many fish are out there.”*

Stakeholders across the region recommended continued and expanded cooperative research efforts to understand socioeconomic factors impacting fisheries resources and fishing communities. Specific recommendations for socioeconomic research included: assessing the impacts of different management approaches (catch shares, daily limits, hook limits, time/area

closures) and assessing the economic value of recreational and commercial fisheries in the northeast region. Stakeholders also recommended using a cooperative research approach for Management Strategy Evaluation, as members of the fishing community have a valuable understanding of the economic and social impacts of different management actions.

6) Seafood Marketing

*“We are not here to make the last dollar or fish the last fish, we are here to bring food to tables and sustain the ocean”*

Stakeholders across the region recommended that a cooperative research approach be taken to advance seafood marketing and waste reduction in the region. Specifically, stakeholders felt that industry, scientists, and managers should work together to highlight the sustainability of USA wild caught seafood and the nation’s efforts to achieve sustainability. Specific recommendations for cooperative research focused on seafood marketing and waste reduction included: market research, research on the fate of domestic seafood, full-retention fishery pilots, and seafood gleaning.

7) Conservation Gear Engineering

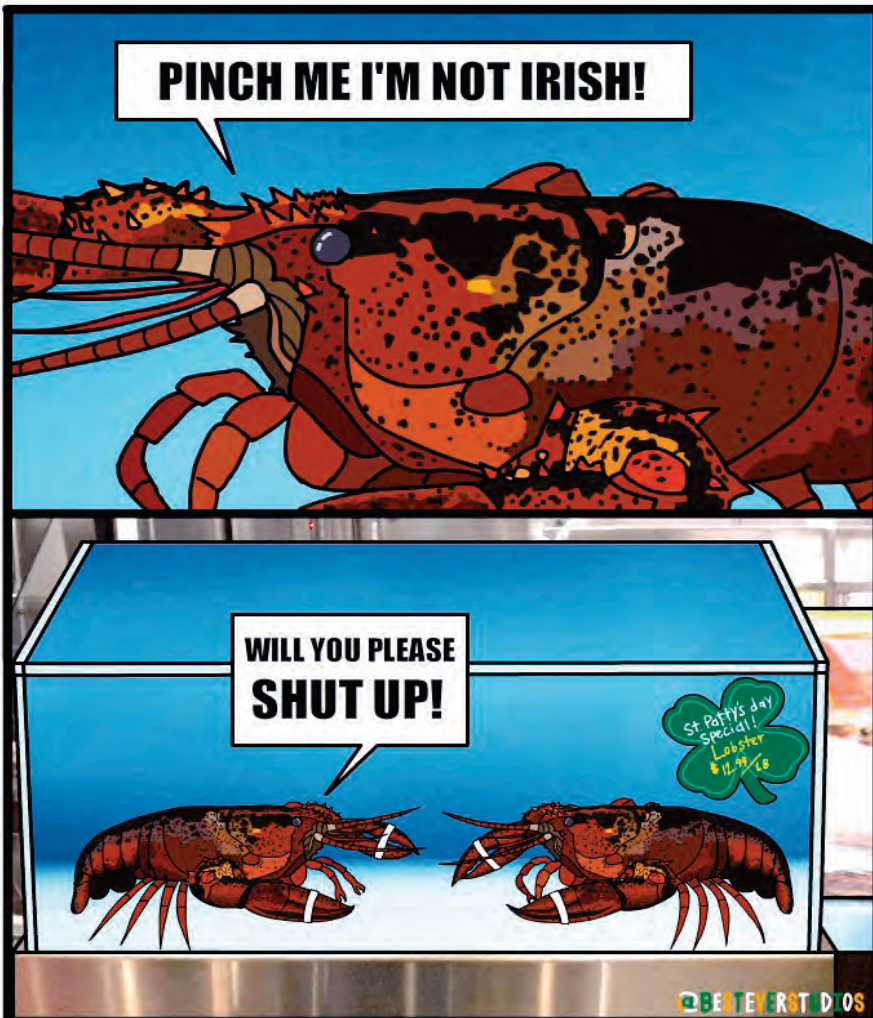
*“Conservation engineering, haddock separator, changes in mesh shape/size for reduction in undersized fish caught.”*

Stakeholders across the region recommended continued and expanded cooperative research efforts to develop modifications to fishing gear or novel fishing gear to reduce bycatch, minimize environmental impacts, expand fishing opportunities, and maximize profitability. Specific recommendations for conservation gear engineering projects included gear modifications to reduce protected species bycatch, and development of gears fishable within offshore wind farms.

QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS OF STAKEHOLDER INPUT

Thematic content analysis of the notes detailing each engagement session was carried out in accordance with the basic tenants of grounded theory (Strauss 1998). The analysis and iterative coding process was conducted using MaxQDA qualitative analysis software. Sets of notes from each stakeholder engagement session were analyzed and coded by themes that emerged and existing contextual knowledge (following methods of Strauss 1998). Once the initial coding was completed, two reviewers independently grouped codes into categories then reconciled those differences into a master hierarchy of categories composed of codes.

The thematic content analysis identified categories that were consistent with the frequency of occurrence exercise (Figure 4). This result reinforces the objectivity of the regional priority identification. The qualitative analysis also identified differences in the prevalence of discussion themes between locations, which reflects the distribution of different fisheries and issues across the region (Figure 4).



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# MA Division of Marine Fisheries

## News 3rd & 4th Quarter



### 2020 Commercial Quota Outlook Atlantic herring:

25,289,226 pounds (coastwide limit) The Atlantic herring fishery will continue to be constrained by reduced catch

limits reflecting the stock's declining trend due to poor recruitment of herring into the population. The 2020 catch limit is reduced by 26% from 2019 (34.3 million pounds). For contrast, the 2018 fishery commenced with a 223-million-pound catch limit. Landings for 2019 through mid-December total 28 million pounds. Allocations to Areas 1A, 1B, 2, and 3 are expected to remain status quo at 28.9%, 4.3%, 27.8%, and 39%, respectively, with the addition of an inshore midwater trawl restricted area from the Canadian border to Montauk. The next stock assessment is scheduled to take place in 2020 and affect the setting of the quota for 2021. Beginning in 2019, herring catch limits are set in a manner that accounts for herring's role as forage in the ecosystem.

**Atlantic menhaden:** 6,046,094 pounds (MA quota) The 2020 coastwide commercial quota of 476.2 million pounds is unchanged from last year. MA's share is 1.27%, after 1% is set aside for episodic events affecting the northeast states. Our 2020 state quote includes an additional 37,529 pounds relinquished by states that don't intend to use all of their allocation; an amount similar to last year. The 2019 Massachusetts fishery landed nearly 7 million pounds with the assistance of several transfers of quota from other states. The first-ever ecosystem-based stock assessment for menhaden is due to be completed in early 2020 and is expected to inform the setting of future menhaden quotas in a manner that incorporates its important forage role.

**Black sea bass:** 725,400 pounds (MA quota) The coastwide commercial quota was increased 59% for 2020, from 3.52 million pounds in 2019 to 5.58 million pounds. Massachusetts' share is 13%, resulting in an additional 267,500 pounds for our fishery in 2020 (up from 457,600 pounds). The Massachusetts fishery landed 110% of its quota in 2019, but this is unlikely to affect our 2020 quota because of sufficient underages in other states. Public hearings will be held this winter to determine whether state regulations should be modified in response to the increased quota.

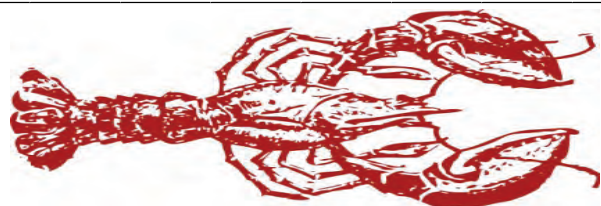
**Bluefish:** 185,838 pounds (MA quota) The most recent stock assessment for bluefish indicates the stock is overfished. The decline in biomass,

coupled with there being no excess recreational harvest target to transfer to the commercial fishery, has resulted in a 64% decline in the coastwide commercial quota for 2020 (from 7.71 million pounds in 2019 to 2.77 million pounds). Our state share of the quota (6.7%) is similarly reduced (from 517,828 pounds in 2019); however, this might not limit the 2020 fishery given recent landings trends. Massachusetts landings in 2019 continued their downward trend, totaling just over 183,000 pounds.

**Horseshoe crab:** 165,000 crabs (MA quota) Massachusetts' 2020 commercial quota for horseshoe crabs harvested for bait purposes is unchanged from 2019. Horseshoe crabs harvested for other purposes (i.e., biomedical use, research, display) are not counted against this quota. 2019 marked the first year that the fishery reached the quota.

**Northern shrimp:** 0 pounds (coastwide quota) The commercial harvest moratorium that has been in place the last seven years for northern shrimp will continue into 2020, due to the stock's low levels of biomass and recruitment. The stock has limited prospects for recovery in the near future due to an increasingly inhospitable environment, i.e., warming ocean temperatures in western Gulf of Maine shrimp habitat.

**Scup:** 1,868,982 pounds (MA Summer Period quota) At 22.23 million pounds, the 2020 coastwide commercial quota is down 7% from 2019 (when it



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was 23.98 million pounds). The quota is divided among three seasons. The Winter I Period (January–April) and Winter II Period (October–December) receive 45.11% and 15.94% of the coastwide quota, respectively; this equates to 10.03 and 3.54 million pounds for 2020. Quota during these periods is open to all states. The fisheries have not been limited by these quotas in recent years. Of the 38.95% (or 8.66 million pounds for 2020) allocated to the Summer Period fishery (May–September), Massachusetts receives roughly 21.6%. Our Summer Period harvest in 2019 was roughly 0.68 million pounds, continuing a downward trend. The summer fishery has not been constrained by the quota since 2008.

**Spiny dogfish:** 13,453,004 pounds (ME–CT quota) The coastwide commercial quota is increasing 13% to 23.19 million pounds for the May 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021 fishing year. The Northern Region of Maine through Connecticut receives 58% of the coastwide quota, of which Massachusetts generally takes the largest portion. This year's Northern Region fishery is nearing its conclusion with less than 8 million pounds landed, well below the region's 11.9-million-pound quota. 2.2 million pounds of this excess has been transferred to Virginia to avoid an early closure there.

**Striped bass:** TBD (MA quota) The coastal states' commercial quotas for striped bass have been cut by 18% for 2020 to end overfishing on the resource. This reduces Massachusetts' baseline quota

from 869,813 pounds to 713,246 pounds; however, DMF is considering a revision to the state's commercial size limit which has the potential to affect the quota. There will not be any overage from the 2019 fishery to account for, as just 585,852 pounds of the 869,813-pound quota was landed. Given the fishery's recent underperformance with the quota and the various options for the commercial size limit and quota, DMF will be holding public hearings this winter on the fishery's regulations for 2020.

**Summer flounder (fluke):** 786,260 pounds (MA quota) A constant coastwide commercial quota of 11.53 million pounds applies for 2019–2021, representing a 74% increase from 2018. Our state quota for 2020 is anticipated to actually increase by about 45,000 pounds from 2019 (741,532 pounds) due to reductions for overages that applied to the 2019 fishery. The increase to the quotas beginning in 2019 did not take effect until mid-year, making it difficult for the Massachusetts fishery to fully capitalize on the change. About 73% of the 2019 quota was harvested (roughly 540,000 pounds). Public hearings will be held this winter to determine whether state regulations should be modified in response to the increased quota of fluke.

**Tautog:** 62,797 pounds (MA quota) Massachusetts' 2020 tautog quota will be marginally reduced by a slight harvest overage in the prior year. The 2019 fishery's quota was set at the baseline amount of 64,753 pounds, of which 103% was landed

(66,709 pounds). 2020 marks the first year of mandatory tagging of all commercial harvested tautog along the Atlantic coast. By Nichola Meserve, Fisheries Policy Analyst

## DMF Biologists Will Study Growth in Large Lobsters

Lobster growth is a complicated process because of their hard shells; growth must happen in distinct steps rather than continuously like fish growth. Lobsters produce a new shell underneath their existing hard shell, and once they've outgrown the old hard shell, they molt. (The scientific term for molting is "ecdysis," which is derived from an old Greek term meaning "to take off".) Immediately after molting, the lobster's new shell is very soft, and the lobster absorbs water to inflate the new shell to its larger size before it hardens. Over time, the water will be replaced with body tissue as the lobster grows, until its shell is full and it needs to molt again.

Understanding growth is very important for assessing the lobster stock because crustaceans are very difficult to age (unlike fish). The population models we use for lobster are based on size instead of age. This means we need to know how often lobsters molt and how much their size increases each time they molt. Lobsters molt several times a year for the first few years of their lives, but as they get larger and reach maturity they don't molt as frequently, slowing to roughly one molt per year. Mature females grow even more slowly, molting only once



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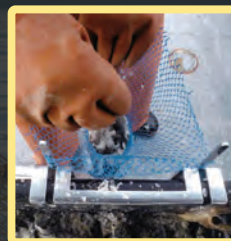
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every other year, since they have to trade off between carrying eggs and molting. We generally have good data to describe growth for lobsters up to and just above the harvestable size, but for much larger lobsters (more than five inches carapace length or over about 3.5 pounds) the data are more sparse.

DMF was recently awarded funding from the National Sea Grant Lobster Research Initiative to collect information on the growth of large lobsters. We will be collecting large lobsters (more than five inches carapace length) from offshore waters during summer, the time of year when they are getting ready to molt. We will sort through catch at the dock, recording lobster size and sex, looking for those with old shells that should be ready to molt. We'll bring these old-shelled lobsters into the seawater tanks at our New Bedford facility, where we will house them in individual compartments and collect measurements from many individuals before and after they molt. This work will allow us to estimate how many of the lobsters that we examine are likely to molt this year, and will give us information on how much their size increases when they do molt. These two pieces of data will be directly useful for future stock assessments



and will enhance our general understanding of the biology of these important crustaceans. *By Tracy Pugh, PhD, Invertebrate Fisheries Project Leader*  
*Invertebrate Fisheries Project Leader, Tracy Pugh at end of a sampling day aboard the vessel F/V Victoria Rose. The larger lobster is a female, the smaller one is a male.*

### Adjudicatory Proceedings

Under state law, DMF may sanction commercial and recreational fishing permits for violations of the state's marine fishery laws and regulations subject to a due process adjudicatory proceeding. These adjudicatory proceedings are held before a magistrate. They may be initiated by the agency, the Environmental Police, or municipal officials (constables) authorized to enforce the marine fishery laws of the Commonwealth.

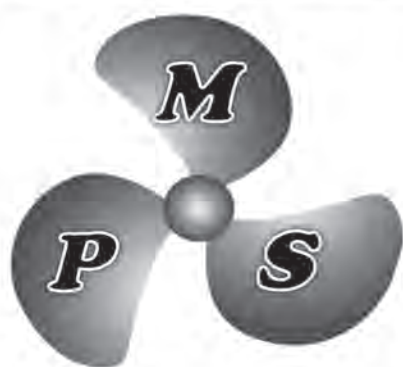
From July 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019, DMF initiated two adjudicatory proceedings, based on incident reports for violations of the state's marine fishery laws and regulations. The violations to be adjudicated were related to trap tag violations in the whelk pot fishery and the transfer of a coastal lobster permit. Decisions

have not yet been issued in either matter.

Additionally, during this July 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 period, DMF resolved five ongoing adjudicatory proceedings. This includes three permit revocations and two permit suspensions:

- A commercial boat permit with limited entry endorsements for conch pots and scup pots was revoked in response to numerous substantial violations of the state's channeled whelk gauge size.
  - A commercial lobster permit was revoked for repeated lobster related violations, including the possession of non-conforming sized lobsters, the possession of v-notched lobsters, and the possession of egg-bearing lobsters.
  - A commercial shellfish permit was revoked for removing shellfish from a private aquaculture grant without consent, failure to tag shellfish, and violations of municipal shellfish regulations.
  - A commercial shellfish permit was suspended for a period of three years (2019–2021) for the possession and attempted sale of shellfish harvested from shellfish growing area closed due to contamination and failure to tag shellfish.
  - A for-hire permit was seasonally suspended (September–December) for two years (2019–2020) for having patrons onboard who were in possession of tautog that violated the recreational tautog possession and minimum size limits.
- For the complete DMF report visit - <https://www.mass.gov/doc/dmf-news-quarters-3-4-2019/download>

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## From the Executive Director's Desk



### Good News for Menhaden and What's Ahead for 2020

For those who have been closely following the menhaden compliance issue, the Commission received good news last month when the Secretary of Commerce concurred with our finding that the Commonwealth of Virginia is out of compliance with Amendment 3 to the Interstate FMP for Atlantic Menhaden. Specifically, the Commonwealth failed to implement the 51,000 mt Chesapeake Bay reduction fishery cap (cap). In accordance with this finding, the Secretary declared a moratorium on the Atlantic menhaden fisheries in Virginia waters, effective June 17, 2020. In order to avert the moratorium, the Commonwealth must effectively implement and enforce the cap prior to June 17th. This action was taken pursuant to the provisions of the Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Cooperative Management Act (Atlantic Coastal Act) of 1993.

In taking this action, the Secretary showed his support for the Commission's interstate fisheries management process and, in particular, our efforts to manage Atlantic menhaden, an important forage species, in a precautionary manner. The Secretarial backstop is a key provision of the Atlantic Coastal Act, which established a unique partnership between the states and the federal government to work cooperatively to ensure the conservation and sustainability of nearshore fishery resources.

As the Commonwealth works to come back into compliance with Amendment 3, the Commission's Atlantic Menhaden Management Board will be considering the findings of the highly-anticipated ecological reference point (ERP) benchmark stock assessment in February. The results of the ERP assessment, which incorporates the forage needs of key menhaden predators in its analysis, will be presented alongside the findings of the traditional single-species benchmark assessment. If endorsed by the Peer Review Panel for use in management, both assessments will be used to evaluate the health of the stock and inform the management of the species in an ecological context.

Looking ahead to the Winter Meeting and beyond, the Commission and the states have a full plate of issues to address in 2020. A highlight of our major management and science activities follow.

#### MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

##### American Lobster

- Develop management strategy for the Gulf of Maine (GOM)/ Georges Bank stock that acknowledges the effects of climate change and addresses the resilience of the stock
- Implement Addendum XXVI data elements to improve data collection and characterization of the fishery
- Monitor and respond as necessary to NOAA rulemaking on Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan Modifications
- Review findings of the 2020 Benchmark Assessment and

Peer Review Report and consider a management response if necessary

##### Atlantic Herring

- Consider new approaches for managing the Area 1A sub-annual catch limit under low quota scenarios
- Work with NEFMC to review findings of Management Track Stock Assessment and consider adjustments to 2021 specifications if necessary

##### Atlantic Striped Bass

- Initiate stock rebuilding through implementation of Addendum VI measures and development of additional measures to rebuild biomass and address long-term fishery issues

##### Black Sea Bass/Scup/Summer Flounder

- Work with MAFMC to adjust black sea bass state-by-state commercial allocation and consider ways to reform black sea bass recreational management
- Explore, in coordination with MAFMC, changes to commercial/recreational allocation for all three species

##### Bluefish

- Develop, with MAFMC, amendment to address issues including: commercial/recreational allocation, state-by-state commercial allocation, and stock rebuilding

##### Cobia

- Review findings of Benchmark Stock Assessment and Peer Review and consider a management response if necessary

##### Horseshoe Crab

- Revise Adaptive Resource Management Framework based on recommendations from benchmark stock assessment

#### SCIENCE ACTIVITIES

- Finalize Commission policy on risk and uncertainty
- Collect new data to address data deficiencies, including fishery-dependent data using black sea bass research fleet and new data elements from lobster fisheries
- Increase bycatch monitoring of sturgeon, shad and river herring, and sciaenids in state waters
- Increase diet data collection to support ecosystem-based assessments and management
- Promote collection and use of acoustic tagging information
- Partner with USGS to identify shared research priorities and opportunities for enhanced scientific support
- Standardize timeline of Commission assessments to support timely updates to ERP assessments for Atlantic menhaden
- Evaluate the effects of changing ocean conditions on stock productivity and distribution

You can view all our planned activities for 2020 in our Action Plan at [http://www.asmfc.org/files/pub/2020ActionPlan\\_Final.pdf](http://www.asmfc.org/files/pub/2020ActionPlan_Final.pdf).



# Stellwagen Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting Notes

The Stellwagen Bank Sanctuary Advisory Council (The SAC) held its winter meeting on February 12th in Boston at the boat show. It had a lengthy agenda.

The first major item on the agenda was the Sanctuary's Condition Report. This is a review of what's been going on in summary form. This proved to be a lengthy report. (2hours). The report discussions included Human Activities on the Bank, Water Quality issues, Habitat Trends, the Living resources on the Bank, (fish, birds etc.), species updates, Maritime Heritage issues (historical wrecks), Eco-system situations and trends to be considered. The fishery part included various statuses of fish stock on the Bank and their economic value.

Next on the agenda was an update on the Sanctuary's Management Plan which is due as required by law. The review and development process is ongoing under the Federal rules and hearings are scheduled for March as follows:

March 11, 2020 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the New England Aquarium (Boston)  
 March 12, 2020 6:30-8:00 p.m. Maritime Gloucester (Harbor Loop)  
 March 18, 2020 6:30-8:00 p.m. MA Maritime Academy (Bourne)

These are "so-called" scoping meetings on what should be included in the revised Sanctuary Management Plan. The SAC will review the comments at its May meeting but then, as is usual in the Federal process, it will go back and forth before any final Plan is put in place. (2021)?

During these discussions, Ben H. Haskell (Sanctuary Supervisor) noted that:

"Commercial fishing has been and always will be part of the Sanctuary- our job is to manage fishing so as to not to degrade or at least lessen impacts from fishing—currently, 22% of the Sanctuary is off limits to fishing with mobile gear and this is by actions taken by the Federal Fishery's Council".

The SAC was then presented with the Sanctuary's "Work Plan". This listed a number of items, things to be done?? One of the proposals besides shark issues, Maritime Heritage projects, tourism and management plan development was a proposal to create a working group to explore the idea of a pilot area for rope-less gear in the Sanctuary in order to protect Right Whales. Here we go again!!

The proposal turned into a "dicey" discussion. Bill Adler jumped on this and voiced his opposition noting that this is a "waste of time and money to even consider this idea because it won't work, isn't

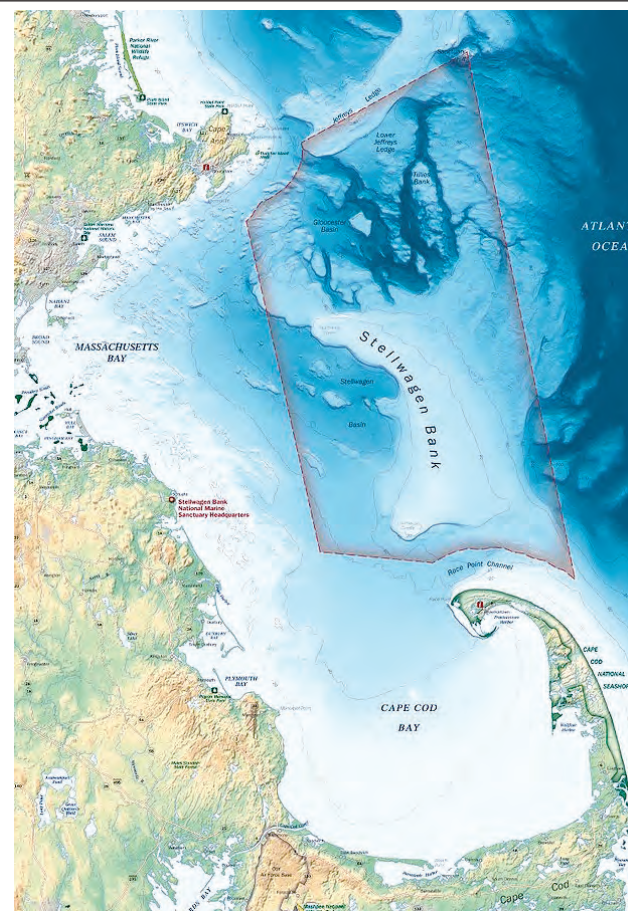
practical in the "real world" and won't be agreed upon by the fishermen." He did go into detail as to why this wouldn't work and wanted this removed from the Working Plan.

Eric Meschino, Bill's alternate on the Council was also present and was able to support Bill's comments. Several other Council members supported the proposal although they too were "skeptical" of the value of this project given what Bill Adler and Eric had said.

The SAC then move onto more on the Maritime Heritage report and related issues. Here we entered the ongoing discussions on "Disclosures" of where these wrecks are located and letting fishermen know their locations. This has been going on for a number of meetings. This involves a controversy by the Sanctuary and headquarters (Washington) as to revealing the locations of "historic wrecks".

The Sanctuary has jumped out ahead of the federal agency and has released the locations so as to hopefully avoid fishing boats from damaging any historical wrecks. The Sanctuary has released information on the locations although the "official federal position" has been not to release these locations under some federal "historical" law??? The Sanctuary plans to submit proposals to headquarters (DC) as to why they released information and the benefits of letting this information get out to the public (fishing interests). Bill Adler again did note that he supported the Sanctuary pushing the federal Sanctuary headquarters to agree to this. This whole thing started when "historical wrecks" were indentified (SS Portland, etc.) and the Sanctuary rules stated that the locations should not be released!! Nevertheless, the argument has always been made that: Would non-disclosures result in more damage to wrecks and could disclosure result in less or no damage to any of the "historic wrecks"? This goes on and on! The Sanctuary did release locations in spite of the "so-called" federal rules and reported that it did help and fishing Captains did get the message. These were mostly large Scallop and Fin fish boats. They do access the Sanctuary at various times. Another part of this is that when it was suggested that maybe the VMS (vessel monitoring systems) could be used to notify a fishing vessel that has entered the wreck area, however, it was noted that it could not be used. Why? Federal lawyers and the federal law enforcement reps at the meeting noted that the VMS system is for enforcement only and the Magnuson Act (law) prohibits this for any other reason, so much for logic!!?

The Council then moved on to the Round Robin agenda item. This is an opportunity for various



Council Members to indicate what they or their constituents have been up to. Several of the members had reports. Most reports were on sea-bird issues, the MWRA monitoring, the Plymouth 400th celebration, the small boat issues and Menhaden stock review.

The meeting then moved onto the Agency and Government Reports. CZM (Coastal Zone Management) reported issues on Whales, Turtles and Wind Projects. DMF (Division of Marine Fisheries) reported on Windmill proposals in the Gulf of Maine (Stellwagen too), Herring issues and hearings mostly in Area 1A (GOM). The Division did note that regarding the "proposed" wind power issue, which might be proposed (?) would be "floating windmills" for areas in the GOM (including Stellwagen Bank) and this could include, No Fishing Zones due to how these structures would have to be anchored not to mention the connecting cables, etc. No formal proposals have been submitted as yet, but, everyone should be ready when this idea surfaces!! So far ok, but, stay tuned.

There were reports from the USCG, NOAA enforcement and the Mass Law Enforcement reps. same old, same old. The NMFS and NE Council reps reported on fishery plans moving through the system. These included the Herring Plan, the Ground-fish Amendment, the Scallop Plan, the Whale TRT (take reduction team) proposals and more on the Offshore Wind proposals. Everyone should keep an eye on the Whale TRT proposals!!!

*Bill Adler- Commercial Fixed Gear Council Member*



# Whale Case Alright To Proceed Past Motion To Dismiss Right

17 February 2020, by Rebecca E. Bazan, Duane Morris LLP

The self-proclaimed activist "Prince of Whales," Richard Strahan, received a partial victory this week in his lawsuit alleging that Massachusetts' regulations requiring lobster fisherman to use certain gear violate the Endangered Species Act.

The North Atlantic right whale is an endangered species, with fewer than 500 remaining. As such, the right whale is protected by the Endangered Species Act ("ESA"), which makes it illegal to "take" an endangered species. 16 U.S.C. § 1538(a)(1)(B). This prohibits people and governments from "harass[ing], harm[ing], pursu[ing], hunt[ing], shoot[ing], wound[ing], kill[ing], trap[ping], captur[ing], or collect[ing]" the species. 16 U.S.C. § 1532(19). Unlike other statutes that seek to protect animals, such as the Animal Welfare Act, the ESA includes what is called a "citizen suit provision," which allows private individuals to file lawsuits to stop an alleged violation of the ESA. 16 U.S.C. § 1540(g).

Strahan is an avid whale watcher and sea turtle researcher, and frequent litigant. He alleges that Vertical Buoy Ropes ("VBRs"), which are used to identify and retrieve lobster traps, harm, capture, and kill right whales, and thus that Massachusetts violates the ESA by promulgating regulations that require Massachusetts lobster fisherman to deploy gear like VBRs. The state defendants moved to dismiss the case.

On February 7, 2020, United States District Judge Talwani granted in part and denied in part the motion to dismiss. She found that "Plaintiff plausibly concludes that the State Defendants have caused a taking in violation of the [ESA]" because he plausibly alleged that "annually in recent years, five endangered right whales were killed or injured from lobsterpot gear" and that "almost half of all lobsterpot activity occurs in Massachusetts waters." The Court noted that these allegations do not prove that Massachusetts-regulated VBRs have killed or injured right whales, but are sufficient at the early stage in the case to survive a motion to dismiss.

The Court went on to dismiss Strahan's other two counts. Count II alleged that the state defendants violated the ESA by adversely altering critical habitats, which the Court found to be duplicative of the ESA count she allowed to proceed. Finally, the Court dismissed Count III, which alleged that the director of the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries violated the Massachusetts Civil Rights Act by undertaking various actions to dissuade Strahan from filing this lawsuit, holding that the Eleventh Amendment protects state officials from claims that they violated state law in carrying out their official responsibilities.

Strahan's single count regarding the VBRs' impact on right whales will now move forward, and he will be required to prove the "take." The issue of whale entanglement in ropes that connect to crab and lobster pots is a hot topic in research and conservation. Recently, the SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Conservation Fund announced that it has committed \$900,000 over three years to evaluate ropeless crab and lobster traps (see <https://www.whoi.edu/press-room/news-release/seaworld-busch-gardens-conservation-fund-commits-900000-to-protect-critically-endangered-north-atlantic-right-whales/>).

Disclaimer: This Alert has been prepared and published for informational purposes only and is not offered, nor should be construed, as legal advice. For more information, please see the firm's full disclaimer. <https://www.mondaq.com/unitedstates/Litigation-Mediation-Arbitration/894044/Right-Whale-Case-Alright-To-Proceed-Past-Motion-To-Dismiss>



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# The Luck of the Irish

## 15 St. Patrick's Day Facts

As St. Patrick's Day draws closer, we'll soon be searching for that green Shamrock shirt, scanning Pinterest for (easy) Corned Beef recipes and picking up a little whiskey or Guinness to get ready for the celebration.

Sure we love to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, but where did these traditions come from and how are we celebrating them today? We've picked some of the most interesting St. Patrick's Day facts and tidbits for you to share in your party conversations!

Here are 15 of our favorite facts and tidbits about St. Patrick's Day:

1. St. Patrick's Day is an Irish national holiday with banks, stores, and businesses closing for the day.
2. The first St. Patrick's Day celebration in the United States was held in Boston (1737).
3. Shamrocks are the national flower/emblem of Ireland.
4. The color of St. Patrick's Day was originally blue.  
Wearing green has become a staple of St. Patrick's Day, but the holiday was originally associated with the color blue. It's thought that the shift to green happened because of Ireland's nickname "The Emerald Isle," the green in the Irish flag and the shamrock, or clover. Green ribbons and shamrocks were worn as early as the 17th century.
5. Beer is one of the most widely consumed beverages on St. Patrick's Day.
6. Legend says that each leaf of the clover has a meaning: Hope, Faith, Love and Luck.
7. 1962 marked the first time Chicago dyed their river green for St. Patrick's Day.
8. Guinness is one of the most popular drinks on St. Patrick's Day. Here are 34 recipes:
9. Shamrock shakes are also very popular (and tasty!):
10. There are 34.7 million U.S. residents with Irish ancestry. This number is more than seven times the population of Ireland itself.
11. The real St. Patrick wasn't Irish. He was born in Britain around A.D. 390 to an aristocratic Christian family.
12. Your odds of finding a four-leaf clover are about 1 in 10,000.
13. The world's shortest St. Patrick's Day parade is held in an Irish village. It lasts only 100 yards, between the village's two pubs.
14. To celebrate St. Patrick's Day, Chicago dyes the river green for a few hours.
15. St. Patrick never got canonized by a pope, making his saintly status somewhat questionable.

<https://www.proflowers.com/blog/interesting-st-patricks-day-facts>

## Ocean Animal Word Search

S	L	S	E	Y	S	S	X	V	Z	E	E	C	Q	
M	E	B	U	Q	N	T	H	J	H	S	N	R	Z	R
C	E	E	U	P	I	S	A	Y	A	E	O	N	J	S
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P	T	W	B	J	E	N	T	D	B	Q	X	H	A	T
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LOBSTER

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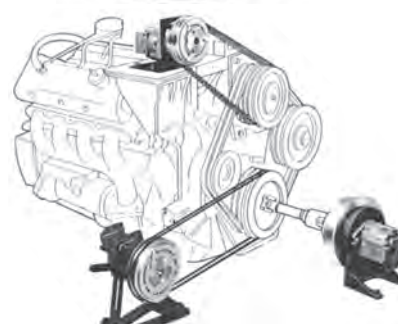
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2/14/2020

The global economic impact of the coronavirus outbreak – Harvard Gazette



HEALTH &amp; MEDICINE

# Coronavirus likely to infect the global economy

Business School's Shih expects disruptions for nations trading with China and for manufacturers dependent on it for components for electronics, consumer products, and pharmaceuticals

Alvin Powell  
Harvard Staff Writer  
February 13, 2020

The rapid development of China's coronavirus crisis coincided with the annual idling of much of the country's economic activity due to the Lunar New Year break, which typically runs for a week or two. Global economists have been watching the post-holiday economic restart closely. Delayed a week to allow public health officials to get a better handle on the contagion, experts are looking for clues about the extent to which one of the world's largest economies is coming back to life amid widespread coronavirus concerns. The Gazette spoke with Harvard Business School's Willy Shih, an expert on Asian industrial competitiveness and the Robert and Jane Cizik Professor of Management Practice.

## Q&A Willy Shih

**GAZETTE:** Do you have a sense of whether this will be the biggest event affecting the global economy in 2020?

**SHIH:** I think so. I don't think people have fully appreciated what the impact is going to be because it occurred during the Lunar New Year break, and many companies that have supply chains or rely on products coming out of China had already planned for the disruption. They already had some inventory on hand and knew there was going to be a break in production. It happens every year. A lot of Chinese companies were supposed to start reopening yesterday, and what I'm hearing from numerous sources is that it's spotty.

**GAZETTE:** Why is that, because of virus fears?

**SHIH:** A lot of workers come from inland provinces, that's the whole Chinese manufacturing model. Can they get back? With all the transport shut down, it's really hard, especially the lower-cost, long-distance buses. High-speed rail is too expensive for many workers. So that — and cities basically imposing quarantines — makes it very hard for them to get back to work. Then, if you look at the Chinese manufacturing model, they have a lot of semi-skilled labor that they can throw onto assembly lines for products where you have manual assembly. You have buildings with maybe 10,000 people in fairly close quarters working on assembly of physically small products. If you're assembling a smartphone, you'll have workers organized into assembly cells — maybe 15 people, maybe 30 — and they're passing these products along as they each do one stage of the assembly process. You can imagine being a factory manager: "I have all these people working in close quarters. I don't have enough test kits. I don't have enough masks. I don't have enough protective garments. If one of them gets sick, and I have contagion in the factory, how am I going to quarantine them?" You can imagine that a lot of people are being very cautious about restarting production.

**GAZETTE:** Has the Chinese government weighed in one way or another on whether to restart manufacturing?

**SHIH:** Some regional governments and some people in Beijing have said, "Hey, be conscious of the economic impact. We need to get life back to normal." But if you think about Hubei province, where Wuhan is located, it's still locked down, and my question is: How many of these factories have people who went home to Hubei province? I think it's a lot, so factories are going to be short-handed. Will that impact production? Absolutely. I recently took a class to China, and we visited one of the huge container terminals in Shenzhen, Yantian International Container Terminal. They are a primary export port for the Pearl River delta. Eastbound trans-Pacific and westbound traffic going to Europe via Suez and the Straits of Malacca primarily goes out of there. And there was almost no traffic there this morning [Tuesday]. When we were there, they said they handled 20,000 trucks a day. I think people are going to start to realize it when the merchandise shipments that they were expecting or the parts or components that they were expecting don't come through.

**GAZETTE:** It seems clear that this is going to impact the Chinese economy and their projections of annual growth are pretty much out the window now, but what are the ways in which this will trickle out to the global economy?

**SHIH:** The supply chain in finished products as well as components will be impacted. China is such a force in the global economy. There are some things that are only made in China these days, and not just the usual electronics and toys — consumer products — it's active pharmaceutical ingredients that go into pharmaceutical supply chains worldwide. If you look at travel, a number of airlines have shut down all flights. I don't know if it is because of risk of contamination or that demand fell off. There was a piece in Aviation Week last week that tallied the number of carriers that have canceled all flights through March — not just through February. A lot of that is for lack of demand, both business travel and tourism travel. There was also a report out of France that I saw about how the number of Chinese tourists shopping for luxury goods in Paris has fallen off a cliff. Chinese outbound tourism is a major factor in Europe and Singapore, in Macau, and the U.S. These things are just kind of trickling out, and people are just beginning to realize it. I'm surprised people haven't stood back and looked at the bigger picture yet and said, "Oh, this is going to have a much bigger impact."



**GAZETTE:** What about American business sales in China versus American companies running factories there to make things to sell elsewhere?

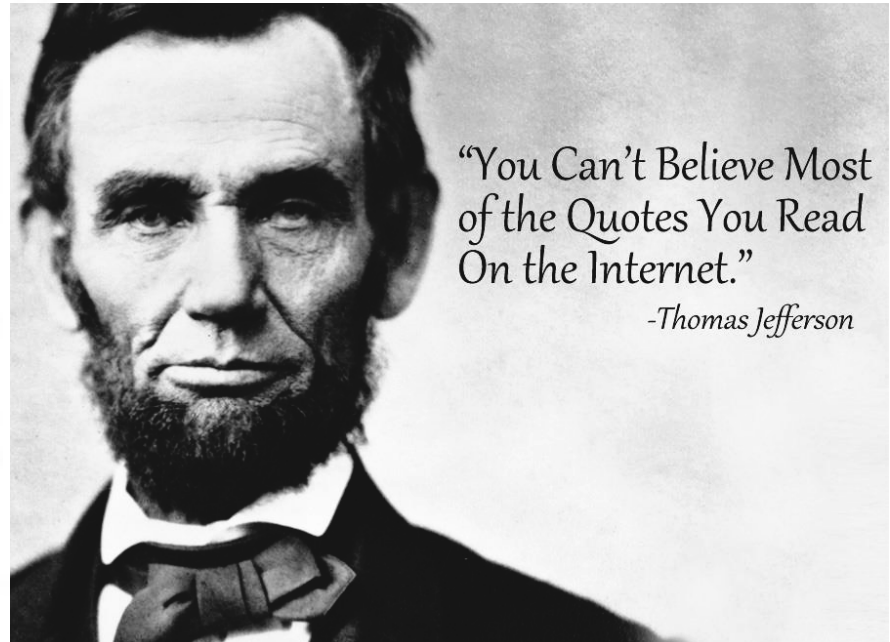
**SHIH:** We've seen what's happened with Starbucks [which closed more than half its 4,300 stores in China]. Disney has closed both the Shanghai Disney park and the Hong Kong park. China is the second largest motion picture market in the world, and all the theaters have been closed because they don't want people in large public gatherings. So there's an impact on Hollywood studios who rely on that for a significant part of their income now.

**GAZETTE:** How long until this is felt broadly in the U.S. economy?

**SHIH:** It was reported in the Nikkei Asian Review yesterday that Foxconn could not reopen its Longhua complex. Foxconn is a supplier to Apple, so I think supplies are going to be tight for things like phones, not only iPhones, but Android phones. Over the last year, there has been some movement to diversify supply chains out of China, but there's still a lot of notebook computers and TVs — the Chinese are now the dominant manufacturers of the flat panels used for those displays — made there. There are a significant number of factories in Wuhan. There are also always some surprises. If you go back and look at the Tohoku earthquake and tsunami that hit Japan in 2011, there were surprises because people didn't know that they had a supplier to a supplier to a supplier — a third- or fourth-tier supplier — who was impacted. I think we're going to see the direct impact of primary suppliers who are unable to fill orders in the short term and then we'll also see secondary effects because somebody in the supply chain somewhere couldn't make a delivery. There's also been a lot of discussion about the U.S.-China trade deal and China's commitment to import American products. Well, China can easily declare *force majeure* here. They have no ability to absorb that level of imports.

**GAZETTE:** Are there any potential counterbalancing forces? Projections show oil prices going down.

**SHIH:** I'm not the expert in that area, but every time I go to Beijing or Shanghai, there's traffic all over the place and now nobody's driving around. That's probably a fairly temporary supply/demand imbalance. There's less consumption of jet fuel and so on. Those things will come back to normal once we get past this. One of the problems is how are you going to make up lost production. Once things start to go back to normal, we're probably going to see a lot of overtime. But right now the uncertainty is probably driving people crazy.



"You Can't Believe Most of the Quotes You Read On the Internet."

-Thomas Jefferson

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Black	28"L x 16"W x 11"D	70 Liters	118291
Gray	28"L x 16"W x 11"D	70 Liters	736466
Blue	28"L x 16"W x 14"D	85 Liters	760085

### COOSA COMPOSITES Composite Panels

Use in place of plywood!

High density,  
polyurethane foam,  
reinforced with  
layers of fiberglass  
strands through-  
out. Lightweight,  
non-rotting.

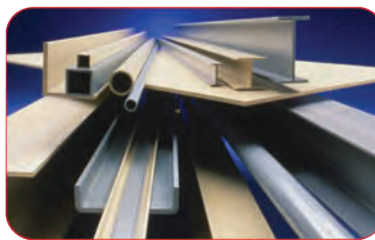
Search# CSA-



### STRONGWELL Extren® Fiberglass Structural Shapes & Plates

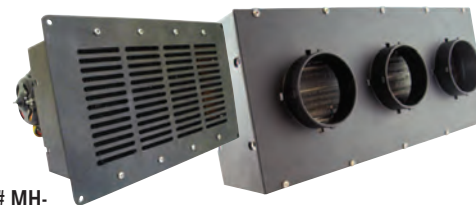
Get the wood out!

Lightweight,  
and high strength,  
low maintenance,  
corrosion and UV  
resistant. Avail-  
able in many sizes  
and shapes.  
Search# SGW-



### FREE HEAT from your engine's closed cooling system!

**MARINE HEAT** Flush mount or ducted models.  
From 28,000 - 40,000 BTUs



Search# MH-

### FM FREEMAN MARINE EQUIPMENT

### Cast Aluminum Commercial Hatches

Flush, watertight, rugged and durable.  
Fast acting and easy opening.

15" x 24"  
**\$797** ea

Reg 884.99  
FMN-2433-0002  
Order# 754527



24" x 24"  
**\$1497<sup>65</sup>** ea

Reg 1659.99  
FMN-2424-0002  
Order# 754529



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Galvanized or Stainless Steel wire,  
from 1/4" to 1" diameter. We hand  
and machine (commercial) swage  
wire and mark wire for fishermen  
the old fashioned way.

CALL FOR  
A QUOTE  
TODAY!



All discounts apply to current store prices. Typographical errors are unintentional and subject to correction.



# MLA CLASSIFIEDS

PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD TO MAKE SURE IT IS CURRENT  
Send ads to [tracey.abboud@lobstermen.com](mailto:tracey.abboud@lobstermen.com)

*Ads will run for 5 months & then automatically be deleted unless you call the MLA office to renew your ad. 781-545-6984 or email ads to [tracey.abboud@lobstermen.com](mailto:tracey.abboud@lobstermen.com)*

Classified ads are a free benefit to MLA Members and Non-members are a flat \$25.00

*\*All ads are subject to review prior to placement*

**AD #1 (2/20) FOR SALE- PRICE REDUCED-** 1950 Buick Special- 55,000 original miles Approx; 75% restored Call/info 781-733-1498 / email [lggyburton@aol.com](mailto:lggyburton@aol.com) \$6,500 OBRO

**AD#2 (2/20) HELP WANTED-** Fishing Boat/ Scituate MA-Must be reliable/drug/ alcohol free w/ valid drivers license & own transportation. % of pay based on experience. E-mail [Hiflyer2@verizon.net](mailto:Hiflyer2@verizon.net)

**AD#3 (2/20) FOR SALE-** 40 ft. Stanley Greenwood fiberglass over wood. 220 John Deere engine 14 in. pot hauler-power invert-er- Microwave in fishhold/ liferaft/Epirb more info call 603-714-2247

**AD#4 (1/20) FOR SALE -** Hydraulic Components, parts and service. Pumps, Motors, Valves and Accessories. Hydraulic Hoses made while you wait. Great Prices - Same day service (in many cases)- Wide selection of in-stock items. Rebuilt items are occasionally available. Call ROSE MARINE, Gloucester, MA 877-283-3334

**AD#5 (11/19) FOR SALE-**100 plus 48"x24"x15" traps Like new/lightly fished 65.00 each Text Bill @ 774-264-0083

**AD#6 (11/19) FOR SALE-**32 "Lobster Boat -Fiberglass Maine lobster or tuna boat Holland 1984. 454 gasoline engine 3 years old, 12" pot hauler. Currently used for lobster fishing everyday. New boat coming, must sell. 28,000.00 Call 978-884-2988

**AD#7 FOR SALE-** BUNGEE CORD ON SPOOLS. Made in New England area. Call Jonathon "Mr. Bungee" 401-447-7973 or [Jon@marineropeinternational.com](mailto:Jon@marineropeinternational.com) 5/16" x 300'ft \$35.00/spool 5/16"x 500'ft \$50.00 spool All sizes, colors to choose from. Located in Cranston, RI

**AD#8 (11/19) FOR SALE-** Area 1 lobster license-approx; 75 traps, 19ft Midland 70 HP Suzuki 4 stroke & trailer. Asking \$24,000 Call Pat@978-879-9623

**AD#9 (1/20) FOR SALE-** 200 Used pono's -3 footers- hoop gear-shrimp mesh heads. All in great shape. Some \$30 & \$40-multiple colors. Call Matt @ 339-613-7122

**AD#10 (2/20) FOR SALE-**1997 Mariner Commercial 55 hp o/b motor Rope Start, Tiller Model, Long Shaft Been in storage for 6 yrs Has a replacement lower unit\$10002001 Tohastu 18 hp 2 stroke o/b motor Rope Start, Tiller model, Short Shaft Been in storage 3 yrs \$800 Call (508)-246-4009

**AD#11 (1/20) FOR SALE-** MA Coastal Lobster Permit Area 1, transferable, 800 trap allocation. 25ft Nth. Edge lobster boat, Volvo 5L gas, 270hp, Volvo I/O, trailer, 120 3ft traps, \$52,000 or B/O 781-812-6870

**AD#12 (1/20) FOR SALE-** MA State Coastal Lobster Permit Area 1 800 trap allocation, has great history. Asking \$20,000 Call/Text Frank @ 978-807-0301

**AD#13 (2/20) ATTENTION C-TRAP CUSTOMERS/GOT WOOD-** New wooden conch traps for sale, many types, prices starting at \$23.50 ea, for 20x20 all oak frames 3" wide pine lath sides. Will cut custom lobster traps/kits/frames/runners/laths. Call 508-989-4762

**AD#14 (11/19) FOR SALE-**Gillnet Gear 24" Crosley lifter, roller/alum picking table & s.s.alum mounting brackets/ss spreader bar. 6- seaplast #660 vats 12-steel disk anchors 70-80 lbs 95 monk nets 10",11",12"40-round fish nets 6.5",7",7.5"Would like to sell as a package \$24,500. Text Bill 774-264-0083

**AD#15 (2/20) FOR SALE-**Tuna tower & pulpit 22ft both have hinges \$1,000. Call AI @ 508-208-3038

**AD#16 (2/20) FOR SALE-**301-2-F Transmission 2 point 69 to 1/\$1,000. OBRO Call Skip 781-844-8162

**AD#17 (3/20) FOR SALE-**Everson Rope 7/16t /20 pot trawls/all spliced. \$100 per barrel Call 978-836-2720

**AD#18 (2/20) FOR SALE-**" 8.2 Detroit Diesel - 320 HP with after-cooler, running takeout with Borg Warner transmission, runs great, no smoke. have video of engine running and wet exhaust - \$3,000.00 Also, spare 8.2 Detroit Diesel, (rebuilt by Lew Bacon) with Twin Disc transmission and spare starting motors - \$3,000.00 Located in Gloucester Call / text Dave at 603-422-4335

**AD#19 (2/20) FOR SALE-PLACE YOUR AD HERE**

**AD#20 (2/20) FOR SALE-**Gill net lifter, Bandalier style, new \$1,000.00-Mantis style shrimp dredging gear -net culling table- 2 vats-plumbed circulation W/ trailer \$1,500.00- Propeller 34x34, right hand 2 1/2 in bore-4 blade-\$1,500.00-3/4 net chain sweep W/5in Cod end\$500.00 - 6 new gill nets W/ 6in mesh\$200.00 each & misc: nets Call Bill @ 508-264-1076

**AD#21 (2/20) FOR SALE-** Aluminum roof mount davit (6'9"OAL) Light weight/heavily built\$250. Steel Galvanized heavy duty rail mount davit \$100. Aluminum buoy rack \$75. New Seamander helm chair \$50. Call or text 774-216-1081

**AD#22 (2/20) FOR SALE-**Federal/State Lobster Permit/Outer Cape -Call Jeff 508-240-1634

**AD#23 (2/20) FOR SALE-** MA Coastal Lobster Permit Area 1 800 trap allocation asking \$30,000. Or B/O John Moran 401-525-0981

**AD#24 (2/20) FOR SALE-**34' Aluminum Lobster boat CAT 3208T (320hp) built by Gladding & Hearn 1982. 14" hauler & hydraulic wash-down pump asking \$ 90,000 or B/O- MA Coastal Area 1 Lobster Permit w/800 trap allocation. John Moran 401-525-0981

**AD#25 (10/19) FOR SALE-** 25 ft BHM 180 HF 453T Detroit engine-600 hrs. on rebuilt engine. Furuno radar-new- 4ft extended hull Garmin plotter-new 2 Furuno GPS Sitex depth finder- Auto-pilot VHF radio CB radio New hydraulic steering- new wash down pump-dripless shaft bearing-new battery-new alternator-bilge alarm 150 gal., fuel tanks-14ft deck area- 2 propellers-Fished daily. \$23,500 or \$37,500.00(w/ dragging gear) Call Frank @ 203-868-8481

**AD#26 (2/20) PLACE YOUR AD HERE**

**AD#27 (2/20)-**Scallop quota available for leasing -e-mail [hiflyer2@verizon.net](mailto:hiflyer2@verizon.net)

**AD#28 (2/20) HELP WANTED-**Sternman/Commercial Lobsterman Position. Experience Preferred but not necessary. If dedicated, honest and hardworking I will train. Must have own transportation/Drug Free. Gloucester Robert @ 617-417-9630







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## RECIPE of the MONTH



### Lobster-Stuffed Zucchini Blossoms

*Delicate zucchini blossoms are made for filling and frying. We're giving this classic Italian appetizer a decadent spin with a lobster-and-mascarpone filling.*

#### Ingredients

1. 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
2. 3 1/2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice, divided
3. 1 tablespoon minced preserved lemon rind
4. 2 1/2 teaspoons Aleppo pepper, divided
5. 1 1/2 teaspoons kosher salt, plus more for sprinkling
6. 1 (8-ounce) container mascarpone cheese
7. 7 large eggs, divided
8. 2 teaspoons lemon zest
9. 2 tablespoons chopped mint leaves
10. 1 pound cooked and picked lobster, crab, or shrimp meat, very finely chopped
11. 24 zucchini blossoms
12. 2 cups all-purpose flour (about 8 1/2 ounces)
13. 2 cups toasted fine breadcrumbs Neutral oil, such as grape-seed, for frying

Whisk together olive oil, 1 1/2 tablespoons lemon juice, preserved lemon rind, 1/2 teaspoon Aleppo pepper, and 1/2 teaspoon salt in a bowl.

Whisk together mascarpone, 2 eggs, lemon zest, mint, remaining 2 tablespoons lemon juice, remaining 2 teaspoons Aleppo pepper, and remaining 1 teaspoon salt in a separate bowl until smooth. Stir in lobster. Transfer to pastry bag or large ziplock plastic bag; if using a ziplock bag, snip a hole in bottom corner.

#### Clean zucchini blossoms - HOW TO CLEAN ZUCCHINI BLOSSOMS

1. Using kitchen tweezers or long, thin scissors, clip away the pointed sepals where the stem meets the flower.

2. Blow into the flower so the petals separate naturally. Pluck out the stamens or pistils from inside.

3. Use a pastry brush to gently remove any dirt or pollen. Insert tip of piping bag into center of blossom without separating petals more than necessary. Carefully pipe 1 tablespoon lobster mixture into each blossom. Gently press outside of blossom to seal. Repeat with remaining blossoms and lobster mixture. Arrange filled blossoms on a rimmed baking sheet.

Beat remaining 5 eggs in a shallow dish. Place flour and breadcrumbs in separate shallow dishes. Dredge filled blossoms in flour; gently brush off excess. Dip blossoms in egg, then dredge in breadcrumbs. Pour oil to a depth of 3/4 inch in a high-sided skillet; heat over medium until shimmering. Working in batches, fry blossoms until a delicate, golden crust forms, 90 seconds to 2 minutes.

Using a spider, transfer blossoms to a paper towel-lined baking sheet to drain. Sprinkle with salt. Serve hot with preserved lemon vinaigrette.



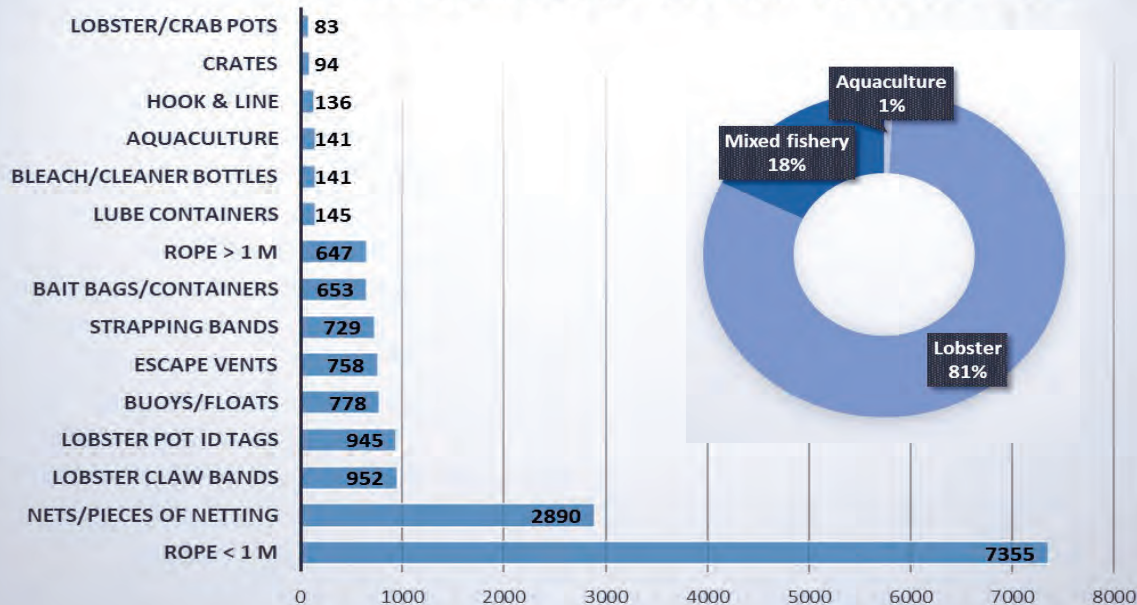


# Inshore Fishery Debris Prevention Strategies

Gear from many fisheries washes up on shorelines around Cape Cod and around the world. Some is caused by storm action or gear loss, but much debris can be prevented with good boat waste handling habits. The Center for Coastal Studies interviewed lobstermen for some practical approaches to on-board gear waste.



Fishing Debris from CCS Beach Cleanups 2010-2018



All debris collected from Long Point and Herring Cove in Provincetown



Photos by CCS except where noted. Design by Corrine Losch, AmeriCorps Cape Cod. Interviews by Caroline E. Howlett and Laura Ludwig. This project is supported through a grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Marine Debris Program.



Hundreds of thousands of tons of fishing gear are abandoned, lost, or otherwise discarded in the world's oceans each year, and gear accounts for over 40% of all the debris collected at beach cleanups locally. Here are some strategies every boat can use to lower those numbers:



### *Receptacle, Trash Can, Waste Bin, Pail*

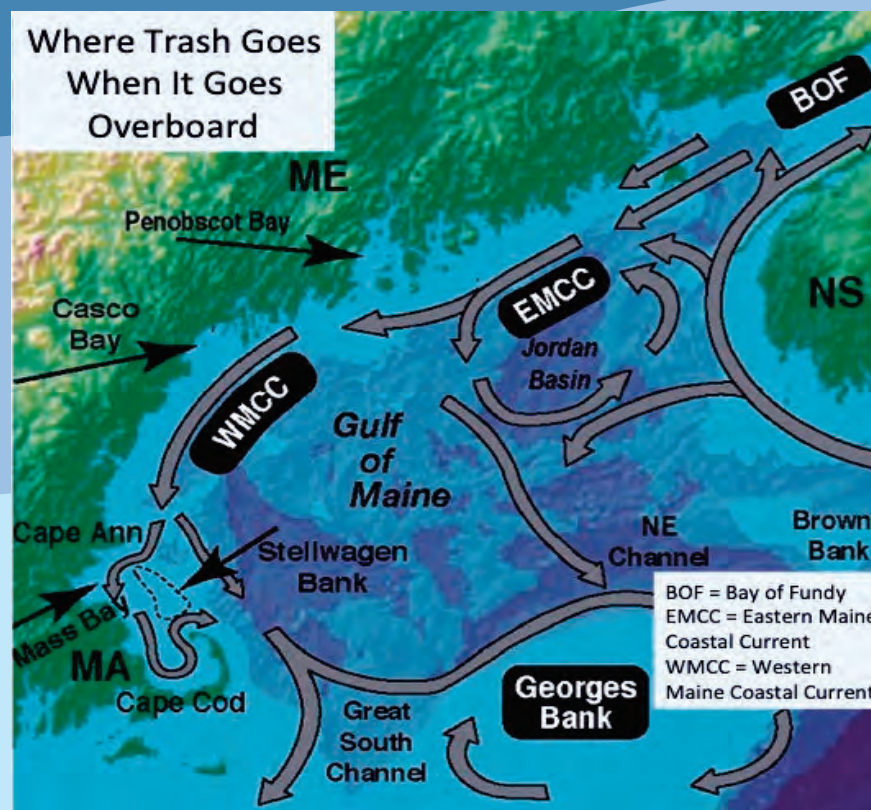
Keep a small bin/bucket near the wheel or under a seat. Velcro attachments allow the bin to be secured as well as removable without damage, and make it easy to empty back on shore.

### *Liquid Pollution*

Using bleach to clean buoys and line may kill the sea life fouling the gear, but the liquid and the bottles may also be harmful when they land in the ocean. Use non-bleach alternatives such as scraping with a knife or dunking in the hot tank.

**Not Just the Gear**  
Empty bottles of cleaning agents, lubricants and drinks can all be recycled; collect them in the wheelhouse and bring to shore.

**Control is Key**  
Once it's out of your hand, anything can happen. Don't leave trash where wind can catch it, even in the bin.



WOODS HOLE OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION

**Steady as You Throw**  
You may be busy at the rail, but make sure your toss hits the bucket, and rebound it when it doesn't.

**Trash in the Traps**  
Be ready for trash coming aboard: station a separate bin above wall boxes/banding table to toss balloons, cans, plastic bags and other trash found in traps.

### *Lost Gear Gets Around*

Knots, line, ID tags, bait bags, claw bands, bait straps, corners, runners & escape vents are carried by currents to every shore throughout the Gulf of Maine and beyond.

### *Clear Before You Clean*

Make a habit of collecting knots, claw bands, zip-ties and other gear from the deck and rails before using the deck hose. Everything that goes out the scuppers winds up on the shoreline later on.

### *Diesel Debris*

If oil, lube or fuel is spilled on board or in harbor, use "De-OIL-It" or other absorbent products to reduce impact on surrounding environment. Throw oil-soaked rags in trash receptacle, and bring waste oil to the next HazMat collection.

### *...and Liberty and Stewardship for All*

Reminding all crew to keep track of garbage on the boat allows efficiency and focus in protecting and preserving the source of your livelihood.



MASSACHUSETTS LOBSTERMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.  
SCHOLARSHIP AWARD APPLICATION 2020  
IN MEMORY OF ROBERT A. WHEELER

This application should contain accurate and detailed information and be accompanied by a copy of your official high school transcript that is signed and sealed.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Father, Mother and/or guardian's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Are they a current member of the Mass. Lobstermen's Association? [ ] Yes [ ] No

Are both parents living? [ ] Yes [ ] No

Number & Ages of siblings living at home: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have anyone financially dependent upon you? [ ] Yes [ ] No

If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

How much financial aid is expected in your first year of college / trade school: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of High School and year of graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of college or trade school you expect to enter: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you been accepted for admission: \_\_\_\_\_

What is your anticipated tuition: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you received any other scholarships - If yes, state amount(s): \_\_\_\_\_

What business or profession do you expect to prepare for: \_\_\_\_\_

What extra-curricular activities have you participated in: \_\_\_\_\_

REFERENCES: Please enclose any letters of recommendation and at least two from the following choices: School Principal, Guidance Counselor, Instructor in your major, Pastor or Minister.

Please write a short paragraph explaining why you are interested in your field of endeavor:

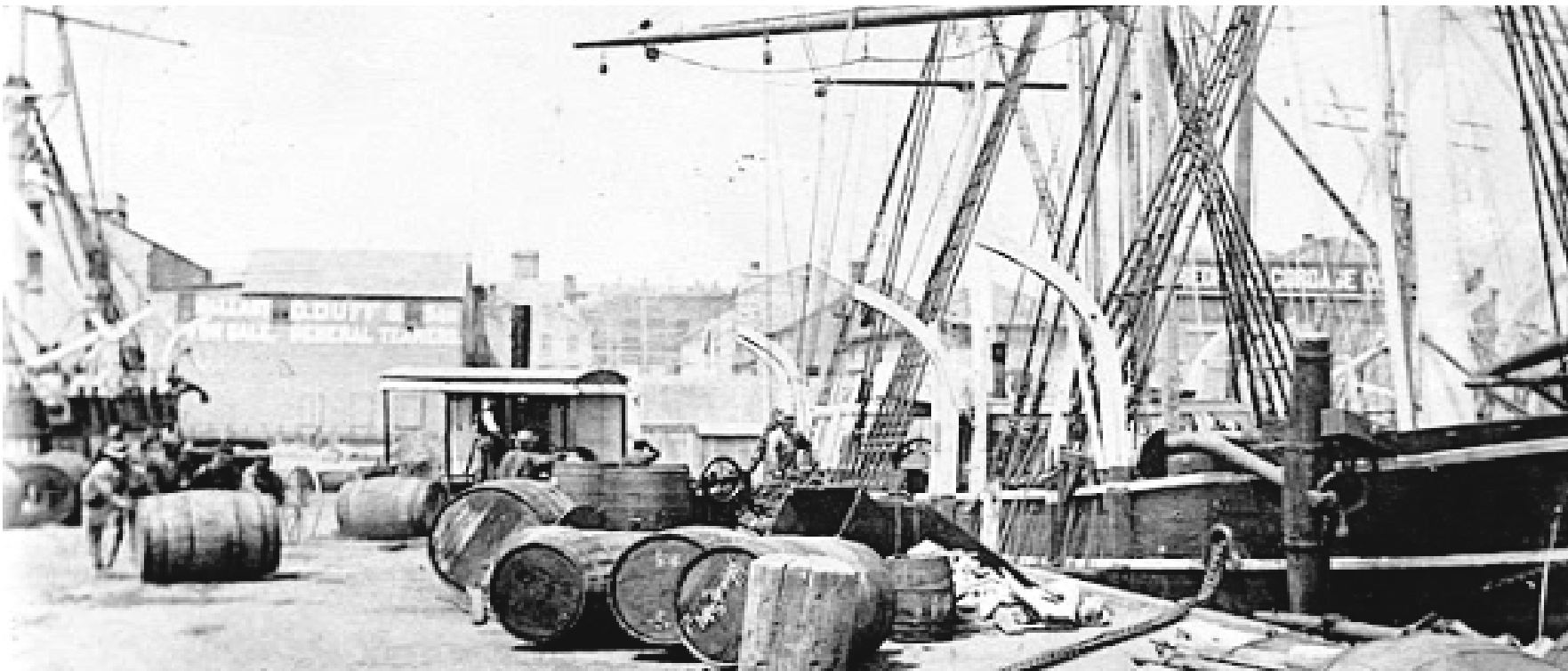
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SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AWARDED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE  
SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE.  
ALL DECISIONS ARE FINAL

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

***THIS APPLICATION MUST BE RETURNED BY APRIL 15<sup>th</sup>***

Mail applications to:  
Massachusetts Lobstermen's Assoc.,  
Scholarship Committee  
8 Otis Place, Scituate, MA 02066.



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